

Capital Letters

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

PEOPLE ARE FUNNY—When the roads in the rural sections were so bad a few weeks ago, letters, telegrams, and telephone calls—and delegations, of course—poured into Raleigh pleading for improvement to our secondary highway system in North Carolina. At that time, road conditions were so bad and weather so rotten that nothing could be done.

Within the past two weeks we have had generally fair weather—at least as good as we've had all winter—and the roads, thanks to sunshine and pre-March winds, have become passable. NOW IS THE TIME TO WORK THE ROADS.

When the roads could not be worked, the people were raising Cain. But now that they can be worked, everything is relatively quiet. At the meeting of the State Highway Commission last week, not one delegation was present . . . all was sweetness and light, because of a few days of winds and fair weather.

DELEGATIONS SHOULD CALL ON THEIR HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS FROM NOW UNTIL NEXT OCTOBER—not next winter when it's impossible to improve the roads.

EQUIPMENT—If the State Highway Commission postpones this work until it has the equipment necessary to carry it out, very little improvement can be made on our country roads before September. That will allow only about two months' work before the winter sets in. Nothing is being said about it, but the State has found that it cannot purchase adequate road machinery before next fall. So—scores of rural roads projects should be done under contract. This will cost more, but the money is available, and the expenditure will be small as compared with the school time that will be lost next term if repairs are not effected.

PRIMARY—Maybe the trouble with our rural roads is that we constantly refer to them as "secondary roads" . . . and then let them run a bad second. Since there are a lot more RFD roads than paved highways, why not refer to them as "primary roads," and give them first position. After all, 60 per cent of this State's population comes under the classification "rural."

NOTES—A. J. McKevlin, managing editor of the News and Observer and regarded as one of the outstanding newspapermen in the country, is seriously ill, may not work again for several months—if at all. He's one of the squarest guys in the business.

Don't be surprised if you read of J. V. Whitfield's marriage to a prominent widow in Northeastern North Carolina. Whitfield, formerly with the U. S. State Department, is representative from Pender County (has just announced again), and a leader in the Farm Bureau. The lady in the extreme northeast is also one of the State's agricultural leaders—former member of the State Board of Agriculture, etc. . . . good looking, too. Agriculturally speaking, one might say they would make a peach of a pair.

Talk in Northwestern North Carolina is that Thurmond Chatham (blankets) has political aspirations—but he'd better keep his legal residence out of Wilkes if he wants to realize them. His father, Hugh Chatham, became rather prominent politically, and was mentioned for Governor away back yonder when this was quite an honor.

COLONY—The National Broadcasting Company may be urged to broadcast at least a portion of the program at the reopening of "The Lost Colony" down in Dare County on June 30. WPTF, in Raleigh, is considering carrying the drama on opening night . . . but is worried about bad telephone connections down that way.

Announcement of plans to produce "The Lost Colony" again this summer drew from many officials around Raleigh the prediction that this will be the most successful season in its history.

TOURS—At least one company is planning to set up a one-week tour of North Carolina for May, June, July, and August. Tentative plans call for the tour to begin at Greensboro and to include two days in the Great Smokies, two

along the coast, and the other three at points in between. Arrangements are being made with various hotels along the proposed route, it is reported, but scarcity of hotel accommodations may cripple the project.

RADIO—A. J. Fletcher, brother of Col. A. I. Fletcher, who is chairman of the Unemployment Compensation Commission, owns Radio Station WRAL in Raleigh, and has secured a permit from the Federal Communications Commission to establish a 250-watt station in Durham. And another station is going up in Durham . . . making three for the tobacco town. A. J. Fletcher's son, Fred, manages his Raleigh station and Son Floyd will be head man in Durham. Son Frank, an attorney in Washington, keeps a weather eye on the FCC.

You can't beat these Fletchers. Good mountain stock from up on Silas Creek in Ashe County, they're sharp as a tack and have the enterprise and energy to push ahead. Incidentally, the father of A. J. and A. L. is a minister . . . still living and in good health . . . 85 years old and continues to preach now and then around North Wilkesboro, where he now lives with his daughter.

A petition has been filed with FCC to increase the power of WRAL from 250 to 5,000 watts. Some enemy of the radio station at Henderson removed six vital bolts from the transmission tower last Wednesday night, and the thing toppled over . . . estimated damage: \$10,000.

HOME RUN—Those in the know will tell you that Governor Cherry smashed out a homer when he managed to get Erwin Mills management and labor to settle their differences; for the situation was on the verge of becoming nasty. The operators of the mills had said a few days earlier that the mills were going to run . . . and labor was just as determined that they were not going to run. Governor Cherry virtually had to crack their heads together before a settlement could be effected.

He lost a night's sleep as the two adversaries sparred and feinted, searched in vain for an opening, and finally agreed to go back to work. Cherry grew up with the smell of textiles in his nostrils, and this background aided him in his efforts to settle the strike.

HOEY—Nine years earlier, Senator C. R. Hoey, then Governor, had made headlines by attacking strikers in a different manner. While sitdown strikers held up production in Detroit, Governor Hoey issued a statement to the effect that we would have none of that business in North Carolina. He declared that he would use the State Highway Patrol, the State Guard, and all other power the State could muster to see to it that picket lines would be crossed by anybody who wanted to work. But since labor was only getting its foot in the door in North Carolina at that time, Governor Hoey was not forced to carry out this threat during his administration.

NOTES—The battle between the Wildlife group and the Game and Fisheries division of the Department of Conservation and Development is daily becoming more savage. It's a fight to the death . . . Governor Cherry wanted something definite from the State Highway Commission on the improvement of 3,000 miles of dirt roads this year. He wanted this project "spelled out" last week, but if he got it, the matter was kept a secret . . . Congressman R. L. Doughton has decided to stand for re-election and they say the GOP's in his district may arrange for him to have no opposition this fall. He's had no

May Get Ickes Post



ACCORDING to reports circulating in Washington, Justice William O. Douglas (above) of the Supreme Court of the United States may be named the next Secretary of the Interior, succeeding Harold L. Ickes. Douglas is the youngest Justice on the high court. (International)

Library Notes



MARGARET JOHNSTON
County Librarian

Those of you who have been reading "The Black Rose" by Thomas B. Costain will want to read a pamphlet received at the library recently entitled "Marco Polo and Some Modern Things Old in the Axis of His Day," by Dr. E. W. Guder.

It is reprinted from the "Scientific Monthly," of December, 1933. The article is a very interesting sketch for the writer chooses the practices and discoveries of the people of Marco Polo's day which we modern have later rediscovered.

Perhaps you would like to read or re-read the "Travels of Marco Polo." There are two copies in the Haywood County Library and as Dr. Guder says, "I envy the man who reads this great work for the first time."

In reply for the request for some of his writings for our library collection, Dr. Guder sent us the following articles:

- The Whale Shark off Havana Harbor.
- Beginnings of Fish Teratology, 1555-1642.
- Strange Stories of Fish.
- Fishes That Live in the Mouths of Gill Cavities of Other Fishes.
- Twenty-five Years' Quest of the

opponent in the primary since the late Pete Murphy gave him a contest in 1918. Doughton, 82, has been in Congress since March 4, 1911.

Training Is Open To Vets In Agriculture

Monthly Income Provided Under G.I. Bill For Those Who Qualify

The agricultural department of the Waynesville Township high school is cooperating with the Veterans Administration in carrying out the Veterans Farmers Training program, according to an announcement by W. E. Pressley, vocational teacher in the local school.

Qualified veterans who enter this program will receive a monthly subsistence allowance of \$65, if single, and \$90 if married. The coordinated instruction which will supplement on-the-job training on the farm, will be planned to fit the individual needs and educational background of the veteran.

Two broad objectives will be included in the training: First, the trainee veterans will go into the business of farming to improve the vocational efficiency and second, to further his interest in the responsibility as a citizen of the community.

Under the North Carolina plan the Veterans Farmers training program will be conducted by local teachers with other agricultural agencies cooperating. Two types of training will be given under this program. The veteran will spend 36 hours a week on the farm and will also attend organized classes at the local high school, shops or other suitable places. These study groups will be made up entirely of veterans and will not be mixed with regular high school classes in agriculture.

Under the employer-training program a veteran is placed with a good farmer who will give him guidance and direction as well as teach him certain skills in farming. The farmer is to pay the veteran in cost or living expenses in addition to the \$65 or \$90 per month he will receive from the veteran's administration.

In the case of the self proprietorship program the veteran is on his own farm or on one which he is authorized to make decisions relative to farm operations, the veteran training will be based upon a long time farm plan. He will also be

Whale Shark. Bullets and Spear-heads Embedded in the Tusks of Elephants. Cannibalism Among the Shark and Rays.

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\$300,000,000 Sent Abroad From U. S.

Americans and foreigners residing in this country sent more than \$300,000,000 in cash to friends and relatives abroad—mostly in Europe, Latin America and China—during 1945, the Commerce Department has estimated.

Predicting a sharp increase in these noncommercial remittances in the next few years, the Department noted those of last year more than doubled prewar 1939's \$144,000,000 and trebled the \$100,000,000 low mark of wartime 1942.

On the other hand, the Department said it was unlikely that remittances would again reach the record figure of \$700,000,000 set in 1919, in an increase that followed the last war.

expected to attend classes and will be visited frequently by the agriculture teacher who will assist him with problems in connection with operating the farm.

The teacher will make frequent visits to all the agriculture veterans for the purpose of coordinating the related instruction and its application with the training the veteran is receiving on the farm.

All veterans who served as long as 90 days and received an honorable discharge are eligible to take training, it was pointed out by Mr. Pressley. The training program is set up for one year in the beginning.

In the cases where the work of the veteran is satisfactory he may receive training for a period of approximately one year longer than the total length of his service in the armed forces, not to exceed 48 months.

Any veteran interested in entering the agriculture training program should contact one of the agriculture teachers in Haywood county, in any of the following schools: Waynesville, Bethel, Fines Creek and Crabtree.

Louis Graves Starts Debate Among University Faculty

CHAPEL HILL—A mild tempest has been brewing among faculty members of the University of North Carolina because of an "innocent" letter to Editor Louis Graves of the Chapel Hill Weekly.

Gerald W. Johnson, well known author and former associate editor of the Baltimore Sun, who headed the journalism department at the University at one time, wrote to Editor Graves the other day and suggested a practice of addressing a dean, a head of a department or a full professor as "mister"; an associate professor as "professor," and an assistant or an instructor as "doctor."

According to Johnson, the theory supporting this practice is "plain": "The high regard that the possessor of a Ph.D. at first has for it fades with the years until he welcomes being addressed by a title open to all men, without graduate study."

Since printing this letter, Editor Graves has been bombarded—in a dignified manner, of course—by letters from various faculty members, mostly Ph.D.'s. Some of the more serious-minded have "gotten their backs up" and have debated the merits of Johnson's suggestions, pro and con, at length.

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THURSDAY—MARCH 7
"This Gun For Hire"
Alan Ladd—Veronica Lake

FRIDAY—MARCH 8
"First Yank Into Tokyo"
Tom Neal—Barbara Hale

SATURDAY MARCH 9
"Both Barrels Blazing"
Charles Starret

LATE SHOW—10:30
"Isle Of The Dead"
Boris Karloff—Ellen Drew

SUNDAY—MARCH 10
"Abilene Town"
Randolph Scott—Ann Dvorak

MONDAY-TUESDAY—MARCH 11-12
"They Were Expendable"
Robert Montgomery—John Wayne

WEDNESDAY—MARCH 13
"Follow That Woman"
William Gargan—Nancy Kelly

LET'S TAKE STOCK NOW

Everybody wants goods: Manufacturers want to make them for you.

Yet months after the war's end, you still find it difficult to get many of the things you want and should have.

So, isn't this the time for all of us to take stock . . . to learn a lesson . . . to find out, if we can, what will cure the troubles we are having and prevent their recurrence?

Let's look ahead and agree on a program that will insure the full production everybody agrees is the real answer to most of our problems.

Suppose we begin by taking a good look at three roadblocks to prosperity.:

STRIKES

Whatever their justice or injustice, strikes paralyze production, force people to use up their savings, and result in losses that can never be made up.

PRICE CEILINGS

Full production isn't possible when industry suffers losses because of rising costs and frozen prices. Price

ceilings limit production — goods just don't get made.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Continued huge government spending means continued high taxes. High taxes discourage production, hinder the creation of jobs, and leave you less to spend.

ISN'T THIS THE WAY?

The people, through Congress, can remove these roadblocks in the long-range interests of all . . .

By establishing a labor policy that will treat labor and management exactly alike, and above all be fair to the public;

By removing the shackles of price control on manufactured goods;

By cutting down on government spending now and balancing the Federal budget by the 1947 fiscal year at a level of income and outgo that taxpayers can stand.

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