

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, March 15, 1939

Worry thrives upon uncertainty.

It's not what you know, it's who you know.

Some people had rather prove that you're wrong than to prove that they're right.

No death could be more ignominious than to burst with false-pride.

There is no shock sufficient to shake the self-assurance of a nuisance.

Some day they will discover something that is nice when we have it as it was when we wanted it.

The second day of baseball season you discover a lot of muscles you never dreamed you had the day before.

When you get to know a man you soon discover his peculiarities, but when you know him better you learn that he has more than enough fine qualities to compensate for his short comings.

Together

The WPA crew in charge of putting down storm sewers and gutters in Southport were working along the street in front of our office last week.

As the men knocked off for noon one day we saw a woman and a small boy join one of the workers and retire for a little distance from the others. There beneath the shade of one of Southport's mighty oak trees they spread the contents of a small lunch pail that she had brought and ate their lunch together.

Somehow, we believe they got more out of that dinner together than came from the lunch bucket.

Vacation

Something new under the sun in Southport as a vacation retreat for a headliner in the world of entertainment.

Eleven years ago Gene Austin, most popular vocalist in America, came into Southport on his yacht and a proposed overnight stop drew itself out into a week. Legend are reports of that visit, and Southport people have for years liked to recall the time that the country's top tuner gave a thousand dollar program on the fish dock for no charge at all.

A lot of things have happened in 11 years. Austin still is a popular entertainer and within a year he has appeared on the screen, on the stage of leading theatres and has been featured on a weekly nationwide radio program. However, he isn't the matinee idol he was a decade ago.

But Southport didn't forget Gene Austin, nor did he forget Southport. Thursday afternoon he and Mrs. Austin, together with three other members of their company, drove down to the waterfront and within three minutes they were surrounded by admirers, old and new.

This time there was no glamour stuff. Mr. and Mrs. Gene Austin were just two nice, friendly, tired people who wanted a three or four day rest. He had chartered their overland course six hundred miles out of their way to return to Southport.

In the capable hands of W. B. Keziah, Southport's one-man chamber of commerce, they were guided into every possible channel for local amusement. Mayor John Erickson took them to Orton where they met Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Sprunt; L. T. Yaskell went fishing with them; Captain H. T. Bowmer carried them out in his boat; Dr. Roy Daniel took them horseback riding. In fact, everybody did his best to see that these folks enjoyed their stay.

Saturday night the group put on a benefit show at the local theatre in response to insistent requests from local people that Austin sing for them. He has frequently played before audiences twen-

ty times as large, but he never received more enthusiastic response. Southport people liked to hear him sing, but most of all they liked Gene Austin.

It will be many a day before our citizens forget this charming, friendly couple; and we venture that it will not be another eleven years before Mr. and Mrs. Austin are here for a return visit.

Accident Analysis

Where automobile accidents are concerned, experience is the best teacher only when it is somebody else's experience, according to a new booklet entitled "Lest We Regret" just issued by The Travelers Insurance Company. The booklet presents a comprehensive analysis, based on official reports from the 48 states, of the facts about accidents in which 32,000 persons were killed and more than a million were injured last year.

"The experience of losing his life is wasted on the driver or pedestrian killed in an automobile accident," the foreword states. "The experience of months in a hospital cot or of weeks in a law court is costly tuition for one's education in safety. If we wish to avoid these dire costs, we must apply the experience of others to ourselves."

The experience of the thousands who had to learn their lesson "the hard way" in 1938 brings to light many interesting facts such as the following:

Exceeding the speed limit was responsible for 39.6 per cent of the deaths and 25 per cent of the injuries. Despite a decrease in fatalities in 1938, compared with 1937, the percentage caused by speed went up.

Almost 94 per cent of the drivers involved in fatal accidents were male and only six per cent female.

More than 84 per cent of the fatal accidents occurred in clear weather, and 77 per cent happened when the road surface was dry.

More persons were killed on Sunday than on any other day of the week, while the heaviest injury toll came on Saturday. More persons were killed between seven and eight p. m. than at any other hour.

Almost 43 per cent of all victims of fatal traffic accidents were pedestrians. Almost half of all pedestrians killed were either crossing between intersections or walking on rural highways.

Also contained in the booklet is a discussion of the high cost of fast driving. An increase in average speed from 35 to 45 miles per hour will have a little more than six hours of time in each thousand miles driven, it is shown, but each of the hours saved costs about 65 cents. An increase in average speed from 35 to 55 miles per hour jumps the cost of hours saved to about \$1.20 each.

Must Be Desperate

Our first impulse upon learning about the N. C. General Assembly's complete reversal of attitude with regard to slot machines, has been to conclude that our solons are desperate in their apparently futile attempt to seize upon sources of revenue.

But even the futility of their search for revenue to finance a gigantic \$156,000,000 spending program does not justify the House and Senate's apparently receptive attitude toward licensing these gambling machines.

The Charlotte Observer on Saturday voiced our own opinion with regard to these machines:

"In its desperate search for revenue to carry on the services of the state government, the House of the Legislature has decided that it would be all right to invite the slot machines back into operation, to tax them and to get therefrom a considerable handful of income.

"This means, of course, that the State of North Carolina will license these infernal machines in order financially to grease its fingers.

"The notion of the observer is that this is hard-won and ill-gotten gain.

"If it has come to the point in North Carolina where it is necessary to legalize gambling devices that will rob the school children of their lunch money in order to increase revenues for public services, it is time we were doing without some of these public services.

"To be sure, these devices will swell the income of the treasury of the State—swell it with the swill of the lusts of gambling youthhood and childhood."

Somebody has suggested that if dollars were square they wouldn't roll away from us so fast.

Just because a man has a red face, that doesn't always necessarily imply he is a colorful figure.

Just Among The Fishermen

TALENT DISCOVERED

It may not be generally known that Postmaster L. T. Yaskell is an expert instructor in fishing. This last week, however, he surprised even us with the very professional manner in which he went about showing Mrs. Gene Austin how to catch a trout. She actually caught one.

EACH HIS OWN KIND

Once a fisherman always a fisherman until you fall overboard and get drowned. The same rule applies to cowboys. Neither Gene Austin or Gus Hall fell strongly for fishing during their stay here. Gene, manfully, went on one freshwater fishing trip and was an excellent spectator. But both he and Hall were offering their kingdom for a saddle horse, to ride almost as soon as they reached town. Dr. Daniel, obliged with his pretty saddle, for Gene and another nag was secured for Hall. Thereafter they were happy.

FINE SHRIMP TAKEN

Three days last week saw shrimp boats bringing in catches of 20 to 36 bushels of the largest and firmest shrimp that have been seen here since Thanksgiving. The product was apparently in great numbers just east of the Frying Pan shoals. The three days during which the weather permitted fishing did not reveal whether or not the shrimp were moving. The boatmen hope that with a resumption of good weather they will be found at the same location, or nearby. About every drag last week brought in seven to twelve bushels. The price is understood to have been around \$2.50 per bushel.

TRIP HERE POSTPONED

Sportsmen from Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and Washington, D. C., planning to come here Saturday for a four day fishing trip have postponed their trip until a little later. This was in accordance with a local suggestion that there was too much possibility of bad weather at this time of the year. It is hoped that this party will be able to enjoy some real fishing while they are here. Neither the weather nor the time of the year offered much assurance of that.

THANKS MR. MAYOR

Mayor John D. Eriksen is a commercial fisherman and is proud of it. It can also be said that he is an all-round good fellow, and that makes us proud of his being a fisherman. This last week as always he has been standing solidly behind publicity work and everything that will draw attention to Southport and show attention to and please visitors here. We can say of positive knowledge that visitors to Southport form a good impression of Mayor John Eriksen.

WANTS TO KONW

Charlie Farrell of Greensboro, just as we were thinking of him last week and giving him a little write-up in this column, was thinking of us and of Southport. Just as the paper went to press he sent us a long letter and wanted to know of fish and fishermen, and some men who are not fishermen. He asked about them all. Mrs. Chas. also wrote and was grieved because she could not come down and go fishing this past week. Both are devoted to the coastal sections. They hope to spend a month here and at other points on the coast fishing and making photographs this summer.

GENE DIDN'T FALL

Gene Austin, cowboy, actor, singer and good fellow, did not fall for fishing. Mrs. Austin did. We have an idea that she will come back for another visit, during which time she will fish and she and other little girls will ride bicycles and she will get runs in stockings the first time she puts them on. Gene will be along, of course. But, he will have his mind on those saddle horses that Frank Sherrill will put on Bald Head Island. He has told us so.

A LOYAL BACKER

Captain H. T. Bowmer is a country boy turned fisherman. When any noteworthy visitors come to town and it is desired to show them some special courtesies, Skipper Bowmer is right there with the offer of the free use of his boat to take them fishing or to Bald Head Island. We know that when we want to show anyone around and are broke we can always get a boat and that we do not need to worry about not having the money to pay for its use.

INFANT ILL

Allen McKeithan, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McKeithan of Shallotte, was admitted Saturday to the Brunswick County Hospital for medical attention.

Southport School News

The county debate tournament will be held March 21, at 10:15 A. M. It is being held at this time to give the people of the town the opportunity to hear the debates. The subject for debate is: "Resolved: The United States should form an alliance with Great Britain."

Our affirmative team meets Leland's negative team here.

Our negative team meets Wac-camav's affirmative team at Wac-camav.

At a recent meeting, it was decided that one capable, neutral, judge should be chosen and this has been done.

SHAKESPEARE PLAY

Recently the Juniors completed a study of one of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, "Merchant of Venice". Prior to this study parallel work in regard to his life and research work is regard to his writings was taken up by the entire class. Throughout the month various scenes were dramatized in class and character-sketches given for the benefit of all.

At the present the Junior Class is working on bibliographies of various poets and authors. Shakespeare seems to be the favorite among several members of the class. Both librarians as well as individual homes are being searched for information necessary in the bibliographies, which can later be used as guides in themes or theme papers.

SPORTSMANSHIP TROPHY

On Saturday night, March 11, the finals of the 1939 basketball tournament were held as everyone knows. W. R. Lingle, principal of Southport school, gave a trophy to be presented to the school in the county for showing the best sportsmanship during the year. The trophy was presented to the principal of Southport school by Z. G. Ray, vice-president of the Brunswick Athletic Association. There were only a few people out at Bolivia to hear the announcement, but those present were very glad indeed when they heard the good news. The members of both teams appreciate greatly everything that has been done for them this year.

SENIOR SUPERLATIVES

Most conceited, John Lancaster, Jr., neatest, Irene Clemmons; most beautiful, Delphia Lennon, handsomest, George Lewis, best-all-round girl, Carrie Hewett, best all-round boy, Rivers Wescott, most popular girl, Leatha Arnold, most popular boy, Rivers Wescott, wittiest, William Holden, most studious girl, Thelma Sellers, most studious boy, John Hall, most dignified, John Hall, most original girl, Mary Hood, most original boy, William Holden, class baby, Oscar Sellers, most athletic girl, Lula Brown, most athletic boy, Malcolm Frink.

The Senior Superlatives were chosen in a class meeting held last week with John Hall, the president, in charge.

Mt. Pisgah News

Rev. H. F. Brinson, of Curry, filled his regular appointment at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, and at 7 o'clock p. m. There were a large number of appreciative listeners at both services. Rev. Brinson is also teaching a B. Y. P. U. study course to the young people of this church.

Mrs. Lindon Clemmons visited Mrs. John Lancaster Thursday night.

Mrs. Rifton Sellers, of Southport, attended the club meeting at the home of Mrs. Rosa Brown Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Retha Caison, of Southport, visited relatives at Supply last week-end.

Mrs. Erman Fulford visited her daughter, Mrs. Lacy Lancaster, of Supply, Saturday afternoon.

Miss Mary Holden, of Ash, is visiting Miss Reba Evans.

J. T. Clemmons is recuperating from a mule kick at his home.

Mrs. Sidney Holden visited her mother, Mrs. Weldon Evans, of Freeland, last week.

Norman Turner, of Curry, visited here Sunday.

S. E. Sellers is ill at the home of E. E. Sellers.

Miss Betty Lancaster attended a candy pulling given at the home of Miss Bernice Blanton at Hickman's Cross Roads Wednesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Humphrey, of Lumberton, visited Mrs. Humphrey's mother, Mrs. John Lancaster, a few days ago.

Several young people of this section enjoyed a party and wood-sawing given at the home of Miss Ophelia Moore Saturday night.

LEAVE HOSPITAL

William Price of Southport was discharged Friday after recovering from pneumonia; Miss Verona Hewett of Southport left the hospital Saturday following an appendectomy; Mrs. S. Bun Frink was discharged Thursday following a spige of influenza and malaria.

OPEN FORUM

A column dedicated to opinions of the public. A mouthpiece for the views and observations of our friends and readers, for which we accept no responsibility. Contributions to this column must not exceed three hundred words.

FOULKE ASKS FRINK TO LET THE PEOPLE VOTE

Southport, N. C. March 14, 1939

Editor, State Port Pilot, Southport, N. C.

Dear Editor: There has been much discussion in the Wilmington Papers over the county about the effort Senator Frink is making to extend the Recorders term for an extra two year period, since the story in the Pilot of the 8th.

Yesterday the Senator was quoted in the Star News as saying that Mr. Roach, had approved his bill to extend the Recorders term by signing the bill. This is denied in this morning's paper, which quotes Senator Frink as saying that Mr. Roach did not sign the bill, and that he was incorrectly quoted yesterday.

I am sorry that Senator Frink did not take the same opportunity to correct the remarks credited to him about me. However, I want to point out through your columns, to the people of the County, that I know I am not Senator, and that I know that if I were Senator nobody would be enacting such legislation as Senator Frink proposes to force upon the county.

I know too, that the Senator is mistaken when he says I am

working alone to stir up this matter. I am, and have been working as one member of the largest and best group of citizens that I have seen rally to oppose any legislation, since I have lived in Brunswick County, who came together spontaneously to work to have this legislation killed.

If Senator Frink succeeds in passing this law he will have taken from the people of the County the right to say who shall judge them, without giving the people a single chance to let their desire in the matter be known.

As reported in The State Port Pilot of March 8th, the Senator is acting in this matter contrary to the expressed opinion of the County Democratic Executive Committee, as well as contrary to the opinion and advice of many of our best citizens.

I understand from the story in The Pilot that Senator Frink feels bound to try to extend Judge Stanaland's term of office because of a pledge to the Judge "before a prior meeting". There has been no other meeting of the County Democratic Executive Committee, since the Senator first proposed this legislation and I do not know of any political body in the county which can bind an active member of the Democratic Party to action opposed to the rulings of the County Democratic Executive Committee.

As long as I am a member of the party I shall expect to be bound by action of the Party Executive Committee and I expect all other members to be bound the same as me.

As long as I live, I shall believe I have the right to inquire about and to oppose or to work for and to discuss any legislation

proposed by Senator Frink or any other legislator, and I propose to keep right on doing so, whether I think it worth while or not. Frink proposes that the people select the Judge away from the people of this county, and mean to do all that I can, and the other citizens who agree with me, to defeat passage of the bill to write or wire the Senator to withdraw his bill, and if he fails to do so, to have the Court in a four year term, of the Court is desirable, to offer election of 1940, to become effective in 1942. This would give the people a chance to express themselves in the matter and would work for the bill.

Thanking you for your opinion am

Yours very truly GEORGE R. FOULKE

P. T. A. SPEAKER Dr. Rourk of Shallotte spoke to the study group of the P. T. A. on last Monday evening at 7 o'clock. His subject was "Education" and was most interesting.

TENTH GRADE The Tenth grade had the best percentage of absences last week, having only 14 per cent. Some of the other grades are working hard to beat that record.

CHOOSE PLAY The cast for the senior play which will be given sometime in April, has been chosen. The name of the play is "Headstrong" and it is a play that will appeal to most any audience.

NOT EXACTLY NEWS . . . By Gene O'Brien

... About three of the squirrels brought in and turned loose in the park two years ago preferred city life . . . The new storm gutters may not drain water, but they make the streets look better . . . W. H. Walker was Brunswick county register of deeds 14 years . . . No sooner does Mrs. J. E. Carr get her publicity for winning the bowling booby prize than she turns up high scorer for a day . . . Could be this is all. Could be and is.

Thanks for the comment on last week's col'm . . . "Hoagy" Finch, the song man, has done it again. This time he's organizing an orchestra. In the last few weeks he has composed a number of songs and waltzes, four or five of which are knock-outstanding hits . . . With the arrival of Gene Austin, the town was in a hubbub of excitement. This was his third appearance here. Mr. Keziah arranged a trip to Bald Head, the two being friends of eight years standing. At present he's under contract to Victor Recording Co. . . Apparently the rest of the country places Nancy

Kelly as I do-tops. Her good luck charms are the "e" in her front name and starting things on Friday . . . The Open Road Pioneer's Club, second largest boys organization in the country, honors yours truly with membership and as an answer to letter on Bald Head. You will be surprised to know that besides ours, there is a wild boar retreat in New Hampshire . . . Claude "Spike" McCall's boxing card is nearly complete at this writing and should be ready in less than a week. Claude and an unannounced adversary will be the main attraction with Johnny "Foo" Simmons and "Killer" Walt Jones in the main prelim . . . Bouquets to Mary Hood for being the fastest of the women bowlers . . . Generally speaking, when it comes to bowling, women make good cooks . . . Just to experiment last summer, I threw a bottle with a note in it into the river and two days later it washed up at Caswell Beach. Two months ago I repeated and this time it was picked up on Bald Head by fishermen . . .

Advertisement for The State Port Pilot newspaper. Features a cartoon of a man waiting and the text: "He Waited Too Long! The man who is content to wait For customers to find his store, Will find instead, when it's too late That he need not wait any more". Includes contact information: Telephone For An Adman WHAT YOU HAVE TO SELL! ADVERTISE REGULARLY IN The State Port Pilot "Your County Newspaper" READ TWICE A WEEK BY 15,000 PEOPLE. AUDITED, PAID-IN-ADVANCE CIRCULATION