

# THE NEW BERN MIRROR

Published Every Friday at 510 Jefferson Avenue  
New Bern, N. C., by the Sole Owner

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### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year ..... \$2.50 Six Months ..... \$1.25

Entered as second-class mail at New Bern April 4, 1958,  
under the act of March 3, 1879.

## IT ISN'T FAIR

For our part, we're fed up with all the things we've read in the papers and heard on radio and television about the shame and guilt that citizens of Dallas must live with, and presumably die with.

To saddle an entire populace with blame for Lee Oswald's crackpot murder of President Kennedy is as unreasoning as the twisted mind was that planned JFK's slaying.

No community has any guarantee against acts of violence perpetrated by a dangerous fool with a gun in his hand. Thank God, President Truman wasn't felled by a bullet when he visited New Bern a few years back, but despite every possible precaution it could have happened.

And let's face it, almost every town of any size has its punks, and some of those punks are adult punks like Jack Ruby. Blame with considerable satisfaction the Dallas police department, if you care to, for Ruby's presence in the courthouse, but don't condemn citizens in general.

Both slayings — the killing of a President from ambush and the sneak rubbing out of a trapped prisoner — were acts of violently inclined individuals. Any attempt to make the guilt a collective thing — embracing everybody who calls Dallas home simply doesn't ring true.

This editor has no great desire to wear a 10-gallon hat, rope a steer or listen to a coyote's howl in the distance. We never expect to end up in Dallas, but if we did we would expect to meet the same kind of folks that live right here in New Bern.

Notwithstanding the raving of Ruby's loud-mouthed, show-off lawyer, the Dallas jury that convicted Oswald's killer acted properly. Coming as it did in a week that also saw Jimmy Hoffa convicted by a jury in Tennessee, the verdict was satisfying to those who have respect for law and order.

It may appear that there's a lot of decency left. You may have trouble in finding it in the headlines, but you can discover it in less conspicuous places.

Kinston's High school basketball team — now wearing the State 3-A crown — came face to face with some of that decency a few days ago, when Coach Bob Lewis and his New Bern Bears made a special trip to the Lenoir town to wish the Red Devils well as they embarked for the tourney in Durham.

This editor came face to face with some of it this week. We were in a local store when an elderly lady came in. She had found too much money in her pocket-book when she returned home from a shopping tour in the downtown business section.

Now she was back, and very much worried. "Somebody gave me more change than I was supposed to get," she told the manager of the store we happened to be in, "and I've got to find out who did it." You could tell by her weariness that she had been making the rounds. She left disappointed.

Then there's the old man who goes into a local restaurant daily. When he finishes his meal, he stacks the dishes neatly for the waitress and carefully wipes off the counter. "I've cleaned it up the best I could," he tells her.

The waitress says he always giggles a little when he places his order, sort of like a happy child would giggle. It looks to us like he has plenty of sense, so maybe it's just more fun than a lot of us realize being kind and friendly, and helpful to others — including waitresses.

April is just around the corner — the flowers are budding and the birds are singing. To make it even nicer, the politicians haven't started kissing babies yet. What a wonderful time of year!

## Historical Gleanings

—By—  
ELIZABETH MOORE

N. C. CRAVEN COUNTY:  
JOSEPH LEECH V.  
THOMAS BRANTON,  
1810-1816 &c.

Summons to Craven County for William McKinnie, Dec. 1815. J. G. Stanly C. C. Summons to Craven County for Joseph Rhem, Jacob Rhem, Daniel Lane, Fred I. Cox, Jesse West, Claiborne Ivey, March 1816.

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North Carolina, Craven County, November 12, 1812.

A commission to take the deposition of Frederick Heath concerning a certain place, said to be Moseley's third corner, said Heath sayeth that when he was about 46 years of age, he was in company with a certain John J. Jones, getting timber in the branch and a doubt arising with the said Jones whether the said Jones had not committed trespass on Moseley's land, the tract being on the North side of the Branch called Allegator Branch, the said Jones had cut or caused to be cut, and said Jones asked this deponent to go with him to Moseley's third corner to see if he had committed trespass or not, and this deponent further sayeth that he the said Jones showed him a stake near the road, being the public road leading from New Bern to Cox's Ferry, the said stake being 9 feet or thereabouts from the said public road on the North side of the said road and he the said Jones proceeding from the line in company with this deponent, till he the said Jones was satisfied he had not committed trespass and this deponent further sayeth some years after he was in company with Thomas Tyer, and he the said Tyer shewed him the said deponent the same corner stake, and told him that was the third corner of Moseley's patent so called, and the said Tyer was bounded to as he was then the purchaser &c.

Q. Mr. Heath: Do you know who Thomas Tyer first sold to after he purchased Moseley's land.

A. I do not. s/Fred'k Heath Sol. Patrick, J. P. Richardson, J. P.

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Deposition of William Lane at the home of Thomas Holliday saith: About 35 years past or upwards Rigdon Brice was called on to survey a patent granted to Thomas and William Moseley, lying on the S side of Neuse River, and this deponent and John White was called on to carry the chain and that they begun at an oak on the river bank, and run out the patent, they run to a large forked pine lightwood stake and stump, the third corner, which place was shown to him the said deponent by Longfield Cox and others &c.

Then was present at that time Longfield Cox, Richard Heath, John Jones, Levi Truitt, Richard Cotton, and his son. Deponent further saith that about 28 years past that Richard was called to survey the said patent and deponent said Isaac Anderson carried the chain and they began at the same oak to survey and they run to

## Village Verses

### SUGGESTED PATTERN

What is the best advice to give,  
At High school graduations;  
What word or thought can help to solve  
Those future situations.  
I wish I knew, for this old world  
Has so much grief and need;  
Perhaps the key to happiness  
Is banishing all greed.  
Folks completely selfish  
Are seldom ever gay,  
They miss out on the sunshine  
Hoarding for a rainy day.  
They covet what their neighbor has,  
Begrudging him his pleasure;  
Instead of sharing life with him,  
They lay up things to treasure.  
So to those soon graduating  
I have one thought to give,  
Strive to be unselfish  
Every moment that you live.  
—JGMcD.

the said pine stake and stump, and Longfield Cox and John Jones were both present, &c and deponent saith that this large pine stake and stump was the same corner that he swore to before Solo. Patrick in the year 1810, in the presence of Claiborne Ivey and Daniel Lane &c &c

Sworn to before us 23 March 1811 by William Lane at the house of Thomas Holliday. s/William Holliday H. Hooker

Summons for Stephen Heath, Craven County, George Lane, William Lane, William McKinnie, William Jones, Claiborne

Ivey, Frederick Heath, Sr., Thomas Jones, Worry Kilpatrick, Stephen Harris, Jonathan Price, Surveyor.  
1810-1813. (Craven County Records, New Bern, N. C.)

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