

The Sunday Star-News

Published Every Sunday By The Wilmington Star-News R. B. Page, Publisher Telephone All Departments 2-3311 Entered as Second Class Matter at Wilmington, N. C., Postoffice Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879 SUBSCRIPTION RATES BY CARRIER IN NEW HANOVER COUNTY Payable Weekly or In Advance Time Star News Combination 1 Week \$.30 \$.25 \$.50 1 Month 1.30 1.10 2.15 3 Months 3.90 3.25 6.50 6 Months 7.80 6.50 13.00 1 Year 15.60 13.00 26.00 (Above rates include subscriber to Sunday issue of Star-News) SINGLE COPY Wilmington News 5c Morning Star 5c Sunday Star-News 10c By Mail: Payable Strictly in Advance 3 Months \$ 2.50 \$ 2.00 \$ 3.85 6 Months 5.00 4.00 7.70 1 Year 10.00 8.00 15.40 (Above rates include subscriber to Sunday issue of Star-News) WILMINGTON STAR (Daily Without Sunday) 3 Months-\$1.85 6 Months-\$3.70 1 Yr.-\$7.40 When remitting by mail please use checks or U. S. P. O. money order. The Star-News cannot be responsible for currency sent through the mails. MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND ALSO SERVED BY THE UNITED PRESS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1946 TOP O' THE MORNING Now you are gone, but you have left to me A priceless beauty in your legacy. The fearless wisdom and the tender heart, The high white faith that marked you one apart, The bigness of your self, your soul, your mind, These are things that you have left behind. And I, I would not change with king or sage, God, make me worthy of my heritage. —Mary O' Kelley in "Tribute to Christian Parents."

Trouble In India

So many things enter into the demonstrations in Bombay that volumes might be written without more than scratching the surface of the trouble. Mobs in the streets, mutiny among Indian naval forces, gun fire and deaths, pose a problem for the London government that cannot be solved by promises alone. India, in the Bombay disturbance, is but putting in unmistakable form the demand for complete independence of Great Britain. This was proved by a declaration of Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru at Allahabad the other day, that the British commission sent out by London might help fill in the details for Indian self-government, but the first requirement was "recognition and proclamation of India's right to full independence." There is little reason to doubt that the pundit thus voiced the view of native Indian leaders generally. His reference was to the forthcoming trip of Secretary of State for India Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, and Albert V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, to help the Viceroy, Lord Wavell, in promoting constitution-making in New Delhi. Obviously, after generations of exploitation and repression, India is in no mood to submit to further compromise. These gentlemen's job is cut out for them before they start. The Bombay outburst doubtless will be brought under control. Britain has the fire power for that. But unless London also does something more, it will not restore peace in the country. London's position is the more trying because of the variety and diversity of faiths and followings there.

Soap Box Derby

It was at least two months ago that Bill Stewart, executive director of the Brigade Boys Club, and Gilbert Pickard began talking about a soap box derby. Everybody he consulted encouraged him, and with customary energy he got to work on preliminary arrangements. Now it develops the same thought was in many minds. Before he had set a date or drafted rules for the local race, the soap box derby assumed national proportions with district competitions, the winners of which will be eligible for the actual finals. Besides a great variety of prizes and trophies, the grand prize is to be a \$2,000 scholarship in any university the winner may select. It is not often a university course is to be had for pushing a self-made glorified scooter faster over a short course than any other contestant. Thus the derby becomes both a source of extraordinary amusement dur-

ing the construction and racing periods and of the higher education every ambitious buy hopes to receive.

Through the joint sponsorship of the Star-News and the Raney Chevrolet Company, the derby which was originally to have been a strictly Wilmington event is expanded to take in the entire trade area of the port city. All boys eleven to fifteen inclusive may enter, the chief requirements being that they must build their own equipages without help, and that it may not cost more than \$10. The winner will be given a free trip to Akron, O., for the finals. Because of the national aspect of the event, and the ingenuity of American boys in general, coupled with their highly-developed spirit of competition, a safe guess is that the Kentucky derby will have nothing on the soap box derby in public interest.

Stalin Addresses Army

On the twenty-eighth birthday of the Red Army, Joseph Stalin made several declarations that call for study in high places among Russia's war allies. The army must guard the Soviet frontiers against enemies. There is need for intensive training of troops "now as never before." The army is obliged "not only to keep up with the progress of the art of war, but to advance it." We quote from the text of his address, as picked up in London: "We must move further forward so that we may create the conditions for a new, powerful upsurge of national economy. We must, in the shortest possible period, heal the wounds inflicted by the enemy on our country and restore the prewar level of development of national economy so that we may in the near future considerably surpass the level, raise the material well being of the people, still more strengthen the military and economic might of the Soviet state.

"In the new conditions, the Red Army must vigilantly guard the peaceful, creative labor of the Soviet Union people, reliably safeguard the state interests of the Soviet Union and make the borders of our motherland impregnable against enemies." Obviously, this is sabre-rattling. It is such talk as a military leader could be expected to give under the pressure of approaching war. It is possible, of course, that Stalin intends his army to believe that war is near. Certainly the wedge which has sunk deep into Russia's relations with Britain and the United States could be accepted as an indication of war. But all that is here quoted, both for the benefit of Russia's fighting forces and domestic economy, seems actually to prove that Stalin proposes that Russians of all callings and degrees shall take full advantage of the gains acquired in the recently ended war. He has no intention that the Soviet Union shall experience such a let-down, for example, as followed V-J Day in this country.

There is a direct message to the United States, as well as to his army, in Stalin's Army-day address. It is that we cannot afford to overlook any possible eventuality, whether in our national economy, which has been so seriously jeopardized by strikes, or in our military preparedness.

If Words Were Cobbles

If words were paving blocks or even cobble stones, enough have been printed recently to repave the Old Shell road, which would be a project in concrete well worth undertaking. It goes to show how public interest can be aroused when older memories are stirred. But what we are presently concerned with is the fact that despite the multitude of words devoted to shells, the location of toll gates, and this and that, nobody has associated the road with the days of greatest popularity of the bicycle, when the older generation of Wilmington was its younger generation. In those days Old Shell bore the burden of many a hilarious cycling crowd bound for supper at Airlie and other favored spots with the return trip often starting before moonset, but sometimes ending as the east grew gray. For its day and generation, the young folk of the bicycle era managed to have a pretty good time, and the Old Shell road made its contribution to the fun.

Walter Winchell In New York

GEORGE WASHINGTON, AMERICAN First Patriot, now, as never before, Your people need your voice, your vision, The shield of faith your courage bore Against the shield of danger and derision. In prayer and your stout heart you found The strength that put your foes to rout; Today on every side abound The fool within, the foe without. In times as vigilant and grave, O fortify our souls to face The coward and the traitorous knave And crush them both, with God's good grace! —Joseph Auslander

Washington was a victim of scurrilous journalism. Editorial attacks plunged to the depths of vituperation. Yet Washington never attempted to suppress (or investigate) any of his newspaper berrillers. He once said: "I fought for liberty, and when I refuse to deprive my foes of their freedom—I am defending that liberty."

The first President's astute diplomatic sense can best be illustrated by the following tale: A powerful French politician asked him for a letter of recommendation to the American people. Washington didn't agree with many of the Frenchman's ideas, but he didn't want to offend him. So he wrote: "This man needs no recommendation from George Washington."

Isolationists have always used the "Farewell Address" to remind Americans that Washington warned us against "entangling alliances." Actually, the phrase does not appear in the "Farewell Address." It was first used by Thomas Jefferson in his first Inaugural address—sixteen months after Washington died!

The Father of Our Country also had his difficulties with Congressmen. He once attended a Senate meeting, expecting to discuss, a proposed treaty with the Indians. Instead of discussing the treaty, the Senate referred it to a committee, and the indignant Washington left the meeting. He never went back to the Senate.

When Washington visited Providence, the whole population assembled to greet him. He was surrounded by a crowd of children carrying torches, and everybody pressed so closely around him that they hindered him from proceeding. Washington was deeply affected and said: "We may be beaten in a war; it is the chance of war. But the people are an army who can never be conquered."

Washington was a devout man. He set aside a part of each day for meditation and devotion. At Valley Forge, a soldier strolling on the outskirts of the camp heard a quiet voice. He walked in the direction of it and saw the Chief—on his knees in prayer.

Our initial Chief Exec refused to pamper secessionists. When a group of malcontents held a large mass meeting, denounced a law and declared that they would not obey it, Washington called on the State militia to quell the insurrection. He later pointed out: "If any body of the people are allowed unpunished to rise and disobey any law, all law and order would soon vanish. We must never parley or haggle with sedition, treason or lawlessness; but must strike a blow that cannot be parried—and at once!"

Punctuality was one of Washington's strong points. When company was invited to dinner, he made an allowance of only five minutes for variation in watches. If the guests came late he would say: "We are too punctual for you. I have a cook who does not ask if the company has come, but if the hour has come."

Washington would have been amused by the legend that he never fibbed. He once related the story of the father who informed his tot that he never told a lie. . . . The youngster looked up and said: "How couldn't you lie? Didn't you know how to talk?"

Amazing how seemingly unimportant events in the lives of great men have a tremendous effect on history. . . . Washington originally intended to join the Navy. A British admiral offered him an appointment as a midshipman. But Washington's mother objected so strongly that he gave up the opportunity. . . . If he had joined the Navy, he never could have become the leader of America's Army—and the U. S. A. might not have been born.

When George was asked to define the basis of patriotism, he replied in a few well-chosen words worth memorizing: "Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire, conscience."

The Founding Father's life is an open book. He knew he was making history, and he kept careful copies of all his important letters and writings, so it is impossible that there should be any doubts on any important points. So jealous was he of his own honorable reputation that his last act as President was to file a denial of the authenticity of some spurious letters attributed to him by his political enemies. He said: "A lie can gain much circulation, but history always catches up with the truth."

One May day Washington rode from Mount Vernon to carry dispatches to Williamsburg. On the way he stopped for dinner with a friend. At the same table was a lady named Martha Dandridge. He spent the afternoon with her. The next day he returned from his mission, called on Martha Dandridge and proposed. She accepted.

Because he devoted his life to fighting for liberty, Washington naturally loathed bigotry. This is part of a letter he wrote to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, R. I.: "May the children of the stock of Abraham who dwell in this land continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants, while everyone shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree, and there shall be none to make him afraid. May the Father of all mercies scatter light and not darkness in our paths, and make us all in his own several vocations useful here and, in His own due time and way, everlastingly happy."

If Washington were alive today, he'd be vilified by Congressional cowards—because he fought bigotry. . . . He'd probably be under subpoena to some "un-American" committee because he was a revolutionist. . . . Washington probably would be wondering just who won the war—himself or Benedict Arnold? . . . If the Father of His Country heard some of the speeches in Congress, he'd insist that the city of Washington change its name. . . . He'd be slandered and investigated because two of his comrades were foreigners—Lafayette and Kosciuszko.

(Copyright, 1946, by Hearst Corporation.)

LITTLE CHESTER, THE FIRE WARDEN



Men Of Other Days Banded Together To Sound Progressive Note In City

BY JOHN SIKES For several days now there has been a to-do in the Star's ALONG THE CAPE FEAR about the Old Shell Road. Created quite a lot of interest and caused lots and lots of folks to call in and write letters, most of them addressed to ATCF. Around the shop here we'd thought all the returns were in. But after we'd finished counting noses and tabulating those returns a communication came in that is entirely too good to leave out of the finals. It is a letter from Mr. F. H. Fechtig, purchasing agent of the Atlantic Coast Line. Quoting from Mr. Fechtig's letter: "... the question came up as to the Wrightsville Turnpike. "When I came here to live in June, 1894, the Wrightsville Turnpike was here and had been used for some time. "My old friend, Major W. H. Bernard, who owned the Star, I think told me that this road was built a few years after the war. It was later improved and incorporated, as you find by the laws of North Carolina, 1874-75, chapter CLXIII, page 712. "An Act to Incorporate 'The Wilmington and Coast Turnpike Company.' "I enclose you copy of this act for your easy information. "The first tollhouse was on what was then known as the Wrightsville Turnpike road and just about 100 feet east from where our Fire Department Building is now situated. "The second tollhouse was on the west side of the road and at or

about the northern intersection of the Wrightsville Turnpike and Greenville Sound road. "The third tollhouse was at what was one time known as Lee's Creek on the east side and just north of where the bridge is now over Bradley Creek. I owned a horse and phaeton and the toll was 25 cents for the round trip. I had many rides over this road. Yours truly" F. H. Fechtig (signed) Mr. Fechtig sent us, as he said, a copy of the incorporating act of the Turnpike. Section 1 set forth: The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact, That for the purpose of constructing a turnpike road from the city of Wilmington or from some point in its vicinity, to a point near the head of Lee's Creek, with branches therefrom to different places near the sound in the county of New Hanover with a capital stock not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, and to be styled "the Wilmington and Coast Turnpike Company, is hereby authorized. The names listed are those to be conjured with heretobfore, so I herewith give you Section 2: "That it shall be lawful to open books of subscription to the Capital stock of said corporation at different places in the City of Wilmington and elsewhere, under the following named persons, viz: John A. Sanders, William B. Giles, Zebulon, William A. Wright, Richard A. Grant, Eli Murray, George Harris, George R. French, Henry Burkheimer, Christopher C. Morse, William A. Cumming, Robert Hen-

ning, George A. Peck, Henry R. Savage, Isaac Granger, John N. Moffitt, Edward Ridder, David B. Murchison, Armand J. deRosset, R. R. Bridger, William H. McKay, Edwin E. Burruss, Francis W. Rencher, James Dawson, D. McKay, T. H. McKay, J. H. Chadbourne, J. W. Atkinson, O. G. Parsely, T. J. Southerland, E. A. Anderson, J. A. Englehard, C. D. Myers, C. S. Ellis, J. R. Davis, J. H. Bernard, J. W. Atkinson, Levi Hart, G. W. Williams, W. G. Thomas, J. D. Bellamy, Wilkes Morris, H. Samson, T. H. Smith, Alrich Adrian, C. W. Steadman, E. Peschan, R. E. Heide, and John Dawson. Thus, while the Wilmington of today is setting its sights for expansion, industrially, commercially, socially, and otherwise, the citizens of today have a perfectly good precedent for progress set for them. Those 49 citizens of an earlier day, some 70-odd years ago, got themselves together and took positive action a proposition that was probably as badly needed and wanted as expansion are needed and wanted today. And those fellows went right ahead and built the turnpike. I feel pretty certain the fellows of today will proceed just as constructively and actively, and as successful, with their plans today. After all, the Old Shell Road was probably as important a piece of improvement and progress in those days as the building of factories and adding new payrolls are today. We ought to be able to make the grade. Those fellows did, not so long after the Civil War when everything looked pretty hopeless.

Leland Lions Net \$500 In Novel Entertainment

Old Fashioned Fiddler's Contest, Hog Calling Feature Evening Program BY JACK COWIE Staff Writer Crowd of 750 persons jammed Leland High school auditorium Friday night to participate in an "old time" musical festival which saw Joseph Reeves crowned as "King of Fiddlers." The event was staged by the Leland Lions club to raise funds for the establishment of a \$500 scholarship to be awarded to a member of the graduating class of the High school there. Fiddlers, guitarists, banjoes, hog-callers, husband-callers, contests and general joviality kept the audience in a hub-bub of clapping, whistling, yelling and laughing throughout the three-hour program. A direct turn-back of the time took the oldsters in the auditorium to the days of church socials and town gatherings when the ugliest man, the prettiest girl and the most love-sick man were picked by the audience as features of the entertainment. With votes being purchased for a penny each, the crowd selected F. W. Wooten, Leland, as the ugliest man in a competition which saw Glenn M. Tucker, principal of the High school and chairman of the program in a heated race for the

two bars of soap awarded to the winner. According to the announcer, Thurman Skipper, tail-twister of the club, and assistant master-of-ceremonies, the soap was to be used to "wash all the ugliness off." A heated contest was staged for the title of the "most love-sick man" with Jesse Smith being awarded a gallon jar of sour pickles after compiling 1,951 votes. Music harking back to the square-dance days competed with musicians knocking out jitterbug and jive musical extravaganzas as Wilmington's own Langley Brothers took first place in the stringed band competition. The band composed of Harold and Ralph Langley and Elmer Covil, won out in competition with Joe Reeves and his band, the Lea Brothers and Little and Wilhelm. Prettiest Girl Vote Tucker, who acted as announcer for the voting-contests, had the crowd doling out the pennies, nickles, and even \$20 bills as Miss Merle Smith, Miss Shirley Adams, Miss Bessie Mae Jones and Mrs. Foster Robbins entered into a spirited contest for the title of the prettiest girl. Miss Smith, Hampstead, won out in the closing seconds of the contest compiling a total of 6,500 votes. Her nearest competitor, Mrs. Robbins, ran a photo-second with 6,000 votes being cast in her name. Further musical contests saw Earle Little awarded first prize

in the guitarist's group with Covil receiving first award for his banjo playing. V. H. "Red" Lowman, Maffitt Village, member of the Carolina Playboys, local radio stars, entertained the audience with several banjo numbers. Although not eligible for prize competition "Red" said he couldn't stay away when there was a chance of hearing some "mo ntain music." First prize in the hog-calling contest was awarded to Dawson Jones, Leland, who had a small pig in a box on the stage, answering him back. Jones was awarded the pig as a prize. The Smith sisters, members of the Hampstead Harmonizers of Hampstead High school, won first place in a singing contest. The balance of the group, Tommy and Leslie Lea and Billie Howard, playing as the Harmonizers, were awarded second place in the string-ed-band event. "Pity Poor Blake" seemed to be the consensus as Mrs. J. L. Blake gave forth with a lusty "John, your breakfast is ready," to win first place in the husband-calling contest. The Leland resident said her husband was "hard to get up from the barn in the morning," and her calling was the result of actual practice. Her prize was a rolling pin. Competing with the winner were Mrs. C. Ziblin, Mrs. J. L. Henry, Mrs. C. D. Morse and Mrs. H. T. Lewis. First prize in the quartet competition was awarded to Mrs. Eula Roper, Thurman Skipper, Harvey Lowry, and Dan Mintz who turned their prize money back into the Lions' Scholarship fund. Although an exact accounting of the proceeds was not available, a rough estimate made by the committee in charge showed the evening would net close to \$500.

Interpreting The News

By DEWITT MACKENIE AP World Traveler HEREFORD, Germany, Feb. 23.—(AP)—This is a critical moment in Europe's winter of privation and with several weeks of bitterly cold weather to come there are grave dangers to be overcome before spring brings relief. The Germans who made the war the war produced this chaotic situation are paying for their sins. Conditions vary in different parts of the country but even here in the British zone where things are vastly better than the guilty inhabitants have any right to expect there is a threat of epidemics.

Precautions Taken This is due to the unavoidably low rationing, shortage of coal and overcrowding brought about by the widespread devastation. As a result, emergency precautions have been taken in the way of providing hospitals doctors and nurses. The authorities say that the real answer to the threat of epidemics is more food and this means importation because even in prosperous times Germany always imported heavily.

Actually the British have been importing breadstuffs to help meet the crisis. The normal food ration allowed the German is 1,550 calories a day although heavy workers are granted more. The miners, for instance, get 2,400. However, doctors say 2,000 calories are the minimum on which health can be maintained and this means that the average German is undernourished. One result of this is heavy infant mortality and in some other parts of Germany there are reports of epidemic conditions.

The big towns and industrial areas like the Ruhr are the ones hardest hit. The farmers in many sections have been doing well despite a great shortage of fertilizer. Distribution of coal is a serious problem owing to disorganization of rail and canal transport. Huge sections of railroads were destroyed during the war. Innumerable important bridges were blown up and are hard to replace. Great quantities of rolling stock were destroyed or damaged, many repair shops were wiped out and maintenance of even the undamaged cars and engines has been difficult. Numerous canals upon which Germany depends so heavily for transport were blocked and only now are being put back into operation.

As the result of all this transport upheaval there are millions of tons of coal mined and ready for shipment from the Ruhr with nothing like enough transport available to move this fuel upon which restoration of the country so largely depends.

In the midst of all this hardship there is an almost unbelievably incongruous touch. Mrs. Mack and I immediately noted that the Germans in the British zone—and we understand that the same is true in many other parts of the country—are far better dressed than are the folk of the Allied countries of Britain, Belgium, Holland, and France. That must seem like a fairy tale to the reader and as a matter of fact my partner and I found it hard to believe at first glance. But it's true and the explanation is simple enough if you know how to look for it. Britain has been deprived of new clothing by inability either to import or to manufacture it. That's the position today but wait for a bit and see what happens. When the Germans will use the present loot they will be unable to replace it. Then they'll get a better understanding of what the occupied countries suffered.

YWCA SECRETARY TO ATTEND MEET

Miss Dorothea McDowell, executive secretary of the Wilmington Young Women's Christian Association, will leave tomorrow to attend the national convention of the YWCA which is being held in the convention hall, Atlantic City, N. J., Feb. 26 through March 8.

The convention is divided into two conferences. During the week of Feb. 26, the National Association of Employed YWCA officers will meet. This group is composed of professional field directors and executive secretaries of which Miss McDowell is the South Regional representative on the executive committee.

Mrs. J. D. Freeman, president of the local YWCA, will leave Wilmington Friday to join Miss McDowell for the second part of the convention which will begin Mar. 2. At this meeting staff and voluntary leaders will meet representing 43 YWCA's and about 20 leaders representing foreign countries. Also attending the meeting will be student representatives from colleges throughout the country. It is anticipated that between 4,000 to 5,000 YWCA workers will attend the convention, Miss McDowell said last night. DISCUSS MARCH WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—(AP)—Delegates to a 16-state conference of the national council for a permanent FEPC today discussed tentatively a march on Washington this spring by national labor, civic and church groups to support pending FEPC legislation.