

Carteret County News-Times
"Carteret County's Newspaper"

o Court or Not to Court?

There is no doubt in our minds that operation of a recorder's court in the town of Beaufort would be desired, but we seriously doubt that the operation is feasible at the present time.

We have been present at several discussions of the court proposal and in each instance the arguments for or against are clouded with extraneous debates such as will the court be an asset rather than a liability and will Beaufort become a town with the "distasteful" reputation of being a community where the letter of the law is enforced.

Actually, judgment as to whether a court should be established should be based on two factors: is the court necessary and desirable and second, is it feasible?

In truth, the court would be desirable IF it were possible to operate it efficiently. Efficient operation involves an improved police force (both equipment and personnel), equipping and maintaining a court room, operation of the jail as a full and not a temporary lock-up, and court officers of better-than-average calibre.

As to whether the court is necessary is a highly debatable question. The major argument of proponents is that better law enforcement would result if the town had a court. Their reasoning follows this line: revenue from the court would make employment of more officers possible as well as the obtaining of equipment such as radio-equipped patrol cars. This would lead to apprehension of more violators of the law, thus improving law enforcement.

Those against the court admit that "better" law enforcement would probably be possible with more officers, patrol cars, radio, etc., but declare that this would lead to apprehending persons for violating the "letter of the law," thus making the town a veritable trap.

Arguments, in this vein, by persons against the court are couched in a phrase that generally runs like this: "Well I wouldn't want to live in a town where you have to be afraid to drive down the street for fear you're going to be arrested." That's another red herring dragged across the path of the basic issue. All laws should be enforced. If they are not enforceable they should not be made and thinking persons, if they are in a position to make a choice, will choose a community where law is enforced as against a community where laws are winked at.

Where there is the "choice" of enforcing some laws and not enforcing others, the citizens by default delegate to the hands of a few town officials or police officers the tremendous and dangerous task of deciding what law shall be brought to bear against what individuals and when.

There should be no question or debate about whether the laws should be enforced. We doubt, however, that a recorder's court in Beaufort would be the means of bringing about the desired enforcement.

The same laws are on the books now that will be there if a court comes into being. We submit that the town has not used to best advantage the court resources it has at hand. In all due respect to all the mayors the town has had, mayor's court has always been a casual affair. We have no quarrel as to the meeting out of justice, but the court, a minor one though it may be, should be conducted with a certain amount of dignity and efficiency. Though the jurisdiction is limited and the maximum allowed for fines relatively small, offenders could at least be impressed by the court itself if the size of the fine didn't take them.

There has been the attitude recently of "Why bother with mayor's court? The fines and forfeitures go to the county anyway, so why should we go to the trouble of holding court and collecting several measly dollars (\$4.50) in costs from a convicted defendant?"

If a recorder's court were established, fines and forfeitures would continue to go to the county, and if the present attitude prevails and the recorder's court doesn't operate the way optimists predict, they will be saying, "Why bother, the fines and forfeitures go to the county anyway and why should we go to the trouble of collecting just the costs?"

Proponents argue that \$21.50 is quite a bit more than \$4.50 and therefore it would be worth conducting the court because the \$21.50 would go toward getting a better police force — and then we're right back where we started, the predicted better law enforcement.

Those in favor of the court seem to lose sight of the fact that a certain amount of capital is necessary to establish the court. In Beaufort's present financial condition, though it has improved in the past two years, we fail to see where that capital can be found. Before more officers can be hired or another patrol car bought, or a court room equipped, there has to be money. And the money has to be spent on the desired items before all the dreamed-of potential defendants can be apprehended.

It has been the contention of those who favor establishing a court that prisoners will be taken care of by the county. They contend that the county is legally obligated to do so. Whether the county is legally obligated or not, Beaufort is basing its hopes for a court on a factor that in itself can cause much friction. It is similar to a man starting a business on one side of the street and telling the man across the street, "Now I'm going into business, but I don't want to bear all the overhead expense. You'll have to help me do that because if you don't, I won't be able to make a success of this business."

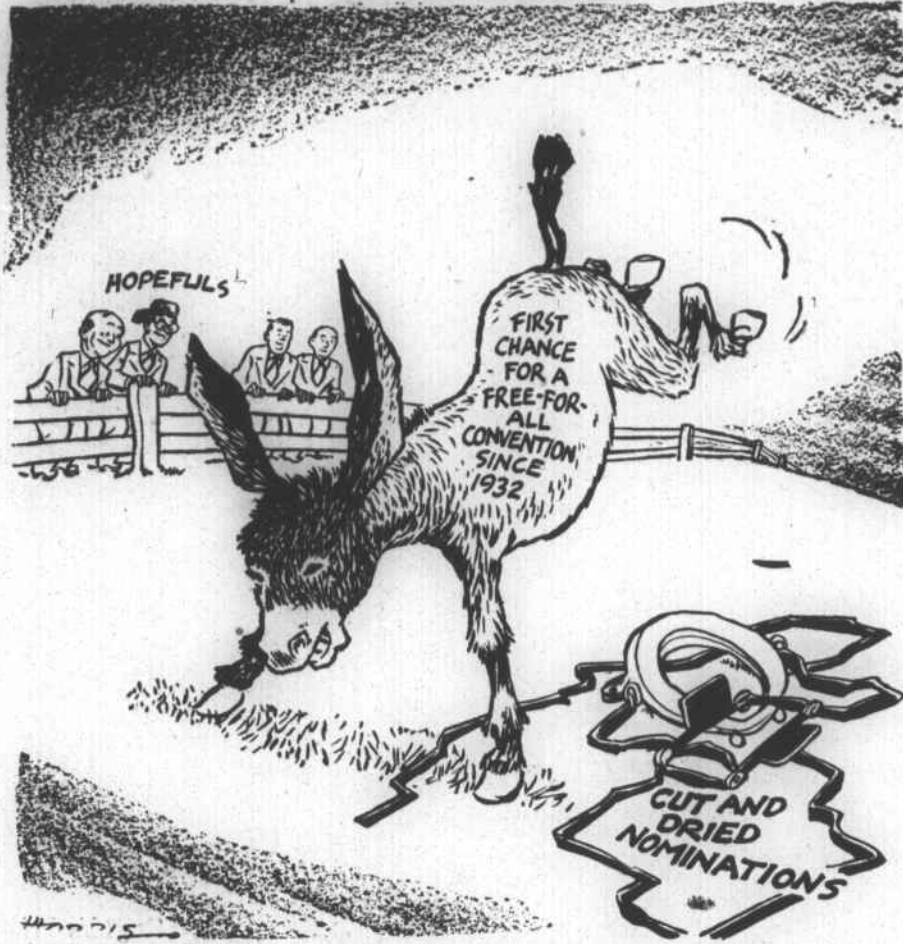
Unless Beaufort is willing to assume all obligations in connection with the proposed court, unless it is willing to relinquish the fond idea of riding to glory on the county's coat-tails, we have little encouragement to give in this proposed venture.

We suggest that Beaufort show, during the next two years, that its mayor's court can operate efficiently. The commissioners have talked all year of working into the budget for the coming fiscal year an additional police officer, thus raising the force to four. Also hoped for is the location of enough money to equip the Beaufort patrol car with radio. It may be worthwhile, also, for the town to investigate whether \$4.50 is the maximum permitted by law as to mayor's court costs.

We suggest that Beaufort show during the next two years a sufficient number of cases in mayor's court and a sizable number bound over to the county recorder's court before contemplating a town recorder's court.

And we further suggest that officials concentrate on improving the financial condition of the town. If those things can be done, then we believe that the court could be justified on the basis of necessity, desirability, and feasibility.

OUT OF HARNESS



One Responsive Chord

In the early spring of 1863, when the Confederate and Federal armies were confronting each other on the opposite hills of Stafford and Spottsylvania, two bands chanced one evening, at the same hour, to begin to discourse sweet music on either bank of the river. A large crowd of soldiers of both armies gathered to listen to the music, the friendly pickets not interfering, and soon the bands began to answer each other.

First the band on the northern bank would play "Star-Spangled Banner," "Hail Columbia," or some other "yankee" air, and at its conclusion the "boys in blue" would cheer most lustily. And then the band on the southern bank would respond with "Dixie," or "Bonnie Blue Flag," or some other southern melody, and the "boys in gray" would attest their approbation with their sky-rending Confederate yell. But presently one of the bands struck up, in sweet and plaintive notes which were wafted across the peaceful Rappahannock, and were caught up at once by the other band and swelled into a grand anthem which touched every heart — "Home, Sweet Home!"

At the conclusion of this piece there went up a simultaneous shout from both sides of the river—cheer followed cheer, and those hills, which had so recently resounded with the thunder of hostile guns, echoed and re-echoed the glad acclaim. A chord had been struck responsive to which the hearts of enemies — enemies then — could beat in unison; and on both sides of the river.

"Something down the soldier's cheek Washed off the stains of powder." —Reprinted.

Classified Information

Pertinent "want ads" clipped from various newspapers:
Lost—Green fountain pen by a man half full of ink.

Wanted—Man to wash dishes and two waitresses.

Wanted—Man with horse sense to drive a motor truck.

Lost—A five-dollar bill by a working woman tied in a knot.

Wanted—Energetic housekeeper who can milk cows, to keep house for one.

Wanted—A writer with a sense of humor who will not be funny around the office.

Notice—Anyone found near my chicken house at night will be found there the next morning.

Sale—Special sale of apples and chestnuts. Come in the morning — the early bird gets the worm.

Found—Lady's pocketbook in my car while parked. Owner can have same by paying for this ad. If she can explain to my wife how the pocketbook got there, I will pay for the ad myself.

How True!

They used to take the fender off, and hammer out the dents, then put it on the car again at just a slight expense.

But now the fender's streamlined in, and really meant to stay. So you must either keep the dents or throw the car away!

Smile a While

Old Mrs. McCoy was an incurable grumbler. Nothing pleased her. But one fall her pastor heard of her excellent apple crop and figured that at last he had found one thing about which she could not possibly complain.

"Well, Sister McCoy," he said, "I know you are happy. I've heard a lot about that apple crop!"

The old woman glared at him as she replied: "Oh, I guess they'll do — but where's the rotten 'uns for the pigs?"

CAMERA NEWS

BY IRVING DESFOR

ANDREAS FEININGER, eminent photo-journalist, believes there are a vast number of photographers in this country who are potentially ripe for improved, creative, imaginative photography. To them he has dedicated his new book, "Advanced Photography: Methods and Conclusions" (Prentice-Hall).

Well printed in large, legible type and profusely illustrated, it combines photo philosophy, practical experience and home construction hints. It is a sequel to "Feininger on Photography," which contained basic information.

The book documents Feininger's many talents. His photos show us he is a thorough craftsman. His home-made telephoto cameras show his inventive, technical and mechanical abilities. His writing shows keen thinking that is at once scholarly, analytical and provocative. They all



Combination of positive face and negative hands creates an imaginative conception of "Make-Up" by Rolf Tietgens. By semi-transparent rendition, the hands seem to move. This is from "Advanced Photography" by Feininger.

add up to intelligent, imaginative pictures. He thinks most photographers can do as well if their thoughts are turned in the right direction and if they use their minds as well as their cameras.

TO GET DOWN TO CASES, let's assume you must photograph a subject. In almost all cases, there is one "obvious" way to shoot it. Undoubtedly it will be adequate, but usually it will not be outstanding. Instead of shooting it the easy way, Feininger advises a systematic questioning of every picture-making factor, along these lines:

"What else can I do? How would my subject look from a different angle . . . from higher up or lower down? How would it look taken with a telephoto lens from further away or with a wide angle lens from much closer? Could I use different background, different props or accessories, different pose or different light?"

Undoubtedly better pictures will result if photographers took to thinking like this instead of snapping automatically. And anyone who can think that a-way is just the guy Feininger had in mind when he wrote this book.

CONTEST NOTE: The "Pets Are Fun" photo contest for youngsters 19 and younger is on the last lap. The deadline for mailing entries is April 26th, with the winner getting a choice of some mighty exciting trips.

If a boy wins first prize he can choose a 15,000-mile flight to Africa plus a jungle safari or a two-week, all-expense air trip to New York or Hollywood. In a case of rank discrimination, if a girl wins first prize she has her choice only of New York or Hollywood. No jungle safaris. In either case, first prize provides the same expense-paid adventure for a companion-chaperone selected by the winner.

Practically any amusing animal picture is a possibility whether taken at home, in a zoo or on a farm. The contest is sponsored by the Sylvia flash-people and pictures must be mailed with an official entry blank, obtainable at your local camera store.

Raleigh Roundup

BY JAMES FOU BAILEY

WITH THE WINNER . . . Although North Carolina's older Democrats are leaning hard to Georgia's bachelor, Senator Richard Russell, some of the younger—and apparently more cautious — elements of the Democratic party will be found looking westward and over the mountains to Tennessee and Coonskinner Estes Kefauver between now and the National Democratic convention this summer.

Governor Kerr Scott and National Committeeman Jonathan Daniels are keeping mum. They want North Carolina to be with the man who is eventually the winner, whoever that might be. It is rather obvious that they have a hunch it will not be Senator Richard Russell.

BUSTING OUT . . . Spring is busting out all over. See where the young vigorous males at a college invaded the co-eds' dormitory a few days ago. Not to be outdone, the girls soon invaded right back and surrounded and took over the swains' domicile.

David Buckner, a candidate for editor of the student newspaper at the University of North Carolina, persuaded a local businessman to try out the idea of beer at five cents a glass. The proprietor agreed and last week began serving nickel brew at his two establishments in Chapel Hill. Buckner made the move a part of his political platform.

Best sign of spring here is gambling on the green of Capitol Square by high school students from throughout the state. They began their trek last week; and were welcomed with open arms by state officials and local merchants who see them not only as harbingers of spring but as items of Easter business.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY . . . Among the many conventions scheduled to be held here in Raleigh this spring is that of the N. C. Merchants association. Founded in 1902, the organization will thus be observing its 50th birthday. Featured speaker will be J. C. Penney, one of the great merchants of the world, whose first store was established the same month the N. C. Merchants association was founded.

The merchants will meet in Raleigh on Monday and Tuesday, May 19-20.

OUTSTANDING . . . Speaking of merchants and annual meetings, the Durham Merchants association, year-in-year-out, probably has the most entertaining held in the whole U.S.A.

They have had in years past such entertainers as Bob Hope, Arthur Godfrey, Bing Crosby, Perry Como. This year Durham merchants will have as stars of their annual meeting Como, Edgar Bergen and his sidekick, Charlie McCarthy, and Peggy Lee.

For this, the merchants owe a debt of gratitude to Executive Secretary William A. Kirkland and the cooperation he has secured from Chesterfield cigarettes.

CANDIDATE . . . We never were able to figure out what happened to Dr. James R. Parker of Lumberton in his race for Congress in the seventh district a couple of years back. Anyway, he didn't get the nomination. He ran for the Legislature at one time, also, but didn't make it.

Speaking on a Dillon, S. C., radio station one night last week Dr. Parker announced he would be a candidate for president on an independent ticket. They have radio stations in and around Lumberton, but we suppose Dr. Parker went over into South Carolina for his address in order to make his candidacy more national, more interstate in character. No use just messing around merely with Robeson county folks in this presidential thing, for they wouldn't even send him to the Legislature.

LET HIM GO . . . Anyway, it's all right. Let Dr. Parker run. This is a free country. We doubt that this new candidate will be able to make it, but if he wants to run, more power to him. Let's hope, however, that Dr. Parker is an above-average or below-average fellow. We have had the "average man" type in the White House for seven years now, come Saturday, April 12, and there is some inkling the people would like to try another variety of President during the next four years.

FOREIGN POLICY . . . The foreign policy of this country more deeply affects the future of all of us, and of our children, than anything else now on the horizon. We hear one day that we are losing the cold war, the next, that it may turn hot. The Near East simmers and the Far East boils. What should we do? Where should we turn?

Recently, Dr. Eugene E. Pfaff, professor of history at Woman's college of UNC, spoke in High Point on foreign policy. I felt he had a real message for the American people. With his permission, here are five points for the conduct of our foreign policy. Look them over and see what you think. Remember we are in a long race. Militant belief, as Professor Pfaff says, not military muscle, may be the final decisive force.

1. Develop a plan for peace through which universal enforceable disarmament under law is practical. Make clear to the world that it is Russia, not the U.S.A., which prevents all men from being freed from the scourge of war.

2. Develop the pilot plant operation of a worldwide cooperative program of economic development and social reform aimed at liberating all mankind from hunger, poverty, disease, and oppression. This would demonstrate in action that democracy means more than mere anti-Communism. This is the functional approach to peace. In many places in the world a plow is a more effective weapon than a machine gun.

3. Be sure that cold war expediency does not cause us to betray at home or abroad the basic principles of a free society.

4. Build military power in such a way as to combine the maximum deterrent effect with the minimum of provocation and appearance of aggressive intentions.

5. Be sure that rearmament does not undermine the economic strength and political stability of a free world.

DAVIS . . . You good Scott people, and many of the supporters of Charlie Johnson in 1948, will remember editorials from the Zebulon Record. Excerpts and whole columns literally saturated North Carolina. They were written by Ferd Davis, Wake Forest alumnus and son of Baptist Minister Theo B. Davis and Mrs. Davis, salt of the earth in these parts.

Well, Davis probably got in more good licks for Kerr Scott than any of the other in the pure layman class. Subsequently, he was considered for several top brass positions in the Scott administration. Eventually, he was appointed to membership on the Board of Conservation and Development.

A few weeks back, a resolution instructing Conservation Department employees not to support actively any political candidate was introduced by Member Davis and unanimously adopted. Board Chairman Miles Smith of Salisbury said later that the resolution was not directed at Governor Scott.

Smith apparently didn't know what he was talking about, for Davis stated flatly that the resolution was directed at the Governor. He said that Governor Scott's support of Olive prompted the resolution. Wrote Davis: "Mr. Scott is for Hubert Olive and I am for William Umstead. But that gives neither of us the right to bring pressure on state employees to compel their support of either candidate."

State employees, carefully approached on the subject last Friday, said no pressure had as yet been applied to them. One coy young thing asserted she had never voted, and was standing around waiting for the pressure.

THE WEATHER . . . This is finger-crossing weather in the Sandhills. Blooms and peach buds — as this is written — hang on the trees. But tomorrow, tonight, tomorrow morning, frost may move in and ruin the crop, cripple it, or merely dance around, touching lightly here and playing rugged havoc over there. This is finger-crossing time in the Sandhills.

Orchardists watch the nights like soldiers tip-toeing in a mined field. Meantime, northwestern North Carolina is looking with longing eyes at dollars coined in the Sandhills during those rare seasons when frost doesn't damage. It isn't just the cold which hits the bloom and kills the fruit. The frost kiss is the death kiss.

State college folks report that on the high rides of the Mount Airy section of the state weather is no major problem with peaches. John W. Olive operates a 300-acre orchard out from Mount Airy. He has never experienced a complete crop loss because of the weather.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

DEAN GOODERHAM ACHE-SON, born April 11, 1893, in Middletown, Conn., son of a clergyman who became Episcopal bishop of Connecticut. Secretary of State since 1949, he has guided U.S. foreign policy through a politically stormy period. Successor of George C. Marshall, he had been one of the main architects of the Marshall Plan. He served under Cordell Hull and James F. Byrnes.



Hollywood

Hollywood—From kids to chimps — that's Cary Grant's latest switch in screen playmates.

He "loved" working with five attractive children in "Room for One More." So did his wife, Betsy Drake. The experience gave them an idea, Cary said:

"If we don't have some children of our own soon, we may adopt some. You've got to have one or two to know what life is all about."

Presently Cary, an only child himself, has backed down the evolutionary ladder to pick his picture partners. They're a couple of chimpanzees, in "Darling, I Am Growing Younger."

In what should prove an agreeable comedy, Grant is a research scientist. He works with caged monkeys in search of a fountain-of-youth formula. His boss, Charles Coburn, eggs him on because Coburn has his monocled eye on his lascivious secretary, Marilyn Monroe.

Well, Cary doesn't find the formula but one of his chimps accidentally does. The monk mixes a chemical concoction and dumps it into the bottle of office drinking water. Present the gray-tinted Grant has retrogressed to his jolly-and-bearskin-coat days. And he and his wife, Ginger Rogers, who also drinks some of the stuff unsuspectingly, imagine themselves back on their honeymoon.

Working with chimps can be trying, as I saw in an hour on the set. One Chimp is supposed to yank off Grant's horn-rimmed spectacles. On some takes she'd do it fine. Other times she'd sprawl on her back or get interested in another player or a length of string.

You could hear Cary telling her, "Take 'em off, take 'em off!" as he thrust his spectacled face close to the chimp's. Obviously this coaching, invisible to the camera because his head was turned, would have to be wiped off the sound track.

After acting in his preceding picture with children, how does Grant like working with such equally notorious scene-stealers as chimps?

"Chimps are all right," he said. "It's me that's all wrong. It seems that when the chimps do a scene right, the actors do it wrong."

Smokey Says:

GEE—I HOPE THERE AIN'T NO FOREST FIRES TODAY!—HIM-HEE—TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME.



Here and There

BY F. C. SALISBURY

THE COASTER

S. S. ARTHUR, Editor-Publisher

Friday, April 11

Mr. D. B. Wade has been visiting his son, Mr. Stacy Wade, at Raleigh.

Miss Geraldine Willis visited her parents here Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. K. E. Terry and wife, who have been here for quite a while, left for home in Boston, Monday.

Arrangements are being made for the entertainment of the New Bern district conference of the M.E. church which is to meet here May 13 to 18.

Second quarterly conference will convene Sunday night, April 13 at Franklin Memorial M.E. church. District superintendent, J. H. Warren, will preach at 7:30 p.m. J. L. Dennis, pastor.

Revival services will be held at the Baptist church here beginning next Sunday, April 13, and continue for ten days or two weeks. The new pastor, the Rev. Edwin R. Harris, will do the preaching and the Rev. Theodore B. Davis will assist in personal work.

A special meeting of the chamber of commerce was held Wednesday night in the hall over the Paragon. The public was cordially invited to consider with them the subject of the government cutting out the basin and continuing the present channel westerly to Bogue sound. It seems that this project has been favorably recommended by the board of engineers, but for some reason has been temporarily held up.

A committee of C. S. Wallace, G. D. Canfield and others will go to Washington for the purpose of presenting the claim to the board of review. Other matters of vital importance to the town were discussed, and it was planned to put more life in the town by reorganizing the chamber of commerce within the next thirty days and start out on new lines and all who have the interest of the town and community at heart are expected to take a leading part in this great work.

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