

THE MOUNTAINEER

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The County Seat of Haywood County

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60 Per Cent Not Christians

Last Sunday morning, Rev. L. G. Elliott told the congregation of the First Baptist church here, "there are many people in Haywood county who have never heard the gospel preached."

To the casual listener the statement was just an added "punch line" to the missionary subject under discussion, but further ponderance, made one realize the magnitude of the statement.

A recent survey revealed through an estimate there are 20,000 people in Haywood who are not Christians. The 1940 census gave the county a population of 34,800.

The Baptist pastor made his statement upon the basis of citizens over twelve years of age, and figures are those now used by all denominations.

We cannot feel that the situation is any worse here in Haywood than in the remainder of the state, and certainly the nation, yet it is a matter that provokes much thought. First, churches have been built in almost every community for the convenience of the people.

Does all this add up to the fact that we are losing interest in religion? Does it mean that the church is losing its grip on America? Is the church failing to offer people what they seek? Are we so absorbed with worldly affairs that we no longer feel the need for religion?

Our answer to the above is no. We feel the situation is due cause for deep concern, and affords a challenging undertaking to every church and to every church member.

A Humane Thought

We have often pondered for a second or two on the big percentage of horses and mules that one finds blind. Not a very brilliant deduction but one we feel worth consideration is the manner in which these work animals are hauled from farm to dealer and from dealer to farm.

Ninety per cent of all horse and mule dealings are made during the winter months while farm work is at a comparative stand still. The animals are always transported in open topped trucks with their heads and eyes exposed to the frigid 40 to 45 miles per hour blasts of wind.

This too frequently results in infections of the eye that cause blindness. It seems to us that individual blinds of some kind or a wind break to protect the animals' eyes might be highly desirable additions to the business of horse and mule dealing both from humane and economical points of view.

Are we right or are we wrong?—Hertford County Herald.

A New Day For Apples

Up here in this apple growing country, where many new trees are set out each season, it is hard to realize that there are a third less apple trees in the nation today than in 1910. These figures are supplied by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The department points out there are 151 million fewer apple trees on American farms today than back in 1910, although the population has increased by 61 millions since 1910.

The American Nursery Magazine, in discussing this same subject, says that many apple orchards in Europe have been either destroyed or neglected to the point where it will require years to bring new orchards to profitable production. The conclusion this fact affords is that America will have to supply Europe with the large part of the apples consumed there.

A further study of the apple industry, reveals that there has been a period of heavy planting once each generation, covering a cycle of about 35 years. It seems there was heavy planting in 1840 and again about 1870. The next planting boom came in 1910 and 1912. With history running true to form, it appears that it is about apple tree planting again.

Needless to say, the apple industry here in Western North Carolina has taken some progressive steps in the past few months, when growers banded together to do co-operative advertising and marketing. This will mean larger sales, and of course big sales will create a demand for more production.

With the historical facts, as well as present details at hand, it looks like the apple industry is ready to go forward as never before.

Calling Solomon And Job

Down in Charlotte the other day, two teenage boys, one 13 and the other 14, drained a 5-acre lake and caused the death of about 5,000 fish. About the same time, two boys of similar age in Atlanta, had a gay night by riding through a residential section shooting a 22 rifle into homes and automobiles in the area.

Both groups of boys were tried before a juvenile court, were turned over to their parents for a period of three years of good behavior, after payments of small fines.

The boys have to report to the welfare department each Saturday with a behavior report from their school teachers.

The excuse the boys gave for damaging property, and endangering lives was, "we wanted something to do."

Judges charged with handing down decisions in such cases have a much harder problem on their hands than if they were dealing with adult criminals. Somehow, our sympathy goes out to all four parties in such cases: the judge, the boys, the parents, and the persons injured.

Our first inclination is that strict discipline in the home is the answer, yet some authorities tell us that this often leads to resentment on the part of a child, and makes bad matters worse. The problem is one of concern for all citizens but solving the problem is one that will require the patience of old Job, and all the wisdom that Solomon could muster in these modern times.

Wanted, An Answer

The merchants of Douglas, Ga., have officially set aside April 1-8 as "Leave Us Alone Week."

They acted after counting up the different drives for funds in the last months, which totaled an even dozen.

There has been a lot of comment in this area about the same situation, and almost everytime, the suggestion has been made that the community chest plan should be inaugurated here. Many people differ with that idea, pointing out that there are hundreds of people who will contribute small sums to every campaign who would not be in a position to make a substantial donation at one time to a community chest.

Others argue that the saving in man-hours of business and professional men on solicitations is a matter worthy of serious consideration. During each campaign now, scores of people give hour after hour of their time soliciting money.

It cannot be said, but what every campaign is important, and justifies our support and money, yet it appears that the matter is about to get out of hand.

Frankly we don't have a satisfactory solution to offer. It is an important part of our economic and social life in America, and plans that work in some communities are not always satisfactory in others. We only wish we knew the right answer.

Under the impact of the economy drive in Hollywood, the supercolossal is now giving way modestly to the merely colossal.

Suggested campaign slogan for Henry Wallace: "I'd rather be Left than President."



Rambling 'Round

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

Seen in passing... the very attractive waitress wearing a blouse made from silk sent by her husband who is stationed in Japan... the curly haired dog rolling in the rain-soaked grass on the Courthouse lawn and seemingly having a grand time... the lady who cautiously looked both up and down the street before crossing, then suddenly turning and running back to the curb just escaping a knock-down by a motorist who almost had a stroke when he saw what was happening... the beautiful streamlined automobile making a turn into a filling station, disclosing...



WORLD WAR II CEMETERY PLANS OUTLINED FOR CONGRESS
By JANE EADS
WASHINGTON—The American Battle Monuments Commission is asking Congress for \$3,000,000 for the establishment of 10 permanent World War II cemeteries in the European theater, three in the Mediterranean and one in the Pacific theater.
It plans a memorial chapel in each cemetery, service buildings, headstones, roads, paths, walls, laws, and other items.
Brig. Gen. Thomas North, secretary of the commission, reported in recent congressional budget hearings that architects already are drawing up plans for the cemeteries. He estimates construction will take from three to four years, starting about the middle of 1949, providing the appropriation is granted.
In the meantime, the remains of the dead who are to remain permanently overseas are in temporary cemeteries maintained by the Army.
General North says the permanent cemeteries are to be constructed at:
Cambridge, England; Margraten, near Maastricht, Holland; Henri-Chapelle, near Liege, Belgium; Neuville-en-Condruz, also near Liege; Ramon, near Luxembourg City, where Gen. Patton is buried...
In France at St. Laurent, "Omaha" Beach; St. James, south of Avranche; St. Avold, east of Metz; Epinel; Vosges, and Dra-

Looking Back Over The Years

15 YEARS AGO
\$10,000 in gold and gold certificates is turned in at the First National Bank and Post Office.
The American Legion is sponsoring sale of advertising labels.
Arthur Francis is awarded first place in a public speaking contest held at high school.
Grover Bradshaw, Wayne Dotson, and Henderson McClure, all of Iron Duff complete plans to drift from Lake Junaluska to Muscle Shoals, Ala., in three 15-foot boats.
10 YEARS AGO
Commissioners order revaluation of property in county.
A bitter campaign is expected on proposal liquor store measure in this county.
A bucket of paint exploded at the Pure Oil Service Station—no damage is done.
Seal Sale for benefit of crippled children begins.
Indians vote 6 to 5 against exchanging land with Park.
1,300 children are served hot lunches in WPA lunch rooms.
Miss Ruth Rogers, of Clyde, is a member of the girls' varsity basketball team of Woman's College.
5 YEARS AGO
OPA sets points for meats. Every civilian has weekly allotment of 16 points covering meat, butter, cheese, etc.
R. L. Lee, Jr. is named appointee to Annapolis.
Seniors at Bethel, Fines Creek, and Crabtree schools get diplomas.
Haywood buys half of March bond quota.
USO and Woman's Club give dance for visiting service men.
Miss Margaret Hyatt weds Bishop Itay Pilarski.
Walter Taliaferro gives party on eleventh birthday.
Bethel women open Red Cross work room in study at Bethel Methodist Church.

They'll Do It Every Time



MIRROR OF YOUR MIND



Is it natural to need someone to love?
Answer: It's not only natural; it's unavoidable as long as life lasts. But the object of your love is not always a living person; it may be the memory of someone you have lost, or a mental image of someone whom you have dreamed of but have never met. It may even be an animal to whom you attribute the emotions and responses of a person. But you must love somebody or something, and the less success you have in finding a "love object" other than yourself, the more your love will be centered on yourself in morbid self-absorption.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

How do you like to spend your leisure time?
Mrs. Joe Limer—"Reading. I get more pleasure out of reading than anything else I do."
Mrs. Tom Campbell, Sr.—"I have such little time to read, I consider reading a luxury."
Bill Cobb—"If I had any leisure time, I'd like to spend it fishing."
Miss Vena Blanton—"Reading—except in summer when I enjoy riding in the country and picnicking."
Hugh Jolly—"I like to spend my leisure time at home reading and listening to the radio."
Harry Lantz—"It depends on the weather. I like to garden when the weather is suitable and when weather is bad I enjoy reading and playing bridge."
(Continued on Page Three)

Capital Letter

LITTLE INTEREST—An informal survey made by this corner in 18 counties in various sections of the State last week shows that there is little real interest at this time in politics. People contacted were more eager to talk about the high cost of living, the delay in getting crops in the ground, and the international situation.
"Who will be our next Governor?" or "Who will be our next Congressman?" or "Who is going to be our next U. S. Senator?"
The county political rings, and, of course, Raleigh—are thinking along political lines, and they are making desperate attempts to persuade others to do so, but the average man is more interested in the weather, the cost of bacon and eggs, and Joe Stalin than in Charles Johnson, Kerr Scott, J. M. Broughton, or Senator William B. Ustick.
THROTTLED?—The belief around Raleigh is that if former Agriculture Commissioner Kerr Scott continues to conduct a "disfined" campaign for Governor, he might as well pull out of the race now and go back to his fine herd of Jerseys and Holsteins in Alamance County.
So far, his candidacy has created hardly more than a ripple on the political waters of the State. His speeches have not carried the fire that people have long associated with Kerr Scott. He has cooled, but he isn't using it. He may make any day now with something interesting, something that will crack the front pages of the papers.

BROADWAY

FUGITIVES FROM HITLER GIVE GERMAN PLAYS IN NEW YORK
NEW YORK—One of the most interesting show-producing units here is a group of actors who call themselves "The Players From Abroad."
These artistically inclined folks are full fledged professionals. Some are highly regarded actors of the stage and screen. They present their plays in German and do not make much money from them. But they manage to divert not only themselves but a great portion of the local citizens of German extraction who favor an occasional entertainment excursion in the language of their ancestors.
The Players From Abroad include, for instance, Albert and Elza Basserman. Basserman was Mister Big of the German and Austrian stage before he took exception to the nasty way Hitler was showing about his Jewish actor and writer friends. Although he wasn't a Jew and Hitler wanted him to help emphasize his ideas about Aryan supremacy, Basserman indicated that he'd have no part of it. He and his wife packed up their clothes and hustled out of the country.
Basserman came to the United States. So highly was he regarded that he was shoved into a Hollywood film before he learned English. He was forced to play an entire film phonetically, uttering sounds he didn't understand. But he was successful in the doing and quickly assumed importance here as a fine character actor.
Basserman is honorary president of The Players From Abroad. The active president, and founder, is Felix G. Gerstman, a