

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, March 4, 1936

Spring haz comb.

'Tis a good wind that blows no ill.

Taking a walk every day is good for everything but your corns, if you happen to have any.

By the time some folks learn to write 1936 instead of 1935, it will be pretty near time to write 1937.

The boys who fear leap year proposals can probably avoid them by hanging onto their money a little tighter.

Among those who disapprove of the alphabetical agencies might be included Junior, who is not fully convinced of the value of the A.B.C.

The girls of Iowa are urged to develop a perfect figure. Many of them will say that somewhere around \$1,000,000 is the figure that would seem nearly enough perfect to suit them.

Someone wants to know how the custom of hand-shaking originated. Well, probably Adam discovered that the votes of Eve, Cain and Abel weren't enough to land him in office, so he would have to get out and shake the horny paws of Tom, Dick and Harry.

The boys who ask a girl for every date in the world except that of a call on the minister possibly need a little leap year treatment.

There are said to be 3,000,000 run-down homes in this country, but the breakdown condition of an equal number of automobiles seems to cause more distress.

The automobile driver is told he must keep his eyes open. Doesn't seem much danger of his closing them, so long as he has the girl friend on the front seat with him.

Unusual Record

If the following isn't a national record, it is at least a remarkable achievement:

Drivers of vehicles of the Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company have, in the last ten years, driven 38,000,000 miles without a fatal accident. This is equal to driving around the earth at the equator 1,520 times, or making the round trip from New York to Los Angeles 6,500 times, or 26 years of continuous driving at 400 miles a day.

If anything were needed to prove that the terrific death rate charged up against automobiles is unnecessary, these facts are the evidence required.

The rules and regulations of the Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company which govern its drivers from the standpoint of inspection of equipment, training of personnel, examination of eyesight, etc. could be followed by every single driver in the land. If they were followed, the death rate from automobiles would be practically eliminated.

Basketball Tournament

On Friday and Saturday of this week Southport will be host to more than a hundred high school athletes as they gather here to battle for the county championship in the annual Brunswick county basketball tournament.

The games promise plenty of excitement for sports fans of Southport and the county at large, and many visitors are expected here to see their favorite team in action. On behalf of the merchants and citizens of the town, we extend a welcome to players and fans with the hope that they enjoy the tournament as much as we expect to.

The only draw-back to a tournament

for the selection of champions is the necessity of relegating other fine teams to the ranks of the defeated. Nothing is sacrificed, though, when a good team goes down fighting; and every team that enters the tournament will have scored a moral victory if its players fight their best and place good sportsmanship above victory.

Do Your Part

The maintenance crew of the state highway department has been confronted recently with the Herculean task of repairing the county roads following an unprecedented seige of rainy winter weather.

Residents of the rural sections could do much to make the task of these men easier. If there is a mud hole in front of your house that a few shovelfull of dirt will fill up, don't wait until the road crew has a chance to do it. Give them a hand and do it yourself. After all, it will mean more to you than to anyone else.

We are not recommending the organization of volunteer road repair crews, but a little neighborly co-operation will speed efforts to get the roads of Brunswick county in passable condition once more.

Summer Is Coming

A group of local citizens has begun this week a movement that is designed to provide safe and pleasant bathing facilities for the boys and girls—and the old folks, too—next summer.

This same rule that accounts for the fact that shoemakers' children have no shoes probably is responsible for the fact that Southport boys and girls had a hard time finding a suitable place to go swimming last summer. Quite a number of the older ones used the government dock; but it was dangerous to go in there unless they were good swimmers. Many of the kids went in down in front of the R. W. Davis residence. Everyone who possibly could went over to Caswell Beach to do his swimming.

Several years ago, during the time that Mr. C. L. Stevens was mayor of Southport, there was a fenced-in area in front of the garrison known as "Little Coney." The bottom was raked clean, a fence was built about the place; a float raft and diving board were constructed. From what we have heard, "Little Coney" was a popular place for young and old.

The reconstruction of "Little Coney" would be inexpensive, and we believe that it would make many kids happy during the holiday season to know that there was a place right here in town where he could go for his daily swim without having his parents uneasy for his safety.

Now is the time to start if we are to have a better place to go in swimming next summer.

Whose Money?

In commenting on the tendency of officeholders to assume a paternalistic attitude toward the taxpayer, Frank D. Fitzgerald, Governor of Michigan, said, in recounting his experience in seeking a share of Federal relief funds to aid in building an addition to the largest state hospital in Michigan:

"A young official from Washington recently sat in my office and told me the state would have to conform to certain rules and regulations concerning a public project. 'Or else,' he said, 'we won't be able to grant you any of our money.' 'Our money' is what he said. Well, I told that young man he better go back to Washington and find out whose money he was talking about. In that instance, he was talking about money belonging to the people of Michigan, money the people of Michigan were rightfully entitled to use for the benefit of their state.

"That's the attitude which I deplore—this tendency to count the taxpayer out of the game immediately after he has thrown his chips into the pot.

"It's the taxpayer's fault in a way. He has permitted government bureaus and government services to pile up on one another until there's no way of making head or tail out of the tangle. When the structure of government is stripped down to its natural size again, when its fancy trimmings and unnecessary annexes have been removed, the taxpayer is going to regain sight of his dollars—not until then. Once he gets a glimpse of them, he's likely to take a greater interest in the manner in which they are handled."

CAPITAL NEWS

Washington, March 4.—It is obvious that the guiding principle of all legislation nowadays is the time-worn query, "Is this plan really sound politics?" Thoroughly disgruntled at the turn of the cards, the Congress is reluctantly buckling down to hasty consideration of a tax program. Taxation in a campaign year has always been considered bad political manners. The message from the White House demanding a revenue measure left no loophole for postponement until the elections are out of the way.

It is said that the Treasury has a set of 22 plans or estimates for use by the House Ways and Means Committee which meets this week. The membership of this committee now finds themselves closely watched and their friendships cultivated as the other lawmakers worry over the effects which the committee bill have on their individual political fortunes next fall. There is a distinct understanding that no general sales tax should be adopted. Yet, it is known that some plans especially on agricultural commodities or foodstuffs are virtually a manufacturers' sales levy.

The Social Security Act with its unemployment relief and old age pension features, is a major administrative puzzle. Perhaps much of the difficulty encountered is due primarily to the fact that it is a new adventure for the Federal Government. With about 27 million persons eligible under the act, the task of cataloging the beneficiaries is monumental. The workers who are eligible must be identified for life. The identification card will be a passport to employment and relief benefits. It is believed that workers will be given a number, but this regimentation will be resisted as would finger-printing. There are so many personal elements involved that the Federal agency is seeking co-operation of organized workers and employers in solving the problem of registration.

With sporadic criticism breaking out on Capitol Hill against work relief used to build political machines in various states, the Federal authorities are anxious to speed the day when the states and municipalities will take over their share of the relief burden. Aubrey Williams, high mogul at WPA headquarters, recently stated that "resources exist in states and localities which have not been tapped nor never would be tapped if the Federal Government were meekly to continue aid for all persons in those localities." It is expected that this strong-arm assertion will bring about desirable changes. Administrator Williams' emphatic declaration that "the assignment of men to Works Program jobs for political reasons cannot be tolerated" has not met with approval from the politicians.

One enormous relief project which was calculated to regulate climatic and soil conditions in several middle western states has been dropped overboard by the Congress. The shelter-belt plan of planting millions of trees had its inception in the dust-storms which swept these localities. The House frowned on the idea as impractical. Of interest to suburban and rural communities is a bill now pending in the Senate and House to create a permanent committee to control the pollution of navigable waters. It is proposed to coordinate the activities of states by encouraging compacts for the prevention and abatement of water pollution. Factories and shops which have utilized these waters may find themselves obliged to meet new regulations so as to keep the streams clear. The chances are that if the legislation is enacted many communities will install sewerage systems and drainage projects.

The controversy over the return of taxes collected under the recently invalidated AAA may be prolonged indefinitely. In fact, the claims for refunds are likely to parallel the notorious War Minerals Commission which was created March 2, 1919, and still functions. At the time the Commission was created it was expected that the contracts for war minerals could be settled within six months. Lawyers, seeking easy pickings, swelled the original 72 claims to about 800 in 17 years. Like all bureaucracies, the life of the commission has been extended from year to year until Congress cannot shake it out of existence. The government has intercepted circular letters by a law firm soliciting a fee of \$10 from consumers, who feel they may seek a refund. No matter what attorneys are disbarred for unethical conduct, an endless mess of litigation is due before the AAA is forgotten.

What Does a Farmer Do in the Winter?



It is a strange world. While the Senate and House in a sudden burst of virtue considers registration of any and all persons and groups petitioning for laws or defeat of proposed legislation, a stage show of effective lobbying has Senators and Representatives as star-performers. The independent druggists and others advocating anti-chair store legislation are meeting here this week for the purpose of influencing votes in Congress. Senator Joe Robinson of Arkansas, the Democratic leader, and Representative Patman, of Texas, are the featured artists. Lobbying is bad only when the other fellow's ox is on the rampage.

Kind Old Lady: Yes, my good man, I, too, have had my trials. Tramp: Indeed, ma'am. And what did they pinch you for?

Winnabow News

Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Goodson and Mrs. Woodcock, of Wilmington, were visitors here Sunday.

Mrs. Rachael Robbins, Mr. Victor Garner's mother, died on Monday and was buried Tuesday at Lebanon Baptist church cemetery. Friends tenderly sympathize with the bereaved ones.

Misses Oats, Mears, Presson and Mrs. Fant, teachers of Bolivia school faculty, attended services at New Hope Presbyterian church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Galloway and son, Lawrence, of Supply, and Mr. and Mrs. Leon Galloway, of Bolivia, spent Sunday with Mrs. Lizzie Henry.

H. S. Wunderlich, of Marion, S. C., was a visitor here Wednesday and Thursday.

Mrs. J. Berg and Miss Annie Mae Woodside spent Wednesday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Henry.

Mrs. Thomas E. Cooper, of Wilmington, was a visitor here Thursday on her way to Mrs. Henry Galloway's at Supply.

Mr. Junior Smith and sister, Mrs. Henry Lanier, returned last Thursday from a visit to their mother in Jacksonville, Fla.

Miss Catherine Johnson spent the week-end in Wilmington.

Miss Elizabeth Akerman returned Saturday night from a visit to her home in Augusta, Georgia.

Miss Edna Gore, a student nurse at James Walker hospital, spent Saturday night and Sunday with her parents here.

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FINAL NOTICE

Notice of expiration of their subscription was mailed this week to about one hundred Pilot readers. This is the last issue of the paper they will receive until their subscription is renewed.

Don't miss a single copy. With the political campaign just getting underway, every loyal citizen of the county will want to keep in touch with what is going on. Send in your renewal today to—

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