

The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1943
(One Day Nearer Victory)

New Problems

We offer congratulations to the Chamber of Commerce on their election of R. B. Davenport as president for the coming year. Though he has not lived here but a few years Mr. Davenport has proved his interest in the community.

We feel sure that he will have constructive ideas and will carry on in the same fine spirit of cooperation that his predecessor, Paul Davis, and the others have done in the office.

In years gone by the work of the Chamber of Commerce has to a certain extent been along well beaten paths. This year it will be different. There will be new problems and also there will have to be new ways devised to meet old problems.

It will be a year of concentrated personal effort in the community, that will be a part of every day living. Even the most optimistic will not look for a tourist business around which much of the activity of the Chamber of Commerce has been centered, but even so there will be work for the organization.

It will be necessary to hold the niche that this section has gained as a place for vacations. The organization will have to be alert for much may happen before the year is out. The few who come from other sections to spend a vacation must be given every attention in the effort to keep those who have been here in days gone by still mindful of what an advantageous place this section is to spend a vacation in the years to come, if not now.

Mr. Davenport, we extend to you and your directors, best wishes and our cooperation for the year ahead. We feel that you will serve the community with sincerity and timely recommendations.

Prison Labor

Indications are that a bill will be introduced in the General Assembly to allow prison labor to be hired out for work on private farms in the state.

Some are claiming that the bill is not practical, and it is said that Representative Charles Honeycutt, of Sampson County, who is contemplating the introduction of the bill, is trying to get up enough support to get it through.

The question of hiring out prison labor to farmers came up last fall, but the State Prison Department did not take to the idea. There is no doubt it offers many problems as to how it would be worked out, but there is also much to be said on the other hand.

Attention, Ladies

We have noticed that for sometime there has been an urgent call from the chairman of surgical dressings of the Haywood chapter for workers. The fact was recently brought out that the local work is lagging so far behind that the quotas may not be reached.

We are surprised at this because we can usually count on the local women to rally around any worthwhile cause. We realize that they have domestic problems that come first, but we would like to join Mrs. Ben Colkitt, chairman, who has worked so faithfully in the work, in her appeal to the women to give at least one afternoon each week to this worthwhile work.

Making bandages, that are badly needed by the army, is one very definite way in which the women at home, who are not employed, may aid in the war effort.

It's Time To--

We were impressed by a list of things under the above title listed in the last copy of the Progressive Farmer. The list may remind you of others to be added, so it might not be a bad plan for all of us to make out work sheets of our spring plans, whether or not we live on farms.

From that work sheet we can begin to get going on the things we hope to do about our places during the coming years.

On the Progressive Farmer list are some of the following:

Save truck mileage by hauling fertilizer back when you take a load to town.

Order enough vegetable seeds to take care of the year's plantings.

Ask your Congressman for copy of "Keeping Farm Animals Healthy."

Set up enough money in your program to take care of income taxes.

Complete your plans for adding another cow and brood sow.

Prevent forest fires by plowing fire lanes. Sow lespedeza on the oats, wheat, and barley.

Plan for a large acreage of sweet potatoes. Arrange early for needed crop loans.

Test seed for germination. Repair the pasture fences.

Order baby chicks now. Examine beehives. Sharpen tools.

How Long Will It Last?

Wherever you go sooner or later that question will arise in the conversation. Everyone is concerned with the length of the duration of the war.

Locally there were a surprisingly large group who were optimistic over the early part of 1943 showing definite signs of the end. We notice they are not talking now with such confidence.

We have noticed of late a more settled atmosphere about things — like a person settling down for a long trip. It seems to be taken for granted now by even the most optimistic that the signs are still not right for any guessing about the matter.

Yet the war prophets come and go, and each of us has a perfect right to our own opinions. That is one nice thing we can prophesy to our heart's content. There is no law against it, and it serves as a fine outlet for our pent up feelings on the critical period in which we are carrying on.

Keep It Up

We notice that the community has contributed to date 500 books for the Victory Drive and that the campaign is to be continued another week. The diversion of reading is going to mean as much to the armed forces as well as those back home during the coming year.

It is noted that these books contributed by thousands of American soldiers, sailors, marines and coast guardsmen. Boys tired from a day's hard duties in the service will find an hour's relief in reading the very books that we send out from Haywood County.

When we donate a book from our own shelves to this worthy cause it is like sharing a bit of our own home and our own warm fireside with that boy "somewhere in the service."

Look over your books again. Maybe you will find one you can part with that you overlooked last week.

Thirty-Eight

We note with interest that in a recent News Letter from the University of North Carolina there is a list of the farms in the state and how they rank as to size and value of land and buildings of farms.

Haywood County comes 38th on the list and has the highest rating of any county west of Catawba. In consideration of the fact that this area is so mountainous and as a result has such large acreages not adapted to farming we were quite surprised, but gratified to find how high Haywood ranked.

The average size farm in Haywood County was given as containing 50.9 acres; value of lands and building per acre, \$53.53 and average value of land and buildings per farm \$2,725.

New Hanover County led the state with an average size farm of 66.6 acres; average value of land and buildings per acre, \$84.41; and average value of land and buildings per farm \$5,620.

THE DEVIL'S ADVOCATE



HERE and THERE

By
HILDA WAY GWYN

We were interested recently to hear Mrs. Tom Rainer of Jonathan Creek, one of the leading rural women in Haywood... discuss how they managed on 3 gallons... she says that she and Tom just come to town once a week... where they used to ride in any old time... that they keep a check of what they need as the days go by and when the trip comes around... they are fully organized to get what they need for another week's running... doesn't it seem strange when we think back over the pleasure riding that we enjoyed... only hiking picnics next summer... or those in your own back yard.

Another current issue... now would be the finest time in years for the old time itinerant knife sharpener to get on the road again... we have an idea that he is lost for sometime to come in the defense plants throughout the country... with the return of bread slicing... we are going to have to sharpen up our knives... we, for one, never took to the idea of somebody else deciding how thick or thin we wanted our bread... which was always too thin for toast and too thick for sandwiches, according to our liking, when it was done by machinery... even with a dull knife we are perfectly willing to struggle through the process of cutting our own... but, of course, we will agree it was a saving, for that last end piece never did cut into a decent looking slice.

During the week C. W. Moody handed us a recent issue of a newspaper of Gainesboro, Tenn... which contained the copy of an old Sale Bill... of 1840... The family had decided to leave Kentucky and go to Oregon... it was the year of the Gold Rush to the West... There was something very fascinating about the prospect of the trip in contrast to modern travel and transportation... we were also keen on the items offered for sale... they showed what it took to live at home in those days 95 years ago... the advertisement read as follows:

Off To Oregon
"Having sold my farm, and as I am leaving for Oregon territory by oxen on March 1, 1840, (we wonder how many months it took him to get there)... I will sell all my personal property, except two oxen teams, Buck and Ben, and Lou and Jerry, consisting of the following:

"Two milk cows; 1 gray mare and colt; 1 pair oxen; 1 yoke, 1 baby yoke; 2 ox carts; 1 iron plow, with food mold boards (we haven't the remotest idea about the latter)... 800 feet of poplar weather boards; 1,000 3-foot clap boards; 1,500 ten-foot fence rails; 160 gallon soap kettle; 85 sugar troughs made of white ash timber (we might be able to use something like that today)... 10 gallons maple syrup; 2 spinning wheels; 30 pounds mutton tallow; 1 large loom, made by Jerry Wilson; 300 poles; 100 split hoops; 100 empty barrels; 1 32-gallon barrel of Johnson-Miller whiskey, 7 years old; 20 gallons of apple brandy; 40 gallon copper still; 4 sides of oak tanned leather; 1 dozen wooden pitchforks; one half interest in ten yards; 1 32 calibre rifle made by Ben Miller; 50 gallons of soft soap, hams, bacon and lard; 40 gallons of sorghum molasses; 6 head of fox hounds, all soft mouthed but one; at same time will sell 6 negro slaves, 2 men, 35 and 50; 2 boys, 11 and 10; 2 mulatto wenches, 30 and 40 years old... will sell all of them to one party but will not sell separately... (we liked the terms, for we hate to think of separating

the families, as was sometimes done)... Terms of sale: Cash in hand or note to draw 4 per cent interest (sounds like good investment today)... Home is 2 miles South of Versailles, Ky. Sale will begin at 8 o'clock a. m. Plenty to eat and drink... (we don't count the latter with a 32-gallon of 7-year-old stuff and 20 gallons of apple brandy).

When we consider the labor that went into the items listed... that were part of the living in those days... we marvel at the courage and daring of those who left the East and Middle West to go to the Pacific coast... just think of accumulating again by hard... all those things... after a tedious journey across the continent... No wonder the West has made such progress... for only the strong hearted dared to leave and start life over again.

We noticed recently where Dorothy Thompson book issue with Mrs. Roosevelt... co-writer... and the latter boy reads in college could help the war effort... and Mrs. Roosevelt was quoted as saying... I believe that girls should get out of college and go to work unless their college training is helping fit them for some particular task... Miss Thompson makes a difference between technical training and liberal education... She says... The result would be the substitution of 'training' for 'education'... and this would create a society of people, each of whom know how to do some one thing competently, but all of whom would be at a loss under new conditions, which rendered his job unnecessary... It would be interesting to hear the two women argue it out... we were a bit surprised at Mrs. Roosevelt's statement... for we thought it had been settled long ago that a liberal education was the finest background any specialized field could have... Mrs. Roosevelt seems also to have forgotten that when "you educate a man you educate an individual, but when you educate a girl you educate a family."

Visiting Celebrity In this meeting we are going to take up reforms for our speakers to debate on. Has anyone present a reform for them?

Soldier (in audience) — I have!

Visiting Celebrity — Speak up, please. What reform would you give our speakers?

Soldier (in audience) — Chloroform.

THE OLD HOME TOWN



Official And Timely Information On

Rationed Items

—as compiled from records and data on file in the office of the Wayneville Rationing Board, by the community service chairman.

Deadline for Rationed Items:

- Gasoline**--"A" coupons good for three gallons each. Expires March 21.
- Fuel Oil**--Period 3 coupons good for nine gallons and valid through February 5. Coupon No. 4 valid from January 30 to April 6.
- Coffee**--Last day for use of number 28 stamp in War Ration Book No. 1 is February 7. (Good for one pound).
- Sugar**--Stamp No. 11 in War Ration Book No. 1 good for three pounds.
- Tires**--Last day for the first tire inspection of "A" cards is March 31; All "B" and "C" cards, and bulk coupons February 28th.

Voice OF THE People

What do you think of the President's trip to Africa?

Patrolman R. O. Roberts—"President Roosevelt has what it takes to put things across, but even so I think it was a mighty dangerous thing to do. He would be hard to replace in this country."

G. C. Platt—"I think it the most wonderful event in history to date."

T. L. Green—"I think it was a very brave thing to do, but at the same time it was taking a great risk."

R. E. Scutelle—"I think it was timed wisely and most appropriately, and the good effects of the trip will be felt throughout the world. It should be one of the factors to give victory to the Allied powers, but he took a big chance."

Prof. W. P. Whitesides (Bethel High School)—"I think it was a great thing to boost the morale of the Allies, and especially our own boys in service, and it should have just the opposite effect on Hitler."

W. C. Allen—"I think it was bravest thing I ever heard of a President of the United States doing."

J. M. Garrison—"It was a great thing for him to do. It should help the morale of the people everywhere."

T. J. B. Frouke—"I think it was great. I was surprised that he would take such a trip with his physical handicap, but it shows what a big man he is and how he will do things that others would not dare to attempt. It also shows that here in America we can keep secrets as well as they do in Germany."

Mrs. Richard Rogers—"I don't think there has ever been anything equal to it in history, but I feel that it is taking a great chance. He means too much to this country just now, for anything to happen to him."

Rafos Siler—"I think it was the stuff and will get results."

Christy Reggie—"I think he took an awful chance, but I believe that in the end we will have an understanding with Britain and something good will come out of it."

Sweet Young Thing (To soldier)—"Kiss me once more like that and I am yours for life."

Soldier—"Thanks for the warning."

Junior (just home from school, to his father)—"I've learned in school today that animals have a new fur every winter."

Father—Sh-h-h-h. Your mother is in the next room.

Just before the board went to session last Friday morning the state board granted an additional 131 tires for this district January, which meant that the local board was able to clear the lists of every request for tires, as start February with a clean slate. Washington sets up a quota for the state, and the state in turn gives each board their monthly quota. The board had so many more applications than could be filled by the quota, that the surplus were issued. As the month stood, there were 112 applications for 12 available passenger recaps—a ratio of 11 to 1.

Three persons have been called to appear before the board Friday and face charges of violating the gasoline law. One taxi driver is charged with picking up and delivering passengers at a local parlor. One truck driver and taxi driver for speeding. The board has authority to revoke rationing coupons of each for offenses. The charges were made by highway patrolmen under orders from Washington.

Typewriters are still frozen, applications for them have been turned down.

Two farmers received certificates to buy rubber boots to be used in feeding cattle and ditching.

One customer of a local furniture store was granted a certificate to purchase a range to replace one beyond repair.

Four applications for extra gasoline were before the board two got the extra gasoline as requested and the others turned down because they had failed to comply with a rule which made it necessary that the employer file the application.

Many consumers of fuel oil did not turn in tickets to redeem fuel oil bought last fall. The tickets were issued. Such consumers must remember that names are on record, and for grants for fuel oil, or even present tickets can be revoked less they "pay up" at once.

A certificate for a new bicycle was granted Friday. Any person gainfully employed is entitled to get a bicycle under the new law.

Miss Sue Willard Lindsey was to work at the board office Monday. She will take the place of Edna Summerrow, who has a position at the First National Bank.

No provisions have been made down for issuing War Ration Book Number one to people who forgot to get them before January 15th.

The board warned against stock against using coffee stamps out of books issued to children under 15. If the age of the child is 14 or less on the face of the book do not use it to get coffee. One family used a coupon for a book for a boy who was 14 when the book was issued, and he is 15. They violated the law. They will have some hard explaining to do before War Book No. 1 is issued. The face of a ration book cannot be changed.

Merchants who take coffee stamps on rationing boards issued to persons under 15 also violate the law, and are liable to the penalties.

Families are warned not to rationing books of new issue into service. This practice is cause all books of the user are called in. Books that belong to men now in service should be turned over to the rationing board.

In connection with family personal necessity driving, no alternative means of transportation are available, the following are permissible uses of private automobiles:

1. Essential shopping.
2. Procuring medical attention.
3. Attending religious services.
4. Attending funerals.
5. Visiting your immediate family where death has occurred.
6. Meeting an emergency.

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