

THE NEW BERN MIRROR

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PRINTED WORDS

It is particularly fitting that America has a National Library Week, and that the New Bern Public Library is joining in the coast to coast observance.

Much of our enlightenment and enjoyment is found in the world of books, magazines and newspapers. And, because we live in a land where freedom of the press is in truth a reality, what we read is of our own choosing.

The very nature of this freedom opens the avenue for prejudiced writing on all manner of subjects. But, for the most part, both sides of the story usually gets into print, and it is the reader's privilege and responsibility to evaluate what he reads and accept or reject as he sees fit.

No one can find time to read all of the worthwhile things that are written. In fact, what is worthwhile and what isn't is a matter of opinion, depending upon individual interests and tastes. The tragedy is that few of us read a fraction of the material we reasonably could, irrespective of its quality.

For instance, it would probably be surprising and disheartening if we knew just how many New Bernians never darken the door of the New Bern Public Library, or any other library. This despite the thousands of volumes available to anyone who is interested.

If you're one of those citizens who can't find time to read a book at least now and then, you probably aren't aware that the folks who do the most reading are usually very busy people. Somehow they manage to fit books into their crowded hours, and are happier because of it.

The New Bern Public Library doesn't compare with the larger libraries in our land, but it is far more comprehensive in its scope than you would imagine. Even in specialized fields, there's a good chance of finding what you're looking for.

In case you doubt this, stop by and see for yourself. Likely as not, you'll head for home with a book in your hand.

JUST PLAIN FOLKS

In recent days, New Bern has played host to more distinguished people than at any other given time in its long and illustrious history.

Literally hundreds of noted persons were in our midst. So many in fact that at one social function it was impractical, in the interest of time, to get around to introducing them all.

Aside from being blessed with the mark of greatness or near-greatness, these outstanding visitors had something in common. Without exception the ones we encountered were without sham or pretense.

It is ever thus. The really big people are down to earth and considerate. In the justified security of their station in life, they could get by with being offensive and obnoxious to lesser mortals. Instead, they prefer to be as plain as the proverbial old shoe.

A wise man once said, "If thou desire the love of God and man, be humble; for the proud heart, as it loves none but itself, so it is beloved by none but itself. The voice of humility is God's music, and the silence of humility is God's rhetoric."

That's why social climbers usually stumble and fall, in their rather ridiculous efforts to scramble into this or that exclusive set. Conscious of their precarious footing, they push and shove with neither grace nor success.

And in their pushing and shoving, they forget this admonition: "Be nice to the folks you pass going up the ladder. They are the ones who will break your fall when you come back down."

Of course, in the case of the truly great, there is no selfish motive in being nice. They realize that no man or woman is self-made. Because they have been blessed with exceptional talents, and are grateful to God for those talents, they have compassion and consideration for all fellow mortals.

Some wonderful folks like that have been in town lately.

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Historical Gleanings

—By—

FRANCES B. CLAYPOOLE
and
ELIZABETH MOORE

WILLIAM TRYON, ESQUIRE
GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE
OF NORTH CAROLINA
1765-1771

Governor Tryon administered the government of the Province of North Carolina until July, 1771, when he was advanced to the government of New York.

The address of the House, signed by Richard Caswell, Speaker, dated December 10, 1771, follows:

"TO HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM TRYON, ESQUIRE, GENERAL, GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF IN AND OVER THE PROVINCE OF NORTH CAROLINA:

"SIR: We his Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Members of Assembly of the Province of North Carolina, return you our humble and hearty thanks for your speech delivered to us at the opening of this session.

"The tender concern for the welfare of this Province with which your Excellency has pointed out the State of our public affairs, and the means of redressing grievances prevalent and oppressive deserve our warmest acknowledgments. The interest of those we represent, Justice to public creditors and the honour of Government, equally require at our hands a clear and exact settlement of the public accounts, and to this important object your Excellency may rely we shall with unwearied diligence apply ourselves.

"The conduct of public officers in some parts of this Province, perhaps, has given just cause of complaint. This, Sir, we would willingly believe hath not wholly arisen from a depravity of morals among the servants of the public, in some instances we are inclined to think it the consequences of an inconsistent and oppressive Bill. That Act has annexed fees to unnecessary services, which in this country are never performed; yet ideal as they are, they are carefully attended to, and often received; in other cases much to the prejudice of the officer, it has left services necessary and incumbent, wholly unprovided for. To remedy this evil as far as we can, we con-

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The trill of brooks that flow along
To join the mighty rhythm of the seas.
There's rhapsody, when night winds sigh,
And something in a bob cat's cry
Sounds strangely operatic 'neath the stars;
The frogs roll out their mighty bass,
And somewhere, in her hiding place,
A wren essays a few soprano bars.
It's time for tunes, when Nature's hand unlocks
The melodies within her music box.
—JGMCD.

consider as being indispensibly our duty; and permit us, Sir, to assure you that to discharge it in this, as well as in every other instance with cheerfulness and fidelity is an object to which we shall be attentive.

"The great quantity of counterfeit certificates and proclamation Bills circulating among us is a circumstance truly alarming to the whole Province. It is injurious to individuals and destructive to public credit. We consider that nothing less than passing an Act, for calling in all public certificates and paper currency circulating this Colony, can put an end to the fatal consequences attending so infamous an imposition on the inhabitants of this country."

Here it may be noted that numerous law suits on counterfeit money were filed in the Courts of Craven county, some including samples of the counterfeit money.

"The late daring and insolent attack made on the Superior court at Hillsborough by the people who call themselves Regulators we hold
(Continued on Page 5)

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