

# THE GAB BAG



By **ALAN BROWNING, JR.**

**ONE OBSTACLE REMAINS?**

It would appear that there is always one obstacle barring the way of free mail delivery here—and as fast as this obstacle is cleared away another pops up.

Not so very long ago the prime obstacle was lack of paved sidewalks. Then came a program of sidewalk building, and it appeared that at last mail delivery would have an open road ahead.

But now, according to best advice, the lack of a map of the town is holding up the progressive step. And it appears that the cost of preparing such a map has given the town commissioners pause.

From what we hear, local architects have estimated it would cost \$1,500 to map the town. That's a lot of money for one map, but it must be taken into consideration that a great amount of work would have to be done to make it. If our information is correct, the entire town would have to be surveyed street by street in order to properly locate and number the different

lots, each of which would be assigned a number.

It has been suggested that the town officials, if they are interested enough, ask bids of a few out-of-town companies who specialize in map making of this nature and see if they can get the figure down. This is not to be taken as a slam at local surveyors, who, we think, should be given preference, but if their price is considered too high, then it seems only sensible to try and get a lower price, and not just let the matter drop because the local price wasn't satisfactory.

A lot of people are interested in home delivery and would like to see it. This department is interested because it would be a forward step, and not just because the writer would like to have it. As far as we are personally concerned, getting our mail at the postoffice is no trouble at all because we stay downtown practically all the time anyway.

We also think, speaking of progress, that if the town ever gets

around to marking the streets again, it would be wise not to lose quite a bit of money trying to save money as they did the last time the streets were marked. Cheap, inferior markers were erected on the theory that it wouldn't cost much. Today, just a few years later, what few markers that haven't already gone with the wind are so encrusted with rust they are of no practical value other than for bird roosts and something to hitch a horse to provided someone has a horse.

We don't want to get the commissioners down on our ear, but with all due respect to them, it sometimes appears that the board lacks that quality known as civic pride.

Which brings up the lovely garbage dump not 50 feet from the highway east of town which has been created by the city garbage department. When you feel in need of inspiration sometime, or have some visitors from out of town to whom you want to show the beauties of Elkin and surrounding country, take them out to this dump. Try to arrange it some evening when part of it is burning, so that their noses as well as eyes may appreciate it. You won't have to get out of the car to see it.

We think the commissioners, as a body, should drive out and see it some beautiful sunny afternoon. To the town slogan "The Best Little Town in North Carolina," they might be inspired to add: "Which Dumps Its Garbage in Its Own Front Yard."

**THIS AND THAT**

Corbett Wall, Elkin's new chief of police, was complaining the other day about the picture which appeared recently in this column which showed him with Hitler. Mr. Wall evidently didn't appreciate being in a picture with Hitler, but we told him that so long as Hitler didn't object, we didn't see why he should.

In the article which accompanied the picture, we referred to a black airplane flying over town as being Hitler's. We found out later that the plane in question wasn't Hitler's, but was piloted by Thurmond Chatham. Mr. Chatham also told us it wasn't black, it was green. He and Walter Burgess were making some aerial views of Elkin and of the Chatham Manufacturing Company at the time. Which calls to mind that we were promised a ride over Elkin in that plane way back yonder before the new mill was completed. Soon as we get time we are going down and bawl Mr. Chatham out about it, but we won't be too harsh.

Before the new office building down there was completed we used to sort of know our way around, but since everything has gone so super deluxe we are not so sure of ourself. In the old days, whenever we wanted to see Mr. Neaves, we'd barge in and without saying anything to anybody would take our stand next to the water cooler. And we could depend upon it that pretty soon Mr. Neaves would come barging out of his office for a drink of water and we'd dash in before he could get back and lock the door.

But it's a little more complicated nowadays. The girl in the reception room, Miss Poole, who also operates the switchboard, is all glassed in and in order to state your business you have to go equipped with a calling card and a glass cutter. But she is nice, very pleasant and accommodating both when you call in person or telephone.

But speaking of things being complicated, we were down there one afternoon to give Mr. Chatham some advice on how to run the mill, and we asked Miss Poole to tell him that we could spare him a few minutes. Of course the moment Mr. Chatham found we were there he directed that we be sent in at once, which was very lovely only we didn't know where his office was.

"Just go into the office with the green rug," we were told, and we did and there was Mr. Chatham. Aren't green rugs just wonderful!

One of these days we are going to get us a tea rose rug and invite Mr. Chatham up to see us.

**CECIL LYON JOINS U. S. MARINE CORPS**

Cecil Royce Huston Lyon, son of Montgomery Lyon, of this city, has been accepted for service in the United States Marine Corps, and transferred to the marine barracks, Parris Island, S. C., for a brief period of training. Upon completion of his preliminary training at Parris Island he will be assigned to some service school, ship, foreign station, or marine barracks, for duty.

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**EAST ELKIN**

Rev. Claude E. Fincham, president of the Young People's Loyal Movement, and his brother, of Mt. Airy, spent Sunday at the Young Men's Christian camp near Winston-Salem, where Rev. Fincham was one of the speakers. His brother will be associated with him in the work in the future.

Mr. P. D. Hawks, Jr., of Greensboro, spent Sunday night here the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Newman and family.

Mr. Jack Culler and Miss Pauline Culler, of Pinnacle, are visiting relatives here this week.

The Men's Council of East Elkin Baptist church held their regular meeting at the church Monday night at 7:30 with Mr. E. M. Eldridge leading. He made a wonderful talk. Also other brief talks were made.

Friends extend their sympathy to Mr. Elmer Elledge in the loss of his father.

Rev. J. L. Powers filled his regular appointment at Mt. Hermon

church Sunday and Sunday night. He preached wonderful sermons at both services.

Miss Alice Smoot, of Danville, Va., is visiting relatives here this week.

Mr. Tom McBride has been seriously sick but we are glad to know that his condition has improved.

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Screen Play by Cyril Hume, E. E. Paramore and Richard Maibaum  
Directed by Richard Thorpe · Produced by J. Walter Ruben

News — Admission 10c-30c

**SATURDAY—**

**CHARLES STARRETT**  
—in—  
**"TEXAS STAGECOACH"**  
—ON THE STAGE—  
**"BLUE MOUNTAIN BOYS"**  
WITH **HAPPY GADD**

Cartoon - Serial - Comedy — Adm. 10c-30c

**Next Week**

MONDAY-TUESDAY—

**DEANNA DURBIN**

—in—  
HER BIGGEST HIT



**'IT'S A DATE'**

News - Cartoon — 9 admission 10c-30c

WEDNESDAY—

**FAMILY SHOW**  
**'Blondie On A Budget'**

Cartoon - Serial — Admission 10c-15c

COMING, JULY 29-30—

**JACK BENNY**  
—in—  
**"Buck Benny Rides Again"**

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