Six Months

By LAWRENCE

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THE MOUNTAINEER

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1948

The Price Of Beauty

It is greatly to be hoped that some influential members of the North Carolina delegation to Congress will join the Virginians who are now making a fight on the plan of the Department of the Interior to make the Blue Ridge Parkway a toll road.

The Department of the Interior, no doubt, justifies its plan on the ground that the Parkway is not a part of the public highway system, but is under the National Park Service as a connecting link between two of the most popular parks in the country.

In some cases tolls and fees are charged for the use of certain facilities in the national parks and also in our own state parks in North Carolina; but we have never looked with favor on the practice, because the parks belong to the public, which has paid for them with taxes. It strikes us as being a form of double taxation to build national parks and facilities with public money and then require the people to pay for the use of them.

Certainly the scenery is free, and the government has no right to preempt it, but some of those wonderful views can be seen only from the Parkway. To make a toll road of the Parkway would require the people to pay a fee just to look at the beauties that God put in that vast and breath-taking panorama. after they have already paid their taxes to build the road.

When the Parkway project was begun years ago, nothing was said about making it a toll road. This incomparable drive along the crest of eastern America was to be a free gift by the government to the people, so that they could see some of the wonders of their wonderful country that would have remained forever hidden from the eyes of all except a few hardy climbers if the Parkway had not brought them within reach of any citizen who can afford the lowest-priced car.

The proposed tolls are very modest-almost nominal, in fact-but the mere act of collecting a toll will rob the Parkway of its greatest allure-the sense of release, combined with a touch of awe and humility, on standing on the crest of a half a continent and looking out over a hundred miles of varicolored

No price, however small, should be set upon that.-The Charlotte Observer.

Traffic And Parking

An automobile age suddenly imposed upon horse-and-buggy planned cities brings traffic jams, parking problems. Traffic experts, members of the American Highway Association meeting in Chicago, expressed the conviction that the number one problem for American cities today is traffic.

There were as many horse-and-buggies as there are automobiles. It was more inconvenient to keep a horse, and it took more space. Also fewer people were in that margin of prosperity in the old days where they could afford private conveyances. Automobiles cost more to buy and operate than did

horse-drawn vehicles. There has been such a change in transportation that cities must do some drastic planning-such as moving buildings and confiscating private lawns to widen streets and razing buildings to make parking spaces. Oneway streets, no curb parking and keeping cars out of certain very narrow streets are possible remedies. The situation calls for daring and original city planning.—Reids-

Great Smokies Museum

Of the many projects which are being undertaken in connection with the development of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, one of the foremost from the standpoint of public interest, is almost a reality.

We refer to the museum which is designed to present the history and customs of the early white settlers of the region.

According to information given out at Gatlinburg, the establishment of the museum follows many years of hard work on the part of historians and other interested persons in both Tennessee and North Carolina, and support of a number of National Park Service officials who always had more enthusiasm than money with which to help the cause

A section of the Oconaluftee ranger station near Cherokee is being converted for the project, which is expected to be thrown open to the public by April 1, according to Superintendent Blair A. Ross.

Four cases of relics are already on display in the lobby of the station and still other cases and table displays will be arranged soon. Recently moved to the building from park headquarters at Gatlinburg was a large number of articles.

Still other articles which have been collected for the museum are stored at Western Carolina Teachers College, Cullowhee.

Establishment of a natural history museum in the park headquarters will be one of the next steps in the playground's educational program.-Hickory Daily Record.

Divorces Fall Off

A sharp decline in the national divorce rate during 1947 should be reassuring to many thoughtful people who have been concerned by us and have more than helped in recent years with this problem of society have accompanied us wherever we and have found little for consolation in the

While over-all figures are not yet available, and we may not see them again tween Christmas and the opening a United Press survey has gathered figures until next winter. from a number of localities which show a very definite drop in the number of divorces ice for these two friends are our friends gather, "Isn't it awful?" or annulments and on which basis we can be certain that statistics will reveal a general improvement in the marital situation over the country.

A year ago, religious leaders and others who feel responsibility for the nation's moral outlook and social propriety were genuinely alarmed at the tremendous increase in broken homes and shocked by the seeming indifference of many to the meaning of marriage vows and the accompanying obligations to

They were stirred to increased activity in many instances in an attempt to reawaken a OF ORATORY sense of understanding and responsibility which would serve to prevent as many further breakdowns as possible. Evidently there has been some success for them in this com-

We can also attribute the falling off in di- is one of the best with in the Sen- the chairman, asked him how he have return to more stable times and this quite famous. have returned to more stable times and this titude toward marriage and the dependence of those making a home on each other.

Whatever the reasons, the reduction in di- in the game, he was invited to Continued on Page Three with the gift of gab. vorces as recorded during 1947 is a welcome development in our social scheme.-Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont.

Most Pained Expression

At a dinner recently we noticed a man at the speaker's table with the most pained expression on his face we have ever seen. It I o'clock on Wednesdays, was a familian expression, too, one we had seen many times, but we couldn't quite place named manager Ten Cent Store. it. Whether he was dving of disease or boredom seemed questionable, but it was certain en to Victory Book Drive. that he was not amused by the remarks of the speaker standing near him and expatiating at considerable length.

Then the light dawned on us. Our mystery active duty soon. man of the woebegone countenance was the next speaker. Of course. He was concentrating on his listening to the first speaker, on thinking what he would say himself, and on wondering whether the jackass who had the floor would leave him enough time in which to say it.

Men have approached gallows and guillotine with far happier faces. And here is a tip to news photographers: When they want a really harrowing picture, let them turn from accident victims and concentrate on the countenance of the Next Speaker.-Greensboro Daily News.

Sooner Or Later For All

Chowan county has just voted \$400,000 i bonds for a school expansion program.

Other counties in the state, including Haywood, are faced with crowded and inadequate school facilities. There is only one way to face the problem, and that is to do as Chowan

The population is increasing everywhere, and with schools already overcrowded, there is not a chance of the situation becoming better until additional schools are erected.

THE HORRORS OF PEACE



Rambling 'Round

-Bits Of Human Interest News Picked Up By Members--Of The Mountaineer Staff-

In the course of our life, we! saw, And that was all you saw have met many vicissitudes and for when she came sweeping in, have always found friends to help | the handle hung by its silk cord

In the past two weeks, we have had two friends that have stood us over the rough places. They went and without them we would have found the going mighty hard. They will soon leave us (we hope) of becoming a bit strained be-

They have stuck to us through chit-chat, so the current weather thick and thin thick snow and thin has provided an open seseme when does the thermometer read?", have

She had come fully equipped for whatever weather might descend upon her. Her raincoat was the latest style her boots of modern trend and her umbrella had the spiffiest handle you ever

"Blow, winds, blow!" This Continued on Page Three

from her wrist . . . but the umbrella had become loosened and

had disappeared. She had no

idea when it had left her posses-

sion Imagine her embarrass-

ment if it had started to rain

of the annual pre-tourist-season

'What is it doing now?; "What

been the most popular greetings

for the past two weeks . . . or more

It seems like much longer!)

while she was out,



By JANE EADS

ate, according to Capital corre- liked the speech. spondents. The solon's stories are

whipper-snapper, and a beginner worth reading in the first place" maker on the side, is also blessed

5 YEARS AGO

\$111,500 in Haywood.

January War Bond sales exceed

Waynesville and Hazelwood

Miss Elizabeth Leatherwood is

named manager of Eagle Five and

Over six hundred books are giv-

merchants will close their store at

make a banquet speech. He wanted very much to make a good impres-

He worked all night outlining bers of Concurs like to make several times. The appliance was Pepper on the Republican side. He tiredly polite. When the affair excels in irony and satire, Minority leader Alben Barkley broke up, he elbowed his way to

Looking Back Over The Years

10 YEARS AGO

be the best extemporaneous speak WASHINGTON - Most mem- the talk and rehearsed it aloud shire, the boys say, ranks with

"Well," said the chairman dry- Massachusetts, is a real spellly, "I have three criticisms. In the binder when he gets going, Re-Here's one Barkley tells on him- first place, you read the speech, publican Congressman Dewey In the second place, you read it Short of Missouri, a former min-When he was just a young badly in the third place it wasn't ister and a professional speech-

MIRROR OF YOUR MIND



Can too rapid school promotion harm a child?

Answer: It may in some cases, reports Dr. Philip Ash in the Journal of Applied Psychology, after testing 85 white male delinquents from 16 to 22 years old. The boys' average ability and information rated two years lower tnan the school grades they said they had finished, showing that they had been "pushed ahead" faster than they were capable of going. And while this alone did not make them delinquent, any youngster of whom more is demanded than he can give will grow more discouraged and rebellious.



themselves?

Answer: That is the conclusion reached by three psychiatrists of the U. S. Marine Hospital, Ellis Island, N. Y., after analyzing ten typical cases. Although only half the men were technically insane,

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VOICE PEOPLE

Do you think the Marshall Plan will get through Congress without fice is just across the hall in the neth Royall hea se being cut down from the amount State Capital from that of the Army With a little requested?

hey are going to cut it down, even Treasurer Johnson, though General Marshall and the President have asked them not to Wade Noland: "I think the plan

Eugene Smathers: "It looks like

Congress without being cut mate-Bill Swift: "It is hard to say just

what Congress will do, but I certainly hope they leave it as it is." J. M. Palmer: "I wouldn't be sur-

Howard Bryson: "I think they cill cut it.

orised if Congress cuts it down."

prepared speech since. But in the major league of orators-the Senate-Claude Pepper Florida Democrat, is conceded to

On the House side, the Demo-

Capital Letter By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

FRIEND OR FOE? - State ed Horton Treasurer Charles Johnson's of-Governor, Despite this, however, Governor Cherry

The evidence, nevertheless, is to the contrary, as you will see,

Had it not been for Governor natural appointing Cherry, William B. Umstead would Johnson, and la as some chance of getting through be running for Governor - in month John on . which event Charlie Johnson hogged political (would not be. Senator Umstead seems safe to us the could have become a candidate for Cherry had pulled Governor with little or no opposi- for Ballentine he w tion. Governor Cherry appointed nounced. But ex him to the U. S. Senate.

Then there was W. P. Horton, warts had we hedwho wanted to be appointed to the the extent they was Senate. After Umstead received prepared to can for! this appointment. Horton felt he er, and now is the was in line for the Governor's office. He didn't get the nod from Meantime, Johnson Cherry-but he was appointed chairman of the State Democratic cision rests largely

has been noised about a great become a substituting deal that Governor R. Gregg He didn't partible and Cherry is not a great supporter of manned where he

did not ro along a Commissioner of

Wallace Candidacy May Hurt | Drift Toward Joh My Dewey, Eisenhower Chances | If Third Party Rifts

Special to Central Press

W/ASHINGTON-Henry A. Wallace's decision to W dent on an independent "peace" ticket not of President Truman's chances but the chances of two Of tial possibilities.

The two are Gov Tom Dewey of New York and G Eisenhower Veteran political observers believe that many Deser will desert to Ohio's Senator Robet

the belief that Taft, with the Deni split, can win the election These erstwhile Dewey supported that only the New York governor of enough votes to beat a solid Demi

although privately they preferred Tut In the case of Eisenhower, the b that to some extent the general wo to attacks that a vote for a military White House might play into Walls and be interpreted as a vote toward Wallace's candidacy seems certain

New York state vote wide open and Henry A. Wallace electoral votes to the Republican num The late President Roosevelt came in 1940 and 1944 on the strength of some 400,000 And

party votes and those of other independents who now p support Wallace. California, with a split Democratic party, also appears

fall to the Republicans.

• BIRD WITHOUT WINGS—The newly-independent A afraid it isn't legal. The general counsel of the autonomous aviation by by Congress in the armed services merger admits that "

tion's legality is open to question before the courts. The constitution authorized an Army and Navy but \$ fathers never visioned anything as fantastic as a fly and Congress in the merger legislation provided 100 authority for the Air Force." Possible points of confusion:

Suppose Maj. Gen. Bennett Meyers wants to know luft stripped him of his medals and his pension. Air Sens Symington issued the order, but when Meyers was in \$ Corps was run by the Army.

Suppose the Air Force attempts to collect from 80 tractor it believes guilty of defrauding the government Suppose some private thrown in the guardhouse for the town challenges the authority of his con-manding of Congress will have to do something about the situation

of an amendment creating the Air Force as a legal still • CASUALTY-The Senate Republican leadership ! put up only a token fight to continue the Senate war committee—the one-time Truman committee—in its P Democrats, fearful that the GOP will use the o

strident and accusing voice in the campaign are limit against it. The majority, painfully aware of the Howard Hughes fiasco, is disposed to wipe out the group and transfer its functions to a standing committee -probably the executive expenditures committee of which the Senate's ace investigator, Michigan's

Homer Ferguson, is a member. Ferguson led the war investigating group on to \$ back in the Benny Meyers case, but when extending tee's life is under debate Democratic senstors will be qui the Hughes inquiry.

Best bet at the moment is that the Senate will est committee next month and that Ferguson will carry as in executive expenditures subcommittee, with Democia it that he gets only a limited investigating staff.

Norman Pless to be called for Richmond, Va., where he will re- steam turbine more than 2,000

Harriet Cutler Coburn, of Ashe-

of the latter.

Large group from Waynesville Gordon Hendricks leaves for

WHAT ABOUT

OUR TIME?

000 paving program, Fire destroys Smoky Mountain

Industries, near depot Three farms are sold at auction. Mrs. J. Wilford Ray entertains in honor of her mother. Mrs. Felix

Alley, on the birthday anniversary

ville weds Dr. Thomas Stringfield, attends President's Ball in Canton. port for duty with the U. S. Navy. years ago.

15 YEARS AGO

Hazelwood aldermen adopt \$35,-Haywood Masons meet for oys ter supper at Masonic Temple Survey of Soco Gap Road ex ension is being pushed Four murder cases tried in riminal Court.

Two large bucks battle to death ear Pisgah Forest, District P.T.A. president urges

no further cut in appropriations for educational work in state. Hero of Egypt constructed

By Jimmy Hatlo

BABY-FACE GIVES STONEHEART

THE BIG BLUE EYES AND HE

They'll Do It Every Time IT'S JUST WONDERFUL OF YOU TO GIVE ME SUCH A BIG ORDER

