



SON OF A GUN

by Joe Lanier

The groundbreaking ceremonies over near Garner's Chapel for the Carolina Turkeys processing plant was quite a "to-do" Monday. The Governor, along with a whole bunch of other politicians were there. . . A couple of Duplin's finest politicians, Harold Hardison and Wendell Murphy, kept things going straight, introducing the out-of-town folks to us Duplinites. The Carrolls and the Maxwells have put together quite a plan for a turkey processing plant, the world's largest. . . That's right, the world's largest. . . And it's going to be right here in Duplin County. . . There are other stories in the paper about this plant, so I won't repeat all that stuff. . . But, just a couple of other things. . . Have you ever been to the Oak Ridge Community Building. . . If not, you have a shock coming when you do visit it. . . This is as fine a community building as you will find anywhere — a nice brick building, sitting on a hill in a grove of pine trees. . . No wonder these folks were able to pull off the location site. It is obvious they work together for the betterment of the community. . . And for the turkey. . . It is like a chameleon. . . It changes right in front of your eyes. . . Not only is the turkey bird good eating just as a turkey, but it has taken on lots of other flavors, like pork and beef, and even spaghetti and meatballs. . . The turkey processing plant has changed from a dream to a reality, and as the tobacco farm is in trouble, not because the use has diminished, but because the system is failing. . . When you get a good thing going, everyone wants in on it, and it seems the folks overseas and the domestic tobacco companies are going to cut the domestic tobacco farmer short. . . So, an alternative is needed. . . Food is a going thing, so perhaps more processing plants could be a way out for the troubled tobacco farmer. Duplin County has a pretty good climate. Things can grow here about nine months of the year. . . Not too far up the road are a peach crop and an apple crop, and in the other direction is a lot of fish. We also grow lots of hogs in Duplin County. . . Let's turn some more dreams into reality. . .

The instructor said, "This student can't learn. Therefore I am going to fail this student. It's not my fault. It's the student's." . . The student said, "This instructor can't teach. Therefore I am going to fail. It's not my fault. It's the instructor's." . . Mr. and Mrs. Average Citizen say, "Well, I don't know, and I am not going to get involved. It's not my fault." . . Mr. and Mrs. Unaverage say. . . "Well, if we don't find the answer, and the fault is that of the instructors, another 100 or maybe even 200 students will be affected. . . Even if they pass, they will not be getting what they should. If it is the student's fault, let's find a way for the student to re-do the failing portion. If I don't help the instructor and the student, it will be my fault. . . Whose fault is it now?"

Highway Patrolman Billy Floyd was out late Friday night or early Saturday morning doing that thing for which he is paid — patrolling the highways to keep them safe, to try and remove the speeders and drinking drivers from the path of those who use the roads sanely. . . At Teachey, just after midnight, he struck out after a speeder, but spotted a pickup truck weaving on the highway, stopped, and found the driver to be drinking. The pickup truck driver was placed in the back seat of the patrol car, and off they went after the speeder with speeds up to 100 MPH and blue lights flashing. . . Faster than the speeding cars was the radio. Floyd called ahead to tell of the speeder and the dangers. Warsaw police decided to set up a running road block, with two patrol cars with flashing blue lights in each lane of the highway and traveling in the same direction as the speeding auto. . . The idea is not to allow this speeder to pass, and at the same time to gradually slow down. . . However, the speeder decided not to slow down, and rammed the police car in the rear with enough impact to push the boot into the back seat. The speeding auto then veered off into a ditch. The patrolman pulled up and stopped to see what, why and where. . . While checking the wrecked vehicle, the driver of the pickup got out of the patrol car and ran into the woods. He was found sometime later. . . While booking the two, the pickup driver and the driver of the speeding auto, it was discovered they were brothers. . . Son-of-a-Gun. . .

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