

# Chautauqua Sessions Still Thrive, Blending Education And Recreation

Traveling Chautauqs are making a comeback. Prominent scientists will visit a dozen United States cities this year and next to give science teachers a four-day course in such subjects as human genetics, computer techniques, and air pollution. The lectures, directed by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, are modeled on the Chautauqs that brought adult education and entertainment to rural America at the turn of the century. But the science seminars will be held in the winter, while the earlier Chautauqua circuit was a summertime activity. The traveling Chautauqs took their name from a two-week meeting of some 2,000

educators and clergymen held at Chautauqua, New York, in 1874, the National Geographic Society says. Intended to upgrade the teaching in Sunday schools, the gathering combined lectures and debate with music and outdoor recreation. It proved so popular that the Chautauqua Assembly became an annual event. As it grew in size, the sessions stretched to eight weeks and began including art, crafts, and music lessons along with lectures on science and current events. Chautauqua pioneered summer school and university extension courses. The first book club in America developed from a program of recommended reading devised there. Imitators sprang up, and by 1884 there were about 50 Chautauqs in the nation. Traveling Chautauqs took to the road in 1904, pitching tents and presenting lecture programs leavened with operatic divas, magic acts, and ventriloquists. By 1909 there were 554 Chautauqs making the rounds, and "Chautauqua

time" had become the high point of the summer in towns and villages across the country. In their peak year of 1924 Chautauqs played before more than 30 million persons in some 12,000 communities. On the Chautauqua circuit William Jennings Bryan repeatedly delivered his famous "cross of gold" speech attacking the gold standard. Audiences in straw hats, waving hand fans against the summer heat, heard Swiss bellringers, Hawaiian guitarists, and Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink singing Schubert. Radio, motion pictures, and the Depression of 1929 ended the circuit. Even the nonprofit Chautauqua Institution in New York nearly failed. Wreckers were on the grounds to demolish the buildings when a last-minute fund drive saved the day. Now more than 50,000

visitors are expected to throng the 700-acre grounds for Chautauqua's 98th season, from July through August. Staying at the five hotels or 29 inns, or just spending a day, they will hear politicians, academics, and authors discuss narcotics, the future of the Presidency, foreign policy, and the plight of the cities.

They will join workshops or art classes and study everything from piano tuning to investing in stocks. Some will fish, swim, play golf or tennis, or loaf. Evenings will be given to operas, plays, ballet, symphonies, Welsh singers, rock, and Al Hiit's jazz.

As Theodore Roosevelt, one of seven United States Presidents to speak at Chautauqua, said of an earlier summer session, it will be "a gathering that is typically American..."

## Little League

In the Little League, the Fire Department is undefeated, with an 8-0 record. The Lions are in second place with a 6-2 record and the Kiwanis are third with a 5-3 record. The Jaycees have a 4-4 record this year and V.F.W. and Moose both have a 1-7 record. The results of last week's games are: Kiwanis 11; VFW 4; Jaycees 12; Moose 2; Fire Department 5; Lions 2; Kiwanis 15; Moose 4; Fire Department 17; Jaycees 4.

## Programs Set For Beefmen

Field days and farm tours for beef farmers have been scheduled in the Mountains and Piedmont sections of North Carolina, July 8 and 9. A similar program was held in the Coastal Plain earlier. The Western Cattle-men's Field Day and Farm Tour will be held Thursday, July 8, at Jonathan Creek, on Interstate 40 west of Lake Junaluska. On the following day, Friday, July 9, a similar program will be held for Piedmont beefmen at West Rowan High School near Mt. Ulla.

The educational programs are sponsored by N. C. State University, N. C. Department of Agriculture, the N. C. Cattlemen's Association and the area development associations. They are designed to bring beef producers up-to-date on production practices and research. NCSU scientists and specialists will conduct the program. Subjects to be discussed include herd health, pre-weaning calves, performance testing, stocker cattle production, forage crop production and economics. In addition to formal presentations, tours will be made of nearby beef farms. The program starts both days at 8:30 a.m.



Reinhold Niebuhr, the great American theologian, once noted that "not much evil is done by evil men." To the contrary, "most of the evil is done by good people who do not know that they are not good." Along this same line he concluded that the First World War had been "made inevitable not by bad people who plotted against the peace of the world but by good people who had given over their conscience into the keeping of their various political groups." Niebuhr was commenting on the tragic tendency of Christians to "leave politics" to others. Many of the failures of our society can be attributed to a failure of Christian citizenship. All too often we have been content to live our complacent lives quite indifferent to rendering any more to "Caesar" than we have had to.

This is the meaning of the parable which Jotham tells in Judges 9:8-15. The occasion of the parable is a crisis in the life of the Hebrew confederacy. Gideon, the great man of God, is dead. One of his descendants, Abimelech, an evil man, has successfully plotted the deaths of almost all Gideon's other descendants. Ruthlessly, he seizes power for his own selfish aims. Jotham, one of the few of Gideon's other descendants who escapes, tries to rally the good but indifferent men of Shechem. Abimelech's tyranny is possible, he realizes, so long as the men of Shechem fail to respond to his challenge. So he tells them a story of how one time the trees sought a king. Going first to the noble olive tree, they ask: "Reign over us" (Judges 9:8), but the olive tree responds: "Shall I leave my fatness, by which gods and men are honored, and go and sway over the trees?" Unfortunately, the olive tree loved its prosperous existence and did not want it disturbed for the sake of exercising

responsibility. The same was also true of the fig tree and the vine. Thus, because the capable trees refused to rule, the trees in desperation turned to one who was not fit to rule, but at least willing: "Then all the trees said to the bramble, 'Come you, and reign over us!'" (9:14). And the least capable tree of all became the ruler. One of the things that this parable should teach us is that poor government, corruption, and even tyranny do not "just happen." We find ourselves ruled by evil men, very often, not because they have waged a campaign to seduce us, but because we have actively (not passively) allowed them to fill the vacuum of leadership in our communities and nations. In the parable, the bramble bush did not seek to become king; the trees turned to him because the capable trees could not be bothered with the responsibility.

The problem with good men, all too often, is that they sit back and leave the world to those who are not good.

## State's Cities Show Most Gain

About 70 percent of North Carolina's population growth during the 1960's occurred in the metropolitan areas, and two-thirds of the metropolitan growth occurred in the suburban rings around the central cities, according to a report issued today by the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. The report is based on the 1970 census.

North Carolina has seven Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's): the Asheville SMSA, which includes Buncombe County; the Charlotte SMSA, Mecklenburg and Union Counties; the Durham SMSA, Durham and Orange Counties; the Fayetteville SMSA, Cumberland County; the Greensboro-Winston-Salem-High Point SMSA, Forsyth, Guilford, Randolph, and Yadkin Counties; the Raleigh SMSA, Wake County; and the Wilmington SMSA, New Hanover and Brunswick Counties. These 13 counties constitute North Carolina's metropolitan area.



POSTAL CELEBRATION - A giant stamp display in the lobby marked the first day of the new U.S. Postal Service, begun July 1. This on the eve of Congressional control of the mail service that was begun by Benjamin Franklin.



NEW DAY - The Post Office celebrated July 1 as Postal Service Day, marking the beginning of a new postal service that operates as a government corporation free of Congressional control.

Weekly Health Tip  
By Mike Wood, Reg. Ph.

Avoid blisters, as they can lead to serious infection. The fluid that forms in a blister is there for a healing purpose. Do not puncture a blister unless absolutely necessary, as this invites infection. It is best to have medical advice before piercing a blister.

Hoke Drug Co.

**SAVE ON GAS**  
**SPUR**  
We Give S&H Green Stamps  
**Niven's Service Station**  
MAIN & CAMPUS AVE.

**Mr. Tobacco Farmer**  
SEE US TODAY  
For  
**COMPLETE INSURANCE COVERAGE**  
ON  
**CURING & PACKING BARNs**  
YOUR TOBACCO PROFITS ARE ONLY AS SAFE AS YOUR TOBACCO BARN  
**The Johnson Co.**  
E. CENTRAL AVE. TEL. 875-3550  
RAEFORD

**if you are a part time farmer, or rural land owner, and need credit...**  
**why not get it at cost**  
If you're a part time farmer or rural land owner, Credit at Cost is available to you through your Production Credit Association on short or intermediate term loans.  
Contact PCA office near you.  
700 HARRIS AVENUE  
RAEFORD, N. C.

**Take a Totally Smoother ride in a Totally Tougher Truck!**  
  
Fleetside Pickup  
Take your choice: pickups, Suburbans, Chevy Vans, El Caminos. In 1/2-, 3/4- and some 1-ton models. Both two- and four-wheel drive. Totally Tougher because that's how Chevy builds them... including front disc brakes—standard—on pickups and Suburbans. Totally Smoother because that's Chevy for you in ride, handling, power.  
Come in and drive one today. Right now, we're making it totally easier for you to buy the light-duty Chevy you need.  
**Test-drive a Totally Tougher Truck today!**  
  
**Hoke Auto Co.**  
Dealer License 1283  
217 N. MAIN ST. RAEFORD, N. C. 28376