

THE MOUNTAINEER

Main Street Phone 700
Waynesville, North Carolina
The County Seat of Haywood County

Published By THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO.
W. CURTIS RUSS Editor
W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers

HAYWOOD COUNTY
One Year \$3.00
Six Months 1.75
NORTH CAROLINA
One Year \$4.00
Six Months 2.25
OUTSIDE NORTH CAROLINA
One Year \$4.50
Six Months 2.50

Entered at the post office at Waynesville, N. C., as Second Class Matter, on November 20, 1914.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1948

Fewer Jury Trials

There is a growing tendency for fewer and fewer major cases in court to be tried by a jury. We have noticed it right here in Haywood, and reports from other sections of the state indicate the same trend prevails there.

Down in Gastonia the other day, a young man was on trial for the death of a policeman who was killed as a number of officers tried to get the drunken young man from his home. Several hours were spent by the defendant and officers firing round after round of ammunition, as police made an effort to get the young man to surrender.

In a surprise move, the attorneys for the young man entered a plea of guilty of accessory to the fact of first degree murder, and the solicitor accepted, stating he did not feel he could get a better sentence from a jury, as public sentiment had swayed over to the young man.

The solicitor said: "The jury would probably have brought in a verdict of manslaughter. As it is, the sentence is for life, and that is about all I could hope to get for him."

Not so long ago, a preacher on trial on a morals charge in Eastern Carolina admitted to the charges but even then the jury brought out a verdict of "not guilty". The judge scorned the jury, had the man held on another charge, and tried later.

Many judges have expressed themselves fine and again that some changes should be made in the present court system. It looks as if time is taking care of the situation to a great extent.

Judge Sink, presiding at the November term of court here, remarked on several occasions that the lawyers and solicitor were saving the court's large sums of money by letting the judge hear the evidence in the case and pass judgement.

Some judges have even suggested that three judges travel the circuits and hear the evidence in every case, render verdicts and sentences, somewhat similar to the manner in which the Utilities Commission and other governmental agencies work.

It looks as if the hard working days of the average juror is fast coming to an end. Of course there will always be cases for a jury, but they are becoming fewer and fewer.

Attracting Attention

The Sylva Herald, editorially said last week: "You'll have to hand it to them over in Haywood county... they've done it again. Yes, with a bigger and better second annual Tobacco Harvest Festival. When 10,000 people stood in a drenching rain to see the parade of floats, that's interest."

"County Agent Wayne Corpening and his festival committee did a swell job and are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts."

After Woolen Mills

The South Carolina Development Commission is staging an advertising campaign directed at textile owners in the north, putting up an appealing story, such as "Southern mills can produce worsted yarn with savings up to sixty cents per pound." Following this line of thought, the advertisements continue to point out advantage after advantage of operating a mill in the south, and in South Carolina.

The state has made great strides in the cotton industry, and are now seeking woolen mills. No doubt the arrival of the boll weevil prompted the idea to promote the woolen industry. The Sandlappers are hard workers and usually get what they go after—except putting their governor in the White House.

They'll Do It Every Time

GARGOYLE MCFUD, DAILY TROMBONE, REWRITE MAN, INSISTS ON ALL THE FACTS. WHEN A LEG MAN PHONES IN A STORY, GARGOYLE GIVES OUT LIKE THIS



By Jimmy Hatlo

~WHAT'S THE MAN'S NAME?~ HIS AGE?~ ADDRESS?~ OCCUPATION? FATHER'S NAME?~ MOTHER'S NAME? ANY RELATION TO ROCKEFELLER? IS HE THE GUY WE LOOKED INTO ON THAT PAWN-SHOP ROBBERY? WHAT ABOUT THE JOE WHO STUCK UP THE GAS STATION? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOIN' WORKIN' FOR US OR THE OTHER PAPER?



Looking Back Over The Years

- 15 YEARS AGO: Judge Felix E. Alley makes address at the Methodist Church... Duke Blue Devils are invited to play in Rose Bowl in Pasadena... 10 YEARS AGO: Section of Parkway from Wagon Road Gap toward Tennessee Bald... 5 YEARS AGO: Howard Clapp, farm agent, pre-

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

What is your opinion of the state Mechanical Inspection law? Jerry Roberts: "Personally, I think the mechanical inspection program is a means of checking a great percentage of highway accidents in the state. It definitely removes the 'traps' from the roads and makes the motorist keep his vehicle in good running condition, thereby making the highways safer."

WASHINGTON LETTER

WASHINGTON — The federal employees who turned out en masse to welcome their boss, President Truman, back to the nation's capital, represent less than 10 per cent of the total number of Uncle Sam's payroll. The Budget Bureau, which controls the purse-strings of the government's payroll, says that as of September there were 2,410,651 federal employees throughout the world. Of this number only 202,053 are working in Washington.

Letters To The Editor

THE PLIGHT OF CHINA Editor The Mountaineer: The advance of Communism in China is appalling to free Americans, yet to many it seems there is little we, the people, can do through our government to stem the tide. But we can advise Mr. Truman of our concern. The obvious or imagined weaknesses of the Chiang government do not excuse us. We can urge Mr. Truman to do what yet may remain in our power to check the spread of the Russian cancer in China.

THE KNOT EXPERTS



Due Recognition

The Waynesville Lions Club have started a program which should pay dividends. Not in dollars and cents, but in goodwill and creative initiative of carrying on community projects.

Our present social and civic responsibilities call for many, many hours of time devoted to worthwhile projects, and too often those people shouldering these back-breaking undertakings never get a word of thanks from the community at large.

The Lions Club feels that such people should be given a pat on the back, and some recognition. They take the position that a posy of roses tossed their way now will be worth much more than stacks of flowers and pretty words said and written after they have crossed the river of life.

We doubt if any place in the community offers a better vantage point of seeing what goes on in the way of civic projects than a newspaper. Time and time again we have seen men and women sacrifice their business and homelife to carry on a job dear to their heart; that the public in general thought was their sole responsibility.

We too have seen men and women, time and time again, shirk from such responsibilities, only to ridicule and criticize those who would step out and try to carry on those things that make this a better place to live.

The Lions Club have undertaken a valuable service in giving such people proper recognition.

There is only one phase of their program on which we cannot wholly agree. Instead of selecting a person every three or four weeks, it seems to us that there are enough people carrying on at all times to warrant a weekly selection. Of course we readily realize that the committee charged with this project have decided to eliminate members of the club from sharing these honors, but there are many Lions who should be given due recognition. We would say, include the Lions, and make a weekly selection.

This newspaper would like to carry the weekly selection as a front page feature.

MIRROR OF YOUR MIND



Can "good advice" only start you dreaming? Answer: Yes! There is a type of woman, for example, who reads every beauty hint that she can lay her hands on and gets a tremendous thrill from dreaming of how lovely she could be if she would only follow the experts' instructions. But in practice, she's always too busy or too tired to be bothered. I fear that the popularity of books that tell "how to succeed" has a similar basis. For it's always easier to look for "directions" than to face our own shortcomings, which most often are the real cause of our failures.

By LAWRENCE GOULD Consulting Psychologist

the individual interview in one-fourth of the time with no loss of quality and no adverse morale effects. For one thing, an individual is likely to be less self-conscious as one of a group than when he is interviewed alone, and so will unconsciously reveal in group discussion characteristics he might otherwise have hidden.



Can anyone foretell how long you will live? Answer: If you're gravely ill, a competent physician might guess with some accuracy how much more time you have left, although the world is full of people—like myself—who are alive and well long after the doctors have said their days were numbered. But the fortune-teller, palmist, or clairvoyant who claims to be able to foresee your death is guilty of a conscious or unconscious act of malice which should be forbidden by law. To make such a statement to a person who already is neurotic may amount to murder.

Rambling 'Round

Bits Of Human Interest News Picked Up By The Mountaineer Staff... We know of one lady who got a cake. One night, she laid her coat across a chair on the porch, and then forgot it. When she got it the next morning, it was covered with the frosting which had frosted you over an hour and not to be defrosted before you could wear it.

Capital Letters

SCOTT ABSENCE For the first time since North Carolina set up its budget system in 1922, the incoming Governor has failed to attend the final deliberations of the Advisory Budget Commission. Kerr Scott has broken a long record, but he wasn't. Since the adoption of fiscal policies of the first two years of a new Governor's administration are set by this Commission, Mr. Scott was severely criticized by press and people last week. It probably had it coming to him.

Inside WASHINGTON

MARCH OF EVENTS Found: Two Election Prophets' Journalism Teacher, Who Predicted Demos' Victory Foresew Trend Toward Special to Central Press WASHINGTON—There are still at least two prophets of the coming election in this country. Gallup and Roper to the north notwithstanding. One is Ralph Nafziger, professor in the journalism department of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, the other is the Agriculture department in the nation's capital.

Dr. Ralph Nafziger The Press club audience was polite, but skeptical. Miss Truman who hastened off early to join her father's train. In his book, How to Predict Elections, Nafziger outlined the polling booths opened in the first year following the 1946-47 may mark a turning point. To begin with, the 1946-47 may mark a turning point. To begin with, the 1946-47 may mark a turning point. To begin with, the 1946-47 may mark a turning point.