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HERE, NOW AND HEREAFTER

By VANCE HAYNES

I'll Never Grow Up

I am about six years old but I have never grown up. I never expect to.

I may be one of those odd numbers that a psychiatrist calls "a man with a boy's mind." But there are some things that even a psychiatrist doesn't know.

I am not a good, or efficient person. I am the type that turns the wheels of a business man. I'd rather sit on the shore while a mountain stream leaps beside me and the minnows dart back and forth and the birds sing than to sit in a limousine and be whirled around for a limousine and be called prosperous.

As a boy, I used to tramp the woods with a knotted stick, a note-book and a shaggy dog, literally drunk with the sight of that wonderful world of field and brook and blossom. When supper called for me at high-noon the old professor used to say about the old professor used to say "You'll find him down the creek." No baseball game could lure this boy from his sylvan retreats.

Usually, the passing years tone down somewhat the calliope notes of one bright enthusiasm. But I'm still young. I am having a time making myself like me. I simply won't grow up. I just can't become matter-of-fact and business-like. I simply cannot like a sight more than I possibly can.

I've been wrestling with Reality for several years. I've scratched the surface of reality, hopelessly trying to make my clock-work keep step with my heart-beat. I have discovered that much hypocrisy and selfishness is among men.

But, for all that, when I sneak off into the woods away from the prying eyes of sensible people who want to do like the Joneses, I'm still the happy medium of hypocrisy among the honeysuckles and hollyhocks back home.

I still believe in fairies, elves and leprechauns. I retain my old allegiance to Santa Claus. I still think there's a pot of gold at the rainbow's end, and almost feels me passage to its shrine. Still the wood thrushes song seems part of some heavenly chorus and I dance as rapturously as ever when the red-bud comes into bloom.

Of course, the grownups deplore my childishness. I really should have become an Average and Normal Man in terms of life. In terms of a bungalow and a flivver. I suppose they are right.

With my devotion and my songs as I go near the narrow of life, I pray for all your patronizing sympathy. Pray for all your doubts, your efficiency, your success, and happier than I. Wouldn't it be a drab old world if everybody belonged to the system and the same as fools like me who go from the hell of conscientious doing everything just right.

P. S. Pass the sympathy of the average, the fitness of the efficient, but prayers are necessary.

P. S. No. 2. Maybe I should have been a very dull and stupid person like and hard-boiled. I don't believe I will. Life is chuck-full of happiness and music and laughter and gladness. I'm too young to be a hard-boiled man.

P. S. No. 3. Looking about, I see a compliment paid to the Average and Normal. Didn't the Lord Teacher say of such is the kingdom of heaven?

P. S. No. 4. To the muffs and pessimists and children. All children. There is no room for us if we refuse to become children.

P. S. No. 5. Some sort of plays I only hope they become a regular. I'd like to play with the lambs in the pasture while I lie around in solemn meditation to do something else.

P. S. No. 6. This is where we all become childhood young at heart.

NEGROES WHO BEAT UP SHERIFF, GET 3 YEARS

Jerry Perry, December 22, beat up Sheriff and escaped Pasquotank County jail. He was sentenced to 3 years on the roads.

Judge Bryan Barnhill, who is presiding Superior Court, confirmed the sentence of the two convicted of carrying concealed weapons and inflicting serious injuries upon the sheriff.

HOW SHALL CURRITUCK SOUND BE BRIDGED?

Private Capital Now Ready and Eager; But Wouldn't Present and Future Public Interest be Best Served by State Construction?

Shall private capital or the State build a bridge across Currituck Sound, from Point Harbor to Kitty Hawk, giving the State an unbrokne highway from Manteo to Murphy has suddenly become a question that must be settled pretty soon.

The Currituck and Dare Bridge Corporation, authorized capital $100,000 whose purpose is to build a bridge across Currituck Sound was chartered this week. The incorporators are L. C. Blades S. B. Parker and M. B. Sawyer, of Elizabeth City.

Hardly had this fact been made public when a meeting of the regional council of the Kill Devil Hills Memorial Association at the Virginia Dare Hotel Wednesday night took decisive steps to interest the State Highway Commission and prepare to ask the next General Assembly of North Carolina to provide a permanent bridge across Currituck Sound.

Local capitalists, appreciating the urgent need of this bridge and having satisfied themselves that a privately owned toll bridge across Currituck Sound will pay, are eager to make the investment. Their surveys have been made, engineering concerns are ready to proceed immediately with construction and there is a ready market for the bonds the local capitalists propose to issue.

But the bridge to be built by private capital would be a creosoted wood structure, the life of which is not assured for more than 20 or 25 years. The State doesn't build such structures; State highway bridges are built of enduring cement and steel to last for centuries.

It is nearly three miles across Currituck Sound. A bridge across this sound would be approximately twice as long as Chowan River Bridge at Edenton. But it would not be so costly because it would traverse shallow waters requiring piles approximately only one half the length of the piles used for the Chowan River bridge.

Ultimately the State will bridge Currituck Sound. But if a temporary privately owned toll bridge is built now the State will hardly be interested in bridging Currituck Sound while the wooden bridge serves the situation reasonably well.

And so what shall be done about it? The Kill Devil Hills Memorial Association appointed a committee to study the problem and confer with the State Highway Commission. The committee is cmoposed of W. O. Saunders and P. H. Williams, of Elizabeth City; T. S. White, of Hertford; R. L. Griggs, of Point Harbor and D. W. Bagley, of Moyock.

LIVELY INTEREST IN GENL. COX' COMING

Big Dinner at The Virginia Dare Saturday Night May Be Followed by Organization of a Legion Post Here

World War veterans in Elizabeth City are looking forward with lively interest to the coming of General Albert Cox, commander of the North Carolina Department of the American Legion who will visit Elizabeth City Saturday in company with the official members of the Legion in this State.

There will be about 25 members of the party headed by General Cox. They will arrive at Elizabeth City on the U. S. C. G. Cutter Pamlico and will be the guests of a dinner at the Virginia Dare Hotel to be given them by Elizabeth City men who served in the late war. It is likely that a post of the American Legion will be organized here at that time.

From Elizabeth City General Cox and party will cruise to Roanoke Island where they will be entertained lavishly by the Manteoans.

The use of the Pamlico for their winter meeting and a cruise of North Carolina inland waters was arranged for the Legionnaire heads by Congressman Lindsay Warren.

—Governor McLean this week paroled three State prisoners. And commuted another. The three pardoned were B. F. Davis, Lenoir county, Sherman Haney, Haywood county, and Paul Blackowod, Macon county. The commutation went to Minnie Brown of Lenoir. All had been convicted for violating the prohibition law.

Has The Respect of His Seniors

REPRESENTATIVE John N. Garner, of Texas, ranking member of the House Ways and Means Committee and one of the oldest, one of the ablest and one of the most influential men in Congress pays this tribute to the young Congressman from the First Congressional District of North Carolina. Says Mr. Garner: "There are three attributes of a good Congressman: They are intelligence, industry and courage; Lindsay Warren possesses all three in great measure." Representative Garner voices the opinion of many of the older members of Congress who have come to know and entertain a high regard for the Representative from this district.

O! Say Didja Hear The Soup Being Supped?

Pupils in the new grammar school at Currituck C. H. ate 300 plates of soup Monday licked their lips, rubbed their tummies with gustatory satisfaction, smiled like Campbell Soup Kids in the advertisements and felt pleased with Currituck and the world.

Currituck is the fourth school in Currituck County to introduce a soup kitchen to supply hot nourishing soup and crisp, satisfying crackers at a nominal price to pupils at the mid-day recess. Moyock started it; Knotts Island followed; then Powells Point; Currituck started its soup kettles this week.

Rich, wholesome, appetizing and hunger-satisfying soup with a generous portion of crackers is served to the pupils for three cents a plate; two plates for a nickel. The soup is made in the school kitchens and served by the ladies of the local Parent-Teachers Associations whose members take turns at the soup making and serving at no expense to the schools. With no cooks and no waiters to pay, good soup and biscuits can be served at the price of two portions for a nickel.

They Are Never Too Old To Feel

The following news item comes from Virginia Beach.

Cupid is no respector of age or physical condition it seems. A bridal couple, the groom 72 years old and the bride 65 years old, are spending their honeymoon at Virginia Beach and are registered at the Seaside Sanatorium, if you please. They give their home address as Baltimore.

"I feel no older than I did at 25", the groom was heard to say, and the "blushing" bride sweetly stated that she is still a young woman, despite the fact that both have snow-white hair.

WINDS BLOWING THIS ROAD BACK INTO THE WATER

Winter winds are playing havoc with the new causeway with which Dare County connected Roanoke Island with the coast. With the exception of less than a mile of creosoted wood bridge the distance of nearly four miles across Roanoke Sound was bridged with a causeway of sand sucked up from the bottom of the sound. Winds are blowing this sand away.

The causeway was thrown up by suction dredges and when completed last fall was six feet above the water. But it was only sand. And the sand dried out; and the winds swept down Roanoke Sound from the Northeast when winter approached. These winds are gradually blowing the top off the causeway. Just what damage has been done to date is hard to determine from meager and guarded reports that come from Roanoke Island. The damage this winter may not be disastrous; it may take another winter to level the causeway down to the level of the water and make it impassable.

In the meantime Dare is importuning the State Highway Commission to save the causeway at once by putting a gravel surface on it. An oil treated gravel surface will not blow away. And if the shoulders of the causeway can be seeded to grass in the spring and the grass takes hold all may be well with it in future.

But Roanoke Islanders look forlornly across Roanoke Sound these days and their hearts feel heavy when they behold the sand blowing like mist from the causeway which is Dare's one hope of tying her own parts together and being a part of a road-knitted motorized State.

Why The Poor Little Things Were Dumb

Children who behaved like dumbbells in the school room, being unable to spell such simple words as CAT when written out on the blackboard before their eyes were found to have such bad eyesight that they couldn't read letters six feet high. And that's why the poor little kids were so dumb.

An optical clinic for Currituck County school children is being conducted at Currituck C. H. this week, under the direction of the county school nurse, Miss Idell Buchan. It is the third optical clinic ever held in the schools of any county in this State. Forty pupils whose eyes were examined the first day showed defective vision which is being corrected with glasses.

TWO BIG SPORTS, 5 LITTLE DUCKS

A Most Unfavorable Season For Duck Shooters Comes To End Tuesday Night

Tuesday, Jan. 31st. brings to a close one of the worst seasons for migratory wild fowl hunters that this region has experienced in many years. Fortunate have been those who have killed their bag limit this season.

There have been few cold, blustry days in this region since the season for shooting migratory wild fowl opened on Nov. 1st. On calm warm days the geese go out to sea and raft on the ocean; the ducks gather in great rafts on the open waters of the sounds out of reach of the gunners and are content to sit for hours without stirring.

A not uncommon sight on Currituck Sound this season was to see two strapping Northern sportsmen come in from a day's shoot with five little ducks between them.

The real duck weather will come after February 1st when the season is closed.

Sportsmen deplore the fact that the season opens so early as Nov. 1st and closes so early as Jan. 31st. There would be more ducks and geese killed if the season opened Nov. 15th or Dec. 1st and closed Feb. 15th or Mar. 1st. But that is the very reason why the season is not likely to be changed. Conservationists in the U. S. Biological survey would resist any movement to make a season more favorable to the gunners.

Will Mark Elizabeth City Top Side Up

In compliance with the recommendation of Secretary Hoover, Mayor Flora will ask the City Council to authorize posting the name of Elizabeth City in letter six feet high on the roof of the Carolina bank, or other conspicuous down town building for the benefit of air travelers. Signs on the topside of towns is as important to a man in an airplane as a sign post on the outskirts of the town to a traveler in an automobile.

Mayor Flora has not yet abandoned the idea of an airport at Elizabeth City. It is one of those things that have got to be provided.

ELIZABETH CITY TO HAVE MORE CHAIN STORES

Elizabeth City is to have more stores. The Young Mercantile Co. is opening a popular priced department store here this week. A New York woman's wear chain and a chain shoe store are negotiating leases of the Main Street stores of the Virginia Dare Hotel arcade.

The Young Mercantile Co. will occupy the big store formerly occupied by Mitchell's, on Poindexter Sta., opposite the Quinn Furniture Co. Young's is a Greenville, N. C. concern operating a number of chain stores, selling popular price merchandise only. Young's will open about Feb. 1st.

The complaint that Elizabeth City has too many stores already doesn't impress the chain store folks who have faith in their ability to make sales where local merchants have gone to sleep and let trade go by their doors.

Virginia Dare Hotel Lowers Dinner Cost

Patrons of the main dining room of the Virginia Dare Hotel ate their turkey and filet mignon dinners Sunday, found everything up to the usual high standard in quantity and excellence and paid $1.25 for the dinner instead of the $1.50 that has been the Sunday dinner price heretofore. This is the second cut in food prices at the Virginia Dare. The first cut was in the coffee shoppe where lunches were reduced to as low as 45 cents; the 45 cent lunch including a meat or fish course, two vegetables, a beverage and a dessert.

Commercial travellers who get in late at night and find all the cheapest rooms taken often marvel that they get a bridal chamber with twin beds for $3.00. No recognized commercial traveler of good character is permitted to pay more than $3.00 for a room, altho some rooms run as high as $7 to $9. And so business seems to be picking up at Elizabeth City's new community hotel.

ELIZABETH CITY WILL BE GREAT HOTEL TOWN

Aydlett Will Spend Nearly $100,000 Rebuilding That Ancient Landmark The Southern

Elizabeth City should be the best hotel town of its size in the Southeast with the completion of the rebuilding of the Southern Hotel. Original plans of the owner, E. F. Aydlett, calling for an expenditure of $50,000 have had to be altered. The amount to be spent in making over the Southern will be $80,000 to $90,000, according to present estimates.

Both of the side walls of the Southern will be replaced with new walls. A dark red face brick with a mixture of green and black brick will replace the old plaster covered brick walls that have stood for something like a half a century. A new wall of face brick will reinforce the Main St. front.

The lobby will be enlarged; the kitchen and dining room will be on the ground floor. Every room will be replastered and decorated. New furniture will be installed, new plumbing, new electric fixtures. It's going to cost a lot of money.

Mr. Aydlett is doing now what he should have done ten years ago. The story leaks out now that he actually planned to make over the Southern eight years ago but was dissuaded by his former wife who believed that he should avoid the work and worry incident to such a project. She didn't think he should tax his mind and his energies in his declining years in trying to make a new hotel out of an old one. Mr. Aydlett yielded to his former wife. But he outlived the first Mrs. Aydlett and married again.

In the meantime the community, exasperated by the inadequacy of its hotel facilities turned to and built the modern fireproof Virginia Dare, at a cost of more than a half million dollars. The old Southern was deserted; something had to be done. And E. F. Aydlett is doing it with a more lavish hand than he ever did anything in his life. Elizabeth City will have two first class hotels.

Clyde J. Blanchard, the new lessee of the Southern will run the hotel on the European plan. "The American plan is a thing of the past," says Mr. Blanchard.

Small and Aydlett New Law Firm

WALTER L. SMALL, Solicitor of the First Judicial District and N. Elton Aydlett have formed a partnership for the general practice of law. They will move their offices to Nos. 403 and 405, in the Carolina Bank Building on February 1st, where they will have larger quarters. Mr. Aydlett, who is 25 years of age, is the son of N. T. Aydlett, of Elizabeth City. He was educated at the University of North Carolina, both in academics and law. Mr. Aydlett has been practicing law in Hamlet, N. C., for the past two years, making his early mistakes at the expense of another community before settling down to practice on the folks in his own home town. And that was darn nice of Elton, whose photo appears herewith.

Old Cap'n Ban Of The Coast Guard Is Dead

Captain Ban is dead. Capt. Little Bannister Midgett, one of the most picturesque characters ever known to the north Carolina coastland fell asleep in a chair at the home of his son at Bodie Island Coast Guard Station Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 24.

And so, peacefully, ended a life that had battled with the storms of the Carolina Coastland for more than a half century. Capt. Midgett, a veteran of the old U. S. Life Saving Service had in his day participated in the rescue of so many as a thousand lives from scores of ship wrecks which he had attended.

He was a robust, sinewy, agile, upstanding, fearless swashbuckler of a type that is rapidly passing. He was possibly more of a hero in his own eyes in his declining years, than he was in the eyes of those who knew him in his more active days; he was nevertheless a brave and levable soul upon whom God should smile indulgently when he struts up to the pearly gates and tells the Recording Angel that he "just aint got half the record."

Capt. Midgett was 76 years old last May. He loved his women his wine and his God. And everybody loved Captain Ban.

Wealthy Currituckian Has Own Golf Course

When Joseph P. Knapp wealthy New York publisher, manufacturer, financier, philanthropist, sportsman and human extraordinary joined the Elizabeth City Country Club, helped to finance it, helped to lay out its wonderful golf course, permitted his name to go on the board of directors, Elizabeth City expected to see a lot of J. P. Knapp.

Joe Knapp loves his golf; he had rather play golf than eat; the Country Club golf course is only a matter of about 20 miles over good roads from his residence in Currituck Sound. But Elizabeth City hasn't seen the interesting Mr. Knapp on its Country Club sourse. The reason: He has built a golf course of his own on his home place, Mackay Island. He can afford it; he doesn't have to ride 20 miles to play his favorite game.

Outlook for Peas and Beans Is Good Now

The outlook for early garden peas and beans is more favorable than in any recent year, in the opinion of the Scott Produce Co. of this city. Discouraged by the low prices of last spring and fall, many farmers have abandoned peas and beans altogether. Others have curtailed their acreage. Those who plant stand a show to benefit by a short crop; unless the idea gets abroad that everybody is curtailing and everybody tries to get ahead of everybody else by planting more peas than ever.

SAUNDERS TO SPEAK TO NORFOLK LIONS

W. O. Saunders will talk to the Lion's dlub of Norfolk at the weekly luncheon at the Monticello Hotel Wednesday, Feb. 2nd. His subject will be: "What's The Matter With Norfolk." The editor will speak for ten minutes and in that time he can hardly begin to tell all the things the matter with Norfolk.

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BENTON'S CREDITORS STOP MORTGAGE SALE

Contention Made That Mortgage Given Father-in-law on Store Stocks Is Not Valid On Its Face

Creditors of C. E. Benton, bankrupt will question the mortgage given by Mr. Benton to his father-in-law Hillary Cartwright last August covering the entire stock of merchandise, store fixtures and good will of the business conducted by Benton at No. 9 South Poindexter St. They will ask the courts to declare the mortgage invalid in its face.

Benton gave his notes for $6,300 to Mr. Cartwright, due and payable on Jan. 1, 1928. The notes were secured by a chattel mortgage. On Jan. 1st Mr. Cartwright closed the Benton store under his mortgage and advertised the stock and fixtures to be sold Friday, Jan. 20th. On Jan. 7th Benton filed a petition in bankruptcy.

Came Jan. 20th and there was no sale. Mr. Cartwright was restrained from selling and compelled to turn over the keys to Thos. P. Lassell, trustee for other creditors of Benton whose claims total $4273.73.

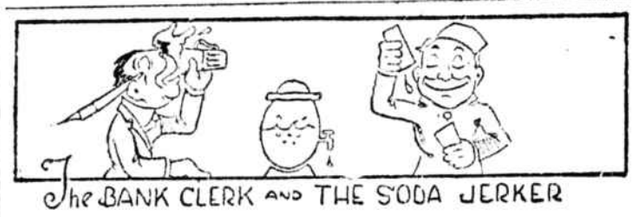
The creditors of Benton will endeavor to have the mortgage to Mr. Cartwright set aside on a legal technicality. They contend that under the laws of North Carolina a mortgage on chattels is void if the mortgage does not provide that moneys received from the sale of any of the mortgaged articles shall be applied to the liquidation of the mortgage. There was no such provision in the morgage and if the creditors gain their point Mr. Cartwright will be out of luck.

It is not contended that there was anything in the making of the mortgage that was not bona fide. Benton's indebterness to his father-in-law is not questioned; it is only contended that Mr. Cartwright's attorney slipped in not drawing up the mortgage in accord with the strict letter of the law as the creditors claim to have found it.

Another mortgage given by C. E. Benton and wife conveying their home to Mr. Cartwright is not questioned. This property was property which Mr. Cartwright had formerly given to his daughter, Mrs. Benton. But after he had been compelled to mortgage his own property to get money to lend his son-in-law he demanded a return of the roperty he had previously given them. "I did this in fairness to the other members of my family," says Mr. Cartwright.

If the creditors of C. E. Benton win their point Mr. Cartwright will have to content himself to share with the other creditors of Benton in the outcome of the proceedings in bankruptcy. The Benton stock, fixtures and accounts inventory approximately $9,000.

There will be an adjourned meeting of the creditors on Feb. 2nd.



The BANK CLERK AND THE SODA JERKER

WHEN LAWYERS ARE OUT OF LUCK

"Michigan aint much of a place for lawyers, is it?" said the Soda Jerker to the Bank Clerk.

"And why do you say that?" asked the Bank Clerk.

"I was thinking about that Hotelling case," the Soda Jerker continued. 'Alfred Hotelling, a pietistic deacon in the church, prayer meeting leader, revival shouter and all that, kidnaps a little girl cuts her body up with a razor, throws the pieces in a creek.

"Out in Michigan they capture him one day, try him the next day and then put him away in a little cell all by himself to stay for the rest of his life and think about his heinousness.

"Why if that crime had happened in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, or here in North Carolina, a dozen lawyers would have wrangled for six months and the case would have been on the front pages of the newspapers in poster type from now until next Armistice Day. What's the answer?"

"It is like this," explained the Bank Clerk. "In Michigan capital punishment has been abolished. Capital felons are sentenced to hard labor in solitary confinement for life. It makes it easier to get a trial and get a conviction. The foulest murderers have a lot of sympathy if threatened with the electric chair or the gallows. Remove those horrors and no one cares a whoop for them or makes much of a fight for them. If they had a death chair in Michigan lawyers and alienists would be waging a fight for Deacon Hotelling for months to come."

"Well tell me this:" said the Soda Jerker; "How do you account for a deacon in the church committing such a horrible crime against an innocent little girl?"

"Don't be silly," said the Bank Clerk; "You will find every kind of human in the church that you will find out of it. No intelligence test, no psycho-analysis—not even a character reference—is a requisite to church membership. The crazier and the more vicious a fellow, the more the likelihood that he is in the church and rooting loud for its creeds and dogmas. Take it right here in our town; the biggest fools, the biggest liars, the biggest crooks and the loosest in morals are, almost without exceptions, enrolled in the churches."

"But the Church can't help that," said the Soda Jerker.

"Certainly not," said the Bank Clerk; "nor does it appear to help them."

YOUR EYES AT WORK

Constant use of your eyes in any line, working all day by artificial light will lower their efficiency. It is wise to help your eyes with a pair glasses, correctly prescribed. Consult an eye specialist. DRS. J. D. HATHAWAY, Carolina Bank Building. adv