

THE MOUNTAINEER

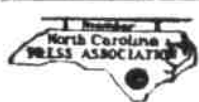
Published By
THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO.
 Main Street Phone 700
 Waynesville, North Carolina
 The County Seat of Haywood County
 W. CURTIS RUSS, Editor
 W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers
 PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY
 HAYWOOD COUNTY \$3.00
 Six Months 1.75
 NORTH CAROLINA \$4.00
 Six Months 2.25
 OUTSIDE NORTH CAROLINA \$4.50
 Six Months 2.50

Entered at the post office at Waynesville, N. C., as Second Class Matter, on April 2, 1947, under the Act of March 2, 1979, November 16, 1914.

Postmaster: This publication is published weekly, except on legal holidays, and will be charged for at the rate of one cent per copy.

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL
ASSOCIATION
1948 Active Member

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1948

Success In The Making

The Chamber of Commerce has undertaken a program that is destined to be far-reaching in scope, and with the present determination, successful in magnitude.

The program has been mapped out on a business-like basis, and it is not the brain-child of one of two dreamers. The president named 17 committees earlier in the year to study and make a proposed program for their respective committees. These committees followed instructions and their recommendations were then carefully studied by the executive committee of the organization. After some slight changes here, elimination there, and suggestions, the final plan was presented to the board of directors for adoption. None of these items or proposals were "railroaded" through.

One of the best features of the entire program is the low cost. Most of the program calls for cooperative work here in the community, without any expenses. The officers are working on a conservation plan, and kept expenses to a minimum, which is indicative of the manner in which the entire program was set up.

The proposed \$10,000 budget is far less than what some chambers of commerce in communities this size spend on one project alone.

We have high hopes for the success of the program and knowing those who are pledged to carry through, we have every reason to expect a successful year for the Chamber of Commerce.

Tax Collections Good

A good business barometer is the payment of current taxes, and from the report of county auditor Metcalfe, there is every indication that business must be good in Haywood. Mr. Metcalfe reported 80 per cent of the current tax levy had been paid.

Of the \$409,000 levy, only \$163,000 remains unpaid, the report showed. In both instances we use just the round figures.

An interesting point in the auditor's report was that less than \$5,000 remains unpaid on the \$325,000 levy of last year. The picture for 1945-46 is not as good, as almost \$28,000 remains unpaid out of the levy of \$333,000.

Most taxpayers have learned that the penalty on unpaid taxes adds up fast, and the best way to avoid the extra costs, and the ultimate advertising of the property is to pay earlier in the year.

Fewer Question Marks

The seven artists' drawings of George Washington as carried in this newspaper last Tuesday has been the topic of much discussion during the past few days.

Most of us always took for granted the drawing by Gilbert Stuart was the "authentic" picture of the Father of Our Country. Of course we assumed it was the likeness of Mr. Washington because it is the one most commonly used.

Such confusion will not be created for generations to come over the likeness of present public men, since photography has reached such a high state of development.

Not only will people hundreds of years from now know what our presidents looked like, but will also be able to hear their voices, see pictures of them in action, and as if it mattered, can see the exact color of their hair and the shades of their clothing.

Science is removing a lot of question marks from present day events that will make history more easily understood tomorrow.

At The Cross Roads

The padlocking of the elementary school in Sylva presents a major problem for school authorities there, and an even greater responsibility on the citizens at large. The school authorities acted promptly, and worked out a schedule to use the high school building six days a week. The first three days for the high school, and last three for elementary classes, running from 8:30 until 4:30 each day. This presents a hardship on both the students and the teachers.

The Sylva Herald was quick to bring the facts to the people of Jackson county, and with it a stern warning of the seriousness of the situation with an editorial, "At The Cross Roads." We are publishing the editorial for the benefit of Haywood people as a "forewarning" of the fact that the same situation could arise here in Haywood.

The Herald said:

"The people of Jackson county are at the cross-roads, or should we say at a dead-end road. We were brought face to face with this fact Tuesday afternoon when our largest elementary school building in the county was ordered padlocked because of being unsafe for use. This order might have been applied to several other structures now being used as classroom buildings, such as the Beta and Dillsboro schools, which are nothing more than wooden firetraps, but when it comes to this brick building that has been in use only 19 years, it appalls us.

"School officials of the county have realized for some years that the buildings are in bad condition and that new buildings are needed. The present school board has given the matter considerable study and have proposed a building program. This, however, will take money, much more money than the school board can raise unless the citizens of the county authorize a bond issue through an election. Taxpayers have been reluctant to respond to such a plan, consequently nothing has been done to remedy this bad situation.

"Now something must be done at once and there appears no way out other than a bond issue with which to raise the necessary money. The state is not going to step in and build our schools, even if some idly think it will. This may be brought about within a few years from now, when enough counties send representatives and senators down to Raleigh who will pass such a measure. The richer counties, however, are not going to favor such a law.

"The Jackson county school board is now unable to even meet its current operating expenses; it is operating with a huge deficit, an inherited condition at the time they came into office brought about by the unbusiness-like methods in the past and also trying to operate on too small a budget, a condition which should not have been allowed to exist.

"It is high time that the people of Jackson county were aroused as to the true status of their school system and become informed of facts that bring about such conditions.

"Unless the citizens of Sylva and Jackson county wake up and get busy about our school situation, we are going to be, and that day seems to be at hand, in a pitiable plight. Our children's futures are at stake."

Longer Life

The expectation of life at birth in the industrial population of the United States reached an all-time high of 66½ years in 1947, according to the statisticians. This figure represents a gain of about one year over 1946, a gain of 10 years in the past two decades, and of 20 years since 1911-12. The year 1947 set a new low record for mortality and was the fourth in succession to show a decline. The death rate for 1947 was 7.2 per 1,000, as compared with 7.3 in 1946, the previous banner health year.

New low death rates were recorded last year for whooping cough, diphtheria, influenza, pneumonia, tuberculosis, syphilis, appendicitis, diseases of childbearing and accidents. The rates for diabetes and the cardiovascular-renal diseases declined somewhat.

The death rate from motor vehicle accidents was reduced by 4.8 per cent in the year. Suicides and homicides also were less frequent than in 1946, although the rates were higher for the three years 1943 through 1946.

Last year's favorable mortality record was due in appreciable measure to the relatively low incidence of the acute respiratory conditions. The death rate from pneumonia and influenza together was 16 per cent below the previous minimum registered the year before, and 70 per cent lower than for 1937, when the newer methods of treatment came into general use.

As the old saying goes, the longer you live, the longer you may expect to live.

"Drive carefully, don't shoot yourself, and see your doctor regularly" is a good motto for those who cherish the thought of a ripe old age.—The Gastonia Gazette.

Another mysterious happening in the sky makes the cold war take a back seat for the nonce.

Price down one day and up the next gives the poor housewife the budget jitters.

THE NEW ROAD HOG



Rambling 'Round

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

Oh boy! won't bridge lovers enjoy this? We saw it under a picture in a popular weekly magazine.

The declarer spreads his hand down on the table and remarks: "Really no use in playing it out. . . I'll discard my clubs on those heart tricks. Finesse the king of spades. Trump those diamonds there. Then I'll be in my hand to take the jack of spades. . . still will have three good trumps. . . Selah! . . . to confound it."

And on the cover of this same magazine, is the cleverest illusion you can find. It shows the power of suggestion raised to the 10th degree. Especially to those who have been struggling through snow, slush and what-have-you for weeks. The picture

depicts the luxury and glamor of a very Southern resort (presumably) where bathers are enjoying sunshine and sea breezes. But it's only a bill board and the painters are stiff with the cold that surrounds them as they work. The real effect this had on us was to affirm the old saying . . . "Don't believe anything you hear and only half you see."

We had no idea how unobservant we are but it was brought forcibly to us last night. A visitor inquired as to the location of the Hotel Gordon. We pointed it out and he said that it had no sign on it to let the public know that was Hotel Gordon. We replied: "Surely you are wrong" and he then asked: "Well, where is the sign?" . . . and

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OLD TIMERS FIND
WASHINGTON HAS
NO OLD WOMEN

By JANE EADS

WASHINGTON (Back in 1865 the Oldest Inhabitants Association of Washington was founded. To-day the group is still commemorating at monthly meetings in the old Union Engine House on H street built in 1836.

The first president was Benjamin Ogilvie Taylor, whose father built the famous Octagon House, where James and Dolley Madison once lived. It is now national headquarters of the American Society of Architects.

Today the Oldest Inhabitants

boast a membership of 480. To qualify one must have lived in the district 35 years, be 50 years of age and a man.

President John Clagett Proctor says: "Where can you find a woman who will 'less up to being 50 years of age'?"

The group recently put its collective foot down on a proposal to raise the dues from \$2 to \$3 a year and to take in members who live in outlying suburbs.

The club has 13 vice presidents. The vice presidents are nominated for every state in the Union that is, as the Union originally stood," says Proctor.

The Association doesn't "toler-

Looking Back Over The Years

15 YEARS AGO

F. A. Burgin retires as mail carrier after 26 years of service.

Roselyn Ray, Alfred Kuhnle, Halie Siler Freeman, and Lorene Lowe are selected to represent the Waynesville school in the State triangular debates.

\$1,000,000 is spent by scientists to determine if the earth's center is hot.

Mrs. Grover Davis is new president of Woman's Club.

10 YEARS AGO

Illustrated folders on Haywood County are being distributed in answer to inquiries about this area.

Schools close as measles epidemic rages in the district.

Hazelwood Presbyterians are staging a campaign to raise funds for completion of their church in time for Easter services.

Trains No. 19 and No. 20 are discontinued.

Joe Palmer, Dent Ketner and Keith Ketner, 4-H Club members make good records growing corn.

5 YEARS AGO

County Agent Howard Clapp advises planting of Victory gardens to solve food problem.

Prossley Brothers of Canton are given WPA award for scrap materials shipped.

Dwight Beatty, Jr., wins medal in D.A.R. speaking contest.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Williams, both natives of Haywood County celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in Frances, Washington.

Tires for passenger cars and trucks may now be recapped without a certificate.

They'll Do It Every Time

Registered U. S. Patent Office By Jimmy Hatlo



MIRROR OF YOUR MIND



Answer: Yes, says Dr. Nandor Fodor, New York psychoanalyst, in the Journal of Clinical Psychopathology. Many people are afraid to go to sleep because unconsciously they think of it as similar to dying, while they can be sure that they are still alive if they stay awake and "keep moving." (Nearly all insomniacs turn and twist all night long.) A narrow escape or severe fright in childhood may give you the feeling that if you relax your vigilance and go to sleep, you will not wake up again.

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VOICE
OF THE
PEOPLE

Do you think sentiment is growing in Haywood County in favor of ABC Stores?

W. E. Carter: "Yes. From what I hear I think there will be demand for an election before too long."

Charles W. Edwards: "Most of what I've heard is that the people regret seeing so much revenue going to Buncombe county. Most people are opposed to the use of liquor, but see no advantage in not having an ABC store here when there is one in Asheville."

Bill Cabb: "You hear it both ways. It is a question that a man with a child has a lot of difficulty in deciding the best answer."

Herbert Brarung: "No. At least I hope not."

Bryan Medford: "Yes."

C. J. Reece: "Yes."

L. G. Elliott: "I would say as far as I know, that sentiment is not growing in favor of the stores."

Richard Queen: "I believe it is. People resent Buncombe county getting revenue from this county. Too other Asheville stores are getting more business because they have ABC stores."

ate" any political or religious discussions. It rarely discusses anything that happens anywhere else in the world, although Proctor went abroad in 1932 and 1933 and to South America in 1934, and

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Capital Letter

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

Charles M. Johnson has not shown himself too adept at saying the right thing all the time. Last week, however, he pulled something of a coup on the Scott camp when he came out in strong support of a farm-to-market road program.

This column led the way in pointing to the need for a bond issue for a better highway system in North Carolina. No mention was made, particularly, of farm-to-market road improvement—though while he was Commissioner of Agriculture, W. Kerr Scott received his most favorable public support and publicity when he pleaded for better rural roads. Now, Johnson wants the same thing. He timed his statement properly, for when it was made, a large percentage of the rural schools were closed because of impassable roads.

ON RECORD—"A new highway construction program is badly needed . . . the State which at one time was near the top in highways has badly fallen in this respect."

So it is that the business will be to the people and to the State.

From the News and February 13. Back in North Carolina, however, the highways in this State are in a state of disrepair. The people of North Carolina are not getting the best of the situation. The State is not getting the best of the situation. The State is not getting the best of the situation.

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON—CIO and AFL political leaders are expected to avoid an early commitment for President Truman.

Democratic party such as was voiced by A. F. Whitney, of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

Ultimately, the two major labor groups are expected to support the incumbent administration, but they are likely to delay announcement for bargaining purposes.

Whitney showed no such reluctance. He full 11 months before the election he wholeheartedly into the Democratic party and pledged his organization's support in President Truman.

CIO leaders showed great interest in the move because the railroad labor club worked very closely with the CIO Political Committee in past political moves.

BETTER PAY FOR EXECUTIVES—Truman may ask Congress for emergency legislation permitting him to pay government executives as much as \$25,000 a year to threatened collapse of federal aviation control.

Two men are trying to handle a volume of work with a five-man Civil Aeronautics Board admitted it was unable and the director of the Civil Aeronautics Administration resigned.

CAB is responsible for allocation of all airline routes charged with supervising the operation of all the airports. The President's dilemma is caused by unwillingness of executives to go broke slowly in the expensive national \$10,000 a year. Every resignation from both organizations as a prime or contributing factor, a flattening purse.

Mr. Truman thought he had found a way out of the CAB chairmanship when he nominated capable Mr. Laurence Kuter, but Congress would not allow Kuter to military perquisites while in the job.

Only former Senator Josh Lee and Oswald Ryan remain CAB. Both are conscientious, but neither is outstanding.

PROFILE OF A DIPLOMAT—Undersecretary of State Lovett, a New York banker, may be denounced any moment Wall Street representative in American diplomacy. He has called by the Moscow radio, but it is doubted that even denunciation by someone closer home would bother him.

Actually, Lovett's associates find him the most democratic brass hat in the State department. He himself makes a point of being overwhelmed by the splendor of the press occupies.

Built for War department bigwigs before hostilities broke out, the offices of the secretary of the State department would overawe any but the most prodigious of industrial tycoons.

Lovett laughs about the heavy drapes, picture windows, private baths, high ceilings and paneled oak walls. The undersecretary dresses neatly but unostentatiously, works night and day and indulges in salty, homespun Americanisms.

When minor lights about the department call his office for him the secretary switches them through immediately. It is not actually tied up.

When word is left for him to call back, he does so promptly usually opens the conversation by saying: "Hello, the Lovett." Lesser State department executives by contrast are approachable only by appointment and after long explanation of the why and wherefore of the conversation.