

The State Port Pilot SOUTHPORT, N. C.

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Wednesday, May 1, 1935

SUCCESSFUL DAY

The annual County Commencement Day Program held here yesterday was generally conceded to be one of the most successful in the history of the occasion.

The hundreds of visiting school children seemed to enjoy the day. The waterfront was the center of interest during their program intermission and already many of the boys and girls are looking forward to the County Commencement Day program next year when they may spend another full day in Southport.

FOR RECREATION

We notice that improvements are being made on the local baseball diamond and we also understand that there are prospects for a good baseball team in Southport this summer.

We are glad to hear this local sport's forecast. There is no finer sport than a good, clean baseball game and we will be glad to boost a Southport team.

While on the subject of sports: We'd like to see a movement started to fix up the tennis court in front of the public library. The playing court appears to be in good shape. All that is needed are backstops and a net. We'll support a better tennis campaign, too.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Southport is to be honored Thursday night of this week by the presence of Mrs. C. J. Shumway, State President of the Legion Auxiliary. She is to be principal speaker at a joint meeting of the Brunswick County Post Number 194, American Legion, and the American Legion Auxiliary to the local post.

Mrs. Shumway is coming to Southport in an effort to stimulate interest in the local chapter of the American Legion Auxiliary, which was recently organized. All World War veterans in Brunswick County, regardless of whether they are members of the American Legion, their wives and mothers are urged to attend the meeting in Southport Thursday night and hear Mrs. Shumway and other visiting Auxiliary and Legion officials.

COMMENCEMENT SPIRIT

During the coming week, commencement programs at all the white schools in Brunswick county will be concluded and studies will be over until next fall.

There's a peculiar thing about a school closing. All year long the students have looked forward to the last day of school; and most of the teachers, while not quite so outspoken, have also had their eye on the month of May.

Then comes the final week of school with its practices, picnics and promotions. Memory of all unpleasantness that has occurred during the school year is wiped out. And, with the final day at hand, students are surprised to realize that they will miss their daily associations, and teachers, too, learn of an unsuspected reluctance to leave for their respective homes.

The commencement spirit is a strange thing.

IN THE BEST OF PAPERS

Finding something wrong with a newspaper after it is off the press is just like remembering after the train starts that you didn't put your toothbrush in your suitcase.

Wrong initials, misspelled names and other errors that commonly occur are recorded in print and once the papers are off the press and in the mail, there is nothing to be done about it. Sometimes, more serious errors get by in connection with weddings, police cases and court actions.

Every newspaperman is constantly on his guard against the

occurrence of mistakes of any kind. A newspaper free from errors is the aim of every editor.

Friends who furnish information for news stories can be of great service in helping us to keep out of difficulty on most of these charges. Remember that a reader always wants to see his name spelled correctly and that he likes to have his proper initials used. Remember, too, that nobody likes to be deliberately misrepresented; news must be founded upon facts.

From time to time, mistakes will appear in this paper. We shall make them just as few and far between as possible. Where they are of little consequence, we ask your tolerance. In cases where errors of a more serious nature occur, we will correct them in following issues of the paper.

DESERVES COMMENDATION

The efforts of Mr. Harry Robinson, Brunswick County storekeeper, to establish the identity of the hit-and-run driver who ran over and fatally injured Little Clinton Hewett last Monday morning deserve special commendation.

Mr. Robinson's first step in connection with the case was to telephone to Wilmington police headquarters a description of the car that hit the Hewett child.

Twenty-four hours later, when officers reported that they had been unable to find any trace of the driver of the death car, Mr. Robinson decided to take matters in his own hands and it was then that he embarked upon his three-day career as an amateur detective. His activities during the three days make a story of unusual interest, and it appears on the first page of today's Pilot.

Mr. Robinson is not an officer of the law; he is not related to the Hewett family. He was their neighbor and he was outraged that a child who lived in sight of his house could be struck down in broad open daylight by an automobile, and the driver of the death-dealing machine escape. The better principles of a red-blooded citizen prompted him to get behind the case. It was his willingness to do more than his part that led to the apprehension of the man who will be tried in Brunswick County Superior court for the crime.

Citizens of Brunswick County owe to Mr. Robinson their deepest appreciation. If there were more cases like this in North Carolina, hit-and-run drivers would soon be wiped out as a highway menace.

LOGICAL SEAPLANE BASE

Sunday's Observer carried a mighty interesting story by Mr. W. B. Keziah dealing with possible location of a seaplane base at the harbor of Southport. The natural facilities are there and the position is strategic. It is a reasonable contention that at Southport there is at hand the finest opportunity for a great seaplane base that is to be found on the Atlantic coast. The bill forwarded on passage by Senator Bailey no doubt had Southport in mind and when it comes to the matter of selection—for this proposed seaplane base is going to be established—those of our people familiar with the advantages at Southport have a feeling of confidence as to the decision. Mr. Keziah does not over-estimate the claims of Southport, where one of the best-protected harbors on the coast is at the service of the Government. There is the water to accommodate the largest fleet of planes the Government might want to assemble and convenient to call to any part of the country.

Southport, from the days it was known as Smithville, has been identified with war activities, for alongside is historic Fort Caswell, of famous service in the War Between the States, and training ground for two armies, one that served in the Spanish-American War and the other that served in the World War. It was finely equipped as a military base and this equipment is yet in "occupational shape." And across the way is the "farthest north" of the palms and the palmettos on Smith's Island which, in time, is going to be developed into one of the most popular resorts along the coast, its natural advantages making appeal that cannot be long resisted. The Observer believes a great day is ahead of the Southport territory and it can foresee revival of a great naval and military activity

Washington Letter

Washington, May 1.—Several hundred politically-minded men and women here are endeavoring to measure the effect of the President's report to the people Sunday night on various phases of his stewardship. With approximately twenty million people on relief rolls it will be a difficult matter to apply a fixed rule to gauge the Chief Executive's standing with the country. The echoes will be confusing. There is always a certain amount of fan mail reaching the White House. It is the tone and volume of communications which reach the Congress that counts in shaping legislation.

There is plenty of extravagant speculation as to saleable features of the relief program especially in view of the fact that one-sixth of the population will be direct beneficiaries. The absorbing question evolves around the workability of the Roosevelt program and the possibility of galvanizing state agencies into cooperative action. Spending five billion is the task of the President's high coordinating council, but they want the commonwealths to throw in a few sizeable chips at the same time. The theory of reaching into the pot of gold at Washington before paying a share of the local recovery costs must be dissipated early in the game if the current framework is maintained.

Our legislators have received delegations from two important and militant groups meeting here this week. The National Chamber of Commerce, representing business and finance, and the American Federation of Labor, speaking for the organized workers, are selling their principles at the Capitol. Cognizant of the political implications, the law-makers have been guarded in their conversations as the ever-present issue of capital and labor was projected to the forefront. Labor unions concentrated their arguments on a strong bid for more power as proposed in the pending Wagner Labor Disputes bill, the revision of NRA and the Thirty-Hour week. Business leaders were as vitally concerned for the future of their particular enterprise as at stake in these labor controversies. Industrialists visiting the Capitol talked of other pressing matters such as banking, utility regulation, government competition, bus and truck regulation, farm mortgages, amendments to agricultural laws, government ownership of railroads and the extent of the public works relief scheme.

The Senate leaders are speeding important legislative measures to the floor in an effort to prevent costly filibusters. The bonus bill now before the Senate differs in many essentials from the House draft. The chances favor additional alterations by amendment during the debate. The real bonus bill will be worked out in conference between the Senate and House. The bonus agitators have their greatest strength in the House while the Senate is more favorably disposed to uphold the opposition of the President to a measure at this time. The cost of the bonus to the ordinary taxpayers will be driven home in Administration publicity. The bonuses are divided into three camps as to the method and time of payment. This split will be played to the utmost in an effort to defer Congressional action on the bonus. The threat of the Administration to call for higher taxes and lowering of exemptions to finance the bonus payments will make the solons proceed with caution for their political future is at stake.

Letters from constituents to their legislators on controversial matters have usually been answered by stereotyped phrases. To the occasional petitioner a formal reply of "careful consider" means the solon will study the arguments advanced. It remained for Senator Ashurst of Arizona, a veteran of 40 years political experience, to show the country that this guarded response is nothing more than a misleading courtesy. The Arizona Senator, a rare type of a cultured and frank politician, tells his voters, "I decline to make promises that cannot be fulfilled." The bromide used by lawmakers "of careful consideration" is exploded by Senator Ashurst as "a polite euphemism for postponed negation," which in street parlance means plain "side-stepping."

Fear of political scandals which might be laid at their doorsteps had much to do with the action of the Senate in re-committing the bill creating a Farmers' Home Corporation to a committee for further revision. Senator Borah let the cat out of the bag with the following comment, "I make the prophecy that we shall have at the mouth of the Cape Fear—The Charlotte Observer.

a national disgrace at the end of the expenditure of a billion dollars." The bill had a laudable purpose of attempting to arrest the tendency toward tenancy on farms and turn it toward ownership. It was realized that many billions would be required to carry out the purposes of the measure. Hence, the present re-writing in a Senate committee.

Schools Will Get Some Information

Under the terms of a plan just announced by State Superintendent Clyde Erwin, the high schools in this county will have the opportunity this spring to earn a supply of valuable governmental materials prepared by the Institute of Government and accumulate funds for their libraries at the same time.

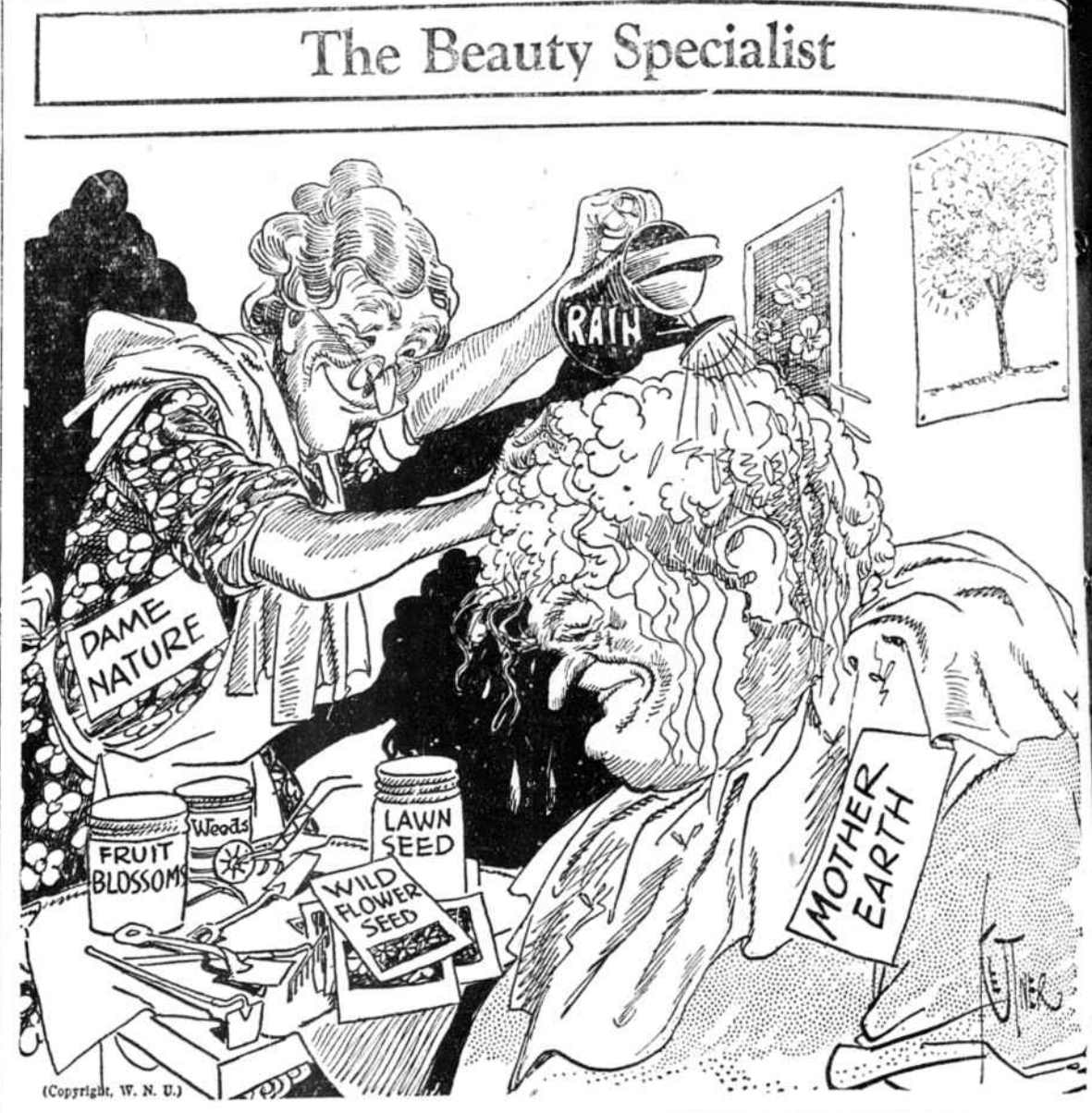
The result may be that North Carolina schools soon will be teaching government in action instead of the conventional government in books. For the Institute of Government staff works on the theory that about 75 per cent of governmental knowledge is to be found in the heads of the officials and the methods and practices of their offices, and not in the books.

Educators everywhere will watch the experiments with wide interest. "We have the opportunity to lead the State and nation in a program of governmental instruction and preparation for citizenship," was the view expressed by Superintendent Erwin in announcing the plan to the principals and recommending its adoption in the high schools of the State.

The work of the Institute had previously attracted wide attention and acclaim both at home and abroad. "The Institute of Government, as conceived and established in North Carolina," said President Roosevelt, "has and will render fine service to the State and Nation. It is my hope that other States will recognize North Carolina's leadership and that states having no comparable agency will accept and follow its lead."

By way of explanation, the Institute is comprised of some 28 organizations of public officials and around 25 citizens' groups. The organization is unique in that it marks the first time that officials have come together with leading citizens in a joint effort to make comparative studies of their government, with a view to effecting improvements and economies.

The enterprise is non-partisan and non-profit in nature. A staff of six trained men is employed, and offices are maintained in Raleigh and Chapel Hill.



the plan. This, briefly, is to give the schools one subscription to "Popular Government" and the supplementary materials of the Institute for each membership secured by one of its students with a commission on surplus memberships to be used for library funds.

The school materials have been in the course of preparation since the Institute was invited by the State Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina Education Association three years ago, to help the schools meet the long-felt need for materials on the actual structure and workings of the government of the state and its subdivisions. The studies have since been recommended for use in the schools by both the State Textbook Commission and Curriculum Revision Committee.

It was the late Dr. A. T. Allen who suggested that the schools be given the opportunity to earn the materials, but it remained for his successor as State Superintendent, Clyde Erwin, to work out the details of

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Weekly Quiz

- 1. What is the oldest college fraternity in U. S.? 2. What groups of people maintain the most private elementary schools in this country? 3. Who is Secretary of the Treasury? 4. How much will a bushel of raw turnips weigh? 5. What is the capital of Michigan? 6. Where is Amherst University? 7. When was the famous Dred Scott decision handed down? 8. What is verdigris?

- 9. What is myrrh. 10. How old is President Roosevelt? 11. Where was Otto Kruger, the actor, born? 12. What is the capital of Denmark. (Answers on page Seven)

Seventeen Yadkin farmers received \$1,234.92 for 724 capons grown under instructions from the county agent.

By prompt delivery of tobacco adjustment checks, the county agent of Nash County saved growers about \$2,000 in interest on money that would have had to be borrowed for financing the 1935 crop.

The new raspberry crop of Piedmont North Carolina will need 20,000 crates for marketing the berries this spring, estimates the county agents.

Practically all cotton growers of Catawba County are renting the maximum of 35 percent of their base acreage under the adjustment contracts.

A MONEY SAVER

You readers probably haven't thought of The State Port Pilot as a money-saver, still that is exactly what it is to you. In today's issue, for instance, are advertisements describing merchandise that is being offered for sale this week at reduced prices.

A list of bargains will be found in the advertising columns of The Pilot each week. By reading the advertisements that appear in this newspaper and taking advantage of the savings offered from time to time by the different merchants, you will be able to save many times the price of your subscription to The State Port Pilot during the course of a year.

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