



The NEW BERN MIRROR

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What sort of competition does New Bern face from other Tar Heel communities, as we dream of tourist dollars in this the year of our 250th anniversary?

Well, aside from firmly established out-door dramas there are scads of entertaining ventures already mapped out within the boundaries of the Old North State. Because we need to be realistic, it might not be a bad idea to check over the list.

Among other things on the agenda, we find the Dare Coast Pirates Jamboree that has been doing quite nicely since 1955, Chapel Hill's Carolina Folk Festival and its Spring Drama Festival, Chadbourn's Strawberry Festival, North Carolina's Rhododendron Festival near Bakersville, Benson's State Singing Convention, Wilson's East Carolina Singing Convention, and Asheville's Mountain Dance and Folk Festival.

In addition, there'll be the Miss North Carolina Beauty Contest, Spruce Pine's Gems and Minerals Festival, Newland's Mountain Laurel Festival, Guilford County's Fine Arts Festival, Fairmont's Farmers Festival, Burnsville's Arts and Crafts Festival, Brevard's Music Festival, Charlotte's Carolinas Carousel, Hendersonville's North Carolina Apple Festival, Canton's Fall Festival, Asheville's Craftsmen's Fair of Southern Highlands, Macon County Folk Festival and Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and Scottish Clan Gathering.

Sports events offer a formidable challenge to us. Not the usual run of college ball games, but additional attractions from the mountains to the sea. Here again, we can do worse than peruse the list which The Mirror has compiled as a sound approach in our efforts to attract visitors this year.

Included in our competition are the Governor's Cup Regatta at Henderson, the International Blue Marlin Tournament Cup Regatta, Kinston's Carolina's PGA Golf Tournament, Cape Hatteras Surf Fishing Tournament, Southern Pines Golf Carousel, Sandhills Invitation Tennis Tournament at Southern Pines, Raleigh's State Championship Horse Show, and other top flight horse shows at Oak Ridge, Tryon, Sedgefield, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Kernersville, Blowing Rock, Greensboro and Lenoir.

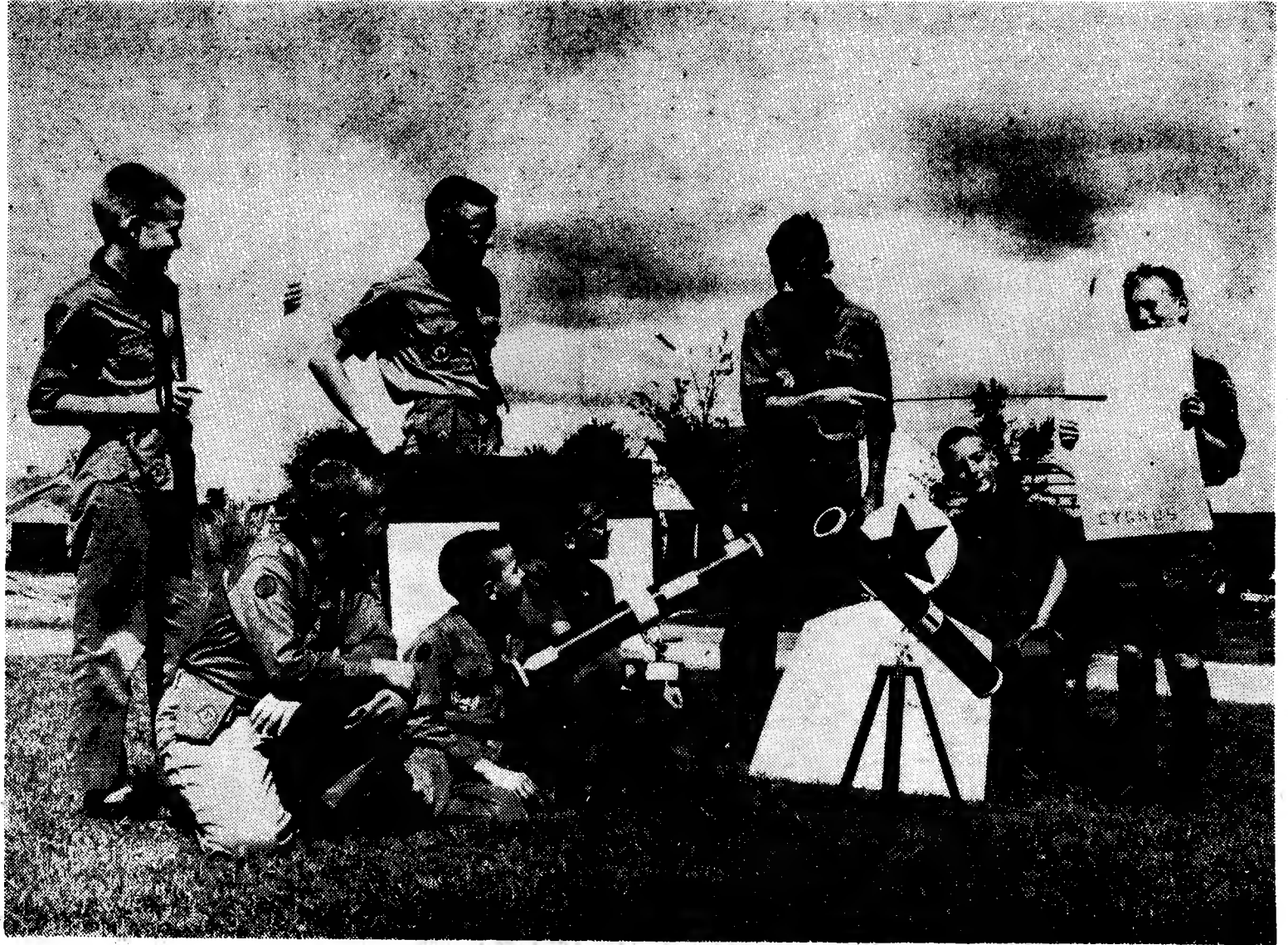
There'll be exciting harness races at Pinehurst, the Block House Steeple Chase at Tryon and Hounds Hunter Trials at Southern Pines, Tryon and Nags Head. The list could go on and on, as far as sports are concerned, but this should give you an idea.

In the flower department, Wilmington's North Carolina Azalea Festival looms ahead. It runs from March 31 through April 3, and it will be put across in grand style as always. Obviously, the folks down that way feel that the job should be done right, if you're going to bother with it at all.

Other events of similar nature scheduled this year include the Whiteville Camellia Society Show, Fayetteville's Garden Club Camellia Show, Elizabeth City's Albemarle Camellia Show, Rocky Mount's Eastern Carolina Camellia Society Show, Charlotte's Carolina Home and Flower Show, Greensboro's Council of Garden Clubs Flower Show, and the Southern Pines Tour of Homes and Gardens.

In view of the fact that we should be interested in attracting Tar Heels from every section of the state, not to mention out-of-state visitors, each and every one of the attractions listed above is competing with our 250th anniversary observance in a very real sense.

It is interesting to note that those living in other towns recognize the possibility of attracting tourists throughout the calendar



STAR GLAZERS—They may not have any intention of flying to the moon during Boy Scout Week, but these local youngsters are keenly interested in the study of astronomy.

Pictured here are Mike Gooding, Gene Stovall, Jimmy Jones, James Blythe, Ross Smith, Murray Phillips, Edward Hunt, and Mike Jones.—Photo by Billy Benners.

New Bern Youngsters Ready For Their Boy Scout's Week

Nothing—not even a political pot that is fast coming to a boil—is going to take precedent over Boy Scout Week.

Everybody in New Bern, including announced or unannounced candidates for this or that office, agrees most heartily that a cause as worthy as the Scout movement deserves a special seven-day period in which there will be added recognition and added activities for the youngsters and their leaders.

You'll see them attending church services in a body Sunday, and during the week they'll be having their Father and Son banquet, taking over for a day the various public offices, including Mayor, Chief of Police, Chief of the Fire department, Judge of Municipal Court and so on, and in many other ways making the community conscious of its many Scouters.

Old timers in town, while envying the lads in their proudly worn uniforms, will be remembering their own days in scouting. Some of them, most of all, will recall Scoutmaster B. M. Potter, whose Troop 2 several decades ago established a great tradition that has

never been surpassed or even equaled by later troops. Although it would be nice if America could take credit for the Boy Scout movement, it had its inspiration in the Boer War fought between 1899 and 1902. Robert S. Baden-Powell, who was then a colo-

nel in the British army, was responsible for the training of unseasoned recruits in South Africa. It dismayed him to see how few of these young men were capable of taking care of themselves. When he got back to England after the war, he was determined to see to it that the boys of the new generation would be more competent under challenging conditions.

He held his first camp for boys in 1907, and wrote in the year following his famous book, "Scouting For Boys." It was on this work that the movement was based. Baden-Powell relied on two older American groups—"Sons of Daniel Boone", organized by Daniel Carter Beard, and Ernest Thompson Seton's "Tribe of Woodcraft Indians"—for many of his ideas.

To a Chicago publisher, William D. Boyce, goes credit for bringing the movement to the United States. On February 8, 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated in Washington. Congress authorized the organization six years later.

In the United States alone, its membership through the years has included many millions of youngsters, and it's our understanding that at the present time there are approximately two million Boy Scouts in the nation. The organization flourishes throughout the world, except in those countries controlled by totalitarian governments who refuse to give it a chance to exist.

Men who had been Boy Scouts in their earlier years repeatedly rendered distinguished service to their country in World War I and World

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PIONEERING SCOUTS
Billy Pierce & Matthew Forstadt
—Photo by Billy Benners.

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