

## MIRROR

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In New Bern, the ten most popular family names belong to the Jones, Smith, Williams, Moore, Gaskins, Johnson, Davis White, Taylor and Edwards clans.

Rounding out the top twenty are you folks who answer to the handle of Ippock, Dixon, Lewis, Miller, Fulcher, Brown, Boyd, Brinson, Dunn or Wilson.

It may surprise you to learn that the leading names in our town, Jones, ranks no better than fourth in the nation. The Smiths (second locally) are first in the United States as a whole.

The Williams family, assuming that they're all kin, has the double barreled distinction of stacking up third both locally and nationally. As for the Johnsons (second from coast to coast) they are sixth in New Bern.

The Browns, fifth nationally, are sixteenth along the shores of the Neuse and Trent, while the Millers are sixth in the United States and fourteenth in our town.

Like the Williams crowd, the David clan is evenly distributed. It ranks seventh in New Bern and America, but the Andersons (eighth in the nation) don't qualify for this city's top twenty.

As for the Wilsons (ninth in the U. S.) they're twentieth here, while the Thompsons (tenth nationally) are far down the local list. For example, they're outnumbered almost ten to one by the Jones brigade.

Interestingly enough, five of the top seven names on the national list appear among New Bern's top seven too. So, when it comes to names a lot of us have a lot in common with millions of other Americans.

Any time a newspaper publishes a photograph dealing with children, elderly people or animals, it can count on reader interest. Hence, the picture snapped by Billy Benners of the herons (or cranes) congregated along the shore back of Charlie Kimbrell's place brought a great deal of comment.

Benners, who has come up with plenty of excellent Mirror photography from time to time, considers the picture of the herons one of his best. We heartily agree. Since Billy is a confirmed bird watcher, it was a case of business and pleasure combined.

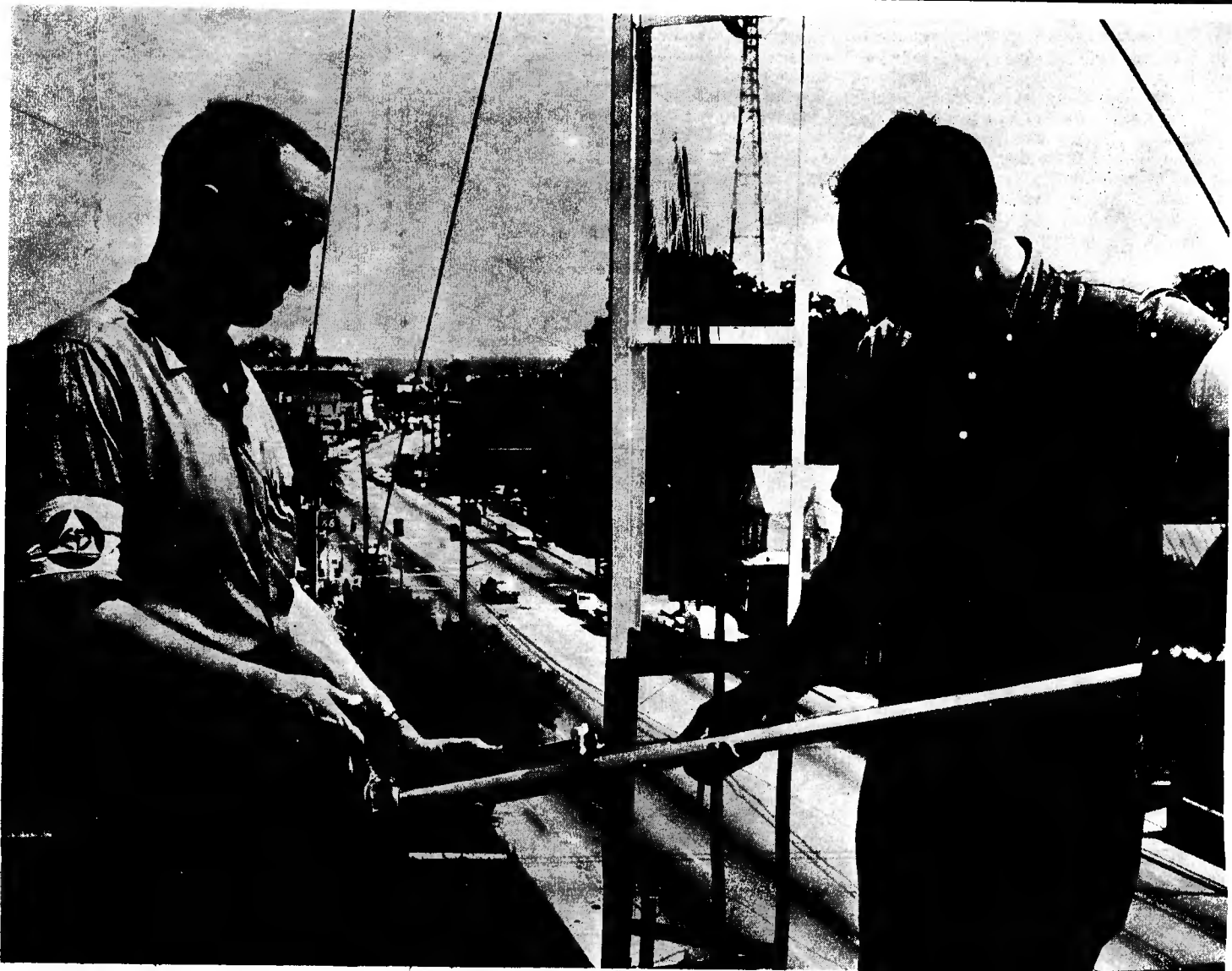
Wondering, on the day the photo was published, if the herons were still around, this editor ventured out to Kimbrell's. There, standing on a boardwalk sunning themselves, were a couple of big herons and a smaller heron that might have been Junior.

Taking a few steps at a time while the herons were looking the other way, like a kid playing stealing steps, we managed to get almost within arm's reach of the biggest heron.

Each time that he gazed in our direction we managed to be stationary, and he ignored us completely. Standing on one foot, he remained almost motionless for what seemed like ten minutes or more.

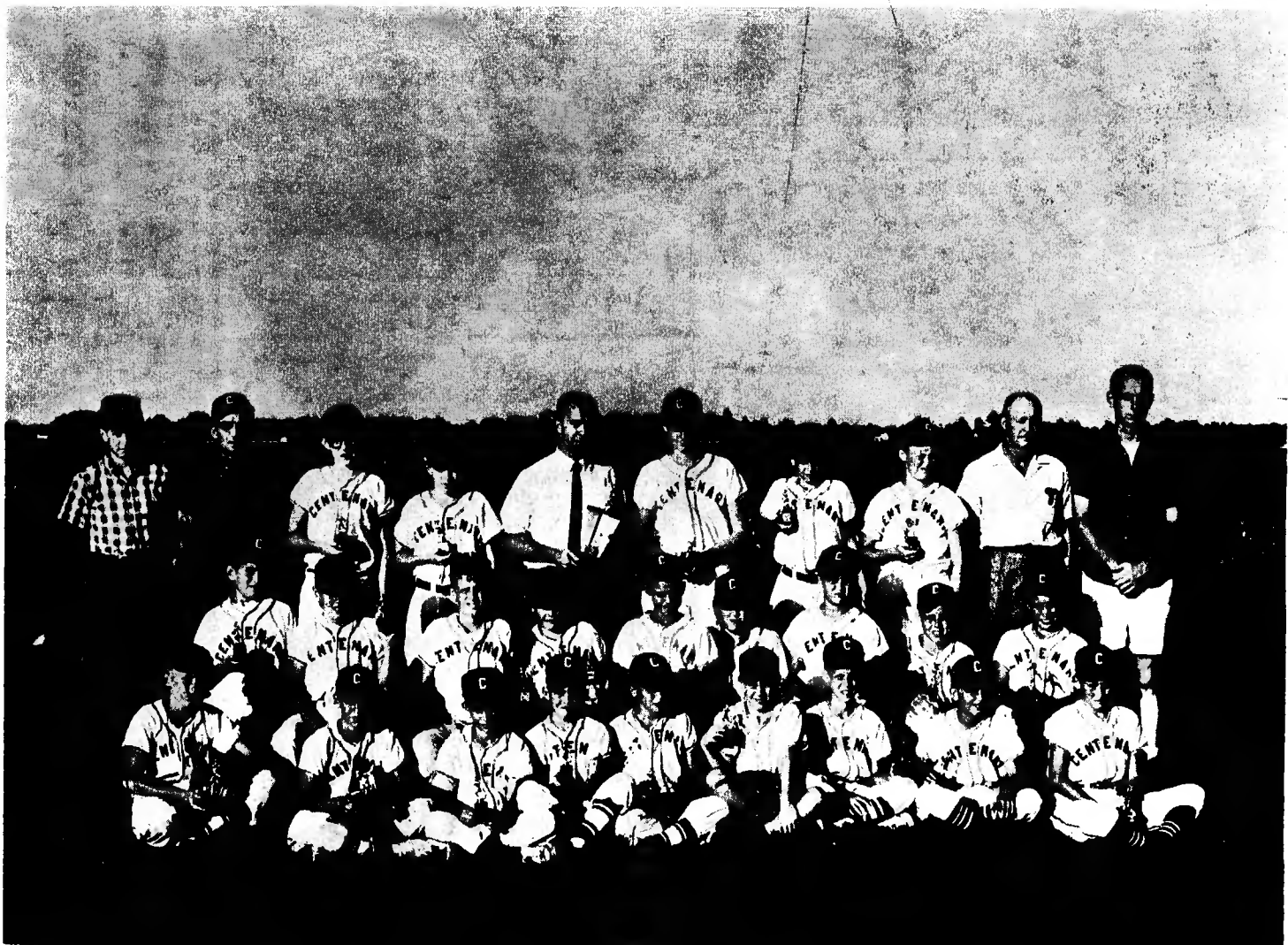
Finally, not through fright but boredom, he turned and sauntered down the narrow boardwalk to join the other two herons. It was so quiet at the moment that we distinctly heard his feet coming in contact with the plank as he walked along it.

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**'UP SHE GOES**—Bill Edwards, local civil defense director, gets expert assistance from Bill Cox, one of New Bern's capable ham radio operators, in the erection of a new antenna. Unless you've got keen eyes and excellent idea of the city's geography, you might not

figure out that they're standing on top of the building that once housed St. Luke's hospital. Visible on the horizon is Bridgeton's shoreline.—Photo by Billy Benners.



**THEY WERE TOPS**—These youngsters had good reason to be relaxed, when they posed for their group picture. A tough season in New Bern's church school league saw them emerge as the loop's 1964 champions. Without even glimpsing the youngsters gathered

here, every kid in town knows we're speaking of the Centenary Methodist baseball team. Quite appropriately, members of the ball club wanted their pastor and the team's staff of adults to be included.—Photo by Billy Benners.