

SO THIS IS NEW YORK
By North Callahan

It's not a pleasant thing—but there's plenty of it here. I'm referring to juvenile delinquency. There are reasons for it, too, many reasons, chief among them being the fact that this town is larger than any other; many of its residents are thrown so close together that they just naturally rub each other the wrong way lots of times; and the latest contributing cause of wayward youth and teen-age gangsters into New York's Harlem section, the children of whom have little to do and no room in which to do that, Senator Estes Kefauver, with whom I grew up, is scheduled to bring his investigating committee to New York soon, and judging from his excellent past performance here, Estes should throw

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much new light on the problem of the juveniles.

My Uncle Jesse and his wife, appreciative readers, ask me if I have heard about the violinist who entered a London store and told the lady-clerk he wanted to "buy an E string, please." She placed a box of violin strings on the counter, shyly remarking, "Would you mind very much picking out one for yourself, sir? You see, I 'ardly know the e's from the she's."

Took a ride on the last elevated train to run, and it was of course filled with reminders of long ago. These rickety old trains have rattled above New York's streets since 1878, and recently, the last one ran on Third Avenue. What has always been interesting to me—as I suppose it is to any curious reporter—is being able to ride along on these old cars and look right into people's windows. The last ride was no exception, bedroom, kitchen and bath being in full view and their occupants mostly indifferent. Some of them on the run, however, stuck their heads out of the windows and cheered the exit of the elevated rattle. But though the old railroad will be missed by many, its passing will bring sunlight to the darkened streets below—and maybe some of those bums who sleep in these shadows will have to hustle out and find a job.

A vivid example of how things are getting bigger all the time is the New York Telephone Company's 1955-56 Manhattan telephone directory which Henry Senber, a top contact man of the com-

pany, gave me a peek at before it was issued. My first thought was that one would need a wheelbarrow to carry it. The volume has 1,824 pages, contains 1,822,460 names, addresses and phone numbers—not including the many unlisted or private telephones, of which there are many here. In 1878, the year of the first elevated railroad, the first such phone directory had 271 names and only one page. Ten years ago, there were only a mere million names in it. Since that time it has increased 62½ per cent.

Some months ago this column commented on the fact that Fred

Robbins, who hails from Baltimore, was not even identified on the Ed- die Fisher television show in which he was the master of ceremonies. Soon after that, Fred's name appeared on the program. And I am glad to report that now he has his own show on CBS, called the "Disc Derby" in which Fred gives a good example of better-than-average performance.

He's one of the most cheerful fellows I know. Always has a kind word and a stimulating smile. He really goes out of his way to be friendly—in a town that is not renowned for its friendliness. He is the head waiter at Washington

Square Tavern and an old-time horse cavalryman in the U. S. Army, serving in the days when that arm of our service was a really-romantic, swashbuckling outfit mounted on some of the best nags in the country—as John Wayne and John Ford have evidenced in the movies. Just the other day, one of his associates told me that John, which is his first name, has a serious heart condition and at best will probably live only a few years more. Meantime, this head-waiter friend of mine, goes right on being cheerful, friendly and a credit to this world—although he is living on borrowed time. Those of us who feel we have something to

Parham Instructor At Signal School
Pvt. Richard B. Parham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kim Parham of Waynesville, is now serving as an instructor in advance communications at the Southeastern Signal School at Camp Gordon, Ga. Parham is a graduate of Waynes-

Transactions In REAL ESTATE
Waynesville Township
W. S. Prevost and wife to Hardy Limer, Jr.
Ethel R. Bradley and husband to

ville Township High School, Gardner-Webb Junior College, and Western Carolina College and was employed by the B. F. Goodrich Co. in Jacksonville, Fla., before entering service.
He is married to the former Miss Velma Stamey of Waynesville, who is now teaching in the Jacksonville city schools.

J. M. Long and wife.
W. A. Bradley and wife
Welch.
W. A. Bradley and wife
Ethel R. Bradley and husband
R. V. Welch.

Beaverdam Township
Jennie Parham and husband
Paul L. Clark and wife.

Crabtree Township
Eva Jones to Lloyd Lee

Pigeon Township
Claude E. Kuykendall
to Thelma M. Burnette.

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