

Carteret County News-Times "Carteret County's Newspaper"

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Time Is Short

Time is running out for Carteret county farmers who plan to use migrant workers in their fields this spring. They have only a few months in which to do something about providing better housing for the workers.

Employment officials have warned repeatedly that better housing will be needed in order to attract the necessary number of workers to the county. Migrant workers will no longer accept the poor living quarters in which many of them have been lodged in past years.

Farmers in this county must face the fact that they are dependent upon migrant workers during the harvest season. There is not enough local farm labor to fill the demand and farmers must use migrant workers or let their crops rot in the fields.

The farmers must also take into consideration the new regulations of the health department which will probably be enforced this year. Health officials have announced that housing which does not meet rigid sanitary standards will not be approved for use by migrant workers. There is a definite possibility that if workers do come to the county they will not be allowed to stay because of lack of approved housing.

The new sanitary regulations were originally scheduled to go into effect in 1952, but the health department agreed to give the farmers a year in which to bring their labor camps up to standard. Even with this year of grace, however, only a few farmers have taken steps to improve their camps.

Two of the exceptions have been Neal Campen of Wirt Grass and Heber Golden of Bettie. Both men have constructed new camps and Mr. Campen has also renovated an old camp to meet the health department's requirements. They have shown that it is possible for almost any farmer to provide the type of housing which is required for migrant workers.

Mr. Campen, who operates a large farm, has constructed a camp which will provide housing for the large number of workers which he employs during the harvest season. The two buildings, completely equipped with electricity, running water and toilet facilities, will house about 70 workers. The cost of a similar camp can easily be met by any of the large farmers in the county.

Most of the objections to the health regulations and to any proposals for better housing have come from small farmers who have maintained that they cannot afford to build camps. Mr. Golden, a small operator, has proved that small farmers can afford to build better labor camps.

Mr. Golden has constructed a small camp which will house all the migrant workers he needs for his farm. The camp meets all the health requirements, but was constructed at a relatively low cost.

Mr. Golden was able to keep expenses at a minimum by doing much of the work himself. The cost will be further reduced by using the building for more than just a labor camp during the harvest season. At other times, Mr. Golden plans to use the building for a storage shed.

Many of Carteret county's farmers suffered heavy losses last year because they could not get labor when they needed it. Those losses would have paid for better housing for the workers. Losses this year may be even heavier unless the farmers provide housing which will attract more workers to the county. They will, however, have to start soon if they expect to complete camps by the time the first workers arrive.

Spring Is Coming

With Spring approaching rapidly, the home magazines have launched their yearly attack on that poor, be-mortgaged species, "home-owner." This species is found in all localities at this time of the year wearing a particularly harried look.

Many of us cannot afford to make our homes over completely, even to please New York editors; but all of us can work with what we have to create more beautiful homes and a more beautiful community.

It's clean-up, fix-up time, and there is no one who cannot fix-up this and clean-up that to improve the general appearance. A clean and beautiful community will make everyone happier and bring the community many other dividends.

Price of Inflation

Consumers wonder why they don't find similar declines in food prices. The reason is simple. Major costs of any business today are made up of irreducible expenditures that are the result of twenty years of an inflationary trend, which has seen the value of the dollar cut in half. This has put a higher value on everything from matches to locomotives. The cost of goods and services that enter into the operation of a retail store have doubled and tripled in some instances.

Drops in farm prices have been substantial. The index in mid-December stood at 96 per cent of parity compared with 107 a year ago and 122 per cent in 1946. Some major crops are selling below 90 per cent of parity.

Consider taxes. In pre inflation days they were not a burden. Today taxes cost us more than our food and clothing combined. Hundreds of taxes are included in the price of necessities. They begin on the farm and accumulate through every step of the production and distribution process. A large part of current high prices for processed and manufactured products is due to taxes.

Then consider what has happened to wages—those paid by retailers are no exception. Also they have another new cost—a mountain of paper work and expensive legal guidance in attempting to comply with those evil misnomers called price controls. Current reductions in some farm prices largely evaporate in inflation and taxes before they can be passed along to consumers. This is the penalty we pay for swallowing the advice peddled by spend-ourselves-rich politicians.

If it were not for the efficiency of the modern retailer who is able to operate on an infinitesimal net profit margin per sale, we would be back to a barter system.

ROARS JUST LIKE WHEN HE HAD ALL HIS TEETH



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

MARJORIE MAIN, born Feb. 24, 1890, at Acton, Ind., as Mary McGaughey Tomlinson, daughter of a minister. Actress and comedienne, she appears as "Ma" in the "Ma and Pa Kettle" films, the first of which was "The Egg and I." Her greatest Broadway success was as Mrs. Martin in "Dead End" in 1935. After the death of Marie Dressler, Miss Main took over the Dressler roles in the Wallace Beery films.

Broadway

New York — If the new year is as busy as 1952 was for soprano Nadine Conner then she may be compelled to take on the semblance of twins or even quintuplets.

So busy was she that she couldn't get back to her Compton, Cal., home so her husband, Dr. Laurence Heacock, came to Broadway to spend the holidays with her.

This petite soprano—she's only 5 feet 3, set a record at the Metropolitan Opera when she sang two major roles in one day, doing Micaela in "Carmen" in the afternoon and Sophie in "Der Rosenkavalier" in the evening—truly a superwoman feat.

Her Micaela on this occasion was a rather historical one, for it was the first telecast of an opera ever made from the stage of the Metropolitan, going over closed circuits to motion picture houses in more than 50 cities.

"Another thrill about that performance," Miss Conner said, "was that I met a man who is really an ardent fan of mine. He comes from Oklahoma and he wrote for tickets a year ago when he read in newspapers that I was going to do the role. He had saved his money so that he could make the trip to hear me sing."

Postscript to this is that Miss Conner, backstage at the Met, sang three extra encores just for this Oklahoma fan.

Miss Conner also sang the star role of Mimi in Howard Dietz's English-language version of "La Boheme" which had its world premiere at the Met two days after Christmas.

In learning the English version of Mimi, Miss Conner said she worked diligently to forget the Italian version that she had previously sung. But a holiday appearance as guest singer at the Opera Guild luncheon at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria hindered her progress.

"The plan was for me to sing selections from the English version and Licia Albanese was to sing the same selections in Italian," Miss Conner said. But at the last minute Mme. Albanese could not appear. So Miss Conner had to do some quick shifting of memory and sing the selections in both languages.

Miss Conner also has recorded albums of Victor Herbert and Scotch and Irish folk songs. In addition you may encounter her in radio, and video studies where she sings on "The Railroad Hour," "Telephone Hour" and other programs.

Miss Conner said she became a singer on a doctor's prescription. The doctor told her to study singing to strengthen her abdominal muscles.

Washington

Washington — "Who-said-its" sometimes constitute a major headache for scholarly sleuths in the congressional reading room of the Library of Congress.

We get a large number of phone calls and letters asking for information on the sources of quotations used by people in public speeches, or about quotations congressmen themselves wish to use. C. M. Wilson, chief of the reading room, told me.

"We don't want to let these queries interfere with our main business, the reader service, but we try diligently to track every saying down. We can usually spot a quotation in from 10 minutes to an hour, but we get some sticklers. Often we publish these in the library's information bulletin, asking help from our fellow librarians."

Probably the largest number of quotations people ask about are traced to Lincoln, Jefferson and Franklin D. Roosevelt, Wilson said. "They are being quoted more and more as time goes by," he added, "but during the recent political campaigns the Democratic presidential candidate, Gov. Adlai Stevenson, stirred up quite a business for us."

Some of the quotations used by the erudite candidate are still giving the reading room staff furrows in the brow. They recently asked for leads to help in the identification of the following:

- "On the Plains of Hesitation"
"Bleach the bones of countless thousands
"Who on the eve of victory rested—
"and, resting, died."
Wilson said that after much inquiry they got some clues attrib-

Sou'easter

BY CAPTAIN HENRY

Charles Davis was mighty liberal with cigars to announce the birth of his second son, Stephen Porter. His older son, Chuck, now almost five, attends his grandmother's kindergarten. Father Charles gave out cigars to Chuck's school mates and told them to take them home to their fathers. All the youngsters were very proud to carry home cigars to their fathers. I know one youngster now almost five who practically stood over his daddy and made him smoke the gift. The daddy is a cigarette smoker as a rule. The youngster said to him:

"You smoke that see-gar. That's for Chuck's new baby brother. That smells better than cigarettes."
"What about if it makes me sick?" the father asked.
"If see-gar smoke makes you sick," the five-year-old said, "you oughtn't smoke cigarettes."
So the father smoked the cigar.

Saw young Jackie Lewis, son of Pritchard Lewis, violently biking down Ann street Sunday. He had his dog in the basket. What with trying to hold the dog in with one hand and with the other on the handle bar he was quite a sight as he dexterously avoided and evaded traffic.

Every parent who attended the Teachers vs. the Junior Woman's club basketball game at the school gym last week was disappointed not to see his kid's teacher on the team.

I just heard it. I know it's old stuff. But I can't help but chuckle over the idea of all the Wheatly kids getting the chicken 'pox all together. Of course it's a cinch

In The Good Old Days

THIRTY-TWO YEARS AGO Warren G. Harding was to be inaugurated president of the United States in March. He had chosen Charles E. Hughes as secretary of state and Herbert Hoover as secretary of commerce.

TEN YEARS AGO Helen Taylor O'Bryan and Clifford Bridges Fleet, Lt. jg., USN, were married in St. Paul's Episcopal church in Beaufort.

Three cases of smallpox were reported in the county and residents were advised to be vaccinated.

The Beaufort PTA had a story in the paper that their main functions were equipping and beautifying the school and grounds, and to enforce law and order. In respect to the latter they deplored the open sale of liquor.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO Luther Hamilton, mayor of Morehead City, would run as representative from this district in the state legislature.

A four-masted schooner, George W. Tritt, jr., was lost near Ocracoke Monday when it ran aground.

The mail boat which carried mail from Morehead City and Beaufort to Marshallberg, Atlantic, Lola and Ocracoke might be stopped, in which case the mail would be carried overland to Atlantic and then by boat to Ocracoke.

from the Bookshelf

This year promises to be a highly productive one with regard to books about North Carolina or by North Carolina authors. The books range from a first novel due for publication today to a reference handbook about North Carolina writers. Many of these books will soon be available in the Carteret county library in Beaufort where Mrs. Paul Woodard, county librarian, makes every effort to obtain the best in reading material.

The Plantation; Ovid Williams Pierce, Doubleday. This first novel by a professor of English at Tulane university has received highly favorable pre-publication notices. Readers will have a chance to judge for themselves whether or not the praise is merited when the book is released today.

Professor Pierce, a native of Halifax county, has set the scene of his novel on a large cotton and peanut plantation in northeastern North Carolina during the early years of the present century.

The novel deals with Ed Ruffin, a Halifax county plantation owner, and the women who loved him too much or not enough. The memories of all of them crowd through his mind as Ed's life slowly ebbs away.

Professor Pierce says, "Though I've been away since the war, I still feel that North Carolina is my home. At least when I try to write a story that's where my mind has to go."

The author began his writing career at Chapel Hill where he was editor of the undergraduate literary magazine. He graduated in 1932 and later received his MA from Harvard. After serving in the Army during the war, he taught at Southern Methodist university and later went to Tulane.

North Carolina Authors: A Selective Handbook; University of North Carolina Library Extension Division. Prepared by a joint committee of the North Carolina English Teachers association and the N. C. Library association, this handy volume has up-to-date information on the lives, books and reference sources of more than 160 Tar Heel writers. An appendix lists the winners of the Patterson Memorial cup and the Mayflower Society cup.

Taw Jamieson; May Davies Martenet. This novel by another native of North Carolina also has a North Carolina setting. The book, listed for publication in June, has already appeared serially in the Ladies Home Journal.

The 80th birthday next month of North Carolina's Dr. Mary Sloop will be marked by the publication of a book about her life and work at Crossnore school in the mountains of the western part of the state. Dr. Sloop's work at Crossnore has made her famous throughout the country and led to her selection as mother of the year. The biography has been written by Charlotte's LeGette Blythe, author of The Bold Galilean and A Tear for Judas.

Horn of the Hunter; Robert Ruark, Doubleday. North Carolina's most recent contribution to the field of newspaper humor has written another book which is slated for publication in April. The book deals with Ruark's African hunting trip which furnished considerable material for his syndicated column.

Since his graduation from Chapel Hill before the war, Ruark has made himself famous as a sports writer, crusading reporter and purveyor of wit through his Scripps-Howard column.

U.S. LAND FOR HORSE FEED advertisement featuring a horse and a sign for 20 million acres.

AUTHOR OF THE WEEK



Ovid Williams Pierce, author of "The Plantation," was born in 1910 in Weldon, N. C., the state in which the scene of this first novel of his is laid. Duke university gave him his A.B. in 1932 and Harvard, his master's degree. After four years in the Army, he taught at Southern Methodist university, Dallas, four years, and is now on the English faculty at Tulane. Some of his short stories have appeared in the Southwest Review.

THEY MAKE NEWS STAMPS

By Syd Kronish

WHEN NEW STAMP ISSUES are sold at post offices throughout the world many collectors purchase large quantities in hope of finding part of a sheet with an error on it. Such a find would be a rarity and therefore become a valuable item. The chances of finding such errors, however, are very slight.

But last December in Bury, Lancashire, England, a schoolboy did discover such a rarity. The stamps were the new Queen Elizabeth issue.

The youngster, on being served at the post office counter, noticed that one corner of a sheet of 2 1/2-d stamps was not properly printed. He calmly asked the clerk for the whole sheet and received it from the unknowing counterman.

Immediately the boy went to a stamp firm in Manchester and sold the sheet for a large sum of money. And now the stamps are part of a display on exhibition at the National Stamp exhibition in London. The entire show had 20,000 stamps valued at \$1,400,000.

TO COMMEMORATE the 50th anniversary of composer Hugo Wolf, Austria has issued a special 1.50-schilling stamp, reports Edwin Mueller. The stamp, in steel blue, bears a portrait of Wolf and his dates, 1860-1903. Wolf composed many German "lieder" which are favorites of concert singers. The adhesive was designed by Prof. Vinzenz Gorgon.

IN CONTINUATION of its "Famous Berliners" series, the Western Zone of Germany has issued three new stamps. The 5-pfennig blue shows a portrait of Otto Lilienthal, aeronautical engineer and pioneer of the airplane in Germany. The 15-pfennig violet depicts Rudolf Virchow, pathologist and political leader. The 30-pfennig deep purple illustrates Max Planck, physicist and professor.

LIECHTENSTEIN'S fourth set of stamps showing paintings from the gallery of the Prince of Liechtenstein has arrived in this country, reports the New York Stamp company. The 10-rappen green shows a portrait of a young man by an unknown master. The 20-r khaki illustrates St. Nicholas by Bartholomaeus Zeitblom. The 30-r violet depicts St. Christopher by Lucas Granach, the elder. The 40-r blue pictures Leonhard, Duke of Hag, by Hans Kulmbach.

A SERIES of seven new airmail stamps depicting Israel landscapes will be issued gradually during this year, reports the Israeli ministry of transport and communication. The first stamp in the series is a 1,000-pruta dark and light green adhesive. It shows a site of Tel Aviv—Jaffa (old Jaffa). In the foreground is a swaying palm tree and in the background horizon is a transport plane. The entire series has been designed by G. Hamori of Tel Aviv. A 25-MAROKKA blue stamp has been issued by Finland to mark the 100th anniversary of the temperance movement in that country. The design shows a man and woman holding a torch.

CARTERET COUNTY NEWS-TIMES advertisement with contact information and rates.