



The NEW BERN MIRROR

Mr. & Mrs. A. N. Murphy
2000 Arondall St.
New Bern, N. C.

5¢ Per Cop,

VOLUME 3

NEW BERN, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1960

NUMBER 18

Just in case you were overlooked when Madame Lee Randolph left her circulars on New Bern doorsteps, this is to notify you that her fortune telling business is located on the Greenville-Ayden highway, near South 11 Drive-In Theatre.

We didn't have the pleasure of meeting the Madame, but we learned a great deal about her from her small, neatly printed throw-away. She is not a gypsy, it says, but a true psychic, who doesn't ask you to write your name or any questions on paper.

Describing herself as a consultant and advisor, she "tells you any and everything you wish to know. Gives you name of friends and enemies. Gives true and never failing advice on all affairs of life."

Furthermore, Madame Randolph says, "Anger and worry are the most unprofitable conditions known to man. While they are in possession, mental, physical and spiritual growth are suspended. Anger is a highway robber, and worry is a sneak thief. Bring your problems to me today, tomorrow may be too late."

And here's a bit of important information that the Madame furnishes for free. "Read these chapters in the Bible and you will have good luck. Psalms: 63, 37, 91, 43, 50, 88, 71, 83, 81. Numbers: 4, 9, 14, 35, 29, 18, 6, 31, and 16."

In keeping with this time of year, when many business firms are advertising bargains, Madame Randolph advises us to "bring this coupon for Special Reading at Reduced Price and Save \$1.00." She neglected to inform us whether these Special Readings are restricted to just one to a customer.

We hope this isn't the case, since there are a great many questions we would like to have answered. On the international scene, we're wondering what Russia plans to do next, and how the Congo situation will eventually turn out. And, for better or worse, we are anxious to get a detailed report on the future that lies ahead for Fidel Castro.

On the national level, it would be nice to have advance information on the November election. Will John Kennedy be the next President, or is the Nixon family destined to move into the White House? If Madame Randolph can tell us beyond all doubt, she can forget the special reduced price. We'll gladly pay the extra dollar.

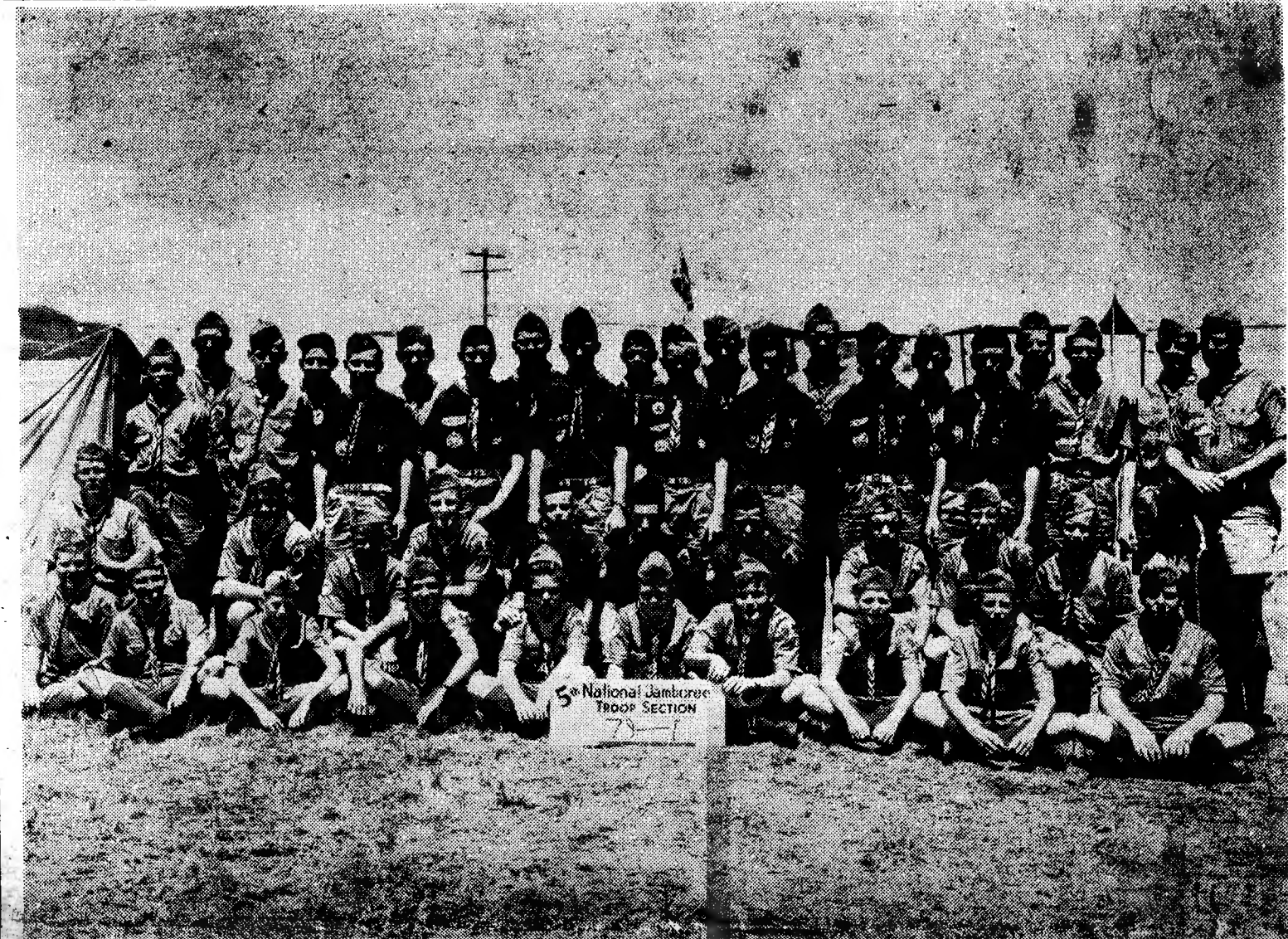
Enlightened to that extent, there are some local questions we would like to have answered, and any number of personal ones. In fact, it would probably be better to find out what the Madame's price is to serve up answers in gross lots.

Since the little circular she left on our doorstep displays a hand, we assume that Madame Randolph is a palmist. This particular type of fortune telling is quite ancient in its origin, and is widely accepted in the Orient.

So that you won't be completely ignorant when you pay your visit to a fortune teller, we'll pass along a few words of approximate wisdom on the subject. Possessing this knowledge hasn't helped us, but anyhow, here goes:

In palmistry, the fleshy parts of the palm at the base of the thumb and fingers, and the side of the hand from the little finger to the wrist, are called mounts. The wrinkles are called lines, and the mounts and lines together are supposed to be quite revealing.

These mounts are named for Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Apollo, Mercury, Mars and the moon. The first finger is called Jupiter, and a strong mount for this finger shows pride and ambition. The second finger's mount is called Saturn, and indicates fatality. Apollo is the mount for the third



PICK ME OUT, MOM—These happy lads from New Bern and the immediate area will have a lot to talk about when they get back home. They are attending the National

Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America at Colorado Springs, Colo. Look closely, and you'll find the kid who lives next door, up the street, or around the corner.

Nothing Can Top A Western When It Comes to TV Appeal

It was Rudyard Kipling who coined the famous phrase—"East is east and west is west, and never the twain shall meet."

At the time there was no such thing as television, so the immortal English poet couldn't possibly have been talking about eastern TV fans and the western horse operas they continue to cling to, year after year.

Most especially, Kipling's words aren't applicable in any sense to thousands of New Bernians who would rather do without supper than miss a single showing of "Gunsmoke" or "Have Gun, Will Travel." They have similar feelings too about "Wanted—Dead or Alive" and "Rifleman."

Gone are the days when Mom and Dad kidded Junior each time he waxed enthusiastic over Roy Rogers, Gene Autry and the Lone Ranger. Summer heat and countless re-runs notwithstanding, local adults are far more fanatical in

finger, and denotes art and riches. Mercury is the little finger, and its mount, if strong, reveals science and wit. Mars is below Mercury on the palm, and indicates cruelty and courage. Venus, below the base of the thumb, shows love and music.

In case you've wondered, the word fortune comes from Fortuna, the goddess of chance in Roman mythology. In Greece her name was Tyche. Fortuna brought good or bad luck to mortals, whether or not they deserved it. She may still be around. Remind us to ask Madame Randolph.

their adoration for any number of shoot-em-up heroes than our village small fry ever were or ever will be.

No longer is there serious speculation in television circles as to just how long the western craze will last. At the moment the adult taste for range riding in one's favorite parlor chair seems far more permanent than the rock of Gibraltar, jokes about your mother-in-law, headache remedies, or maybe even death and taxes.

Seeing a re-run of "Bonanza" or "Overland Trail" does nothing to dampen the interest of western-minded local citizens. This is hardly surprising, since the general format for any and all cowboy stories is as threadbare and familiar as the time honored stagecoach, the inevitable saloon, and those remarkable six-shooters that can be fired indefinitely without reloading.

It doesn't astound a dyed-in-the-wool western fan in the least when the "good man" astride a madly galloping steed is able to shoot one of his curving bullets around a bend in the desert trail, and bring down a fleeing "bad man" a mile or two away.

Likewise, there doesn't seem to be a lack of realism when the same characters, or their counterparts, leer at each other from a distance of ten or twelve paces and fire a dozen or more slugs that miss their mark. Obviously, the safest place to duel with a western sharpshooter isn't in the wide open spaces but in an area that is only slightly

more expansive than a telephone booth.

A sample survey by The Mirror indicates increasing local popularity for the horse operas, rather than declining interest. And in almost every household the feminine viewers go for westerns just as strongly as the male of the species.

As a matter of fact, no other type of TV entertainment comes close to having as much appeal for the entire family. In specialized fields, juveniles lean toward cartoons and short comedies, women drool over day-time tear jerkers, and men tune to sports. But they are unanimous in their craving for cowboy fare.

Richard Boone, who portrays Paladin on "Have Gun, Will Travel" in a manner that seems to intrigue young and old alike, has a large following here in New Bern. So does James Arness, who plays Matt Dillon on "Gunsmoke." Helping the popularity of "Gunsmoke" tremendously is Dennis Weaver's lovable and humorous interpretation of Chester.

It is typical of the strange quirks of human nature that New Bern television enthusiasts never get horrified at the large number of violent deaths that crop up on westerns. Yet, they shudder over a single homicide when it occurs in an Alfred Hitchcock thriller.

Perhaps this inconsistency can be tied in with the old adage—"Familiarity breeds contempt." So many cowboys have been done away with, and in such a matter

of fact fashion, that it has become strictly routine.

As one local housewife puts it, "the westerns don't concentrate on suspense as much as other television stories do. Instead, they capitalize on action. Besides, you never really get to know most of the characters who get killed. They are bumped off too soon for that."

Incidentally, "Wichita Town" ends its reruns on August 26, while "Gunsmoke" and "Wanted—Dead or Alive" close out the following night. Repeaters conclude "Wells Fargo" and "The Texan" on August 29.

"Have Gun, Will Travel" comes up with some new filmings on September 3, and so does "Bonanza." Soon afterwards, on September 11, "Overland Trail" and "The Lawman" conclude their rehashing, while "Wyatt Earp" discards its second hand material on September 13.

"The Rifleman" won't turn over a new leaf, as far as programs are concerned, until September 20. The following night, "Wagon Train" falls in line, and on successive evenings after that it's "The Plainsman" and "Rawhide."

These dates mean nothing to some of our Mirror readers, but to countless New Bernians they're worth circling on the calendar. No doubt about it, this town goes for westerns in a big way, and it is taking more than the Democratic and Republican conventions, and the ensuing Presidential election to get the minds of stalwart citizens off cattle rustlers and sundry other gun-toters.