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Maybe we're mistaken, but it seems to us that New Bern's fall and winter sunsets have been prettier than ever this year. The fly in the ointment, of course, is the traffic hazard they create for motorists traveling westward on local streets.

Offhand, you wouldn't expect a girl dog to be named Tuffy (or Toughie) but Mrs. George H. Roberts has a pet by that name. Perhaps on occasion you've seen the canine hitched to a parking meter outside a downtown restaurant, while Mary was dining inside. Tuffy is patient, and soon gets her tummy filled too.

Sorting through yellowed clippings recently, we came across the story about Bobby Faulkner's reaction to the Salk polio vaccine. It made him a right guy to the world in general, but an oddity in his own family circle.

Until he got two doses of vaccine, Bobby--then seven--was a left hander, just like 10-year-old Terry and 12-year-old Harry, the other small fry in the household.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Faulkner, Sr., are lefties too, which hitherto came in mighty handy in avoiding protruding elbows at the dinner table. With such unanimity, no one was in anybody else's way.

Dr. Salk unintentionally changed all that. Bobby had a sore arm after each of his needlings, and turned to his right arm for baseball, football, writing, and other activities.

It worked out so well that the youngster decided to leave the southpaw ranks for keeps, much to the consternation of his older brothers. As to his mother and father, they got reconciled to the fact that theirs was no longer one of the most unusual families in America.

To this day, Bobby still throws a baseball and a football right handed, but finally went back to writing with his left hand.

There's another yellowed clipping in our files too, dealing with the night the New Bern Lions presented a television set to residents at the Craven County Home. The elderly recipients of the gifts were thrilled beyond words.

That is, everybody was thrilled and speechless except one aged gentleman. "It's the work of the devil", he insisted. "You won't find nothing in the Bible about no such contraption, and I ain't messing with it."

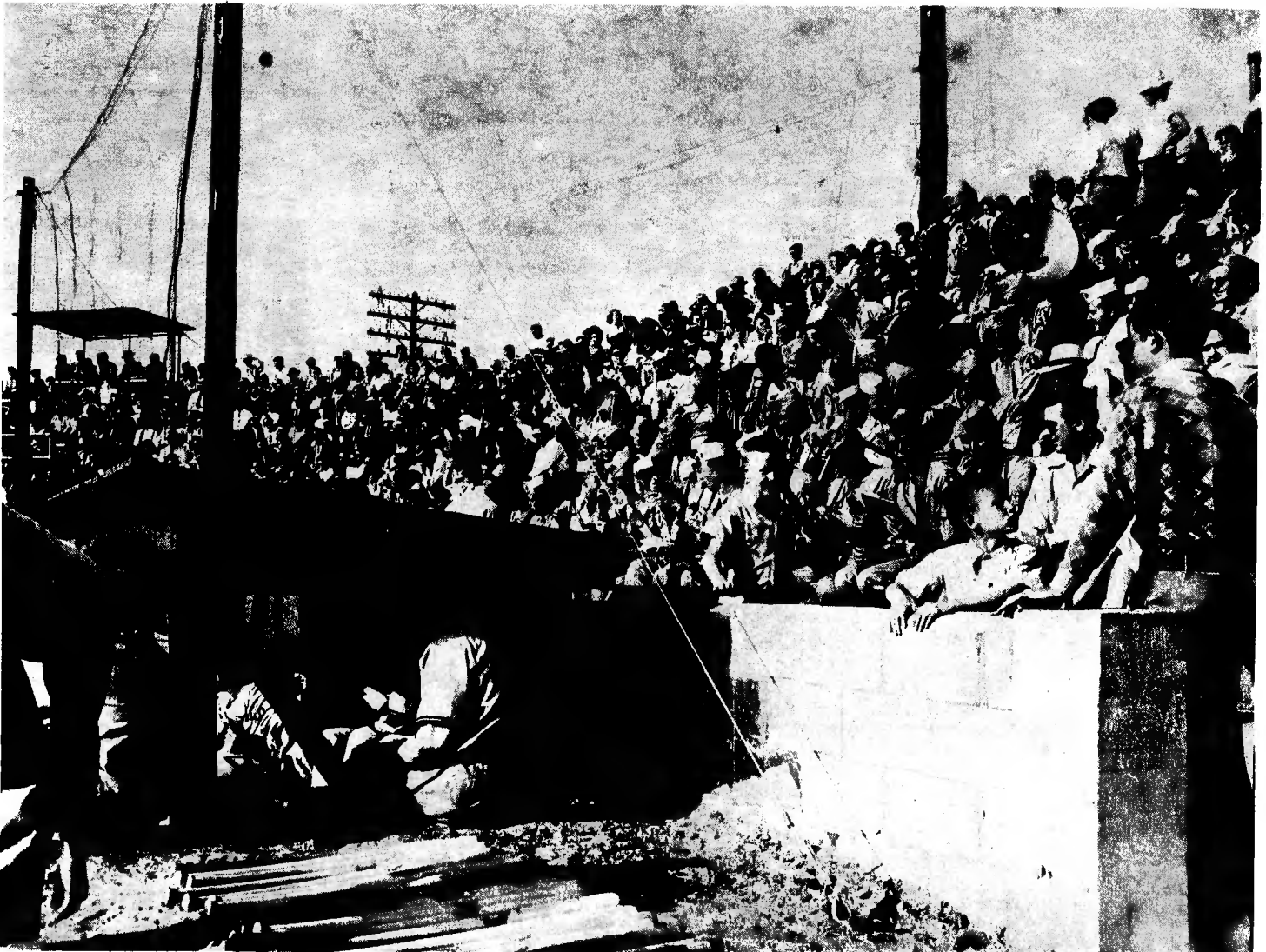
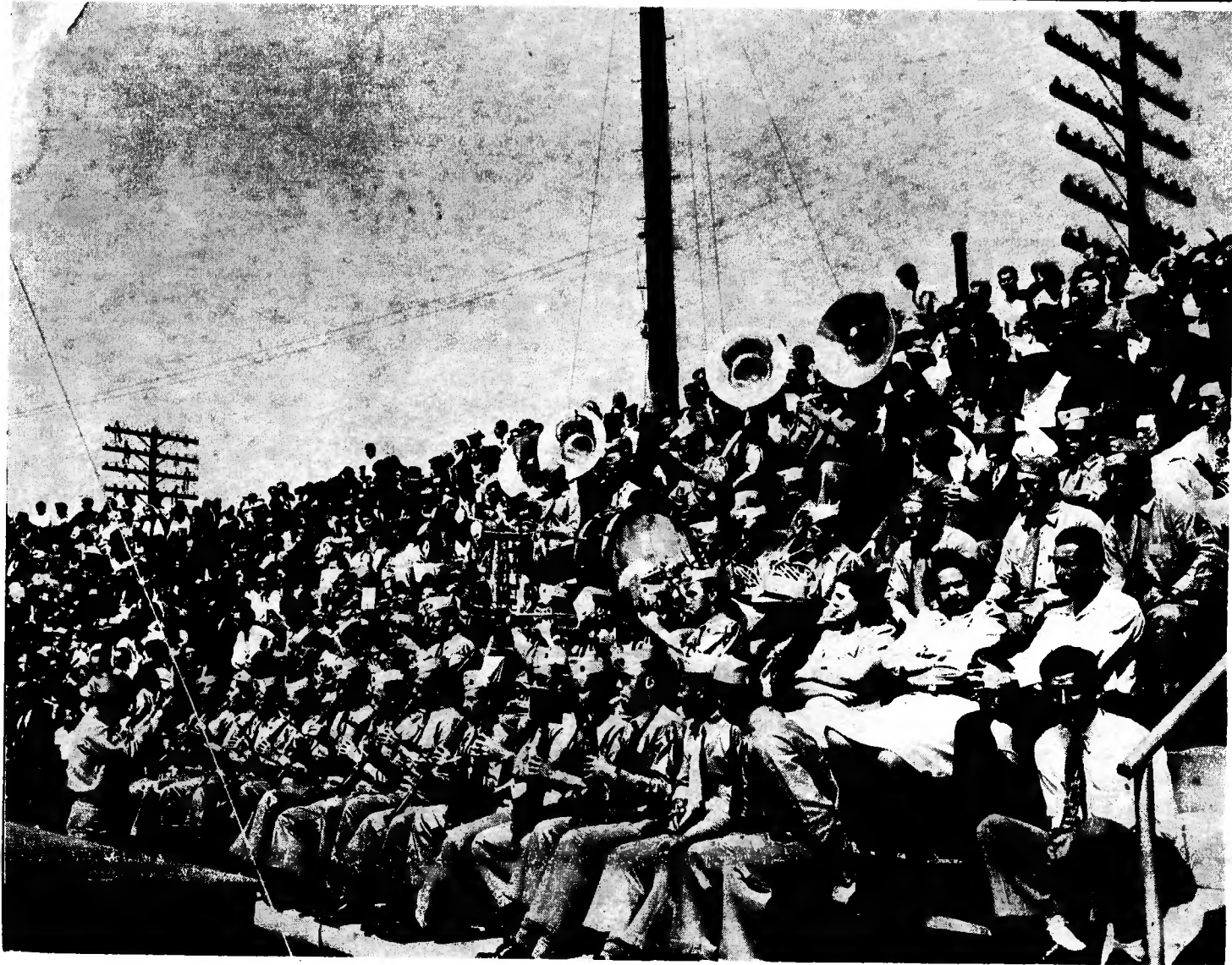
Having voiced his opinion in vigorous terms, he returned to his constant companion, a portable radio.

Speaking of television, you were probably startled Christmas morning if you were tuned to New Bern's WNBE. Right in the middle of a Biblical drama, following the New Bern High school choir's concert, a woman's voice broke in.

"What," she asked, "is best for acid indigestion?" We still don't know the answer, seeing as how the unhappy somebody who goofed, and accidentally let part of a commercial get on the air, quickly caught the error.

Just like typographical errors in a newspaper, flipping the wrong switch at a television or radio station can be embarrassing. One example was

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QUITE A CROWD—Can you identify the place, and recall the occasion when these official U. S. Marine Corps photos were taken? Never before published, they were snapped more than a quarter of a century ago at Kafer Park, before a roof had been built on the grandstand. New Bern and Kinston were battling on the diamond, under a bright summer sun, for Coastal Plain League honors. It wasn't the game that brought the huge crowd, however, supplemented by a Marine

band performing at intervals. Our town was celebrating Babe Ruth Day, and a dozen kids whose numbers were drawn were presented baseballs personally autographed by the Bambino. Seen in the left foreground of one photograph is the Kinston dug-out. Note small, flimsy roof over press box, and wire netting to snare foul balls. A lot of water has gone under the bridge since then.