

The NEW BERN MIRROR

Mr. & Mrs. A. N. Murphy
2000 Arendall St.
Morhead City, N. C.

5¢ Per Copy

VOLUME 3

NEW BERN, N. C., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1960

NUMBER 27

Walk along Middle street on a busy and beautiful Saturday afternoon, and you'll not only see just about everybody but a lot of things you weren't expecting to see.

For example, last Saturday we were startled when, all of a sudden we came face to face with a monkey. He was perched on the shoulder of a woman who seemed to be immensely pleased at the attention she was attracting from fellow pedestrians.

As for the monkey, he didn't seem to be the least bit happy. He was clutching the woman around the neck for dear life, and apprehensively surveying the countenance of every passing human who stared at him.

Judging by the way he looked at us, the little fellow doesn't like newspapermen. He grinned at us, but it seemed to be more of a snarl for a recognized enemy than a gesture of cordiality toward a newly found friend.

At the moment, his face was only a few inches from ours, and we could visualize a devilish leap on his part that would land him right smack on top of our head. It was very much like the disturbing feeling you get when passing a truck that is heavily loaded with logs. You're not exactly scared, but you're glad when it's over.

One thing was quite apparent. The little monkey had no desire to be down on the sidewalk, milling around with the hundreds of folks who were shopping or merely "eye-balling" the hours away in the brilliant sunshine of a golden Indian summer day.

Maybe he was afraid of encountering Fidel Castro or Nikita Khrushchev. Come to think of it, the way the little monkey was hugging the woman was very much like the gorilla-type embrace that Khrushchev gave Castro when they first met in New York. However, we will say that the monkey on Middle street had a kinder look in his eyes.

As for the woman who was toting him, she left no doubt of her awareness that she was in the spotlight. She seemed to be smirking with a sense of deep satisfaction, as she glanced from left to right to keep tab on the commotion she was causing.

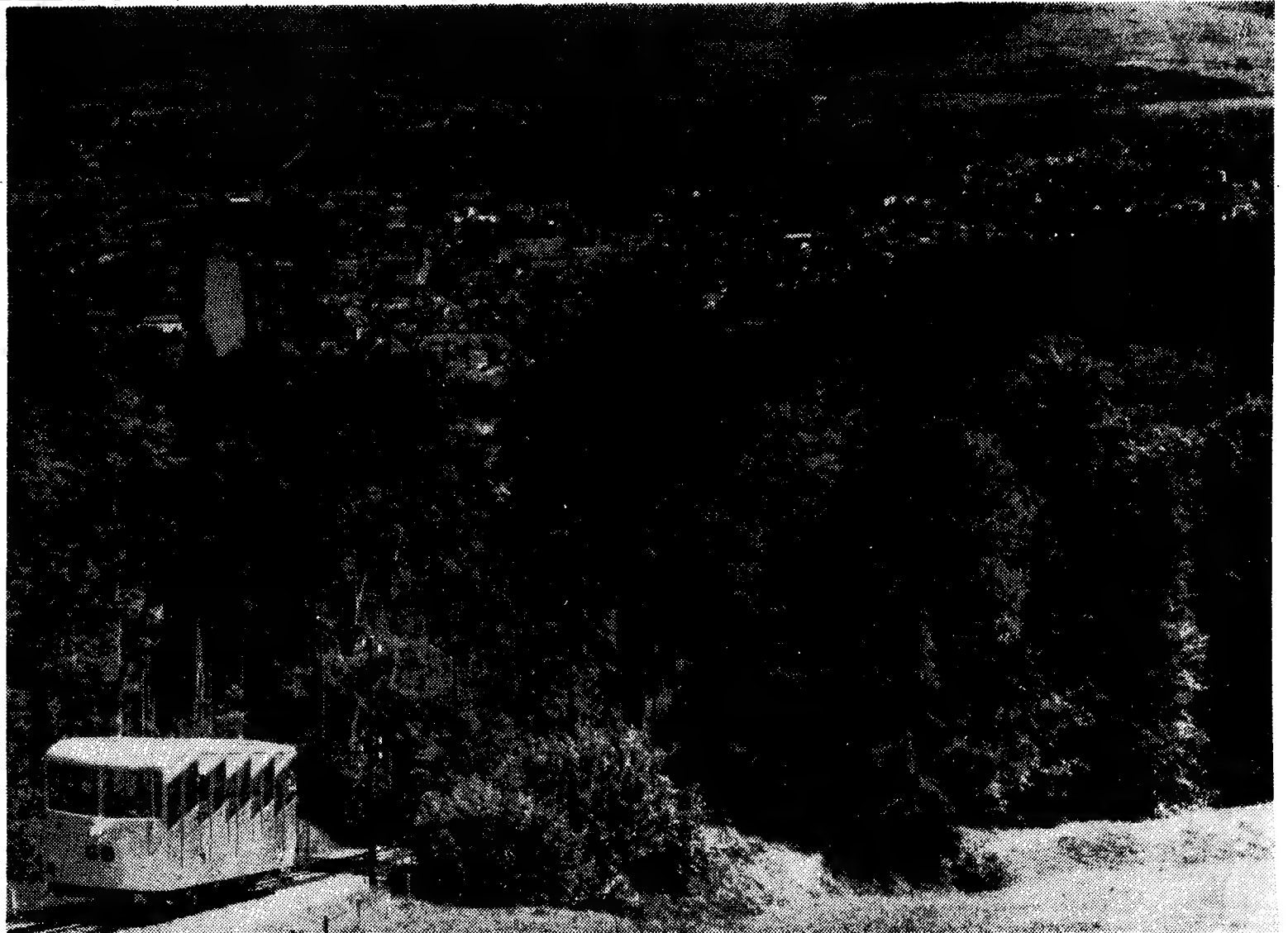
There's nothing like being the center of attention, although for our part we would rather go unnoticed than form a publicity arrangement with a diminutive fugitive from the jungle, with the hairiest little arms you ever did see.

At that, getting hugged by a monkey from one end of Middle street to the other may not be as bad as swallowing a goldfish, perching on top of a flag pole for weeks, talking yourself into unconsciousness on a radio marathon, or bouncing back and forth in a rocking chair to win some sort of prize while getting looked at by folks who should be spending their time doing something more indicative of approximate intelligence.

The little monkey didn't mean to do it, of course, but he upset the usual pattern followed by masculine gawkers in the downtown business section. Ordinarily, most males would have been busily engaged in watching the many attractive girls who prance along the street each Saturday. Instead, they not only ignored the luscious examples of feminine puerility, but also failed to notice or comment on the fattest woman we've ever seen crowded into a pair of pedal pushers—or were they treads?

Everybody knows that a woman can make a monkey out of a man in the twinkling of an eye. What this writer didn't know until last Saturday was the remarkable fact that a man could be more in-

(Continued on Page 8)



BLESSED WITH BEAUTY—Visitors to our mother city of Berne are intrigued by the splendor of this view. Gazing down from Gurten Hill, they have an unrestricted pano-

rama spread before them. If you're one of the old timers here in New Bern, the trolley shown in this Mirror mural will remind you of the street cars we once had

New Bernians Are Impressed By Nixon-Kennedy Debating

Sampling opinions locally, after this week's television and radio debate between Vice-President Richard M. Nixon and Senator John F. Kennedy, The Mirror came up with a rather startling fact. Every citizen interviewed felt that the candidate of his choice had gotten the better of it in the verbal sparring.

There wasn't a single instance in which supporters of the respective candidates thought that their man had come off second best. Prejudice accounted for a good bit of this reasoning, of course, but exerting heavy influence was the obvious fact that each of the Presidential candidates managed to come through with an excellent performance under nerve-racking circumstances.

One of New Bern's best known Republicans was frankly elated. "Nixon had a distinct disadvantage to start with," he admitted. "Through the luck of the draw, Kennedy had the first speech and he memorized it perfectly. Nixon, on the other hand, couldn't do this. He was forced to ad lib his speech, since the audience expected him to refute Kennedy's contentions."

Only once during his initial eight minutes before the camera did Kennedy stumble over a word, and that came just ten words from the conclusion of his opening oratory. Nixon, faced with improvising his speech as he went along, faltered two or three times, and made a slip when he referred to "last year" as 1958 rather than 1959. But he displayed his usual brilliance.

Our Mirror survey indicated that Kennedy has a strong appeal for feminine voters. This is no revela-

tion. From coast to coast he has caught the fancy of women with his boyish charm, and it was obvious to everyone viewing the debate here that Nixon can't compare

with Kennedy when it comes to being photogenic.

Nixon's dark, deep-set eyes are overshadowed by his heavy eyebrows, and photograph poorly.



NEW BERN'S BETH LANSCHÉ

Monday night he appeared to be tired, and if he hasn't lost weight in recent weeks the cameras didn't do him justice. His looks, of course, are something he has no control over, any more than Abraham Lincoln had control over his.

And, in these trying times, winning a beauty contest against your opponent shouldn't be one of the requirements for landing in the White House. However, not to be disregarded is the remark of one young matron interviewed in our survey. "Kennedy is handsome," she drooled, "and I'd vote for him no matter what party he was representing."

Everywhere we turned to get an insight into the reaction of New Bernians we found unanimity on one person. Not one person accused either Nixon or Kennedy of lacking dignity during the debate. All hands agreed that they were effective in steering away from personalities, and citizens were impressed by the absence of blustering.

Both candidates have indicated on other occasions that they can whoop it up in the traditional manner that political aspirants are prone to utilize, but in this instance they labored to be gentlemanly and polished. Some of the barbs were rather sharp, but there was nothing crude about the way they were hurled toward their mark.

Strictly from the standpoint of entertainment, the much-publicized debate was far superior to a lot of the television fodder being served up nowadays. Apparently Milton Berle didn't think so, when he came on immediately afterwards

(Continued on Back Page)