

Turpentine Drippings

Compiled By Bill Sharpe

CONJURE WOMAN

(Hamlet News-Messenger)
Zeke and I were almost inseparable. He was my colored playmate. He was awfully good to me, and I shared just about everything I had with him. He had nothing to share but his kindly disposition, and he was generous with that.

I went barefooted for about 7 months of the year, Zeke practically the whole year through. Therefore his feet were tougher than mine in the Spring. It was then that the dewberries rip-

ened. Although he was no bigger than I, he would carry me through the briars when we were making our rounds on the dewberries. And he would go into the hard places and get the finest berries, bring them out, and always share them with me.

One summer Zeke got warts all over his hands and feet. His mother switched him for playing with frogs. For that was a firm belief among them; that only toads caused warts.

That belief was well grounded in both of us, and we really hadn't been playing with frogs, although we wanted to. But nevertheless he got his whipping, for they just knew he had, for what else could have caused those warts? His grandmother was the old "conjure woman" of the community. She used conjure for them, and they soon went away.

That consisted of making a cross on his foot with the back of a sooty frying pan and mumbling a few strange sounds. Guess the things would have soon gone away anyway. But when they did, we kids believed more than ever in the old conjure woman.

DISCOURAGING TEACHERS

(Durham Herald)
There is another factor which Mr. Gibson has not mentioned and which has not publicly entered the discussion, but a very real factor in discouraging young women from becoming elementary teachers. It has to do with the home training—here again the negative phrase would be better—of many of the children whom they would teach. All too many children have a lack of respect for authority and the uninterrupted experience of having their own way. And all too many parents think their children ought to have their way, that there should be exceptions to the rules necessary for the smooth running of an institution. These attitudes, on the part of children and parents, constitute another reason for the shortage of elementary teachers.

WHAT'S A RAP WORTH?
(Beatrice Cobb, Morganton News-Herald)

The expression "not worth a rap" is frequently used—it is likely an old one. Naturally one would suppose that "rap" in the phrase refers simply to a sharp, quick blow on something with the knuckles. However, word specialists are of the opinion that "rap" in this connection originally referred to a small copper coin first widely used in Ireland in the early 1700's. Its value was only about half of that of the English farthing, but it passed for a half-penny. Often the rap was counterfeit, thereby reducing to nothingness its value. Therefore, to say that something was "not worth a rap" was to say it was worthless at all. The meaning has continued through the years.

THE GREAT DISMAL

(Vernon Sechrist, Rocky Mount Telegram)
I went back into the Great Dismal Swamp again the other afternoon and, with two companions, came out the next day feeling better than I had felt in years.

John Reed, Kel Landis and I were members of the latest expedition. We penetrated deeper into the Swamp than ever before—but not until we had taken careful compass readings and kept checking on our surroundings all the way.

Incidentally, a dry late summer and early fall has dried out great sections of the Swamp that could not be traversed afoot on previous excursions. Lake Drummond, up in Virginia, has gone almost dry and the canal leading to it from the outside has become empty, too.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing we have discovered about

the Swamp is that it is almost completely free of insects. There are no mosquitoes, no ants, only an occasional harmless spider and hardly any insects winging their way over the wastelands. Reasons that have been advanced are that the bird life and the fishes take such terrible tolls of larvae, eggs, etc., that insects are unable to multiply. But it certainly is refreshing to be able to stretch out in a sleeping bag with the knowledge that nothing worse than an occasional bear or wildcat can do you harm—and everybody knows that one mosquito buzzing, humming, and biting in the night is much worse than a dozen wildcats or bears.

WHERE'S HARNETT'S PUMPKIN?

(Harnett County News)
On Wednesday morning of last week one of our intellectual friends walked up to us and proclaimed:
"The frost is certainly on the pumpkin this morning."
Instantly we turned to him and inquired: "What pumpkin?"
Then he gave us one of those disdainful looks as much as to say: "You poor ignoramus!"
But it was not like he thought. We had heard the little ditty about the frost being on the pumpkin in the Fall of the year, but what we really wanted to know was: Where is any pumpkin?

Seems that that old timey pie-maker of the goody-good variety has about passed out in these parts. What's become of the pumpkins in Harnett County?

COSTLY

(Zebulon Record)
The most expensive thing in the world are our neighbor's eyes; they cost everybody more than anything else in housekeeping.

DEALING WITH SATAN

(Hawkeye in Stanly News & Press)
Bill was pastor of the church where I was superintendent of the Sunday school. And I used to say to him: "Wish you'd look after Sunday school for me Sunday . . . I want to go fishing."
And he'd say: "O. K. I will, if you'll bring me a mess of fish."
That eased my feelings some if matters came to the worse and I just HAD to do a little fishing on Sunday. I figured if the devil got too hot in behind me, I could argue that I was trying to catch some fish. . . .
For Bill!

GIVE THEM TOOLS

(Whiteville News-Reporter)
The plain truth is that we can afford and obtain what we really want. If the nation wants a second-rate citizenship through neglect of schools, it ought to admit it and not blame the teaching

profession which is doing such a marvelous job with the tools at hand.

CASH ON THE HOOF

(Watauga Democrat)
In an agricultural region, such as ours, farm income is of paramount importance to all the folks, and interesting is the information that 34 cents of every dollar that goes into the farmer's bank account in the nation, comes from meat animals.

This information is particularly interesting to Wataugans, where the farmers have been turning more and more to cattle and sheep production ever the past several years. Fewer hillsides are being plowed, to wash their fertility down to the creeks and the rivers of the lowlands, and heavy sods are being produced on the slopes, which in turn feed the herds and flocks and bring the farmer an increased measure of prosperity, while he's conserving his soil. There are other advantages, of course, to meat animals. They can be produced most anywhere, in any climatic condition, on small or large scales, and the producer can sell his animals and get his money any day.

On the farm dollar, it is further shown, dairy products brought in 13 cents, poultry and eggs 11 cents, vegetables 5 cents, fruit and nuts 4 cents, cotton 8 cents, food grains 6 cents, tobacco 4

Great Shortage In Schoolrooms

A recent survey, made public by the Office of Education, showed that 325,000 schoolrooms are needed in this country. U. S. Commissioner of Education Earl J. McGrath, commenting on the survey, says that present state building programs will not make up the deficit.

Mr. McGrath suggests a Federal-aid program which would provide matching funds for states in the building of new schools. Such a program has worked successfully in the field of hospital construction and also in the field of highway construction.

McGrath further stated that there was not a single state or territory which did not have a school housing problem. He advocates abandonment of obsolete school houses and the construction of new plants, based on the anticipated need as indicated by the number of babies born in recent years.

The 83rd Congress may or may not take action as Commissioner McGrath proposes. However, the new suggestion—for the construction of the nation's elementary schools, feed crops 6 cents, and miscellaneous crops plus government payments 9 cents.

and secondary public schools—is said to have merit. Such a matching fund, it has been pointed out, would not carry with it federal control or direction of the policies in actual school operation. Many states seek to avoid federal inroads into school operations and this plan would not necessarily carry with it this objectionable feature, it was explained.

Use Chickens As Blind To Cover Moonshining

(Chattanooga, Tenn.)—When Hamilton County officers destroyed a 2,000-gallon still recently they confiscated enough chickens to provide Christmas dinners for county prisoners. The still was being operated in a chicken house, and the chickens were kept around "as a blind."

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LIST YOUR TAXES NOW

All persons owning Real Estate or Personal Property, or both, on the 1st day of January, 1953, are required to give in same for taxes during the month of January. All male persons between the ages of 21 and 50 years are liable for poll tax. All persons who are liable for poll tax, and fail to list, and all persons who own property and fail to list, will be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor; and, upon conviction, fined or imprisoned.

All persons owning dogs six months old and over are required to list the same for taxation at the same time property is listed.

The list-takers will be at the following places between 9 a. m. and 6:00 p. m. (unless otherwise stated) for the purpose of listing your property:

JAMESVILLE TOWNSHIP ----- O. W. Hamilton, Tax Lister	WILLIAMSTON TOWNSHIP ----- C. M. Cobb, Tax Lister
Padgett's Store, Angetown ----- January 14	City Tax Office ----- Every Week Day Through January 31
Paul Allen's Store ----- January 21	
John Swinson's Store ----- January 28	CROSS ROADS TOWNSHIP ----- G. G. Bailey, Tax Lister
All Other Days in Jamesville except Fridays.	Taylor Bros. Service Station -- January 9, 10, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 31
WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP ----- C. L. Daniel, Tax Lister	Will Aushorn's Home ----- January 23
Jim Williams' Store ----- Jan. 7 from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.	R. L. Whitehurst Service Station, Cross Roads -- January 30
Major Gardner's Home -- January 12 from 8:30 to 12 Noon	ROBERSONVILLE TOWNSHIP ----- H. S. Everett, Tax Lister
Wheeler Gardner's Store -- Jan. 12 from 1:00 to 4:00 p. m.	Gold Point (Forbes' Store) Jan. 15 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
County House ----- January 13 from 8:30 a. m. to 4 p. m.	Parmele (Rocbuck Store) Jan. 22 from 9 a. m. to 3:30 p.m.
County House ----- January 15 from 8:30 a. m. to 4 p. m.	All Other Days In January at Robersonville City Hall from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.
At Home ----- January 19	
County House ----- January 30 from 8:30 a. m. to 4 p. m.	POPLAR POINT TOWNSHIP ----- L. G. Taylor, Tax Lister
GRIFFINS TOWNSHIP ----- Lester Griffin, Tax Lister	At LeRoy Taylor's Home ----- January 29, 30 and 31
Manning & Gurkin's Store ----- January 5	HAMILTON TOWNSHIP ----- L. R. Everett, Tax Lister
Henry Griffin's Store ----- January 9	Everett-Matthews Equipment Company -- January 6, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 23 and 30.
Jim Manning's Store ----- January 12	Hassell, P. C. Edmondson's Store ----- January 22 and 29
Dewey Perry's Store ----- January 19	Beddard's Store ----- January 27
Noah Roberson's Store ----- January 26	GOOSE NEST TOWNSHIP ----- J. F. Crisp, Tax Lister
BEAR GRASS TOWNSHIP ----- Wheeler Rogerson, Tax Lister	Smith Brothers' Store ----- January 14 and 21
Rogers Supply Company -- January 12, 13, 19, 27, 30 and 31	J. H. Ayers' Store ----- All other days except Mondays and Tuesdays of each week
Worth Mobley's Store ----- January 14	
Lucian Peele's Store ----- January 20	
Pierce's Store ----- January 21	

M. L. PEEL TAX SUPERVISOR MARTIN COUNTY