



With so many parties held over the holidays, maybe the following poem might be appropriate. The poem, written by Russell Kay and appearing in a Lehigh Acres, Fla., newspaper, was brought in by Mrs. J. E. Hughes of Merry Hill, who has a daughter living at Lehigh Acres. Here 'tis:

**'Twas the Night After Christmas**  
'Twas the night after Christmas, and boy what a house!  
I felt like the devil and so did the spouse.  
The egg-nog and turkey and candy were well,  
But ten hours later they sure gave me hell.

The stockings weren't hung by the chimney with care,  
The darn things were sprawled on the back of a chair.  
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
But I had a large cake of ice on my head.

And when at last I dozed off in a nap,  
The ice woke me up when it fell on my lap.  
Then for some unknown reason I wanted a drink,  
So I started in feeling my way to the sink.

I got along fine till I stepped on the cat,  
I don't recall just what occurred after that.  
When I came to, the house was flooded with light,  
Tho' under the table I was high as a kite.

While visions of sugar plums danced in my head,  
I somehow got up and then back into bed.  
Then what to my wondering mind should appear,  
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer.

Then the sleigh seemed to change to a red fire truck,  
And each reindeer into a bleary-eyed buck.  
I knew in a moment it must be Old Nick,  
I tried to cry out but my tongue was too thick.

The old devil whistled and shouted with glee,  
While each buck pawed the earth and looked daggers at me.  
Then he called them by name and the names made me shudder,  
When I heard them I felt like a ship without rudder.

"Now Eggnog, Bacardi, Four Roses and Brandy!  
"Now Fruit Cake! Cold Turkey! Gin Rickey! and Candy!  
"To the top of his dome, to the top of his skull,  
"Now whack away, crack away with thumps that are dull."

Then in a twinkling I felt on my roof,  
The prancing and pawing of each cloven hoof.  
How long this went on I'm sure I can't say,  
Tho' it seemed an eternity plus a long day.

But finally the night after Christmas had passed,  
And I found I could really think straight at last.  
So I thought of the New Year, a few days away,  
And I've made me a vow no tempter can sway.

I'm sticking to water, don't even want ice,  
For there is nothing as tasty and nothing as nice.  
The night after New Year may bother some guys,  
But I've learned my lesson and, brother, I'm wise.

You can have your rich victuals, and liquor that's red,  
But what goes in my stomach won't go to my head.  
So a big Happy New Year to you and to all,  
I'm back on the wagon and hope I won't fall.

Some of Christmas day was devoted to reading the messages on Christmas cards, some of which included personal notes from the senders. For instance Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sanford wrote from High Point, "come see us in our new glass house in the hills." Then Rev. Cliff Shoaf must have mailed a card during a rainy spell, for he wrote, "If it keeps on raining like this you'll be able to come to Durham to fish." And Bob Kennan, up in Johnson City, N. Y., asked for some information. "Does a grandfather give cigars?" he asked. His son became the pappy of a son in July and his daughter gave birth to a son in October. "TB bring cigars next summer when I come to Edenton," he wrote.

## Project Set

Continued From Page 1

The resin, a derivative of petroleum, is either unavailable at reasonable prices or is available on a quota basis which makes it impractical to operate at full production.

Both plants have been forced to lay off employees because of the problem.

At Fiberform, management had posted production at six boats. The shortages forced a cut back to four boats which ended in some layoffs.

So, it is not a shortage of orders which causes the industry to stay in a state of flux.

Recently Boating Industry Associations sent a memo to the trade on boat fuels. It was stated that there is no energy "crisis" in America, but a petroleum shortage.

It was noted that boating itself is a \$4-billion a year industry employing nearly 500,000 people in 19,000 different companies exclusively in the marine business.

Boatmen, it was pointed out, are minor users of fuel in relation to other consumers. Recreational boating consumers approximately one half of 1 per cent of the gasoline used by Americans each year. This is equivalent to one half tank of gas per car per year.

"The American motorist by cutting his highway speed by 10 miles per hour can save 20 times the amount of gasoline used by the average boatman.

Grampain and Fiberform are good corporate citizens who can be expected to manage with level heads, refraining from panic. The community would be wise to follow their example.

## Victims of Bureaucracy

The announced departure of H. G. Jones and John G. Zehmer, Jr., from the State Officer of Archives and History can only be classed as bad news along the Public Parade.

Dr. Jones, director of the department, said he's had his fill of bureaucracy. He will move over to Chapel Hill where he will become curator of the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina.

Mr. Zehmer, head of the Historic Sites and Museums Section, will become architectural historian for the City of Richmond, Va.

Both men have been strong boosters of Edenton, often times going not only the second mile but the third, fourth and fifth in order to assist in the preservation of what so many of us take for granted.

Dr. Jones and Mr. Zehmer were professionals who would not compromise principle nor settle for second best. Dr. Jones made it plain he couldn't function effectively in the atmosphere of politicians. If Jack Zehmer were to say anything it would probably be "Amen."

'Tis a sad state of affairs when men of such expertise and dedication are victims of the bureaucracy which suffers but the citizens who recognize the importance of the preservation of our heritage.

## Report Good

RALEIGH — All hogs and pigs on North Carolina farms December 1, 1973 totaled 1,950,000 head, an increase of 12 per cent from the 1,739,000 head on hand a year earlier, according to the N. C. Crop Reporting Service. Of this December 1, total, 296,000 head were kept for breeding purposes with other hogs totaling 1,654,000 head.

During the past six months period, June-November 1973, N. C. producers farrowed 172,000 sows, an increase of five per cent from the comparable period a year earlier. Pigs per litter for the period averaged 7.37 — a decrease from the 7.50 pigs per litter for the same period for 1972. The June-November pig crop totaled 1,268,000 — pigs up three per cent from the 1972 period. Sows farrowed during June-August totaled 60,000 and September-November farrowings totaled 62,000.

## Project Set

The Economic Improvement Council, Inc. will sponsor Project HEAT (Help Educate and Train) effective January 3, 1974. This project will be funded at a level of \$20,000.

This project according to Wilbur G. Pierce, director is a response to the nation's energy crisis and the Economic Improvement Council, Inc., proposes to implement a project designed to lessen the impact of the fuel shortage upon the poor within Region "R". This is an emergency project.

The project will feature basic

## Woman

Continued from Page 1

cleaners on the feet for claws.

Even Mrs. Lawson's nurses and doctors helped her with her handiwork. "A nurse helped me paint my fruit bowl," she laughed, "and the doctors and nurses said they could sleep with my teddy bear."

Her prize creation, however, is a 17-piece nativity scene formed mostly from scraps of materials. The Mary is made of paper mache, newspaper, and cloth, and painted blue. Her hair is formed from string painted brown.

However, Mrs. Lawson felt that making things with paper mache was too slow, so she changed materials.

The angles are different from most angels that they are all men. All the angels the Lord ever sent on Earth were men," Mrs. Lawson stated, "and, so, it is my belief that men did the singing the night that Jesus was born."

Mrs. Lawson chose the colors that looked the nicest for the angels. They are made of socks and stuffed with rags and white nylons. "I feel that angels should wear something nice and soft and bright," she said.

Mrs. Lawson has a vision of the setting for the Nativity Scene. "The idea for the Nativity Scene just came to me," she explained. "There was a vision in my mind to make it."

Because of this vision she paid a special tribute to the ox, making it the only animal in the scene. "The scene was just an old dreadful stable," she explained. "Mary and Joseph wanted a place in the Inn and everybody refused to give them a room. So they went to an ox manger, and when they did, the ox moved over and made room for them and that's where Jesus was born."

Mrs. Lawson has often made items at home with the materials she could find. A doll made from corn cobs tied with ribbons was among the first items she made. "I love to make things," she said, "it's just the money problem."

However, the amount and variety of materials available in O.T. overwhelmed her. She worked as continuously as possible so that she would not waste any of the materials available to her. Her hospital room was filled with her own Christmas items and with the gifts she helped the others make. When she was discharged from NCMH, Mrs. Lawson carried her handicrafts with her in five large storage boxes and a shopping bag.

Mrs. Lawson made her Christmas gifts, and perhaps for a gift for herself, she would want only a part of the materials available to her in O.T. available to her again.

At Christmas time, scrap materials, ribbons, strings, and sequins from the Christmas tree are tossed away with little thought. It is heartwarming that, when given the opportunity, one woman can take those same scraps and transform them into Christmas miracles.

Thursday, December 27, 1973

## The Chowan Herald

Published every Thursday at Edenton by The Chowan Herald, Inc., L. F. Amburn, Jr., president and general manager, 431-25 South Broad Street, Edenton, North Carolina 27932.  
Entered as second class matter August 26, 1954, at the Post Office at Edenton, North Carolina, under act of March 3, 1879.  
L. F. Amburn, Jr., President and Gen. Mgr.  
J. Edwin Butler, Editor  
Hester Lupton, Advertising Manager  
S. H. Manning, Production Dept.  
Subscription Rates  
One Year (12 Issues) \$4.00  
One Year (12 Issues) \$4.00  
Six Months (6 Issues) \$2.00  
Six Months (6 Issues) \$2.00

home insulation and minor repairs to insure maximum use of fuel resources which will not only mean warmer residences, but will reduce the energy consumption over previous years' allocation.

The agency will utilize all existing resources to maximize the impact of this project upon the entire community. Volunteer organizations, public agencies, and elected officials will play a major role in the implementation and operation of this project.

A HEAT Committee will be

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organized in each county with a representative of the local petroleum oil and fuel dealers, county coordinator, business representative, local government and target area residents. This committee will have the responsibility of deciding who will receive emergency heat in each county.

The Department of Health and Social Services and other agencies will aid in the referrals of target area residents who could benefit from these services.

Local county and city officials, civic organizations, and church groups will be asked to coordinate. Volunteers will be utilized fully and all efforts are to be coordinated with each county energy crisis plan.

Gilbert Johnson of the EIC staff will coordinate this project. He indicates that emergency fuel depots will be established in each county and stocked with an emergency supply of wood, coal, and oil.

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