

# The Mountaineer

Published By  
**THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO.**  
 Main Street Phone 137  
 Waynesville, North Carolina  
 The County Seat of Haywood County  
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 MRS. HILDA WAY GWYN, Associate Editor  
 W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
 One Year, In Haywood County \$1.75  
 Six Months, In Haywood County 90c  
 One Year, Outside Haywood County 2.50  
 Six Months, Outside Haywood County 1.50  
 All Subscriptions Payable In Advance

Entered at the post office at Waynesville, N. C., as Second Class Mail Matter, on provided under the Act of March 3, 1879, November 20, 1934.

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



THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1944  
 (One Day Nearer Victory)

## From One Who Knows

General Peyton C. Marsh, retired U. S. Chief of Staff, when interviewed last week on his 79th birthday by reporters, gave some mighty good advice and sounded a warning to the American people when he said:

"We can lose this war right here at home thinking it's almost over. I'm against censorship. Tell the people the truth. They've got to know how tough it is anyhow. . . . This country is in for a shock. . . . The war hasn't even started. Wait until Germany and Japan begin fighting on their own soil."

"Air power? Good. But the British said there was nothing left of Hamburg and then had to bomb it 119 additional times. The military works are underground. Essen? Hitler is a fool if he hasn't moved the Krupp works underground into Austria and left empty factories for the bombers. . . . There'll be 6,000,000 fighting men underground when we reach Japan.

"Island hopping makes me sick, too. I'm for Eisenhower. I'm for MacArthur. . . . You can't whip Germany by whipping somebody in Senega, bia. I'm a 'cross-channel man, myself, and I think we've got the right idea in an all-out Western Front attack."

The foregoing should certainly bring us down to earth as far as the war is concerned, for General Marsh has been a keen observer and during World War I he played an important role.

## Hitler's Changing Themes

We are told that Hitler's New Year's message in 1944 to the German people was not quite as cheerful as in other years. No doubt he realizes that they are at last wondering if any of his promises are coming true.

In 1941 Hitler told his great armies: "This year, 1941, will bring the completion of the greatest victory in our history."

Time passed and another twelve months rolled around. It was 1942. He told the German people in an address:

"The year, 1942—we will pray to God for this—that it will bring the decision for the salvation of our nation and the nations allied to us."

Then another year went by, and the Allied Nations began to show undreamed of strength. In 1943 he told his people:

"The day will come when one of the contending parties in this struggle will collapse. That it will not be Germany, we know."

Now in 1944 Hitler brings another message to his people. He is not so optimistic. He tells them:

"In this war there will be no victors and losers, but merely survivors and annihilated. However great the terror may be today it cannot be compared with the horrible misfortune that would afflict our nation and the whole of Europe if this coalition of criminals should ever be victorious."

Viewpoints are strange, are they not? Hitler's last remark could so well be applied by the Allied Nations to mean none other than the Germans themselves.

We wonder what Hitler will tell his people in his 1945 New Year's message. With every American citizen backing the war effort it is our fervent prayer that by then this leader of the Nazi will be silenced.

A California man who fell three stories will recover—and wait for the elevator next time.

## Call For Extra Food

America's food supply is said to represent perhaps the greatest single weapon of war in our fight against the Axis, and as the great 1944 food production program gets underway it is well for us to give thought to the importance of this vast secondary army that is carrying on behind the battle lines.

It is true that the food producers do not make the daily headlines that the battle fronts make, but none the less they are carrying forward the fight. For every member of the armed forces stationed in this country there must be a three-month's reserve supply of food. This is about the amount that the wholesale food dealers count on for civilian needs.

When the soldier is sent overseas his needs are greater, for he must then be provided with a nine-months' food reserve which is about 1,400 pounds. It is obvious that the more men and women we have overseas the larger must be the reserve of food supplies.

Before the war we had only our own food problems, but now we have other responsibilities. Our 1943 food supplies were divided as follows: 13 per cent went to our armed forces; 10 per cent to the Lend-Lease for our Allies; and 2 per cent for special needs. This left around 75 per cent for our own civilian population. The public is consuming much more food per person than a few years ago, because of more money with which to buy food. This factor has to enter in the planning ahead for food production needs.

We all realize that the men in the armed forces must be fed and fed the right kind of food. It is the policy of this nation that we must have our fighters fed better than any other in the world. The size of our armed forces is steadily increasing, so this naturally steps up our food supplies. We are told that a successful invasion in full force may step up the food requirements.

The armed forces are needing large supplies of such "protective foods" as meats, fats, and oils, milk and canned goods. It has been estimated that they will need about 40 per cent of the canned fruits and juices, 15 per cent of the citrus, 26 per cent of the canned vegetables and 15 per cent of the butter. They will also require about 6 per cent of other edible fats and oils, 32 per cent of the canned milk, 14 per cent of canned fish, 10 per cent of the eggs, and 15 per cent of the dry beans and peas.

In the meantime we must under the Lend-Lease help supply food to England and Russia. Practically all the food sent to Russia is used by their army. We have our choice, we can help win and shorten the war with food supplies or we can lengthen it by failure to meet the goals set up by our county farm agents.

This county is only a part of this great country, but we have our responsibility to meet our quota, so we must remember that the army tending the soil right here at home is fighting side by side with our forces in Italy, in Africa, and over in the South Pacific.

## Party Lines And Battlelines

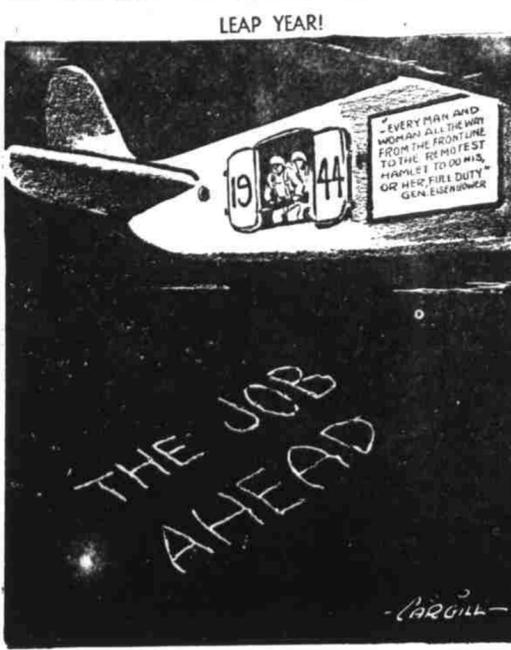
That the sacrifices and anxieties of war know no party lines and touch all homes with tragic impartiality has just been underlined for the people of Madison County by the news of the past few days.

Tuesday's citizen reported the death in an airplane accident of Sergeant S. Fuller Roberson, former postmaster at Buckner. We do not know his politics, but since he held an office under a Democratic Administration, he was probably a Democrat. Really it doesn't make any vast difference. What counts is that he gave his life for his country.

Wednesday's Citizen carried the news that Hal West of Marshall was missing in action over German territory. We do not know his politics, but since his father was once Republican Clerk of the Superior Court, we suspect that he is a Republican. Really his politics matter little. Much more important is the hard fact that he is missing in action in the service of his country.

No, the party lines are not being drawn on the battlelines. That they are being drawn back home in such an unseemly and even undemocratic manner reflects no credit on those responsible for the mess in which the clerkship of Madison County has been involved.—Asheville Citizen.

A woman politician in New York State says she lost 21 pounds in the heat and stress of the recent political campaign—and most of it in the right precincts, too.



## HERE and THERE

By  
 HILDA WAY GWYN

Relief on the home front is an unneeded word. I doubt if there is one item in the home that women have guarded with greater care since the war production era put a stop to the manufacture of civilian needs. . . . We see it in their eyes. . . . We hear that note of nostalgia in their talk. . . . We spoke of it and someone took us up. . . . saying it sounded to them like we might think the army was "going soft". . . . But to us it is just the reverse. . . . We like to think that the spirit of Militarism that has been instilled in the German boys shows no signs of becoming a permanent part of the American ideal. . . . even after the vigorous and thorough military training. . . . We like to think of our soldiers fighting for the love of the home they left, and not for the joy of killing and bitterness toward their foe. . . . We like to see that the toughening experiences of training and actual combat do not make our boys cynical. . . . that the hardships and disillusionment that war can bring. . . . are not becoming paramount in their lives. . . . But the love of home. . . . of the ways of peace are burning in their souls. . . . We like to see that they are considering the war merely as a job that they must do, and it must be finished before they can enjoy life. . . . It is but a hard interlude in their lives and they hope to be done with it. . . . For what they want most is home. . . . family and friends. . . . We like to feel that after all this is the spirit of America. . . .

Think what they will mean to the war brides. . . . who have left their happy homes in a hurry following their soldier husbands across the continent. . . . from camp to camp. . . . for in many cases mother could not spare the family iron to give them to take along. . . . We bet that more little war babies have worn unironed clothes than ever in the history of this country. Last November a survey brought to light that there were exactly 14 electric irons for sale in this country. . . . and by the end of the month there was only one in an appliance store and it was put out as an exhibit, according to WPB. In another survey of items that people missed most. . . . the electric iron was placed 7th, while to our surprise butter was the top request. . . .

Speaking of irons, men have always been smarter than women about reducing labor. . . . Much as we hate to admit the fact, it is true. . . . for after all the years that women had spent over the ironing board it was a man who invented the electric iron. . . . One Charles E. Carpenter, student at the University of Minnesota. . . . No doubt the vital problem of keeping the crease in the trousers in his day back in 1889 inspired the invention. . . .

During these winter days we find ourselves constantly thinking of the men on the firing lines. . . . The cold weather makes us more thoughtful of the conditions under which they are fighting. . . . Pictures of mud and snow also have their part in making us conscious of them. . . . This week we were feeling very sorry for ourselves, when the big snow came. . . . it happened there was a manpower shortage on the place and no one, but ourselves to handle the snow. . . . so we donned our garden slacks bundled up in mufflers, heavy coat, galoshes, and put on our furnace gloves, took the biggest shovel we could find and tackled the job. . . . we shoveled out a walk to the street. . . . and then started making the rounds of the yard to uncover our boxwood and most cherished shrubs. . . . at first we were overcome with the sheer beauty of the scene but in about a half hour we were pretty well soaked and were puffing like the Murphy Branch engines as they take the Balsam grade. . . . and were getting sorrier and sorrier for ourselves. . . . when our thoughts took another turn. . . . there came to mind soldiers of the Russian front. . . . our boys in Italy. . . . the mud and rain we hear about over in Africa. . . . and instead of being sorry. . . . we thanked our lucky stars we could shovel snow here at home. . . .

Our work brings us in contact with a large number of men in the service. . . . During the past year we have noticed a big change in their attitude. . . . We find they are much more homesick today than they were a year ago. . . . We like that spirit. . . . We see it in their eyes. . . . and we hear that note of nostalgia in their talk. . . . We spoke of it and someone took us up. . . . saying it sounded to them like we might think the army was "going soft". . . . But to us it is just the reverse. . . . We like to think that the spirit of Militarism that has been instilled in the German boys shows no signs of becoming a permanent part of the American ideal. . . . even after the vigorous and thorough military training. . . . We like to think of our soldiers fighting for the love of the home they left, and not for the joy of killing and bitterness toward their foe. . . . We like to see that the toughening experiences of training and actual combat do not make our boys cynical. . . . that the hardships and disillusionment that war can bring. . . . are not becoming paramount in their lives. . . . But the love of home. . . . of the ways of peace are burning in their souls. . . . We like to see that they are considering the war merely as a job that they must do, and it must be finished before they can enjoy life. . . . It is but a hard interlude in their lives and they hope to be done with it. . . . For what they want most is home. . . . family and friends. . . . We like to feel that after all this is the spirit of America. . . .

## Voice OF THE People

In what country are you most interested outside of your own?

Mrs. Walter Crawford—"I would say at this particular time, England."

J. Yates Bailey—"Most of us would think of the English speaking people, as the ancestors of the majority of us came from England."

John K. Barr—"Right now, it would be England."

Albert Abel—"I have always been interested in Brazil."

Miss Mary Mock—"I guess England comes first to mind, for just now it seems natural to think of

## Inside WASHINGTON

Loss of Air Bases Now Puts Emphasis on Jap Submarines  
 Enemy Can No Longer Depend On Planes Against Our Ships

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON—Some Navy officials in Washington are expecting intensification of Japan's submarine campaign against Allied merchant shipping in the Pacific resulting from the current offensive which deprived the Nips of valuable air bases on the west flank of the shipping routes.

Hitherto, the Japs relied on planes from the Solomons and Gilberts to threaten American shipping and to force vessels to take a wide time-consuming detour on the route to the southwest Pacific.

Best bet is that the Jap, having lost his air bases in the Solomons and Gilberts, will resort to other tactics.

Early in the war, the Jap used his submarine fleet—except in a few isolated cases—in conjunction with his surface forces against American warships. These tactics proved costly to Americans early in the war, both in the Solomons and elsewhere.

Prediction Japan may attempt sub attacks against Allied merchant shipping, but most Navy men feel the enemy high command has waited too long if such a method is used, it probably will do little harm to Allied shipping which now is well protected in convoys.

A PRESIDENTIAL VETO LOOMS for the senate railway wage reduction when it finally reaches Roosevelt's desk.

The measure, which by now is certain to have been approved by the upper chamber, declares valid a straight eight-cents-an-hour pay hike for 100,000,000 non-operating trainmen.

Both management and labor originally agreed to the increase, but Economic Stabilizer Fred Vinson twice rejected the arrangement on the grounds that it would mean the "hold the line against inflation" order of the chief executive.

Informed Capitol Hill sources, basing their belief on a radio address by War Mobilizer Byrnes, predict that Roosevelt is nearly certain to veto the measure. Byrnes described the rail workers as holding a political pistol at the head of congress.

Whether the senate and house have sufficient votes to override a veto remains problematical.

GOPOLITICOS ARE WATCHING with keen interest the selection of Rep. Charles A. Halleck of Indiana as chairman of the national Republican congressional campaign committee succeeding Rep. J. William Ditter of Pennsylvania, killed in an airplane crash.

There is much behind the move and it has many implications.

Halleck attained national prominence in 1940 when he nominated Wendell Willkie, another Hoosier, for president. To Halleck's speech was attributed much of the success of the "Willkie Blitz." Halleck, however, has now cooled on Willkie—which is important in pivotal Indiana and dangerous to Willkie.

Halleck is assured of a seat in the house as long as he wants it, observers agree, and as congressional campaign leader he will be in line for majority leadership if the Republicans capture the lower branch in 1944.

THE NATIONAL PLANNING ASSOCIATION takes credit for the fact that Bernard M. Baruch is in charge of drafting the broad blueprint for post-war conversion. Insiders say that NPA quietly recommended delegation of the assignment to Baruch to President Roosevelt weeks ago.

NPA also would more or less bypass WPB on the post-war job. Its program includes creation of a National Reconversion commission and appointment of a national reconversion administrator.

Good chance for another round of alphabetical federal units!

ALTHOUGH THE ADMINISTRATION has told farmers they will get plenty of farm machinery to do the job in 1944—the fact is that there is some doubt about it now.

Huge orders for landing barges from the military have put a crimp in steel allotments for farm machinery. It's the old case of the military needs coming first—with the farmers in close, but too far, second.

Already hard-pressed for machinery, farmers may have to stretch out their old equipment another year.

## MARRIAGES

Hugh S. Matthews to Ruth Burch, both of Canton.

Jeralemp Kemp, of Waynesville to Narcissus Hughes, of Irvington, Ga. (Colored).

England."

Mrs. S. R. Crockett—"There are several countries that interest me. I have always been concerned over China, and now I think we are all interested in Poland. I am also concerned about the fate of the small European countries."

Mrs. J. R. McCracken—"Probably since the war, I have been more interested in the future of France than in any other country."

V. C. Nobeck—"Since my parents were natives of Sweden, I am naturally more interested right now in the welfare of that country next to my own."

Mrs. Cornelia Nixon—"Off hand I would say Russia for its fight for independence and individual freedom."

Mrs. James Moore—"I suppose right now in what is happening in Italy."

## Letters To The Editor

Haywood County Ministerial Association Concerned Over Negro Education

Editor The Mountaineer:

The Haywood County Ministerial Association held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, January 3rd, at the Methodist church in Waynesville. Rev. J. Clay Madison, president of the Association, presided over the meeting as usual and new business was discussed. A report was given by the hospital visitation committee on a plan for regular hospital visiting. A number of new committees were appointed by the president.

The discussion turned then to the very critical and, according to the consensus of the ministers, disgraceful Negro education situation in Haywood county. It was pointed out in the discussion that the 34,000 white population of the county 8,200 were this year in school. This is 21.1% of the white population in school. In contrast to those figures, it was pointed out that of the 800 Negro population of the county 157 were this year in school. This is 18.75% of the Negro population in school. The differential of 3% was explained as partially the result of the poor housing conditions of the Negro schools and also as the result of the complete absence of any high school facilities for the Negroes. One of the ministers reported that there were six boys and girls in Canton who are not in school this year because there is no grade for them; there are four who are away from home paying for their education because their county does not provide adequate training in compliance with the provisions of the state law. Besides these who are ready for the tenth grade next year. This makes a total of 23 who should next year be provided with the opportunities of a tenth grade education. It was further estimated that there will be next year 100 who will be ready for the eleventh grade; they have been away from home trying to get more education and have succeeded to the extent of finishing the tenth grade.

As the discussion continued it was discovered that some of the ministers had been to the Negro

## THE OLD HOME TOWN



(Continued on page 5)