

# The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1944  
 (One Day Nearer Victory)

## Biggest Event of Week

The biggest event of the week in North Carolina is the Hereford Breeders' Association meeting in Haywood County, a county which is leading in the improvement of cattle. The hope of the best prosperity is to raise on the farms that which can transport itself. Recent years have seen progress in more and better livestock. But we have only made a fine start toward the necessary goal.—Raleigh News and Observer.

## Rural Electrification

The Waynesville Mountaineer congratulates the management of the Haywood County Electric Company that the company is "shedding light" and power by 1,075 users in rural districts. A dozen years ago no farmer in that county could use electricity.

Rural electrification was made possible among the earlier New Deal policies and has added to happiness as well as furnishing light and power for the farmer and the farmer's wife.—Raleigh News and Observer.

## Good News

We noted with interest that the majority of the animals sold on the Hereford sale here last week were kept in Haywood County. We know of no finer way to educate the stockmen of our section than the holding of these sales in our county.

The cattlemen have an opportunity to learn about good stock right here at home and it also serves another purpose. The sales educate the younger boys who someday will take their father's places on the farm to an appreciation of good stock and how it pays in the long run to breed the best on the market.

## Taking Up For the Men

The following editorial from the Christian Science Monitor shows that despite the fact that women have entered the service and are doing work formerly done by men in service, the men are loath to share alike in home duties, or at least they are still old fashioned enough to want to joke about it. The editorial:

"Someone should immediately found a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to G. I. Joe. As if the poor fellow didn't have enough to worry about just now the War Department (believe it or not) has just issued a booklet of instructions for Joe on the mysteries of women. This booklet, 'Do You Want Your Wife To Work After the War?' has been published with the ostensible purpose of giving G. I. Joe information that has been kept secret since the day the Sphinx was unveiled.

"But its real purpose may be determined by revealing that one section of this subversive pamphlet actually deals with the need for assisting wives to wash and dry dishes.

"Can you imagine the effect on the boys, overseas just as they are beginning to dream of returning home. Is the War Department trying to slow down demobilization?

"Drying dishes indeed. Why doesn't our military master of manners advise Joe to stand up firmly for his masculine rights? Let him at least reject the tea towel and insist on freedom to splash in the dishpan."

## Scrap In Belgium

How completely Germany scraps a country of all possible material that can be used to carry on this war that they started, was recently revealed when it was brought out that the Nazis had not left a church bell in Belgium.

The church bells were converted into German ammunition. Think of a country where the Sabbath morning could not be announced by the music of a church bell. Such desecration brings home to us anew the privileges that we enjoy here in America. It is impossible to us who live so far away, though our country is at war, to fully understand what it means to have our homes along the lines of combat fury.

When we hear them ring next Sunday morning it might not be amiss to pause and offer a prayer of thanksgiving that though we are paying a tremendous price for this war, we still have much for which to be grateful.

## If You Need It Take the Prescription

We have noticed that the returning veterans from France and other areas of the European war theatre are not as optimistic as we Americans are about how long it is going to take to get Germany to surrender. We have talked to several and they all think we will be doing well to have things ended by the first of the year, whereas a lot of us think that November will see the surrender of the enemy.

Private Ronald Moshki, an American soldier in combat in France offers a fine treatment for the Americans who are too cheerful on the subject, and who have been "sitting up two nights in a row waiting for the war to be over."

Pvt. Moshki tells of how he heard a program over the radio from America explaining that the idea was going around that the Germans were about ready to give up. The next day he was thinking so hard about the folks back home and what they thought that he was "nearly killed by a Nazi machine-gunner."

So Pvt. Moshki thinks it might be a good idea if those overly cheerful Americans back home "might come over here and sit in the d— apple orchard."

Pvt. Moshki might have something there. Maybe if we were in hearing distance of the great combat guns in Europe, to say nothing of right in the midst of the firing, we might not be so optimistic.

We must not forget that our men are still giving their lives on the battlefields of Europe and that this slaughter will continue until Victory is won.

## Our Loss--Their Gain

We have heard a great deal about the doctor shortage on the home fronts, but on the other hand we have had glowing reports about the medical services the men overseas and those on the combat lines are receiving.

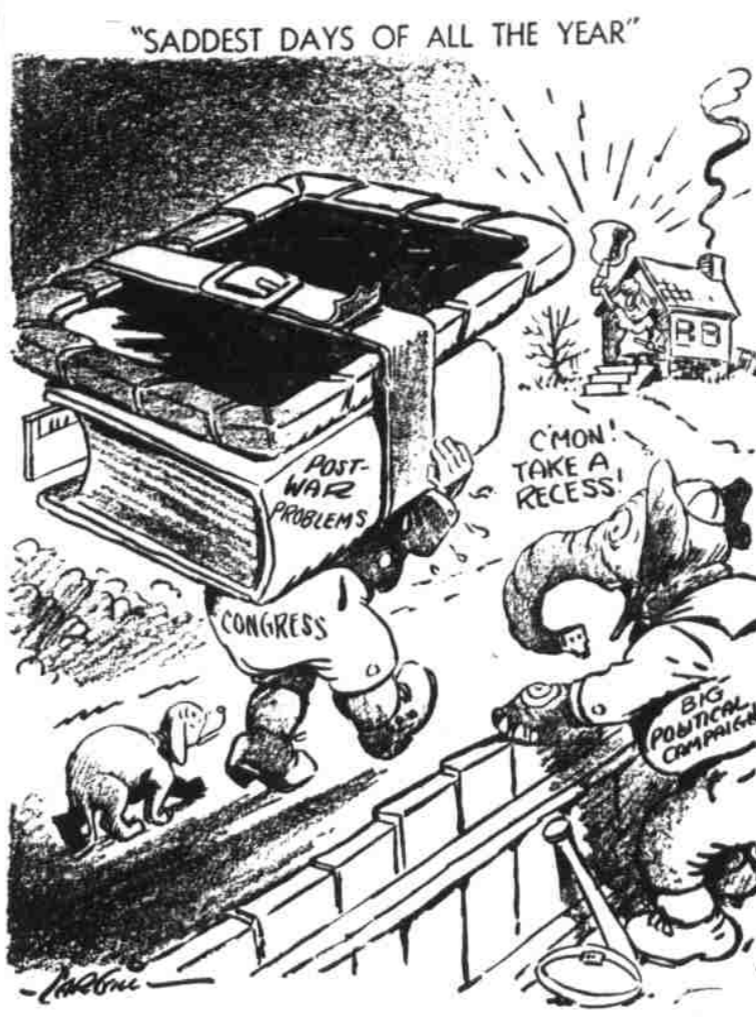
In the past when great battles were waged loss of life was multiplied tenfold because of lack of prompt and adequate medical care for the wounded. In the history of World War II there will be a different record. Even in the hectic rush of D-Day in France the achievements of medicine will go down along with the fighting forces and their heroic deeds.

Within forty-five minutes after the first troops had landed on the shores of the beachhead of France, one correspondent reported that a medical unit was on the job picking up casualties, while in the background a landing craft was being converted into an operating theatre.

We have been told that during the first day twenty-two major operations were performed by this medical unit. From the break of dawn until four o'clock in the afternoon the unit remained on the shores. Blood plasma had been landed and transfusions made from the mobile equipment.

Fifty thousand American doctors are in the armed forces. Everyone of them is a trained expert at the business of saving lives. They are doing a noble job, and the casualties of this war and the condition of those wounded will forever be a monument to the achievements of the medical profession.

Another thing it might do well for us to remember is that the surgical dressings made right here in our own American Red Cross rooms are being used on the battle fronts. No wonder quotas have had to be increased to meet this critical period on the battling fronts.



## HERE and THERE

By  
**HILDA WAY GWYN**

Did you ever stop to realize that a whole generation of Americans have passed through the draft board offices of this country during the past four years? We have been intending to write about draft boards for sometime. Like our doctors who learn to know all our problems, the draft boards have passed on the personal lives of the men who have flowed like one mighty stream since back in October, 1940, when selective service was born and America began to mobilize. We all recall these "earth-shaking days" back in 1940. We remember when our own National Guard unit was ordered to report to Fort Jackson in September of 1940. They were to be trained for a year. It was a kind of preparation "just in case" we got involved (At least that was what they told the laymen). We remember, as you do, how the crowds gathered at the depot that day in September when the boys left, and how we all kidded ourselves that it was only for a while. It couldn't happen to America. There were many tearful eyes in that group that morning. The town gave them a big hand as they left. We have thought often since that day, how those of us present might have felt had we only known what was to follow. We remember telling Lt. Joe Sloan, now in Italy, good-bye, except it was not lieutenant then. One of the boys nearby said gaily, "We'll be back in a year." Joe added, "I don't know so well about that."

The selective service started its work that year. Then came Pearl Harbor which marked the end of the first phase—and the beginning of the second. Our country was at war. It was going to fight a second World War, but with better preparations than the last one. We had learned something from experience. We could read more clearly the handwriting on the wall than we did back in 1916. Already there was a fair sized army trained. But the armed forces demanded millions more and through draft boards of this country the mighty stream of men began to pour. It has been the job of draft boards to find manpower to keep our great armies and navy going in numbers sufficient to meet the emergencies. Between us, they have had to wade through enough red tape in administering their jobs to confuse most of us beyond reason. Instructions have changed during the critical periods almost overnight. The office here, which we realize is typical, has a voluminous volume on regulations. It is in constant use for reference. Sometime the instructions have been released to the public while at other times they have been confidential.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the draft board here for their cooperation with us on our weekly visits to the office to get lists of reclassifications and the names of the various quotas leaving. Most people do not realize what we Americans owe our draft boards. They have had a thankless job. We have an idea that they have had more kicking than praise from the public. They have given hours upon hours to working out the problems. They have had rules and regulations to follow, some of which the public, generally speaking, did not always understand. They were given the responsibility of making up the quotas that have gone each month into our armed forces. These had to be filled, even though families were broken up.

Our visits week in and week out have brought us very close to the

war. It has given us an understanding of what it takes to "raise an army" to fight, that we doubt we would have had otherwise. We have always enjoyed our periods of waiting when the clerks were busy with the men and their families. We have seen anxious mothers coming to plead for their sons to stay until the crops were in. We have heard fathers tell how they needed their sons at home. We never doubted for a moment that the boys were not needed, and we always had sympathy both for the men and the board members who had to pass on them.

We have seen boys, too young to grow up so quickly have to face the realities and cruelties of war. Yet we have seen them eager and willing to take on the job. We have seen them come in under eighteen and inquire how they could get in if their parents signed up for them. We have seen 18-year-olds registering, happy over the day they would go. Then there has been the happy-go lucky type who just as soon go for the trip to see something of the world and the adventure it might hold. Then there have been the serious youths, who knew they were laying aside their ambitions and would be counting time, until they could return to start life over again. Then there would come a father with a wife and little children. It is not surprising that they were usually depressed. They knew that they had a double responsibility—one to home and country—yet both must be defended—and they had more to fight for in reality than the young boy just growing up.

We have heard them present their cases. Sometimes excuses have been mighty flimsy for deferment. Once we heard of a woman who asked that her husband be deferred so he could paper her house. Maybe she was allergic to the conditions of her walls, but Uncle Sam does not usually consider such things as "extreme emergencies," as the woman thought.

This business of deferment is not new. We read recently that job deferments were a headache, even as early as George Washington's day. It seems that our Revolutionary forefathers had problems of war production as we do today. For example from the archives of that period one can find a record where the Board of War recommended to the Continental Congress that eleven workmen employed by "Col. Mark Bird at his Cannon and Nail Rod Works in Berks,



# Inside WASHINGTON

Dumbarton Oaks Conferees Would Avoid Power Politics | Predict Nelson Will Return to WPB Top

Special to Central Press

● WASHINGTON—After two weeks of intensive discussions three western powers at Dumbarton Oaks Conference have agreed "in principle" on the part that the large and small powers will be maintaining peace during the post-war years.

That such far-reaching agreement has been reached is a triumph to the desire on the part of Russia, Great Britain and the United States to avoid the kind of power politics that led to two world wars within a generation. However, it must be borne in mind that the Dumbarton Oaks agreements are preliminary and pertain only to the "technical" problems of a post-war organization to keep the peace.

Before any such organization becomes a reality, it must be approved by the many little nations which so far have had no say as to the part they will play in the organization. And after concurrence of these smaller powers, the Senate must ratify the agreements.

It remains a long, hard road—a road beset with problems on all sides, and not the smallest of these is the fact that such an organization is in the throes of formation during a political campaign in the United States.

● RUMORS AND PREDICTIONS as to the future of War Production Chairman Donald Nelson, now in China on a preliminary mission, are flying thick and fast on the banks of the Potomac. It is considered almost certain that the former Sears-Roebuck executive will not take over the WPB reins again when he returns to the United States.

Nelson's associates consider it highly probable that he will be in government service in some capacity, however, and just that that will be has Washington playing a guessing game.

Some sources suggest that Nelson will replace War Production Administrator James F. Byrnes, who reportedly is going to resign his post in the November elections.

Other rumors say that Nelson will be tendered some foreign post perhaps that of a roving ambassador for the president.

His mission to China marks the second time he has been "foreign duty" by Mr. Roosevelt. His first foreign assignment was his trip to Russia last year.

● ORGANIZED LABOR suffered a heavy defeat in the passage of the Senate of the George bill for post-war demobilization, which was accentuated by the refusal of the House to liberalize provisions for employment and jobless insurance during the to-peace transition.

In fact, a coalition of Republicans and conservative Democrats in the House ways and means committee, further restricted the government's role in post-war reconversion by slashing the bill practically in half.

Regardless of what action finally is taken on the bill by Congress a new attempt is expected to be made to enact more liberal legislation to take care of unemployed war workers.

● AT LONG LAST the story's out, but Representative P. Kilday (D., Texas), kept it hidden a long while. Kilday, a member of the House military affairs committee, which drafted the Selective Service Act, received his first draft classification and was electrified when he saw that he had been classified as a conscientious objector.

But it was all a mistake, Kilday explains hurriedly. His local draft board had erred slightly, but a Congressional reappraisal resulted in Kilday's reclassification into 4-B.

Pa., be discharged from the militia in which they had been drafted because they have more extensive uses to the Continent in their employment as artificers and as it is represented that the works must stand still if these workmen march out with the militia." We still have to have supplies and equipment.

Now our war machine is built. But the task still remains to maintain it and keep replacements ready to take the role of the discharged men. Every type of person has gone into this great fighting machine. The draft boards have sent the men to induction centers where they have been distributed into the various branches of the service, the blood vessels of the might force that keeps alive the flow into the draft boards.

Our draft boards have served as surely as those in the fighting forces. It has not been a glamorous role, and they too have been under fire. Their work will not be over until peace is declared, even though the peak is passed. The work of the draft boards will continue until the last 18-year-old has been taken into the army and after. When that date will be if any one knows, it has not been made public. But even then the work will not be completed, for all the discharged men must report to their respective draft board offices for their final exit from the uniformed service of Uncle Sam. Sad to contemplate, but many will not return, but to those who do come back the draft boards will have the privilege of aiding our veterans.

Continue To Buy War Bonds.

## Voice OF THE People

Do you consider the tourist business essential or only incidental to the future prosperity of Wayneville?

R. E. Conant: "I think it is essential that we have the tourist business. I believe that if we have it, Wayneville will spend plenty of money, and that this slaughter will continue until Victory is won."

Mrs. C. J. Reese: "I think it is essential and that we should make more effort to get the tourist business and to entertain them here."

Mrs. W. H. Burnett: "I think it is a rich field of opportunity and it is up to us whether we develop it."

Dr. O. H. Champion: "I think it is mighty nice to have the tourist business, especially what might be the dull season of the year."

Mrs. Edith P. Alley: "I think the present time it is not essential to the industrial and cultural developments in the city, not only for the present prospects, but also for future lines."

J. C. Galusha: "I think the tourist business is essential to the community, and that we should spend money to get them and keep them. New blood in any community."

Claude C. Brown: "I think the tourist business is essential only for the development and prosperity of Wayneville, but the entire area of Western Carolina."

Miss Winnie K. K... think it is essential. They bring in not only money, but ideas which should aid in the development and growth of the community."

D. Feldman: "I think the of this section could get a lot out of the tourist business. It helps a lot."

James W. Killian: "We depend upon the tourist here as in the past years. I think it is essential to the development of our community. It would be a disgrace if we looked this opportunity."