## Carteret County News-Times

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EDITORIAL PAGE

TUESDAY, SEPT. 6, 1949

#### A Constant Problem

About a month ago we ran an article which came from the Morehead City Hospital Board of Trustees. Although it was an informative article, it was, essentially, a plea to those who owe the hospital money. It asked that they please pay their bill, if not in full, on account.

The plea brought little, if any, results, but we weren't surprised—the person who owes bills and makes no effort to pay is the type who cannot have his conscience logged either by a plece of writing or an oral request. The persons who attempt to keep out of debt by making monthly or weekly payments are the ones who recognize their obligations and do their utmost to keep the bill collector from the door.

Letters were sent out recently from the hospital, asking that the debtors make payment for medical attention they received there. There were several responses, but according to the hospital's business department, "hardly enough to pay the postage on the letters."

We have noticed that certain people think it's smart to run up bills. It gives others a feeling of superiority and "well-being" to know they can get credit. But some are out and out deadbeats who will get all they can for nothing and the devil take the

In centuries gone by persons who owed bills were cast into prison. Many of the men who colonized this country were debtors who were released because they agreed to come here and settle the wild new lands that held promise of wealth. There is evidence that their tendency toward indebtedness has not been out-bred in succeeding generations!

In this day, our economic status, generally, is high above that of the poor wretches in the streets of London and Paris that found themselves behind hars merely because they sought food for their families when they had no means with which to pay for it. The day of the "living wage," "minimum wage," "social security," and "pension" was to be found only in the distant future, in that land beyond their ken that was a nebulae of myth and hope.

No business can operate on a "credit eternally yours" basis. Certainly not a hospital which has equipment as intricate, precise, and expensive as printing machinery. Without the hospital, many people now living in Carteret county simply would not he living.

How many people would come here to spend their summer vacations if there was a hospital no closer than New Bern? Many would think twice and many of these would seek another shore.

Closing this hospital would be one of the most tragic things that could happen. Preposterous? Perhaps, but unless outstanding and current accounts are paid, we may be spluttering, "Preposterous!" too late.

Morehead City residents are taxed for hospital maintenance Other persons throughout the county come to the hospital-an institution they do not help to keep running by paying town taxesreceive treatment, and leave, evidently expecting a good fairy to pay the bill.

The hospital has been highly criticized for the manner in which they seek (upon admitting a person to the hospital) guarantee that a bill will be paid. The criticism comes from persons who do not comprehend the situation, who do not realize that the same is true in hospitals all over the country. They are not charitable institutions. Service is not free to one and all.

We are in favor of an adjusted scale of charges at the hospital whereby Morehead City residents, who pay a hospital levy, receive a certain reduction on their bill. This may not be feasible at present when the hospital needs every cent of money it possibly can get, but it's worth considering.

The patient load at the hospital has decreased, yet an adequate staff must be maintained at all times. Patients are not ordered by their doctors to stay in the hospital as long as once was the practice. All these things tend to decrease hospital re-

Numerous hardpay patients may be the straw that breaks the camel's back.

# Thoughts for an open mind.

It is tragic how few people possess their souls before they die. The infinite always is silent - it is only the finite speaks. Our words are the idle wave caps on the deep that never breaks, We may explain, decide, and discuss, but only in meditation

is done in forgetting its importance. To be successful:-Average ability plus a strong body, a level

head, and a generous heart.

If you are not a genius use what talents you have at their highest

-Jim Morrill

A home can't pull while kicking.
This fact I merely mention.
And he can't kick while pulling.
Which is my chief contention.

the mystery speaks to us.

Smile Awhile

Me can't pull while kicking, fact I merely mention. As can't kick while pulling, ich is my chief contention. Travels through natural peditens from 10 to 20 miles of the Carteret County's Newspaper

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pletion of his new \$6,000 fish

#### THE SIDEWALK SKIPPER

The heavy rains and wind their "Sophie N," a shrimper have meant nothing but idleness long-hauler. Les has announced the comfor the fishermen.

Word from the Carteret Fish house, located on the central company, Beaufort, is "we're not part of Harkers Island. Alton doing much of anything. Some Willis of Harkers Island has been of the boats are going out. We made superintendent of the plant expect to get mullets as soon as there's a wind shift."

made superintendent of the plant where fish will be unloaded, packed and trucked to Morehead City.

David Yeomans at Dannie fillis' fish house, Harkers Is-Willis' fish house, Harkers Island, said their nine boats aren't doing much. They believed there would be some nice catches ing, mostly small fish. But the control of the catches ing, mostly small fish. But the control of the catches ing, mostly small fish. But the catches ing, mostly small fish.

there would be some nice catches of mackerel if they got out. But they, too, are waiting for a multet blow.

Capt. Calvin Willis got between seven and eight thousand in that blow about two weeks ago and Allie Moore came in with 12,000 on the "Judy." Captain Willis recently put a new radio in on his boat the "Barbata."

Most of the craft got new coats

ing, mostly small fish. But the ton and son, Billy, left Tuesday for Quantico, Va., where Capt. Livingston has to go to school for nine months.

Mrs. Allen Cannon and daughter the short the transposed in New Bern Tuesday.

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Mrs. Allen Cannon and daughter the short of the triple of the capt. The short o Most of the craft got new coats of paint about a month or two

Harvey Smith is still down in looking after his

ports from there aren't g Capt. Will Congleton of

has to do is name it. They also have crabmeat and are expecting mullets within the next week.

55 cents a pound, round trout at weather, but haul crews have to good because of the weather, but haul crews have to good miles of rural roads in the bean at 30 cents a pound, and bogfish at 25.

spots,

"We've been taking a few spots... very few hullets," was Cecil Nelson's report from Harkers Island. He expects a mullet blow very soon. The four or five beats fishing for him now are in "pretty good shape" for the fall season.

Albert Lea of Lea's fish house, Monshand City, has named Captain Samme Willis, Harkers Island as his star fisherman for the year. Lea estimates, that Captain Samme and his condition, have brought in approximately 200,000 pounds on



August 31-Mrs. T. S. Brown of Norfolk, Va., and Mrs. John Caffey of New York City arrived Tuesday to visit their mother, Mrs. Bessie Herrington.

Miss Nina Garner left Wednes

Albert Lea says the mullet teach this winter blow will come this week on the full moon. His catches during spent Tuesday night here with

the past week have totaled between 5,000 and 6,000 pounds "all mixed." "We haven't been doing anything," he added.

""We haven't been doing anything," he added.

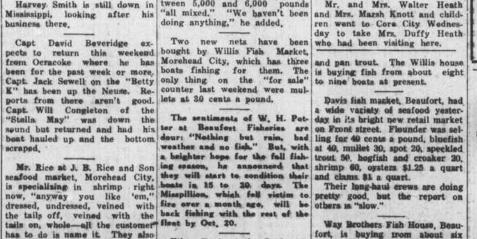
""We haven't been and Mrs. Marsh Knott and children went to Core City Wednesday to take Mrs. Duffy Heath

as to do is name it. They also are crabment and are expecting nullets within the next week.

Ethan Bavis at the Gordon C.

Willis fish house, Morehead City. boats now. Best Davis says they're brought ray of optimism with is report that catches "are pick." The boats now here yet." The boats now here yet." The boats now here yet. The boats now here yet.

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### HOLLYWOOD .... by gon Handleston

I've seen lately was put on by 14 young men in wheelchsirs. Assisting them in chorus numbers were 11 pretty and shapely young ladies who, daytimes, are the men's nurses. The show was called the "Wheelchair Revue," and it was put on in the recreation hall of the Army's nearby Birmingham General Hospital.

The audience was unusual, too. It consisted mainly of perhaps 150 other ex-GI paraplegics in wheelchairs. Along the sides of the auditorium were other men in

hospital beds.

What makes this a Hollywood which had story is that the show, which had pace and polish, was put on with movie professionals' help. Nick Castle, a wiry, explosive, dark-haired dance director at M-G-M, was asked by the hospital recreational director to lend a hand.
Busy daytimes directing routines
in "Nancy Goes to Rio," Nick
would grab a malt and a sandwich after work and go to the hospital three nights a week for 11 weeks. When he'd complain about midnight during a rehearsal that he had to be on the set at 8:30, the veterans pointed out

that that was nothing. They had to get up at 6 for treatment routine.

The show had spectacular dance-like numbers with men wheeling themselves through crisscross patterns, circle routines, and figure 8's. There were comedy dialogues, a magic act, a bathing beauty contest featuring the nurses, and pantomine singing to re-cords. The studio supplied spot-

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statement or higher praise

could be accorded to any in dividual or organization than thet. Confidence like that

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heart-tugging and enjoyable show | lights, sound equipment, costumes and props. Four studio prop men, four electricians, and two make-up men, volunteering their time, worked behind the scenes. Castle was credited on the program with "direction and wheelchairogra-phy." A studio musician, Robert Keith, directed an orchestra of civilian volunteers and wrote spe-

cial lyrics.

Eddie Tale, who lost his legs

in a plane crash, summed up his and the other performers' satis in a plane crass, summed up his and the other performers' satis-faction: "At last we're entertain-ing people instead of people enter-taining us." Eddie did a high

taining us." Eddle did a high balancing act, tipping back in his wheelchair on a pair of tracks held up by the nurses. The first-night audience ap-plauded thunderously when Castle suggested the show ought to be taken on the road. He hopes such arrangements can be made. taken on the road. He hopes such arrangements can be made.

Colorado leads the world in the



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