

The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1945
 (One Day Nearer Victory)

THE GOAL OF 1945

We notice that the Haywood farm folk are making their plans for their 1945 food production. The goals of other years have been met with flying colors by Haywood county, and we feel confident that they will be recorded also when this year closes.

However, we realize that it is going to be harder to make those goals this year than in the other years. Under the new ruling for drafting men from the rural areas the manpower shortage will be more keenly felt than ever before.

We have faith in our Haywood farmers and are proud of their contribution to the war effort in the past and though corners may have to be cut in many ways, under the leadership of our farm agents, we are counting on them coming through with quotas reached in 1945.

ANOTHER PLACE ON THE MAP

We were interested in the following story which appeared in the last copy of "Thorobred" published by employees of the Dayton Rubber plant, which should serve as a good advertising of this section:

"Recently Lt. Col. Frank E. Dawson of the North Carolina wing of the Civil Air Patrol flew over this area. From the air, the view was so impressive to him he suggested a marker to guide airmen flying over this mountainous locality. Since the roof of our plant is the largest and flattest in this area the Civil Air Patrol requested that we paint a huge sign on it.

"Letters of the marker will be approximately 10 feet high and painted white for clear visibility to all pilots. They will indicate our town name, the number of miles and direction to the nearest landing field."

WHY NOT MORE HAY?

We are indebted to Dr. E. W. Gudger for calling our attention to a recent story in The Raleigh News and Observer regarding the large deficit of hay in North Carolina, with Haywood county leading in the great deficit.

There is a hay deficit in the State totaling 650,000 tons to properly take care of the livestock now on the farms, according to John A. Arey, extension dairyman at State College.

Only 12 counties in the State showed a surplus of hay and nine of these were in the peanut area.

Haywood county where the requirements for feeding the animals was estimated at 43,846 tons the actual production is only around 7,880 tons.

We are not trying to make excuses for our Haywood farmers who are doing such an excellent job of progressive farming, but we wonder if our rich fertile grass does not also lend a part in feeding our cattle.

Mr. Arey advises growers to fertilize their hay crops and to put into practice the plan of getting two hay crops a year from the same acre of land. Through proper management he states it is possible to average nearer three tons per acre than one.

A JUST MOVE

The following taken from the Christian Science Monitor will find response with many parents throughout America:

"When Mr. Average American sees two pictures, sometimes in the same newspaper or magazine on the same day, one of a slender, frail-looking lad trudging forward through ice and snow into combat, the other of a professional athlete in a sport calling

for great physical strength and stamina who has been discharged from one of the armed forces because of physical disability, he is puzzled. Although the discharge may have been, and probably was, approved on its merits, Mr. A. A. can hardly be blamed if he recalls the names and the number of other professional stars thus returned to their lucrative and somewhat glamorous civilian pursuits and wonders.

"And if the picture of that slight youngster, lugging his pack and rifle reminds him of his own boy, Johnnie, across with the Ninth Army, one could pardon him just a twinge of bitterness. He is not likely to know or to think very much about the kind of unseen disabilities which, in the view of the armed forces, render a man a potential liability, but which permit him to play football or ice hockey where he takes the risk upon himself.

"The Navy has now joined the Army in putting the brakes on such discharges by requiring top approval before 'apparently able-bodied athletes' may be released. This is good news but belated news. It took both of them too long to wake up to the obvious public reaction."

DRAFTING WOMEN

As Congress talks more about drafting women, the public in general is also giving the matter more consideration. Personally we would rather see women placed in industry and releasing men for service than too many of them in uniform.

We understand that one reason why the women are being considered as possible draftees is the fact that they are the greatest offenders in changing jobs. This is easily understood. Thousands of women who have never worked away from home before are a bit intoxicated with the novelty of having "money of their own", that they have earned, and are wanting to make the most possible while the opportunity is at hand. They know that it is only a war time opening.

Mrs. Roosevelt maintains that when the "women of this country want a National Service Act there will be one." Maybe she is right. Women have gone after what they wanted for some years in this country with amazing results. They have also invaded all fields of effort and accomplishment.

But if this talk of legislation should ever be enacted, there will have to be elaborate plans of providing for the home cares, and nursery facilities for the small children. A woman can't walk out on her family and her children. Uncle Sam might run into a number of knotty problems, if he decides to draft the women.

There is much to be said on both sides in this critical era, but there is no denying the argument that it would make the women more conscious of the necessity of preventing another war. However, we hope that there will be enough volunteers among the ladies so that they will not have to be drafted.

SCHOOL ABSENCES

There were 10,633,320 daily absences from school, an average of 59,071 per day, by the 787,486 children in average daily membership during the year 1943-44 in North Carolina, according to the State School Facts, published by the State Department of Instruction.

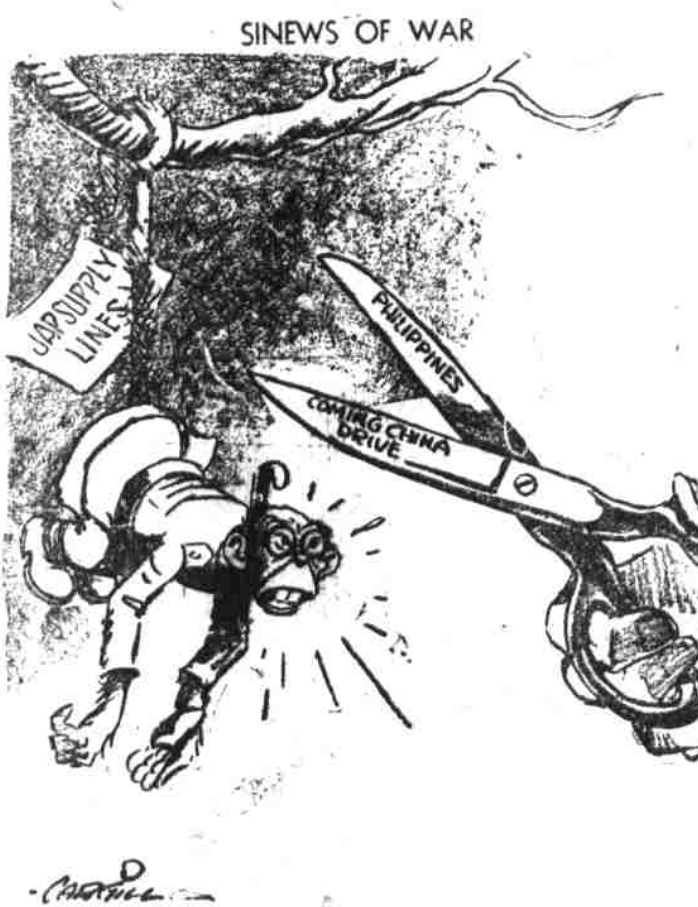
The average daily absences in the elementary schools of Haywood county during the same period was 197, while the average daily record for the high school was 34.

Some of the absences were unavoidable such as for illness, or other natural causes, but it is a known fact that many occurred without any legitimate excuse. In many cases the absences were due to the indifference of the parents, who often do not realize the importance of school life and of regular attendance, if the best work is to be accomplished.

While the greatest loss cannot be measured in dollars and cents, when one realizes the cost to the state of education, it is a serious matter for the people not to appreciate the opportunities given them more than the absences would indicate.

Upon the basis of the amount spent from State funds public education costs \$50.75 per pupil in average daily attendance per year, or 28 cents daily per pupil during 1943-44. If every daily absence cost 28 cents, the total daily loss in dollars and cents would be \$16,540.72, or an annual total of \$2,977,320.60. Since the employment of teachers, however, is made on the basis of average daily attendance, the greater portion of this apparent loss due to absences would be utilized in the employment of additional teachers.

Another part of this loss would be saved, however, by better school attendance—fewer absences. The foregoing facts offer serious food for thought to parents, who are responsible for the attendance of their children at school.



HERE and THERE

By

HILDA WAY GWYN



Through a small office on the third floor of the court house is the most certain way to get in touch with your son in the Pacific theatre. When all normal communications have been cut off, you may reach your husband, who may have been wounded on the battle fronts in Germany through this office. If the War Department has notified you that your son is missing in action, you will find that your greatest comfort will be in seeking advice from this office, as how to obtain additional information not contained in the formal message. If you hear, after long months of silence that your husband is being held as a prisoner of war, you may contact him through this office when all other sources are closed.

Then take the other side of the picture—A boy in the armed forces who is serving thousands of miles from home, let us say in India, or in Australia. He has not heard from home in months. Maybe he has a young wife. Maybe in the last letter from home he was told of illness in his family. Maybe his mother is sick. Maybe the young son or daughter whom he has never seen is not doing so well. Maybe he had a letter from home telling him of complications in daily living in the family circle that made him long with acute pain to be where he could give them help. Maybe his wife and small children are not getting their allotment when last he heard. Maybe his wife wrote that they were in actual need. He would seek out the agency that would eventually get in touch with this top floor office in the court house. Through this office he would get in direct contact with his loved ones, where the mails may have failed to reach them. Scattered over the length and breadth of this country are such offices filling a need supplied by no other agency in the world.

We refer to the home service section of the Haywood County Red Cross Chapter, of which Mrs. Joe Liner has served as active secretary for the past two and one half years. This office is the link between the men in the armed forces in this country and overseas. It is serving the ex-servicemen in his trying days of readjustment as he finds his way back to civilian life, picking up familiar threads again. Unless you have had occasion to visit the office, it is doubtful if you have any conception of the work done. While we follow in our coverage of local news many of the activities, we would not understand the magnitude of its services had we not served during World War I, in the same capacity as Louise Liner in Number II, when there is more work to do to match the larger needs of today as compared to those of 1918.

There are around 160 cases handled each month in this office. It is amazing what a variety of problems they involve, tangled threads that take the heart out of the man "out yonder". Problems that involve family relations that are not always easy for outsiders to adjust. There are regulation forms, and papers of routine matters that must go through the office. Information of all kinds, benefits and claims, reports of social history material asked by

the military and naval authorities required for medical treatment, of home conditions in deciding questions of discharge, furloughs or clemency. The background of the man in service in civilian life is often needed to complete his file as the War Department treats him in hospitals and deals with him in line of duty. Through referral to other agencies the Red Cross assists service and ex-service men and their dependents in meeting special and nonrecurring needs.

As an example—in military circles no condition existing less than three months is considered an emergency, yet during this period the Red Cross may step in and obtain information through their workers all over the world that may end a terrible suspense for both the man and his family. While the men are in this country it is an easy matter to get in touch with them, but after they have pulled out from the shores of their homeland it is another story. It is often difficult to get emergency messages relayed to them. But eventually the Red Cross field man his his particular theatre will finally reach him, when no one else could do so.

The days of the home service secretary are long and full. Unexpected calls come at all hours of the day or night. Trouble is never regarded office hours, neither can the secretary fit into an 8-hour schedule working day. Louise Liner worked for a year as a volunteer with no compensation, until the work piled up so heavy that she had to sacrifice her home duties, unless she had others to help her. The Blue Red Cross car with its cross of red travels all over Haywood county on its errands of mercy. The very sight of the car brings cheer to a Haywood county mother. Mrs. Liner loves her work. She likes people, she is sympathetic and is deeply interested in the problems that she has to work out for others. These qualities draw those who seek aid to her for comfort and understanding. No amount of time or detailed work is too great for Louise to devote to a case.

Several thousand Haywood coun-

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By STANLEY



Voice OF THE People

Do you think that training in Scouting has given a definite advantage to the men in service? (Question suggested by Ben E. Col-kitt)

Oliver H. Shelton—"Yes, I do, any kind of training helps one."

Horace Duckett—"I am sure that Scout training would help, for training in one thing helps in another."

F. G. Rippel—"Absolutely."

Miss Margaret Johnston—"Yes, for Scouting teaches discipline, outdoor life and how to take care of yourself."

Mrs. J. Harden Howell—"I am sure that it does, for Scouting teaches the fundamentals of military training."

E. B. McClure—"Yes, I am for training and discipline of the young, and Scouting is a training that would help a boy in the armed forces."

Capt. W. F. Swift—"Yes, I do for it teaches them initiative, to take care of themselves and in fact, all their training can be useful in the army."

R. E. Tenney—"I think the Scouting training one of the most valuable things that could have happened to the men in the navy and army. This background of Boy Scouting gives them much. I have talked to army and naval officials and they say the experience always makes a better trainee."

Mrs. Felix Stovall—"Yes, I would think so, for many of the principles of training are the same."

W. A. Bradley—"Absolutely. It has taught them a lot—to keep themselves clean inside and outside and to live in the open."

Capital Letters

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

OUT—That old query about how far a dog can run into the woods coincides pretty well with the General Assembly's work at this time—for, as you know, a dog can run only half-way into said forest—from there on he is running out. And it is so with your Legislature.

IN—Virtually all of the important bills have been introduced, have been discussed, quarrelled over, amended, lobbied over, amended again, and are now ready for the great outpouring.

In the opinion of many legislators, this should take until March 10. So we are on the way out now—and it shouldn't take long, unless we run into a patch of "new ground". Come now, you know what a new ground is, don't you? Don't be upstage. You mean you have never had a dog-walk root slip out from under the plow and spring back against your leg?

LIQUOR—It looks as if the liquor bill was made too strong to be acceptable to the people of the State. If the dyes had made a concession along the line,

(Continued on page 7)

ty boys are in the armed forces. Today they circle the globe in every field of service. The list is growing week by week and month by month, as others join the ranks in uniform. When you are asked to give to the Red Cross during the next ten days remember that more than half the money of the quota raised here will be kept locally to serve our own men in service and their families. A service that is rendered by no other agency either here or overseas. Who knows you may be the next person to climb those stairs at the court house with a message from the War Department in your hand and an unbearable hurt in your heart. Let us keep the Red Cross at his side wherever he serves and the local work supplied with funds to carry on.

Jesus Teaches Forgiveness

HIGHLIGHTS ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By NEWMAN CAMPBELL
 (The International Uniform Lesson on the above topic for March 4 is Matt. 18: 20; 22: 1-33, the Memory Verse being Ephesians 4: 32, "Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other.")

ALTHOUGH "Jesus Teaches Forgiveness" is the theme of our lesson today, the first lesson Jesus tried to teach His disciples was one of humility.

The disciples asked Jesus, "Who is greatest in the kingdom of Heaven?" Jesus' answer was to take a little child and set him in the midst of them. "Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven"; and further, "Whosoever shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of Heaven."

He also said that he who should receive a little child in His name would be the greatest in the kingdom; but he who would offend such a little one "it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depths of the sea."

Peter asked the Lord how many times he should forgive his brother—"seven times, seven?" The Jewish law required a man to forgive a wrong three times. Doubtless Peter thought he was being very generous when he suggested seven as the number of times he should forgive a wrong. Jesus answered no—seventy times seven, meaning one should forgive indefinitely. If we would follow in the footsteps of the Master, then, we will never condemn, but forgive our enemies.

Parable of the Debtor

Jesus then told a parable about a man who owed the king a tremendous sum of money. The king, when he took an accounting, sent for the man and told him he intended selling him, his wife, children and property to partly settle the debt. The man pleaded that he be spared and he would pay eventually, so the king forgave him. Later this same man went to a man who owed him a small sum and took him by the throat and in spite of the man's entreaties, threw him into prison. Some fellow servants heard of it and complained to the master, who there-

upon became very angry, saying the man that he had forgiven him a much larger sum should have forgiven one owed him such a trivial amount and the king delivered him to his tormentors.

"So likewise shall My Father do also unto you, if from your hearts ye forgive everyone his brother these passages," Jesus said.

The mother of James and John came to Jesus asking that her two sons sit one on Jesus' right and the other on His left in the kingdom. His answer was to take a little child and set him in the midst of them. "Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven"; and further, "Whosoever shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of Heaven."

Disciples Are Angry. The other disciples were angry at the two and their request for asking that they be above their associates. Jesus reminded them all once again as the Son of Man came to be ministered unto, who would be greatest in them should minister to them.

As the multitude followed and the disciples, two blind men asked Him to have mercy on them and Christ gave them their sight.

To illustrate again the kingdom of Heaven, Jesus told of a king who sent his servants to guests to his son's wedding. Those invited would not come, and when he sent his servants again to remind them the feast was ready some went to their business and others killed the servants. Then he more servants and told them to go into the highways and ask for met—good or bad. They did many came to the wedding. One man was not properly asked for the wedding—not a proper respect to the host's occasion, and him the king threw into outer darkness. These are people who call themselves followers of Jesus, yet who never really live a Christian life, even if they are in a church. These may be the people to whom the Lord refers in this parable.

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