

The Mountaineer

Published By
THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO.
Main Street Phone 137
Waynesville, North Carolina
The County Seat of Haywood County

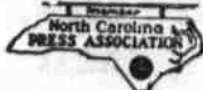
W. CURTIS RUSS Editor
MRS. HILDA WAY GWYN Associate Editor
W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One Year, In Haywood County \$1.50
Six Months, In Haywood County 75c
One Year, Outside Haywood County 2.00
All Subscriptions Payable in Advance

Entered at the post office at Waynesville, N. C., as Second Class Mail Matter, as provided under the Act of March 3, 1879, November 26, 1914.

Obituary notices, resolutions of respect, cards of thanks, and all notices of entertainments for profit, will be charged for at the rate of one cent per word.



NATIONAL EDITORIAL
ASSOCIATION
1940 Active Member

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1940

Others-

Clark Gable and Miss Carole Lombard, who are, as you know, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Gable in private life, send Christmas cards to their friends this year which are to be regarded as Christmas presents.

These cards read:

"We wish and send you the Merriest Christmas and the Happiest New Year possible.

"This year your present has been sent to the needy, and we hope that you will join with us in helping those less fortunate than we are.

"CAROLE AND CLARK GABLE."

Miss Mary Pickford writes to her friends the following lovely letter:

"This year instead of sending Christmas presents to my friends, I am giving to those less fortunate in worldly goods. It seems to me, with so much misery and suffering in the world, it is what we all should do.

"For your gift I am sending checks to five people in pictures who are finding the going difficult. They will not know whom the checks are from, as they will be cashier's checks, but I am asking each one to write a note of acknowledgement and send it to the bank. I will forward these notes to you, and I am sure the knowledge that Christmas Day has been made a little bit happier for these deserving people will give you more pleasure than any gift I could find for you.

"I am writing you in advance, hoping that if you are contemplating sending me anything you will instead direct it to some poor family or worthy charity.

"My love and Christmas thoughts will be with you. As ever,

"Faithfully yours,
"MARY."

Here in Waynesville, a group of young girls, about 14 and 15 years of age, for weeks had made preparations for a Christmas party. As soon as The Mountaineer published a list of 40 needy families, the girls of their own accord got together and decided to take their "party money" and cheer a family. Their request for a family was the first this newspaper received.

That is the true Christmas spirit.

Perhaps we are reverting to the original idea of Christmas—the Christ idea—to give to people who need gifts rather than to those who do not need them.

It is not related of Jesus?

"And, behold, one came and said unto Him: Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

Jesus said unto him, if thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in Heaven."

Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ.

We are not very sure about the exact date.

But we are exceedingly sure about the spirit of the festival.

The reason we celebrate Christ's birthday is because we are His followers—or strive to be—because we believe in His teachings—because we make these teachings our religion and acknowledge Him as our Lord and Master.

Then let us try to follow in His footsteps, and express in our lives the spirit of His doctrines.

Our first duty and pleasure should be to give to the poor and to give quietly and helpfully.

There we have the Biblical injunction:

"When thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do, that they may have glory of men.

"But let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth."

Next pleasure should be to give to the

children.

Christmas should be a day of delight for them.

That is in accord with the spirit of Christ's teaching, for he said:

"Whoso shall receive one such little child in My name receiveth Me."

But let us not merely give to our own children, but to those children who lack the things which our own children have in abundance—the comforts and the joys which are necessary to children's health and happiness.

"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, that in Heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father."

And when you have taken care of the needy and the children, then give freely of what you have left to those who will be spiritually and physically benefited by the gifts.

And you, the giver, will be most benefited of all by the giving.

In preaching to His disciples, Jesus said: "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

This is the Christmas season.
That is the Christmas spirit.
Give generously, give helpfully, give lovingly.

Do not give coldly as an obligation.
Do not give as a formality—as an empty custom to those who do not need gifts.

To them a Christmas card with an expression of good will is sufficient.

It is the remembrance which counts—the kindly thought—the pleasant word.

"It is not the weight
Of jewel or plate,
Or the fondle of silk or fur;
'Tis the spirit in which
The gift is rich,
As the gifts of the wise ones were,
And we are not told
Whose gift was gold,
Or whose was the gift of myrrh."
Give in honor of our dear Lord's natal day.
Give in the spirit of His teaching.
Give to do good.
Give to promote happiness.
Give to spread comfort and contentment.
Give to establish an era of love and good will and peace on earth—not only towards men but among men.

This is a fateful Christmas.
America holds in its strong and helpful hands much of the welfare of the peoples of the world.

That welfare can only be established by gentleness and generosity, by liberality of thought as well as of deed.

The spirit of Christ should be the spirit of America.

Give that others may live.
Give to make life worth living.
And remember the old Sanscrit proverb, when death softly closes your eyes,
"All you can hold in your cold, dead hand
Is what you have given away."

For A Safe Christmas

Here are a few don'ts" for a safe and Merry Christmas recommended by safety authorities:

Don't give small children toys involving alcohol, kerosene or gasoline engines. They may tip over and set the house on fire.

Don't permit small children to run electrical toys without the supervision of an adult.

Don't wear inflammable costumes, especially Santa Claus beards, without fireproofing them.

Don't use inflammable ornaments and evergreen decorations together

Don't use candles or light extra fires, without being extremely careful, especially with candles.

Don't permit small children to use toy movie projectors without using safety film which burns slowly.

Favorable Fractions

We have been warned of many things that our country is not, but we must not overlook a few of the fractions that our country is. With our present knowledge of what we have in this nation, few of us would exchange our birthright. America has, through the past, by means of utilizing her resources and through the force of private enterprise, has accomplished her standing in the following: America, with only 1-15th of the world's population, has 3-4 of the world's autos; 1-2 of the world's telephones; 1-2 of the world's radios; 1-3 of the world's railroads; 2-3 of the world's banking resources; 1-5 of the world's sugar; 1-2 of the world's silk; 1-2 of the world's rubber and 3-5 of the world's petroleum.—The Reidsville Review.

More than 225,000 children under 15 years of age were injured in traffic accidents last year.



A Merry Christmas to All!

From The Folks On THE MOUNTAINEER

- W. CURTIS RUSS Editor-Manager
- MARION T. BRIDGES Co-Publisher
- MRS. T. L. GWYN Associate Editor
- ROY BLACKWELL Composer
- J. D. HYATT Sports
- CORINNE WAGENFELD Bookkeeper and Office Supply Sales
- RALPH PRICE Pressman
- ROBERT McLEAN Pressman
- J. T. BRIDGES Linotype Operator
- JOE DAVIS Circulation Manager
- JIMMY ALBRIGHT Carrier Boy
- PINKNEY TURBYFILL Stereotypist
- BOBBY COLKITT Carrier Boy
- HARRY MIDDLETON Carrier Boy
- OTIS BOLIN Carrier Boy
- ROBERT GIFFORD Carrier Boy
- LEON RADFORD Carrier Boy
- HARVEY MASHBURN, JR. Carrier Boy
- COLVIN BROWN Carrier Boy
- BILL RAY Carrier Boy
- LAFFIE SCRUGGS Carrier Boy
- JAMES FIE Carrier Boy
- MRS. J. E. SHIELDS Hazelwood Correspondent
- KENNETH HOWELL Carrier Boy
- MRS. I. A. McLAIN Bishop Correspondent
- MRS. W. T. RAINIER Jonathan Correspondent
- MRS. T. B. BROWN Crabtree Correspondent
- MRS. EDGAR BURNETTE Cecil Correspondent
- MRS. O. J. BECK Balsam Correspondent
- MRS. FRANK WILLIAMS Beaverdam Correspondent
- MRS. JOHN McCLURE Iron Duff Correspondent
- MRS. CARL GREENE Pines Creek Correspondent