

# Editorial And Opinion

## New Health Security for Aged

Gov. Luther Hodges has designated the week of July 12-18 as a period for special attention to the interests, needs and problems of the aged in our state. The Governor has urged all North Carolinians to observe this week in all appropriate ways which will bring added happiness, health and welfare to our citizens who are 65 and over.

North Carolina now has approximately 300,000 persons in this age group and the number is increasing at a rate of around 7,500 a year. In America 15 million persons have reached their "golden age" and 1.2 millions more are becoming senior citizens every year, as better health care lengthens life expectancy.

The need for improved health protection for these persons 65 and over is recognized as one of the foremost needs facing our state and nation today. It is therefore encouraging news that one Hospital Insurance group has come out with a new Senior Citizen Blue Cross certificate which will help to meet this need in North Carolina. What the Governor asked for, it seems, this group has provided.

This new hospitalization, surgical and medical care contract is offered to any North Carolina senior citizen 65 or over who is in reasonably good health. The cost is about 20 cents a day per person.

People who are 65 and over urgently need reliable health protection. Advancing age is generally accompanied by a higher frequency of serious illness requiring considerably more hospital and medical care than is the case among the younger segment of the population. The new Senior Citizen Certificate will give people in this group the kind of protection needed.

The big concern is protecting those members of our Senior Society who are living on limited incomes from employment, retirement programs, or social security. While they are self-supporting they are not able to meet heavy unexpected hospital and medical expenses. These are the people who need voluntary prepaid health care. To them the new Hospital Care Senior Citizen program seems indeed a godsend.

## National Farm Safety Week

The President of the United States has proclaimed the week beginning July 19 as National Farm Safety Week and requests all persons and organizations interested in the welfare of farm people to support and participate in its observance.

The theme this year "Safety Makes Sense" is proven by the record in which accidental deaths among farm people have been reduced from 19,500 in 1947 in the United States to 12,000 in 1957. The death rate based on declining farm population was also reduced from 66 per 100,000 farm population in 1947 to 57 in 1957.

In North Carolina in 1958, there were 99 farm accidental deaths reported to the State Board of Health; this figure, of course, does not include the accidental deaths that occurred in farm homes. Of the 639 home accidental deaths reported in 1958, it is estimated that approximately fifty per cent occurred in farm homes. The leading cause of farm accidental deaths was drowning, accounting for 38 deaths; machinery, 16 deaths; firearms, 8 deaths; fire and falling objects, 6 deaths; electric current, 5 deaths; all other accidents, 19 deaths. There is no data available to indicate the number of temporary or permanent disabilities resulting from non-fatal farm accidental injuries; however, it is safe to assume that the number of injuries would be many times the number of deaths.

Farming remains one of the most hazardous occupations; farm accidents still remain a serious threat to our farm population. The immediate purpose of National Farm Safety Week is to arouse interest in the farm accident problem and participation in farm safety activities. The ultimate objective is to make farm life safer, happier, and a more prosperous way of living.

We commend this interest and this objective to all farm citizens. The dividends of greater safety are worth the effort.

## Memo To Neglectful Parents

Most parents would be shocked and offended by any suggestion that when it comes to loving concern for their children they are not models of solicitude. Yet the Health News Institute calls our attention to some figures which strongly indicate that in one vital area of child care our public school systems are more conscientious parents than the parents themselves.

In the years before the widespread availability of Salk vaccine, according to the New York City Health Department, children from five to nine constituted the age group most susceptible to paralytic polio. Today, in contrast, the largest number of cases occur among preschool youngsters from one to four.

The reason for the change seems obvious—a systematic program in the New York City schools to see that every school child receives his three Salk vaccine injections. By the end of the school year 1958, nearly 600,000 had been so protected.

Immunization of the preschool group depends, of course, on the initiative of the parent. Millions of adults have procrastinated about getting their own shots. But for them to fail to make sure that their children get the lifesaving injections is neglect of an entirely different kind. We hope there are no such instances in our own community.

### Letters to the Editor

Editor  
The News of Orange County  
Hillsboro, N. C.  
Dear Editor:

We of this community have been made pleasantly aware of the presence of the Hillsboro Little League during the past several weeks. Twice weekly the crack of bats and the cheers of players and spectators have attested to the fine reception this program has received in Hillsboro this summer.

Now the season is coming to an end. As it does we all hope that the ideals of good sportsmanship and the skill of playing ball have been increased in these young boys. Certainly, those who attended games were impressed with these attributes.

The successful conducting of such a program is possible only through the devoted energies of many people who have diligently and faithfully pursued the responsibilities they happily assumed in behalf of all the parents. As an official of the league I cannot express ample praise and gratitude to these folks. Words are not a sufficient counterbalance when you place their work on the scales!

We should all be aware of them by name: Managers: Joe Murray, Harry Lloyd, Bobby Clayton, Alton Williams, Frank Frederick, Kay Winecoff, George Allison, Kenneth Roberts. Umpires: Sonny Riggs, Melvin Scott, Joe Reinhardt, John Couch, with assistance from Buddy Breeze, Everette Kennedy, Ernest Hatley, and Kenneth Cook.

We are also indebted to the officials of Hillsboro High School for their cooperation in the use of the playing field and to a number of parents who assisted in registering the players.

To them all I would, in behalf of the Little League officials, extend our thanks for a job well done.

Sincerely yours,  
C. H. Reckard, President  
Hillsboro Little League

## Jack Gilmore's Garden Gossip

When I accidentally chopped my pink Lycoris (Halli Amaryllis) bulb into several pieces last year I almost wept but later I found that quartering the bulb was one of the methods of propagation. This year I have three lovely bloom stalks. These seem terribly meager when compared with the hundreds of blooms that make such an unforgettable sight in Mrs. Sandy Graham's garden. I wonder if I will live long enough to have a really good show of these, one of my favorite flowers.

The rains have brought a great upsurge of new growth and tiny perennial seedlings in the borders. I regret my failure to plant forget-me-not and English daisy seeds last week before the rains came. I did sprinkle seed from the Sweet Rocket and Larkspur about in the bare spots.

Get those cuttings of shrubs into the rooting beds right away. Boxwood and Azalea root easily if put in this month. Abelia, Forsythia and Eleagnus cuttings will make nice shrubs in a year or two. ArborVita and Retinspora along with the hollies should also be rooted this month. Katherine Knight has rooted hundreds of cuttings in the past years or so and she can tell you just how successful this means of propagating your shrubbery at very little expense can be.

Now is a wonderful time to weed the borders and get them back into good shape. Small seedlings can be moved with scarcely no effort when the ground is nice and wet.

Every silver lining has a cloud and the houseflies have appeared with the rains. Where is my swatter?

**BLIND TO OUR OWN**  
The faults of others appear so glaring that most people entirely overlook the glare of their own.

**SOFT SOAP**  
It's easy to acquire a reputation for wisdom just by applauding the opinions of your friends.

## 'And He's Supposed To Be A 'Lame Duck' General'



## Other Editors Say:

### Let's Get Back To Chitlin's

The Charlotte News

These are the times that try men's palates. Snails, canned rattlesnake meat and smoked eels we can tolerate—albeit gingerly.

We can even suffer through a social occasion during which the hostess hustles fried grasshopper hors d'oeuvres, pickled octopus and chocolate-covered ants. That is, as long as the potato chips hold out.

We haven't tried but we might even magpae some compassion on the subject of seaweed tea, rosepetal jam, broiled kangaroo tail and shark's fin soup. After all, we eat lobster don't we? But enough is enough.

We learn, to our enormous regret, that the "very latest things" among "people of refined tastes" are "broiled baby sparrows" (packed four to seven in a tin), smoked skipjack tongues, fried butterfly cocoons, jellied roostercombs, chocolate-covered grasshoppers and squid in its own ink. This is carrying liberalism too far.

We propose stern measures: Organization of a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Diners, sanity tests for cooks, a roostercomb tax, torchlight parades, maybe even a direct appeal to Bertrand Russell. Eventually, lobster may have to go, but we'll go after the baby sparrow lobby first.

Then, if our plan succeeds, southerners can once again settle back in safety and contentment with such sensible delicacies as chitlin's, ragout of possum, catfish stew, pickled pig's feet and cracklin' bread.—The Charlotte News

### We'd Miss Gunsmoke

The Sampsonian

We don't claim cousins any more, at least those beyond second degree. Some people don't even claim second cousins. Some will turn their backs on first cousins, while still others, concerned with social status, don't go around bragging about brothers and sisters.

It has not been more than 20 years ago that a third or fourth cousin was considered to be practically a member of the immediate family. It was always "Cousin Henry" or "Cousin Mary" or what have you. And anything within the fifth degree of cousins was considered to be a "kissin' cousin."

But not anymore. We've lost the knack of developing closely-knit families for the simple reason that there are too many other things to do. Family connections don't mean what they did a generation ago. And we'll never return to the day when everyone had a favorite aunt or uncle. For unless the aunt or uncle lives next door, we never see them anymore. After all, we'd miss "Gunsmoke" if we got in the habit of calling on relatives. And offhand, I can't think of anything worse than that.—The Sampsonian

### All For Only A Hound

News & Observer

Luke Chastain got a medal at Asheville for having worked 18 days to free his coon hound, Old Touse, caught in a rock cleft, and some folks will say, "It was only a dog. Why so much trouble? Why so much celebration?"

They'll assert that if that much effort had been spent on ameliorating the sad lot of orphans in Baluchistan, or spreading the doctrine of home sanitation among the Kaffirs, the world would have benefited far more than from the saving of one mixed-breed dog.

They have a point there, and they miss another, and a big one. Luke Chastain's opportunity was to save Old Touse, and that is what he did. He had compassion. He sacrificed time and toil. He did not do what somebody else would have had him do, but what the moment and the circumstances told him to do.

He calls Old Touse "the best coon hound in the country." Surely he's prejudiced, and maybe Old Touse isn't quite that. Even if he's not, Luke Chastain rescued him, and good works are good however humble their object.

### Sounds Heard At A Catfight

An actress at a party, seeing an authoress whom she disliked, went over to congratulate her on her latest book.

"I enjoyed it, my dear," she said, "Who wrote it for you?"  
"Darling," replied the authoress, "I'm glad you liked it. Who read it to you?" —Montreal Star

### Tar Heel

## PEOPLE & ISSUES

By Cliff Blue

**SOUTHERN GOVERNORS** . . . A year and more ago Governor Faubus of Arkansas was making the headlines across the nation on account of the Little Rock integration crisis.

Now, a year later another Southern governor, this time Earl Long of Louisiana, has been holding the headlines. Both episodes have attracted tremendous reader interest in North Carolina, and we would guess in the nation as well.

**PRESS MEETING** . . . The annual convention of the North Carolina Press Association will be held at Morehead City this Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 16-17-18. Last year the convention was held in Asheville. Newspaper people are generally very interested and well-informed on people and issues in the political arena.

**BILL ROGERS** . . . It was not too surprising when veteran Chief Highway Engineer W. H. (Bill) Rogers Jr., threw up his hands and called it quits with the State Highway last week. Word is that Rogers has never been very happy since Babcock came in as Director of Highways a couple of years ago.

**ISSUE** . . . Many people will tell you that one of the major issues in the 1960 gubernatorial campaign will be the highway set-up with one or more of the candidates running on a platform to "give the highways back to the people." Since the seven-man highway commission has been in effect, now for two years, people wanting to discuss road needs hardly know which way to turn. Several months ago Hodges said that more authority was being placed in the hands of the County Commissioners. However, as a matter of fact, county commissioners now have no more authority than they had under Scott and Umstead. They can recommend and this is all.

Under the old 14-division system, people interested in roads could look up their division highway commission and discuss their needs with him. But the present seven-man highway commission is not regarded as being close to the people. In a TV program during the General Assembly, salty Rep. Ashley Murphy of Pender County said that they reminded him of "pallbearers at a funeral." The Highway Commission will certainly come in for attention during the 1960 primary. Word is that former Highway Chairman Sandy Graham and a goodly number of those who served with him under the Umstead Administration at the present time are smiling in the direction of John Larkins, and others in the direction of Addison Hewlett, both of whom are expected to advocate "giving the highways back to the people." Don't be surprised to see some of the candidates advocating a road-building bond issue to take care of highway needs.

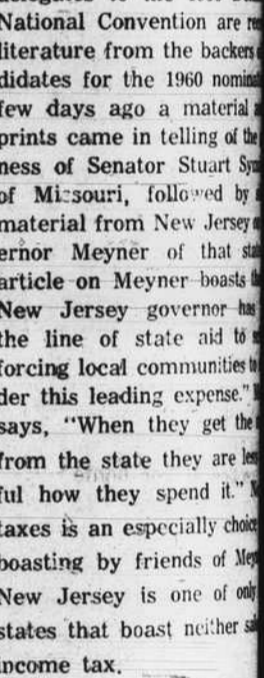
**MINIMUM WAGE** . . . If passed by Congress, the proposed amendment to the Federal minimum wage law, approved last year by a Senate Labor subcommittee would be more far-reaching than the 75 cents minimum wage enacted by the 1959 General Assembly. The minimum wage would range from \$1 to \$1.25. It is pushed by Senator John Kennedy, Massachusetts, who is a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

**LINDSAY WARREN** . . . The Court Reform bill was tumbled down in the General Assembly, and finally killed, and venerable Senator Lindsay Warren, said he was to blame. Last week he was in Washington, N. C., civic duty. Senator himself was not taking claim for the death: "If ever I rendered a service to North Carolina, I believe I did it in this instance."

Anyway, the credit or the blame for the court reform failure goes more to Lindsay Warren in the Senate and John Kerr in the House than any other man. They are able legislators, and have influence. During the court in the Senate, Senator Bell of Charlotte is reported to have said that he would have supported Senator Warren if he had supported him than ten votes.

**PRESIDENTIAL** . . . The Democrats and others who delegates to the 1956 Democratic National Convention are re-litigating the back-story of the 1960 nomination. A few days ago a material was printed in telling of the loss of Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri, followed by material from New Jersey Governor Richard Meyner of that state. An article on Meyner boasts that New Jersey governor has the line of state aid to forcing local communities to bear their leading expense. He says, "When they get the money from the state they are less than grateful how they spend it." Taxes are an especially choicest boasting by friends of Meyner. New Jersey is one of only states that boast neither a sales nor income tax.

### Traffic Tangles



### JUMPING JASPER

He always will pass on a hill To freeze your spine with icy chill And then, bad luck there came a truck A ten-ton job he couldn't duck!

### The Luckless Legion by Irwin Caplan



95% of the vehicles involved in accidents in 1958 were in apparently good condition.

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