

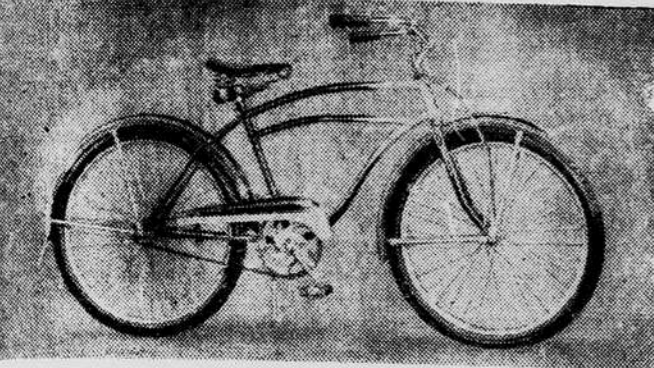
Round The Town

With Ben McDonald

The nicest thing about a trip around Southeastern North Carolina is the people one meets. While up-country the other day, in and about the places served by the Star and The News, I heard a story typical of those living in this fine section of the country. It illustrates the friendliness and thoughtfulness practiced by the residents in every community. It is another example of the generosity and unselfishness of these people. This story comes from Ivanhoe, in Sampson county, and is a salute to E. F. Fidler, of that community. Fidler, a four Army airman were

church on the Sunday following the accident, and a sizeable amount was donated towards the purchase of the marker. Other nearby churches and communities contributed liberally and the fund necessary was soon raised. Although the funds were donated by Sampson county citizens, the marker was erected on the spot nearest the accident, which places it on a dirt road in Bladen county, seven and one half miles southeast of Smith's store, known in the old days as the Wilmington-Fayetteville stagecoach road. The plot was given by Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Graham, who reside nearby. According to witnesses of the crash, which occurred late in the afternoon of August 27, 1943, the concussion from the explosion of the plane was so great debris was scattered over a five-mile area. Although a search party was organized immediately, it was not until the next day before the wreckage was found. Fidler has been in correspondence with the immediate survivors of the fliers and has received many touching letters from their wives and parents, all expressing themselves as highly appreciative of the wonderful thing he and his neighbors did in erecting a memorial to complete strangers. They plan a pilgrimage to the site soon. The marker was erected in April, 1944, eight months after the accident.

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Congratulations

In line with the progressive spirit so evident in Wilmington, the radio station WMFD has just been dropped by the station on the Castle Haynes road to congratulate R. A. Dunlea, owner-manager. He and the whole staff were quite happy over the FCC approval.

"Well, for the last 12 years the policy of the station has been service. We have tried to give the listening audience the type of programs it wanted. During the last four years, we have tried to get our power increase so that we would reach a greater majority of people and thus spread the name of Wilmington with our stronger power, we will go beyond Fayetteville and New Bern in that direction and South Carolina. However, we will still be guided by our original policy—service to the listeners. We hope to be on the air with our increased power by the end of the summer," Dunlea said.

IN CLOSING: Well, that about does it for this week but I'll be around in the same column, same space, this time next week. In the meantime, get your radio dial tuned to 1400 at 1:30 p. m. today when the Star and the News will present the Sunday Star-News reel over WMFD.

Walter Winchell

(Continued from Page Six)

the Post was an evening gazette that was very prissy, dull and pedantic. The two organs clashed over the type of news each published.

A reporter in the hinterlands summed up the battle between the two papers this way: "What can you expect of a city in which every morning the Sun makes vice attractive and every night the Post makes virtue odious."

There are several incorrigible "journalists" among the Washington newshawks who have developed a dirty method of black-jacking competitors. . . When they are scooped on a yarn they pin the politico involved and give him a distorted version of what has been published. Then they send a denial of the original story. Dog-eat-etc.

During the Civil War one of the sharpest Dixie paragraphers was George Prentice. He aimed most of his barbs at editors. . . His attacks infuriated one editor to the point where he fired a shot at Prentice but missed. . . Mr. P. reported the incident in one line: "His aim was as rotten as his newspaper!"

Among the epic journalistic piercings was the one carried on by Joseph Pulitzer and Charles A. Dana. Pulitzer referred to Dana as Charles Ananias Dana, and Dana would refer to Pulitzer as Judas. They even attacked each other's personal appearance and the type of clothes they wore. . . One day Dana editorially growled: "Pulitzer wouldn't know the truth if it hit him on the head." . . . Pulitzer countered: "The truth would never get that close to Dana!"

When Dana's NY Sun ripped into the Grant Administration, editor Henry Watterson cracked that "the word sun has become so hateful to Grant—he now loathes the whole solar system!"

Strife among newspapermen these days can be filed in the taffy-pull category when compared with the Hatfield-McCoying (decades ago) between the Herald and the Tribune. The potency of the abuse the Herald heaped on the Tribune can be judged by this: The attacks finally roused citizens to take mob action against the Tribune. They stormed the paper's building and caused great damage. But the Tribune prevented a second attack by swift action. . . The following day the Tribune's edifice was transformed into a fortress; every reporter was armed. Guns protruded from its windows and arrangement was made to drop shells on any attacking party.

This is a country editor's classic reply to a city publisher who insisted cities have better newspapers because they have larger staffs: "The great city papers think they are smart in having a large staff, and although we have not published ours before, we shall do so to take the conceit out of the city brethren. This newspaper's editorial staff consists of: managing editor, V. S. Wilson; city editor, Vic Wilson; news editor, V. Wilson; editorial writer, Hon. Mr. Wilson; exchange editor, Wilson; pressman and foreman, the same Wilson; a devil, a picture of the same Wilson; fighting editor, Mrs. Wilson."

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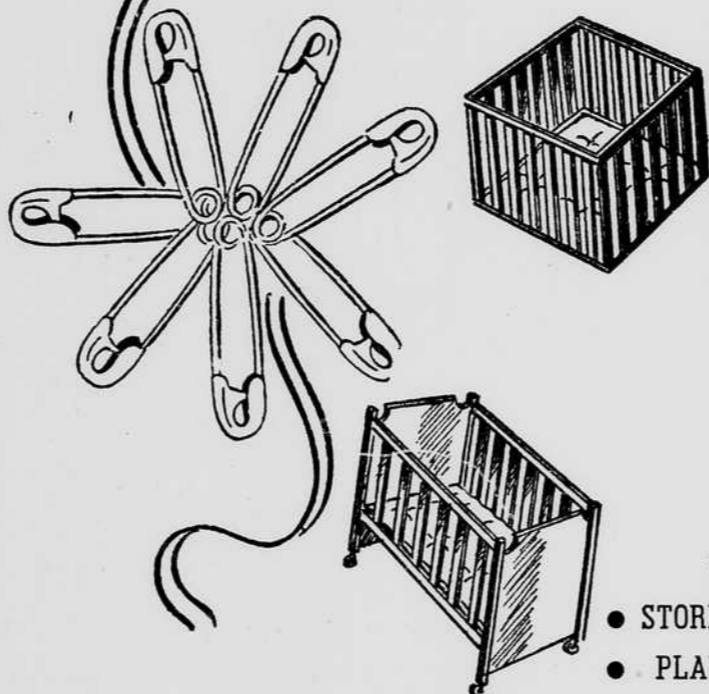
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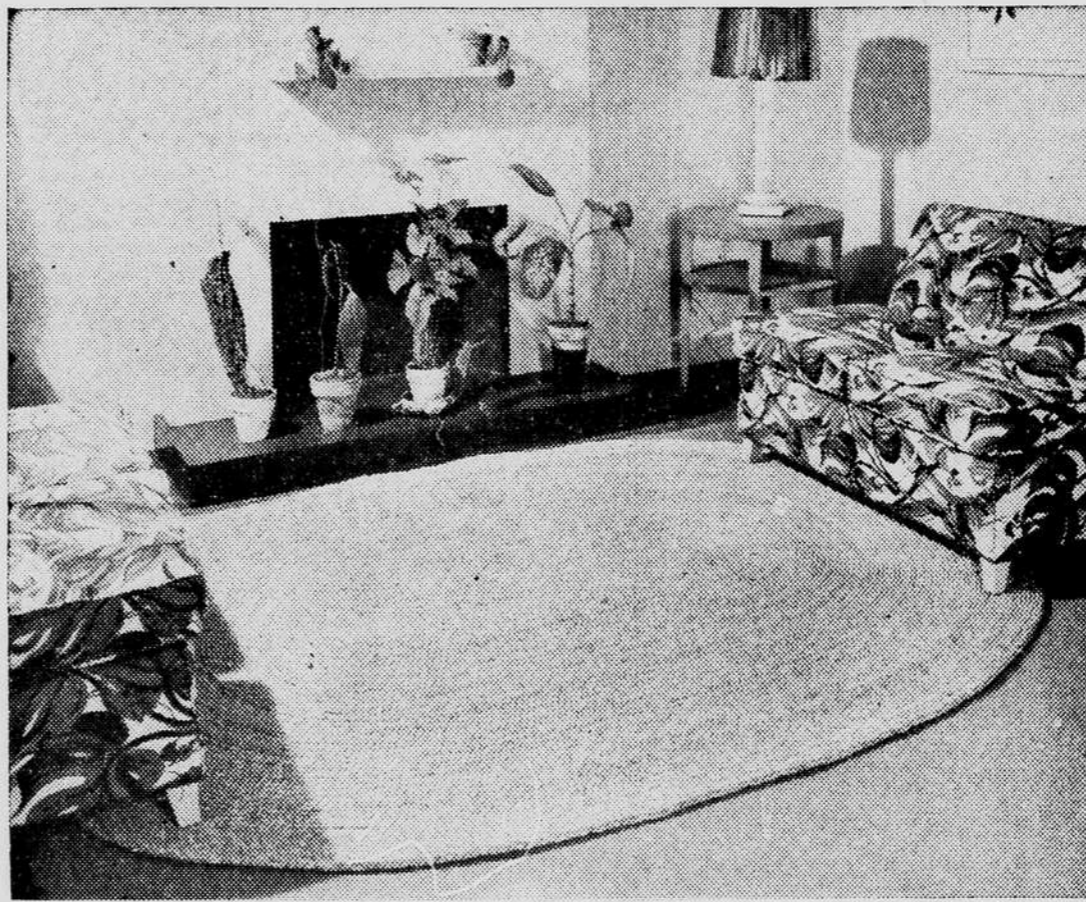


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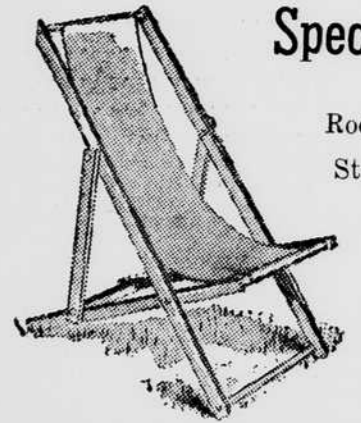


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