

Carteret County News-Times

EDITORIAL PAGE FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1952

That's What the Man Said!

Bert Robb's talk to the board of conservation and development Monday morning was like a bracing splash of cold water.

Robb, director of the Michigan State Waterways commission, who was lent to this state to make a survey of our water resources, said that the major obstacle in developing coastal North Carolina to its fullest is the sleepy, satisfied, "this is good enough for me" attitude of the people.

The first reaction to a criticism like Robb's is: "Who does he think he is, coming in here and telling us he doesn't like what he sees?" The second is: "How can he be qualified to, speak on what's wrong with eastern North Carolina after a couple weeks' research and a three-day trip along our eastern waterways? It's like a traveler going to a distant country and coming back and writing a book, setting forth officiously everything that should be done there and stating why the people do the quaint things they do."

The first reaction is typical of a sleepy people. They don't like being disturbed from a comfortable half-alive state of being. However, Robb was invited here. His coming is the result of the progressive, far-sighted policies of our state government, the policies which, he points out, must be backed by the people if they are to succeed.

The second reaction has in it a grain of validity. But again, Robb is considered an expert in his field. He didn't come here to survey the entire state and its economy. He has dealt only with the field in which he is a specialist.

We can accept his criticism and then sit down and rationalize all his observations away by saying that what he says may be true, but if he thinks conditions here are archaic now, he should have been here just 15 or 20 years ago . . . even though we still have far to go, we have come a long way in just the past generation; or we might continue our rationalization by pointing to organizations like the Morehead City Jaycees and asking if he knows of groups any more active than they; he could even send him a copy of the forthcoming 100-odd page special port and progress edition of THE NEWS-TIMES, and ask him if he thinks a sleepy people supported and helped produce that . . .

But still it would all be a wriggling out from under a stinging criticism that is 99 per cent truth. Our people have yet to learn that regardless how good they believe their lot, it can still be made better. They have yet to learn that making it better requires an open mind, a willingness to accept responsibility for affairs as they are, and an ambition to do a share of the work to improve our economic status and methods of living.

Now those sentences may seem like just a jumble of pat phrases and idealistic admonition. Converted into everyday terms, those words mean doing the job you have as best you know how, doing a little extra and not expecting the boss to go into raptures and give you a raise, belonging to a civic organization and offering personal capabilities without remuneration, working hard for the good of the community to see that a job on a civic level is well-done, and most important of all, keeping abreast of local affairs by reading and listening to authoritative reports.

On that last point, we recognize that the interest must first be there and that's where many of our people will have to catch hold of their own boot straps and pull themselves up. Once interest is created, there is no need for pleading, for an interested people will read, work, and prosper.

We believe that the attitude Robb deplores is disappearing. We believe that it will continue to disappear in direct proportion to the improvement in public school education. That reasoning may seem far-fetched, but persons who have not been taught to read well, who have not been shown that new worlds are open to them through books, who have not been shown that their newspaper and other means of communication are doors leading them to information on local affairs, national and international activities, are not people easily roused to action.

Still prevalent in eastern Carolina among young people is the attitude that what grandmother said is still true today. They quote old tales of the past as being applicable to today's situations. They have not been trained to weigh facts and draw logical conclusions in the light of today's circumstances.

We are an isolated people here in eastern North Carolina. New persons and new thoughts do not stream through our territory north, south, east, and west as they do in inland areas. For that reason, through the years we have acquired the provincial attitude of looking upon a stranger suspiciously. Robb referred to our "rugged individualism." On the surface "rugged individualism" sounds complimentary. So it can be, but in our case rugged individualism describes the attitude of wanting to be let alone, of wanting to do things the way our forefathers did, of believing, without foundation, that what we have has not proved detrimental thus far and that anyone, therefore, who advocates change is a "meddler," particularly if he is an outsider.

It is true that many of us have expressed resentment of "outsiders" coming in here and "making money," yet the inhabitants who have lived here all their lives have had the same opportunity to "make money." Simply because they did not see that opportunity or have the initiative to borrow money to invest in an enterprise is no reason to run down and criticize another guy who does.

The potential of this coast is so enormous that everyone with backbone and a smattering of git-up-n-go can see his own ship come in within the very near future.

Robb is right. Our policies and planning are fine. But as always, they must be converted into action. The only ones who can do that are the people living here in eastern North Carolina.

IS THAT OUR HARVEST?



Raleigh Roundup

BY JAMES POU BAILEY

VISITOR . . . Some of Adlai Stevenson's ancestors lived in North Carolina. He has a sister who spends her winters in Moore county. Don't be surprised if the Democratic nominee for President visits in these parts within the next two months.

BIG DAY . . . The Democratic Party in North Carolina is similar to the Republican Party nationally in that it has a split personality. Stevenson in his acceptance speech early last Saturday morning referred to the schizophrenic personality of the GOP.

In Tarbeella, some of the Democrats are free spenders. This group apparently likes government competition with private business. It does not seriously object to our huge debt. The more conservative Democrats think the Democratic Party has drifted. They frown on a government which seems to be encouraging inflation.

PEACE? . . . We haven't heard much about the Scott barbecue lately. However, nomination of Adlai Stevenson as the Democrats' standard bearer this fall would seem to fit in with plans for a big day for Democrats.

Incidentally, it must be noted that Kerr Scott within the past month has seemed unusually peaceable. Of course, he may raise the roof any minute. But the hot weather around Raleigh, or sheer fatigue, has slowed down the Governor and made him appear to be a regular fellow.

FOR STEVENSON . . . General Ike Eisenhower could probably have carried North Carolina over Harry S. Truman. Our opinion is that Adlai Stevenson will give Eisenhower a resounding thrashing in the Old North State. It is a long time until November and a lot of things can happen. These happenings will probably be in Stevenson's favor. He is a fresh face, bright and shining.

The people seem to like newcomers these days. They are getting a little weary of the old boys in most sections of the country. For a time here in Raleigh consensus was that only with Richard Russell could the North Carolina Democrats hope to carry the state. Those we were able to contact on Saturday were enthusiastic about Stevenson and his chances locally and nationally.

SPEAKER . . . As a radio speaker and a handler of the English language and the neatly turned phrase, Adlai Stevenson has no peer on this side of the Atlantic. Winston Churchill is regarded as the master, but if Stevenson becomes President he may go down in history as the greatest speaker this nation has had since William Jennings Bryan.

Now you are thinking of Franklin D. Roosevelt. His radio voice was perfect. He was not regarded as an orator. Said the veteran NBC commentator, H. V. Kaltenborn, last Saturday morning after listening to Stevenson's acceptance speech: "That was the greatest Presidential acceptance speech I have ever heard." Folks around Raleigh who were silly enough to remain up, and

there were thousands of us, seem to see Stevenson as a Wilsonesque figure. He is no doubt a scholar; just as Woodrow Wilson was a scholar.

Scholarly folks sometime find it difficult to reach out and mix with regular, run-of-the-mill people. Of such is the level of Congress.

Anyway, between now and November 4 you will hear some excellent addresses from Candidates Eisenhower and Stevenson.

ONE WEEK . . . On Saturday, July 19, before the Democratic National convention began the following Monday, we called one of our friends who was already in Chicago for the conclave. It was about noon; and we got him out of Russell headquarters so that he could talk freely from his room.

"We don't want any wishful thinking now. Please give us the lowdown on the trend in Chicago. Stevenson says he won't accept the nomination. Will he get it?"

Our Chicago reporter said that Stevenson would be the nominee, and he would accept. He said—that was a week ago last Saturday before the convention had fully cranked up—that Russell was out of it. Stevenson would be the man.

We wrote it in the column you read here last week.

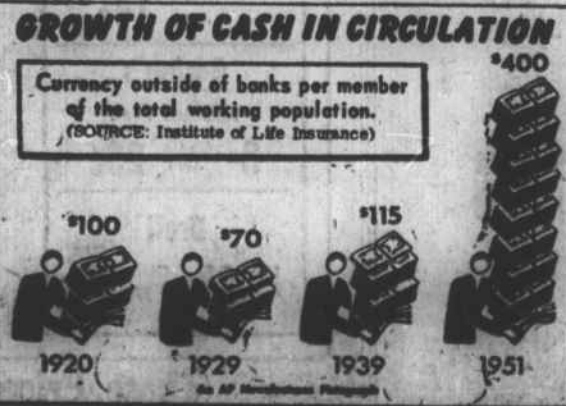
Our friend said that Sen. John Sparkman of Alabama would be the Democratic vice presidential nominee. We wrote it.

A week later, almost to the minute and after fights, insults, and other slam-bangs, the two, Stevenson and Sparkman, were nominated.

CHANGE . . . The state lost in the death of Clyde Erwin one of its really great men. Let's hope that Gov. Scott, Bill Umstead and the Democratic Executive committee can get together and name one man to fill out the unexpired term and the same man to run for the office against the Republican nominee in November. We need a professional school man for this position, preferably one who is now earning his living working directly or indirectly with children. Two of the best are L. E. Spikes, superintendent of the Burlington city schools, and Paul Reid, president of West Carolina Teachers college.

Waldo Cheek is widely regarded as Kerr Scott's best appointee. He has made a fine record as insurance commissioner. He is now considering going with the State Capital Life Insurance company in Raleigh at a great increase in salary. They could not find a better man anywhere.

Broad-mindedness is nothing but high-mindedness which has been flattened by experience.



CAMERA NEWS

BY IRVING DESFOR

A COUPLE of recent columns brought reader responses that have photo interest so let's share what the mailman brought.

From Tokyo, Japan, comes word that the Communists have shown an intense dislike for the benefits of photography. It dates from their hectic May Day riots which were fully covered by news photographers. Having taken place in daylight, the pictures were sharp, clear and full of detail. So much so that, after studying them, the police were able to apprehend over 200 of the rioters.

This caused some anti-photography measures to be put into action, as evidenced by, subsequent Communist demonstrations. Firstly, they were scheduled for night time on the theory that flash pictures would show less detail, especially in the faces. Secondly, they made the photographers their primary targets, along with the police, for their home-made acid bombs.

The instinctive protective measures by which Max Desfor took pictures of the original May Day riot for The Associated Press made a Camera News column. In photographing the subsequent demonstrations, instinct again played its part. As the demonstrators, carrying North Korean flags, spotted the photographers, they tried to cover their faces. Then came the acid bombs. One headed towards Max. He ducked as it whizzed by. Unfortunately it found a victim in the AP staffer next to him, William Barnard.

In this case good photography turned out to be an occupational hazard.

OCCUPATIONAL HAZARD?

There's the strange case of Harold Flanagan of Atlanta, Georgia. Over a year ago this column ran an item on this professional photographer—who was totally blind! Though he had lost his sight in 1947 he still managed to eke out a living as a portrait photographer.

This year the story of the blind photographer made a full length photo feature in "Ebony" magazine and was reprinted in the August issue of "Photography" magazine. Intended as an inspiration for other photographers with full vision but less technical ability, the publicity impressed some one else besides.

It inspired Flanagan's landlord into doubling his rent! Unfortunately it put Flanagan out of business instead, because his photography business couldn't surmount the added handicap.

A RECENT column told how a darkroom technician used petroleum jelly on certain negatives to eliminate scratches from showing on the finished print. This brought several other suggestions.

Brushed lightly over the cheekbone, it will add sparkle and highlights to a subject's face.

Many photographers use petroleum jelly for lubricating tripod heads and legs, light clamps, and on roller bearings in print dryers. Comes in handy, too, for first aid should you burn your fingers on flash lamps.

For unusual or gag shots, cover the subject's face with petroleum jelly. Darken the studio and beam a "black" (ultra-violet) light on the subject. Under these conditions, the highly fluorescent petroleum jelly produces a ghostly white appearance.

The final note is from Minnesota and concerns vacation picture contests. The employees of Minneapolis-Honeywell are out for a long-distance picture record . . . literally. The two employees who meet farthest from Minneapolis and take a picture to prove it, win a top prize.

Here and There

BY F. C. SALISBURY

THE COASTER

S. S. ARTHUR, Publisher AUGUST 1, 1952 R. T. WADE, Editor

Miss Irma Williford of Kings Mountain is here, the guest of her uncle, Mr. James R. Bell.

Mr. Fredrick Ostermeyer of the Beaufort News was a visitor in the city Tuesday.

Friends of Robert Taylor, jr., will regret to learn that he is confined to his home with fever.

G. R. Hardesty of Goldsboro returned to his home Sunday after a few days visit to Mr. W. L. Arendell.

Miss Mabel Ricks of Washington, after spending a few days here, is the guest of Mrs. Mart Willis, returned to her home on Monday.

Friends of Dr. W. E. Headen will be glad to know that he is able to be out again after being slightly indisposed for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Stacy Wade and little son, Louis Mann of Raleigh, are visiting Mr. Wade's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Wade.

G. D. Canfield is building a large garage on Arendell street near 12th.

Miss Theresa McCubbins left for her home in Salisbury Monday after spending a few weeks here, the guest of Miss Elodie Webb.

C. S. Wallace has just built a large storage warehouse for gasoline near the seawall, with wharf extending out to deep water, for the convenience of gas boats wanting oil.

On Sunday morning, July 20, Rev. A. W. Setzer, a former pastor here, preached at the Baptist church. Mr. Setzer is now doing field work at Maiden, having seven charges in his care.

Sunday morning between 9 and 10 o'clock, during the severe electrical storm, lightning struck the home of D. M. Webb, doing considerable damage. The bolt of lightning entered the building through the roof near the chimney and spread in three different directions ripping and tearing ceiling and weatherboarding alike, pieces of which were thrown across the street. Besides being badly frightened and a little unnerved, the occupants were not harmed.

In the Lighthouse During the past week Morehead City has been rapidly making history, but the record is not of the very creditable sort. The Atlantic hotel scandal surpasses anything previously recorded in this direc-



Hello — You can go far with pictures like this, specially if your company gives prizes for the farthest.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

GEN. WILLIAM FRISKE DEAN, born Aug. 1, 1899, at Caryle, Clinton county, Ill. Prisoner of war of the North Korean Communists, Gen. Dean had been commander in Korea directly under MacArthur. He began his military career as a private in student training at the University of California in 1918. Upon graduation in 1922, he was commissioned and rose to commander of the 44th Infantry Division in Alsace in world war II.

THEY MAKE NEWS STAMPS

By Syd Kronish

DURING WORLD WAR II—June 20, 1942, to be exact—the little mining village of Lidice in Czechoslovakia sprang into prominence. The Nazis had suspected that some inhabitants of the town had supported the patriots who killed the German police general, Reinhard Heydrich. In retaliation the Gestapo ordered the immediate killing of all the male inhabitants, irrespective of age, and 96 women. The rest of the women and children were sent to concentration camps. All the buildings of Lidice were levelled to the ground and the name of the town abolished by the Nazi hierarchy.

These actions aroused world-wide sympathy. Towns in several countries were re-named to commemorate the Czech village. Among them were Lidice, Ill. (near Joliet) and Lidice, Mexico, (near Mexico City).

To honor the memory of the former townspeople of Lidice on the 10th anniversary of the disaster, Czechoslovakia has issued two new stamps. Pictured is a child with upraised hands. In the background are the burning buildings of Lidice. The 1.50-koruna is brown and 5-k is blue.

TO CELEBRATE the institution of self-government, the Ryukyu Islands have issued a new 3-yen carmine stamp. These islands, of which Okinawa is the largest, have been occupied and governed by the U. S. since the end of world war II. The central design of the adhesive is a dove of peace flying over an outline map of the Ryukyus. The sun rises in the background and a soy bean sprouts from the soil. The stamp was designed by a student at Ryukyu university.

LEBANON has issued a set of 10 airmails and 16 regulars and postage dues, reports the New York Stamp company. The airmails are of two designs. One

shows a modern transport plane in flight over modern buildings. The other depicts a plane flying over ruins of ancient cities of Lebanon. The regular stamps illustrate various ruins of ancient cities.

BRAZIL commemorates the 200th anniversary of the city of Mato Grosso with a 1.20-cruzeiros blue stamp. Pictured on the stamp is a portrait of Luiz de Albuquerque Caceres, founder of the city. The dates, 1752-1952, appear above the illustration.

STAMP CLUBS are one of the most important for stamp collectors. That's why clubs for young collectors are growing by leaps and bounds in cities all over the world. For example, one of these clubs is the Iroquois Stamp club, for youngsters between 10 and 16, in Louisville, Ky. Al Lee is the president. These youngsters meet at the Iroquois Branch library every Thursday and receive much assistance and guidance from the Philatelic club of Louisville. They have auctions, speakers and interesting meetings. Such groups are to be encouraged and should receive as much aid as possible from the veteran philatelic groups in each city in which they are located.

CARS FOR AMERICANS
13 PEOPLE FOR EVERY CAR IN 1922
3.6 PEOPLE FOR EVERY CAR IN 1952
An advertisement for cars, showing a car and a group of people, with text indicating the increase in car ownership from 1922 to 1952.

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