

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

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Entered as second-class matter April 29, 1928, at the Post Office at Southport, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription Rates ONE YEAR \$1.50 SIX MONTHS 1.00 THREE MONTHS .75



Wednesday, April 12, 1939

Too many funny jokes are funny only to those who are playing them.

A nuisance is the last person in the world to suspect what he is.

Personality is what permits a person to make you feel like you are doing him a favor to allow him to do a favor for you.

Boys having a way of wanting to excell—even if its in being recognized as the toughest kid in town.

Proceeding on the theory that silence is golden, it's amazing what spendthrifts some people are.

One reason why modern kids are so ill behaved is that parents place too much emphasis upon display and too little emphasis upon discipline.

Two is company but three is no crowd when ghost stories are being told.

Easter Music

The annual observance of Easter here Sunday was marked by beautiful programs of special music presented at each church, white and colored, in Southport. Days and weeks went into the special preparation of these services and the large congregations apparently were deeply impressed with the solemnity of the celebration.

Beginning with the anthems of the colored choristers who traveled about the city before the dawn and continuing to the 'last amen' at the evening services the anniversary of the resurrection of the Christ was celebrated with beauty and reverence.

It seems to us that in our country at least religious worship at Easter time has remained purer in its concept than any other of our special celebrations.

One Hundred Percent

We finally accomplished an ambition of three years standing last week when we had a column of news from each of the five consolidated schools of Brunswick county.

Several times we have had four columns in one issue, and frequently we have as many as three schools represented; but a grand slam is what we've wanted.

It has been our contention all along that a school column is good for the reader interest of our newspaper, but is still better for the interest of the schools. If anything worthwhile is being accomplished, the parents and patrons should know it.

A review of the columns of last week will afford a fair idea of just what a good school report should be, for each presented a running resume of the week's activities.

Our readers can help keep these features in the paper by commenting to the principals, the teachers and the students.

—But This Is Not The Case —

At the risk of being branded callous to beauty and indifferent to nature we disagree with our friend, The Star-News, that the river road be improved, but remain forever unpaved.

If narrow, winding roads were safe and there were no such thing as dust; if there existed in the mind of the average motorist no prejudice against travel on dirt road—no matter how good that particular road might be; if improvement of the river road were contemplated only for local convenience and not with the idea of drawing into this section thousands of persons who are oblivious to its historical significance:

If all this were true, we'd be the first to plead the cause of the shaded drive where beauty lurks at every bend; we'd resent the decree of highway engineers that trees too close beside the road must

go; we'd defend to the last retention of the picturesque crossing over Orton dam and we'd fight forever to protect the romantic beauty of the river road.

Conflict Remote

Europe's guns are poised—the stage is set for war. Yet it is a war which now seems less likely than in September at Munich.

England has reversed her policy. Conciliatory policies having failed of their purpose in preventing open aggression, Britain has taken a sterner hand in world affairs.

Had that policy been adopted earlier in the game, Czechoslovakia, Austria, and Memel would doubtless today have been places on the maps rather than something to read about in history.

Dictators know no conciliation—diplomacy is something about which they have heard little or nothing. Their policy is one of scare and fright; the old theory might make right.

Yet they will perhaps think twice now before they buck a determined and belligerent Britain and France, who won't back down.

The democracies have made it clear that there will be no more sacrifices. Hitler and Mussolini must be stopped. Yet war today seems more far removed than it has any time within the past six months.

Add One Detail

(News & Observer) "Today, within the land under Japanese occupation," says Dr. Walter H. Judd, surgeon, returned from China, "there is not a single college or high school left of the splendid institutions which had been developed."

What Dr. Judd says may be entirely true. The best propaganda on both sides of a quarrel always is. But it is also true that the Japanese have a better record in the elimination of illiteracy than the Americans have. That may not be perfection but it is something.

National Marriage Law Sorely Needed

While the marriage law which the General Assembly enacted in the dying moments of the 1939 session last week, embodies an excellent theory, in the last analysis we doubt that it will work to the best advantage of people of Brunswick county as a whole.

Requiring couples applying for marriage licenses to submit to a physical examination to determine whether or not they are free from venereal disease, on the surface seems highly commendable action on the part of the Assembly, and certainly there can be no denial that such a law should be in force.

But at the same time there is nothing to prevent a couple denied licenses in North Carolina from slipping across the border into South Carolina and being married. No, a marriage law of this kind should, as C. C. Russ, Brunswick welfare officer has often pointed out, be national in scope and application.

South Carolina has never had as strict marriage laws as we have in this state. Most of the child marriages which furnish the problems for welfare workers in Brunswick county originate in our sister Palmetto state.

Therefore, we foresee greater injury to our own peculiar situation than there will be good accomplished. Because, driving the couples from North Carolina, where heretofore they were at least required to swear that they were free from venereal disease, to South Carolina where unscrupulous magistrates often marry 12 and 13-year-old girls to doddering old men, certainly does not seem like a progressive step.

If, on the other hand, the law was national in scope then some real good could be accomplished.

After all, you'd rather somebody put a bug in your ear than in your head.

Persons who haven't got any grit in their craw now are those who didn't venture out Thursday afternoon.

Just because some people are high-hat is certainly no sign that they've had the proper raising.

A ruler is a measuring stick, but at the same time it can be a man holding a big stick.

Any old soak is the most promising citizen of his community when the bill collector comes around.

Our idea of an ignorant American is one who thinks a farfetched story is one which came from Europe.

Just Among The Fishermen

SALVAGE A STURGEON Thursday afternoon brought considerable high winds and rough water. A four hundred-pound sturgeon with no pilot on board ran aground, or was beaten ashore, in Southport just as the Bell Telephone construction crew from Raleigh were coming in from their day's work. Three of the boys, D. D. Kirley, Cotton Lackey and Robert Pitchford, got a hawser around the critically injured fish and got him ashore. All of the above boys are from the Piedmont part of the state. To them this 400 pounder was some fish.

ITCHING FINGERS, SAYS HE A great many Norfolk sportsmen have their fingers itching badly to make a strike in the Southport waters, so writes E. K. Glennan of Norfolk to the Southport Civic Club. Since Christmas Mr. Glennan has written the club three times to ask what hope was being held out for fishing. Each time the club has put him off, as the boats were busy with shrimping and few were inclined to sport fishing just yet. To the latest inquiry, however, Mr. Glennan and the other Norfolk sportsmen and sportsmen in general are being told to come on. The blue fish and trout are here and there are plenty of huge red drum running on the point of Bald Head Island.

BUYS NEW BOATS Skipper Bill Wells of the Wells Brothers has bought a couple of large new boats in Florida and he left Sunday with crews to bring them home. The craft will be used for commercial fishing and pleasure parties. They are large enough to be termed sea-going craft and will probably be heard from in operations on the Gulf Stream out from Southport.

TIME FOR SPORT FISHING The time is here for sport fishing parties to begin flocking to Southport in great numbers, and to make catches that will please them and create a resolve that they return many, many more times. Here's hoping that each and every boatman who carries out a party from Southport this year will do his utmost to please and satisfy his guests. Treating the parties right is a great way to build up friends for the Southport fishing.

WILL HELP BOATMEN Although he will have a yacht and a few boats of his own, the development of Bald Head Island will be a great help to Southport fishermen. At least Frank Sherrill believes that it will. He plans to employ Southport's men for his boats and to see that Southport boats are called for by guests on the island who are bent on going on fishing expeditions. It is not time yet to apply for jobs with Mr. Sherrill, but our boatmen may rest assured that they will be called on when the time does come.

AWAITS ADJOURNMENT Clark Awaiting Adjournment Congressman J. Bayard Clark wrote us the past week that just as soon as Congress adjourned he is coming down and going fishing with us on Bald Head Island. The Congressman likes things over there. Likewise, we are sort of expecting Major George W. Gillette to come down from the U. S. Engineers office in Wilmington with his family for a week-end on the island in the near future. Major Gillette is looked upon by Southporters as the most congenial and considerate army engineer that has ever been in charge of the Wilmington office.

GHOSTS VERY FRIENDLY The ghosts of the three headless pirates who roam Bald Head Island are very friendly to this department and the Southport fishermen need not have any fear of fishing around the island at night as usual. The ghosts have never hurt anyone. They are only seeking for Theodesia Burr and she is very elusive, as elusive as she is beautiful. It can be depended upon that she will not bother any of the Southport fishermen, no more than will the three headless pirates.

BOTANY BUG HUNTERS Our big bunch of Ohio bug hunters will arrive in another ten days. They will be wearing pants, slacks, skirts and, what have you on? They will spend a week on Bald Head, looking for bugs and chasing plants. It is just possible that they may accidentally dig up some of the gold that the pirates buried over there. If they do, we hope they will divvy with us in consideration of our having kept the ghosts from bothering them.

QUESTION ANSWERED There is an old question, something like: When is an oyster not an oyster? We found the answer

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.

Editor, State Port Pilot, Southport, N. C. Dear Mr. Editor:—

We wish to nominate one of your last week's headlines for the prize boner of this year. Imagine "Triangular Debates Held Between Three Schools"! Tsh tsh. Yours for more concentration on headlines,

A loyal reader.

DEFENDS ACTION

Shallotte, N. C., April 11, 1939. Editor, State Port Pilot, Southport, N. C.,

Dear Sir: The 1939 Legislature has adjourned. One year ago I was a candidate for representative. My only promise was to introduce local legislation only that was approved by local authorities. I have kept that promise. In local matters that were not contested I accepted the decision of the county commissioners as sufficient.

When it came to that much discussed matter of extending to terms of the county officers, I held that the Democratic Executive Committee should decide that matter.

There was a meeting of a few citizens at Southport; Those present voted in favor of the extension. I told them that I did not feel justified to act upon the decision of that group as they had no more authority than some other group of citizens.

Sometime later nine and one proxy of the Democratic Executive Committee met and voted against the extensions. The next week five of the committee wired me that they were not present at that meeting and were in favor of the extensions. I asked for another meeting of the committee and was not granted my request. The following week ten of the Democratic Executive Committee together with the vice chairman petitioned me to make the extensions. I believe in majority rule regardless of where the chips fall.

Allow me to say to my good Republican friends that if you condemn these extensions, you will be condemning the thing that practically all of your representation did or tried to do for their respective counties. Yours truly, Cornelius Thomas.

PAVE THE ROAD

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

We have noted with interest and approval your advocacy of an improved hard surface road from Southport to the Brunswick River Bridge, along what is now known as the River Road.

Also with interest, but for from being received with approval, was an editorial suggestion in the Wilmington Star of Friday, April 7th.

The Star thinks the River Road should be improved, but that it should remain a dirt road for the benefit of horses and mules.

Churchill Bragaw, horticulturist at Orton, tells me that more than 7,000 tourists have visited Orton this spring. Filling station operators all the way from Shallotte to Wilmington also tell me innumerable cars bound for Orton had asked directions and then turned back when they find they have to travel 8 or 10 miles of dirt road.

We grant that the road from Southport through Orton to Wilmington is in fine condition. Still it is a dirt road. The average motorist has a none-too-good acquaintance with dirt roads. We know that hundreds of cars bound for Orton have turned back. We do not know how many never started just because they learned in advance of the 8 or 10 miles of dirt roads.

Orton is distinctly a mecca for tourists. The average saddle horse has a range of five or six miles and return. There may be four or five saddle horses on the River Road between here and Wilmington and it is a little too much that this beautiful tourist attraction should be neglected for the express benefit of half a dozen saddle nags.

Another thing, we will wager every cent we have that if Orton were in New Hanover county, instead of Brunswick, The Star would be walling like a banshee at the injustice New Hanover was being subjected to at the hands of the State Highway Commission. The Star, which speaks for New Hanover, would be calling upon high-Heaven for a 40-foot paved road, if Orton were in New Hanover.

W. E. Keziah, Executive Secretary Southport Civic Club.

last week when L. W. Clemmons of Southport brought us an oyster that was a clam. A perfect clam and a perfect oyster, joined together so perfectly that even a magnifying glass could not reveal where the shell of one of the bivalves ended and the other began. It was a perfect union.

NOT EXACTLY NEWS . . . By Gene O'Brien

Good evening, Mr. and Mrs. Brunswick and all shrimp boats at sea. Let's go to press. FLASH: Doris' fancy fandango of swinging on the shining slivers of mahogany was a jam-up 'jam session'. . . FLASH: The New York Giants' baseball club will wear the insignia of the World's Fair on the sleeves of their new uniforms. . . The Friday nite, boxing card was a fare-you-well in more ways than one. . . SEEING THINGS: J. C. Wilkins, linguist extraordinary and gentleman-at-leisure, is a whiz at cross-words. . . Since college boys are eating goldfish and photograph records for initiation, they will probably be eating oysters in the shell. . . The 'ghosts' of Bald Head are said to have sometimes walked the beach with the Coast Guard Patrol, although the company of these visitors wasn't at all desirable. . . Dummie

Watts and others swear religiously, or other that they have been chased by waterpumps are the seasons for salt-water fish being fresh water. They often pick up a whole fish water and when it is dropped inland, it rains bull-frogs! . . . "Hold That Co-Ed" is held at the Amuru for a two day inspection amusement, starring (oh, boy!) "Jesters" Weaver.

And if you look closely you will also see self in the movies the latter part of the It's James Johnson, not Clyde McCoy who at Lake Waccamaw this summer. . . The will be looking for a new scoutmaster in the Claude McCall, present leader, returns to

Advertisement for Chevrolet featuring the slogan 'LEADERSHIP IN VALUE BRINGS LEADERSHIP IN SALES'. It includes an image of a Chevrolet car and lists various features like 'EXCLUSIVE VACUUM GEARSHIFT', 'NEW AERO-STREAM STYLING', and 'PERFECTED HYDRAULIC BRAKES'. The ad concludes with 'Chevrolet is first in sales because it's first in styling—first in acceleration—first in hill-climbing—and first in value in its price range!' and 'ALL THAT'S BEST AT LOWEST COST!'.

ELMORE MOTOR CO. «» Bolivia, N. C.

Advertisement for Waccamaw Bank & Trust Co. featuring a dog and a child. The headline is 'How BANKS SERVE' and the sub-headline is 'On Guard!'. The text states: 'One function of banks is to guard the nation's fifty billion dollars of bank deposits. Strong vaults, regulations, laws, examinations and insurance help to protect this huge fund. But most important of all is sound, experienced and conservative bank management.' It lists branches: FAIRMONT, CLARKTON, WHITEVILLE, CHADBOWN, TABOR CITY, NORTH CAROLINA, ROSEHILL, SOUTHPORT.