

THE STATE PORT PILOT

Southport, N. C.

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Will your neighbor enjoy a Merry Christmas?

At any rate, the weather man owes us some pretty days for Christmas.

At least, Edward is one king who only figuratively lost his head over a woman.

Men who drive 80 miles an hour are usually trying to get somewhere in a hurry to do nothing.

Every little bit helps. Your dollar might help some worthy family to have a better, happier Christmas.

Many women are confronted with weighty problems—to be exact, anything over 125 pounds.

Boys and girls away at school for the first time this year probably think that the best feature of this college business is a chance it gives to come home for the holidays.

No Extension

A letter received this week from the North Carolina Department of Revenue says that sale of automobile license plates for 1937 are running about fifty per cent ahead of those of last year. It is further stated that there will be no extension of time this year.

Motorists can do themselves and representatives of the motor vehicle bureau a favor by not waiting until the last minute to purchase their new license plates.

Protection

"When the humblest man in the state, whether he be white or red or black, is not protected by the law, then the governor in his mansion must tremble for his safety, for when all men are not equal before the law, then the end of safety for all is at hand."

"So said Judge E. H. Cranmer, resident Superior Court Judge of the eighth judicial district, when the newly elected Brunswick county officers were sworn in by him here in the courthouse on Monday, December 7.

Two weeks previously two Brunswick county white men, respectable citizens of their home community, were kidnapped by a band of men, carried over the Columbus county line and were flogged. Despite the fact that one of the men was able to furnish at least two clues that might lead to the identification of members of the band, no warrants have been issued.

Our Brunswick county officers have a chance to do what officers of neighboring counties have been unable to do—bring members of this self-righteous band of disciplinarians to justice. If the activities of these night riders are not soon curbed, there is little telling what realm of justice will next be invaded by them.

The Right Idea

One constructive effort now in progress in Southport is that being carried on by W. B. Keziah, executive secretary of the Civic Club, who is boarding all yachts which stop here and requesting the captains or owners to sign a petition to have a small coast guard cutter stationed at Southport.

A report of these efforts is spreading, for this week there came a letter from a former Southport boy, George W. Rappelyea, saying that boat-owners from as far up the coast as Baltimore, Md., were interested in having a cutter stationed here. Their interest lies chiefly in the protection of the hundreds of pleasure craft which pass through semi-annually on their round-trip from Northern cities to Florida.

In this same connection is the matter of having a yacht basin at Southport which would afford mooring space for yachts desiring to remain over here for a few days. Steps already have been started to ask the U. S. Army Engineers to do this work.

It is obvious that with such accommo-

dations available, many yachts would spend several days here during the course of a year. Not only would Southport profit by the money spent here by members of the boats' crew, but news of this beautiful community would be carried to people who some day might decide to come here for vacations and visits.

Farm News

All of our readers are familiar with the farm stories which appear each week in The State Port Pilot. We bring them to you because we believe that information contained in them may help the farmers of Brunswick county improve some of their methods.

These stories are sent out each week from N. C. State College from the office of F. H. Jeter, whose duties are to keep the people of North Carolina informed of the activities of the Extension Department. Following is a letter of appreciation received this week from him:

"I want to thank you for the fine cooperation you have given us during 1936, and to express our good wishes for a happy holiday season. I am sure that all the extension workers and the research people of the Experiment Station also join me in this word of appreciation. In fact, I do not believe I would be far wrong in extending also the thanks of the rural people of North Carolina. Surely they must have profited somewhat from the space you have so freely given to inform them about the latest facts from the agricultural headquarters of the State.

"As in the past, we have tried to serve as your reporters here at State College, sending you such news as we thought worth while, and trying to prepare it in such shape that you could use it.

"I hope that we may continue to enjoy your confidence and good-will and I assure you that this shall be our constant aim."

The New Cars Are Out

Last month the automobile shows were held throughout the country.

The new cars are more beautiful in design and finish than ever before. They offer much in the way of improvements and gadgets. Their power plants deliver staggering performance—you can push the throttle down and run up to eighty or ninety m. p. h. without trouble—so far as the mechanics of your car are concerned.

However, the emphasis placed on speed has been productive of one of the gravest national "troubles" America has known—the growing accident toll. And the driver who thinks that seventy is safe because it seems as slow as thirty used to, should think again.

Silent engine performance won't help if we encounter a cement guard-rail at high speed. Effortless steering won't make a head-on crash less destructive. Lack of vibration won't help the undertaker patch us together after the wrecking crew gets the body out with blow torches.

But these modern cars are magnificent examples of safety-engineering—blueprint safety. Brakes stop a hurtling machine in amazingly short distance, without sway or shock. All steel bodies will take a lot of punishment without serious damage. Steering mechanisms are next to fool proof. And the tire manufacturers have done their bit by reducing the blow-out hazard to a minimum.

Yet each year's safety improvements have been followed by more accidents, not fewer accidents—and by more serious accidents, not less severe accidents. Why? Because we, the motoring public, have overestimated the safety factor of the new cars, just as we have overestimated the safety factor of wider, better surfaced highways. The cars and the roads are improved—and so we take the chances that lead to disaster.

The new, super-performing cars are out. Maybe you are lucky enough to be able to buy one. Have a good time with it—but treat it with respect and remember that 36,000 people die and many times more are injured and maimed on our streets and highways every year. Don't add to that list.

Satisfied

Philadelphia Inquirer. Farmer Giles was in town seeing the sights. Coming to a large building he saw "Employment Exchange," and a little farther it said, "Women's Exchange." He entered and was met by the glare of a fierce woman behind the counter.

"Is this the Women's Exchange," he inquired.

"It is," scowled the woman.

"Oh," he said, "and are you the woman?"

"Yes, I am."

"Thank you," he said, and turning to go, added, "I'll stick to my missus."

OPEN FORUM

A forum devoted to opinions of the public. A month ago for the first time observations of our friends and readers for which we accept no responsibility. Contributions to this column must not exceed three hundred words.

ABOUT RED CROSS

Editor State Port Pilot, Southport, N. C.

The Southport Red Cross Chapter wishes to thank you for the space and publicity given our good cause and we enjoyed a very nice increase in membership, but our full report will not be made until January 1st.

We wish also to thank any and all who assisted in this good cause.

Now to the people in Brunswick county, let us say to you, that there are needy in your community who are neighbors and friends who do now and who later in the winter will need help, and if you haven't joined the Red Cross during this last drive then send in your dollar for a membership and help us provide for the little fellows and the older folks too, at this Christmas time. You and your little folks may be provided for, but my friends there are many others who will have a very poor Christmas without the help of you.

Last Christmas eve we went to a home and found four small children there and there had been no preparation for Santa Claus and there was only one loaf of bread for food on Christmas day.

My friends, do you want this to happen in your community again this Christmas eve?

Again we wish to thank you Mr. Editor for your help.

Yours very truly,

H. W. HOOD,

Membership Chairman, Southport Red Cross Chapter.

HELP THE NEEDY

Mr. J. M. Harper, Editor The State Port Pilot, Southport, N. C.

Dear Editor: The Welfare Department naturally knows more about suffering in the county than some other county departments, and at this time of the year we feel it is our duty to let the people of the county know something of the conditions as we have seen them.

Recently in many counties, particularly in those counties where there are large cities, Community Chests have been organized and money raised to take care of the needs of people who cannot take care of themselves. In some of these cities, organized associated charities are functioning all the year around, securing money for their work from individuals who make a practice of giving money for charity in this fashion. In this county we have no agencies of this sort, and therefore, the people look to the Welfare Department for every need. Since the close of Federal Relief, in which direct relief was given in the form of food, clothing and medical attention, we have been faced with a problem which cannot be solved by us alone.

We operate on a budget prepared under the law, and what money is spent must come from taxes paid by the people of the county. It is obvious, therefore, that there is not enough money available to take care of the situation as it was cared for by the Federal Government in its Federal Relief Program.

So at this time of the year when people have the spirit of Christmas in their hearts, we call on those people of the county who have the resources, to look about them a bit, and in the spirit of this holiday help their neighbors who are less fortunate. There are many families in the county whose children will not receive a visit from Santa Claus unless somebody who is more fortunate will come to their rescue.

It will be a fine thing if a large number of our people will play Santa Claus to their unfortunate neighbors, and we hope they will take advantage of this opportunity to make sad hearts happier.

We wish to acknowledge receipt of a number of items of clothing donated by Mrs. William S. Doshier, of Southport.

Sincerely,
FRANK M. SASSER,
Supt. Public Welfare.

Skipper Returns From Hospital

Donald Skipper, being held for the fatal shooting of Howard Scott, was carried to the Brunswick County Hospital last week for a thorough physical examination. He was reported to be suffering from stomach trouble.

Merle Hood Sent To Bogue Inlet

Merle Hood, for several years a popular member of the Cape Fear Coast Guard station crew, was transferred last week to the Bogue Inlet station.

The transfer was a promotion for Coast Guardsman Hood, who will rank next to the captain in command at Bogue Inlet.

R. C. Hunter of East Laporte, Jackson County, harvested 1800 pounds of seed from 3 1/2 acres of Korean lespedeza.

Shalotte News

Lercy Mintz of N. C. State College, Raleigh is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Mintz. Messdames A. M. Woodard, G. Huggins and Jesse Williams were Wilmington visitors Friday.

R. D. White, Jr., Lennon and Wingate Swain of Salemburg, are spending the holidays at their homes here.

R. I. Mintz of Southport visited relatives here during the week-end.

Misses Louise Trippe, Eula Mae and Vera Belle Lohg spent Friday in Wilmington.

Mrs. E. G. Russ is visiting relatives in Wilmington.

R. W. Davis and daughter, Bobbie, and Miss Gladys Doshier, of Southport, visited friends here Friday.

Mrs. L. T. Russ and Mrs. Ann Reece, of Wilmington, visited Mrs. Russ' father, L. C. Trippe, Friday.

Mrs. Lillian Oliver and Miss Gladys Frye spent Saturday in Wilmington shopping.

The Rev. F. V. Spence will fill his regular appointment at the local Methodist Church Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock.

The Methodist church holds its annual Christmas tree Wednesday night. The program is under the direction of Miss Gladys Frye. All the little folks are planning a personal conversation with Santa Claus.

G. T. Rourke and D. T. Long spent Monday in Wilmington.

ASH NEWS

The health of our community is pretty good at present, considering the unpleasant weather for the last two weeks, we are all glad to see the sun shining again.

Mrs. M. E. Smith celebrated her 59th birthday Sunday, December 20th, with a family reunion with seventy-five children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren present, nine of which were her great grand children.

Mrs. Smith received several nice presents, and all reported a nice time.

Little Mary Ellen Stanley, who was 11-years-old December 19th, had a great birthday surprise when her aunt, Miss Olive Stanley, presented her with a fine turkey gobbler.

Mr. and Mrs. Ozzie Trippe, of Columbus, visited his parents Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Tripp, of this section, last week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. White, of this section, left this week to spend the holidays with Mr. White's grand-parents in Hazelhurst, Ga.

O. L. Stanley visited Mrs. M. E. Gore Tuesday, who was reported on the sick list, but he found her very much improved.

Miss Mary Ellen Stanley was a guest of Miss Sibyl Tripp Saturday.

C. L. Stanley made a business trip to Whiteville Saturday and came back wishing for more hot eyes.

Carolina People Need Good Books

Every Farm Family In This State Should Have Local Access To Good Library, According To Dr. Frank Graham

Every farm family in the State should have local access to a good library, in the opinion of Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina.

Speaking last week at the annual conference of the State College extension service, Dr. Graham urged extension workers to do all they can to help establish county wide libraries.

Already 14 counties have made provision for bringing good books within reach of farm people, he stated, but the work has just begun.

It is estimated that at the present time 1,900,000 North Carolinians do not have ready access to libraries. Most of these are rural people.

Good books can do a great deal to raise the standard of living in rural North Carolina, Dr. Graham pointed out; one book may influence the entire life of an individual, or the destiny of a nation.



Southport Fireman Help The Needy

For the second Christmas the Southport fire department will distribute fruit, clothing and toys among the needy children in Southport.

Each case is thoroughly investigated before help is given. Madison County farmers held their first live-at-home show in Marshall last week with over 500 persons present and with excellent exhibits of tobacco and live-at-home products.



Lasting Gift

Include on your Christmas list a year's subscription to your county newspaper.

Give a gift that the entire family will enjoy!
Give a gift that will be welcomed into your home 52 times during the coming year.

AN IDEAL, GIFT TOO, FOR THE BOY OR GIRL AWAY FROM HOME!

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“Your County Newspaper”
SOUTHPORT, N. C.