



Joe Lanier

Son of a gun

When the folks in Raleigh get together and begin talking about passing laws for the good of the country, the state or whatever, their thoughts and talk turn, without fail, to the subject of more taxes. . . Never less taxes. . . Always more. They can't seem to understand that if the revenues are not coming in sufficient amounts from taxes, the folks paying the taxes do not have the revenue. . . For the past two or three years, talk has favored an increase in the sales tax by increasing it from its present four cents on the dollar to five cents. . . Sales tax is a rough tax. . . That one penny will cost you \$100 more in taxes if your income is \$10,000. Now, as Duplin County is not a shopping center county, one-third to one-half of that additional tax Duplin County citizens pay will go to benefit other counties. . . not Duplin County. Quite frankly, I think we need less government — not more taxes — but, as talk in Raleigh begins to circulate about an additional one-cent sales tax, everyone tries to get in on the act. . . The State says let's split it in half. . . Give the counties half and the State gets half. . . The schools say to give the counties half and give the schools half. . . EPA says let's split this thing four ways. . . Resolutions go out to everyone asking for support. . . The county commissioners pass a resolution supporting such-and-such a bill. . . The school board passes a resolution supporting such-and-such a bill. . . The towns get into the act passing resolutions. . . After all, they need more money, too. . . If they would just look around at the poor taxpayers who are trying to keep their heads above bankruptcy, due to the rules, regulations and taxes already on the books, perhaps. . . just perhaps. . . they could see that what we need is not better management, but less management. . . not more taxes, but less taxes. . . For once, give the taxpayers a break. . . But, this is all wishful thinking. . . They cannot comprehend "cutting back." . . The only words management knows are "move ahead." To aitch with the cost. . . We need the workers and the workers need better pay. . . What we do not need is so much management. However, the management runs the show as the politicians do not have enough time to do the job they were elected to do. . . So, when cutting must be done, it is the workers, not management, that gets the axe.

A lady gave me a clipping from a newspaper the other day, and as I was in a rush at the time, she said to read it sometime "at your leisure." . . Later that day, I was in a doctor's office and as I sat there waiting, I pulled out the article and began reading. . . My laughter interrupted the quite and serious atmosphere. The clipping was from the newspaper column "Words" by Michael Gartner, and I quote. . . "Once there was a time when ships had guns rather than missiles. In those old days, women were allowed on the ships, and, things being as they were, the women sometimes had babies. The maternity wards often were midship, near a large gun, and if the woman did not want to say who her baby's father was, the child would be listed as "son of a gun." . . That, at least, is an old story and no one has proved it wrong. . . or come up with a better explanation for the term that once was a contemptuous phrase for a man, but that now is just a good natured description." . . Well, I assume this man knows what he is talking about, and I am glad to know how the phrase, son of a gun, came to be. . . I am also glad the meaning has changed over the years — especially now that I use it. . . Son-of-a-Gun. . .

Along the Way

By **Emily Killeto**

During the early 1900s, the communities of Pink Hill and Deep Run were rivals. The towns fought a constant battle to be a little, if not much, better than the other — they fought over schools and even population!

Until the publication of the 1940 U.S. Census information, Deep Run claimed 160 residents and Pink Hill, 188. But, the 1940 census revealed a dramatic growth in the town of Pink Hill, which had a population of 307. Deep Run, on the other hand, lost 10 citizens during the span between the 1930 and 1940 census. Deep Run citizens were said to attribute the 1930 population difference with Pink Hill to census error, an article in the January 17, 1941 issue of the DUPLIN TIMES stated. The 1940 census seemed to be the final straw in the population rivalry; Deep Run could no longer claim census error.

During the years when Pink Hill and Deep Run had been communities of similar size and population, the school argument raged between the towns. Both had wanted to have a high school located in their community, and a heated battle led to the continuation of a high school in each. The battle between Pink Hill and Deep Run schools has been a topic of Along The Way in the past. Today, Deep Run claims the high school even though the town cannot boast the largest population; it did eventually

win the school debate.

Pink Hill was chartered in 1915. Pink Hill was founded to be distinct from all other towns because its incorporated lines formed a perfect circle. Today Pink Hill has a population of 644 citizens. The 1915 charter was the second charter granted Pink Hill; the first town was founded just a few miles from its present location.

Deep Run also became an incorporated town during the early rivalry of the towns, but soon grew tired of city ways and the charter was eventually lifted. Accounts from the January 17, 1941 issue of the DUPLIN TIMES state the town of Deep Run grew tired of city ways and forgot to elect a new mayor and town commissioners one year. The incumbent town officials reluctantly held office another term because of the failure to hold an election.

Information for the 1941 article was gathered through a survey issued by the Kingston Chamber of Commerce. Another town mentioned in the survey was Dover, which is just beyond the Jones County line in Craven County. Dover was a town marked by the distinction of having an all female town board and mayor. The Dover town board had one male commissioner but he had resigned after a series of repeated absences from the meetings, leaving an all female town board.

Kenansville Dixie Youth Baseball Tryouts

The Kenansville Dixie Youth baseball tryouts will be held on Saturdays, March 12 and 19 at Turkey Stadium below Kenan Memorial Auditorium at 10 a.m.

Any youngster who will be eight years old before August 1 can try out. However, they cannot be 13 before August 1.

Each youngster must have an athletic permit signed by their parent before trying out. A permit may be ob-

tained at the Kenansville Town Hall or at the field on Saturday.

A youngster must attend at least one of the tryouts to be placed on a team. Members who played last year are automatically on the same team this year and do not have to try out. Also, a copy of their birth certificate will be necessary at the tryouts.

For further information regarding the program, call Conrad Jenkins at 296-1177.

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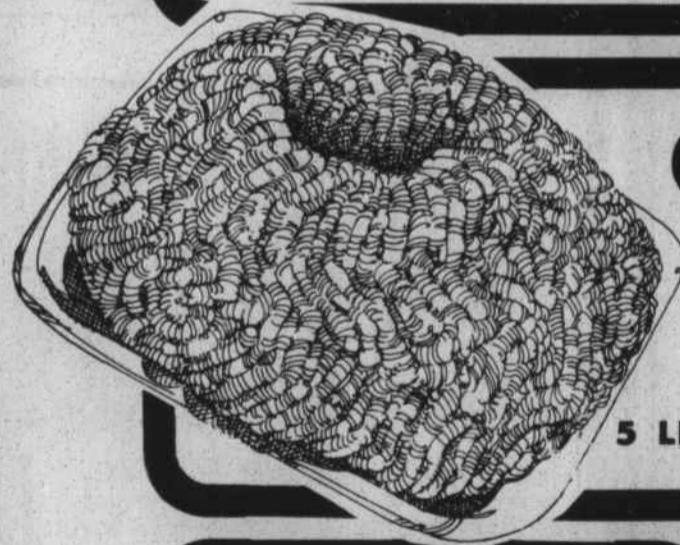
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CHATHAM DOG FOOD

50 LB. BAG

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