

The Mountaineer

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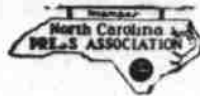
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NATIONAL EDITORIAL
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1941 Active Member

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1941

Another Quota

We have just finished donating as a community \$1,200 to the national headquarters of the Red Cross. It was the largest sum ever asked from the local chapter. It was raised without much trouble, with a very fine response.

Now we are asked for another quota, an even larger one. It looks pretty big right here at Christmas, but we will have to meet it, for the money is to go to the areas stricken by the recent attacks on this country, to relieve the civilians.

We have been mighty generous in this section at Christmas, but this year it looks like we will have to spread out a bit more, for we will have to look after others as well as our own community.

Just close your eyes and dig down, and remember had Haywood County been bombed and our homes destroyed, the Red Cross would have followed in the wake of that destruction, and brought food and clothing to us.

So let us give a prayer of thanks that life for us still moves in the same old daily routine and we are still living in our own homes, and answer this call of the Red Cross.

A Definite Course

We would not be surprised if some of our armed forces are glad now that action has started. Not that they wished war, but that it seemed inevitable and they know now that they have a very definite duty and can go forward with a firm and steady progress.

America's declaration of war upon Japan, Germany and Italy has simplified the problem of our armed forces. For the first time since the selective draft began to assemble our men for training, they know now just what they are called upon to do, and this knowledge will enable them to make necessary over-all preparations which have been impossible up to now.

The days of "piecemeal strategy" for the United States are over. It is no longer a question of what we shall do for England, of supplying guns and planes to China, or of strengthening our protection in far corners.

From now on we have a single piece of strategy, and our object is to totally defeat Germany, Italy and Japan. We have no choice, we are in, and every man, woman and child in America has a part to take, a responsibility to assume. It is not the other fellow's job to protect us, but ours to work with him.

As the war progresses each of us will realize more and more that even at home we have a definite piece of work, just as surely as the man in uniform, who is taking his orders from a commanding officer. We are all drafted in the service.

Opportunities

The County Welfare Department will serve this year as a clearing house for those in the community who will have little Christmas and wards of the county in other sections, unless supplied by someone.

We trust that those of you who wish to share your material blessings with others will consult the welfare department about your plans.

This arrangement has been made in order that there will be no overlapping of generosity in the community, so that in the rush no deserving, but unfortunate person will be left on the "forgotten list".

'And the Band Played On'

From its first organization we have appreciated the Waynesville Township High School Band. We felt from the beginning that aside from the opportunities for musical training it offered the students in our public schools it would be a tremendous asset to our community.

It meant that on certain occasions when music seems a necessary part of a program that we would have our own here rather than be compelled to import a band from another town.

Now with the background of the past two weeks we even appreciate the band more, for when the students play "God Bless America" it gives a touch that nothing else could impart to a public meeting.

Not only is the music significant and inspiring, but so are the players themselves, bespeaking another generation growing up to carry on and to help keep our country safe from the encroaching hands of other nations that wish to destroy what it has taken more than 300 years to build in America.

The band represents a thread, however small, in the great intricate pattern of American life and freedom.

Suggested Gift

We would not advise anyone to take toys away from little children this year, for to the younger set such things spell Christmas. To enjoy the season is a part of childhood, that we feel nothing should ever dim. There are too many years later of disillusionment that will follow in the natural course of events.

But the mother or father who forgets to include with all the glitter of tinsel and color of Christmas trinkets and toys a book with a start of defense stamps will miss a mighty fine bet as a gift.

That book will serve many purposes. It will help to give Johnny or Mary an idea of thrift. It will show them a way to help their country. It will teach them a number of lessons that should be learned while we are young.

That Rolling Sound You Hear

That rolling sound you hear is the defense program of the United States going into high.

The Army's leading tank experts tell us that American industry has reached a point in tank production in one year only attained by Germany after five years of rearmament. At the same time, he declares that American tanks are the superior of those being produced in Germany.

Meanwhile, it is announced that machine tool production for the first six months of this year is 93.3 per cent ahead of the similar period in 1940, with companies working two and three shifts and subcontracting being greatly extended.

And the Secretary of War states that huge increases in production have taken place in the hundred days ending July 24, ranging from 17.8 per cent jump in bomber production to a 475 per cent increase in the output of light tanks. And the Secretary adds: The hundred days have passed and I am very happy to report that with the hearty co-operation of American industry we have increased production of many of our vital items."

That sound you hear is the noise of defense—defense rolling off the assembly lines in the form of guns and tanks and planes. The greatest industries the world has ever seen are getting into full stride, making America safe against all dangers! — The Reidsville Review.

The State's Prison System

A new record was set last month by State Prison Director Oscar Pitts. Only nine prisoners, four of them in the unguarded honor grade, escaped from the State's prison. The lowest previous record is said to have been 18, and that was made so long ago that most people had forgotten it.

The average number of escapes is usually around 30. The number is said to have been as high as 105.

Mr. Pitts stated when he went into office last May that he would initiate some changes in the penal policies, and evidently they are working with desired results.

The prison director's new policies have received recognition elsewhere. In a recent editorial in the Atlanta Journal describing Georgia's prison policies and citing an example of what should be done it was pointed out "we need look no further than North Carolina."



"OUR TOWN"

HERE and THERE

By
HILDA WAY GWYN

We are always on the side of progress . . . we like changes . . . we have never been one of the group forever crying out loud about the good old days . . . we had rather live today than at any time in the history of the world (barring of course the present state of war) . . . we much prefer to ride in a motor on a paved highway . . . than to try to make any place via a horse and buggy . . . and we have tried the latter . . . we had rather have modern refrigeration than the most inviting rustic moss covered spring house (of course the ideal way to live would be to have both) . . . we like streamlined, smooth running things . . . it would be a calamity to have to return . . . for instance, to the days of our grandmothers . . . and give up the slinky silks and rayons . . . that we rinse out at night . . . think how long it must have taken those woollens to dry . . . out on a line for hours . . . in comparison with the things that dry while you wait . . . we adore the shining way that merchandise is done up today . . . in fact we think that modern life is swell . . .

But one thing we ask unchanged . . . We beg of you . . . Please don't go modern on Santa Claus . . . We don't like him oversized . . . we don't like him undersized . . . we don't like one thing changed in his dress . . . we don't like any queer contraption that makes him give out uncanny sounds that are supposed to be in the name of Christmas cheer . . . but in reality . . . as far as we are concerned, make cold chills run down our back . . . nothing can ever take the place of Santa Claus with . . . "broad face and a round little belly . . . that shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly . . . he was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf . . . and I laughed when I saw him in spite of myself. . . ."

Everybody's approach to Christmas this year . . . is either somewhat uncertain . . . or the least bit apologetic . . . we understand both attitudes . . . we have all been so stunned during the past two weeks . . . that we do not have ourselves in hand yet . . . which will come to us in time . . . those who are planning to really take Christmas . . . are saying that they fear it will be the last one for some time . . . that is a regular one . . . for by next year we will be deep in the war . . . and they may be right . . . at any rate we vote for a regular jam up Christmas with all the fixin's in cases of little children . . . they will have to take on grim realities soon enough . . . and they are not young but once . . .

Rosemary Herman has passed a letter from a young girl in England on to us . . . and we have found it very engaging . . . she writes just as most of us would imagine an English girl would . . . of the King's visit to her town . . . of how the people went almost mad with cheering . . . of hearing the "rat-bat-bat" of machine guns and their cartridges falling on the ground near where she and her father were walking . . . of the present song hit in England . . . "The Last Time I Saw Paris" . . . she wrote of "War Weapons Week" . . . and how the people bought up government bonds . . . in her own section they had planned to raise \$200,000, but had doubled it . . . we were interested in her expression . . . that "everybody was awfully bucked that the town got so much" . . . then she wrote of how she and her brother were to be sent to South Africa for the duration . . . and the last minute the children were not allowed to get on the ship . . . no explanation . . . and of how, since her children would be of the country her mother had answered the call of the government for volunteer nurses . . . and then a very human

confession . . . she spoke of bombing near her school . . . and how the students wished, if anything had to be hit, it would be the school so they would have a long vacation . . . but when it was all over, not even a window pane had been broken . . .

At the last meeting of the DAR chapter Miss Margaret Stringfield read a paper written last December by the late Mrs. Camp which she never read . . . After giving the paper, Miss Stringfield read the following poem as expressive of the life of Mrs. Camp:

Afterglow
"The day died in a flood of crimson flame
That bathed the hills in beauty richly rare,
And all the world bowed down, and I, too, came
To stand in wonder and to worship there.

And then a small voice seemed to question me:
"When death shall come and I must gladly go,
Will there be one to love my memory?
O, Lord, shall I, too, leave an afterglow?"

The afterglow of Mrs. Camp's life of service and usefulness will not fade in this community . . . "To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."

TRANSACTIONS IN Real Estate

(As Recorded to Monday Noon Of This Week)

- Beaverdam Township
H. A. Osborne, et ux, to Aulton B. Watts.
James Kirkpatrick, et ux, to D. E. Morgan, et ux.
J. A. Henson, et ux, to Tom J. Evans.
W. M. Bouham, et ux, to Wade Wilson, et ux.
O. B. Wilson, et ux, to Charlotte H. Reece.
H. E. Joyner, et ux, by Com., to Fred J. Miller.
Clyde Township
Luxora Medford, et al, to William A. Haliburton, et ux.
East Fork Township
Thomas L. Michal, et ux, et al, to T. M. Norris.
Fines Creek Township
Hardy Moore, et ux, to T. L. Moore.
Iron Duff Township
L. A. Mauney to Devoe McElroy.
Pigeon Township
J. Ray Byers, et ux, to Mark W. Hall.
Waynesville Township
J. M. Cagle to Edwin P. Martin, et al.

THE OLD HOME TOWN



Stewart Says--

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central Press Columnist.

CHAIRMAN JOSEPH W. MARTIN of the Republican national committee, who's also in the house of representatives, from Massachusetts' Fourth district, and likewise is his party's parliamentary leader in the lower legislative chamber in Washington, has started campaigning already for a G O P congress' election next November.

It's a safe bet that he'll fail, so far as the senate's concerned. Out of the 96 seats in that branch on Capitol Hill, Republicans occupy only 28 now, senators are voted on only 32 at a time, and the present minority aggregation can't conceivably make a clean sweep in 1942 to give 'em an upper house margin in their favor. In 1944, maybe, but Joe Martin certainly is a super-optimist if he thinks he can get away with it this coming time.

The representatives are a different proposition. Since their terms all begin and end simultaneously, and the whole 435 of 'em go to the polls again in one bunch, it's at least a theoretical possibility for their collective political complexion to change on any election day. It'll do it as soon as next November but it isn't as unimaginable as a flop in the senate majority would be.

Joe's stunt is pretty difficult. He has to recognize that non-partisan support of national defense must, as he says, "transcend every other consideration," at the same time arguing for an anti-administration congress. It naturally is hard to declare, in one and the same speech, for national unity and also to plead for a congress that can't be in complete disagreement with the president.

Joe launched his crusade a few evenings ago with a talk at a G. O. P. rally in Baltimore. Charges "Hysteria"

There's "a definite and dangerous trend" in the United States, he said, "to popularize Communism."

How? "Under cover of war hysteria," according to Joseph. That plenty of regimentation of industry and business and agriculture, and even of family life, is going on isn't disputed even by the heads of the country's agencies, but they do insist that it's anything but "hysteria"—that it's defensively absolutely necessary.

If so, Joe Martin seems inclined to agree, he doesn't oppose it.

Only, he doesn't want it to continue a minute after the emergency's over, and he guarantees that a Republican congress will see to it that it doesn't.

In the meantime, though, small business is beginning to perish—regimented to death. Once perished, it's Joe's judgment that it will stay perished. The Republicans themselves won't be able to revive it. That is they'll have to stop the perishing process now and that, allege the emergency managers, will put national defense on the Fritz immediately. Joe doesn't want to do that. Gosh, no!

In short, the discussion proceeds in circles.

The fact is that the major American political parties are badly jumbled on the emergency issue.

Some of Joe Martin's Republicans vote with the administration on questions relating to its defensive policies. The Democratic isolationists are on his side—and yet he isn't an isolationist. It isn't very clear where HE gets off. Nevertheless he wants a Republican congress.

Would Hamper F. D. R. Well, as previously remarked, it's a cinch he won't get a Republican senate, but even a Republican house of representatives would be a decided damper on today's White House tenant, for the concluding two years of his current occupancy of the executive mansion.

What Joe's luck will be undoubtedly will depend largely upon emergency developments.

He's starting early, anyway but he has a mixed-up theme to argue. Franklin Waltman's recent resignation, as his committee's publicity manager, speaks for the confused state of the situation. If its own news propagandist, on a big salary, was so rattled that he couldn't make heads or tails out of what's doing, how can anybody else figure it out?

Voice OF THE People

From what do you expect your biggest kick of Christmas year?

Mrs. William Hannah—"To have had dampened my spirits so that I haven't decided what to do about the high lights."

Lonzie Messer—"To help Christmas for the youngsters of my family."

Harry Lee Limer, Jr.—"To be the first Christmas that my young daughter will know what it is all about, and it may be you would term for selfishness, but anyway, from her I will get the biggest kick out of Christmas."

Mrs. George Craig—"I'm planning on getting a kick out of kind out of Christmas this year but since you mentioned it, I'll try to get my young daughter to try to get my young daughter who has been very ill to have a big Christmas dinner."

Mrs. J. C. Brown—"Enjoying family together once again doing for others."

Mrs. Herbert Braren—"The birth of my baby to Christmas be my biggest kick, for last he was too young to take it in."

G. D. Stovall—"Helping my Claus both in my own home and others."

Dr. H. O. Champion—"To increase my sales, and on the increase a lot of people happy by."

Whitener Prevost—"That's easy one, my young daughter."

Mrs. M. H. Reeves—"My children, and especially the coming home from school."

OPINIONS And COMMENTS OF OTHER EDITORS

THIS MUST NOT BE

The ebb and flow of industry strikes continue. One day they apparently are on the increase the next day they are settled work is resumed. They seriously interfere with the defense program, even the shortest of it. At this time, however, the picture is face to face with a strike which, if called, will severely blow to all defense industries. Fourteen railway unions have authorized a strike vote by 850 members because railway managements have refused to grant demands for pay increases. A strike, if called will be disastrous. It will stifle American industry give encouragement to the enemies of the United States. Reports of the issue involved the strike should not be called. There should be some reasonable way to settle it.—Spartanburg Herald.

18,000,000 COMMON COLD

One-third of the homes in United States reported colds during the week ending November 18, according to a survey conducted by the American Institute of Public Opinion.

The fact that an estimated 18,000,000 Americans suffered this common and widely prevalent malady indicates the enormous scale of the problem. Some authorities assert that the American people lose more than \$1,000,000,000 annually through the "common cold."

The people of Caldwell County have not been immune to the infectious condition of many of them have suffered what are referred to as "heavy colds." As one knows we say they are to be avoided if the victim can find the remedy.

Despite considerable expert attention, nobody knows what causes the cold. The victims attribute their attacks to various factors. They likewise boast of their "cures" but, unfortunately, experience indicates that what knocks out a cold one time will not do it a second.

The survey shows that, during the week in November, the prevalence of New England and Middle Atlantic States was affected, with only 12 per cent of the people infected. The Far West reported 13 per cent, the South 14 per cent, the East Central 16 per cent and the West Central area was heaviest hit with 17 per cent of the population affected.—Lenoir News-Topix.

NOT YET, BUT SOON (Chicago Daily News)
Makers of women's shoes are not yet quite succeeded in putting all the leather into the heels.

SITUATION DESPERATE (London Punch)
In view of the impending age, it is whispered, by the that neutral observers are rationed in the winter.