

Rain and Taxes, Rain--Taxes! Headaches For Mr. Jenks et al.

And You Can't Insure the Steeplechase Races Against Either of These Elements

By ALMET JENKS
President, Sandhills Steeplechase and Racing Association

—And nothing is more certain than that some day the rain will come again. And last Saturday the rain came, as it must to all steeplechases (as TIME magazine might put it) to our own steeplechase. And, we might add, how!

Yes, the Weather Department really turned on something special: cats and dogs, great guns, leveled lances, glittering spears (see Bartlett)—and no violets. People remarked to us, "Of course, you have rain insurance."

The trouble is, we didn't have rain insurance.

That had been gone into. In the first place, the premium is almost prohibitively expensive. In the second place, such policies are so written as to require a certain number of inches rainfall at a certain place between certain hours.

Now, whether or not our race meeting pays for itself depends upon the general admissions sold on the day of the race; it depends upon the crowds which, in former years, have come from Raleigh and Charlotte and Winston-Salem and Greensboro and Durham and High Point and Fayetteville and other cities and towns all over the State. But it may be raining hard in all those cities while the sun is shining in Pinehurst and Southern Pines (adv.), in which case the people from those cities and

towns may stay away in crowds, and in which case we, being insured against rain here, would collect no insurance.

It has been suggested that we might be able to insure our "gate" of the day by submitting to an underwriter a statement of the general admissions received each year of our history and asking the company to assure us to the extent of an average "gate." To be sure, this would amount to a kind of general insurance against bad weather, and the premium would probably be very high. It was believed that Lloyds, of London, might write us such insurance, but we were advised that the law of North Carolina prohibits such a policy on the ground that it is a gambling contract. Believe us, it is a gamble without it! A textile firm, for example, may insure its plant against damage by the elements. Our "plant," we might argue, was, this year a fair day on March 21st. Indeed, everything depended on that. For seven years we had had perfect, or almost perfect, weather for the race meeting. But as the wheel turns, the zero is bound to come up—or the double zero, as happened last Saturday. And yet we had no way to protect ourselves. There is the gamble, and one wonders if the risk is not too great.

And the rain is not all. Whether the meeting pays for itself or not, and even if the profits, if any, are to go to charity—in our case, the Navy Relief Society and the Moore County Hospital—the Federal Government takes a certain percentage on every ticket sold. This is the so-called ad-

Comings and Goings in Vass

Installation Service

At the regular preaching service at the Presbyterian church Sunday evening, the Rev. Charles R. Voyles installed the following officers of the Women's Auxiliary and the young people's society: Mrs. M. M. Chappell, Auxiliary president; Mrs. B. M. Corbett, vice-president; Miss Myrtle McMillan, secretary; Mrs. D. P. Cameron, treasurer; Mrs. Delmas Kimball, vice-president of Young People's Society; Mrs. P. A. Wilson, secretary; Miss Agnes Smith, treasurer.

Herbert Caddell, president of the Young People's Society, was absent on account of the serious illness of his grandfather, S. A. Davis of Putnam.

Beal-Stutts

Miss Vera Stutts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Stutts of Vass, and Sgt. Charles Beal of Fort Bragg were married on March 14 at Bennettsville, S. C. For the ceremony the missions tax which results in a \$3.00 theatre ticket selling for \$3.50. In that case the theatre company passes it on to the purchaser. To do the same, we should have had, in one case, to raise the \$25.00 parking space to \$27.75. But this, we felt, we couldn't pass on to those loyal supporters. Even in times like these one may fairly expect a business firm to protest a tax when its yearly statement shows a loss, and we are running a business in so far as we are trying to make the race meeting pay for itself and to put aside enough to keep the course in decent shape till the next meeting. The effect of this tax, in case the race meeting is run at a loss and the deficit can not be made up, is to tax us out of existence.

bride wore a navy blue suit with matching accessories.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Beal of Carthage. Mrs. Beal is at the home of her parents.

John Alex Smith, Herbert Cameron and John McDermott have returned to State College, Raleigh, after spending the spring holidays with their parents.

Miss Mary Frank McMillan came Friday to spend several days with her mother, Mrs. J. M. McMillan. Miss McMillan last week completed her training in Durham in preparation for a position as county nurse, and will go to Graham the last of this week to assume her new duties with the county health staff.

Albert Graham, Worth McMillan, Paul Laubscher and Warren Cox went to Fort Bragg last week to begin their military training.

Mr. and Mrs. John Williams of Raleigh were week-end guests of the latter's mother, Mrs. Paul Kelly, at Hotel Charmella.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Keith and children and Mr. and Mrs. Cortis Thom, as and family visited Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Crouse of Carthage Sunday.

John Rosser and George McDermott of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill spent the spring holidays at home.

Mrs. Irene Byrd of Albemarle was the guest of Mrs. G. W. Griffin from Friday until Sunday. She came with Mrs. Walter Byrd and son, Keith, who visited Mrs. J. A. Keith.

Mrs. W. J. Cameron spent last week in Manly with her son, J. Bruce Cameron, and family.

Misses Mary Frank and Marion McMillan visited Miss Imogene Pence of Fayetteville during the week-end. W. D. McGill of Fort Bragg and

PINEBLUFF

Private and Mrs. Stanton of Fort Bragg are occupying the Folley Cottage.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Leach, Jr., and children of Asheville and Mrs. J. S. Atkinson of Winston-Salem were week-end guests in the home of Mrs. M. F. Butner.

Bob Carrington has accepted a position in Durham.

Miss Dorothy Wallace of Washington, D. C., spent Monday and Tuesday with her parents.

The Intermediate girls of the Methodist Church presented Mrs. Coolidge Thompson with a miscellaneous shower Saturday evening in the League room of the Church. After the entertainment, the gifts were presented and refreshments were served. There were twenty guests present.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Little of Pinebluff announce the birth of a son, George Wesley, on March 22 at the Moore County Hospital. Mrs. Little was Miss Marie Evans before her marriage.

Miss Gertrude Little and Mrs. J. J. Folley returned to their home here last week after spending several weeks in Florida.

Mrs. Agnes Monraval of East Orange, N. J., is a guest of Mrs. Abby Shank.

Mrs. McGill of the Moore County Hospital at Pinehurst spent Sunday with Mrs. D. C. McGill.

J. M. Tyson, who has been ill for several months, went to Charlotte Monday for a few days' treatment. He was accompanied by C. L. Tyson of Vass and L. C. Wallace of Carthage.

Miss Eloise Brooks of Buie's Creek spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. G. W. Brooks.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Gaddy and Miss Hattie Bell Gaddy of Sanford visited Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Thompson Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Royce Crissman of Route 2 spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. James Cooper of Cameron Route 1.

Miss Marie Tyson and Wilbur Edwards, Louisburg College students, are spending a 10-day spring vacation with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Tyson and Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Edwards.

Miss Frances Shellem of Salisbury is spending some time with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Shellem. Her sister, Miss Elizabeth Shellem, of Raleigh was here for a week-end visit.

The First Aid classes held under Dr. Mary Cushing of Pinebluff were completed last week with thirty-seven members passing.

Mrs. Eutice Mills and Mrs. Hugh Keith spent Monday in Elkin.

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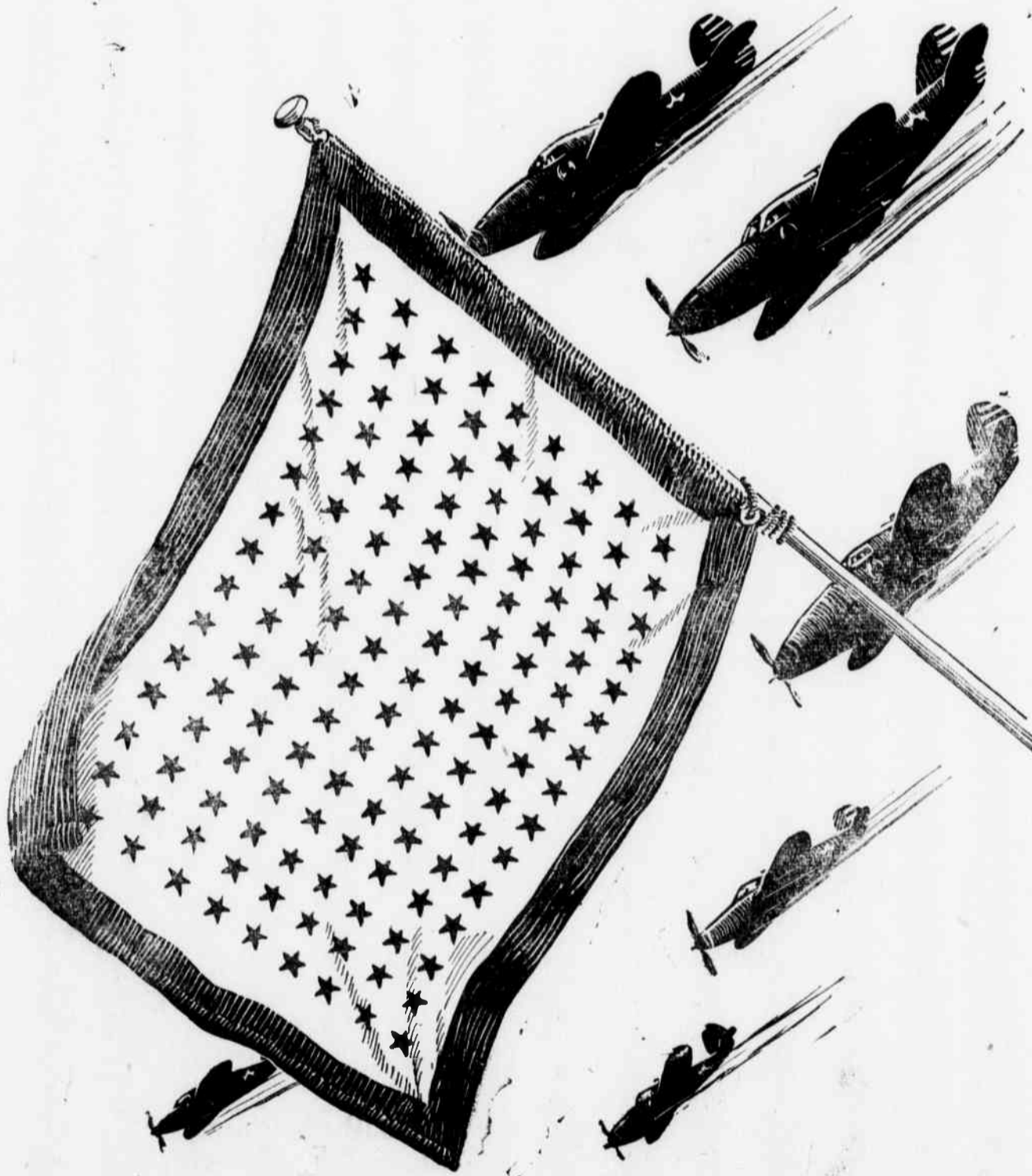


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