

THE STATE PORT PILOT
Southport, N. C.

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Small persons often are more aggressive because they want to prove their superiority.

A barn door slamming in the winter wind day after day talks louder and meaner than the town's worst gossip.

We doubt if it will be necessary for Al Smith to turn down any more invitations to spend the night at the White House.

We hope that the dogwood trees set out along the streets of Southport last week are females. We are told that male trees do not bloom.

Any hunter that kills a hawk each time he goes out is doing birds and other wild game a favor—even if he succeeded in getting the bag limit.

Tear It Down

While work on the WPA project for the beautification of Franklin Squire is moving along at an encouraging clip, one eye-sore stands out in bold relief.

It is the old school building. Not only does this building mar the looks of the square, it contains lumber that could be used to good advantage in constructing a much-needed colored school building in the Lockwoods Folly district.

The building will be torn down and moved eventually, and this should be done while men are available to smooth over the old building site and include it in the city square.

J. J. Garrett

The death of J. J. Garrett marks the passing of one of the better citizens of Southport. A fine father, a loyal churchman, a valuable public servant, his influence will be sorely missed in this community.

Having enlisted in the army prior to the Spanish-American War, he completed his full 30 year enlistment period and, upon retirement, made his residence in Southport, where his family resided while he was stationed at Fort Caswell.

He was active in church affairs, civic and fraternal organizations and was honored by being named to many positions of trust and confidence during his residence here.

Southport and Brunswick can ill afford to lose a citizen of this man's calibre.

Fine Record

The low fire loss record for the city of Southport for the year 1935 is something for citizens to be proud of. Property damage resulting from fires during the past twelve months was only \$86.00.

One of the most important reasons for this record was the promptness and efficiency of the Southport volunteer firemen. Their quick response to alarms and the business-like manner in which they set about their work once at the scene of the fire did much to cut the cost.

A tribute also must be paid the citizens of the town for their care in preventing unnecessary fire risks. This element of safety has been particularly striking during recent cold spells that have seen chimneys and stove pipes overtaxed in the grim battle with the weather.

By exercising the same care during the present year local property owners can again keep their fire loss down to a low figure.

Ruining The Country

Stocks listed on the New York Stock Exchange increased \$1,994,991,204 in value in December.

This fellow Roosevelt is ruining the country.—News and Observer.

Quick Action

A bouquet (of dogwood blossoms) for Mrs. J. W. Ruark, Alderman J. J. Loughlin and other city officials who made it possible for the street crew to spend a day last week planting young dogwood trees on both sides of two of Southport's principal streets.

Mrs. Ruark is chairman of the citizenship committee of the Southport Woman's Club. She has been active recently in trying to stimulate an interest in the tree planting contest being sponsored by her organization. Not satisfied with the results being obtained through individual efforts to beautify the streets of the town, Mrs. Ruark approached Mr. Loughlin, chairman of the street maintenance committee of the board of aldermen, relative to having some of the relief labor spend a day or two planting flowering trees that would add permanent beauty to the town.

Action resulted, and the trees were secured and were set out last week.

This, of course, doesn't put an end to the Woman's Club contest. There are many streets that still do not have any flowering trees or shrubs. Citizens are urged to follow the example set by the city fathers rather than to feel complacent over results already obtained.

Education And Cooperation

"Intelligent co-operation and education must go hand in hand," said Dr. Frank P. Graham, President of the Greater University of North Carolina, recently.

That truism is especially applicable to co-operation by farmers. The co-operative movement is essentially an educational movement. The most enthusiastic group of farmers in the world will make a failure of a co-op if they lack knowledge and purpose—precisely as the best informed of farmers will fall short of the greatest success if they refuse to co-operate.

It is an encouraging fact that the better farm co-ops have given greater attention to the educational factor in recent years. They have taught farmers much concerning the laws of supply and demand, tariffs and embargoes, currency and monetary problems, and so on. The farmers have learned that there is much more to prosperous farming than planting a crop one season and harvesting it the next. They have learned that their welfare is affected by a great number of national and international issues. And they have learned that education plus co-operation is the solution to many problems.

Youth Joins In

Aggressive "safe-driving" campaigns are being inaugurated by students of a number of American universities and colleges. The old idea of the average college boy, which painted him as a rip-roaring irresponsible, driving his flashy roadster at incredible speed while one arm encircled a blonde and one hand held a flask, was doubtless much exaggerated—but it remains a statistical truth that the most dangerous drivers are those in their late teens and early twenties. If the menace of automobile accidents can be brought home to these drivers we will have taken an important step in curing the problem.

One of the campaigns is being conducted at Yale, where the Yale News, as distinguished an undergraduate newspaper as the country possesses, has issued a pledge for students to sign. Signers of the pledge agree to follow such simple, obvious, and yet vitally essential practices as to drive always at moderate speeds, never to pass on hills or curves, to stop at stop signs and not "jump" traffic lights, and to be fair to all other drivers. Any driver, young, middle-aged or old, who follows these rules has a relatively small chance of becoming involved in a major automobile accident, due to his own carelessness.

It would be a great thing for the nation if every university saw the inauguration of such a campaign. During the last two years we have killed more than 70,000 people in automobile accidents, and practically every one of these accidents was preventable. In every one of them human error, human failings, human irresponsibility, were the greatest contributing factors. The university students who are fighting auto accidents are setting an example that should be emulated not only by their fellows, but by their elders.

CAPITAL NEWS

Washington, Jan. 29.—Need for replenishing the government treasure chest to meet the growing demands by favored groups, bonuses and farm relief beneficiaries, continues to plague the politically-minded crowd. Faced with the dreary reflection of making the voters "tax conscious" during a campaign year, the legislators and administrative revenue specialists are searching high and low for an effective alternative. The problem is complicated by purely political considerations as to the wisdom of exacting additional tribute to the state. People whose partisanship makes them indifferent to governmental spending policies show intense personal interest in the subject whenever the tax-collectors tap their pocketbooks. It is a human reaction which bodes ill for the politicians obliged to sell their party policies to the electorate.

FARM LEGISLATION

The task involved in getting out stop-gap farm legislation is relatively easy. The Administration wants something definite by February 15, which is a deadline set by the Secretary of Agriculture for making farm policies effective for the current year. It seems likely that the compromise measures will have much to say about state action, but the Federal agencies will control for a two year period as states are not in a position to function along these lines at present. Whatever agricultural legislation is drawn must be financed and this requirement raises the tax question. Coupled with the demand for cash payments to veterans the expenditures will run into many billions.

DEVALUING SILVER

The fiscal experts have hinted that the Administration could sidetrack the tax issue by devaluation of silver. It will be recalled that the devaluation of gold two years ago netted the government a profit of nearly two billions. The revaluation for currency purposes is not understood by the rank and file, but it is a trick which helps swell Treasury profits. Talk persists that the government will be obliged to offer a manufacturers' sales tax of two or four per cent or lower income tax exemptions and hike the rates on smaller incomes. Office-seekers frankly fear the last proposal which would add 2,506,000 citizens to the list of taxpayers. The prevailing idea is to lower exemptions for single persons to \$750 and the married to \$1,500 and at the same time boost the rate on normal incomes from four to eight per cent. This plan would make seven million taxpayers contribute as compared with four and one-half millions now paying their share.

LIMITING COURT

The Federal Trade Commission is the latest government agency making an effort to hurdle Supreme Court restrictions. Two bills have been introduced in Congress giving the Commission complete power over "unfair or deceptive acts or practices in commerce" which is a sweeping authority to investigate anything and everybody at their own sweet will. The present law restricts the Commission to investigation of unfair methods of competition and the Supreme Court in 1931 definitely prescribed this limitation on their authority. The commission is largely an investigative body reaching the top of its power in the probe of utility propaganda methods, an inquiry which lasted seven years and cost the taxpayers nearly three million dollars. They are now making an inquiry into the agricultural income and are seeking more fields to conduct their "fishing expeditions" into private files of individuals and corporations.

FINE PATRONAGE

Data furnished congressional committees by the Civil Service Commission is carefully studied these days by the legislators. It is election year and the pressure for patronage from their districts is so great that it cannot be resisted by a solon who seeks reelection. The latest report of the Civil Service Commission shows that there are more than 220,000 employees of the Federal Government who are not subject to Civil Service requirements. These emergency jobs keep favored friends of the politicians on the government payroll at least six months with the possibility of a slight extension over that period to complete special work.

BIG DEMAND FOR JOBS

The demand for jobs is so great that the Civil Service Commission has suggested the imposition of a small fee for admission

Good News



to Civil Service examinations. The law now provides for open competitive examinations and a slight change in the statute would be required to permit this assessment. Approximately 600,000 applications were received by the Civil Service Commission last year. And a fee for entrance to the examinations would undoubtedly diminish the enthusiasm of government job seekers. New York State has recently imposed a \$3.00 tariff on all applicants. It is noteworthy that civil service tests caused a great shrinkage in the list of eligibles for jobs. For instance, there were 3,673 applicants for a government position as field examiner and only 490 survived the mental test. To show the high casualty among the skilled trades between applying for a job and qualifying is the illustration in a vacancy for

a telegraph engineer, which paid \$4,600 salary and attracted 1,972 applicants. Only five were eligible for entrance on the Civil Service register.

Winnabow News

Mrs. Marie Brock and daughter, Virginia Marie, of Richlands, are spending a while with Mrs. E. G. Goodman at Lanvale. Mrs. Pet Walker and Mrs. E. G. Goodman spent Monday afternoon with Mrs. Lizzie Henry and Mr. A. P. Henry. Mrs. Radcliff, of Dixon, was a visitor here Monday. She accompanied Mrs. L. J. Dawkins to Southport to have dental work done by Dr. R. C. Daniel. Miss Mary Elizabeth McLean spent the week-end at her home in Laurinburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Plaxco, children, of Southport, spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Henry. The home demonstration met Thursday afternoon with Mrs. E. W. Taylor. Delicious refreshments, consisting of cocoa, salted pecans and cookies were served. Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Good moved to Wilmington Thursday. Friends are very sorry for they will miss them in the community. Messrs. Earl Earp and G. Lewis left Thursday evening with a load of hogs for Richmond, returning Friday afternoon. They were well pleased with the ket. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Gladstone of Vass, were visitors at Mrs. L. Henry's Friday evening. They spent Sunday with Mrs. E. Taylor.

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Southport, North Carolina