

The Mountaineer

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One Day Nearer Victory)

W. T. Lee

The death of W. T. Lee on Sunday morning took from the state one of the best known public figures in the bounds of North Carolina.

When 21 he entered business in Waynesville, and was still connected with some business at the time of his death. Along with business, he took an active part in civic affairs of the town and county, and served Waynesville as mayor, alderman and treasurer.

Back in 1903 he was a member of a commission to investigate for Governor Aycock the condition of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad.

He served 20 years on the State Democratic executive committee and successfully managed W. T. Crawford's campaign against James J. Britt for Congress in 1906.

Mr. Lee served in the legislature in 1894 and again in 1910. Also in 1910 he was elected as a member of the state corporation commission, an office he held for 23 years.

It was his 23 years in Raleigh that Mr. Lee made so many contacts that have followed him down through the years since he retired.

Characteristic of the lasting friendships he made while in Raleigh was evidenced last summer, when a visiting newspaperman from Raleigh made it a point to go out and see Mr. Lee because he had always been so considerate of the reporters while commissioner.

The visitor was a cub reporter when Mr. Lee first went into office, and down through the years Mr. Lee always found time to give the younger folks a bit of sound advice along with the routine news from his office.

His optimism even in recent months surpassed that of many a young man.

Mr. Lee was friendly. He believed in friends, and made many of them wherever he went. And with his passing, these friends in every nook and corner of the state, will greatly miss one they admired.

The Hospital Does It Again

Citizens of the county should consider it a pride and joy to realize that the Haywood County Hospital has again been put on the approved list of hospitals by the American College of Surgeons, an organization representing some 13,000 leading surgeons in the United States, Canada and other countries.

The 85-bed institution here has been on the list for many years, and such recognition speaks for itself. Such honors are not just handed down. They have to be attained by hard and efficient work.

Too Many--More To Come

Through December 31, there had been 47,591 drivers licenses revoked in North Carolina. The large percentage of these motorists lost their license after being convicted of driving while drunk.

The drivers license system has been in force in North Carolina for about seven years, which means that well over 45,000 vehicles on the highways have been driven by potential murderers during that period.

This is one law which we hope the state lawmakers will not bother — unless they take the pen in their stiff

More Sacrificing Coming

Ever since America entered the war, the civilians have been warned time and time again that supreme sacrifices would be necessary in order that victory be ours.

Many civilians have taken the warning with a smile, and contented themselves by saying: "The sacrificing can be done by the other person, and not me."

Most all civilians agree that sacrifices will be necessary, and at the same time, hope against the day when they will be forced to make any.

Those who sacrifice most will enjoy the peace better.

Those who have lived amid all the conveniences that modern science and the industrial genius of the world can provide, still have far more than many unfortunates in battle torn countries. Even with some present-day inconveniences, we have far more than most countries.

taken for granted.

Giving By Doing Without

Because families of some Rotarians in other parts of the world are hungry, the Waynesville Rotarians will eat soup and call it a square meal—sending the difference in the cost to the relief of the Rotarians in war-torn Europe and Asia.

The treasury of the local club could stand a substantial check being issued to the relief agency, but that would be just a stroke of a pen, and nothing personal, no self-sacrificing for every member of the club.

By giving up a meal, the members will realize more fully the gnawing feeling of an empty stomach.

The members voted to do this not as a publicity stunt, but for the joy of giving and helping—and in the language of Rotary "Service above self—he profits most who serves best."

"Mostest, Fustest"

The opening weeks and months of the New Year will contain immense changes, and challenges, for Americans. Initial preparations have been made; the great reservoir of surplus civilian goods so thoughtlessly tapped in the recent Christmas buying spree, is nearing its end. So, while fighting on the battlefield is certain to take on an accelerating tempo, the impact of shortages, rationing, taxes and other inconveniences at home will open new areas of sacrifice.

There is not the slightest doubt these sacrifices will be taken in stride, for Americans take pride that, in their expressive phrase, they "can take it as well as dish it out," though, naturally, they prefer the latter function.

Thus far, America in its mobilization has benefitted from two things: the experience gained in the first World War, and the example of Britain in previously meeting many of the problems that have subsequently arisen in the United States.

The machinery — and probably all the machinery that will be necessary — to administer the war effort is now at hand, but it remains to fit this machinery together so it works effectively. The requirement is to see the war effort not in parts, but as a whole. The problems though seemingly separate and many are actually parts of one.

If the Army requires more men, it is not a problem merely of Selective Service, for it is likely to drain more men from industry. And if men are drawn from war factories, it does not merely become a problem of industrial production, for if industry raises wages to attract the workers who will keep the level of production up, it will lure the farm helpers from the fields. And if farmers raise their wages to keep their workers, they must advance the price of their foods, and that is the beginning of inflation. So it goes, endlessly.

Thus far the tendency in America has been to chase after fragments on the home front. The Chief Executive has been so absorbed in the military strategy he has not focused on the directives that would give unity and purpose to the home front.

Few would have had it otherwise. Military needs have been predominant, but now vast and potentially dangerous buying power has accumulated in the hands of wage earners, threatening inflation. The tax situation is confused and inadequate. The need for wider and better rationing is daily becoming more vivid. Morale tends to deteriorate as the people wonder whether hardships result from official bungling rather than from inevitable consequences of war.

It is time, now, to bring the home front up to war with the war front. That is the first task of the New Year. It is intimately linked with the war front job, for it is the home front that supplies the "mostest" that the Army and Navy delivers "fustest."



Rambling Around

By W. CURTIS RUSS
Bits of this, that and the other picked up here, there and yonder.

Christmas trees which were so scarce before Christmas have been plentiful on almost every street during the past few days. Some were in fair condition, while others were brown and needless.

Difference of opinion: one man just walked into the office blowing his hands, saying it was turning colder and he was about to freeze. Within five minutes another walked in and voluntarily said: "I believe it is getting warmer outside." So there you have the old weather argument again.

T. Weaver Cathey is making a good impression among agricultural authorities of the state. However, he hates to hold meetings in the eastern part of the state, when they get to talking peanuts and cotton, he says it gets him in hot water, because that is not his language.

The story is told on a Haywood soldier who attended a big blow-out during the Christmas holidays. During the dance intermission he remarked to the young lady with whom he had been dancing, but did not know:

"Who is that ugly sap of an officer standing over there? He's the meanest egg I have ever seen."
The sweet young thing replied: "Do you know who I am? I am that officer's daughter."
The Haywood soldier promptly shot back: "Do you know who I am?"
She replied: "No."
And with a relieved answer he sighed: "Thank heaven."

On the homefront, the yarn comes from the couple whose baby was four months old.
Husband: "It must be time to get on."
Wife: "Why, dear?"
Husband: "The baby has just fallen to sleep."

According to many mailmen, if the free mail were withdrawn from the mails, there would be only about half as much to deliver.

The coldest spot on Main street is at the intersection of Main and Depot streets. The wind seems to always be in a hurry to get down the hill.

The broken pavement at the bridge near the Laundry is going to cause someone to bite their tongue someday, and what can hurt worse?

Parents who once worried about their children being out after dark, are now having to send them to school before daylight.

And this is the time of year that Christmas decorations look so sick, and out of place.

Man was arrested in Asheville last week for violation of the gasoline rationing law. Another in Charlotte is charged with hoarding coffee and giving a false report. Uncle Sam's laws have some pretty sharp teeth.

A column conducted in the Salisbury Post by News Editor John W. Harden has recently collected from other North Carolina news writers their nominations for a list of apparent "musts" in the way news is too often written. The list follows:

- All kisses must be rant.
- All Autumn days must be crisp.
- All stairs must be rickety.
- All speed must be alarming.
- All sobs must be heartrending.
- All prospects must be hopeful.
- All gentlemen must be elderly.
- All heat must be intense.
- All warnings must be ominous.
- All adventures must be hair-raising.
- All onlookers must be skeptical.
- All tension must be electric.
- All little waifs must be emaciated.
- All music must be special.
- All men when they die must leave a host of friends.
- All wives must be attractive.
- All the public must be general.
- All invitations must be cordial.
- All parties must be enjoyed by one and all.
- All welcomes must be warm.
- All authors must be brilliant.
- All movies must be colossal.
- All stamps must be beauties.
- All babies must be new.
- All decorations must be lovely.
- All brides must be blushing.
- All parents must be proud.
- All fathers must be young.
- All hopes must be high.
- All visitors must be prominent.
- All currency must be crisp.
- All collations must be delicious.
- All speeches must be stirring.
- All talks must be inspiring.
- All remarks must be brief.
- All comedies must be sparkling.
- All heavy rains must be deluges.
- All girls must be vivacious.
- All performances must be brilliant.
- All approvals by crowds must be roared.
- All efforts must be painstaking.
- All patients must be rushed to hospitals.
- All teas must be delightful.
- All large fish must be monsters of the deep.
- All boxers must be battlers.
- All times of peace must be piping.
- All solos must be rendered.
- All sopranos must be colorful.
- All success must be howling.
- All baby boys must be bouncing.
- All Boy Scouts must be alert.
- All balls hurled by pitchers must be sizzling.

What Made News Years Ago

FIVE YEARS AGO 1938
Boone Brothers buy Sunny Cove Orchards and plan extensive improvements.
Steel bridge at Waterville has been sold to Cooke county.
Seventy per cent of 1937 days had some sunshine.
Attorney General of North Carolina rules that the Southern Methodist Assembly be exempted from taxes.
W. L. Lampkin completes twenty-five years of service with the

THE OLD HOME TOWN



Voice OF THE People

How long do you expect to keep your New Year's Resolutions?

Mrs. George Craig—"Forever. I did not make any, thank goodness."

Stanley Brading—"I did not make any, because I have never believed in them. New Year's resolutions usually make liars out of those who make them."

Mrs. Fred Martin—"I don't make them, as they are never kept anyway."

Whitner Prevost—"I try to do a good job every day, and did not make any."

L. B. Simmonds, Pet Dairy—"I only made one, and am determined to keep it. I resolved to do my part to help win the war. I have a lot at stake with my son in service, and believe me, I am going to keep this resolution until the war is won."

Mrs. John L. Davis—"The extent of my resolutions this year were to keep cheerful, strong and brave during these days of war. I'll strive to keep that resolution on through the depressing period."

Mrs. C. C. White—"I've never made a New Year's resolution in my life. Perhaps I'll start next year."

Mrs. J. R. Rose—"I expect to keep my resolutions the year 'round. I did not make any that would be hard to break."

Mrs. Robert Hugh Clark—"I did not make any because I knew I could not keep them."

Mrs. Francis Garren—"I hope to keep mine the year 'round."

Mrs. Joe Limer—"I did not make any, therefore, I will not have any to break."

Letters To The Editor

5 LYNCHED IN 1942

Editor The Mountaineer,
I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1942. I find, according to the information compiled in the Department of Records and Research, there were 5 persons lynched in 1942. This is 1 more than the number 4 for the year 1941, the same as the number 5 for the year 1940, 2 more than the number 3 for the year 1939, and 1 less than the number 6 for the year 1938. One of the persons lynched was dragged through the streets behind an automobile and body burned. Another body was dragged through the streets behind a speeding automobile to the edge of town and hanged from a cotton gin winch. In one case, the person was taken from the jail and hanged.

There were 15 reports of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. One of the reported instances was in a western state and 14 of the reported instances were in southern states. In 13 instances, persons were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 1 case, a lynching was restrained by wives of the would-be-lynchers. In another case the sheriff dissuaded the mob. A

Bell Telephone Company.
Annual audit shows that Haywood county collected 92 per cent of '36 taxes.

First National Bank pays a six per cent dividend.

Ice cream mix from Pet Dairy plant here being shipped to many points.

J. E. Barr is named administrator of the Tennessee Valley Authority Cooperatives.

It's a tendency that's more conspicuous in congress than in the bureaucracies. The bureaucracies are largely of administrative creation, and the administration is decidedly reconstructive. Congress likes things as they are—not constructive. And the new congress will be more so than the last one.

total number of 17 persons—4 white men and 13 Negro men—were saved from the hands of mobs.

All persons lynched were Negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted criminal assault, 1; suspected attempted rape, 3; received sentence when jury failed to agree upon the punishment on a murder charge, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; Texas, 1.

Very truly yours,
F. D. PATTERSON, President
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

America is the only land where the people have enough food to mess it up so it isn't fit to eat.

Post-War Boom Is Discouraged By Economists

By CHARLES P. STEWART (Central Press Columnist)

WASHINGTON. — Far from planning a program of tremendous industrial stimulation, to be unrolled directly after peace restoration, quite a few of the government's economists are figuring on schemes to prevent a post-war boom from becoming uncontrollable.

They want prosperous times, of course, but they don't believe the way to get and keep 'em permanently is to acquiesce in ten or a dozen years of business delirium winding up in about a generation of gradual recovery from the national hoot of the initial decade. That's been the sequence hitherto and our last demonstration of it was recent enough to be remembered. That's one of the advantages that's pointed to in having war and their aftermaths reasonably close together. In olden days they came so fast that they were jumbled. Then they got to be too frequent or too small-scale to be educational. Since 1918 until now though, has been just about an ideal interval, the economists reckon.

The hope is this— War's a curse; that isn't disputed. Nevertheless, it's a spell of prodigious productive activity. Everybody has a job, either as an actual scrapper or as a producer of supplies for the sure-enough beligerents—or maybe as a bureaucrat.

When it's over there's a short crap, while folk are redistributing themselves. If they're human they will have skinned down to their last nickels and will feel the pinch for a bit. They'll fancy that they are in the midst of the genuine coming depression, but it'll be a brief one, in so far as that particular installment of it's concerned. Everything truly useful will have been consumed, for no conceivable usefulness on earth.

False Prosperity
And the demand will be terrific. It'll create employment, to supply it. It'll begin to look like prosperity for awhile. The half-starved death public will spend its small change like fury.

The little peewee of immediate post-war scarcity will lead into a perfect spurge of popular requirements for everything imaginable. Folk will need it also. The trouble is that they'll overdo themselves finally running into debt and going busted.

That'll be the boom and that's how it will frazzle out, if past history's any criterion. But the boom will start suddenly. Recovery will be blamed gradual.

At least, that's the scientific economists' calculation.

Their notion is that an individual can't save up his resources for a term of years, until he has quite an accumulation of 'em, and the invest all in powder and shot, to go out and massacre some predatory neighbor and be otherwise than worse off for the experience. They agree that it may be necessary for him to exterminate such a neighbor, but they insist that can't be tough on the economics of the neighbor of the first part—the one who has to do the massacring.

They say that this is true of countries as well as of individuals. Their thesis is that a country which, unavoidably, has had to pile up a huge war debt, should fight—not on a vast campaign of national spending on almost unlimited improvements, such as a post-war expansionists advocate.

Keep Lid On
Keeping the lid on is their prescription.

These boys are exceedingly careful as to expressing themselves in quotation marks. They realize that if they do, they'll be accused of taking an overly cautious attitude.

All the same, what they want to discourage a post-war boom. Their game's to get back in normalcy, as President Harding called it, in normal fashion—degrees, as when the country's young, with modern modifications.

It's a tendency that's more conspicuous in congress than in the bureaucracies. The bureaucracies are largely of administrative creation, and the administration is decidedly reconstructive. Congress likes things as they are—not constructive. And the new congress will be more so than the last one.