

The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1945
 (One Day Nearer Victory)

A Mighty Band

The announcement that Argentina has joined the other 29 countries in this hemisphere in opposition to the Nazi forces should be received with great rejoicing. This makes a solid foundation on which to battle against totalitarianism.

Argentina seemed to have trouble making up her mind to join the Pan-American councils, but now that her decision has been made the entire safety of the hemisphere is strengthened. It has been gratifying to see the Spanish-speaking people on this side of the globe follow the lead of Mexico.

Day Of Prayer

An appeal to observe Sunday, April 22, as a special day of prayer for the success of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco has been officially made by the heads of 34 National Church bodies to more than 140,000 local churches throughout the nation. Special services have also been requested for Wednesday, April 25, the opening day of the conference.

The churchmen have pointed out that the conference may well be a turning point in the history of our time. The success of the conference can offer reasonable hope for the development of a just and durable peace. Its failure would mark a long step toward a third world war. Our churches are profoundly concerned in the outcome of these deliberations. Basic conditions of human welfare and basic Christian purposes are at stake.

We feel sure that every church in America would be glad to give the time to the observance of this day and lend their every effort to the peace parley.

A Little Early—Don't You Think?

We see where the recent General Assembly set a new record for bringing out potential gubernatorial candidates, according to the Raleigh News and Observer. The paper recently listed a total of ten possible candidates for this high office.

They are all familiar names to North Carolinians, even to us up here in the West, but strictly between us we would not rate them all as gubernatorial timber. A lot will happen before the next campaign will fire up, so we guess many will drop out.

The list follows and we invite you to judge for yourself:

William B. Umstead, of Durham, chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee and campaign manager for Governor Cherry.

State Treasurer Charlie Johnson, of Raleigh.

Superior Court Judge Henry Stevens, of Warsaw, a former national president of the American Legion.

General Kenneth Royal, of Goldsboro, a former State Senator.

Representative John Kerr, of Warrenton, speaker of the House in 1943.

Senator Libby Ward, of New Bern, also a former speaker of the House.

Senator Edwin Pate, of Laurinburg, sponsor of the State selinsurance bill passed by the 1945 Assembly.

Lt. Gov. L. Y. (Stag) Ballentine, of Wake County, who served in the State Senate for a number of sessions.

Representative Thomas Pearsall, of Nash County, chairman of the house appropriations committee this year.

Senator Willie Lee Lumpkin, of Franklin County, a member of the General Assembly since 1929.

Welcome Here

We have noticed during the past week two Northern plants that are going to move South and are leaving congested areas in big cities. A concern in Brooklyn which makes pre-fabricated houses has bought property in Raleigh and will move there.

The Gaylord Container Corporation has bought a 12-acre site in Hickory and plans to build a factory there.

We would welcome another manufacturing plant in this community. We have a well balanced county with both agriculture and manufacturing, but we need more industries. With the return of the men from the armed forces, more jobs will have to be created, and we want our men to remain here in Haywood County and not seek their fortunes elsewhere.

Ambitious Program

A couple of weeks ago the members of the First Baptist Church announced an expansion program that would call for an expenditure of \$100,000. This is an ambitious program for a church of its size in a community of our population.

On the other hand the record of the local Baptists shows that they have never set a goal they did not reach, so we feel confident that in launching this program success is assured.

Since the program cannot get underway at once the members will have time before actual construction starts to get in pledges and have a large amount of the money in hand.

The proposed plans will not only help further the work of the church, but will be an asset to the community.

America Leads The Way

One of the great casualties of the war in Europe has been destruction of public libraries. Air raids in England have either destroyed or damaged thousands of volumes. It is reported that the British Museum alone lost 150,000 books.

Strange to say the American Library in Paris is said to be functioning today with its nearly 100,000 volumes unharmed. The library is crowded each day by readers, with the French in greater numbers than the Americans. This is remarkable in that Germany has not approved of the American books, for many of them gained disfavor with Nazi ideals, but the library has been allowed to stay open even during German occupation.

One of the first acts of the Japanese when Manila fell into their hands in 1942 was the burning of the Library of the Philippines. The Library of the Royal Society of Naples was destroyed by the Germans in October, 1943.

Maybe there was some unseen power that saved the American Library in Paris, which will no doubt become more and more a center for the obtaining reading material in the building back of a new world. We like to think that this library was saved for a purpose or means to aid in bringing American ideals to Europeans.

Army Day

Tomorrow is Army Day. Authorized by Congress, and invoked each year by Presidential Proclamation, Army Day, April 6, in this Spring of 1945 is a day for great rejoicing, even as it is a day of heavy-hearted sadness and solemnity.

It is fitting that Americans should rejoice on this day in the knowledge that our victorious armies are sweeping relentlessly forward to a glorious peace. And it is with a special sort of pride that we reflect upon the young men and women of Haywood County and America who constitute the military and naval might of this nation, and whose valor and unflinching devotion are making a victorious peace possible.

Yet we must pause, sadly, to reflect upon the thousands upon thousands of our own sons who have died, and will die to make victory possible.

We must give thought to the millions of our troops suffering untold privations on foreign fields, defending our land and our spiritual heritage unto death if need be.

In every community in our nation there is a home front job to be done. From the roaring foundries and blast furnaces in our cities to the broad sweep of farm woodlands that link them, there is a job for every man to do.

One of our special jobs in Haywood County outside of our industrial productions is to produce the peeled pulpwood from our forest that keep our men supplied with ammunition, clothing, food — in fact 700,000 tools of warfare.

Although we're hoping for an early spring, it will be remembered that the groundhog saw his shadow and like Hitler, no doubt has a secret weapon tucked up his sleeve.

LAST, BUT NOT LEAST, POWERFUL PEACE ARGUMENT



HERE and THERE

By
 HILDA WAY GWYN

We have a break for our readers this week. We wish to introduce you to Gentry Nyland, editor of "Thorobred Activities". Dayton Kubler, employes paper, Mrs. Nyland has written many short stories for popular magazines; reviewed hundreds of books; worked on newspapers in various capacities; handled church publicity; operated retail book shops; has one full length detective story, "Mr. South Brought His Mouth" which has sold more than 100,000 copies, to her credit. She has recently finished another detective story which will be published during 1945, one of a series with her first book. She goes back to New York this week to join her husband, Henry Nyland, who is with an eastern newspaper syndicate, and will shortly leave the States for an interesting assignment. If you have had the pleasure of meeting Gentry Nyland, native of Alabama, who has become a cosmopolitan, yet has never lost her values of small town life, you know her charm, and in case you have not, the following will show you her ability to write and her understanding of people.

Last Sunday, in churches throughout the world, Easter was commemorated. Chaplains at the front held services in foxholes, in trenches, on gun mounts and in crudely constructed chapels. The fugitive solemnity of this hallowed day lingers for a brief time in our hearts, even while in the background bombs and big guns sound a grim refrain. We are not to forget too soon our spiritual obligations to our fighting men, ourselves and our country! There are those, perhaps, who have heard this admonition so often that its meaning is becoming obscured by familiarity. Tragedies nearer home may easily cause us to dismiss as through constant intimacy with disaster. How closely it effects us then when we open a telegram to read "The War Department regrets . . . only those of us who have had this message can know

Since the reverberations of Pearl Harbor subsided to the grim business of war, and the just wrath of such songs as "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition" followed their echo across the nation in waves of patriotic zeal, many lips of many creeds and colors have formed a silent Amen. "We pray for your safe return" has winged its way in many tongues over seas and tangled jungles to reach the tired eyes and lonely hearts of all types of fighting men—from the lowliest coolie to the most exalted officer—and still we wonder how much we are really willing to sacrifice to make that safe return a benediction rather than a lasting bitterness.

Sacrifice does not always mean a prodigious consumption of material possessions. We should live daily in that deep courtesy and consideration for our fellow men that we wish for ourselves. Human beings have a natural bent for selfishness, particularly in times of stress and danger when the first law of nature is self-preservation. Courtesy is the most prevalent commodity on the spiritual and physical market—selfishness the most costly in the final analysis. A kindly gesture, a warm smile, diffidence, consideration—these things generate in our daily association the epitome of the democracy for which our nation stands.

We have unconsciously realized, through letters from our Armed Forces, what the American influence has done for people in far, unfamiliar places. Our boys, especially those in the South Pacific and the Philippines, are seeing with their own eyes what civilization and culture can make of native people. Not even three years of Japanese terror could change these people. Filipinos helped them in countless ways, digging foxholes, filling sandbags, guiding and ministering to them through unknown jungles and strange ill-

nesses. These hill folk, who know only the guerrilla way of war, have been unbelievably helpful. They are poor, but as proud as ever, in spite of endless humiliations at the hands of the Japanese and their love for Americans is not just a slogan. They are intelligent, kindly and polite.

We must do our utmost to live up to this humanity when our boys come back. We would be less than worthy, if in our eagerness to supply physical comforts, we forgot their spiritual needs.

The South has always been a symbol for courtesy and grace of manner. It still lives in spite of the machine age, the fast tempo of living in strange, unnatural times, and the bleak atmosphere of broken homes. Those of us who have lived in far places for a time have returned with humble gratitude for its unchanging charity and humanity. The heart-warming generosity of even the lowliest revives our hope. As long as such benevolence exists—without personal preference or thought of gain, distated purely by the Golden Rule of Christianity, just so long will the tenuous banner of freedom embrace our existence.

This is the meaning of civilization and culture; the meaning of Easter and for all its stands; the fruit of our anxiety and hope for the future. This is the accolade with which we shall touch the hearts and spirits of our tired men when they return.

There is hardly an elf so devoid of imagination as not to have supposed for himself a solitary island in which he could act Robinson Crusoe, were it but in a corner of the nursery," wrote Sir Walter Scott, a century ago.

With the first approach of spring our slothful spirits, like a great shaggy bear, groan and strain out of winter's liberation. We sniff the fresh fragrance of warm earth, lift our faces to wind and rain and sigh for the solitude of mystic lands. Our thoughts turn to romance and wild freedom. The confines of an office; the drudgery of domestic duties; the fetid odor of closed-in city streets sicken us with their mockery. But we can always seek escape in books. Lowell, it was, when asked on his death bed how he felt, answered, "I don't know, and I don't care. I'm reading Roy Roy."

Which proves the contention that there is a book for every occasion, granting, of course, that you are a lover of books. Happily for authors and publishers tastes run in different channels. Some people are ardent devotees of so-called best sellers; others read only the penny thriller of current fiction. One man of our acquaintance "has never read but one book in his life. Once a year, however, he reads this book. When asked the title, his answer was simple, "Why, Don Quixote, of course." Don

Voice OF THE People

To what do you attribute the lasting power of the Nazis after five years of war?

Linwood Grahl — "Pure brute force."

M. H. Bowles—"Nazism fanaticism."

Mrs. J. C. Brown—"The average German had rather be led than to lead. This and fear of the Gestapo have held them checked for five years. Since the time of the historian Tacitus, the domineering German leaders had rather go as conquerors, somewhat on the order of a superman than do humble honest hard work."

T. L. Green—"It is something I couldn't explain."

Mrs. J. Rufus McCracken—"Stubbornness. They know they are beaten, but they have nothing to lose."

R. V. Welch—"I honestly don't understand."

Alvin Ward—"Twenty-five years of preparation."

M. G. Stamey—"Fanaticism and fear."

Walter Crawford—"A desperate effort to save themselves from themselves."

G. C. Platt—"Loot from other countries and organization."

Quixote, it must be confessed, satisfies the longings in many restless hearts. Romance, adventure, the spirit of crusade and gallantry aplenty. It is difficult, however, to imagine it as a choice for a foxhole or after a trying day with English majors.

For the most part reading is an escape. The following list is recommended to cover a variety of tastes:

Alexander Woolcott's Letters; Clarence Darrow, by Irving Stone; The Late George Apley, by John P. Marquand; Of Time and the River, by Thomas Wolfe, (because it's his best); Archie and Mehitabel, by Don Marquis; Some of My Best Friends Are Soldiers, by Margaret Halsey; The Importance of Living, by Lin Yutang. For the mystery fan who chooses his authors instead of titles, Dana Chambers, Dorothy Sayers, Margery Allingham, Cleve Adams and Earl Stanley Gardner are a few choice selections.

Of the Old Masters there are too many opinions by able critics, but perhaps the majority will agree that Plutarch's Lives should head almost any list. Plato's Republic goes without saying. Brothers Karamazov is first class detective diet for any period, and Oedipus fine melodrama. Dickens' own contribution to the shilling shocker is one of the most fascinating puzzles of all time, The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Intriguing chiefly because he never gave us a solution. Wilkie Collins, his son-in-law, produced two of the finest detective yarns of that day, The Woman in White and The Moonstone.

But if you choose Byron's Child Harold, Melville's Moby Dick, the ephemeral beauty of Rupert Brooke's immortal poems and Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, lie down under a tree, preferably near a stream, and spend a week reading them from cover to cover, that vision of Robinson Crusoe paradise will recede momentarily. The romance of spring will remain, but you'll feel that but to touch the solitary island will dispel the ecstasy of dreaming. And what, after all, is spring more fashioned for?

Marriage Licenses

Roy M. Davis, of Waynesville, to Sara Jane Stone, of Inman, S. C. Chester C. Mitchell, of Waynesville, to Marie King, of Canton.

THE OLD HOME TOWN



Capital Letters

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

APPROACH—Although this session of the Legislature was often pretty dry, there were moments of humor. For instance, when Governor Cherry went into the House to make his hospital speech to the joint session—

The galleries were full, the whole place crowded and quiet, waiting for the Governor. House members and Senators had been sent to escort His Excellency. On the dais sat Speaker of the House Oscar Richardson and Lt. Gov. L. Y. Ballentine, with the latter presiding.

Finally, at the door there was a little jostling of the crowd. The sergeant-at-arms didn't know just what to say, but felt he should make some little comment, so he intoned in royal voice: "The Governor and his escorts are now approaching."

Everything was quiet for a second. And then Ballentine banged the table with his mallet, thought for an instant while the Governor halted. "Let him approach," said Ballentine. That seemed to everyone the best thing to say, and after that, with Cherry grinning, things got down to an even keel.

PAUL—Dr. Frank Graham, president of the Greater University of North Carolina, is a dead ringer for Paul Yelverton, Raleigh undertaker. Dr. Frank spoke very nicely to one of the State officials during the last week of the Legislature. Without a moment's pause, the official: "Why, hello, Paul! What are you doing up here?"

Dr. Graham muttered something, and to rid the official of embarrassment made a hasty departure. "Why didn't Paul answer me?" asked the official. Told of his mistake, he thought of going and correcting the error, but decided that would make matters worse.

APRIL—By May 1 many of the appointments to be made by Governor Cherry (he will have around 30 big-paying positions to fill will have been taken care of. By that time—if the present pace continues—virtually all the legislators will have been back to Raleigh at least once regarding some local appointment.

Funny thing, those who visited the Governor last week left in extremely good humor, feeling that they had struck good blows for their favorites. It's fine that they left in a happy mood, but many are doomed for disappointment, of course.

JONATHAN — Appointment of Jonathan Daniels as FDR's Good Man Friday gives this State an excellent entrée into the sacred halls of the White House. In fact, we have not had better since Jonathan's father was Secretary of the Navy in the other World War. For a long time now we have been forced to go to the President

through our Congressional representatives. Out best contact all due respect for Senators and Reynolds, they had no influence on President's vet, except in an advisory capacity.

Now it is different. Senator is close to the Governor inwards, and that is a Senator Clyde H. Hoey.

HANCOCK—Frank Hancock, another North Carolina, the President. As head of Security Administration, a guiding force at this time, the Commodity Credit Corporation, he is one of the most full men in the nation. Two years ago he was nothing more than representative from County in the Legislature. Remember, he lost out as a man when he ran against Reynolds in 1938.

Comptroller Lindsay was also regarded as one of the men to the President.

So if you want contact in Washington, contact Congressman as usual, but in on the big boys. Danaher, Hancock, and Ward are friends of these gentlemen.

SHINDIG—There is going to be a real shindig here in Raleigh April 15 when Joe Blythe Charlotte, puts on the Day Dinner. Present will be President Harry Truman, ex-eratic Chairman Steve H. RFC Chairman Fred Van Mae Oliver. North Carolina is a high official in the National Executive Council.

DIGEST—Glenn Tucker, cal of the Bolivia High School Brunswick County, has his want ad printed in the course of Reader's Digest. The Wilkes County native and alumnus of Wake Forest College ran this ad in several papers. He will probably receive around \$100 for it from the Digest.

Last month, John Harlan secretary to Governor Cherry one of his squibs earned Digest. Written while in with the Greensboro Daily. It was picked up by a late sent to the Digest. It is as Harlan received \$25 for the News, \$25, and the late sent it in, \$25.

PROESCIEERS — Leg wanting to have a big time weigh often went to Pres place out near Cary. They could drink a little beer, good meal, and watch solid dance with the girls. It's nearest thing to a night around Raleigh. It burned days ago at a loss of around 000 to the owner.

Inside WASHINGTON

See Congressional "No" For Government Auctions | Predict Civilian Quality to Be Low

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON—Capitol Hill is expected to turn thumb down government auctions as a means of disposing of the huge amount of property which will be left over after the war. The surplus will include everything from soup to battleships, and it is estimated the vast stocks of goods will be worth up to a billion dollars.

A Senate committee has been looking into auction method of selling some of the material which already has been declared surplus, according to members, the committee does like what it has found.

Star witness at the hearings was Jacob Goldberg of New York, who said he was the auctioneer in the country. Senator James Mead (D) of New York, committee chairman, pressed amazement at what he said looked "irregularities," and what Goldberg said "custodians" at auctions.

The irregularities which Mead professed included a practice of professional auctioneering "rigging the show" and controlling the prices.

Consequently, the committee is expected to recommend general use of auctions although it probably will endorse letting machinery go on sale in that manner, in view of the success of farm auctions.

The committee also is expected to demand that a central office be established so that one branch of the government will be selling as surplus the same materials which another branch frantically seeking to purchase.

WFB SOURCES FREELY PREDICT that the quality of shoes will get worse before it improves. Reason: a growing labor shortage coupled with tremendous demands for footwear from armed forces.

Nearly all top-grade leather has already been taken by the military for heavy boots, shoes and other items. Current stocks of shoes are lower-grade leather soles and uppers than in previous days. And this decline is due to become progressively worse.

DON'T BE SURPRISED if civilian meat shortages reach "meat" proportions by mid-summer. This is the gloomy picture painted by War Food Administration officials. WFA underscored its dire predictions by increasing from 70 per cent all utility beef set aside for the armed forces.

The collapse of Germany may possibly change the picture, from the way it looks now a juicy steak will really be a rare sight this summer.

IT NOW DEVELOPS that neighborhood bars, tap-rooms, saloons were one of the chief objectives in War Mobilizer James Byrnes' midnight curfew order on amusement places.

Behind the Byrnes' "request" was his frank concern over absenteeism in war plants. This same reason prompted issuance of the ban on all racing.

Despite its widely-publicized effect on metropolitan night clubs, the order is hitting the bars just around the corner with a greater impact than the Stork club.

ORATORY OF SENATOR HARLAN J. BUSHFIELD (R-South Dakota) does not measure up to the attractions of Senator Chasler Lana Turner in the opinion of the senator's colleagues. This was evidenced when Lana lunched at the capitol with President Harry S. Truman, Adm. William F. Halsey and a group of senators who declined to tear themselves away from the party to hear a speech by Bushfield, on Tuesday afternoon.