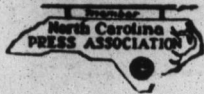


The Chowan Herald

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THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1945

The Dog Problem

In this issue of The Herald appears a letter written by the Rev. S. N. Griffiths relative to the recent campaign on the part of the Police Department in getting rid of diseased and wandering dogs. Both sides of the dog argument have been presented in articles in The Herald and it is not the purpose of the writer to become involved in the argument, for next to religion and politics, it no doubt is packed with as much "dynamite" as any other subject to be argued.

The Herald has no hesitancy in saying that at times dogs are nothing less than a nuisance, both in the business section and in the neighborhoods at night, when by their continual barking, citizens are deprived of their rest. The Herald also believes that taxes on many of these dogs have not been paid and were a strict check-up made, it would be hard to find anyone who would claim ownership.

The Herald believes that the purpose of the police is to rid the community of dogs upon which no taxes have been paid, as well as diseased or dangerous dogs. The writer is a lover of dogs and resents mistreatment, but at the same time, those who own dogs should think enough of them to pay the required tax and to do everything possible to prevent them from being a nuisance. "Every scrawny and ugly dog is somebody's pet", wrote Preacher Griffiths, which is no license for such dog to go without dog tax being paid or becoming a nuisance.

The Herald is in accord with the idea of getting rid of stray dogs, but sides with Griffiths in that a more fair and humane method should be adopted. In fact, the dog problem has a number of times been aired by Town Council and at one time the logical solution, so far as the writer sees it, was considered. However, it involved the expenditure of a little money and as a result was tabled and forgotten.

If dogs are to be eliminated, the logical procedure would be to impound them for a certain length of time so that owners, when the dogs are missed, could claim them, paying for their keep while impounded. That part of the idea appeared O. K. But what acted like cold water on the idea was when it was realized that the Town would be obligated to pay for the keep of the dogs which were not claimed from the time they were impounded until they were put to death by a veterinarian.

By checking the number of dog tax payments with the number of dogs on the streets, there is no doubt but that many owners have failed to comply with the law in paying a dog tax, so that there should be little reason for such owners to become all het up if their dog suddenly disappears. But at the same time, The Herald believes the impounding idea would be far more satisfactory and result in much less criticism.

Valuable Man Leaving

No doubt many people will regret to learn that J. R. Tanner on Tuesday tendered his resignation as Chief of Police of Edenton, a position he has admirably filled for two years. Chief Tanner came to Edenton when Edenton's Police Department was the target for criticism and in very short order he had matters straightened out and has conducted the department on a high plane ever since.

Chief Tanner has been an asset to the community, having taken an active part in civic affairs since his arrival and on a number of occasions his advice and ef-

HEARD & SEEN

By "BUFF"

As this column is written, the skies are overcast but here's hoping we do not have a rain like we had about a week ago, when several places in town were flooded. As a matter of fact, Chief Cecil Ivey's garden has been ruined due to being covered with water and the next day scorched by a hot sun. Chief Ivey says he's about to sue me or the town, but I think I've about reached a compromise for a mess of fish—that is if I can catch the scudders.

Baseball fans have been seeing some very good games played by CASU from the Naval Air Station, in fact the outfit has a perfect record of nine victories to no defeats in the Albemarle Service League. The games have been very good and comment has been made about this or that player. I want to throw a bouquet at the "forgotten man"—the umpire. Chief Tom Neal has been officiating faithfully back of the plate at every game, sometimes appearing as though he were melting in the hot sunshine. His umpiring has been in the same category as the CASU players, for to date the games have not been marred by a single argument. This is very unusual, for many occasions have arisen when an argument would obviously ensue. But Chief Neal knows the rules, and calls a good game, so that, aside from an occasional hard look on the part of a batter when a strike has been called, very little dissatisfaction has been registered. In fact, the splendid job of umpiring on the part of Chief Neal has been no little contribution to the pleasure of watching the CASU games. He works behind the plate just as hard as the players on the field and has umpired more games without an argument than is generally the rule. My hat's off to him, as well as the team for their splendid record thus far.

A sweet potato cultivation demonstration will be conducted on the farm of L. E. Francis on the Mexico road, Tuesday afternoon, July 10 at 2 o'clock. J. Y. Lassiter, Extension Horticulturist of N. C. State College, will conduct the demonstration, using a five-hoe cultivator with sweet potato vine turner attachments which eliminates hand turning of vines. All sweet potato growers interested in this time and labor saving method are urged to attend this demonstration.

Cigarettes cost 38 cents each in Germany, razor blades are \$1.50 in Chungking. A pair of shorts is \$12 in Calcutta. In Java, a sarong can't be purchased at any price unless a hundredweight of cotton is also tendered. A cheap suit of clothes costs \$158 in Italy. In the USA we have the OPA, which, so far as we can make out from the printed matter, is dictatorial, stupid, diabolical, inconvenient, meretricious, long-winded, improper, unfair, unprofitable, irrelevant, legalistic, lopsided, ridiculous, bureaucratic, unconstitutional and bursting out at the seams. Be that as it may, you can get a cigarette for a penny, a razor blade for a nickel, a pair of shorts for six bits, a suit of clothes for \$30, and a sarong for Lamour, toujours Lamour. Yes, we have the OPA.

forts have had no little bearing on the success of this or that endeavor. He loves children and they love him. By boys and girls of every age taking delight to even go out of their way to yell "Hello Chief," or some similar greeting, reflects the fact that he has an abiding love and interest in them. They know it, for it is hard to fool a large group of youngsters.

Chief Tanner is very friendly and cooperative, yet he can be stern when the occasion requires, he is well versed in the duties of an officer, all of which has been reflected in the operation of the department under him.

Of course, there will be some who will welcome the fact that he will leave, but it might be said that some of this crowd would be glad even if the Lord Himself would be leaving the Chief of Police job.

Edenton, The Herald believes, has benefitted by Chief Tanner's brief sojourn here, and is among his friends who regret that he is leaving. So as he leaves for greener pastures, the best wishes of this newspaper go with him and the prediction that he will ably and creditably serve Greenville.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Appearing in the Herald of June 14, was a most interesting article entitled "Scraps", which should be clipped and presented to the department of justice, in a beautiful frame for future guidance in its effort to eliminate stray dogs in Edenton.

Every scrawny dog and every ugly dog is somebody's pet and some child's companion and devoted friend and most certainly, some lady's pet. To shoot such an animal in cold blood, as was done to my devoted pet, "Prancer", on Monday morning around 2:30, in the ditch in front of the house, is cruel and murderous. Prancer was everybody's pet, he was the pet of the children in the neighborhood and he was more fondly thought of by my wife than anything in the world. In fact, he ran me a very close race, and I am tempted to say, "Heck, I am glad that the police did me this favor." But I could not be so selfish to wish such a thing as the death of an innocent dog, who broke loose from his leash and apparently sought a cool place in the ditch in which to rest, for it was very hot Monday night, only to meet with death.

It was 2:30 in the morning, when my wife was awakened by two shots which snuffed out the life of Prancer. She jumped up and ran to the back of the house where the dog was tied, and not finding him there came back crying, "They have killed my dog, they have killed my dog." I was awakened by this cry and we both ran outside and walked around calling the dog. Not seeing him we again retired, trying to console ourselves that he was somewhere in the neighborhood, because he has never gone off without following someone, but we could not sleep a wink, for my wife cried throughout the entire time until daybreak.

As soon as it was day we called the department and made inquiry as to whether the police went on a shooting rampage the night before and we were informed that no dogs had been shot. We next called Dr. Deese and made inquiry of the dog. Then we began an earnest search and the children found unmistakable evidences of blood in the ditch where the dog was killed in front of the house. We know that there was a notice by the police, requesting dog owners to fasten their pets for a period of two weeks, but it was only a request and not an ordinance punishable by law or threat of death against any dog not tied.

I believe that every dog owner took the precautionary steps to

comply with this request, for not a dog in the neighborhood could be seen throughout the day, and there are many in the section in which I live. Prancer was tied all day and at night, but the little fellow unthinkingly slipped the leash over his head during the night, presumably to get into a cooler spot. Had he known that his life was required of that night, I feel certain that he would not have risked it. I am wondering why did not the department catch the little fellow and have him impounded, why was he shot as a dangerous criminal in cold blood? He certainly showed no signs of madness or being vicious that day. Furthermore, he threatened no one's life at that time at night. He was a dog with good common sense and an affectionate pet, and we are terribly affected by our loss. I should like to suggest that more consideration be given in dealing with dogs in the future, and that all scrawny and ugly dogs be impounded for claiming rather than being shot to death.

The idea of ridding the city of stray dogs is an excellent one, but the method of execution is very poor. Had members of the department read "Scraps" before going out on the warpath, our little pet Prancer would probably have been given a chance. "Every scrawny and ugly dog is someone's pet."

REV. S. N. GRIFFITHS.

WELFARE REPORT

Ninety-four persons in Chowan County received old age assistance during June, the amount distributed being \$1,323. There were 15 cases of aid to dependent children, who received \$440, and six blind cases receiving \$102. During the month \$105 was used for general relief.

There were six service cases, according to the report of Mrs. J. H. McMullan, superintendent of public welfare, and among other activities 12 cases were screened for the Selective Service Board and 17 child labor certificates issued.

THREE MASSES AT ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH SUNDAY

The most holy sacrifice of the mass will be offered Sunday, July 8, at 7, 9 and 11 A. M., including sermon on "Hypocrisy," Holy Communion, prayers for peace, concluding in 45 minutes, followed by Sunday School, in St. Ann's Catholic Church, stated the Rev. Father F. J. McCourt, rector, who invites everybody to all services. One mass every week-morning, followed by Rosary. Confessions Saturday 7:30 P. M. to 8:30, Sunday start 30 minutes, end five minutes before services.

COLERAIN BOY PROMOTED
 Jonathan Johnson, 20, of Colerain, has advanced to seaman, first class, USNR, while serving aboard a destroyer escort in the Pacific. He also has seen service in the Atlantic. He is the son of Mrs. Nancy Johnson, Route 2, Colerain. Two brothers, Brinkley, 18, and Samuel, 24, are privates in the Army.



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