



The NEW BERN MIRROR

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Much of New Bern's news during recent weeks has been of an unpleasant nature, but under the surface a lot of worthwhile things are being accomplished.

One of the more commendable projects underway is the plan to bring an exchange student to the city for a year's attendance at New Bern High school. To this end, the New Bern chapter of American Field Service has been organized.

The idea of having a foreign teen ager in our midst was a brainchild of the Citizenship Department of the local Woman's club. Members did the ground work, and organization of the aforementioned chapter expanded the venture to include other people of the community.

Earl P. Smith is the chapter president. New Bern's City Manager, Ed Welch, is the member for finance, and Connie Rabin is the member for Home and Student Family Adjustment. J. W. Allen, principal of New Bern High school, is school adviser, and Hannah Westkett is Americans Abroad coordinator.

Glenn Dunn is the student representative. Jimmie Smith who is a member of the faculty at New Bern High is project chairman. Mrs. H. G. Dixon is serving as secretary, and you couldn't find a better more enthusiastic one.

Although the foreign student comes here may be from some other nation, a request has been placed for a Swiss youngster — preferably from our mother city of Berne. He or she will live in a private home here, to be selected by the national office.

American Field Service is a volunteer organization. It is partly subsidized by the State Department, but funds available have to be supplemented to some extent by citizens and clubs in those communities that play host to an exchange student.

At the present time there are 2,200 foreign students in America under the auspices of the program. So successful and significant is the project in improving international relations that the State Department has asked American Field Service to increase the number to 5,500 next year.

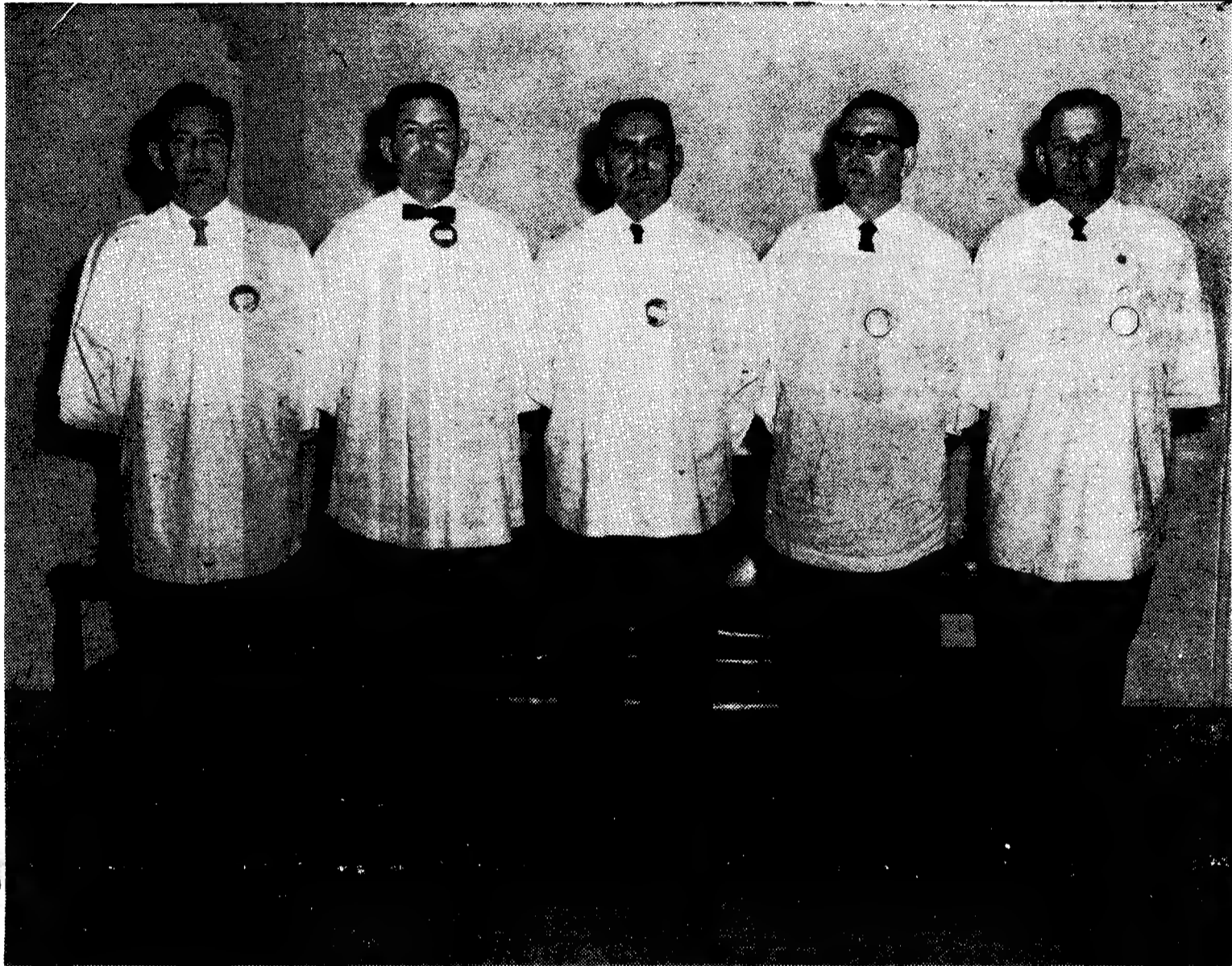
Since Monday, if we remember rightly, marks the twentieth birthday of Radio Station WHIT, we extend our best wishes for a happy anniversary. Born in the same era that spawned World War II, the station has played an important role in the life of the town and section for the past two decades.

In some quarters, animosity exists between radio stations and newspapers, but this has always appeared rather ridiculous to us. The Mirror prides itself on being on the best of terms with both WHIT and WRNB, as well as the two television stations that serve our area, Greenville's WNCT and Washington's WITN.

The public's interests are dependent on all three — newspapers, radio stations and television stations. Feuding won't remove any one of them from the American way of life. Frankly, all three can stand a lot of improving, and we certainly aren't exempting The Mirror from publications that have a long way to go before they reach perfection.

We've always felt that radio has a great potential. It may never achieve that potential — because stations are rarely as fully staffed as owners would like to have them. There's just so much money to go around at the average station. Most businesses have the same problem.

Anyhow, we wish WHIT a very happy birthday on its twentieth anniversary.



A FAMILY AFFAIR — Thousands of Masons from 22 counties in North Carolina have received their higher degrees from the New Bern Scottish Rite Consistory during its long existence. However, it was an extraordinary event when these five brothers from Conway showed up as candidates

at the Spring Reunion. Left to right, they are S. W. Woodard, 32; L. E. Woodard, 36; G. E. Woodard, 38; K. B. Woodard, 39; and A. O. Woodard, Jr., 40. — Photo by John R. Baxter.



HOW IT ALL BEGAN — Today we turn back the clock to the laying of the very first brick in New Bern's street system. The scene on this memorable occasion is the intersection of Pollock and Queen streets. Among those on hand are Herbert Simpson (the engineer) and Street Supt. Callie

McCarthy. Others include T. F. McCarthy, Frank Hackney, George Meredith, John Thomas, Furney Gaskill, Richard Colvin, Enos Henry, Raymond Eagle and John Wilson. Mrs. L. C. Newman was kind enough to lend us the rare photograph.