

SCENES AND IMPRESSIONS FROM A TYPHOON

The following descriptions are drawn from personal experience. I shall attempt to relate them as vividly as they are etched into my memory.

A typhoon is the supreme manifestation of the awesome forces of nature, expressed in mediums of wind and tide. Separately, winds or tides are necessary functions of nature, experienced by all bordering areas of the seas. Combined in measures exceeding normal velocities and heights, they expend energies staggering to the imagination.

My experiences took place on the seventh of September, 1953, in the South China Sea. I was serving aboard an aircraft carrier. My duties did not involve seamanship; so I was free to wander about as I pleased. Thus, I was free to observe the storm.

The most noticeable of the early storm symptoms is the irregular chop of the restless surface. The usual soft rhythm of the rolling sea is lacking, and in its place is an increasingly savage, whipping motion.

Overhead, the sky takes on a menacing brooding appearance. Dark fragments of tattered clouds race across the horizon in unceasing number. Thick banks of moisture-laden clouds pile up, quenching the sun in a heavy mantle. Darkness approaches at an astonishing rate, and soon only sporadic flashes of lightning illuminate the spectacle. Gusts of wind, changing in a matter of moments from fresh to angry, herald the first drops of rain that are soon to become a blinding torrent.

With a shudder, the ship tosses spray from her ports, and nature begins her mighty assault upon man's innovations.

From a squall, the storm has grown to nightmare proportions. Mountainous waves loom against the horizon before smashing against the sides of the ship. Upon impact, flying sheets of spray leap

FIELD TRIP

Plans are now being made for a Zoology field trip. The trip, if made, will come off sometime in May. Dr. Hechenbleikner and his class are now debating about whether they want to go to Washington or to Carolina Beach.

No matter where the trip takes the class I'm sure that it will be very interesting for all the students. Dr. Hec, one of our finest professors, always conducts an interesting and educational trip.

I've been on a couple of field trips with our magic old Doctor, and I've enjoyed all of them. Here's hoping, however, that Dr. Hec decides to take this year's Zoo class to Washington for a visit to the wonderful zoo up there.

into the air and disappear into the torrents of slashing rain that pour from all sides. Jagged streaks of lightning shatter the blackness into stark images that blind the eyes.

Again and again, the ship reels under the storm's impact. It staggers to regain its balance, only to be smashed down again. The huge propellers race madly as they lift free of the water. Steel plates and frames groan their protest against the strain and twist applied to every joint. Antennae bow before the screaming fury of the wind.

An occasional glimpse of tumbled horizon intensifies the feeling of unsteadiness. Movement is nearly impossible unless one is supported by clinging to nearby objects. The mind is aware only of the surrounding tumult.

Nature has reached its height of primeval fury, which for long hours to come will continue.

Gradually, as the tempest begins to subside, gray light seeps into the damp sky. Rolling seas once more become gentle. The storm has passed, leaving in its wake a sense of refreshment and a moment of pause before the new day begins—A moment of thankfulness and relief.

PICNIC

Our student government has made plans for a social affair on May 21st. The get-together will be in the form of a picnic. The student government has not yet decided upon a place for the picnic. When this decision is made it will be posted on the school bulletin boards. Let's all keep May 21 open so that we can back this year's last social function.

BLOCK C

A new club has been started down here at Charlotte College, and I'm sure that it will be one of the most active organizations of our school. The club that I'm speaking of is the recently formed Block C Club of Charlotte College.

In order to be a member of this club, one must have been an active member of the Charlotte College basketball team for at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the basketball season. The student must maintain a passing average to be a member of the Block C. The Block C will try in every way to represent Charlotte College in the highest manner.

Coach Buddy Smith will act as adviser of the club. A project is now being worked on by the members of the Block C. Members of the club will receive letters for their participation in basketball. The boys that are to receive letters this year are as follows: Rea Hinson, Neal Broome, John Kilgo, Bob Russell, Slade Joyner, Jimmy Brady, Raeford Brown, and Johnny Culp.

MAHATMA GANDHI

(Continued from page 2)

biography. The difficult Indian names made reading rather slow at times although this is no fault of the author's. I realized from reading this book how different are Eastern and Western thinking and living. Perhaps through more books like this the East and West may come to understand each other and all the world may one day live in perpetual peace. If there were more men like Mohandas Gandhi, this peace between nations and peoples could probably be attained.

—Marline Midose

COMMENCEMENT

The baccalaureate service for the 1955 graduating class of Charlotte College will be held at St. John's Baptist Church on Sunday evening, June 5 at 7:45 p.m. Dr. Stewart A. Newman of the Southeastern Baptist Seminary will preach the sermon.

The graduation exercises will be held in the Central High School Auditorium on June 6 at 8:15 in the evening. Mr. Carl G. McCraw, President of the Union National Bank will be the speaker for this occasion.

Don Trapp and Robie Howard will serve as marshals for both occasions. All students are cordially invited to both commencement exercises.



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