

The Chowan Herald

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THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1960.
A LIFT FOR TODAY.

* I am the light of the world. — John 8:12.
WHEN WE mix our own judgment with the lofty idealism of Jesus, a moral twilight results; however, we have freedom of choice whereby we may black out the Light or walk with Him. Give us, we pray, O God, the courage to walk in the light, and help send the Good News to the peoples of other lands.

Visit The Flower Show

Friday of this week the Edenton Woman's Club will stage its annual flower show. It will be held in the Penelope Barker house from 2 to 9 P. M., and with flowers in the height of their bloom the show augurs well to be a thing of distinct beauty.

There are wonderful productions of art, but no artist, no matter how proficient can portray the beauty as witnessed in beautiful flowers. It is the handiwork of the Creator, and should bring on a feeling of awe as we view the various color combinations and dainty petals, arranged far beyond the ability of a human being. One can hardly understand any person who does not enjoy and cherish the beauty and wonder of nature as portrayed in flowers, especially at this season of the year when new life appears to spring forth from everywhere.

There is little doubt but that many beautiful flowers will be on exhibit during the flower show, so that members of the Woman's Club are hopeful that many citizens will visit the show. The club is to be congratulated for its efforts in arranging the show, for it should be the means of realizing more fully how many beautiful flowers bloom in Edenton and at the same time have a tendency to direct thoughts and adoration toward Him who has provided these things of beauty for us to enjoy.

Is It Any Use?

Millions of column inches of valuable space are contributed by American newspapers every year in the never-ending battle to halt the bloody carnage taking place on our highways. It seems incredible that drivers continue to act as they do behind the wheel of an automobile despite the avalanche of grim facts and warnings.

But it is a matter of record; record that is slightly over 50 years old yet already stands as one of the more sordid indictments against our society.

A recent report by The Travelers Insurance Companies states that since the advent of the automobile, more than 62,000,000 men, women and children have been killed or injured on our highways. More Americans have died on our highways than in all the wars this country has fought.

The cause of this slaughter screams for attention. More than 85 percent of all fatal accidents last year was blamed on human error!

More than 85 percent of the 37,600 deaths occurred because somebody behind the wheel had shrugged off the countless highway safety news stories and editorials this newspaper and hundreds of others like it across the country printed during the year. "It can't happen to me," he thought.

Perhaps he didn't consciously think that. Maybe the fact that it could happen to him didn't get past his subconscious. Perhaps it never did happen to him. Perhaps he was the survivor in a horrible crash that maimed and killed those he loved most.

Inattention is the overwhelming factor which figures in 85 percent of our death crashes. A lapse of attention to the road ahead, a heavy foot on the gas pedal, an unnecessary gamble to save a few seconds that cost an eternity—these are the ways in which the human behind the wheel failed. The supreme penalty was the result for those who erred once too often.

Although 3,000,000 copies of the report by The Travelers Insurance Companies describing the sordid record on our highways last year are being distributed in this country, chances are that you will not see one. If you do, however, read it closely. Your error behind the wheel could be included in the statistical columns next year.

It is safe to predict that you as a driver will be exposed to countless news stories in this newspaper during the coming months describing what happened because the human behind the wheel made a mistake. Read them carefully. They could help you avoid that same mistake.

Trading in Edenton is still a matter of good business judgment.

Heard & Seen By Buff

I've not heard a single complaint about the weather on Easter Sunday. Actually, it was just about as perfect as it could be, so that the fair sex had an opportunity to drape out and show their Easter finery—if they had any. It was a good day for churches, too, for many of the front seats got a dusting off for a change.

Well, the deadline for sending income reports is over, so that any who have yet failed to send in their "figgers" will hear from Uncle Sam. And speaking about income tax, Wilborne Harrell is agin it. He says town and county taxes, as well as some other taxes, are all right, for a person get something in return for his money. But, says Wilborne, he don't see a thing he gets in return for his income tax—they just take your money away from you and that's it. Well, if a fellow don't send it in, he'll get something—plenty of trouble.

One fellow who likes smoked herring asked a small-time fisherman the other day: "When can I buy some smoked herring?" He got an answer immediately, "Just as soon as I can catch some." However, it should not be hard to catch 'em these days, for while fishing Saturday afternoon it sounded like the herring were trying to push back the bank of the creek. And actually some of 'em, I thought, would jump into my boat.

The other day I asked Izzy Campen if he still has his cottage at Nags Head. He told me that he did and that it was a good investment. "You see," said Izzy, "we always go to the cottage over the Easter holidays, and in that neck of the woods there's no need to buy Easter frocks and hats and not even corsages—so that I save a lot of money in that way."

William Reeves and Clyde Slade, two Herald employees, are now operating the Stork Club, formerly the Mexicana north of Edenton. The other night somebody broke into the place and made way with what money was on hand and most of the stock. However, they are two enterprising boys and are hard at work to make a success of their venture. They have scheduled a dance for Friday night, April 29, when music will be provided by Fred Hill and the House Rockers. Sounds pretty shaky!

John A. Holmes and Ernest Ward, two of Edenton's hard-working men, have been sick, but both are on the mend. Ernest was able to be about a little this week, and John is gradually recovering at his home. Here's hoping both of 'em will soon be back to their real selves in short order.

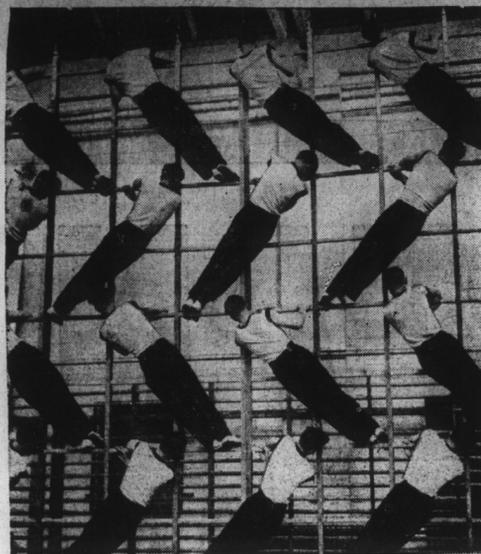
Politics are gradually warming up throughout the state with candidates for Governor, as well as other state office aspirants, chasing all over the place in quest of votes. Then, too, the race for Congress between Herbert C. Bonner, incumbent and Walter Jones is getting in high gear. A Bonner sign was placed at the foot of Broad Street the other day, but now a Jones sign is placed immediately above the Bonner sign. So, at the foot of Broad Street Jones is on top, but Bonner supporters aren't giving in yet.

Yours truly worked like a Trojan this week in order to leave very early this (Thursday) morning to visit his sister in Pennsylvania, who is very ill. It is always a pleasure to take a trip, but it's a heck of a lot more pleasant to come back home, which I hope to do Sunday.

Another valuable Chowan County citizen, Joe Webb, passed to his reward and he will be very much missed. Mr. Webb served as a County Commissioner for 37 years, so that he made a big contribution to the welfare and progress of the county. He was a very good friend of the writer, who extends his sympathy to members of his family.

Cooperation is a wonderful thing. Recently I had something to say about news articles sent to the office before Tuesday. Well, this week most of these reports were in before Tuesday, which made it a whale of a lot easier to get 'em in type and in the paper. We want to print all the news we can get hold of, but we cannot transform all the copy into type in time if we get the most of it on Tuesday. So I say t'anks for the understanding and cooperation.

I should have written a story about the Rotary exchange student from Greece who spoke at last week's Rotary meeting. But his name is too hard to spell—Vassilios Marcopoulos. That's the way he spells it, but you'll have to figure out how to pronounce it. Anyway, he made a very fine talk, comparing conditions in Greece as compared with the good old U.S.A.



CROSSED UP—British sailors lend themselves to a herringbone pattern while exercising on a floor-to-ceiling contraption at Portsmouth, England. The activity is a required program.

Income Of 65 And Over Group Increase To \$30 Billion Level; Voluntary Programs Big Factor

The annual income of the nation's older population, those 65 and over, has increased by at least \$6 billions in the aggregate since the mid-Fifties to the neighborhood of \$30 billions, a rate of growth in keeping with the general rise in income levels and the progress of the economy in the period. There are now some 1, million persons 65 and over as against 13 1/2 million in 1954.

Of particular significance is the fact that approximately \$2 out of every \$3 of this income flow is still the result of voluntary decision and action—employment, individual savings and investment programs, home ownership, and insured and non-insured pension plans and annuities, according to data compiled by the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Thus with all the expansion of benefits under Government-sponsored programs in recent years, the importance of the individual's own preparation for the financial needs of later life stands out clearly, especially with respect to saving and spending decisions during productive years.

Factor of Inflation
There is one unfavorable factor, however, affecting the income of the 65 and over group, and one to which our older citizens are particularly vulnerable. That is the persistent erosion of the dollar, which has gone on for two decades and is still continuing. Living costs rose by more than 20 per cent during the Fifties alone, underscoring the urgency of bringing inflationary pressures under control and stabilizing the value of the dollar as an over-riding national need.

The Government bureau's figures place the combined money income of the 65 and over group at a range of \$25 billions to \$31 billions in 1958, the difference reflecting the lack of precise data in certain areas. These totals work out to the equivalent of 7 per cent to 8.6 per cent of total personal income before taxes in that year. The comparable money income figure for 1954, when such data were compiled for the first time, was placed at approximately \$19 1/2 billions, equivalent to 6.7 per cent of total personal income before taxes in 1954. The indications thus are that whatever individual income differences may be, the 65 and over group as a whole has gained somewhat on the rest of the population in the rate of growth in aggregate income in recent years. Besides those 65

and over enjoy special advantages under the income tax law, and many have income from more than one source.

Home Ownership
In addition to their cash income, the 65 and over group had a total income in kind, mainly home ownership, estimated at \$3 billions in 1958. The comparable figure in 1954 was placed at \$2 1/2 billions. Widespread home ownership is a characteristic of the resources of the nation's older population, and has been growing. The latest figures show that two out of every three nonfarm families headed by a person 65 and over own their own home, with more than 80 per cent mortgage-free.

The income figures disclose an outstanding area of growth in the classification of private pension plans and individual annuities. Annual benefits paid under these programs, insured and noninsured combined, almost doubled in the 1954-58 period, rising from approximately \$800 millions in 1954 to an estimated \$1 1/2 billions in 1958. The number of pensioners 65 and over under private plans was around 1 1/4 million in 1958. As an augury of future growth, coverage under insured and non-insured pension and retirement plans has been expanding steadily as well. The latest figures show 19 million active workers with such coverage, representing about 45 per cent of all those on a civilian payroll outside of agriculture and government.

Public and Other Programs
Public programs backed by the taxing power also experienced a marked growth in the 1954-58 period. Benefits under these programs increased from \$5.9 billions in 1954 to a range of \$10.5 billions to \$11 billions in 1958. The major elements is Old Age and Survivors' benefits, representing about three-fifths of the total. The other programs are railroad retirement, government employees' re-

Legal Notice

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE
Having qualified as administratrix CTA of the estate of Lou Brown, deceased, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned within one year from date of this notice or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.
This 14th day of April, 1960.
SARAH B. SUTTON
205 Dogwood Drive
Chapel Hill, N. C.
Administratrix CTA
of Lou Brown Estate.
Apr 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26

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retirement, veterans' programs, and public assistance. Individual savings and investment programs are also contributing a large sum to the income of the 65 and over group. The 1958 total here was estimated at a range of \$3.5 billions to as high as \$8 billions from interest, dividends, rents, etc., as compared with under \$4 billions in 1954.

The major laggard in the income of the 65 and over group was earnings from employment. As against a figure of \$9 billions in 1954, the total for 1958 was estimated at \$9 1/2 to \$10 1/2 billions, a rate of growth smaller than that of the overall trend of personal income in the period. Underlying this situation are a number of factors affecting the employment of older workers and the prevalence of part-time work in this age group.

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