

The NEW BERN

MIRROR

ISSUED WEEKLY  
 PART OF  
 New Bern Public Library  
 407 New St.  
 5¢ Per Copy



VOLUME 5

NEW BERN, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1962

NUMBER 5

Edward R. Murrow, a native Tar Heel, calls these words of wisdom by Goethe the "complete" commencement speech. We're passing them along to the youngsters who are graduating this year from New Bern High school and our various Craven County High schools.

"There are nine requisites for contented living; health enough to make work a pleasure; wealth enough to support your needs; strength to battle with difficulties and overcome them; grace enough to confess your sins and forsake them; patience enough to toil until some good is accomplished; charity enough to see some good in your neighbor; love enough to move you to be useful and helpful to others; faith enough to make real the things of God; and hope enough to remove all anxious fears concerning the future."

Speaking of graduates, one of the most colorful characters our town ever had, the late Dr. Joseph R. Latham, graduated from Pantego High school as valedictorian of his class at the age of 15. He graduated from the University of North Carolina, — and received medical training at Jefferson Medical college in Philadelphia. As the youngest applicant, he passed his medical board examinations with the highest grades.

He practiced medicine here for more than a quarter of a century, and for six years served as Craven county coroner. He had a mind of his own, and was anything but a conformist. For instance, he steadfastly refused to put a City license tag on his automobile because in his opinion the bear emblazoned thereon bore no resemblance to the animal it was supposed to depict.

In our conversations with him, we quickly learned that he was well read. He was admittedly somewhat eccentric, and you either liked him or disliked him. In either case, your reaction to his personality was emphatic. If he were alive today, he would have some terse comments to make on current affairs, and few realistic remarks for this year's graduates to evaluate.

Because the editor of The Mirror believes implicitly in the ability of this younger generation to meet its challenge in a changing world, we hope every 1962 graduate will remember that you're as young as your hopes and your dreams, and as old as your doubts and your fears. Some folks, alas, are old from the start, and others remain youthful even in the sunset years.

Franklin E. Jordan has written words that teenagers and adults alike can do worse than get acquainted with in times like these. Here they are:

I love America, where truth can be shouted from the housetops, instead of whispered in dismal cellars hidden from the spies and dictators.

I love America, where families can sleep peacefully without fear of secret seizure and torture in some foul prison or purged in blood for political reasons.

I love America, where men are truly free; not living in fear of slavery, exile or involuntary servitude, while their homes are confiscated and loved ones are turned weeping and sorrowing from their doors.

I love America, where there are equal rights for all, and where people are not forced to hate, persecute or kill because of religion, race or creed.

I love America, where little children are not forced to suffer for want of bread withheld at the whim of some despot carrying out a plan for greater glory.

I love America, where men can think as they please, and where thought is not regulated by de-

(Continued on Page 8)



ONCE UPON A TIME—You'll have to delve far into the past to remember when this photograph was taken of the Men's Bible Class at New Bern's First Baptist Church. See if you can pick out Will Dowdy, Gordon Battle, James Lucas, Congressman Sam M. Brinson, George Hunter, J.

C. (Blind) Johnson, C. A. York, B. F. Hagood, Wardie Gaskins, Oscar Street, Carlyle Harker, Carlye Dixon, Lonnie Skinner, Ralph Hunter Smith, John J. Berry, Marshall Speight, Sprunt Elliott, Jesse Weatherly, Ed Paul, John Cuthrell, M. W. Fodrie, and Dick Lancaster.



A HALF CENTURY AGO—This picture, according to a notation on the back, was made in 1910. If you were a member of this class and can identify yourself and others,

let us hear from you. The photo was taken at New Bern's Central School.