

# Writers Forum

by George B. Russ



MRS. LUNA HOLMAN

It is a wondrous blessing to live in a world where people care about other people. Especially persons who can be left in the care of professionals or dedicated experts in the business of caring for the sick, handicapped, aged persons incapable of caring for themselves. Most of these "shut-ins, social 'drop-outs,' sick and often despairing persons are housed in attractive surroundings and cared for by person who care a great deal more for their patients than they given credit, but many of these pine a great deal more visitations from persons living outside the walls of the hospital, Rest Home or Convalescent Home, than one may suspect. Many have sojourned in "the pleasant land of counterpane" and for the first time they have learned the true meaning of friendship; "company becomes an unimagined luxury." Here, we are concerned with averages rather than the unique individuals who discover that pain confers spiritual insight, a beauty of outlook, a philosophy of life, an understanding and forgiveness of humanity—in short, a quality of peace and serenity. That, "suffering is a cleansing fire that chases away much of the meanness, triviality and restlessness of so-called 'Health.' Or, in the words of Milton, the author of "Paradise Lost, 'who best can suffer, best can do.'"

August is the month that the Thrifty Savings Club of Durham has earmarked to do special missionary work; Project: Visitations to the sick and shut-ins—Mrs. Elnora Ransom, Chairman.

The midsummer temperatures accompanied by menacing southern humidity was a threat to progress, however, the damsels of the Thrifty Savings Club donned their coolest garments and sallied forth to do their bit in spreading good-choer for a number of shut-ins in and around Durham: Hill Haven, Pine Knoll, The Ellison Home; and, a number of private homes. Sunshine gifts were mailed to shut-ins in other cities as far as Washington, D.C. Mr. Amos Ford, the father of Mrs. Elizabeth Edwards, one of the Club's founders, is a patient at Washington City Hospital. The committee will begin its future visitations with Rose Mana where Mr. James "Yankee" Pointer, the brother of Mrs. Rosetta Cobb one the T.S. Club's secretaries, is a patient.

The Saturday, August 25th committee included Mmes. Mary Vanhook, Marie Harris, Luna Holman, Annie L. Alston and Elnora Ransom.

The Thursday, August 30th visitation took place under the roof to the V.A. Hospital on the Fifth Ward. It was party-time for all the fellows on this ward: ice cream, cookies, cherryade, roasted peanuts and a bevy of beautiful ladies to add good cheer to the clinically clean atmosphere.

James Williams, Head of Recreation quickly and efficiently helped with the physical arrangements and smilingly turned the ward over to the Thrifty Savings Club women. And in no time flat, an attractive cart was wheeled into the first patient-room. Here, Mrs. Beatrice Holeman, president of the club gave out greetings and best wishes from the Club. Mrs. Luna Holman recited beautifully a poem called "Joy" taken from a volume called Golden Apples. Mrs. Mozelle Flintall followed the reading with a solo, "If I Can Help Somebody". And while she softly and tenderly sang the words of the well-known spiritual, twilight wafted down over Durham and a sprinkling of stars sparkled through the August haze. The pretty, charming Miss Eltonza McNair brightened the soul searching of everyone with a melody played on her magic guitar as she sang in a plaintive tone "100 Miles Away". Other lovely melodies included: "Praise God, I Found The Way, Praise The Lord, He's Been So Good." Strangely enough, while Miss McNair sang the meaningful words of Praise the Lord, my eyes were attracted to a neat drawing tacked on the Ward's bulletin board, a drawing of the popular cartoon character, Charlie Brown, with the caption: "Happiness is knowing Jesus."

The party spirit vibrated throughout Ward 5, eyes shown brightly and smiles followed the hostesses as they sashayed about the rooms, giving out words of good-cheer; and, husky "thank you, we enjoyed everything, come again soon" followed them across thresholds.

George Laws, a native of Kinston, manager of Dap's Party Store— 304 S. Queen St., ecstatically welcomed everyone who visited his room; "I'm so glad you came, I get very lonesome out here."

By now the hands of the clock on the corridor wall was pointing to the hour of 8 o'clock and our happy hostesses began saying goodbye to the patients, nurses, orderlies and the Chairman of Recreation, James Williams.

The neat drawing of "Snoopy" the talking dog character in the Charlie Brown cartoon read; "I've made 120 decisions today— all of them wrong," definitely, did not apply to the decision made by the Thrifty Savings Club members. Project: Visitations to Sick and Shut-ins was a huge success.

In the words of the Rev. C.P. Stone, pastor of Piney Grove Baptist Church; a patient whom the partymakers visited: "the Thrifty Savings Club ladies are a marvelous, well-organized group. They have brought gladness to the entire ward." The Mrs. Stone's rapturous response to the "fine spirit" of the T.S.C. was equally as generous as her husband's. Mr. and Mrs. Guffie Green, members of Piney Grove, also extended best wishes to the "kind ladies." Mmes. Queen Cooper, Elnora Ransom, Mozelle Flintall, Sadie Louise Thompson, Luna Holman, Miss Sheila Farrington, Mr. and Mrs. Fred, Mrs. Stattie H. Russ, Aline Davis, Mae R. Core; Mrs. Celestia Sanders, president of the Willing Workers Missionary Circle at Union Baptist Church.

A 7 months' report of the Thrifty Savings Club reveals that success has gilded the Club's every effort.

The year began with the club absorbed in plans to celebrate its 14th Anniversary. The 1973 Commemoration was staged at the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, at Bahama, with the amicable Mrs. Luna slated to deliver the Inspirational Message for the year. As in most cases, the Thrifty Club members turned out in large numbers, sporting club color corsages; pink and blue ribbons, on chic black dresses. Chairman, Mrs. Sadie L. Thompson admits, enthusiastically that this year's observance can be recorded as one of the best ever.

An informal Valentine Party, enhanced by the exchange of gifts and Bingo prizes, earmarked this red and white affair as one of the most jovial occasions of any season.

March, with its stormy blasts of snow and ice, was an active month. Project: "Help the unfortunate" went to the rescue of two burned out families. St. Patrick's Day was celebrated with a vicarious trip to the home of the leprechauns— Inland— via wall map.

Mrs. Genevieve Rogers was winner in the Club's Easter Bonnet Contest. She wore a gorgeous bonnet of flowers and lace that won the admiration and envy of club members. Other interesting aspects of the April theme included seasonal readings, such as, The Story of The Dogwood and, solos pertaining to the Easter



MISS ELTONZA McNAIR

Observance. The merry month of May was rainy but this did not dampen the spirits and progressive programming of the Thrifty Savings Club. Aside from a busy schedule of making ready personal plans for Spring and Summer activities, Mrs. Alice Jones was chosen, by popular vote, from a panel of candidates as the Mother of The Year. A simple but colorful ceremony finalized the crowning of Mrs. Clarence Jones of 1514 Rosewood Avenue as the Thrifty Savings Club's Mother of The Year.

The first real assurance that Spring would manifest came with the entrance of June. Sunday, June 10th was a bright sunny day; and, the Thrifty Savings Club worshipped with the members of the Mount Vernon Baptist Church; Rev. Percy L. High, pastor. Youth Day theme, "Love, Peace, and Power Through Youth." Guest minister, The Reverend Robert G. Murray; director of the United Campus Christian Ministry serving North Carolina Central University.

The month of July was a time for taking, objective, inventory of club members "Talent." This was done through demonstrations by members endowed with outstanding talents. Explanations of the various profiles proved to be highly entertaining as well as informative. "How I got started as a Bowler, Hair Stylist, nutritionist, etc. July 29th is the date on which the T.S. Club sponsored a trip to Carowinds. Club members' families and friends made up the enormous passenger list. The red-carpet service used aboard the buses thrilled and delighted the patrons— at regular intervals donuts and refreshing soft drinks were served to make the journey over hill and dale just a little better than the run-of-the-mill "trips."

The officers and members of the Thrifty Savings Club are profoundly grateful to one and all who contributed to the successes of Club's activity Calendar during the year. Thank you and may all your cares prove to be stepping stones as a happy, healthful, prosperous future.

## Prince Hall Americanism Day to Be Spectacular Event Sept. 9th

J.A. Carter, general chairman, of the committee on arrangements for Prince Hall Americanism Day, for the Durham area Prince Hall Masons, announced upon his arrival from the 80th annual convention of the AEAONMS, held in Detroit, Mich., August 19-24th, that due to information received while in the Motor City, that will be used to implement the activities planned for Prince Hall Americanism Day, Sept. 9, it should be the most spectacular ever presented here.

It is to be remembered that earlier plans called for a parade that will form at the R.N. Harris School, 2:30 p.m., on

## CPSC Warns of Electric Shock Dangers From New TV Antenna

WASHINGTON — Citing the potential for severe electric shock hazard, the Consumer Product Safety Commission recently warned consumers to immediately unplug and then disconnect the "Little Wonder TV Antenna."

The product— manufactured by the A.K. Electric Corporation, Brooklyn, New York, Jack Arthur Meltzer President— connects television antenna leads directly to home electrical outlets.

CPSC Chairman Richard O. Simpson said the product "contains no safety device" to prevent electrical shock and possible electrocution. He said the Commission is taking all necessary steps to remove the product from the marketplace. Simpson said the item has been distributed nationwide by Windsor House, Island Park, New York, and Sunset House, Los Angeles, California, two mail-order firms.

In addition to the CPSC action, Simpson said he is referring the matter to the Federal Trade Commission for their follow-up on the basis of what he termed "misleading and possibly fraudulent advertising" associated with distribution of the product.

While there are several similar products on the market, the CPSC action was limited to the "Little Wonder TV Antenna," pending further study of the others. Simpson said the "Little Wonder" appears to contain but does not contain any safety devices, found in the other similar products, which would greatly reduce the potential for electric shock.

The "Little Wonder" has an identifying label only on the package but not on the product itself. The other similar products generally bear the manufacturer's name or brand name on the devices. In making the announcement, Simpson criticized Windsor House and Sunset House for "failing to verify the safety" of a product they were advertising for sale to millions of consumers. And he said they have a responsibility in that regard. Simpson said he was "totally dismayed" by the clear lack of engineering design demonstrated by the "Little Wonder TV Antenna." The product, he said, is imminently hazardous.

# PETER PAN SUPER MARKET

517 BACON ST. DURHAM, N. C.

- MEDIUM SIZE Croaker Fish lb. 37¢
- LARGE BREAD LOAF 33¢ OR 4 FOR 99¢
- GRADE A NOT FROZEN Fryers lb. 59¢
- You Can Cook Out Now
- LEAN MEATY Spare Ribs lb. 89¢
- GRADE A SMALL BROWN Eggs doz. 59¢
- FRESH GROUND Hamburger lb. 99¢
- MRS. FILBERTS MAYONNAISE QUART 79¢
- LARGE WASHING POWDER Fab ..... 37¢

## GIANT FOODS

**The Best In Your Neighborhood For Much Less - Compare Prices, We Welcome It**

Plenty Western U.S. Choice

FULL CUT	
Round Steak..... lb.	\$1.59
TOP	
Round Steak..... lb.	\$1.69
CUBE	
Steak..... lb.	\$1.99
SIRLOIN	
Steak.....	\$1.93
GOLD MEDAL	
Salad Dressing..... qt.	39¢
SAUER'S	
Black Pepper..... 8 OZ.	CAN 69¢
BLUE LABEL INSTANT	
Coffee..... 2 OZ.	29¢

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SUPER MARKET 210 N. ROXBORO STREET  
Open 7 A.M. to 9 P.M. Daily  
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**WINN-DIXIE**  
FOOD STORES

Pure Vegetable

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3-Lb. Can

# 89¢

Limit 1 With 5¢ or More Food Order

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## PEAS

5 1-Lb. Cans

# 88¢

Limit 5 With 5¢ or More Food Order

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BOB WHITE SLICED

## BACON

2-LB. PKG.

# \$2.49

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U.S. NO. 1 WHITE

## POTATOES

10-LB. Vent Vue Bag

# 79¢

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