

So Say We All

# Editorial And Opinion

## Our Wish For You

We have it on the best of statistical authority that the New Year will be a prosperous one... which is another way of saying that most of us will get along reasonably well, some of you may get rich, some go broke, new labor contracts will call for more money and those who are living on a dole of one sort or another will continue doing so. Whatever perils industry may be facing from over-extended time payments in the consumer field will be cushioned by deftly spending.

Whether the New Year will be a happy one will depend on what it takes to make you happy. To those of a naturally sunny disposition, and who are capable of shutting out the "rumble of a distant drum" — whether from the desolate wastes of Outer Mongolia, from Berlin, Red China, the "off-shore islands," Egypt, Moscow, India or that oversized tombstone in New York known as the UN — who can enjoy the extravaganza of a presidential campaign without thinking too much about its implications — we hold out the best chance of a joyful 1956.

But it is a reasonable prediction that the New Year will not be dull, and that Washington will be the most important city in the world — at least so far as Americans are concerned.

Thus, the most practical greeting we can offer on this occasion is our pledge to do the best we can to follow the threads of the world's "blind weavers" and to interpret as clearly as we are able some of the garish patterns they may be expected to achieve. And it will be our deepest hope for 1956 that through the reaction of you readers some of the more reckless hands may be stayed from the fateful loom.

And so, our best wishes for a New Year of increasing strength, widening influence and mounting leadership for the things you need the most.

## No Curfew

In case anybody wants to know what was historical about Friday, December 16th, 1955, that was the day (or the night, rather) when young folks of very tender years stayed up "way past bedtime" — and without parental objections. Nothing comparable, we understand, has taken place since the night of December 31, 1899, when an unprecedented number of Spriggins were permitted to stay up till MIDNIGHT — to participate in the "Turn of the Century".

The more recent Occasion, however, marked a very special Christmas Festival of "The Greatest Show on Earth" presented on television to Young America (of all ages) from the Ringling Brothers winter quarters at Sarasota, Fla. There were the famous aerialists and riders and clowns and all the beloved animals, from the proud and graceful horses to the conscientious, lumbering elephants... and all devoting their talents to what you might call a Pageant in Praise of Santa Claus. The theme song was "We All Get a Kick Out of St. Nick" — or something like that.

Anyway, it was all pretty splendid. And if you saw it in your house, you know how it held young and old through that hour from eight to nine p.m. that is so stuffed with old network favorites. And you know too why nobody reminded Junior or Sister that it was time to go to bed. Parents usually scold when they are licked, but this was a case of permitting the offspring to fairly wallow in something educational, emotional and, considering the season, approaching the spiritual. After an hour of the magic of the circus, what's so difficult about believing in Santa Claus?

There's no doubt about it. We oldsters were born thirty or forty years — or more — too soon. But we can be thankful to have seen what we have of the unfolding of the New World of technology and applaud the fine sense of responsibility with which some business concerns have accepted this powerful new means of invading every man's castle.

And when the symphony of the circus was presented in the ageless spirit of Dickens' Christmas Carol, we have the comforting assurance that it is still the goal of rational men to leave the world a little better than they found it.

## Want To Live In '56?

Want to stay alive in 1956? Here are ten resolutions that you can make which will go a long way toward keeping you alive and healthy.

According to the experts they are probably the ten safest resolutions that you can make:

1. I resolve to drive my car at a speed safe for conditions and always within legal speed limits.
2. I resolve never to drive after drinking, not to ride with a driver who has had a drink.
3. When working around my home I resolve to use all tools and equipment in a safe manner and especially to follow safe practices in the use of ladders.
4. When bathing or swimming in public or private waters, I shall observe rules for swimming safety.
5. I shall watch my step at all times, knowing that falls on level surfaces or from a height cause more injuries than any other type of accident.
6. If I handle a gun in 1956, I shall certainly not point it at any human being, including myself.
7. I resolve to clean out and rearrange the family medicine cabinet, plainly labeling and identifying all household poisons so that they cannot be mistaken, even in the dark, and I will lock them up out of reach of children.
8. I will eliminate every fire hazard in my house, knowing that a moment's thoughtlessness may destroy my property, even my life or that of a loved one.
9. I will always remember that flue gas, automobile exhaust, heating gas, and all other forms of poison gases such as carbon monoxide are deadly.
10. Having realized that these hazards result in more deaths than do most diseases, I resolve to learn more about accidents, what causes them, how I can prevent them from injuring me and my family.

Why are these the safest resolutions? Each one is based on one of the leading causes of death and injury in 1955.



(Continued from Page 1)

ional Building here. Some of their managers have approached Arthur Bugdenhagen manager of Hotel Sir Walter, to discuss with him leasing a club room for entertaining and feeding their officers, etc., when they come to Raleigh — and particularly during the Legislature.

Few states have stronger trade associations than does North Carolina. Most of them are well financed and render a real service to their members and the public at large.

**POLITICS.** Keep your eye on the last week in January for some important political announcements.

The rumor got around here last week that Gov. Luther Hodges was ready to announce his candidacy, his publicity manager (they said it would be Abie Upchurch), and his campaign manager.

The Governor delayed taking the plunge — but he's not going to wait for long for he has a lot of getting around to do between now and June.

### FOREST FIRES MAN MADE

Fire is the forest's most deadly enemy. It is particularly destructive in the South. 81 of every 100 acres of forest land burned in the United States are in the South. In 1954, fire and its after-effects destroyed almost as much pulpwood as was used by all the Southern pulp and paper mills combined. Such tremendous losses of this great natural resource not only affect the landowner; they also strike at the welfare of many communities.

It is difficult to believe, but most Southern forest fires are started intentionally — some even maliciously. More than 60% of all fires are deliberately set. The incendiaries — and these include those fires maliciously set in someone else's woods — caused almost 40% of all forest fires. Another 22.8% are caused by brush burning.

Of the remainder, most are caused by carelessness. Who is guilty? The smoker who discards a lighted cigarette, the camper who does not bother to kill his campfire, the logger who has not doused his warming blaze. Even the sparks thrown from a locomotive cause fire, for it takes only a single live spark in dry grass or pine straw to start a raging wild fire. — Southern Kraft Div., Intc. Paper Co.

### Tar Heel

## PEOPLE & ISSUES

By Cliff Blue

**IN RETROSPECT.** With 1955 coming to a fast close, it should not be amiss to take a brief glance at the year's political highlights as it fades into history.

When the year was dawning Governor Hodges was the popular new Governor with the well-wishes of most everybody in Tar Heel, but who faced an uncertain future with the General Assembly, new taxes, segregation and water legislation. Refusing to attempt to dictate to the General Assembly, he hit it off well with the lawmakers. Unprecedented prosperity has been a major factor in making his administration popular and his job as governor easier. With almost perfect balance he has almost walked the tight rope of school segregation in a manner which appears to be supported to this point at least, by a goodly majority of the Tar-Heel citizens. He got his water legislation but mother nature stepped in with more rains in '55 to ease the need for its application.

Senator Sam Ervin, Jr., with the blessings of his colleague Kerr Scott, appears to have hit it off in his new role in Washington just about as well as has Hodges in Raleigh. Kerr Scott appears to have mellowed a little, but can still kick-up his heels when he feels the occasion arises. He came forth with one of the most statesman-like suggestions as to farm relief legislation yet to be offered in his plan to provide full parity for the little farmers.

**MAJOR ISSUE.** Despite the fact that Governor Hodges and many of the party leaders in the state hope to prevent school segregation from becoming a burning issue in the '56 gubernatorial race, our prediction is that in the final lap of the campaign it will hold the center of attention and for this reason the candidates should give serious thought in the beginning to their approach and position on the explosive issue.

**GUBERNATORIAL.** We think the possibility is growing that Terry Sanford of Fayetteville will run for governor in 1956. While he is certainly not expected to run if Henry Jordan becomes a candidate, Governor Hodges is following the course Jordan would normally be expected to follow regarding school segregation and policies in general, which lessens the pull for Jordan to make the race.

Sanford would be expected to follow a more liberal course such as might be advocated by Frank Graham, Jonathan Daniels and a goodly number of educational leaders over the State. With a

good organization they might well corral a sizeable vote which could seriously threaten the success of the Hodges candidacy. To lead a campaign based on a liberal program, Sanford might well be considered a more logical candidate than Jordan.

**MAY COME BACK.** The position taken by Governor Hodges on the sale of the old Piedmont Test Farm, which Stag Ballentine opposed, and his attitude following the SBI investigation report on the firing of Beer Inspector Hubert Harrell in Jacksonville, may come back to haunt him during the gubernatorial campaign next spring.

**LI GOVERNOR.** Kidd Brewer and Rep. Lon Edwards appear to be definitely in the running for lieutenant governor. One of the three, Edwin Pate, Oscar Richardson or Ben Douglas, is regarded as almost certain to run. In this trio it appears to be up to Pate to run, and if he decides against it, Douglas is regarded as the most likely to go forth as the representative of the conservative wing of the party. Arthur Kirkman of High Point and Edwards of Greene County are regarded as more representative of the "go forward" wing of the party.

**HOKE RACE.** Word coming to this column is that Charles Hostetler, former deputy insurance commissioner and now practicing attorney in Raeford will run for the House in Hoke County in the 1956 Democratic primary. Hostetler practiced law in Raeford before serving as deputy insurance commissioner. Harry A. Greene who has represented Hoke County in the House during the past five sessions is expected to run again; at least we have heard nothing to the contrary. Greene who was first nominated in a three-way race in 1946, has not had opposition for his subsequent terms. Hoke and Randolph will furnish the two senators from the twelfth district in 1956, and it could be that Greene will try for the Senate rather than offer for the House again. J. Benton Thomas served in the Senate from Hoke in the 1949 and 1953 sessions of the General Assembly, and may run again.

**AUTO SALES.** Automobile registrations in North Carolina during the month of November were: Cars—Ford 2946, Chevrolet 2232, Pontiac 747, Plymouth 665, Oldsmobile 530, Mercury 515, Buick 464, Dodge 355, Chrysler and Imperial 181, Cadillac 159, DeSoto 136, Studebaker 113, Nash 62, Packard 55, Lincoln 35, Hudson 25, Willys 5, miscellan-

## Garden Time

Robert Schmidt

The poinsettia has long been a popular Christmas plant but probably few people have given much thought to the fact that it does come into bloom each year only at this season. The so-called blooms are really leafy bracts which color up a brilliant red. The true flowers are the small insignificant yellowish cups found in the center of the whorl of red bracts. The poinsettia is one of a group of plants known as short day plants because it will bloom only in the season of the year with short day length periods, preferably 10 hours or less. That is why it is always in bloom during the Christmas season and not during the summer. It could be prevented from blooming now by lengthening the day light period to 15 hours by means of artificial lights. Flower growers have learned how to bring garden chrysanthemums into bloom any month of the year by using shading cloth to shorten the days and artificial lights to lengthen the days. The chrysanthemum is also a short day plant.

How can one keep a poinsettia plant until next season? After its usefulness is over, place it in the basement or some dry place where it will not freeze. Do not water it, or at least very little, and let the soil dry up. Next May bring the plant out, cut the stem back about two-thirds, wash the old soil off the roots and re-pot in new soil. From then on handle

ous 14, Crosley, Henry J. and Kaiser sold none.

Trucks — Chevrolet 856, Ford 660, GMC 189, International 127, Dodge 118, Mack 65, White 27, Willys Jeep 19, Studebaker 19, Reo 8, Autoear 2, Divero 2, miscellaneous 6.



## The Question Is...

Though it will proceed to mark off reluctant of our lives, the New Year comes in as a smiling friend. It will note the end of each passing day, but with the hope it will just as inexorably give us a new one — fresh hours of opportunity.

So comes smiling Nineteen Fifty-six, giving us 365 days to use before the earth turns again. Into eternity other days gone with their sorrows and joys. Here is a new year — all ours on a silver platter. The question is of us, what will we do with it?

It like any other pot plant. Soft wood cuttings taken in July and rooted will give you good Christmas bloom.

A good potting soil can be made by mixing equal parts of



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