

**The State Port Pilot**  
SOUTHPORT, N. C.

Published Every Wednesday  
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Entered as second-class matter April 20, 1928, at the Post Office at Southport, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
One Year .....\$1.50  
Six Months ..... 1.00  
Three Months ..... .75

Wednesday, April 24, 1935

**A NICE TOWN**

We like Southport. Although we have lived here for only 10 days, the friendliness of her citizens has made us feel perfectly at home. We shall always remember and appreciate their hospitality.

The town is a scene of natural beauty. Wide streets, lined with shade trees, lead down to the bluff overlooking the water. Visitors envy residents of the town their right to spend their lives in a place so blessed by nature.

The waterfront holds a subtle fascination for us. The harbor, with the river channel curling through it out to sea, is a scene of constant interest. At first, we hesitated to ask questions concerning the boats, tides and other things with which we were unfamiliar. We soon learned that Southport people like to talk about their harbor and that they never tire of answering questions about it. It seems that the longer they have known the waterfront, the better they love it.

We find our own imagination kindled by the hopes and dreams of these people who have lived here all their lives, and have fought to make Southport the leading sea port of North Carolina. We, too, look forward to the day that her beautiful, land-locked harbor will be used as nature intended.

**A GOOD PRACTICE**

Next Tuesday, Southport will have as her guests more than 2,000 white school children of the county as they gather here for their annual County Commencement Day exercises. We welcome the boys and girls and their teachers to Southport for that day.

Some counties in North Carolina have abandoned the County Commencement Day programs altogether. We are glad that Brunswick County is not one of them. It is our opinion that competition is still the surest means whereby to bring out the best qualities of the average boy or girl. In the heart of every individual is an inborn desire to excel.

Elsewhere in today's State Port Pilot will be found a complete program for the day's activities. Officials in charge have arranged a program that will give every boy and girl a chance to enter some form of competition. There is a close balance between the literary exercises and the athletic events.

Southport citizens can do much to help make the day a success by attending the exercises, especially the literary contests, which will be held in the high school building. The recitations and declamations should be of particular interest and the reading contests and spelling match should also be well worth hearing.

Nothing is more discouraging than to read, recite or declaim to empty seats. Make it a point to attend just as many features of the County Commencement Day program as possible.

**THE PUBLIC NUISANCE**

Bad manners in its most annoying form is seen in the person who makes a nuisance of himself at a public gathering. Usually one who so conducts himself is an exhibitionist, seeking the spotlight of attention.

You know the type: The person who keeps up a whispered conversation with his neighbor while a speech is in progress; the fidgety person who can't, or won't sit still during a meeting; and the person who must get up from his seat, stumble over the feet and legs of others two or three times during the course of an hour.

The worst of these is the whisperer. People who attend public meetings are usually present because they are interested in the program to be presented. Whispered comments never help any program and often make it impossible for others to hear. It is always confusing to a speaker to

have whispering competition for the attention of his audience.

This is the time of year when commencement programs are being held in the schools. Some students are making their first public appearance; for all who take part in the programs, it is a chance for self-expression and they have earned their chance with a year of hard work. Attend their exercises, but remember that it is their show. Don't try to steal the spotlight from them.

**HONORED VISITOR**

The British gunboat, His Majesty's Ship Scarborough, passed through the Southport harbor Monday morning en route to Nassau following a week's visit to Wilmington. During her stay up the river, the ship was visited by hundreds of North Carolina citizens.

Captain O. W. Cornwallis, commander of the Scarborough, is a direct descendent of Lord Charles Cornwallis, Commander in Chief of the British Army during the latter stages of the Revolutionary war. All week Captain Cornwallis, his officers and ship's crew were guests of the people of Wilmington for a well-rounded program of entertainment. Wilmington citizens enjoyed their stay and hated to see them leave.

How different from the visit of his famous kinsman, who made his headquarters in Wilmington for some time after capturing the city in April, 1781. A feeling of great relief attended the departure from Wilmington of Lord Cornwallis and his troops and there was great rejoicing when, a short time later, he was captured at Yorktown by the army of General George Washington.

We are glad that the years have wiped out all feeling of bitterness and prejudice between the people of the United States and Great Britain. We are happy that the Scarborough paid this good will visit to North Carolina waters and that members of the ship's crew were given such a hearty reception. In these times of unrest, it is good to know that a spirit of friendliness exists between the two great English speaking nations of the world.

**DR. WATSON RETIRES**

Forty-eight years in the drug business in the same town. That is the unusual record of Dr. D. I. Watson who last week sold his drug store in Southport and retired from active business as he nears his 79th birthday.

For many years Dr. M. B. Mintz was associated with Dr. Watson in the drug business here. Since the death last winter of Dr. Mintz, added responsibility has been too great for Dr. Watson's health, hence his decision to retire.

Brunswick County citizens have a great love and respect for Dr. Watson. He came to Southport as a practicing physician. After opening his store, he decided to give up the general practice of medicine to devote his full time to his drug business. The meticulous care with which he filled each prescription, his wise counsel and genial personality made him one of the town's most popular citizens.

In retiring, Dr. Watson turns over the business into the capable hands of W. R. Doshier, Southport boy, who graduated last June from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy at Boston. The business will continue under the name of Watson's Pharmacy.

**BACK TO BARBARITY**

(News & Observer)  
Retreat to old forms of brutality will be no answer to the horrid disclosures of cruelty in connection with so-called "discipline" in a Mecklenburg camp. It will be no remedy for the cruelty, which resulted in the loss of the feet of two short-term convicts, to substitute the ugly, bloody lash, which North Carolina outlawed several years ago, for chaining men in solitary confinement.

What North Carolina needs in its prison system is an end to brutality with lash or the cell or the chain the State and its prison agents may make a submissive prisoner. But none of these instruments of torture will help the State to make of a man who has fallen into crime an individual worthy of return to society with safety to society.

The job of the prison is not to create submissiveness and docility in criminals but to recreate manhood in men. Only by helping men who have fallen into crime to regain their manhood and decency can the prison serve the

**Washington Letter**

Washington, April — Conversations with administrative officers and planners reveal that fear of political consequence is retarding the establishment of a vast Federal and state machine to handle five billion in work-relief money recently voted by Congress. Ideas which prevailed during the long debate on this measure have either been revamped or discarded as new and complicated situations arose. Herbert Hoover's private conference with Republican leaders and industrial giants in the East during the last two weeks have contributed considerably to the spirit of caution now prevailing official Washington.

The former President's intimate knowledge of wastes and abuses under the New Deal relief work indicates that the current program of public works will provide a major campaign issue for next year. Therefore, the sober-minded Democratic chieftains, with an eye to the future, are at this juncture endeavoring to speed easement of unemployment but checking on the shortcomings of personnel administration to the end that taint of scandal may be localized or eliminated. Meanwhile, governors, mayors and others are calling for what they believe is their share of this stupendous fund.

Realization that the high school graduates are the voters of tomorrow is sufficient to place Senators and Representatives on their best behavior this week. Thousands of youngsters are here for the Easter holidays and the cherry blossom season. The solons from their home towns are especially courteous so the folks back home will know what a grand and affable spokesman they have at the Capitol. This affability is good politics. Not as welcome is the small army of job-seekers marching on their lawmakers for patronage. The public-works program is loaded with chances for favoritism. Applicants for Congressional "pull" are usually misled by an impressive letter of introduction on official stationery.

The employment officials have catalogued these applications so that few jobs are given out unless a legislator appears in person demanding a berth for his constituent. Relatively few applicants have the influence back home to persuade a legislator to adopt this policy. If the highly controversial labor items could be eliminated, there is no doubt that the NRA bill pending in Congress could be put through without delay. Organized labor is battling for vast power over workers and employers and the legislative snarl grows each day. The social security scheme establishing a system of old-age pensions and unemployment insurance is now before the House of Representatives. Many lawmakers know that the fate of these bills will have much to do with their return to Congressional halls. The dust storms which have played havoc with the arid regions in the Southwest will probably influence farmer legislation more than the best laid plans of Administration planners. The domestic situation claims the attention of the legislative body. The toxins of war sounded in Europe is unquestionably expediting consideration of laws directed toward munitions-makers. The Southern bloc wanting to use relief funds for benefit payments to cotton farmers may upset steam-roller tactics of Secretary Wallace on behalf of amendments giving him enormous power over processors of farm products.

The discovery of immense investment of the reserve funds of church and fraternal groups in bonds of utility-holding companies may do more to counteract the drastic regulatory legislation on the current New Deal program than all legal arguments. These particular protests against the public utility bill have undoubtedly been inspired by management but only in fairness to the bondholders faced with a great shrinkage in values. Lawmakers will naturally watch their step before voting for a bill which will either wipe out or seriously devalue the savings placed by religious organizations sufficiently fortunate to have a few extra dollars in the till. Striking at "big business" in a series of punitive measures, the legislators and others of a radical turn of mind have been astounded to learn how their pet schemes in reality harm a little fellow.

The turmoil over the NRA reveals bitter feuds between various governmental agencies. The Department of Justice and the society which supports it. Otherwise it merely keeps criminals and turns loose criminals to perpetuate crime and to turn over again the men who leave prison only to return to the mounting cost of the State.

Blue Eagle group are at odds over failure of the Attorney General to prosecute violations which NRA lawyers felt were air-tight cases. Despite the knowledge that the Federal Trade Commission is ready to scuttle the Blue Eagle ship, in an effort to salvage certain fair trade practice powers over industry for their own prestige, the NRA has suddenly passed over compliance questions to this quasi-judicial commission. The prospect of having certain compliances work while NRA devotes itself largely to questions of wages and hours is an alluring bait for the Trade Commission, always seeking increased power over industrial affairs.

**Good Poultry Prospect In Sight**

It is thought that the Southern farmer has an unusual opportunity just ahead to make a satisfactory profit on poultry.

Supplies of red meat are considerably reduced and the price has advanced to a point where people of moderate means will be turning to cheaper meats. Eggs and poultry meat will be the answer in many households.

It will take at least three years to increase beef cattle to normal, and it is expected that it will be the latter part of 1936 before the hog and pig population is back to where we can have cheap pork chops.

It is possible to get into the poultry business, both from an egg and meat standpoint, in a few months.

There are fewer hens on farms in the South today than at any time in the last fifteen years. Farm flocks have averaged over 65 birds per farm flock for the past ten years. In 1933 there were 64 birds per flock. That dropped in 1934 to 62 birds per flock, since which time it has dropped to 57 birds per flock.

With prospects for a normal gain crop in 1935 and with fewer farm animals to consume it, there is every indication that feed prices generally will be lower in relation to egg prices than for years past. Also, higher prices for beef, pork and mutton will strengthen egg and poultry meat prices.

Every brooder house should be filled with chicks this spring. (The situation just ahead might be compared to the farmer who planted a crop of cabbage one year, and because cabbage was scarce he received an excellent price. The next year everybody had jumped into the cabbage raising business, and ruined the



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**Court Declares Weed Act Illegal**

Louisville, Ky., April — The Kerr-Smith tobacco control act, designed to boost the income of tobacco growers, was held unconstitutional by Federal District Judge Charles I. Dawson today in another decision striking at New Deal legislation. The act, similar in principle

to the Bankhead cotton control law, levies penalties on growers who do not join in the AAA program to adjust production.

Ben F. Kilgore, executive secretary of the Kentucky farm bureau, said the decision "if sustained will strike at the very heart" of the tobacco and cotton control programs. He added that in a referendum last fall about 90 per cent of the growers voted for continuance of the Kerr-Smith act during 1935.

AAA officials in Washington said they would continue with the control program pending an immediate appeal.

Judge Dawson recently ruled that the government lacked power to condemn private property for slum clearance. He upheld the Frazier-Lemke farm mortgage act with "extreme reluctance." Appeals have been taken from these decisions.

"The garment used to hide the naked unconstitutionality of the (Kerr-Smith) act," said Dawson, "was fabricated from the taxation and commerce clauses of the constitution; but neither congress-

ional recitations upon the courts." The first test of the tobacco control act, the suit was brought by W. E. Frank and Oscar Penn who grow tobacco in Fayette county on rented acreage, to recover \$7,059.33 in penalties paid by them on the 1934 crop. Dawson ordered the impounded money returned to the Penn brothers but withheld delivery pending final determination of the case on appeal.

Under authority of the act, the secretary of agriculture imposed a 25 per cent penalty on 1934 uncontracted crops and increased it to the maximum, 33 1-3 per cent, for 1935. Last year the government collected \$3,000,000 in Kerr-Smith taxes, half of it from Kentucky. The penalties on non-participating growers supplement the AAA processing tax termed by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace as "the farmers tariff."

Texas seeded ribbon cane gave good results in Cabarrus county this season as an ensilage crop. In one demonstration, the cane yielded four times as much silage as did corn.

**YOU CAN HELP**

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