

Through
THE
Looking
Glass

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In a rather futile effort to clean out our cluttered files, we came across this little story done for United Press on October 3, 1933. Understandably, it went around the world.

NEW BERN, N. C.--(UP)--At the age of 35 and 28, respectively, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Westbrook became grandparents Sunday.

A son was born to their 15 year old daughter, Mrs. S. T. Powell, who lives on the Morehead City highway near here. The father is 27.

Mrs. Powell was born to Mrs. Westbrook when the latter was 13 years old.

If any of the principals involved read this column, we would like to know how their family tree has progressed since that time. Or if you happen to be a relative or friend, you might enlighten us on the matter.

A sample survey by The Mirror reveals that New Bern viewers still find westerns pleasing TV fare. A lot of women like the horse operas, just as more men than you would think follow the afternoon soap operas. For our part, we can do without both.

Those of us who belittle the westerns should remember that of all things cinematic, the western is the most exclusively American in form and expression.

And, as John C. Waugh--an excellent Hollywood commentator--says, westerns also deal with one of the most enduring of all themes, and are perhaps the most significant vehicle for telling a story that Hollywood ever devised.

John Wayne, who ranks at the top of today's saddle stars, isn't ashamed of the roles he plays. "Westerns, being the legend of our fore fathers," he reasons, "have taken on a kind of sanctity with the American audience."

"Like the folklore of any country, westerns involve basic emotions easily understood by the whole world. Everything in them is done with simplicity. And I happen to believe simplicity is art."

Here in the South we're sometimes regarded as backward by fellow Americans but--for whatever it may be worth--western films achieved their first great popularity below the Mason-Dixon line.

Long before other sections of the country got steamed up about the rugged outdoor dramas, Hollywood reaped a golden harvest in the Land of Cotton with its westerns starring William S. Hart, Dustin Farnum, Hoot Gibson, Buck Jones, Tom Mix and the like.

Any New Bern male who has reached the paunchy realm of middle age will remember the Saturday thrills he used to get watching these gun-packing heroes at the Masonic and the Athens. As a small boy we used to see two runs of the movie that was playing, and then gallop madly across an imaginary prairie, all the way home.

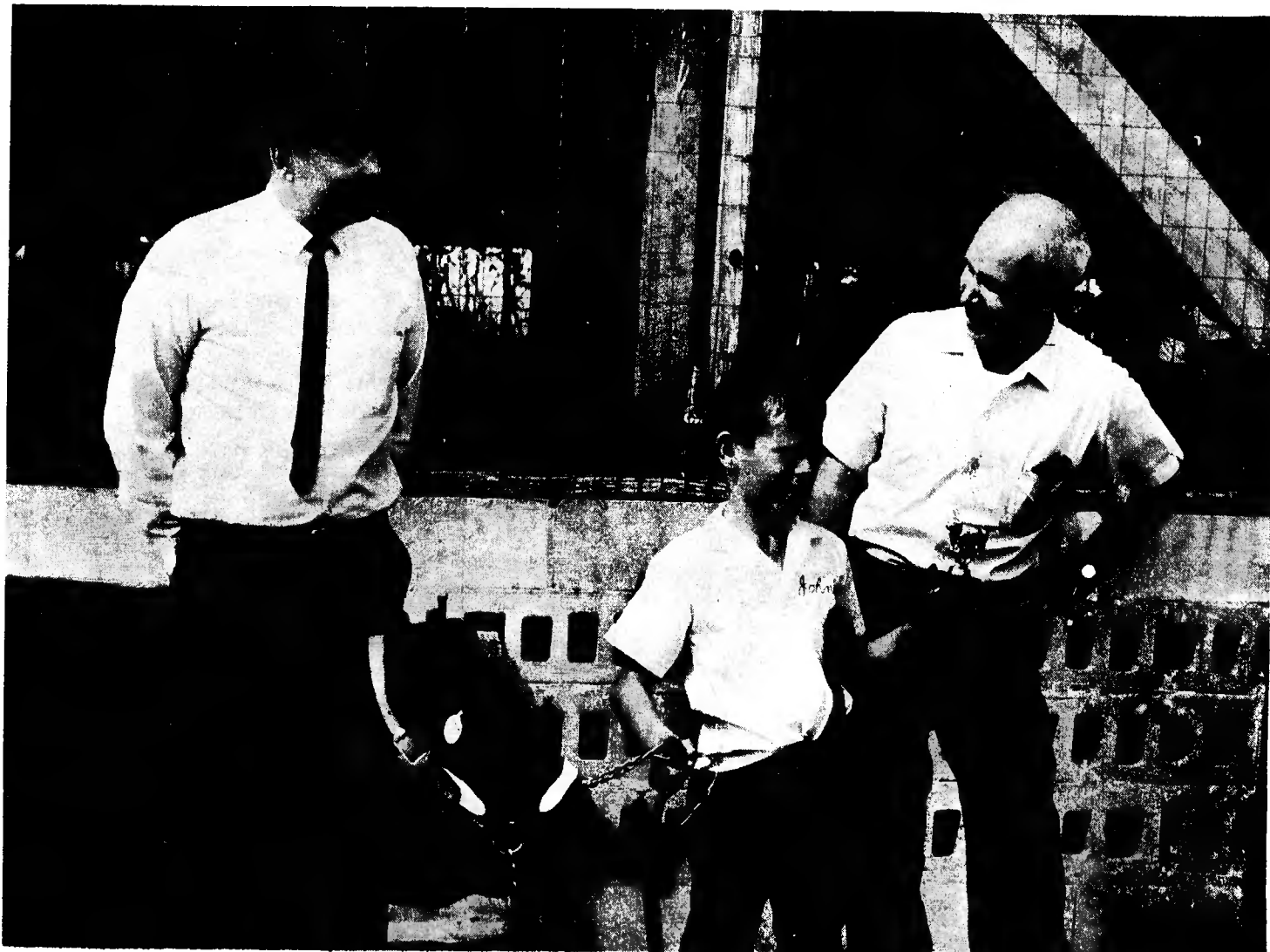
It's worth a trip to your nearest newsstand to get a glimpse of the beautiful book that Better Homes & Gardens has compiled, titled AMERICA'S GARDENS. The color

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DOUBLE WINNER--Marie White of Kinston, Route 6, (in Craven County) didn't bring home the bacon in the ninth annual Coastal Carolina Market Stock Show and Sale here in New Bern. Instead, the bacon -- still intact with other portions of her porkers -- brought

her the grand champion and best pen of three ribbons. Marie and the judge with her aren't quite as camera shy as the not so little piggies.--Photo by Billy Benners.



SWEET MOO-SIC--It sounded downright symphonic to Johnnie Cox of Trenton, Route 2, when the judges picked his steer as the prize entry in the Coastal Show. He displays his awards proudly, and you can bet your

life the two gents with him know just how he feels. Like other youngsters exhibiting their livestock, Johnnie is a 4-H Club member and a real hustler.--Photo by Billy Benners.