

Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!

BY JONATHAN PHILLIPS
FORMER EDITOR
OF THE HIGHLIGHTS.

Even my dear old dad couldn't resist pointing out the irony. "What's this?" he exclaimed. "Is this the man who has extolled the virtues of eastern North Carolina in print so many times, the good 'ol boy who waxes eloquent about living it up down east? "Chased inside because he couldn't stand the bugs?" Damn right it was. There are a lot of good things about living in these parts, but the nightly insect attacks are not part of the tourist package. This was a family backyard cookout, and I stuck it out while I wolfed down my meal.

I was choking down one of Mr. Piggly Wiggly's choice cuts at approximately the same rate at which mosquitoes, gnats, deer flies, and miscellaneous other flying invertebrates were ingesting my bodily flesh and fluids.

As soon as I felt I'd been there long enough to say I'd participated in the cookout, I ran for cover like the cops were chasing me.

By the time this hits print, it should be cool enough that the bugs are a minor annoyance, as opposed to a pestilence or a plague.

It will again be safe to venture outside after supper when the breeze has died. A walk through the woods and fields or down to the creek has the potential to be a pleasant experience instead of a fight for survival.

Craven County and North Carolina don't have a monopoly on biting insect pests, of course.

New England and Canada have their summer black fly season, where I'm told that only the foolish and the suicidal venture into the boreal forest.

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Two Words, "If Only", Changed to, "Next Time"

By LELA BARROW
LONG TIME RESIDENT
OF VANCEBORO.

If only I had taken time, from daily tasks, to realize I was sick—temperature 104 - maybe it would have saved me six weeks in bed with typhoid fever in 1909. I was getting everything ready to go to my teacher's job on Sunday. If I had taken time to take my temperature - I would have gone to bed. I only taught two days—the next morning I had four hemorrhages from my nose and the doctor came and pronounced the most dreaded disease, in those days - typhoid fever.

We have to take time to rewind, look steadfastly to what is true and right—keeping on the straight pathway of health and ways that will lead us to a glorious goal. If anything seems to be wrong with you—first examine yourself—Why are you sad, depressed, all out of sorts? Take it to the Lord in prayer. Edison said: "Work is better for depression than whiskey." I add: "Work is better than moping, crying, and staying in bed."

Think of the pleasure you can give someone who is caged in one room, no visitors, no presents, no friends. Next time you are depressed try doing a good deed. If I can put one touch of rosy sunset into the life of any man or woman, I shall feel that I have worked with God. Don't put your good ideas off till next time. Too late—is one of the main causes of sorrow—and Next time may never come. "A rose to the living is more, than sumptuous

Letter To the Editor

Dear Editor:

The week of September 23-29 is National Newspaper Week and we thought that this would be an excellent opportunity to thank you and your staff for the community service that you provide. Without a hometown newspaper most of us would have little knowledge of the political, social, governmental, athletic, cultural and business events that are taking place in our community.

As a corporate citizen of your community, Carolina Telephone and our employees thank you for giving us the opportunity to inform the public through your newspaper of the many changes taking place in the telephone industry today and how these changes will affect the public and our customers.

We appreciate the role of the media in our society and while we may not always agree with editorial policy, we are glad that we live in a country where you have the freedom to express your opinions and we have the opportunity as individuals to accept or reject those opinions.

Thanks again for serving our community. While we realize you are a for-profit business, you frequently go beyond the boundaries of what is required to help our communities.

T.A. Morrow
Division Public Affairs Manager
L.S. Blades, III
Community Relations Manager
W.C. Thomas
District Commercial Manager

wreaths to the dead." (Waterman)

Two friends got together in a little New York restaurant.

The one who had the problem was Arthur Gordan, a writer. The one who solved, or advised, was Dr. Smiley Blanton, the wise old psychiatrist, who had helped many people to solve their problems. His greeting to Arthur: "Well, young man, what's troubling you?" Arthur proceeded to tell him; at some length—with a melancholy pride, "I blame myself for bad judgments, false moves—no one else to blame."

The old man finished his cup of tea and said: "Come on, let's go to my office." We were alone. He took a tape and fitted it into the machine: "On this tape are three short recordings made by three persons who came to me for help. Listen, I want you to pick out the two-word phrase that is the common denominator in each tape." Arthur couldn't do it—then the old man told him he had used the same two-words as he was talking to him in the restaurant—that made seven times the words had been used and he hadn't recognized them.

"The two saddest words in any language"—they were—"If Only", the old psychiatrist said: "If you knew how many thousands of times I've sat in this office and listened to woeful sentences beginning with 'if only' I had done it differently - or not have done it at all. If only I hadn't lost my temper. If only I had been wise.

As long as you depend on if only you can't change anything. Mistakes can't be corrected as long as you stick to if only—he

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Rabies Clinic

Your pet rabies tag could save its life—Clinics to be held Thurs., Oct. 4 at Havelock Animal Clinic, Bullock Small Animal Clinic—There is no excuse—Get your pet vaccinated - Craven County Humane Society - 633-0146.

Dinner

Craven County Humane Society—633-0146 - Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 10 - Palace Motel and Restaurant - new members welcome.

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