



Joe Lanier

**SON of A
gun**

Duplin General Hospital is on the minds of a great many Duplin County citizens. The reason it is on their minds is its financial difficulties. If it had been on the minds of people who were sick prior to now, it would not be in the shape it is in, according to those who manage it and work there. . . . The other reason for its poor showing in the money-making department is Federal programs such as Medicaid and Medicare. The Federal government over-obligated itself. . . . It said it would do certain things and finds itself without sufficient money to do as it promised. . . . Here again, according to those who work there, there is one other area — bad debts. As for people going to other hospitals, most people go where their doctors suggest. If the people are going away from Duplin General, they have been led away. . . . Personalities of doctors enter the picture; however that to be considered above anything else is professionalism. . . . When one goes to a distant hospital, all he or she knows is the professionalism of the doctor. . . . This doctor may be a holy terror in the halls, but when it comes to doing this thing with his patient, he is next to wonderful. . . . This same professionalism should be considered at Duplin General. . . . There is the same type of gossip going about in hospitals distant to Duplin as there is in Duplin. You just don't hear it — and there is as much truth to one as to the other. . . . As for Medicare and Medicaid, these two Federal programs have been explained to me. However, I do not feel comfortable enough with the explanation to venture an opinion. Everyone I have talked to says the programs are simply not paying their way. . . . And what they do pay is final. The remainder cannot be billed to the patient. Bad debts become bad debts when they cannot be collected. I wonder how determined a collector is Duplin General. . . .

The county commissioners have been handed a hot potato — or bedpan. . . . On one hand they are told to keep Duplin General Hospital open and on the other hand they are told. . . . Whatever you do, do not raise taxes. . . . Both voices vote. . . . Those saying keep Duplin General open and those saying do not raise taxes. . . . In fact, many Duplin citizens are saying both. . . . No new taxes and keep the hospital operating. . . . The commissioners are saying. . . . Lordy, Lordy, what are we to do. . . . That answer is simple in my opinion. . . . Start doing what you were elected to do — manage the county. . . . Look at what is good for Duplin County. . . . Set some new priorities. . . . But, first and foremost, get the facts. . . . I don't think a sensible decision can be made until a general study can be made by an outside firm. . . . As I count the assets of Duplin County, Duplin General Hospital is definitely one. . . . I believe we must discover its faults, fix them, and rely on it as it relies on us. . . . The county's doctors must support it as well. . . . As the county reviewed its medical coverage for the 200 or so employees last year when the Blue Cross-Blue Shield cost skyrocketed 30 percent, it was noted that if these employees had gone to Duplin General, the cost would have been less. . . . Thus, the premiums would have been less. . . . Seems to me there is a message in that. . . . I do not want an extra tax added with the inefficiencies in the county operations and Duplin General's. . . . Both can stand some tightening in day-to-day operations. . . .



19th Hole



Pro Ed Smoot announces a Two-Man Best-Ball set for April 23-24. Area golfers interested should contact Pro Smooth at Coharie Country Club in Clinton. You don't want to miss this big Coharie event. Understand the course is in very good condition. . . .

Southern Wayne Pro Rick Murphy announces their Invitational has been scheduled for the weekend of April 16-17 at the beautiful 18-hole layout just north of Mount Olive. . . .

Pro Doug Smith reports several outstanding events coming up over at Lakewood including the Captains Choice set for April 30 and May 1. All golfers in the area are invited to play in this tournament. Smith also reports the N.C. LP Gas Association tournament will be played at Lakewood on April 21. There will be an Eastern North Carolina Turf-grass conference in the clubhouse on April 28, and ladies are reminded very Tuesday night is Ladies Night. . . .

Pro Rick Green reports activity coming up at Duplin

Fore.

EASTPARK CINEMAS 1-2-3 592-2800

Held Over - Second Week Shows 7, 9:05, Sun. 2, 4, 7 & 9:05

SPRING BREAK That's where the fun begins. Rated R

Held Over - Third Week Shows 6:55, 9:05, Sun. 1:55, 4, 6:55 & 9:05

Tom Selleck P.G. **HIGH ROAD TO CHINA**

Held Over - Second Week Shows 7 & 9:05, Sun., 2, 4, 7 & 9:05

BLACK STALLION RETURNS Action, Adventure PG

\$AT. 3:00 MATINEE *1.00 PER PERSON

National Spinning Co., Inc.

Is Presently Accepting Applications For Employment At Their Warsaw Plant.

Applications Will Be Accepted On

Tuesdays Only

With Screening & Referrals By Kenansville Job Service Office.

National Spinning Incorporated is an Equal Opportunity Employer - M-F

STATE INSPECTED
To Cut, Grind & Wrap Meats

STORE HOURS
8 TILL 7
6 DAYS A WEEK

JONES
FOOD STORES
BEULAVILLE

CURTIS WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE

\$1.59 1 LB.



CURTIS BOLOGNA

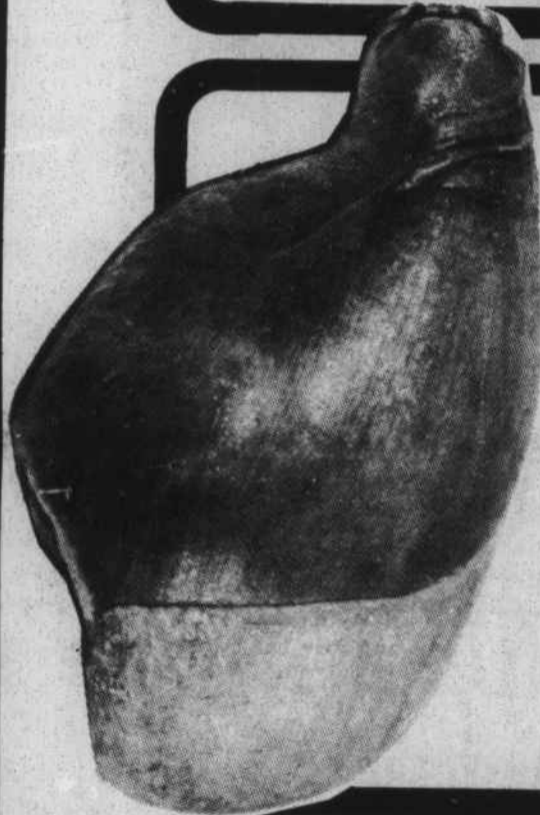
\$1.49 LB.

CURTIS BACON

12 OZ. **\$1.29**

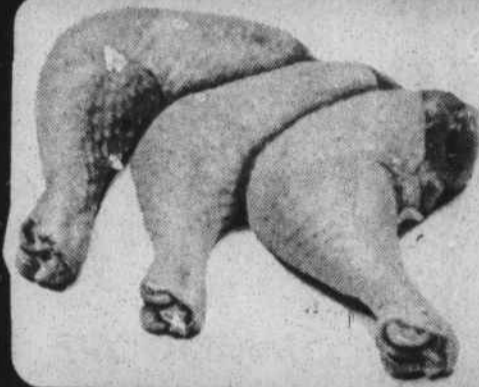
CURTIS LITE DOGS 66¢

12 OZ.



WHOLE SMOKED PICNICS

68¢ LB.



FRYER LEGS

66¢ LB.

TURKEY BREAST

\$1.09 LB.



PET WHIP

TOPPING

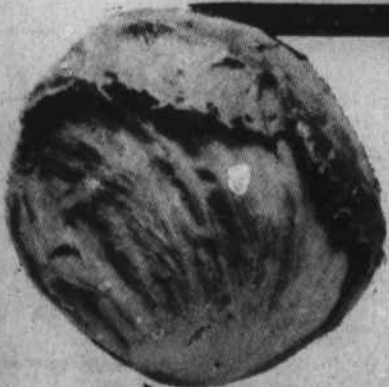
8 OZ.

66¢



CLOROX GAL.

88¢



LETTUCE HEAD

38¢

CELERY

29¢ STALK

RED DELICIOUS APPLES 3 LB. BAG 89¢



MUELLER'S ELBOW

MACARONI & SPAGHETTI

LB. BOX

59¢



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