

THE MOUNTAINEER

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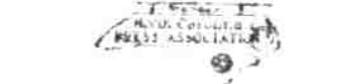
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TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1917

Time To Think

A bill introduced in the General Assembly by Representative O. T. Hill of Cleveland county, would require a 48-hour waiting period in North Carolina between application for the issuance of a marriage license. This bill is another attempt to make couples think more seriously of matrimony and have more time to confer on the meaning of the new relationship.

Pleasure Boom

We read that 1916 spending is tapering off sharply in New York and other amusement centers where money for pleasure has flowed freely in recent years. It is said that it is easier now to get a room and lodging in large cities and that entertainment spots are feeling the pinch for cash money.

Hitler Alive Or Dead?

New rumors that Adolph Hitler is living in seclusion in a remote part of Argentina are interesting but perhaps not important. Such rumors have been circulated from time to time since the fall of Berlin and probably will be circulated again and again during future years.

On the other hand, the evidence of his death has never been sufficient to convince all intelligent Americans beyond any question. They remember that for weeks and months before V-E Day there were predictions that if and when Hitler saw that Germany's defeat was inevitable, he would flee to Argentina by a German U-boat or airplane held in readiness for his use in escape.

It is possible that Hitler still is alive and viewing at long range the miserable state of the German people whom he led to ruin and went to his death in some way as the Russian armies battered down his capital city while desolation. But it is the more likely that he the nation he had ruled with an iron hand was brought to its knees in defeat—The Charlotte Observer.

Confusing

The cost of maintaining a single soldier in Germany or Japan now is five times more than the cost of maintaining an occupation soldier after World War I. After the latter it cost the taxpayers \$1,939.98 including his pay, subsistence and equipment to keep a man in Germany with the army of occupation.

Today, after World War II, the cost has jumped to an average of \$11,230, including subsequent payments to the soldier as a veteran under the GI Bill of Rights, but does not include payments for administrative overhead.

This offers a big headache. What to do in the way of reducing these high occupation costs is being debated in Congress and within the army itself. Two solutions have been offered by high army officials.

One is that enlistments should be made only for a minimum three-year term, thus saving the army 27 months of overseas service from each soldier. This would require more recruiting inducements, than at the present, but would cut the cost of a year's occupation duty nearly in half to about \$6,000 per man.

Another solution held by some top army officers is that the army should be relieved of the responsibility of occupation altogether. In its place then could be a small special constabulary to police the occupied countries under the supervision of the State Department. Relief for these countries now carried on the army budget as a military expense also could be taken over by the State Department.

On the other hand we read from reliable sources that proposed United States budget cuts for the army and government relief in occupied areas are likely to have serious effects upon American Military government activities in Germany. Later they may prove more expensive to the American people than continuation of existing appropriations would be, according to officials in Germany.

It is all very confusing, but naturally comes the question, who is paying for all this? The answer is obvious, you and I and the millions of other taxpayers are footing the bills, but what else can we do? So we go around in circles, making patches here and there in the ever increasing load this country has to carry.

The Good Neighbor

Mr. Josephus Daniels in a recent editorial in his paper, stated that "the cordial reception given President Truman in Mexico last week shows that the Good Neighbor doctrine enunciated by President Franklin Roosevelt in his inauguration has flowered into an understanding and brotherhood between the peoples of these two neighbor republics."

Mr. Daniels further pointed out that the Good Neighbor doctrine is embedded in the Atlantic Charter and it applies as President Roosevelt said, "all over the world."

Mr. Roosevelt's enunciation of it in his inaugural was hailed as a harbinger of better relations but they did not flower until marines were withdrawn from Caribbean countries, the ties broken that held Cuba in a degree bondage to the United States, and the United States repudiated its practice of Dollar Diplomacy and the Big Stick, according to Mr. Daniels.

Now we would not for any reason attempt to rob Mr. Roosevelt of any glory which he deserves in the realization of the Good Neighbor doctrine put into practice with our neighbors on the border, but we think Mr. Daniels has not told all the story. He has left out features of the recent story of Mexico, in which North Carolinians have great pride—that is the part that Ambassador and Mrs. Daniels, had in spreading the doctrine of Good Neighbors during the years they spent as representatives of the United States in Mexico.

WNC Progress

We commend Congressman Monroe Redden again for his action in starting plans to speed up developments of Western North Carolina. The manner in which Mr. Redden has taken on his job in Washington to carry forward the progress of the district he represents has given the citizens of the area confidence that he will get things done.

During the campaign he made an effort to find out what the people wanted and since he assumed his duties he has bent every effort to organize his plans toward getting aid from the Federal government in completing the development of the park and Western North Carolina projects.

We all know it takes this kind of determination and interest to get recognition of local affairs through the federal agencies and from the start that Mr. Redden has made we feel confident that in time he will be able to see the developments realized.



HERE and THERE

By HILDA WAY GWYN

Last summer among the hundreds of visitors who came our way were two who decided to cast their lot with us. Aside from the prestige of being artists recognized in their own fields, they have much to commend them to us—as delightful people to know. So allow us to present Dorothy Fremont Grant, author, and her husband, Douglas Malcolm Grant, Artist. Arriving here from New York, they drove out from Asheville in search of a permanent residence in Western North Carolina—they wanted to leave the city—to live in the country—they wanted a good community—an equitable climate—a good place in which to paint and write—and a Catholic church, where they could worship. On their first trip they were impressed and on their third they made their decision. They bought the top of a hill out on the Howell Mill Road, on which they plan to build a home—in the meantime rented an apartment near back of their home site, where they will live until their house is completed.

They found all the things they were looking for—and from the

warmth in their voices when they speak of their neighbors and the cordiality they have encountered we believe they have also found friends.

Mrs. Grant told us that she does not think that outsiders write truthfully about the mountain people—that she has met none of the types she had read about—never have we lived anywhere that I felt closer to my neighbors and had the feeling that if some tragedy came they would see me through," she said, "and while our experiences may have been different, I realize that we meet on the common ground of the fundamentals which count."

Before coming to North Carolina they subscribed to an Asheville paper and The Mountaineer and studied this section... as Mrs. Grant said, "you can learn a lot about a community from a newspaper."

Mrs. Grant has some roots in the state, for her father Francis Murray graduated from the University of North Carolina, and her grand-

Inside WASHINGTON

Congress Really Streamlined? Numerous Committee Meetings Harried Newsmen Have Doubt Keep Reporters on the Double

WASHINGTON—After six weeks of the streamlined Congress, Capitol Hill observers are debating how much is really streamlined. On the critical side, harried newsmen are finding that they have more committee hearings to cover than ever. They are wondering if the new high-powered committee staffs are not the reason—showing more speed than usual in arranging committee hearings.

Thus, some say, committee work is not reduced—it is only redistributed. On the other side of the ledger, there seems to be a saving of legislative manpower—fewer lawmakers conduct subcommittee hearings. Some complain that the effort to provide better talent in offices and committees to ease the legislators' task is not paying off. "Professional" committee aides, especially, are asserting that patronage is dictating many appointments.

The truth would be hard to find. It is true that many "politicians" are getting those jobs, but it is also true that when a "politician" handles a legislator's "political" problems, he can devote his attention to what is supposed to be his major job—framing the nation's laws.

Many legislators really are picking able research men to help them—and in general, the high powering of staffs is noticeable.

THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT'S decision to support the prices of turkeys is expected to cost the government approximately 28 million dollars before the program expires next June 30. Officials admit that the government may have to buy ten million pounds of turkeys at 27.9 cents a pound to bring the national price to levels reflecting 90 per cent of parity. The government also will pay out some 80 million dollars this year to support potato prices. All told, the various support-price programs are expected to cost around 330 million dollars.

WAR ASSETS ADMINISTRATOR ROBERT M. LITTLEJOHN, who sold the Big and Little Inch pipelines for only \$2,500,000 less than they cost the government, took a chance that paid off. He rejected the original 16 bids as too low; called for new ones. He now confesses that if the second batch had been less favorable than those rejected "I fully expected the president to fire me."

SENATOR JOSEPH McCARTHY (R) of Wisconsin, winner in the GOP primary over former Senator Robert M. LaFollette, Jr., was a Marine tail-gunner in the war—but he claims he was not much of a marksman. McCarthy recalls that at one time the men in his company awarded him a "plaque" for destroying "more coconut trees than anyone else in the South Pacific."

The senator says that when he was called to receive the "plaque," he was served with a formal "summons and complaint" by a big soap manufacturing concern which owned many of the coco palms in those parts. However, McCarthy's commanding officer, Maj. Gen. H. R. Harmon, has this to say of him: "His initiative and good judgment, determination and diligence have made him an unusually useful member of the section in which he served and his unfailing good nature and ready wit made him well-liked and respected by his associates."

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Would you like to see the dial telephone system installed in Waynesville?

J. C. Jennings: "Yes, I would. I think it is better and faster service."

John B. Smith: "Yes, Where I've used it, it has been very satisfactory."

Mrs. Fay Toy: "I think that the dial system will come here within the next 10 years. It will offer some conveniences the public will enjoy, but there will be a number of services they get now from operators that will be missed when that day comes."

Lester Burgin, Jr.: "Yes, I would, very much, I've used it and the dial system saves time and is more simplified."

Mrs. Herbert Gibson: "I think I could. It would mean an end to the party line which would be some advantage."

R. L. Coin, Sr.: "Definitely. The dial is a far better service, more modern, less confusing, and a time saver."

father Col. Wewall Lawrence Fremont, who once lived on a rice plantation near Wilmington, built Fort Fisher during the War Between the States. Col. Fremont graduated from West Point in the class with General Sherman, but like General Lee when the test came he sided with the South and while he held the rank of Capt. in the U. S. Army, he became a colonel in the Confederate Army. Naturally his old classmate Sherman called him a traitor, but long after at a reunion at West Point, they drank a toast to a united country.

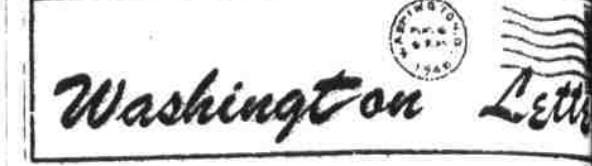
When asked about when she started writing, Mrs. Grant said, "Well my mother likes to tell the story about the time when I was eight years old that I pushed my doll in her carriage on the railroad track for the train to take care of, and announced that I was through with playthings and that I intended to write." She served as a yeowoman in the Navy during World War I and was one of the editors of the United States Naval Medical Bulletin. She was editor and publisher of "The Patter", a bi-weekly at Manhasset, Long Island, a community of around 12,000. She is author of "What Other Answer", "Margaret Brent, Adventurer", "War Is My Parish", "Night of Decision" and her 1947 contribution is "So, You Want to Get (Continued on Page Three)

Capital Letters

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

ASSEMBLY NOTES — Gordon Gray of Forsyth became the father of a big boy last week—Gov. R. Gregg Cherry led the fight for that 30 per cent raise for teachers, many of whom have been cursing him for not doing it just when they wanted it done—Things just don't work that way in the Legislature—A drive is on now to prevent your paying State income taxes on Federal income taxes. As it is now, you pay your State taxes on money you never see; that portion withheld.

A bill has been introduced to require certain safety precautions against fires in hotels. The important work of the Legislature—appropriations, health, and teachers' salaries should be completed by the latter part of next week. But don't look for your man home for keeps until after April 1.



MONROE'S CREDIT STILL IS GOOD AT THE LAUNDRY

By JANE EADS WASHINGTON — The laundry that comes each week to 2017 L. St. N. W., now occupied by the Capital's ultra-exclusive Arts Club, is still marked for James Monroe.

Monroe lived there while he was Secretary of State under James Madison. Madison used to hold his cabinet meetings here. The legend goes that during one of these sessions—in 1812—a sentry bolted into the room and exclaimed "The British are upon us!" Forthwith, Madison's horse was brought right into the hallway and



By Jack O'Brian

COWARD ON THE TELEPHONE ISN'T TIMID

NEW YORK—Noel Coward in Hollywood had Clifton Webb and Leonora Corbett, in New York, read their lines for a radio version of Noel's "Blithe Spirit" over the telephone. He then gave his orders for cuts and direction in a lengthy transcontinental conversation which kept the phone circuit open two and a half hours. Meyer Davis, who has the temerity to ask for scripts from playwrights, amateur or professional, called to report this strange play-

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