



The NEW BERN MIRROR

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Before we forget it, here's a note of appreciation to other newspaper editors who picked up and reprinted our Thanksgiving Day editorial. Being human (or as nearly so as a newsman can be) we were flattered.

That small boy at Laurinburg who got stuck in a chimney trying to imitate Santa Claus, and had to be fetched out by a rescue squad, has probably decided St. Nick is not only spry but capable of making himself smaller when necessary.

What used to puzzle us most, in our tender years, was how childhood's patron saint managed to keep himself spotless, scrambling in and out of dirty fireplaces. To this day, we haven't been able to figure it out.

Talk about news, wouldn't it make headlines if Santa's sled collided with some of those man-made satellites that are up yonder now. Thank goodness, Rudolph is still around to light the way on Christmas Eve.

New Bernians who are 50 or older will remember that purchase of fireworks from Leon Cohn at his shop on lower Middle street was once an important part of every boy's Christmas.

Leon, readers will be glad to know, is still living and very much interested in the town where he once resided. In a recent letter to Marcus Block, from Philadelphia, he asked about The Mirror and Marcus lost no time in subscribing for him.

New Bern, notwithstanding its imperfections, seems to permanently ensnare the hearts of many who move elsewhere. Letters we have received from service men and their wives, who dwelled here during World War Two, express fondness and a wistful hankering that shows no sign of diminishing.

Local citizens, always hurricane conscious when September approaches, may be able to worry about something else one of these days. Uncle Sam is trying like all get out to reduce future tropical storms to gentle breezes.

The undertaking, labeled Project Stormfury, has been launched in the Caribbean and western Atlantic by the U. S. Weather Bureau and Navy jointly. It calls for seeding hurricanes and cumulus clouds around their eye (or center) with silver iodide crystals.

This, according to scientists, will release latent heat to such an extent that hurricanes can be tamed. No one, apparently, has hopes of actually destroying one of the things entirely, but reducing the velocity can save life and property.

Up until this year, efforts at seeding were largely ineffective, but a new generator developed by Dr. Pierre Saint Amand of the Naval Ordnance Test Station holds out hopes for better results.

It weighs seven pounds empty, is eight inches long and three inches in diameter. Filled with four pounds of propellant mix, it is fired from a plane and drops 20,000 feet, discharging smoke, before burning out.

From 1900 to 1964, the United States was visited by 119 of the 299 hurricanes that roamed the Caribbean and North Atlantic. Deaths for this span totaled 12,280, which roughly figures about the toll of North Caro-

(Continued on page 6)



HIS FIRST HONOR—New Bern's Norman Swindell, captain of East Carolina's bowl-bound Pirates, has received great acclaim during his college gridiron career, and justly so, but it all started on a spring morning at New Bern High School Auditorium. That was the never to be forgotten day when Burke H. Taylor presented young Swindell the trophy attesting to his selection as the most valuable Bruin gridder of the year. Norman bloomed late as a scholastic star, but

his outstanding performances as a blocking back in his senior year was an indication of bigger things to come. When he leads the Pirates against Maine in the Tangerine Bowl on Dec. 11, it will be his third Bowl appearance. East Carolina's only loss of the season, to Furman, occurred when Swindell was sidelined with an injury sustained in the West Chester game.

