

Carteret County News-Times A Merger Of The Beaufort News (est. 1912) & The Twin City Times (est. 1926) EDITORIAL PAGE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1949

Murder Comes on Saturdays

Comes Saturday and the kids are off to the movies. A double feature—no less. One of these shows is a cowboy picture which every red-blooded American loves, from the time he begins to listen to stories until the day he dies. The other is usually a modern tommy-gun, gang-buster, shot-to-kill thriller that has no place in the Saturday playbill at any movie theatre.

The commonly called "murder movie" gets the same arguments in favor of it as do certain blood and thunder comic strips and gruesome radio programs. They are approved because they provide a "safety valve" for children's aggressive impulses. In this connection, Dr. Augusta Alpert, psychologist, points out that all children generate their own fantasy of aggression, some of which is expressed in such popular games as cops and robbers. This release of aggression and sharing of guilt is wholesome; however, blood and thunder stories go beyond this. They glamorize aggression and publicize it by the very repetition of the lull and bang theme day after day.

The argument that murder movies, and thrillers told through other mediums, are perfectly all right for children because good always triumphs, is wishful thinking. The action of these stories is so swift, and the form so lurid that the moral, usually brought out in the last few minutes of the show, is an anti-climax. Youngsters go away remembering the chase in automobiles, the corpse riddled with bullets dumped in the river, or a man tied in a chair under brilliant lights, being "grilled."

A third argument insists that if these programs are so popular with children, they must satisfy a deep need and are, therefore, good. Those who believe 50 million children can't be wrong, ignore the 50 million parents and teachers who point out that children are nervous, "high-strung," that eating, sleeping and working habits suffer in proportion to the extent that he is exposed to gruesome tales on the screen and elsewhere.

Why then, the question is asked, do we okay the cowboy thriller, which is also blood and thunder? This is, indeed, a fair question, but if one will think a moment, he realizes that in the cowboy picture there is usually Jean Austry, Roy Rogers, or some familiar character the kids have grown to idolize. They know the moment the picture starts, that the cattle rustlers or the bank robbers are going to get the worst of the deal at the hands of their cowboy hero.

Dr. Lauretta Bender, professor of psychiatry at New York university says, "There is value in frequency and repetition in comics, radio and stories. Children get a growing sense of security and strength in the reliable recurrence of ideas and statements of problems, clearly expressed."

Not so in the murder thrillers. One Saturday it's one guy, the detective who gets the gangsters, the next Saturday it's some other movie "star" and the youngsters aren't sure this guy is going to get the crooks, even though the other one did.

Dr. Bender continues, "Violence and even murder may occur in the abstract representing the threats against social security. The children tolerate a great deal of experimentation in story-writing of violence when they gain confidence in the reliability of their favorite characters."

In the modern murder thrillers there are weapons of destruction cowboys never heard of... machine guns, high powered automobiles, and machines that require much less skill and much less physical prowess than the man with the lariat who made his home in the saddle.

It has been found to be true that children whose emotional, social and physical needs are met by the home, school, and neighborhood are much less addicted to gangster movies and other types of violent stories!

Nevertheless, we put in a bid, and put it in strongly, to provide better movie entertainment for children on Saturdays, a cowboy picture, yes, but if there must be a double feature, how about a musical comedy as the second bill?

The School Issue Looms Larger

Appearing in today's paper is the fourth in a series of articles on education written by leaders in Carteret county schools. This series, sponsored by the county unit of the North Carolina Education association, aims to show the weaknesses in our present school system and indirectly, by giving a brief biography of the leader writing each article, show that training for the teaching profession must be adequate and competent. Teaching experience is valuable, both to teacher and pupil, only when it follows college training for the teacher.

The plea for aid to schools was heard Tuesday by the Joint Appropriations committee of the general assembly. To date three representatives of the House have introduced three separate bills calling for funds to erect school buildings, one would provide \$30,000,000, another \$40,000,000 and the other \$50,000,000 which is the amount requested by the State Education commission.

All of us have heard so much and seen so much in print about the state education problem that it was gratifying to see a pictorial presentation of the facts uncovered by the State Education commission at the Beaufort Rotary club meeting Tuesday night.

The Rotarians, following the showing of the film and the lecture by T. G. Leary, Beaufort school principal, went on record as favoring the requests of the State Education commission. Notice of this action is to be forwarded to Carteret's county's representative in the House. The Woman's club of Morehead City has taken similar action.

And more civic groups and individuals in our county should lend their support to the education program which will provide the greatly-needed funds for our county's schools. We should let our representatives know we are vitally interested in our children.

Talk and more talk in favor of the education program at home does no good unless it reaches Raleigh.

(Watch for the subsequent four articles on school problems. Today's comment by George Hardesty, principal of Harkers Island, appears on page 1).

Rattling Railing On One House Good For Another

CHICAGO (AP)—Two painters—brothers—came to repaint a home in suburban Deerfield. The older brother told the lady of the house the decorative railing on the roof of the sunporch should be torn down.

"One strong wind," he said, "and it would come off." The next day the younger brother came to the woman, pointed to the discarded railing and said, "May I have it? I'd like to put it on my house." He did, it is.



Raleigh Round up

By Eula Nixon Greenwood

THE DELAY—The General Assembly will conclude its first month of business this week with very little accomplished. Principal reason for the delay in getting down to the serious business at hand is that a large percentage of the members still do not know what the folks back home want and don't want.

FEAR OF CLARKSON—The wets in Charlotte and elsewhere were all tremble last week. Reason: they thought that Francis O. Clarkson another Charlotte member of the supremely judicial Clarkson family might be elected to succeed Blythe. They knew that he had just named president of the Allied Church League and were fearful that he might attempt to upset the alcoholic apple cart. Blythe will not. Clarkson won't be given the opportunity.

WHERE THEY STAY—Members of the General Assembly are extremely eager to have you get in touch with them. They all have pet local legislation, and many were sent here to do only one thing. All of the senators except six can be reached at the Sir Walter Hotel. Rex Gass, Dr. H. B. Perry and Grady Rankin are at the Carolina B. C. Brock and L. B. Nichols are at the Andrew Johnson. James Webb is at 102 Hillsboro street.

ANOTHER BLYTHE?—Joe Blythe, North Carolina national committeeman, treasurer of the National Democratic Executive Committee and longtime Mecklenburg senator did not become actively interested in politics until 1936 during the Hoye-McDonald-Graham gubernatorial fight. From that time until his death last Sunday morning a week ago he let his

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Teen Topics

By "Gene" Long
Morehead High School
Hi Folks!

The Beta Club held their monthly meeting on Tuesday afternoon in Mrs. Phillips' home-room. In the business meeting the clean-up campaign, which the club is sponsoring, was discussed. It seems as if Mrs. Taylor's grammar grade room is leading and so they rate the party for this semester. The party will probably be given next week. Some of the teachers asked that Beta members help with the exams given yesterday and the day before and so several members volunteered to write the exams on the blackboards and help grade papers.

We received a letter from a candy company asking if we'd like to sell some chocolate candy and peanut brittle so we have ordered some. I just thought I'd warn you ahead of time so you won't be taken by surprise if someone asks you if you like peanut brittle!

Speaking of exams (as we were awhile back) you should have seen the sick looking people wandering around Tuesday afternoon. They were mostly the ones who weren't exempt from English, French, Science and Physics I imagine.

BYE.....

culture Department and at one time was head of the Markets Division.

FRIEND OR FOE?—Like any man in public life Senator J. M. Broughton has friends and foes. Those who are against him were saying last week that "pressure of business" prevented his attending National Democratic Treasurer Joe Blythe's funeral in Charlotte, but the following day he flew down to Raleigh in an effort to have Gov. Kerr Scott save the life of Client James Creech, Jr.

Friends of Senator Broughton are saying he actually did have legislature business to keep him in Washington and flew to Raleigh only because he had been employed as a lawyer to save Creech from the chair, did his best to do what he was employed to do, and then immediately flew back to Washington. Anyway, they maintain, Blythe was no friend to Broughton, and the Creech family did pay him in the neighborhood of \$10,000 to stay with the case until the bitter end — which came to the thrice-married wife-killer last Friday morning at 10:13.

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Smile a While

"Why don't you like girls?"
"They're too biased."
"Biased?"
"Yes, bias this, and bias that, until I'm broke."

SMYRNA

Feb. 1 — Mrs. Clifton Yeomans and Mrs. Alonzo Bell attended the Woman's Missionary union in Morehead City, Wednesday, Jan. 27.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hancock, of New Bern, spent several days here last week with Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hancock and family.

Mr. Bob Chadwick left Wednesday, Jan. 26, for Durham at which place he will return to Duke University to complete his studies.

Mrs. Lillian Pigott and Miss Maggie Pigott, of Gloucester, were here a short time Wednesday night, Mr. and Mrs. Brady Wade and little son, James Leslie, of Williston, visited friends here Wednesday night.

Mr. E. T. Piner, of Marshallberg, and mother, visited Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Willis and Mrs. Gertie Willis and family in Williston Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. George Adams and Mrs. Leo Lewis, of Morehead City, visited relatives and friends here and at Gloucester Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Wade, after spending the months of December and January, at their home here, left Friday for a visit with their son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ikie Wade at Appalachicola, Fla.

Mr. Stanley Pake, of Marshallberg, visited friends in Smyrna Saturday morning.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service met Thursday night with Mrs. Harry Lane Willis. 12 members were present. Mrs. Cecil Hancock, of New Bern, was a visitor at the society and gave the devotional and a very interesting talk, which all enjoyed. The hostess served cake and iced drinks.

Mrs. Iris Lewis, of Morehead City, was a visitor with friends in Smyrna one day last week.

Reverend Harrell preached at the Methodist church here Sunday night.

Reverend L. C. Chandler preached at the Baptist church here Sunday at 11 o'clock and Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Chadwick and Mrs. Earl Davis attended the regular dance held each Saturday night in Harlowe.

Mrs. Hugh Willis spent several hours in Beaufort and Morehead City last week.

Pope Innocent IV, at the Council of Lyons in the 13th Century, first bestowed the Red Hat on the Roman cardinals. It was a symbol of their readiness to shed blood in the cause of the church.

SOUTH RIVER

Feb. 1.—Mr. and Mrs. George Hardy attended the union meeting of the Freewill Baptist church at Bettie.

Mrs. Garton Hill and mother, Mrs. Joshua Hardy took Mrs. Ruth Eubanks to Dr. Fulcher Thursday for treatment. Hope she will soon be better.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pittman and son, Nelson, visited Mr. and Mrs. Willie Pittman Friday.

Mrs. Johnnie Cameron and children, Butch and Donnie spent Friday with her mother, Mrs. Mary Pittman.

Mrs. Mary Tosto visited Mrs. Joshua Hardy and daughter, Mrs. Garton Hill Thursday morning.

Mrs. Mary E. Hardy spent Thursday with Mrs. Nannie J. Pittman and mother, Mrs. Lizzie Tosto.

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Carraway will soon have their new home so they can move in. It looks fine.

Mr. Theo Johnson went to New Bern Monday to look for help to work in the pulpwood. Hope he has good success.

Mr. Lloyd Brock and Maxton Tosto went to Morehead Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Mary Tosto visited Mrs. Nannie J. Pittman and mother, Mrs. Lizzie Tosto Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Beau Hardy went to Beaufort and Morehead Thursday after groceries for the store.

Mr. Elijah Dixon and son, James, went to Marshallberg Wednesday crabbng. Hope they have good luck.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wallace spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Rose Wallace.

Calvin Mason is getting along fine with his brother and has had the cast taken off.

Mr. Clinton Brock and Cecil Tosto visited Betty Lou Pittman Sunday night.

A party from Cherry Point were here Friday night at Mr. G. C. Courtney's with a moving picture show. A large crowd attended.

A crowd of the people of our community went to Bettie Sunday afternoon to attend the Sunday school convention and all had a nice time.