

### MY BEST FRIEND

By TERRY JONES

"I behaved myself as though he had been my friend or brother."

—Psalms 35:14.

I have been writing this column nearly a year now. I have enjoyed writing on many subjects ranging from Death to The Love of God. This column has been a great blessing and a source of much good experience. The purpose of most of the topics has been to show God's plan to save a lost world through Christ Jesus. It occurred to me a short while ago that I have never fully given my own personal testimony. Many of the young people and adults know me since I have lived in the surrounding area of Edenton all my life until recently. So as I give my own testimony I pray that someone will understand and believe that God Almighty can and will change anyone no matter who or what he may be.

My life has been typical of most Chowan County young people. I never did anything outstanding, just another face in the crowd. In school I was uninterested and never did my best. I used to dread the day when it would be my turn to stand in front of my class (the class of '60") and give an oral report. I remember one day in early high school my teacher stood behind me and held my belt to keep me from swaying back and forth as I talked before the class. Another time I was discussing with a group of other students our plans after graduation from school in a

few years. When asked my plans I replied with the wisecrack, "I'm going to be a preacher." Everyone laughed heartily at the impossibility of that, and so did I.

Yes, I believed in God but had always managed to push Him into the background of my life. I had been raised to attend church on the Sabbath but it had become empty and meaningless. I had even joined church when I was twelve years of age, but it had been long forgotten. In the middle of my junior year in high school, through the strong preaching of my pastor, I became strangely aware of my life. God seemed very close and I was under conviction that I was wrong in His sight. I had not been a juvenile delinquent, just one of millions of other teenagers.

Then one day I met the best friend I have ever met. He lived with me. He understood my problems. He knew all my sins, yet still He loved me. I learned to trust Him to carry me through life and not myself. I found I couldn't escape sin no matter what I did but He had the power to wipe every sin I had ever committed or ever would commit completely away. Many times I am unloyal to Him but He always understands and lifts me back on my feet.

This friend planted a little seed in me to preach God's message. This seed grew so powerful in me that He placed me before congregations of people and gave me a message to proclaim. He led me to college, recently in marriage, in accepting a pastorate and just last night to be ordained into the gospel ministry. He has given me all this in the last three years since I met Him. He has changed my whole life. I was only clay in His hand and He molded me into a new person. I deserve absolutely nothing. He gave me the key to earthly happiness and eternal life and He will give it to you, dear reader. Won't you place your life in His hands and put your full trust in Him to be the leader of your life and to save you from your sins. Won't you meet my friend? His name is—Jesus.

#### HONORED AT ECC

Outstanding seniors were recognized for their scholarship at the East Carolina College Senior Class dinner Tuesday evening, April 3, following an inspirational address by Edmund H. Harding of Washington, N. C. Among the recipients of departmental awards was Mrs. Peggie Elliott Harmon of Edenton for foreign language.

### Frankly Speaking

By FRANK ROBERTS

Well, the days of the five-cent hot dog, and the five-cent soda have come to an end. The first Edenton Trade Fair is concluded. Will there be others? It's too early to answer that question, but we did poll a few of the people who had something to do with the success of the fair. We spoke to some of those who worked behind the scenes, as well as to some of the many exhibitors. If the comments we received were typical, it looks like a Trade Fair in Edenton might well become a regular event. First of all, congratulations are due the committeemen who were instrumental in the success of the fair as well as to many others who contributed their time and talent. As for my part, I'm pleased with the success of the fashion show. The models who participated were excellent and the work of Izzy Campen, Mrs. Copeland and Mrs. Cuthrell were invaluable in making the fashion show one of the major highlights. Now, let's see what some of the folks had to say.

Jim Robinson, head of the Edenton Chamber of Commerce, who originated the idea of the fair said: "I heard that the participants were well satisfied. Everyone who had responsibilities towards the fair's success, did a remarkably fine job. Jim went on to praise the publicity given the fair, via WCDJ, Channel 7 (with special thanks to Bennie Waters) and The Herald. It was the publicity given through these informational media, that resulted in the good attendance figures.

Jim Earnhardt, general chairman of the fair had this to say: "We had good committee workers and they operated perfectly together. Everyone did their jobs and I'm very much satisfied with the fair's success. I've heard not a single complaint against it." By the way, it was Mr. Earnhardt who painted those excellent signs across Broad Street in behalf of the

fair. Izzy Campen, chairman of entertainment said: "A howling success".

Hector Lupton, co-chairman of publicity said: "One of the nicest things we ever had in Edenton."

George Alma Byrum, an exhibitor, had this to say: "A success. We hoped for larger crowds, but the fair showed what could be done when merchants put forth their best effort."

Mrs. Henry Cuthrell, an exhibitor, who was also co-chairman of the fashion show says: "... real pleased."

Warren Twiddy, exhibiting models of famous Lesco Homes was quoted as saying: "I'm pleased with the results. Over 700 adults registered at the Lesco booth. It was an all-around success."

Another exhibitor, Johnny Woolard said this: "It was as much of a success as any merchant could possibly expect. It will have far-reaching effects. I'm tickled with the money I spent on it. I was also more than happy with results of the live broadcast from the Colonial Furniture Co., booth."

The above quotes are from just a few of our citizens who had something to do with the tremendous success of the fair. Over 12,000 people attended. They were interested by the many painstakingly presented booths, they enjoyed the fine, free entertainment, free gifts, nickel hot dogs and drinks. The town and county was handsomely promoted and, from the looks of it, Edenton should have another Trade Fair scheduled some time in the next couple of years. Let's hope so. It's an exciting and exhilarating event.

Closing Thought: A wife is essential to great longevity; she is the receptacle of half a man's cares and two-thirds of his ill humor.

### AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS

U. S. agricultural imports in fiscal year 1961 (July 1960-June 1961) were the smallest in 11 years. Amounting to 3,641 million, they were 9 percent below the 4,010 million in the previous fiscal year. Volume fell by 4 percent. The decrease—to a large extent reflecting the

slowdowns in U. S. business activity throughout most of fiscal year 1961—was about equally divided between supplementary (partially competitive) and complementary (noncompetitive) items. Agricultural commodities accounted for 26 percent of total imports for consumption in both 1960 and 1961.

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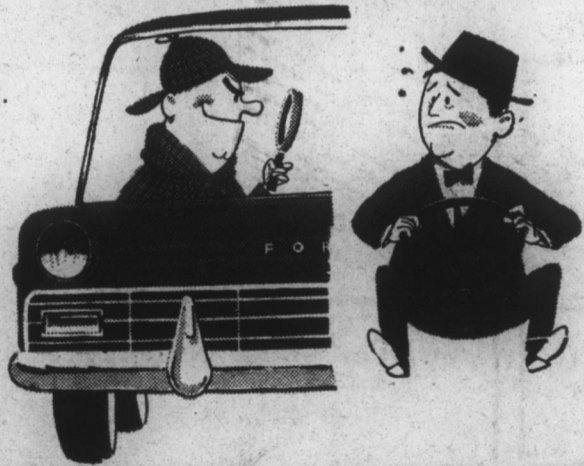
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