

The State Port Pilot

Southport, N. C.

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Church Influence

There is no man who can truthfully say to you that he owes no obligation to any church, regardless of whether he is a member of any particular faith or religious organization.

The Christian religion is the very foundation of our law, and without the influence of the churches, no community long would be a fit place in which to live and do business.

Recently we heard of a business man in a North Carolina town who each year makes it a practice to give a check not only to the church where he and his family worship, but to the other churches of the community as well. When someone asked why he did this his reply was, "I have customers from every church congregation in this town. If it were not for the churches, I would be afraid to lock my doors and leave my store tonight. When I got home, I would not be able to lie down in my own bed, confident that I will sleep unmolested until day. I consider the money that I am able to donate to the various churches as payments which I am privileged to make in the interest of a better Christian community."

Few of our people stop to consider just how far-reaching is the influence of the church, and we choose not to speculate on just what our community would be like were it not for the spirit of peace and tolerance and good will which has come through Christianity.

It Is Your Duty To Vote

Occasionally we hear someone say "I don't fool with voting. Politics is a game that is too dirty for me."

A statement like that makes us sick, because most of the ills which beset the administration of our government and the system whereby we elect our officials are born of indifference on the part of the voters. If you do not agree with the policies of the men who are running the government, whether it be county, state or nation, then it is your duty as a good citizen to voice your disapproval through the medium of the ballot. On the other hand, if you admire and respect certain officials and do not desire to see them ousted from office, surely it is your duty to lend the full strength of your support at the polls.

We may disagree most heartily with our political opponents, but we do respect them because they stand for what they believe to be the best interest of the people. Not so the man who takes this holier-than-thou attitude and refuses to take part in the free elections.

We think that there is a growing apathy in the matter of voting, and we look upon this trend with grave misgivings. It places the welfare of our entire nation at the mercy of minority groups, however dangerous and irresponsible they may be, for these groups have marked objectives and the only type of opposition with which they are not able to cope is that offered by the voter who insists upon doing his own thinking.

Next Tuesday is the last time in the next four years you will have an opportunity to express your preference for the man who is to serve as President of the United States, the highest office in the world. It is your last chance in the next four years to help decide who shall be governor of North Carolina, who shall hold certain important offices in our county and township Government.

It is your obligation as a good citizen to get out and vote.

Juvenile Technique

Harold Ickes, the former Secretary of the Interior, is right mad with the

press about the failure of the boys to give him a good play on his speeches. He must of thought there was something smart about his "Thomas Elusive Dewey" crack.

Personally, we hope the silent treatment will be given to speakers on either side of the fence who can't think of anything better than "Harry Stumblebum Truman" and "Thomas Elusive Dewey."

Egotistic Harold does no good for himself or his friends by his schoolboy technique.

Education Today

If W. Kerr Scott is elected Governor of North Carolina as the traditional Democratic majority in the State would seem to indicate, we can foresee the dawn of a new era in education. Fortunately, for the State and for the Democratic party, apathy in the State capitol building will come to an end and we shall hear no more of such talk as "there's nothing hurting that can't wait until January."

The same thing might be true if the Republican nominee, George M. Pritchard, were elected. But here we are thinking in terms of probabilities rather than politics. And this brings us back to the thought that there is strong indication that there will be a new approach to the educational problem come January.

There is something hurting that can't wait until January and can't be solved even when January comes. It won't be solved by raising teacher pay, though that, too, must come before there is anything approaching a final solution. There is something hurting that shouldn't wait on salary increases, larger buildings and more adequate facilities.

The minds of children do not wait. That seems a trite statement but eternally true. The patriotic and energetic teachers who have served so faithfully in this crisis are aware of existing needs. And we believe they are giving their best professional thinking to this major obligation:

To utilize now the existing facilities to the maximum in an effort to lift the curriculum and morale to a level that will more nearly tide the school system across the present chasm.

We have talked with numerous teachers and principals who want to do something about this problem and do it now. The time is ripe and the teachers are interested. They can initiate their own program and we believe they will.

It is a healthy sign when these underpaid employees manifest such enthusiasm, and it offers the potential that the educational program will have easier sailing in the General Assembly as the public observes improvement under the leadership of the teacher.

Raleigh Roundup

(By Eula Nixon Greenwood)

SLEPT HERE—And no doubt many years from now one of those large aluminum-colored, three-by-three tablets will be placed at some point on Fayetteville Street near the Sir Walter Hotel: "On October 18, 1948, Harry Truman, President of the United States, slept here."

WHAT HAPPENED?—Two months ago one of the hottest things going in North Carolina was the Dixie-crats. Now they seem to be hardly creating a ripple. There may be a few good Democrats who will vote the way of the State Righters, but mum seems to be the word right now, and reports from the rallies which the No. 1 party leaders have been holding throughout the State are to the effect that the followers of Wright and Thurmond aren't creating even a ripple. If there is strength out there for this camp, it is certainly very, very silent.

One thing is true, however: The strong support which the Democrats THOUGHT the Progressive and Dixie-crats and Republicans had has done more to solidify and strengthen the Democrats than anything that has occurred in a long time.

ABSENT—State Treasurer Charles M. Johnson has not participated in any of these Democratic rallies you have heard so much about in the past few weeks. Sour grapes? Well, many are saying so—which is only to be expected. Others who are perhaps closer to the defeated gubernatorial candidate say that he is very busy this fall getting everything in shape in the Treasurer's office and just does not have time to be gadding about. They say further that Johnson knows he is through politically and therefore is not interested in making the arduous rounds.

Johnson has been in the forefront of the party for 20 years or more. The party has done a lot for him, but he has also done many a good turn for the party. If he now wants to call it even-Stephen, no criticism from this corner, but he is getting plenty of it from elsewhere.

Rovin' Reporter

(Continued, from page one) under the surface, makes a mixture just as bad as mud. In their grading operations out from Southport on the river road they are having to build a 10 foot fill at Prices Creek and another 5 foot fill at Fiddler's Drain. Working on top, the big machines got along alright. The deeper they got and the dryer the sand the harer it is for the machines. Operations have had to be shifted from point to point, carrying on and waiting the rains that will harden the sand.

Although very few of the present day generation know about it, the old Dr. Potter residence used to stand on the corner where the W. B. & S. Bus Lines now operate. This week Postmaster Wilbur Dosmer of Wilmington was loafing at the station when we happened along and asked him what he was doing there? "I was born right here on this corner," said Wilbur, "it was my first bus stop and I'm waiting for another one."

A letter from Raleigh this week from a party that had been on a bear hunt at Mount Mitchell said that they found out at Mount Mitchell that most of the good bear hunters were down in your Good Green Swamp and more will be on their way after knocking off the few old she's that remain in the Mitchell country."

Many a good story, valuable for publicity of Brunswick county, is lost simply because the folks who know the details are indifferent in the matter of writing and telling us what they know. This is just repeating what has already been said several times: We appreciate it when folks anywhere in Brunswick take the trouble to write us the interesting details of things that will make a story. It is fairly safe to say that the things that interest you will interest the general public. So write us a short letter with the details of such matters when they come to your attention. We will try and fix it up.

Bob Ashworth, the resident State Highway Engineer, dropped in to see us this week, accompanied by the editors of the Good Roads Magazine. The immediate purpose was to get pictures and

story material relative to tourist and other development in Brunswick as the result of road building. Mr. Ashworth at the moment was serving as guide: "You've had me in a dither for the past two months with that story you wrote about the Oak trees and what the Southport women did to the folks who cut them down," said Mr. Ashworth. "I built the Brunswick River bridge and it did not worry me as much as I was worried when we started on the River Road and we had to cut down some of the trees." "Did our women folks get after you?" he asked. "No," said Ashworth, "they couldn't catch up with me."

Among the unusual drags by shrimp boats this past week were some fresh eggs reported by William Warnett skipper of one of the Bill Wells boats. He was shrimping off the bar and his deep-running trawl found a hens nest of some sort. At any rate it brought up some loose eggs. A stale egg will not sink in salt water. These were fresh and upon breaking them the skipper found them alright. So he fried and ate them. They were in water 30 feet deep and that's deeper than any hen ever built her nest.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cromer, Long Beach residents most of the year, write from New York that they have been enjoying a visit up there. Still and all they are anxious to get back to Long Beach.

The big shrimp trawl of the Penny, Captain Merritt Moore's boat, picked up a size 2 ladies bathing slipper several miles off Southport, while shrimping Saturday. The lady who lost the slipper was either some swimmer or the slipper was able to do considerable traveling on its own to reach the spot where it was found.

Among the many reports coming in of good shooting that brought down deer meat, G. W. Mintz of Freeland is credited with the opposite. One day this week Mr. Mintz is said by Irsene to have gotten in six close shots at a 10 point buck with a Winchester shotgun, missing him entirely each time. In another hunt Mr. Mintz got an 8 point buck, but he is accused of having run him down Homer and Woodrow Russ also

got an 8 point buck at Freeland Friday.

It has happened several times—people coming a long distance to Southport, meeting up with us and asking if we knew where they could find Bill Keziah. It happened again Saturday afternoon when the mobile photographic laboratory of the Catpillar Tractor Company rolled into Southport. We had just gotten home from chasing around over Brunswick county when a couple of hard working fellows from Ieroria, Ill., stopped us to ask if we knew where we were.

By way of Irsene Vereen we learn that bear hunter John Fernside of Freeland is getting a lot of mail. Folks are writing from all around, asking about the bears in the Green Swamp and the Fernside dogs. The most of this mail for John is yet to come. Newspapers and magazines are just beginning to ask for pictures of Fernside and his dogs to go with stories they already have. This week Bill Sharpe, of the North Carolina State News Bureau in Raleigh, forwarded us letters he received from Hunting and Fishing and also from Grit, widely circulated Pennsylvania weekly.

Ted Robinson, one of the Associate editors of Time Magazine, now on leave from his work because of his health, is a reader of this little paper. This week Ted was telling us of having spent part of a summer in a Connecticut town with a ten thousand population. They had only a weekly, too, he said and it was not half as good as the State Port Pilot.

"We were at Long Beach today. It is quite a project over there." This was from John Marshall, formerly a reporter on the

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REPUBLICAN
SPEAKING SCHEDULE

The following speaking engagements have been arranged for Republican Candidates as they carry the campaign before the voters in every community of Brunswick County before the election.

ALL SPEAKINGS START at 7:30

October 27, Jesse Clemmons' Store, Grissetto
October 28, Longwood
October 29, Vereen's Store, Exum
October 30, Lester Babson Store, Freeland

W. A. KOPP, Chairman
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