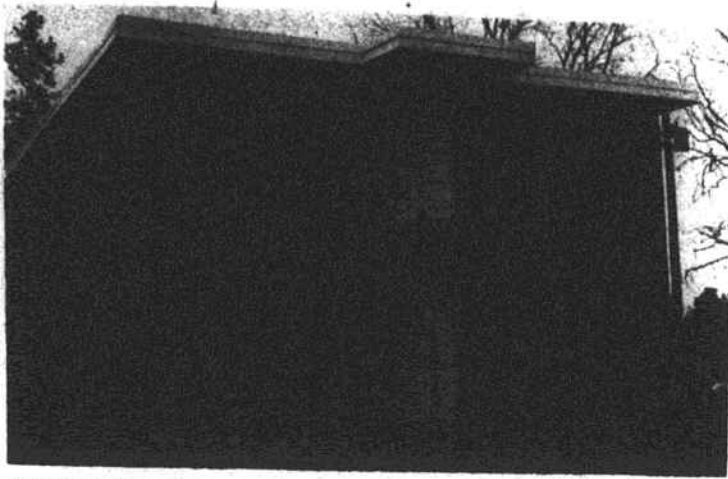


CLASSIFIED ADS

THE PLACE TO LOOK



BRAND NEW -- The education building of McLaughlin Chapel was dedicated in services this month.

Wildlife Afield

BY JIM DEAN

Don't ask why, but the other day I happened to be listening to a group discussion on the radio and on of the deeper thinkers allowed as how he believed humanity had gone insane.

"The world is full of kooks and crazies," he said proudly. "We've all gone mad. How else can you explain the shape the world is in?"

Of course, he's absolutely right, thank goodness. Who in the name of Jehoshaphat wants to live in a sane world? I know what I'm talking about because I happen to be a member of good standing of the world's foremost collection of obsessive eccentrics - hunters, fishermen and dogs. Ah yes, 'tis a fine, close knit family of kooks and crazies, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

I have a close friend - I'll call him Tom because that's his name - who recently purchased a depth finder. These devices clamp on the gunnel of a boat and shoot sonar ray into the depths to tell you how deep the water is and also whether or not there might be any fish in the vicinity.

Tom brought his new depth finder over to the house. "I wanna show you how it works," he told me. "Where's the bathroom?" I showed him, and he immediately set to work. He removed the heavy lid from the reservoir on the commode and attached the depth finder. Then he turned it on.

"See that?" he cried excitedly. "Two feet deep on the button."

"Does it pick up any fish activity?" I asked.

"No, but if you've got a couple of goldfish, we can check it out," he answered.

The human animal has no monopoly on nutty activities. My German Shorthair puppy is a good example. He is still quite young and I've been concerned about his nose. I mean, until the other night, I wasn't sure whether he could smell gamebirds, or how he would react if he ever smelled one.

As is my practice come every January, I got out all my fly-tying equipment and began to tie trout flies. A fly-tying kit consists mostly of feathers, and I've got feathers from just about every fowl that ever flapped a

flipper, including quail, doves, woodcock, ducks, pheasants, ostrich and Heaven knows what else.

Pepper was lying in front of the fire in the other room when this heady mixture of bird smell came drifting in. He leaped to his feet, raced into my room at a full gallop and stopped rock still with his nose inches away from the nearest fly box.

I think it is probably the first recorded instance of a dog pointing trout flies. Now I'm worried about what he's going to do when he finds a covey of mere quail. There's no way they're gonna smell as good as my trout flies, and I'm afraid practical prospects are limited in that direction.

My grandfather owned his share of crazy dogs, and knew his share of nutty outdoorsmen. He once told me that he had a habit of currying favor with farmers who owned prime hunting land by giving them a pint of home brew from time to time.

"Worked pretty well, too," he said, "except once."

It turns out that he had given a farmer a pint of pretty wicked stuff. He didn't see the fellow for several weeks, but when he did he asked him how he liked the gift.

"It were just right," said the farmer. "What do you mean, it was just right?" inquired my grandfather.

"Well, it'n it had been any better, you wouldn't have given it to me," said the farmer, "and if it had been any meaner, I couldn't have drunk it."

Which, for some reason, reminds me of a final tale. A preacher and his friend were fishing in the pouring rain one day, and neither had caught anything. The preacher's friend had a habit of taking along a jug and hiding it under the seat. He'd take a nip now and then when the preacher wasn't looking.

"You know something," said the preacher finally as he sat in the drenching downpour. "Only a drunkard or a fool would be out fishing on a day like this."

His friend reached under the seat and unscrewed the cap.

"We're both here brother," he said. Like I said, who wants to live in a sane world.

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We live in a world preoccupied with securing and exercising power of all kinds. There is economic power - for example, the power currently exerted by the oil-rich nations. There is military power - the United States and the Soviet Union being the two prime examples. There is nuclear power - the question of how we will use it nagging us constantly. There is political power - in our midst the constant struggle for it by parties and politicians.

We also speak of "love power," "black power," "senior power," and many other kinds as well. None of these by themselves are either good or evil. Power is necessary in our world. What makes the difference is the motive behind the exercise of power. Accordingly, power can be either constructive or destructive.

The difference, says the writer of Ephesians, is Christ-power. Unlike so much of the power exercised by man, Christ-power is persuasive, not coercive. With Christ-power as the motivation, atomic energy can be used for the benefit of mankind instead of his destruction. With Christ-power politics, economics, minority causes all can be beneficial to mankind.

What makes this Christ-power so different?

The writer of Ephesians tells us, for one thing, that Christ-power begins with enlightenment. The man with Christ-power sees life differently. So, the writer of Ephesians prays that "the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened..." (Ephesians 1:17, 18).

One reason that man lives so impotently is that he fails to realize what life is all about. Jesus referred to this when he spoke of people who "see but do not see and hear but do not hear." How we look at life and the world in which we live makes a big difference in how we operate in that world. Knowledge is power.

For one thing, when we are enlightened by God we understand what true power is. We come to realize that brute force and violence are very limited forms of power. Nowhere was this better demonstrated for us than in the example of Jesus Christ. Not only was his power vindicated in that he was raised from the dead, but also in that he was exalted and given dominion over all sources of power: "...according to the working of his great might which he accomplished in Christ when he raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion..." (1:19-21).

Equally important as Christ's own resurrection from the dead is what his power is able to do to and for us. By that power we are recreated and given new life that is imperishable: "But God, who is rich in mercy...even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ...and raised us up with him..." (1:4-6).

All other power must be controlled and shaped by the power of Jesus Christ. With Christ-power all forces can be used for the good and welfare of men.

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Hoke County Residents Insured For \$80,539,000

(Special to The News Journal)

NEW YORK, Jan 18 - The average Hoke County family has been adjusting to current economic conditions by cutting down on its non-essential spending. But it has not reduced its financial protection against the unexpected hazards of daily living.

It has maintained in full force such major safeguards as its health insurance, accident insurance and life insurance.

With respect to life insurance protection, many families are more heavily covered at the present time than ever before.

It is due to the fact that, locally and

elsewhere across the country, despite the tight money situation, people have been adding to this form of security.

Nationally, as a result, the capital amount of life insurance in force has now gone about \$1.8 trillion, which is nearly six times the annual budget.

North Carolina State's share of this total amounts to \$39,512,000,000, as compared with \$13,954,000,000 ten years ago.

The facts and figures on the distribution of insurance throughout the United States are presented, state by state, by the Department of Commerce and by the Life Insurance Institute.

On the basis of their findings, it is estimated that residents of Hoke County are now insured to the tune of \$80,539,000.

In most families, the amount of insurance carried is in direct proportion to their income. Throughout the state, the holdings of the average family are equivalent to its income for 24.2 months, after taxes.

Applying this yardstick to Hoke County and to the level of earnings in the area, ownership of life insurance comes to approximately \$19,450 per family locally.

This is considerably more than in many sections of the country and is about twice as much as was held ten years ago.

The reports show that more people than usual are now buying term insurance, which is the cheapest kind.

Another reflection of the times is the extent to which policy holders are taking out loans on their policies to meet current expenses. More than \$4.5 billion was borrowed in that way last year.

Double up, America.



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