

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Miss Reba Caudill, of Boone, spent last week-end with homefolks.

The contractors for the new courthouse have started laying brick.

Irwin Brothers have moved into their new barber shop on Main street.

D. C. Bledsoe has moved into his new home that he has recently finished.

Sparta defeated Glade Valley Monday in the first game of the season by a score of 4 to 8.

Mrs. James Collins had a severe stroke of paralysis Monday. She is improving slowly.

Oscar Caudill came home last week from Elizabethton, Tenn., where he has been for several days.

Miss Cornelia Edwards returned to Maryland Wednesday after spending some time with her parents here.

Dr. Paul Taylor and sons, of Fall Branch, Tenn., spent last week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Taylor.

Mrs. Reeves Douglas and little daughter, Naomi, spent last week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Irwin.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Nichols and Mrs. Stella York and daughter, Alma, were visitors at Joe Irwin's Sunday.

Mrs. J. M. Cheek was operated on at Winston-Salem Monday for appendicitis. She is reported to be getting along nicely.

A large number of people from here attended the commencement at Glade Valley and report splendid programs.

Messrs. W. T. Blevins and F. C. Richardson made a business trip to Maryland and New Jersey this week. They were accompanied to Maryland by Mr. Dob Wagoner, who has been visiting here some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Jones and little son, Bryan, returned to their home in Cleveland, Ohio, last Monday. Mrs. Jones has been visiting friends and relatives here for some time.

TODAY and TOMORROW

DIRIGIBLES important

I hope the fate of the airship Akron will not throw Congress into such a panic that it will refuse to appropriate funds for further development of lighter-than-air craft.

I have long believed that the dirigible is a far more valuable military arm than the airplane. We don't stop building airplanes because scores of brave young officers are killed every year when military planes crash. The safety of the nation is more important than a few lives.

The time will come when the airship will be perfected to the point where it will be the principal means of passenger transportation all over the world. Of that I am firmly convinced. But no private concern can spend the money necessary to the perfection of the dirigible. It must be done by Governments, and the expenditure justified by the airship's value as a means of national defense.

ARMY too expensive

A high officer of the Army has had the courage to tell the world that the Army costs too much.

Major General Johnson Hagood, commanding the Eighth Corps Area, says: "It takes three hundred million dollars a year to run the Army under its present organization. We can get a better organization for less."

That is a slap in the face for the bureaucrats who have piled up fat office jobs in Washington for Army officers who ought to be out in the field or working at something else.

There is nothing the United States needs less than it needs an expensive Army. General Hagood admits that he has twice as many staff officers and clerks as he needs, but he can't get rid of them under the present set-up.

The danger of a large standing Army is that its officers too often are inclined to forget that they are the servants of the people and to assume that they are the masters.

GOVERNOR right man

Frank Murphy, mayor of Detroit, who is going to the Philippines as Governor-General is one of the progressive young men who are coming to the front in America's public affairs.

He is not going to have an easy job, as successor to Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., in Manila. But Frank Murphy doesn't care about easy jobs. Congress has voted to give the Philippines independence, if they behave themselves in the course of a dozen years or so. The Filipinos themselves are divided on the question whether or not they want independence. Some are afraid that once Uncle Sam removes his protecting arm Japan will jump in and

grab off the islands. The new Governor-General will have a lot of conflicting ideas to reconcile, and it is not at all impossible that he may have to keep a pretty close eye on Japan himself.

MINISTER a woman

Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen is to be United States Minister to the Court of Denmark. My first reaction to that news is that it is Denmark's gain and America's loss.

There is no particular glory attached to being the diplomatic representative of America to the minor governments of Europe. President Hoover once said to me: "Any man who is a good enough politician to be a county chairman, knows how to wear evening clothes, and has good table manners, is qualified to be Minister to most European countries."

Mrs. Owen, however, will reflect glory upon her new job, and will carry herself in a way to reflect credit upon the women of America, thus honored by this first selection of one of their sex to a high diplomatic post. Nobody can know Mrs. Owen without admiring and liking her.

POLICEMAN still going up

Nearly forty years ago, Theodore Roosevelt, then Police Commissioner of New York, advertised for bright young men of good character to become policemen. Among those who responded was an up-standing young man named Edward P. Mulrooney.

Mulrooney "pounded the pavement" and learned all about the business of policing the world's greatest city. He never took a drink, never gambled, never dissipated in any way and never took a dollar or a favor for doing his duty or for not doing it, for that matter. He rose through all the grades to Inspector, and then was appointed to the post which Theodore Roosevelt once held, Police Commissioner of New York.

Now, my friend Ed Mulrooney has been asked by the Governor of New York to be the head of the State Beer Commission. The great danger in the legalization of beer and the probable repeal of prohibition is that the liquor business may again become the tool of crooked politicians and the handmaiden of crime. With Ed Mulrooney in charge the crooks and grafters won't have a Chinaman's chance to get in their dirty work.

CHINA being united

I dined the other day in New York with a gentleman who has been engaged in business in China for several years. He gave me a new picture of the condition of the Chinese people.

China today is actually prosperous. Its industries are booming and, except in some of the remote districts, there is something like real prosperity, judged by Chinese standards.

The most interesting thing my friend said, however, was that the Chinese people are more nearly unified today as a nation than they have ever been. The Japanese aggression in Manchuria has stimulated Chinese patriotism. My friend expressed the opinion that China would make a very effective resistance to Japan; that it might take years, but eventually China, including Manchuria, will be controlled by the Chinese.

PERKINS in New York

Frances Perkins, the first woman member of the Cabinet, is in private life Mrs. Paul Wilson. Her husband is a statistician. They have a daughter, Suzanna, who is now about sixteen years old.

So sharp a line does Miss Perkins draw between her public life and her private life that it was not until her name was announced as Secretary of Labor that most of the newspaper men in Albany, where she was head of the New York Labor Bureau, even knew she was married.

Since the laws of New York do not require a married woman to take her husband's name unless she feels like it, she is still legally Frances Perkins, although in the district of Columbia she may have to sign the Federal payroll as Mrs. Paul Wilson.

HOOVER the man

I am very fond of Mr. Hoover. So is everybody who really gets acquainted with him. In his private and personal capacity as a man he is genial, humorous, considerate and not in the slightest degree "high hat."

I don't know what Mr. Hoover will do next, but I am satisfied that it will be something in the nature of public service. He has no money ambitions. He made a great deal of money as a mining engineer. He spent some millions of his personal fortune in his Belgium relief work and at that time, 1914, deliberately put an end to his business career and told his friends that he intended to devote the rest of his life to serving his country, which he did as Food Administrator, Secretary of Commerce and President.

Mr. Hoover deals with facts on a large scale with greater ability than any man I have ever known. I think he is permanently out of politics, but I believe he will be a great figure in public affairs in some other way as long as he lives.

SAVINGS in Postal banks

More than three quarters of a million Americans have nearly seven hundred million dollars on deposit

with the United States in the form of Postal Savings. This is one operation of the Government in a field also occupied by private business, which has proved a huge success.

Owing to the law which prohibits any person from having more than \$2,500 on deposit in the Postal Savings at one time, postmasters have to reject more deposits than they receive. Also, only comparatively few post-offices are authorized to accept savings accounts.

It seems to me that the new Administration at Washington could perform a greatly-needed public service by making every post-office a savings depository and by permitting individuals to carry as large balances as the commercial savings banks allow.

Nobody has ever lost a cent in Uncle Sam's postal savings banks, and every depositor gets his 2 per cent interest regularly.

Hitting bottom wouldn't be so bad if it didn't hit back.—Weston, Ore. Leader.

A minister says that the state of matrimony should be enduring. It is.—Atlanta Journal.

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