

Saturday Will be a Big Day

The Newport Parent-Teacher Association and Newport residents are staging Saturday one of the biggest events in the history of the town.

The occasion will mark the dedication of the new elementary school and will be the first Homecoming for former Newport students. It is the hope of the steering committee that the event will be the beginning of a scholarship fund to be used for furthering the education of worthy graduates of the school.

Persons may, if they wish, contribute

to this fund at the dance Saturday night.

Newport is rapidly coming into its own as the third largest incorporated town in the county. Under a progressive town administration, changes are being made — to the objection, of course, of some who always want things to "stay as they are," but if a place is to grow, change is inevitable.

Our congratulations go to county school officials, to Newport school officials and teachers, to the town businessmen and all others who have cooperated in planning Saturday's gala events. Their enthusiasm is indicative of the town's bright future.

Facing the Facts . . .

You're probably getting tired of reading about how destructive the new type bombs are. Yet the chances of being here tomorrow, just as we are today, have slimmed down considerably. And because of that, most of us may be shutting off our minds to the horrendous implications of this newly-developed power. It's a lot easier, isn't it, just to avoid thinking about disagreeable things?

But now, if ever, every American faces the possibility of walking, eating and breathing deadly radioactive dust. The H-bomb can now be turned into a "cobalt bomb." Scientists should not follow the other pattern of naming bombs and call this one a C-bomb. It should be named S-bomb, the S standing for suicide. For with just one of these bombs, set off thousands of miles from a target "country," a whole hemisphere can be laid to waste.

Because of the earth's prevailing westerly winds, a bomb could be set off in this country that would carry radioactive dust over most of Europe. Just ONE BOMB. A like bomb set off in Europe could cloak Russia and the vast area surrounding it in a grip of death. A bomb set off in the Pacific could lay waste to the United States.

The deadly rays from a cobalt bomb would continue to have effect 10 years after it was exploded. And the winds would carry those rays to every part of the earth.

It has been suggested that these weapons are so terrible that no country would dare to use them — that these weapons may FORCE the world to live in peace. That SOUNDS logical. Poison gas was used in World War I and everyone predicted that it would be used in World War II. Poison gas was not a factor in the last war. It was too dangerous to ALL soldiers in a given area. And there was always the fear of retaliation.

But with poison gas one was usually able to fix the "blame." In a small area, too, the destruction was likewise small. What concerns us at this moment is a bomb could be detonated in Japan and two to three days from now we would

be breathing air that would in a short while kill us. Who set off the bomb? The air would be alive with denials as well as radioactive dust. And maybe we'd all be so dead there would be no one left to ask, "Who set off the bomb?"

Of course, there would always be the possibility of the radioactive air circling round and killing those who fired the bomb. But a handful of maniacs set on world destruction conceivably could build themselves shelters, prepare to live in them a number of years and then emerge — in possession of the earth. Of course, they might be taking a chance that the earth they would emerge to would be so desolate that even they could not survive, but the point of this speculation is that a handful of people could write the death order for civilization.

It is logical to assume that no responsible government would jump into mass destruction. What we've got to watch out for are the crackpots. True, the developments of atomic research are carefully guarded in this country and supposedly the same is true in other nations, but one ruler or one scientist gone berserk could turn the earth into a weird graveyard.

In the face of this, we can't help but wonder — will we unthinkingly go on a spree, like a soldier on leave, and "Eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die?" Or is our faith greater than fear? Do we believe that in spite of the possibilities of mass death and desolation, the indomitable human spirit will be able to cope with the weapons it develops?

Offhand, it seems inconceivable that the world, as we know it, can be destroyed. On the other hand, are we ABL to conceive how atomic power has changed the aspect of things?

Atomic power can bring a prosperity the like of which the world has never known. Or it can remove from the universe the planet Earth. We owe it to ourselves to be well-informed. There's no use hiding our heads in the sand. At the risk of dragging out some of the old bromides: let's be aware, level-headed and hope for the best.

Higher Gas Tax? No!

Representatives of the petroleum industry have been holding a series of meetings throughout the state and have gone on record opposing the proposed increase in the state tax on gasoline. Agreeing with them that the price of gasoline per gallon in this state is already sky-high, we go along with the thinking of the Henderson Daily Dispatch which editorialized recently as follows:

When additional taxes are under consideration, among the first sources of new revenue to receive consideration are tobacco, gasoline and liquor. All three are now carrying a back-breaking load and no relief is in sight for either. Congress and the States refuse to lighten the burden, with the result that in each instance the situation is approaching the law of diminishing returns . . .

One frequently hears of federal aid returned to the states and how much comes into North Carolina annually from that source. Actually, the state paid Uncle Sam over a billion and a half dollars last year and got back \$55 million, or about four per cent . . .

In the state, taxes collected last year were \$287 million, or \$275 per family. That is twice the amount in 1946 and three times the taxes paid by North Carolinians in 1942, just 12 years ago.

Sentiment is being fanned for an additional one cent per gallon tax on gas-

oline to be levied by the 1955 General Assembly. If that should be added, it will make the gasoline tax ten and one-quarter cents in this state, including the federal levy of two cents. In other words, approximately one-third of the cost of regular gasoline at your service station — in this county at least — goes to taxes.

Oil men claim that the present state gasoline levy is sufficient to carry on the highway program, including improvements and expansion of primary roads. We think that is definitely true, and if it isn't then we should hold up on the program until we can do better.

Gasoline is a favorite whipping child of the tax-eaters. They seem never to know what is enough and never to be willing to stop. Nor will they until the people themselves rise up in rebellion against increasing levies. Now, when candidates for the next legislature are popping out all over the state, citizens should let them know how they stand and ought to demand of the would-be law-makers where they stand on this question.

If North Carolina cannot get along on the present gasoline tax, then it should draw in its reins to await a better day. We do need better roads and more of them, but this is one of the many things for which there may be need that we may have to be content without for a while.

A HAUNTING SPIRIT



Ruth Peeling

Scott's Visit Tonight Recalls Famed Comment

The fact that former Gov. Kerr Scott is going to speak at a Rotary Club meeting tonight in Beaufort recalls to mind the report on his famed "civic club comment."

The story, as reported by the Burlington Times-News reporter, Howard White, goes like this:

Early in Scott's administration as governor, he found an opportunity to tell civic clubs in the state that they weren't doing anything but eating and, consequently, too many projects were being overlooked.

That made a lot of civic club members mad, and some of them still haven't gotten over it.

But later, as Scott saw how his comment had brought blasts to him from all sections of the state, he told a group of intimate friends:

"That worked just like I hoped it would. I got some of them mad now, and I bet a lot of places are going to see more civic activity than they've known before. These people who are mad are going to show me that I'm wrong, which I am."

Our senate nominee has built a reputation of doing the unexpected. Whatever he does, he seems to create quite a stir.

Trains are getting frisky now that spring has come. Carl Hattell says a car jumped the track at his shop on Live Oak street and he thought his side wall was going to fall in. Friday a week ago I was driving to Morehead City and was blocked (along with umpteen other motorists) by a train across the highway at the Fry Roofing plant. A freight car had jumped the track.

The sheriff was behind me and we thought we could get around the obstacle by tacking off to the left through the roofing company lot. But before we executed that invasion of private property, the alert railroad men did what we felt

they should have done the minute the car jumped the track — detached the front car blocking the highway (which was not the one derailed) and let the engine pull it away, thus opening the road again.

Anyone who has not driven by the courthouse square should do so by all means. The blooming azaleas, dogwood, jonquils, violets, spirea, are something to behold. Everywhere the green fuzz on trees is already shaping into leaves. Spring, the ever awesome miracle, has come simultaneously with the burgeoning of a new man-made bomb.

Is this Earth's last spring? Will prophets of doom turn out to be the true prophets? Man's ever-flowing spring of faith could possibly run dry now.

Humanity should believe as does Louis Birstock, who, in "The Power of Faith," said, "I believe in the sun, even when it is not shining. I believe in love even when feeling it not, I believe in God, even when he is silent."

Author of the Week



Gerald Carson, author of "The Old Country Store," has lived and worked in both country and city. Winter-time resident of New York, he has a 150-acre farm near Miller-ton, N. Y.

From 1940 to 1947 he was a Benton & Bowles vice president; from 1947 to 1951, vice president and director of Kenyon & Eckhardt. Born in Carrollton, Ill., he has B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Illinois. He has now left big-city business to give his time to writing.

Thought for Today

Worry gives little things big shadows.

Captain Henry

Sou'easter

George Huntley says that as he and Mrs. Huntley were returning from their last trip, they were coming north along the west coast of Florida through St. Petersburg. George said his legs were feeling numb and so he decided to stop in St. Pete and pay a visit to one of those doctors there whom he thought would be right up on ailments like that what with all the retired folks being there who need medical attention.

So he went to a doctor who examined him thoroughly. Couldn't find a thing wrong with him. Then the doctor asked, "Mr. Huntley, do you drink?" And George replied that he never touches the stuff.

The doctor's next comment was, "Well, I advise you to take at least two drinks a day. That'll be \$40 please."

With that, George's right hand got numb. He had a difficult time reaching for that wallet.

Have you noticed the smiles of satisfaction on the faces of all our dogs?

Since the town fathers have granted permission to the merchants to display their wares out on the sidewalk the dogs now are having a field day around the outdoor vegetable stands and other stuff.

Gray Hassell is somebody I think deserves a big hand. He's a quiet chap but he certainly gets things done. As town engineer he pushed through the Ann street drainage job in jig time and calmly goes about other town engineering jobs with no fussing. With the splendid cooperation of the town street department, he gets things done.

Harold Simpson and Crip Jones are real golf addicts. I never thought I'd live to see the day.

Stamp News

By SYD KRONISH

STAMP NOTES . . . Switzerland has issued two new stamps show-



ing its Alpine Postal Coaches. This set will replace the previously issued auto post office adhesive of 1937, re-issued in 1946 . . . Brazil has paid tribute to a national hero, Joe do Patricinio, by issuing a 60 centavos stamp commemorating the centenary of his birth . . . A new set of five stamps has been issued by Ethiopia, dedicated to its "return to the sea" . . . Somalia (formerly Italian Somaliland) has issued two new regulars and two airmails to honor the 2nd Somalia Fair.

In the Good Old Days

THIRTY-TWO YEARS AGO
Guion Motor Company of New Bern was advertising a new Overland for \$550.

from Cherry Point crashed in Tar-landing Bay between Bogue Banks and Morehead City.

The State Board of Education had appropriated \$54,850 to aid in establishing a four-year standard high school in rural areas, to insure each county in the state having at least one high school.

Beaufort town commissioners voted to remove overhanging dead limbs from the trees.

Beaufort town commissioners voted to complete the sewer lines in the town.

The Rev. W. Y. Stewart, pastor of the Core Creek Community Church, narrowly escaped serious injury when his car left the causeway between Atlantic Beach and Morehead City.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
Carl T. Chadwick and L. J. Nee had filed for the office of Mayor of Beaufort.

FIVE YEARS AGO

J. P. Betts had opened a new bakery in Beaufort.

The State Board of Conservation and Development voted to sell its Camp Glenn property to the A&EC railroad.

Elizabeth Huntley, Hattie Lee Humphrey, Laura Eure and Louise Hildebrand would represent the Beaufort High School in the final inter-school debates to be held at the University of North Carolina April 18 and 19.

Mrs. Ralph Eudy was re-elected to the presidency of the Beaufort PTA and Alfred Cooper was elected president of the Morehead City PTA.

TEN YEARS AGO
A Marine Corps fighter plane

Citizens of the Beaufort-Morehead City causeway requested a referendum on the question of being taken inside the corporate limits of Beaufort.

Wildlife Federation Protects Green Heron

In much of North America and some of South America, fishermen and others who haunt streams and marshes may frequently see what looks like a slender, awkward, long-legged crow spring from the ground, expel a long white "chalk mark" and fly a relatively short distance only to alight clumsily on some tree or shrub. In more cases than not this will be a green heron, a 17-inch bird with yellow or orange legs that are too long for a crow but too short to fit the average concept of a heron.



Green Heron

Green herons have been flying about this type of country since Pleistocene times and will probably continue to exist so long as suitable habitat may be found for them in which to find their food, build their nests and rear their young. They are common along the North Carolina coast. Their only value probably is to serve as a target for hunters who do not know that they are protected by law. They are of no food value themselves, the National Wildlife Federation points out, and do comparatively little damage to forms of life that are of food value to man.

These rather dumb-behaving birds are greenish black on the crown and when excited can raise a ragged crest on their heads. Their necks are brownish, their bellies ashy, and at a distance their bodies may appear to be gray. The young birds have black streaks on their breasts but these disappear with the advent of maturity.

Green herons are so well-known to outdoor folk that they naturally have many common names. Skeuon is a common name descriptive of their common reaction to disturbance. Chalkline is a common name descriptive of their habit of evacuating when they take flight. Shitepoke presumably refers to the same characteristic.

Green herons nest from Nova Scotia to North Dakota and south

to the Gulf Coast, Honduras and Guatemala. They winter from Florida and southeastern Texas to northern Colombia. They have been found in Bermuda, Haiti and Puerto Rico.

The nest, a clumsily constructed platform of sticks, is found in low trees over the water, usually in colonies and from 3 to 20 feet above the ground. Sometimes one nest may be occupied by two females. The pale blue eggs measure 1 1/2 by 1 1/7 inches and are incubated for 17 days. The young are clumsy, homely animals that gain 1/2 ounce a day for the first six days and may climb from their nest using beak, feet and wings to help them in the act.

The food of green herons is largely small marsh animals which are caught by a lightning like plunge of the beak. On occasion the bird may plunge into the water from a perch to catch prey. The food includes snakes, frogs, mice, insects, worms and similar small animals. The birds usually feed in early morning or late afternoon.

—E. Laurence Palmer

In This Modern Age Horse Power Sense is Needed



Plain old "horse sense" is not enough these days.

Traffic being what it is, you also need "horse power sense" or automobile sense — or just good judgment, if you please.

Old timers can remember when the country doctor, coming home at dawn after a sleepless night of calls, could fall asleep at the reins — and his faithful old nag would bring him safely home. That was horse sense.

But your automobile, miraculous as it is these modern days, just won't do that kind of a job. That's why you have to use your good judgment — and stay alert while driving.

Most accidents, in some degree, are caused by lapses of a driver's common "horse-power" sense — exceeding safe speed limits, driving

on the wrong side, passing on the wrong side or on a hill or curve, and similar chance-taking.

But there's one thing that hasn't changed much. A horse used to do some of the work of taking care of himself — grazing and exercising, for example — calling for outside repairs only when in need of the blacksmith or the veterinarian. A car will do some of that work, too — recharging its own battery as it operates, keeping itself lubricated with its oil pump, and so on.

But when it needs outside help — that's the time to make sure you take it to the man who handles your make of car, the man who knows it best.

It's up to your horsepower sense to make sure your car gets the kind of care that will keep it in safe operating condition.

Carteret County News-Times

WINNER OF NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AND NORTH CAROLINA PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARDS

A Merger of The Beaufort News (Est. 1912) and The Twin City Times (Est. 1936)
Published Tuesdays and Fridays by the Carteret Publishing Company, Inc.
504 Arendell St., Morehead City, N. C.

LOCKWOOD PHILLIPS — PUBLISHER
KLEAFORE DEAR PHILLIPS — ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
RUTH L. PEELING — EDITOR

Mail Rates: In Carteret County and adjoining counties, \$6.00 one year, \$3.50 six months, \$1.25 one month; elsewhere \$7.00 one year, \$4.00 six months, \$1.50 one month.

Member of Associated Press — Greater Weeklies — N. C. Press Association
National Editorial Association — Audit Bureau of Circulations

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to use for republication of local news printed in this newspaper, as well as all AP news dispatches.

Entered as Second Class Matter at Morehead City, N. C., Under Act of March 3, 1879.