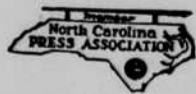


### The ROANOKE BEACON AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS

Published Every Thursday in Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina

The Roanoke Beacon is Washington County's only newspaper. It was established in 1889, consolidated with the Washington County News in 1929 and with The Sun in 1937.



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Thursday, July 26, 1956

#### Auto Industry Test

The real test for the automobile industry, at least during the year 1956, will come in a few weeks.

Traditionally sales begin to pick up in the spring, as a seasonal factor, and they should also pick up this year. It is almost imperative that sales increase, since the inventory situation has not improved much since January 1st.

On that date, it was estimated that there were some 800,000 new automobiles in the showrooms of dealers across the country.

One of the factors in recent years which has accounted for the high sales picture in the low priced field is the hot battle between Ford and Chevrolet for first place in the nation's automobile sales. When Ford failed to out-sell Chevrolet in 1954, another major effort was made in 1955, but Ford missed its mark again by about 75,000 units.

This battle, between the two largest selling cars in the country, is expected to continue and will pace the automobile industry again this year. Whether the industry will make a creditable showing or not—though down considerably from 1955—or whether it will have a really rough year will be decided in the next few weeks—in part when sales begin to pick up and the trend will become more visible.

#### An Extra Lion

Walter Ekola recently complained to the police in Long Beach, California. He was starting out to work one morning, but found that a lion was in the way.

Not that there were any lions in his neighborhood, but, this particular morning, Ekola found a lion cub in the front seat of a car parked in his driveway. Naturally, he did not care to stick his head in the window and ask the lion to move, or drive away.

Ekola took the easy way out. He complained to police. Police responded to his call and came to investigate. They found the lion waking up on the front seat of a car owned by John Shinnars. Shinnars, it seems, had also been asleep in the car and was the owner of the lion cub.

Police asked Shinnars where he lived and he said he lived no place in particular, especially since the Los Angeles Animal Regulation Commission had asked him to keep the cub out of their city. He honored Long Beach with his and his lion cub's company. He decided to drive into Ekola's driveway and take a snooze.

Two thoughts come to mind in appraising this unusual event. Shinnars is a brave man, and probably a poor insurance risk. As the lion cub grows up, he runs a great danger of being disconnected at the joints, unexpected—especially if the cub, after it becomes a lion, wakes up hungry first one morning. We also wonder if Shinnars can teach the lion to drive. In this connection, we wonder what Shinnars would do if the lion suddenly decided to become playful while he was traveling through downtown traffic at rush hour. There are all sorts of possibilities involved in this story, and none of them are good.

#### About The Moon

If you, dear reader, have ever wondered why, occasionally, there are two full moons in a month, it is because the average time from perigee to perigee is twenty-seven days, thirteen hours, eighteen minutes and twenty-three seconds.

This time is known as the anomalistic month. In simple terms, this means it would take twenty-seven days, plus, for the moon to complete a circuit around the earth's circumference.

Because both the moon and earth are in rotation around the sun, the duration of the lunar month is actually twenty-nine days, twelve hours, forty four minutes. This period is called the moon's synodical period.

Since there are thirty or thirty-one days in eleven months of the year, it will be seen that the full moon arrives a little earlier each month, with the exception of the month of February, and, therefore, it is possible to occasionally have a full moon at the very first of the month and another at the very last.

This year no month features two full moons. However, July will see two last quarter moons and December two new moons. In 1955, a rare month occurred when two full moons were seen in one month.



1. When was gold first discovered in California?
2. What is Mickey Rooney's real name?
3. How old is General Douglas MacArthur?
4. Which of England's queens was known as "Bloody Mary"?
5. For what is the Alakan island of Kodiak known?
6. Where is Dartmouth College located?
7. When was the state of Kansas admitted to the Union?
8. Who wrote, "Twenty-Thousands League under the Sea"?
9. What well known song did Julia Ward Howe write?
10. What famous movie actress wrote a book entitled: "Why Not Try God?" (See "Answers" at Bottom of Column)

#### A Few SMILES

##### Lesson Learned

"What happens when we cast our bread upon the waters?" a Sunday school teacher hopefully asked her class.

"It get soggy," piped up a bright little girl.

##### Good for the Soul

A politician was being interviewed by a reporter. "Do you feel you have influenced public opinion, sir?" asked the member of the fourth estate.

"No," was the politico's reply. "Public opinion is something like a mule I once owned. In order to keep up the appearance of being the driver, I had to watch the way he was going and follow closely."

##### High Overhead

A newspaper reporter had been sent to interview a rancher who was reputed to own a talking horse. During the interview, the rancher explained that the horse was not only capable of talking but was also a first rate comedian. "That horse has a wonderful collection of jokes," said the rancher, "and I value him at \$5,000. However, I own a mule that is worth twice as much."

"Why is the mule so valuable?" asked the reporter. "Who do you think writes the horse's material?" the rancher answered.

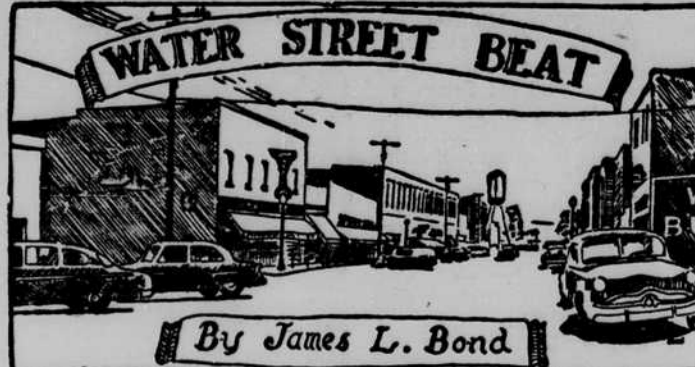
##### Once Too Often

In a village election in Republican Vermont, one Democrat vote was discovered before the tabulation had been completed. Election officials stopped to ponder this marvel, then decided to complete the count. Another Democratic vote turned up.

"That settles it," said one official. "That dad-burned food voted twice."

#### The ANSWERS

1. January 24, 1848.
2. Joe Yule, Jr.
3. He celebrated his 76th birthday on January 26th.
4. Mary I, daughter of Henry VIII and Katherine of Aragon.
5. Its huge bears.
6. Hanover, N. H.
7. On January 29, 1861.
8. Jules Verne.
9. The Battle Hymne of the Republic.
10. Mary Pickford.



By James L. Bond

**OPENING THOUGHT** — None think the great unhappy but the great.—Edward Young.

**JUST A PIKER** — Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, who said, "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute," was obviously a piker. He couldn't think in billions.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

**SIGN OF THE TIMES** — Lettered on the back of an automobile the words: "Dimit Damit!" This brings to mind a facet of the courtesy of the road which is often overlooked. It can really be annoying while driving along the highway at night to have some thoughtless driver close behind in the line of traffic remain on your heels and keep his headlights on the high beam. I recall a bus trip I took to Florida some years ago during which an inconsiderate night driver stayed on the heels of the bus for a long stretch with high beams on. The bus driver experienced considerable difficulty because the lights from the rear were being reflected in the large rear-view mirror on the left of the driver. Such can be practically blinding if kept up for any length of time.

Consideration for others is a mark of gentility which makes itself known on the highways as well as in all other avenues of life. You can spot a boor by his manners anywhere, anytime. Next time you are out driving at night, remember that it is just as much a part of the code of the road to dim your headlights for the fellow you are closely following as it is to dim them for oncoming traffic.

**TODAY'S CHUCKLE** — The following story is making the rounds in Aberdeen, Scotland: An Aberdonian who tossed a bad shilling into the cap of a pavement artist was reprimanded sharply by his wife. She scolded, "A bad sixpence would ha' been enough."

**MULE TROUBLE** — "I have had

that ornery mule you sold me for less than a week now, and already I've found two things wrong with him." "What?" "Well, when he gets out you can't catch him. . . . And what's the other thing?" ". . . He ain't worth catching."

**RESPONSIBLE** — "For this job," said the employer, "we need a responsible man." "I'm your man," cried the applicant. "In all my other jobs when anything went wrong I was always held responsible."

Stevenson excelled in tales of adventure.

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#### Completes Course Fort Bliss, Texas

Fort Bliss, Texas.—Pvt. Lue G. Clifton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Clifton, Route 1, Creswell, N. C., recently completed eight weeks of training with automatic anti-aircraft artillery weapons at Fort Bliss, Texas. Clifton was trained as a can-

noneer on the M-42 tank, the M-16 half-track and the Army's self-propelled 40 mm. anti-aircraft gun. Clifton entered the Army last February and completed basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C. He attended Creswell High School.

The Dutch have overcome the problem of storing surplus butter by freezing cream and making butter from it when needed. They report it tastes like fresh butter and surpasses it in vitamin A content.

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**BY PRE-PAYING YOUR 1956 TOWN TAXES DURING JULY**

A discount of 1 1/2% will be allowed for pre-payment of 1956 Town of Plymouth taxes during the month of July, based on the new tax rate of \$1.80 per \$100 worth of property valuation.

The rate of discount drops each month. See me during the month of July for maximum savings on your tax bill.

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- Dependable G-E sealed-in mechanism
- Ice cream conditioner; holds 4 half-gallon packages

Why buy a chest freezer when the G-E "BOOK-SHELF" UPRIGHT costs so little?