

The Mountaineer

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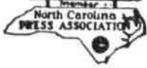
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1945
 (One Day Nearer Victory)

Congratulations Again

We again recorded with pride the fact that the Haywood County Hospital had rated the Approved List of hospitals by the American College of Surgeons.

In this critical era with a shortage of nurses and doctors the operation of a standard hospital is a great asset to any community. With a reduced personnel it has been necessary for all those employed at the Haywood hospital to double up many times on their duties.

In many communities nurses' aides, trained under the supervision of the Red Cross, have relieved the shortage of nurses, but while effort after effort has been made to organize such a class in this community, there has not been a sufficient number of women with leisure time to make it feasible.

Under these conditions Haywood county should appreciate the service of their county hospital and should give every possible support to its personnel.

Will the Japs Try To Bomb Pearl Harbor Again?

We are indebted to Robert Hugh Clark, of Waynesville, now of Pearl Harbor, for a copy of the "Pearl Harbor Banner," publication of the U. S. Navy Yards at Pearl Harbor.

In pictures and articles it told the story of what is being done in the way of repairs to our crippled fighting ships from the Pacific area in the Navy yards there.

One article in particular arrested our interest regarding the possibility of the Japanese making another attempt to reach our vital naval base.

There may be those who will consider a second Japanese attack impossible, it was pointed out; there may be those who will scoff at the possibility of bombs again falling on the drydocks repair basin and anchorages of Pearl Harbor, but it would be well to remember that on December 7, three years ago, it was exactly this attitude that made the Japanese attack successful.

Slightly over a year ago the captain of the Pearl Harbor Navy yard warned the workers that a second attack on Pearl Harbor "is possible and probable."

To our military leaders, it might seem highly ridiculous for the Japanese, who are faced with an attack at their doorstep and have inadequate force to meet it, to send carriers 3,000 miles to attack an enemy base. But the Japanese mind does not work like ours, it was pointed out.

The Japanese do not look at things the way the rest of the world does. What seems illogical to us may seem prominently logical to the Japanese. This is a well known fact and has been demonstrated time and time again in the Pacific war.

It is said that every month in Japan the Japanese observe the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Hugh posters bearing the Imperial Rescript which declared that Japan had attacked Pearl Harbor and was at war with the United States are nailed up for all to read. The idea of Pearl Harbor is associated with victory to the Japanese.

It seems plausible that we must not assume that a second attack on Pearl Harbor is impossible. We cannot afford to make the same mistake twice.

J. T. Bailey

Last week J. T. Bailey, of Canton, outstanding citizen of Haywood County, sold his business and will take a rest. No definite plans have been announced by Mr. Bailey regarding the future, other than that he and Mrs. Bailey plan to spend sometime in Florida.

Mr. Bailey, who came to Canton twenty-five years ago, has been active in business, political, civic and religious affairs of his community and the county.

A former mayor of Canton he has served as senator from this district and as representative from Haywood County in the North Carolina General Assembly. He served several terms as mayor of Canton and was a member of the Canton school board for sometime. He has been active in the Civitan Club of Canton, has been an elder in the Presbyterian church for several years, and associated with Red Cross work and the county and Canton welfare programs.

The service he has rendered both Haywood county and his own town of Canton is greatly appreciated by the citizens of this area.

Hoover On Religious Education

"Not a religion that is merely a method of worship, but a religion that embodies a creed and a code as well. The young boy and girl must believe in those truths upon which our freedom rests, and they must have respect for the laws which must exist to preserve it," said John Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in a statement endorsing the 14th annual observance of Religious Week.

Mr. Hoover gave some startling figures about records compiled by the FBI. He stated that the arrests of 17-year-old boys has increased 27.7 per cent and 16-year-old boys 61 per cent during 1943. During the two years past he pointed out that arrests of girls under 21 had increased 130.4 per cent.

"As long as the boy or girl, man or woman has no impelling motive for living in accordance with the law of God and the law of man," he continued, "all the work of community groups and law enforcement officers will not remedy the conditions."

Parents must be aroused to the situation and he pointed out that "it is their obligation to provide a way of life, a motive power that will impel the young men and women of America to choose the good instead of the bad in every department of their lives."

"Taking Up A Notch"

The following from the Christian Science Monitor presents to our mind a fine description of the current needs of the American home fronts:

The American people will loyally respond to the new tightening of rations. The German drive has shaken them a bit, and at Christmas, millions of them, thinking about friends and relatives at the front, came a little nearer to sensing what war means. There will be little disposition to complain about the re-rationing of some meats and vegetables or about higher point values.

But there will be questions about certain methods OPA has adopted. To many housewives the cancellation of coupons which it had said or implied would be good seems a breaking of faith. People who rushed to cash coupons and hoarded supplies appear to have gained an advantage of the very kind the whole rationing program is supposed to prevent. Perhaps the alternatives were worse. But the public can reasonably ask OPA to tighten its estimates of available supplies and not issue coupons that can't be cashed.

Most Americans readily recognize that they can take up another notch in the wartime belt. Many of them did not celebrate Christmas quite as usual, but millions apparently spent more money for the material trappings of their celebration, and the Nation as a whole spent more on non-military goods and services in 1944 than it ever did in the biggest peacetime boom year. The theaters, movies and other amusements are notoriously jammed.

Many folks on the home front are working hard, many are making real sacrifices, but compared with their own men and women in the services or with other peoples nearer the battle—peoples who have almost forgotten what butter, oranges, eggs and new clothes look like, but know well the sound of shells and bombs—Americans have hardly begun to learn what war is. Such lessons as tighter rationing may teach will be cheap if they help Americans to value peace more—so that they resolve anew to join effectively in keeping it.



HERE and THERE

By

HILDA WAY GWYN

Our military heads may have made some mistakes on the European battle fronts, but we are getting a bit fed up with the heavy bombardment of criticism we have heard on the recent situation in Europe on the home fronts. No matter how it may look to us here back home, we really don't know what conditions were over there, but we do know that those men of the First and Third Armies are just as anxious to end it all and get home as we are to have them, so we are quite sure it was not an easy job to outwit the German war experts. The following remark credited to Field Marshal Bernard L. Montgomery to war correspondents in speaking of General Eisenhower might be taken to heart by the civilians back home, who are trying to fight the war from a warm comfortable fireside—as well as the British:

"It grieves me when I see complimentary articles about him in the British press. He bears a great burden, he needs our fullest support; he has a right to expect it and it is up to us all to see that he gets it. And so I ask all of you to lend a hand and stop that sort of thing; let us all rally 'round the captain of the team and so help the match. No one objects to healthy constructive criticism. It is good for us. But let us have done with destructive criticism that aims a blow at the Allied solidarity that tends to break up our team spirit and therefore helps the enemy."

First Ladies always come in for their share of reflected glory and fame when their distinguished husbands by virtue of certain offices place them in the class of Number One Ladies. Now Mrs. Cherry has been more or less a private citizen keeping house back in Gastonia, but when she took the place of Mrs. J. M. Broughton as First Lady of North Carolina, overnight we are all interested in what kind of a person she might be. We heard much about her husband during the campaign, and she was in the background, but as she took part in the inaugural ceremonies, she became "big time news" in Carolina. From all we can learn, Mrs. Cherry will be a gracious hostess at the Mansion and can take her place along with her husband. She must have a lot in common with the women of the state, judging by the following we read in the Raleigh News and Observer, "For Mrs. Cherry, who has not had a maid to help run a big house for some time, the next four years will be a welcome rest from washing dishes and cleaning house. . . . For the smooth working staff at the mansion with 'Uncle Dave' the veteran butler, still on the job to look after things, is one of the happiest anticipations at the moment for Mrs. Cherry." Now while many a Tar Heel woman may not envy Mrs. Cherry the responsibility of being the State's First Lady, they will all be tempted to envy her freedom from dish washing for four years (much more than the pomp and pleasure of her official position.)

Letters To The Editor

Somewhere In Germany
 Nov. 28, 1944.

Dear Editor:

You probably don't even know who I am and it's just another headache for you to get another letter from a boy in the service, but if it is possible I'd like for you to put this in your next news. My name is Lester Hendrix, and

THE OLD HOME TOWN



Inside WASHINGTON

Plastering by B-29's | Even British Troops
 Just a Taste, Tokyo! | Plan to Land on Japan

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON—Military circles regard the plastering that Tokyo and the Japanese mainland have been taking from American B-29 Superfortresses thus far as merely preliminary—a substantial foretaste of things to come.

Topflight generals and their aides, some speaking for the record, have labeled the Tokyo bombings as "experimental." Results have been "good," they say, but they will be even better because the holocaust that will be dumped on Japan as the Asiatic war progresses is expected in time to even to surpass the fury of the air attacks on Germany.

When Germany is defeated, all available air power will be moved to the far Pacific to strike and sever the industrial and transportation jugular veins of the Japanese empire.

With the British expected to join in the furious battle of Japan, predictions have come that British troops one day will land with Americans on the shores of Nippon.

Until victory in Europe, the Japanese bombings will increase gradually until Saipan-based B-29s eventually conduct round-the-clock offensives against Tokyo. Retaking of the Philippines will provide more American bases as will the Japanese mainland itself when landings are effected thereon.

Allied robot bombs may be added to the fury of the war over Japan, judging from effectiveness of rockets already used against the Japanese in military and naval operations.

The clearest indication of more devastating B-29 raids, however, was seen in the co-ordinated air-sea attack last week on Iwo Jima, Japanese air base island in the Volcanos.

TWO FACTORS are holding up issuance of WPB's long-awaited detailed plan for the relaxation of controls upon the defeat of Germany.

One obstacle is that OPA has not kept pace with the production agency in planning for V-E Day and does not have a corresponding program worked out yet for control of reconversion prices. Also, many OPA officials fear great difficulty in the price field once production curbs are removed.

The other delaying factor is uncertainty over the extent of the V-E Day cutback. Many weeks ago WPB Chairman J. A. Krug estimated that the cutback would be 40 per cent; now he figures about 35 per cent, and the Army is still lower.

Probability now is that Krug's detailed plan will not be released until immediately before V-E Day.

THE FOITED PALM has been moved out of Cordell Hull's office into the corridor at the state department, and those who know the taste and temperament of the young man who has succeeded him as secretary of state doubt that the palm will ever be restored to its place of dignity.

In fact, everything has been moved out of Hull's office, except the grandfather clock and the historic old desk, while a crew of painters spent the last week redecorating to Stettinius' taste.

That dynamic young man had hardly finished saying, "I do," and "So help me, God," when the painters moved in and Hull's furnishings moved out.

Stettinius will have a tremendous map of the world covering one wall with a fluorescent light at its top—a personal gift from Gen. George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff. He also will have two telephones—a black telephone connecting with state department extensions, and a white telephone connecting with the White House.

Stettinius has pledged himself to follow Hull's policies and maybe he will, but the atmosphere in the secretary's office will never be the same again.

THE GOVERNMENT, much to its surprise, has found a source of unexpected income in 10-to-40-year-old machine tools lying about unused in Navy yards and plants, all apparently abandoned as outmoded. A search is on for such tools now and a series of public auctions will dispose of them to the highest bidders.

One batch of such supposedly useless tools of ancient make recently brought a bid of \$25,000, raised at an auction to an eventual \$35,000. Another sale of tools at Washington Navy Yard raised \$286,000, although the tools were so encrusted it took blowtorches to clean them up.

I was reared in Waynesville. I was known around there before I joined the Army, four years ago.

Since that time I have seen quite a lot of the world, a small portion of England, France, Belgium, and Germany, but I'll say the United States is the best place in the world to live and that's what the men are fighting and dying for today. And also there are plenty of these men from Haywood county doing their share in it.

"Now to get to the point"—When I read in the papers about strikes and people quitting their war jobs to work somewhere else—well, all I can say is—If for just one night these men could change places with one of the "doughboys here on the Seigfried Line" where he has to wade in rain, mud and snow up to his knees, not to mention the fifty bucks a month pay he gets, which probably also goes home—Well, I don't think the men back home would ever think of strikes or quitting their war work, and not buying bonds—if they understood. Instead if they would do more than their share to help the war material get to the men over here and to the South Pacific we can end this war in a hurry.

I also have two brothers in the service: James W. Hendrix

(Army) and now in South Pacific and Clarence Hendrix (Navy) now in Iceland.

In closing I would like to say "Hello" to all of my friends in Waynesville, and keep up your good work, also if you have loved ones in the service, write to them often. Those letters are the best.

(Continued on page 11)

Voice OF THE People

What is your favorite month of the year and why?

Roy Roseman—"I would say October, because of the beauty of the coloring of the leaves."

Mrs. Selinda O'Donnell—"I would August because it is generally considered the hottest month of the year."

Henry Gadd—"May is my favorite month, because it is then that the flowers and growing things come out to life in full."

Miss Faustine Howell—"I would say January, because I like to celebrate the New Year."

T. L. Bramlett—"I guess May is my favorite month because my birthday comes then."

V. C. Nobeck—"I like the month of May because it is planting time and everything starts to grow."

Hugh Leatherwood—"May, June, July and August, all the good fishing months are my favorites."

J. J. Ferguson—"I think the May is my favorite, when the flowers start blooming and the grass starts growing."

Albert J. McCracken—"I would say September, because my birthday comes in that month."

Grady F. Ferguson—"I would say October, because it is neither too warm or too cold."