

The State Port Pilot

Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, April 27, 1948

More Conventions

About a month ago the General Board of the Baptist Convention met in Southport; one week later the Brunswick County Council of Home Demonstration Clubs was hostess to a District Club meeting which brought in at least 400 visitors for a day; two weeks ago one hundred-fifty persons attended a Lions Club Zone meeting in Southport; and yesterday between two and three hundred persons attended the Methodist District Conference.

All of which suggests that Southport bids fair to come into its own as a good place to hold conventions, conferences and meetings of various kinds.

We hope that this development will be encouraged, because it is nice to have visitors. We like our community, and we have discovered that as a rule, people who come here to spend a few hours or a day like Southport, too; and many of them return again and again.

One of the finest things we have to offer in the way of facilities for entertaining these meetings is the Community Building, the acquisition and maintenance of which is the major project of the Southport Lions Club. No group which has had a meeting there can help getting a good impression of Southport and Brunswick county, and we hope to see it used more frequently in the future for these purposes.

The Baptists And Caswell

Practically everybody in Southport has known for several weeks that a strong movement was on foot to have the North Carolina Baptists Convention acquire the ex-section base at Fort Caswell for a Seaside Assembly, but for strategic reasons no mention has been made of these plans.

Last week announcement was made that the General Board of the Baptist State Convention in their meeting in Greensboro had voted to submit a bid to the War Assets Administration for the amount at which the property has been assessed by WAA appraisers. This bid was made under priority rating, and is outranked only by Federal and State agencies, neither of which have shown any interest in acquiring this property.

As this is being written, no final decision has been made in the sale of this property. There appears to be good reason to hope that the Baptist bid will be successful, and local sentiment strongly favors this result.

According to our best available information, the Baptists plan to use the facilities of the fort in a manner similar to the use made of their Mountain Assembly at Montreat. If this plan works out, then during the summer months there will be changing scene of thousands of visitors from all over North Carolina to this area.

It is our honest opinion that nothing that has happened in connection with the development of our section during the past quarter century is more important to the development of Brunswick county than will be the centering of Baptist interest in Fort Caswell.

Let us all hope that nothing happens to upset the business of obtaining this property, nor to plans for putting it to the best possible use of thousands of North Carolinians who will learn to know and love our section of the coast.

B. Gordon Lewis

B. Gordon Lewis was a credit to the newspaper profession in which he spent 21 years of his life. When he slipped quietly into the Great Beyond, the "Fourth Estate" lost an editor and publisher of superlative

courage; a newspaperman with the normal number of faults and prejudices, but one who kept those faults and prejudices in the background as he sought to present the news in a fair and impartial manner; an editor who was personally and editorially interested in good government, honest administration of public affairs, and who was not afraid to speak his mind.

Of course, there are many other fine things which could be said of him. But the greatest tribute which can be paid an editor is that he published his story, without fear or favor; that he refused to be bull-dozed by the influential when he sensed a story; that he accorded equal treatment to the underdog and the top political or civic leader; that he was not afraid to take the unpopular side of an issue if that side merited his support; that foe and friend were seen through the same eyes in the columns of his newspaper; that he mirrored the life of his community; that he interpreted newspapering as a public responsibility and not for his own selfish gain.

That he passed away comparatively young in years is one of the tragedies. That he served long and well is one of the great satisfactions of the moment.

Clip For Future Reference

This item, which appeared in the State press, should be clipped and preserved for future reference:

"North Carolina was one of the safest states in the nation last year, the National Safety Council says.

"The State ranked first in the South and fifth in the nation in the safety council's 1948 traffic safety record.

"It was voted an outstanding achievement award for a 12 per cent reduction in traffic fatalities.

"The National Safety Council, reporting the honors in bulletins from its Chicago, Ill. headquarters, says the State was honored also for its automobile inspection program. The program, the council said, was abolished shortly after the honor was voted."

The item is offered as a check against the record which is being chalked up in the current year.

RALEIGH ROUNDUP

WINTER BETTER. . . . All along, the Governor has said the balloting should be done this spring. However, the feeling is that the road bond issue, at least, would stand a better chance of passage if voted on about the middle of December—or a day or two before Christmas, when rural roads are at their worst and when hundreds of bus-tiding children sometimes arrive at school from one to three hours late. It is thought that Scott prefers the vote in good weather, fearing that his rural friends might not be able to get to the polls at all if the election were held in the dead of winter.

NEWGROUND. . . . Although Kerr Scott had played around with various projects, plans and ideas since becoming Governor, hitting a sprout here and breaking a plowpoint there, he has never removed his eyes from the two big poles at the field . . . \$50,000,000 for schools and \$200,000,000 for roads. Many a long root which he didn't know was there has sprung back to crack him on the shins, but he kept plowing.

BACK HOME. . . . Most of the legislators have gone home each weekend to test the sentiment of their constituents, but North Carolina is a long State and at least one member has been here constantly on the job since the General Assembly convened the first week in January. He is C. S. Slagle of far-away Macon, who brought his wife to Raleigh and set up house-keeping here. Not one time has he been home. At least one other member, Gover Davis of Haywood, has made only one trip back to the homewoods.

OFF THE CUFF. . . . This column, which started with the little Renfro Herald in Yadkin County in January, 1943, is now being carried in 42 papers from Waynesville to Morehead City . . . Scott appointments are scheduled to get underway next week, so if you have a man or men you are pushing, you had better get the ball rolling as of right now . . .

THE WINTER. . . . While the Legislature has been cursed a great deal, it has, nevertheless, gone along with Scott to the extent of spending every dime in sight for the next two years. It could not have spent more without raising your taxes. It has permitted the Governor to spend \$7,500,000 for ports. He is also getting his road and schools bond votes. He has lost out on some relatively minor matters, but if you have looked on the past-and-a-half months as a fight between Scott and the General Assembly, then Scott must be put down as the winner. If he fares as well at the hands of the people in the bond votes as he did with the Legislature, there should be no cause for anxiety and further hand-wringing by Scott followers.

BY AUGUST 1950. . . . The belief among some of the conservative leaders here in Raleigh is that a special session of the Legislature will have to be called between now and August, 1950, for the purpose of raising taxes, etc., with which to meet appropriations which were made by the recent Legislature.

The Rovin' Reporter

(Continued from page one)
new. The Volunteer Fire Department needs that truck as speedily as possible. To get it they must have about a thousand dollars more than they now have. The truck, when secured, will serve Southport, Caswell Beach, Long Beach and other places where needed when it can do any good. It is a community undertaking for community good. Property owner at any of the above places or elsewhere who have been planning to donate, should send in their checks now, payable to the Volunteer Fire Department. These checks may be mailed either to Ormand Leggett or to us and they will be turned over to Mr. Leggett and acknowledged in this column.

Appreciating that the fire truck planned for the Volunteer Fire department will be of much general aid, D. L. Mercer, forest warden of Brunswick county, handed us five dollars Monday as a little donation from him for the fund. At the same time Judge Frank M. Armstrong of Troy sent in another five dollars. He owns a summer home at Long Beach and thinks rightly that the truck will be a great standby for himself and other residents of the beach.

Realizing how E. D. Bishop and the rest of the REA at Shallotte are always ready to give service when they can, it may be pointed out here that there are a large number of connections at Long Beach. Folks now coming in to the beach for the summer are finding considerable trouble with their current and when they try to call Shallotte over the phone line to that place they usually find the line out of order. A prominent up-state citizen, owner of property at the beach, has asked if the REA could not put a maintenance man at the beach during the summer?

When growing tomato plants for New Jersey tomato farmers started up in Brunswick county it was stipulated that the plants must be ready by about the 12th of May. With April not gone, Everett H. Sheppard has 20 acres of the finest tomato plants ever grown anywhere. He could be trucking them to New Jersey this week if the fields were ready for them there and there was no danger of frost. If things work out according to plans the plants will be moving by the truckload about next Monday.

To folks from up-state and from northern and eastern states

it looks sort of odd to see the fields of growing corn, tobacco, etc., in Brunswick. Here and there one encounters cornfields with the stalks already about knee high. Farmers have all been unusually busy, giving their cornfields the first and sometimes the second cultivation before they have to turn to cultivating tobacco. Cultivating of tobacco will begin this week.

As an indication of the general reaction to the show, J. J. Loughlin, Jr., one of the many pleased Southport citizens present, said next morning: "Jerry Ball certainly put new life into the drive for funds to buy the new fire truck last night. I believe he caused a lot of our folks to wake up. If we all take hold now and try to help we will soon be where the boys can get the truck."

Steve Wall of the Wilmington News called to see us while we were out fishing the other day. He left a note regretting we had gone fishing without taking him along. Also he was very appreciative of several heads of lettuce that we had stolen for him from Everett Sheppard's lettuce patch a few days previously.

We are not sure that we have told you about it, so we will say here that everything was just about as we expected. We had to take Congressman Charles B. Deane freshwater fishing the other day, while the wind was from the east. To make matters worse, the moon had just changed. It was just as we expected. The Congressman caught one catfish that weighed about half a pound. Despite this he made an appointment for another trip in June.

Folks who have seen Jerry Ball in action at the piano haven't seen anything. They should see him when a bluefish strikes his plug when he is trolling. He really goes to town then and takes all spectators along with him. We would not be at all surprised if Jerry's experience with the bluefish the other day has the effect of curing him of ambition for fresh water fishing honors.

Without taking any honors for ourself, it may be said that we are one of the early risers in Southport. Here in the office at about 4 o'clock each morning we see car after car loaded with sportsmen rounding the corner on their way to the yacht basin and their boats to go fishing. These folks spend the night somewhere else, they get breakfast somewhere else, pack lunches somewhere else. All they do in South-

Not Exactly News

Notes from Shallotte Junior-Senior banquet: It is hard to imagine a building as unattractive as the interior of a Brunswick county high school gymnasium being transformed into such a fairyland of beauty . . . Faculty members checked their dignity with their wraps, and entered into the spirit of the occasion in a manner that was a pleasure to behold. Principal Henry Stone's contribution was a rustic rendition of "You Are My Sunshine" . . . Dr. and Mrs. Henderson Rourk were a gay couple as they skipped about the table in response to the chanted demand of the students . . . If Wabon Thomas can fight any better than he can sing then he has a brilliant ring career ahead . . . We decided that Mrs. Katie McKeithan can do anything she tries when we heard her accompany Miss Gasque in her vocal solo . . . Everything turned out right—even the May Pole design.

Southport's No. 1 & No. 2 needs go hand in hand. They are a modern motor court, or small hotel, and a yacht basin for use of pleasure craft and sport fishing boats . . . The price increase effective Monday at the Amuzis is the first that has been made since before the war

and marks the end of a drawn-out effort business has made to hold the line against advancing costs. Artesian overflows provide the water for many homes in Waccamaw township. Carl Watkins was here from Norlina on the past week-end at Long Beach. He said that he may have dance band down for a season engagement early in May . . . Result of having a good hardsurface road at Beach will be to cut down on traffic up down the strand this summer . . . Brunswick county golfers followed play in Wilmington Open Tournament during the week-end and were disappointed when O'Leary blew his slim lead Sunday and got back to a sixth place tie.

Every one of the doctors now practicing in Brunswick county have a military tie. Three were Navy Men—one assigned to Marine Corps—and the other two were in Army . . . The handsome deer head now on ad and on display in the Henry Store at nabow was furnished by a buck which made mistake of trying to run over A. P. Healy a drive two years ago.

naming their candidates for the present board, and O. Hubbard, former alderman, nominated without opposition. Candidates for the other erman posts are Ralph C. and G. W. McGlamery from one; and J. A. Gilbert and Ormand Leggett from ward

partly from Fayetteville, 230 fish, aboard Idle-On. April 24: Jim Foll and from Salisbury, 225 bluefish aboard Botfly.

April 24: Lloyd Traywick, Barrier, W. H. Melton and Hartsell of Albemarle and Carter of New London, 218 fish aboard Klabb.

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CATHOLIC INFORMATION

But Doesn't The Catholic Church Add New Truths?

No, not a single new truth—ever! "But how about the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, declared only in 1854, and the doctrine of the infallibility of the Pope, declared only in 1870?" Let us answer with a story: John Bangs, of sterling reputation, was running for mayor. His opponents had nothing on him; but one of them said: "Bangs was married way back in 1877. Is there anyone living today who knows he was legally married? Well then why not . . ." So a rumor was craftily started and spread, as rumors do spread. It became a story of "facts." It became a political slogan, till some of John Bangs' friends began to believe it. Then Bangs acted. In a big newspaper advertisement, he reproduced his duly signed marriage certificate. The witnesses were dead, but others certified to their signatures and to the fact that they knew all about the Bangs marriage from the testimony of those now dead witnesses. Had John Bangs added a new truth? Had he not merely established and made clear a truth which had existed since 1877? No Pope has ever added a truth, subtracted a truth, or altered a truth. He cannot, because all divine truths necessary to man's salvation whether revealed by Holy Scripture or by living tradition have been safeguarded all these nineteen hundred years since the coming of the Holy Ghost on the first Pentecost Sunday. Christ had promised the Spirit of Truth to His Church and promised that this Spirit would abide with His Church for all time. Not all truths, however, were expounded in full. Relying precisely on this divine promise that the Holy Ghost will infallibly guide His teaching, any Pope, successor to the chief of the Apostles, can when necessity or just occasion arises, officially declare truths which have always belonged among the doctrines of Christ's Church but which have never theretofore been explicitly set forth. Thus it became necessary three hundred years after the death of Christ to declare the truth of His divinity because of the spread of a false teaching denying that Christ was truly God. No one will say that this was a new truth since the whole Christian religion was founded on that doctrine. In like manner the Catholic of today believes the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, the dogma of Papal Infallibility—not as new but as now clearly defined truths. If it's anything Catholic, ask a Catholic! For further information write P. O. Box 351, Whiteville, N. C.

SCHEDULE W. B. & B. BUS LINE Southport, N. C. EFFECTIVE TUES., JAN. 20, 1948 WEEK-DAY SCHEDULE

LEAVES SOUTHPORT	LEAVES WILMINGTON
7:00 A. M.	7:00 A. M.
9:30 A. M.	9:30 A. M.
*1:30 P. M.	1:35 P. M.
4:00 P. M.	4:00 P. M.
6:00 P. M.	6:10 P. M.
	10:20 P. M.

*—These Trips on Saturday Only.
**—This Bus Leaves Winnabow at 6:10 Daily.

— SUNDAY ONLY —

LEAVES SOUTHPORT	LEAVES WILMINGTON
7:30 A. M.	9:00 A. M.
10:50 A. M.	1:35 P. M.
4:00 P. M.	6:10 P. M.
6:00 P. M.	10:20 P. M.

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Sure deep-bite traction as provided by husky new Pennsylvania Tractor Tires can save time for you . . . help you finish the job faster. Automatically self-cleaning, they're big, rugged and ready to work! For shorter days in the field, get new Pennsylvania Tractor Tires today!

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