

Former Morganton Writer On Trip To Spain On Mule Boat

Tells Interesting Story Of Trip Over On Mule Boat. Got Seasick.

The following article by Cole Savage, former newspaperman on the Morganton News-Herald, about his trip on a mule boat to Spain will be of interest to those in this section who have made such trips or are planning to do so: For sometime I have wished I could take a trip abroad. I have wanted to go to supplement my education with travel. But since I haven't the money to buy ocean voyages I did not know exactly how to go about it. Not long ago, however, I saw a news item in a Norfolk paper which said several young Americans would be given a trip to Spain as caretakers of mules. Here I thought, might be an opportunity. So I applied. The outlook was not encouraging at first because they would tell me nothing definite. I kept hammering away at my work in Jackson, not thinking very seriously about a trip un-

til Tuesday, January 14, when they told me if I wanted to go to get ready and report with bag and baggage Saturday, January 18. I reported and to my glad surprise got on.

We sailed from Norfolk, Monday afternoon, January 20, on the Italian steamship Monarca after spending two days loading. We had loaded 1,200 Missouri mules which were going to Barcelona, Spain, and Oran, Africa. The crew, which was Italian and 42 in number, had loaded about 7,000 tons of coal for Geonora, Italy. As supplies we had 5,000 bales of hay, 1,000 bags of grain and 1,500 tons of water.

The Monarca was 480 feet long, 12,000 tons, and was especially fitted for carrying mules. It had three decks of stalls with running water throughout.

There were 30 Americans to take care of the mules. Abe Ferrar, of East St. Louis, Ill., about 35 years of age, had charge of them. Those composing the party loaded as follows: 20 at East St. Louis, Ill., one at Knoxville, Tenn., 12 at Salisbury and six at Norfolk, Va.

The work was divided like this: four were bosses, one was mess boy, two were night watchmen and 32 were feeders and caretakers. It happened that I was night watchman. The other night watchman was A. H. Berry, of Ashley, Ill. He was about 38 years of age, and wore a mustache and gate. His grandfather was a native of Morganton who moved to Illinois soon after the Civil war.

My task was to look after half the mules at night, untangle them and see that none of them got crippled or hurt. I was given a hickory walking cane and a flashlight with which to work. I went around every hour and looked at them. As there were three decks and I had to go from one to the other I had a lot of walking and climbing to do. I had never worked at night and it took me several nights to get adjusted. I got so sleepy I could hardly stay awake. I could do so only by moving continuously. My hardest time was from two to five a. m. I seemed to be loaded with lead at that time. Then daylight would come and drive the drowsiness away.

We ate two meals a day furnished by the ship and one furnished by the mule company. That made our breakfast American and dinner and supper Italian. For breakfast we usually had corn beef and crackers, jam or syrup and prunes, and coffee. For dinner we had spaghetti and hardtack. European beans, potatoes and boiled beef. Supper was similar to dinner. At first this was good but it soon grew very monotonous. Along toward the last the boys called the Monarca "The Spaghetti Special."

Did I get seasick? Well, I thought I wouldn't but what I thought did not happen. I was the sickest I have ever been and was that way for four days and nights. I got sick after we were about 12 hours out. While the ship was rocking and rolling I began to feel dizzy. In two instants I had unloaded my stomach of everything it contained. Then I felt as weak as a rag. On the second inspection round my boss, noticing my condition, said: "You wouldn't care if you fell overboard, would you, Savage?" "No, I wouldn't," I replied, and I meant it. "Well, I wouldn't, I need you," he continued. And that was all the sympathy he gave me. After four days I made the adjustment and returned to food and sleep.

As it was winter we sailed the southern route going south of the Azores. We had no storms on the Atlantic and very little rough seas. We sailed for days and days without seeing any signs of life except on our own ship.

It took us 20 days to go from Norfolk to Barcelona. We were 15 days on the Atlantic and five days on the Mediterranean one of which was spent unloading 165 mules in Oran, Africa. At Oran peddlers came on board as soon as we docked and stayed most of the day selling tangerines, chocolate bars, cookies, foreign cigarettes, postcards and spirituous drinks. We bought eats and cigarettes mostly. I got 23 fresh tangerines for a dime. The peddlers were Arabs and French. The Arabs wore the fez on their heads but otherwise were dressed similar to a working man in our country. They were all dirty and filthy looking.

We ran into a storm before reaching Barcelona for a day and night the Monarca cut capers in all directions. About 1 a. m. a terrific rainstorm with thunder and lightning surrounded us. During the next day spray kept coming over the forward deck wetting everything on top. While we were eating supper Berry had his plate on a pile of hatch boards on the top deck. The ship rocked so low to the side, his supper took a scot across the deck and was kept from running into the sea only by the trench at the rail.

At 7 p. m. on Sunday, February 9, we sailed into port at Barcelona, Spain. The lights were beautiful and the land was a charming sight after 20 days on a wide, wide ocean with men and mules.

Hoover Doubts Prohi Success

President Represented As Doubtful About Enforcement Of Dry Law.

(New York World Bureau.) Washington.—President Hoover last week was represented before the senate lobby investigating committee as having doubts whether prohibition can be enforced.

A confidential letter purporting to give Mr. Hoover's attitude was made public by the committee on the third day of the cross-examination of Henry H. Curran, president of the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment. It was written by William H. Stayton, chairman of the board of the association, to Charles S. Wood, of Philadelphia, a vice president, February 15, 1930.

"My own feeling is, as I talk to senators, members of congress and public officials here, that Mr. Hoover is beginning to doubt whether prohibition can be enforced," Stayton wrote. "He wants to take plenty

of time to consider it, but he is being abused a little too much, and I believe that if Gen. Atterbury should take the stand it would cause a great many people to be more generous as to Mr. Hoover's attitude.

See Service To Party. "I think there are thousands of people—and especially prominent people here—who would work at once say that if Gen. Atterbury, with his strong conviction on this subject, is willing to wait for Mr. Hoover's calm consideration, then the rest of us ought equally to be willing to wait—and I believe that a real service would thereby be done to the Republican party."

Mr. Stayton had written to convey a request from Representative George S. Graham (R., Pa.), that W. W. Atterbury, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, be induced to testify at the prohibition hearings before the house judiciary committee of which Graham is chairman

DELIGHT NEWS OF CURRENT WEEK

Operetta Is Given. Easter Hunt For Children. Personal Mention.

Lawndale, R-1, Apr. 22.—The operetta given by the primary department of Polkville Friday night was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

Miss Dorcas Whisnant of Polkville was the week end guest of Miss Catherine Warlick.

Miss Nettie Lee Ramsey was the dinner guest of Miss Selma Norman Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Freeman and children, of Shelby, were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Ledford Sunday.

Mrs. H. L. Ramsey gave an egg hunt for the primary department Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ledford and family, also Mrs. Amos Ledford spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Gantt, of Mooresboro.

Misses Selma Norman and Nettie Lee Ramsey spent Sunday afternoon with Miss Catherine Warlick.

Miss Annie Maud Ramsey spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Ramsey.

Mr. and Mrs. David Newton and children, of Alexander, were the dinner guests of Mrs. Newton's mother, Mrs. J. A. Queen, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Ledford spent a while Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Whisnant.

daughter, Mrs. Scott Queen.

Miss Mattie Ledford spent Saturday night with Miss Inez Ledford.

Mrs. Joe Queen and children visited Mrs. H. L. Ramsey Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Amos Ledford visited Mrs. J. A. Queen Saturday night.

Mr. Poy Page, of Casar, was a pleasant visitor in the community Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Norman spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Queen of Polkville.

Mr. Loyd Turner of Boone spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jason Turner.

Mr. Joe Wortman has returned to his home from the navy.

Thin People Get Fat, With New Life, New Vigor

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TREDFORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT For CONSTIPATION, INDIGESTION, BILIOUSNESS
Women who need a tonic should take CARDUI. Used over 50 years. ex-189

Yorkville Enquirer. Two young lady seniors just six weeks short of graduation, were caught smoking one day last week and shipped from one of our colleges. They were nabbed after lights were out and departed before breakfast. Smoking isn't nice for ladies, and rules must be upheld, but isn't righteousness going a wee bit too far when it deprives young ladies of the reward they have labored four years to win? Would not it have been more humane to spank them and let them graduate?—Fountain Inn Tribune.

If the above statement is a statement of fact, it is most regrettable, and while not seeking in any way to excuse the "two young lady seniors," we think that the treatment handed them by the college authorities is very harsh and entirely uncalled for.

No, we do not approve of smoking by college seniors, or by high school girls or even by older women. But smoking is not a crime and it is not entirely taboo in many homes hereabouts. Fact is, if reports are true, there is a rapidly increasing number of women who indulge in cigarette smoking.

Frankly, this newspaper thinks that the college authorities, whenever they may be, went to extremes in shipping the young ladies for infraction of a school rule. These young ladies were struck a blow that was out of all reason. They had no possible come back.

Contrast this treatment of the girls with the many cases of men in this state who have taken human life, stolen property from widows and orphans, rifled banks, etc. Most of these do have a chance of escaping the penalties of their vicious crimes and not infrequently are allowed to go scot free by the courts or are later extended executive clemency and go free, even being restored to citizenship.

In the case of the college authorities shipping the two seniors home they were given no chance whatever. The punishment was and is entirely too drastic.

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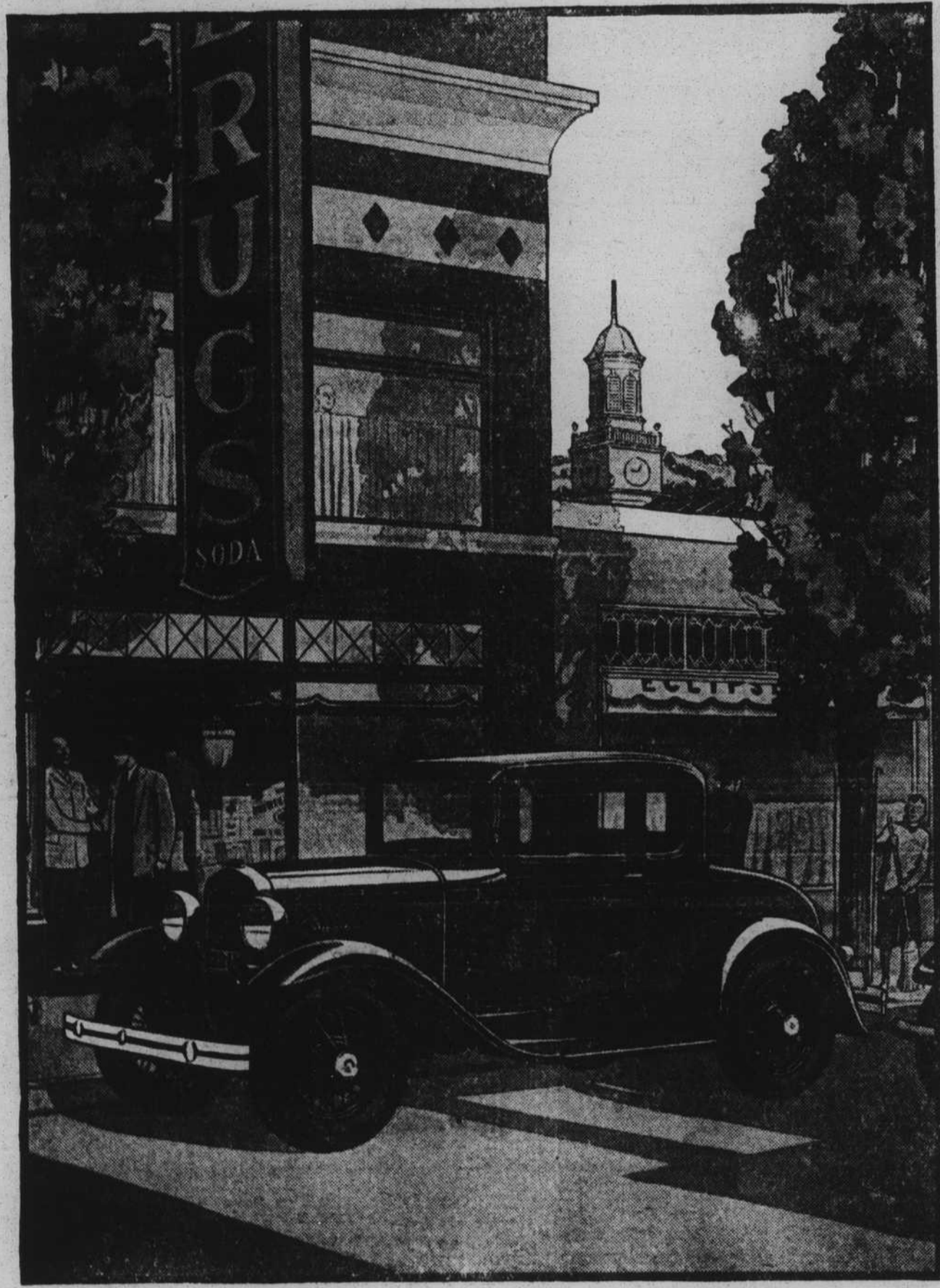
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