

Struthers Burt Bares Mysteries of Writing Game to Kiwanians

Just Another Occupation Like the Plumber's Says Author of "Festival"

NOVELS GREAT GAMBLE

Struthers Burt let members of the Kiwanis Club and their guests in on some of the secrets of writing novels and short stories in a talk before that organization at the Civic Club in Southern Pines yesterday noon. And when all was said and done, the well-known author proved to his audience that there is no mystifying secret to the "writing game", that it is just another occupation like the plumber's or the dentist's or the lawyer's.

Mr. Burt said there was no telling what makes a man an author any more than there is what makes him anything else, "But," he said, "it is true that in delving into the past of a writer, you will always find that he started writing at about the age of eight years."

There are two schools of fiction, he stated: the stories which are fiction pure and simple, and those which are an interpretation of life. The latter have the modern appeal to readers, books wherein they see themselves or their friends or their neighbors depicted in the characters drawn. He told a little of the history of fiction, how it started with the minstrelsy of bygone days and has worked up to the modern novel.

He classified writing as in six forms: newspapers, fiction, the article or essay, poetry, biography or autobiography, and drama or scenario writing. He delighted his hearers with the remark that practically all autobiographies are the truest autobiographies, where men have bared their real selves, are unobtainable on account of censorship.

You can't be a successful writer by waiting till the spirit moves you to write, the Sandhills author stated. He said that one of the greatest fallacies about writers is that they write when they haven't anything else to do, and when the inspiration seizes them. "My advice to young men and women who come to me to ask me how to get started writing is—to write." You have to make a business of it to become a successful author. And it is difficult because you are your own boss, and you've got to conquer yourself and become subservient to that boss before you can do your work properly and successfully. Most authors lay aside certain hours of each day to work, maintaining office hours just as any doctor or lawyer does, he said. He himself works each morning from 9 until 1 o'clock. He won't even answer the telephone during those hours. The work requires confinement and concentration. An author, he says, needs little excitement outside his writing because his work is exciting. He is living with his fictional characters through thick and thin.

Of his new novel, "Festival", published last week by Scribner's Mr. Burt told the members it was started nearly two years ago in Italy, finished last Summer in Wyoming, and just reached the market last Friday. There is big money in a successful novel, but the gamble is great. You don't know what you will receive for your labors for months after it leaves your hands. For a steady income, he said, short stories were necessary but a really great novel, with movie rights, etc. can earn as much as \$100,000 for a writer. He cited Sinclair Lewis as having made that much for one of his more successful books.

Self-Supporting, Self-Sufficient Community Is Needham's Grove

One of Oldest Sections of County Has Found Way to Take Care of Itself

Up in the Needham's Grove section of Moore county some community effort is under way that might be an example for some of the rest of the county. The Needham's Grove neighborhood in one of the old settlements of Moore county. The original stock is English, coming from Staffordshire and Yorkshire, from the pottery region of the old country, and it was around Needham's grove that pottery in the earlier days of the county made such development. It is there that the Jugtown pottery of the Busbee's has taken advantage of the generations of training and hereditary skill of the people in pottery work to build up the famous pottery that they now operate.

That old English character and ability to hammer through is still alive in that English stock, and from Needham's Grove school district comes a story that some of the rest of Moore county, and probably of North Carolina, might study. Needham's Grove has a parent-teacher's association, that association looks after the school children and supplies them with light lunches and milk and chocolate and little things like that. Next year it proposes to supply the children with free school books. It looks after the people of the community so well that the Needham's Grove district has had but two appeals for relief in recent months. One of these was provided with employment, and the other was found to be a case for the county home, and was sent there. These folks have been caring for their own, and with no call from anybody but themselves. The association holds little entertainments and devises methods of raising money among themselves. But the people have also a reserve of self-dependence and they have that English resolution and habit of cutting their coats according to their cloth. If they have little they make little cover the ground, and they come through.

Sutter To Make Bid For Davis Cup Team

Intercollegiate Champion Who Starred Here Last Year Will Quit College

Cliff Sutter, New Orleans tennis star, who began his meteoric rise in the court game while playing in the North and South tournament at Pinehurst last Spring, is going to make a bid for inclusion on America's Davis Cup team this season. Cliff, who went ahead to win the national intercollegiate title after beating some of the Davis Cup candidates here in 1930, has announced he will resign from Tulane University after his mid-term exams, and devote the rest of the Spring to preparedness in other than studies.

The youthful star says he expects to leave New Orleans next week to enter an invitation tournament at San Antonio. He will then go to Bermuda and Ormond Beach, to be followed by trips to St. Augustine, Augusta, Ga., Pinehurst and White Sulphur. Pinehurst will again this year be one of the test tournaments for candidates for the Davis Cup team. Eight of the first ten ranking players of the country were here for the North and South last April. Johnny Doeg, now national champion, won.

Hunter Eckert Cards 138 and Wins Mid-South Tourney

Hunter Eckert, of Reading, Pa., playing with a handicap of 19, won the first annual Mid-South Medal Tournament played yesterday over the Number One course of the Southern Pines Country Club when he duplicated his score of yesterday, making a total of 138 for the 36-hole event. Dr. A. M. Brown, of Franklin, Pa., with 16 handicap, had a 68 to take the lead in first day of play, finished with 74 totaling 142 for the 36 holes. Robert Skinner, of Wilmington, Del., who also played a good game yesterday finished with 74, Harry Pethic, Hong Kong, China, finished with 78.

MISS EDDY TO TELL OF OBERAMMERGAU PLAY

Miss Doris Eddy of Southern Pines, who spent last summer in Europe, taking in the Passion Play and the World's Christian Endeavor convention in Berlin, will speak in the Platform Hour at the Church of Wide Fellowship in Southern Pines on Sunday night, February 1st, on "From Oberammergau to Berlin." The meeting is scheduled for 7:30 o'clock, and the public invited.

Fashion Show

Young Society Girls of Southern Pines To Appear as Models at Benefit

An announcement of interest to many, is the Musicale and Fashion Show to be given at the Southern Pines Country Club, Tuesday evening, February 17th. Mrs. Henry Page, Jr., of Aberdeen will be the soloist, appearing in a solo group. A number of prominent younger society girls of the Sandhills will model the new spring modes.

The proceeds will go to the Sandhills Activities Association, an organization formed to provide entertainment for the winter guests of the Sandhills.

World Record Falls As Horses Compete

Ima McGregor Hangs Up New Time for Half Mile Event

Setting a world's record for the month of December for a half-mile track, the bay mare Ima McGregor, by Peter Potemkin, owned by the Duquesne Stable, of Pinehurst, won the first annual Mid-South Class, a mile event in straight heats, the first in two minutes, twelve seconds and the second in 2 minutes 10 1/2 seconds. The track was exceptionally fast due to a long spell of warm weather, and the day was calm and sunny and favorable to fast times. The harness horse record was made in the opening event of the fourth meeting of the season of the Pinehurst Matinee Club. Donna Volo Peter, owned by T. S. Wheeler, of New York, was second and Prodigal Silk, owned by W. H. Watt, of East Orange, was third.

The fifth annual Carolina Trot, the only other harness event on the program went to the bay gelding Coolidge, owned by the Pine Needles Stable of Pinehurst after a tie with Lord Carville, owned by W. H. Watt. Lord Carville's time for the second heat was 2:13 1/4, while Coolidge went the distance each time in 2:16, Tease, owned by Duquesne Stables, was third. The specialty events resulted as follows: Jumping: Stewart Lanahan, New York, winner; J. Corbet Alexander, Asheville, 2.

Overall race: Mrs. Grace Lewis, Chicago, and William Gale, New York, winners.

Potato race: Team captained by Mrs. Grace Lewis, winners.

Auto Bill Provides Revocation of License

Cutting off Privileges for Recklessness on Highways Would Protect Lives of People

Mandatory revocation of individual driving licenses following conviction in certain cases, without leaving the matter up to the discretionary powers of judges, is one of the strongest protective features of the statewide drivers' license bill which was introduced in the General Assembly last week by Senator Blount and Lawrence, in the opinion of C. W. Roberts, of Greensboro, vice president of the Carolina Motor club. The motor club is sponsoring the bill as a safety measure.

"Operators of motor vehicles convicted in the following cases will automatically lose their license for a period of 12 months," Mr. Roberts pointed out in discussing details of the measure: "manslaughter resulting from operation of motor vehicle, driving a vehicle under the influence of intoxicants or narcotics, perjury regarding automotive statutes, any crime punishable as a felony under motor vehicle laws, conviction or forfeiture of bail upon three charges of reckless driving within a period of 12 months' conviction as a 'hit-and-run' driver.

"While mandatory suspension or revocation is provided in the above cases the department is empowered to suspend or revoke licenses in cases where it believes the operator is incompetent to drive safely, is a habitual reckless or negligent operator, or has committed a serious violation of motor vehicle laws. However, in these instances the department will immediately notify the licensee and afford him the opportunity of a hearing."

Miss Aileen Collins, of New York and Chicago, is expected to return soon to the Carolina Hotel to spend the remainder of the season. Miss Collins has been coming to the resort for many years.

C. of C. in Protest Against Additional Taxation of Movies

People Need All the Recreation They Can Afford, Says Resolution

TO STUDY SALES TAX

Directors of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce went on record at their meeting Tuesday noon as against any additional tax on motion picture theatres in North Carolina and appointed a committee to look into the proposed sales tax in the state and report back at a meeting to be held next Tuesday. The Chamber officials were guests of Andrew I. Creamer of the Highlands Pines Inn for luncheon yesterday, and S. B. Richardson, newly elected president, presided for the first time.

The resolution against theatre taxation was drawn by Struthers Burt, and reads as follows:

"We, the Chamber of Commerce of Southern Pines, petition respectfully the Legislature of North Carolina, now in session, under no circumstances to permit further taxation upon the motion picture theatres, or any other theatres, within the state. Not only does such taxation indirectly tax the very land-owners for whose relief the present tax measures are designed, but the theatre, and the motion picture theatre, are at present the most important centers of amusement and relaxation in the life of most communities, and, in many communities, the very center. To tax them further will, in many cases, put them out of business. A darkened theatre is a serious blow, both to the business future and the state of mind of a small town. In this period of depression particularly do the people need all the recreation they can afford."

Study Sales Tax

The following were named on a committee to investigate proposed legislation looking toward a sales or luxury tax in this state, and will confer with Senator Murdoch Johnson and Representative U. L. Spence when they return from Raleigh this weekend: Struthers Burt, M. G. Nichols, Dr. L. B. McBrayer, Duncan Matthews and Frank Buchanan.

Richard Tufts of Pinehurst was a guest of the directors Tuesday and talked briefly on Pinehurst's advertising program. The Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce has asked Mr. Tufts, representing Pinehurst, and Edwin T. McKeithen, representing Aberdeen, to attend all its regular meetings, in line with the general policy of outlining future plans for the benefit of the community as a whole rather than as only affecting Southern Pines.

The directors voted \$50. to the Sports Program committee of Southern Pines for use in purchasing trophies for the forthcoming Mid-South golf tournament at the Southern Pines Country Club.

President Richardson announced the appointment of his 1931 committees of the Chamber of Commerce as follows:

Committees Named

Finance Committee—R. L. Chandler, George Moore, P. T. Barnum. Village Planting and Beautification Committee—R. L. Hart, P. F. Buchanan, A. I. Creamer, M. G. Nichols, L. B. McBrayer.

Community Roadside Beautification Committee—Struthers Burt, C. T. Waldie, W. D. Matthews.

Good Roads Committee—L. B. McBrayer, W. C. Mudgett, P. F. Buchanan. Sports Committee—Nelson C. Hyde, J. N. Powell, G. G. Herr, George Moore, C. M. Gray.

Hotels and Boarding House Committee—Frank Pottle, A. I. Creamer and Frank Harrington.

Radio Interference Committee—R. L. Chandler, S. V. Hooker, and George Elliott.

Membership Committee—A. I. Creamer, M. G. Nichols, W. C. Baker, P. T. Barnum, C. T. Waldie.

Promotion of Better Fishing and Game Committee—George Moore and J. M. Windham.

Advertising Committee—W. C. Mudgett, A. I. Creamer, Frank Pottle, Frank Harrington.

Publicity Committee—Hiram Westbrook, Nelson C. Hyde.

TO PRESENT FARCES AT WIDE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Two farces will be presented at The Church of Wide Fellowship Thursday night, February 5th. Between the acts a musical novelty will be featured. The cost of characters for "Hoiler Gossip" will be Messrs. Loomis, Doran, Cutter, Pierce, Cole, Page, Woolley, Elder and Manning and Miss Ellenore Eddy. Those taking part in "All Women" are Mesdames Hooker, Woodall, Haworth, Johnson, Tyndle, White and Misses Loomis, Yeager, Simons and Pierson. Tickets will be 35c.

TO RAISE \$5,000 FUND FOR LOCAL UNEMPLOYED

(Continued from page one)

en credit at the grocery so that he can buy food before pay-day; then the amount spent at the grocery is deducted from his pay. The weekly payroll is now about \$400, and will soon be close to \$500. Most of the men employed so far are common laborers, and work is divided as fairly as possible, so as to give the more destitute people their jobs first. No outsiders are taken on these jobs, and all those registered at the office must be residents of the community.

The committee now needs money badly, not only to continue its present work but to extend it to take in more men. Five thousand dollars must be raised at once, and every cent given to the committee will serve two purposes: that of relieving destitute families and of improving the town and adding to the value of town property. With taxes as they are today the town itself could never afford to undertake the new work of improvement, but it is being done just the same, by the committee; and the committee gets its fund entirely from private contributions, and spends them all on the work, giving its own time for nothing. When you realize that \$25. will give a man work for 12 1-2 days, you can appreciate how far even a small amount of money will go.

The second thing the committee needs is work, for its other unemployed. So far two permanent jobs have been found for men: both are for tending furnaces. But there are men on record at the office who can do all sorts of work; there are cooks, caddies, garage men, butlers, hotel workers, men who can clip hedges and put yards in order, drive trucks, do masonry, plastering, carpentering, and a lot of other things. Most of them would be glad to get even a few hours of work cleaning up a yard or putting a cellar to rights or washing a car.

Little Work for Women

When you ask what is being done about women out of work—some of them without husbands and with children to feed—the record is not so bright. Sixty-one cooks, maids, laundresses and houseworkers have applied for positions. Many of these are experienced and some are untrained girls; and any housewife who wants a good servant has only to go to the office to find one, whom she can employ at a wage lower than she would suppose. The girls are glad to get what they can, and work for less than usual rather than have no work at all.

Surely there are some housewives in Southern Pines who can spend an extra dollar or two a week to have their heavy cleaning done for them, by a girl to whom even a dollar means a great deal. There must be indoor window-washing, spring cleaning, extra laundry, now and then extra kitchen help wanted; and there are plenty of unemployed girls who would jump at the chance to get even a little work. One girl is so hopeful of what the committee can do for her that she comes to the office three times a day to see if something has turned up; but the committee cannot create housework and employ shifts of women to do it, and so far it has been able to provide but one woman with work and that for a few days only. Among the white women applying at the office are two with husbands absent and little children to support.

People are always asking why the unemployment situation is so grave here, and by investigation the reason is always found to be the same: the drouth of last summer, resulting in the failure of crops and in the need of the country people to look for a living in the towns. Added to this there is the overflow of labor from other sections of the country, making work very hard to find. The situation may not be permanent, but for the present it is acute.

If you know of a job or can make one, even for a day—and if you can spare some money, even just a dollar—telephone Southern Pines 6582 or drop in at the office yourself, and whatever you have to give, money or job, will be heartily welcomed.

COMING EVENTS

Golf
Finals, Twenty-seventh annual St. Valentine's Tournament, Saturday, January 31, Finals, Fourth Pine Needles Women's Tournament, Friday, January 30. Women's Putting Contest Saturday, January 31.

Polo
Sandhills vs. Visitors Saturday January 31. Number Two Field at 3:00 P. M.

Trapshooting
Rifle Range, Saturday, January 31, weekly award.

HOT LUNCHES SERVED TO CAMERON SCHOOL PUPILS

Hot lunches are now being served to the children of the Cameron Graded School. About seventy-five were served hot cocoa Monday, the first day. At present it is planned to serve hot cocoa and hot soups, changing the menu each day. The hot dish is intended to supplement the cold lunch brought from home. Only five cents is being charged per cup, and it is hoped that a large number of the children will partake of it. Children may get free tickets by bringing to the school canned tomatoes, corn, beans, peas, Irish potatoes, onions, etc.

After an examination of the boys and girls of the school by Dr. Symington, it was found that there were 150 in the school who were underweight, and 80 of these were over 10 per cent underweight. This is not all due to undernourishment but very probably some of it is and it is thought that the hot lunches will help to remedy that.

The hot dishes are being prepared by the ladies of the community, with the assistance of the high school girls. Miss Margaret Thomas has been chosen chairman of this group.

Through the generosity of some of the people of the community, free lunches will be served to children whose parents are unable to pay for them. The following have made contributions so far: L. B. McKeithen, \$5; Bill Muse, \$5; Ira Thomas, \$5; E. S. Temple, \$5; J. M. Guthrie, \$5; J. W. Cameron, \$2; Mr. Tally, \$1; J. P. Turnley, \$1; H. P. McPherson, \$2; Mrs. G. McDermott, \$4.

LEGAL NOTICES

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

In the Matter of Norfleet P. Ray, Bankrupt IN BANKRUPTCY

NOTICE

By order of H. F. Seawell, Jr., Referee in Bankruptcy, the undersigned, Trustee, will offer for sale in the store room of the Market Square Building, heretofore occupied by Norfleet P. Ray, Bankrupt, at Pinehurst, Moore County, North Carolina, at eleven o'clock A. M., on February 9, 1931, all and singular, all of the stock of goods, wares and merchandise of the said Norfleet P. Ray, Bankrupt, together with the furniture and fixtures in connection with said business, located in and about said store building.

DATE OF SALE: February 9, 1931. HOUR OF SALE: Eleven o'clock A. M.

PLACE OF SALE: In the store room, Market Square Building, heretofore occupied by Norfleet P. Ray, Bankrupt, at Pinehurst, Moore County, North Carolina.

TERMS OF SALE: Cash. J. TALBOT JOHNSON, Trustee.



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