

THE STATE PORT PILOT Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, December 1, 1937

A jackass isn't always a beast of burden.

When a dog on point decides to take an inch, the birds usually take a mile.

Variations in the weather tend to make conversation.

There is a lot of difference between imitation and duplication.

One result of travel is to give a better appreciation of the things back home.

The cigar that the driver smokes to keep awake usually puts his passengers to sleep.

For a pretty girl, the shortest way to the front page seems to be via a bathing suit, none too ample.

Maybe one reason that Americans are peace lovers is because they have their battles fought by proxy each Saturday on the gridiron.

It seems a shame that some of the better modern tunes will not be permitted by the public to live longer than a few weeks.

Show us just one man who doesn't like to criticize when the weatherman misses a forecast; we'll show you a hundred who do.

Billboards

Readers are familiar with spasmodic outbursts against the growing use of billboards to extol the virtues of certain well known products; but despite organized opposition this scourge, which threatens to blot out all of nature's roadside beauty, continues to grow.

The only ones in the world with power to put an end to the continued use of billboards are members of the buying public, who might follow the lead of Mrs. Sinclair Lewis, who has the following expression to make on the subject:

"The landscape of America belongs to the people—not to business advertisers—and a people with some shred of proper indignation left in them would rise with the spirit of Ethan Allen and tear down these monstrous impertinences. I feel so strongly about it, that I positively will not buy anything, whose promoters intrude notice of it between my eyes and nature, and what man has done to make nature more beautiful. . . ."

Health Budget

Now is the time when all good men and women begin to plan to make their New Year's resolutions. The keeping of a budget probably gets first place on the list of improvements we resolve to make in our daily lives. And in connection with that household budget, we should like to make a suggestion. Before you go in for portioning out the family income, give a thought to another far more important budget. It should come first on the list of New Year's resolutions. Why? Because no matter how much you plot and plan and dig and delve and save and become as rich as Croesus, it doesn't matter in the least if you haven't your health.

In planning this health budget everything will be centered about the body home—after all, everyone's real home. First you must know just what sort of a home your body is. Can it give the proper amount of service? Can it compete with other homes about it? Or do its boards squeak, its windows rattle, does its roof leak or are its ceilings cracked and its attic untidy with the accumulation of years of neglect? The best way to find out about its condition is to have a thorough overhauling of your body by a good doctor. If he finds any boards that are rickety, such as weak heart, a poor liver, bad tonsils or teeth, you can take care of them before real trouble occurs.

"That man is all right," Woodrow Wilson once said, "but the house he lives in is dilapidated and it looks as if he would soon have to move out." The man did move out. He died.

So let that be a lesson to you on the body party of the health budget!

Xmas Harbingers

Only 22 shopping days until Xmas. The festive spirit has already permeated the air: merchants have their holiday goods on display, gala decorations festoon the show-windows, children talk untringly of how magnificent Santa Claus is going to be, industrious house-wives are baking rich-laden fruit cakes and carefully packing them away until the eagerly awaited day arrives.

The Xmas season brings out the best in human nature even if you are trampled underfoot in your shopping expeditions. A person is getting moth-eaten indeed who does not feel some tingle run down his spine or who does not catch some of the children's contagious enthusiasm during the holiday season.

It is a time for feasting, for feeling a close affinity with our fellowmen for brushing aside the trivial cares which lie in our path. It is fitting that we observe the Xmas season in this manner. Jesus of Nazareth, according to His teachings, would not have us pull a long face and fast during the glorious season of His birth. He bade us make merry with our fellowmen, to let the spirit of love flow full free.

Of course there is a synthesis. He would not have us gorge ourselves sick on rich foods or get hilariously drunk and drive cars on the highways. He would have us maintain decorum and observe His holiday in a sane manner.

Those people who think they can run hog-wild during December and carouse with reckless abandon should receive the full penalty of the law. Unfortunately, we will always have people among us who feel that any joyous occasion is an invitation for them to "cut up" and make merry at the expense of everyone else.

Absurd Attempt

The most disgusting utterance delivered by anybody of consequence apparently found publication recently in Vittorio Mussolini's discourse on war which he described as the "quintessence of beauty." The purpose of the 150-page volume which now rests on the book-shelves of the Italian nation seems clearly obvious. Even if Il Duce helped his son along with the laborious task of glorifying war, the book itself seems to fall far short of its original objective.

Rather, it clearly represents an absurdity to which even the hapless dogs of a dictatorial nation cannot subscribe. Instead of presenting war as something beautiful as it was originally intended, it rather depicts its author as a man devoid of reason.

When young Mussolini tries to depict the "fun" of bombing helpless Ethiopian natives to their death, and talks of the "sport" of striking down defenseless women and children, his readers are left to but on conclusion—that the book is the work of a demented person or one absolutely devoid of the milk of human kindness.

There's nothing sporting about war—the relentless destruction of life and property is a cowardly thing. When Vittorio bombed Ethiopian shacks which were unable to shelter the natives from the rain of lead and shrapnel, there was nothing sporting about it. He was in no danger himself.

Of course, the original objective of the book was to beguile the Italian masses into thinking that it would be a glorious thing for them to take up arms against a defenseless nation—but unless all of Italy is more rabid than we think, they will fall for none of the hokum which Il Duce and his son have tried to hand them.

War is ugly, horrible, destructive, and you can't make anything else out of it.

Disgrace

The Salisbury Post. A Charlotte vital statistics report, according to the Associated Press, reveals the death of a citizen there of "inanition, with poverty as a contributory cause."

In the language of the layman that means literal starvation. "I'm starving to death," is the frequent exclamation of well-fed children, and part of the routine prattle of the pampered daughters of wealth who must make conversation at teas and parties; but actual starvation as classification for fatalities in North Carolina is, we are happy to say, a rare phenomenon.

Rare is still too frequently; starvation of human beings anywhere in the United States is an incident of national humiliation worthy of a red letter on the calendar. We should suspend constitution Day with its "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" motto and substitute a "Marie Antoinette" day or something of the kind until such a time as starving to death is a fate which every American can be assured of escaping.

Just Among The Fishermen (By W. B. KEZIAH)

MIXED FEELINGS The operations of the shrimp trawlers during the cold days of last week were regarded by this department with mixed feelings of sympathy and envy. In cold weather there is no colder place than out on the windswept waters. The trawl operators get the full force of the icy wind that swept down from the north. At the same time, while practically freezing, the men were making good money. They earned what they made. Knowing something of what they have to go through year after year, we are glad they made every cent that they did, and we wish they could have made more.

Hunting Vs. Fishing While hunting and fishing are two closely allied terms, it can be vouched for that there is a whale of a difference, especially as regards the visiting sportsmen. There is no place on the coast that extends a more cordial welcome and all sorts of cooperation to the fisherman than Southport does. Nobody resents their coming; we are all glad to have them. On the other hand, the sportsman with a gun and dog is also cordially welcomed, but he misses the cooperation that is extended to the fisherman. The local sportsman with a gun, dog and knowledge of where game is to be found seems to wish to keep his knowledge to himself. Except in isolated instances the visiting hunter is left pretty much to his own.

Eels A Pest Many fishermen of sportive inclinations have been complaining of eels being a pest in their puppy drum fishing activities. They have no use for the slippery, squirming creatures and it is disgusting to pull one out and have to dislodge him from your hook at just the moment when you are expecting to pull out a two or three-pound drum. The drum are only able to bite between the times when the eels are fooling with your hook and taking your bait. They are a blooming pest to the inside fishing in fall and winter.

May Operate Longer There has been rumors, since the recent change in management of the North Carolina Fisheries Incorporated, that the local plant will operate practically all the year round, instead of just during the two or three months of the busiest part of the shrimp season. This is more like things should be. The concern has a splendid plant, splendidly equipped for various profitable work, and practically all of the resentment against it has arisen from the fact that it runs only a short time each year.

Many Sturgeon Caught For the past several weeks practically all of the shrimp trawlers have been bringing in several sturgeon each day. These fish are taken in the trawls and often range up to 60 or 70 pounds in weight. Several of the buying houses skin and ship them north in the same manner as other fish are handled. The past week many large flounders, weighing up to 9 or 10 pounds have also been taken. While the experiment has never been tried out, many local people believe that fishing for flounders with regulation nets would prove profitable here. It is understood that one of the big boats of Ben Gray may try this sort of fishing here this winter.

Oysters And Clams While the oyster and clam season has been open for sometime, the really good product is just beginning to be brought in. The production of both oysters and clams will undergo a radical increase with the slacking up of the shrimp fishing. No one knows just when that will be. Shrimp may be here all winter and, on the other hand, they may disappear from the local waters at any time.

Big Game Fishing While a few people hold to the view that next spring will be ample time to talk the early summer big game fishing rodeo at Southport, there are others who have a different viewpoint. Boats that have been and are still going to Florida will play an important part in this rodeo and it will be a difficult matter to wait and endeavor to contact them in Florida unless preliminary contacts are made here. The boats will be going north again at about the time when it is planned to hold the rodeo. If they start out northward and just hear of the event when they arrive here very few of them will remain over. They travel pretty much on schedule and should know plenty of the

Southport School News

CHOOSE PLAY At a class meeting Friday the Junior class decided upon the play "Here Comes Charlie" as its production for the year. The play will be given sometime after Christmas and the proceeds will be used for the Junior-Senior banquet. Other plans have also been made for financing the banquet and very much interest has been shown in this extra-curricular event which will take place the latter part of March or the first of April.

GIRLS BASKETBALL A Round Robin in Girls Basketball gets under way Tuesday, November 23. Their game will be between the Sophomores and Juniors. This is the first game of a series to be played by the girls. It is hoped that these games will do much toward bringing about a better spirit in our school.

The boys have completed their games with the senior coming out on top. Following is the schedule: Sophomores vs. Juniors, Tuesday, November 23. Seniors vs. Freshmen, Tuesday, November 30. Juniors vs. Freshmen, Thursday, December 9. Seniors vs. Sophomores, Tuesday, December 7. Juniors vs. Seniors, Thursday, December 16. Freshmen vs. Sophomores, Tuesday, December 14.

During the last few days the Senior Class has been studying poetry structure and composition, under the literature teacher.

The following are original student poems, selected by the vote of the Seniors as being the best ones read and discussed in the class room:

AUTUMN What a beautiful pattern autumn weaves, With many colors of beautiful leaves, And the goldenrod spread so far and wide. In the brown fields, pumpkins yellow; On the trees, bright apples melow; Oh! think of the beauty of Autumn-tide! BY K. C.

SCHOOL Bells, bells, bells ringing every day of school, Teachers, teachers always preaching us the golden rule, Lessons, lessons, lessons every period in the day, I would rather take a ride on a load of hay; Study, Study, study our lessons every single night, But I love this old school with all my will and might. By E. M.

SUNLIGHT The river flowing slowly toward the sea, White clouds floating lazily by, Birds flying restlessly from tree to tree; The sun slowly sinking from the sky; Workers walking home ward pass from sight, All blending with the coming of the night. By E. H.

DRAMATIC CLUB During the next few weeks the Dramatic Club of the Southport high school will work on a unique skit entitled "The First Client". Its plot is centered about a young lawyer who is extremely desirous of impressing his first client with his ability and importance. The production is organized, with different student groups in charge of make up, lighting, properties, costumes and scenery. The skit will be presented three times with different people taking the roles each time. This plan is being used to see the difference in the skit when it is presented by three different production staffs.

FACULTY PLAY The faculty members of Southport high school presented, "The Absentminded Bridegroom", a 3 act play, at the high school auditorium Tuesday night. It was quite a success, and the school pupils are very grateful to all who helped put it on and made it possible. The cast was as follows: Harvey Brown, W. R. Lingle, John Shannon, J. P. Wonsavage, Robert Marlowe, Thelma Johnson, Melva Peltly, Sophia Hinton, (Mrs) Gus Swan, (Mrs.) Robert Willis, Julia Cromartie, and Clyde Bryan.

Five Couples Secure License During the past week licenses to wed have been issued to five white couples. The contracting parties were: Miss Louise Eichorn to Peter Henry Koen, both of Wilmington; Miss Lennie Gurganous to Willie Embanks, both of Shallotte; Miss Mary Louise Lennon, Supply, to Dennis R. Hewett, Bolivia; Miss Margaret S. Taylor to James M. Harper, Jr.; Miss Katherine Bragdon, Leland, to C. A. Russ, Shallotte. local event long before they leave southern waters for the north in the spring.

Some Good Advice HERE'S A LITTLE BOOK YOU MIGHT TAKE ALONG TO THE NEXT SESSION ---AND IT WOULDN'T HURT TO READ EACH CHAPTER TWICE! How to Win Friends By Practising Economy By John Q. Public

OPEN FORUM

A column dedicated to opinions of the public. A mouthpiece for the views and observations of our friends and readers, for which we accept no responsibility. Contributions to this column must not exceed three hundred words.

APRECIATION Editor, State Port Pilot: Dear Sir: The Southport Civic Club is just one year old today. During that period it has passed through many difficulties, and at the same time it has received much encouragement from people who are really interested in Southport and its future; people who have the discerning powers that enables them to recognize the fact that the Civic Club can play an important part in the community. The Pilot has been an extremely helpful organ in the work of the club. Through its columns we have been able to keep both the

members and the public pretty well advised regarding things that the club was trying to do. Of course, there has been many matters in which publicity was not advisable for various reasons. In other matters it has been extremely helpful, and we thank you for the fact that your paper has always been right there with free space for interesting or helpful matter. Southport, December 1, 1937. W. B. Keziah, Executive Secretary, Southport Civic Club. taken from their itching fingers Thanksgiving, and now through Christmas day they may engage in their favorite sport with the following restrictions: This year, under department of conservation and development rules, daily bag limits will be the duck, five geese, fifteen jacksnipe and 25 coot. Hunters are prohibited from shooting water fowl before 7 a. m. and after 4 p. m.; hunting water fowl or doves on or one baited areas; using live decoys and airplanes, boats or other floating devices to drive, rally or chase game; and using shotguns larger than 10-gauge or repeating of more than three-shell capacity. There will be no open season on wood duck, ruddy duck, buffhead duck, redhead duck, mallard duck, brant, mallard geese, swan and snow geese. First use of wireless telegraph to report a major steamship disaster was when the liners Republic and Florida collided in 1909.

Waterfowl Now May Be Hunted

Open Season For Duck, Geese, Coot And Jacksnipe Began Thanksgiving Day And Will Last Through Christmas

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN STORES that ADVERTISE -IN- The STATE PORT PILOT Help Make Your Home Town Grow LOOK FOR ADVERTISED BARGAINS IN THE The State Port Pilot Shop Through The Ads And Save Money And Time!