

WILLIAMS GIVES CLUB HISTORY ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY KIWANIS

The following paper was prepared and read by J. Bid Williams on April 9th, in commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club, organized April 3rd, 1923:

This is a happy day for many of us and it is a sad day when we look back over the years from many standpoints. I find that on April 3, 1923, the Kiwanis Club of North Wilkesboro was organized with fifty eight charter members. Of this number fourteen are still members, twenty-two are dead and twenty-two have either moved away or resigned their membership in our club. No civic institution has ever done more for this great section of ours than the Kiwanis Club. In my own estimation it

takes third place in our community. I consider the home first, the church second and the Kiwanis club third. Throughout these years it has been a congenial and lively bunch of men working together for everything that is good. During the twenty-five years we have assembled around our luncheon table had we set in continuous session it would have been a total period of about two months, or over thirteen hundred hours.

It is not necessary for me to review the many objectives of Kiwanis as you know that as well as I do, but I don't think it would hurt you to have a brief statement of the work that has been done in our major objective, namely: the Underprivileged Child Work. I have gone over the records with Mr. Story, our secretary, and from the best we can ascertain the club, through the twenty-five years, has had examined, and in many cases treated, 17,280 underprivileged children of our county. I know that this sounds like a large number but the records will bear out the fact that we have assisted in various ways this many underprivileged children. I think this in itself is a wonderful record. I find that in this program alone we have spent \$9,854.80 for medicine, braces and for hospitalization. This does not take into consideration the hours, days, weeks and months of service that has been rendered by the individual members, nor does it take into consideration the moneys that we donated, of which no record was kept, so I can easily estimate that there has been at least \$20,000.00 in money contributed to this work. In addition, in the year of 1946,

we had a tonsil clinic which is not included, in which ninety-six children had their tonsils removed which cost us \$1,382.00. Now Fellow Kiwanians, we are taking credit for this great program but after all more credit is due to Mrs. Bertha Bell, our efficient county nurse, than all of us put together. Her untiring efforts throughout the years and the thousands of miles she has traveled, and in many cases walked over the hills, to assist some underprivileged child will forever be a monument to this great cause. When this good lady's days are over and she passes into the presence of her God heaven will be brighter for she certainly has been a good and faithful servant.

Time will not permit me today to go back and give you all the great things our club has done and those who were with us throughout the years, but I do want to give you the names of the charter members who are still members of our club. They are as follows:

Ward Eshelman, Pat Williams, Dr. W. F. Jones, J. B. McCoy, Edward Finley, J. R. Finley, E. E. Eller, E. G. Finley, R. W. Gwyn, J. R. Hix, J. B. Williams, Russell Hodges, J. C. Reins, Dr. Fred C. Hubbard.

You might also be interested in knowing the names of our two oldest Kiwanians. You understand that the fourteen just mentioned are members from the same date, but we have two members of our club who were Kiwanians before our club was organized. The oldest one in our membership is Bill Caroon. He was a charter member of the New Bern, N. C. club which was organized in 1921, and Dr. Fred C. Hubbard was a charter member of the Statesville, N. C. club, which was organized in 1922.

I think it appropriate to mention our past presidents, six of whom have gone to that country from whose bourn no traveler has yet returned.

Our first President was Charlie Smoot who served for the year of 1923; Henry Reynolds in 1924; Genio Cardwell in 1925; Ward Eshelman in 1926, and Joe Clements in 1927.

J. C. Reins was President in 1928; Edward Finley in 1929; Horace Sisk in 1930; J. R. Finley in 1931 and Herbert Morehouse in 1932.

Dr. Fred C. Hubbard was president in 1933; R. G. Finley in 1934; J. B. McCoy in 1935; W. K. Sturdivant in 1936, Arthur C. Finley in 1937.

Andrew Casey was President in 1938; Dan J. Carter in 1939; W. Elmer Jones in 1940; James B. Carter in 1941 and J. Bid Williams in 1942.

J. R. Hix was president in 1943; A. F. Kilby in 1944; Paul Osborne in 1945; Ed F. Gardner in 1946 and Dr. Gurney T. Mitchell in 1947.

I have now given you the names of our past presidents and a brief sketch of the events during their term of office, and before closing I would like to tell you briefly about the secretaries that have served our club during the twenty-five year period. J. B. Williams was the first secretary and he served for four years. He was followed by Genio Cardwell, who served for a period of five years. Mr. Cardwell was an outstanding secretary and did a great job. He was followed by Thomas Edgar Story, who has now served us for sixteen full years, and is now serving in the seventeenth year. I do not believe that there has been a secretary in the Carolinas District that has done a greater job than Mr. Story. His record with the district is outstanding and he has always been recognized by the district officers as the most efficient secretary in the district. This is his record and I know that each of us know that he has done a wonderful job. We are just as proud of his work and his record as anyone could be. We are to be congratulated that it has been our privilege to have a man of Mr. Story's ability and character to serve us as secretary during these sixteen years.

Now my fellow Kiwanians, my wish for you is that all of us will be here on our fiftieth anniversary, but in the event some of us have to go away, let us hope that there will be more than fourteen members in our club at that time with a twenty-five year record.

We have done a good job. We have been the most loyal bunch of men I have ever known, and I know that each and every one of us are just as proud as we can be of our past record. Let us hope that the record when it is written at the end of another twenty-five years will excel our past splendid achievements.

There were 1,191,000 hogs and pigs on North Carolina farms on January 1. This was 8 per cent more than a year earlier but about 1 per cent less than the 10-year average.

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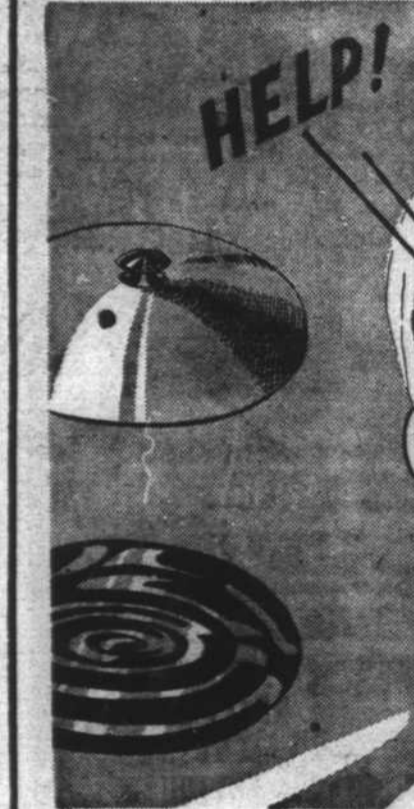
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- Be sure your leafy vegetables are stored promptly. (Vitamin C vanishes in proportion as vegetables are allowed to wilt).
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- Stir as seldom as possible.

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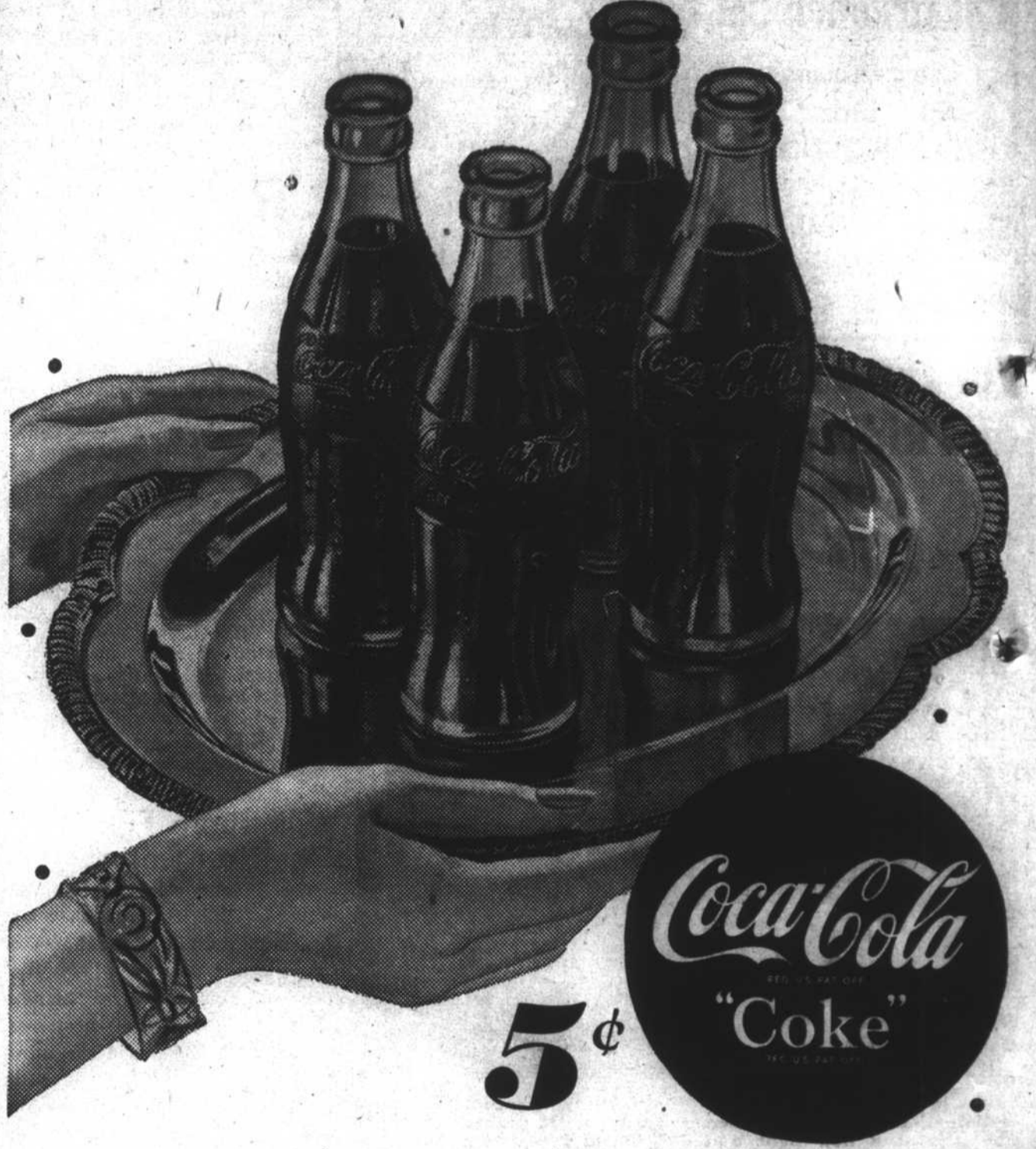
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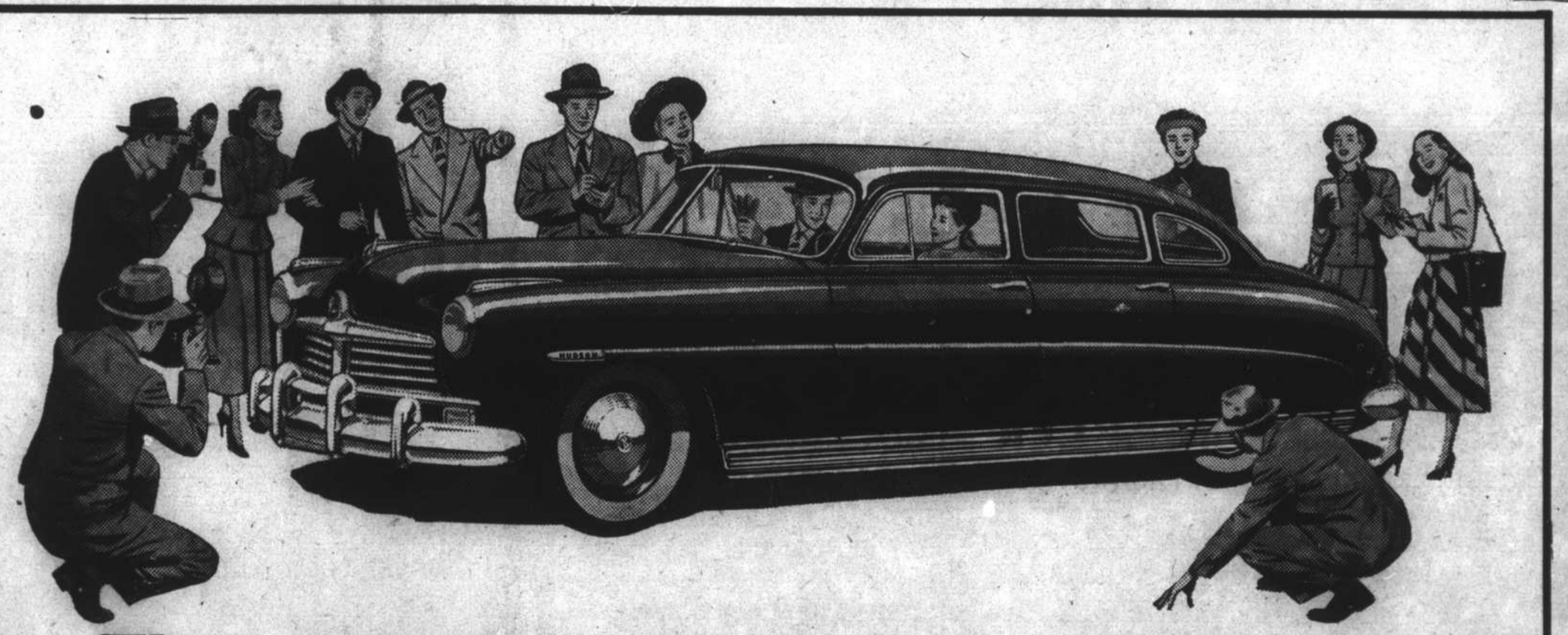


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