

Along The Routes

By John Follett

The other day we, my wife and I, trailed John H. Aldred as he covered his R. F. D. Route 3 out of Dunn. It was quite an experience. We enjoyed it, though we doubt if the Daily Record, Pontiac will ever forgive us for the way we treated it. Certainly the starts and stops, the tacking and backing, made the old car live up to the name "Tea Kettle" which I had given it when first I started using it for my travels about the four counties served by The Record. But the odor of burning oil which came from the engine didn't smell much like the best orange pekoe.

MAIL CARRIER J. H. ALLRED'S
First we waited like a cat at a mousehole for mail carrier J. H. Aldred's trim little Henry J. car to come out of the post office yard. When at long last our red mouse had finished gobbling up the huge meal of letters and papers and packages, it darted from the yard, of course in the opposite direction from the way we were headed. This made it necessary for us to make the first of many hasty turnabouts before we were off.

Out Route 301 we went, but not for long. Like a real mouse run-ning from a cat, our quarry

scurried into the dirt road leading toward the Wellons Candy Co. and we were subjected to the first cloud of dust of the many which we were to meet that day. Just beyond the railroad was a cluster of mail boxes and two ladies waiting for a word with the mail man. (One of them was the spittin' image of my Cousin Lillias up in Loudoun County, Virginia).

His business finished there, our mouse spun around and darted back to 301 with us floundering in pursuit. Once again he turned briefly to the right to meet two adorable little children, a boy and a girl, then back across the highway, past cotton fields with red and blue morning glories fringing the borders, and so Bethesda Church.

"VISIT ENCHANTED ACRES"
From there we lost track of direction, though we hope that our combined bumps of location will let us retrace our steps and become acquainted with some of the places and people we just glimpsed in our chase. For instance we want to visit "Enchanted Acres", the beautiful home with the name of C. H. Jernigan on the mail box. We want to meet the people who have a

bird house in their yard exactly like a miniature of their own house, and we want to know what bird tenants are living in that little house on a pole.

Back through Dunn hurried our mouse, weaving two and fro across the Dunn-Erwin highway in constant danger of collision with oncoming traffic. Apparently box holders have little concern for the risks of the mail man when they set up their boxes on the left side of the road.

At Black River the chase turned south, then west again. Through Erwin dashed our mouse with us in hot dispute. On Route 55 beyond Erwin the weaving and stopping and starting began all over again. Once we scuttled into the woods on what was little better than a trail, then back to the road.

At Turlington's Cross Roads we reached the westward end of the chase. From there the route led back to Dunn mostly by roads which Gov. Scott's highway builders have forgotten. As a matter of fact many of the roads traversed that day are like old fashioned washboards in a tub filled with dust rather than suds.

"T'WAS QUITE A DAY"
Yes, it was quite a day. We feel that the life of a rural mail man must be a pretty interesting one. He does not have to swallow quite not have to follow another car. The eager people who greet him, the hungry mail boxes waiting with tongues hanging out for mail which he fills them, the satisfaction he must feel at bringing to rural people the communication with the



INTERNATIONAL Boxing club, the New York State Boxing Commission and Madison Square Garden face a suit for \$500,000 in the death of George Flores, boxer who died after being kayoed in the Garden. His widow, pictured, filed the suit. (International)

world that has helped to knit our country together.
In case of many people along Route 3 that communication includes the Dunn Daily Record. (Adv.)

Speaking of hungry mail boxes, some poor boxes along Route 3 seem positively starved. In a single group of boxes are to be found all kinds from big, opulent, shiny ones, firmly attached to sturdy posts,

to battered, rusty, indigent boxes precariously perched on old oil drums or rickety fences. It seems to me that the Harnett County Home Demonstration Clubs might well emulate the clubs in other North Carolina counties and sponsor a mail box improvement contest. Incidentally we saw only one box on Route 3, that of Mrs. Blanche Jackson, which wore a name plate bearing the owner's too, is a pity.

Information Column

FOR VISITORS AND RESIDENTS

Where
TO GO FOR
SALES—SERVICE—REPAIRS

AUTO DEALERS

LOOK
GOOD USED CARS - TRUCKS
NAYLOR-DICKEY
DIAL 2127
Fayetteville Hwy. Dunn

Nash Sales & Service
New And Used CARS
NASH
Dunn-Erwin Motor Co.
N. Fayetteville Av. Dunn

AUTO PARTS

Herring Motor Parts, Inc.
DEPENDABLE
AUTO PARTS
So. Clinton Ave. Dunn

AUTO REPAIRS

For Body and Fender Repairs See
Henry's Body Shop
So. Clinton Ave. Dunn, N. C.

BANKS

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COMMERCIAL BANK
Dunn, N. C.

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LEE'S
Children Shop
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Next to Stewart Theatre

Dunn Family Laundry & Dry Cleaning
Pick-up & Delivery Service
201 N. Wilson Ave. below Stewart Theatre

DRUGS

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"The Friendly Store"
Drugs Sundries
112 E. Broad St.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES REPAIRS

ELECTRICAL REPAIR ON ALL HOME MAJOR AND SMALL APPLIANCES
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Johnson Furniture Company
Opposite Post Office

JEWELERS

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