

The Yancey Record

Established July, 1936

Trena P. Fox, Editor & Publisher
Miss. Zoe Young Associate Editor
Thurman L. Brown, Shop Manager
Archie H. Balfew, Photographer & Pressman
Published Every Thursday By
YANCEY PUBLISHING Company
Second Class Postage Paid At Burnsville, N. C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1967

NUMBER THIRTY-FIVE

Subscription Rates \$3.00 Per Year
Out of county \$4.00

Scene From Top O' The Hill

By: Jack Kelly

The last of the Kellys is now in Service. Has been for about three months now. I still think of him, as does Blanche, as "Little Barry". We pay no attention to the fact that he is a bit over six feet high, and weighs about one ninety, and dresses in a Marine Uniform. We are not exactly stubborn, it is just that he was the youngest and we decided he was "little Barry" and we are not about to let the Service change our minds on the subject. He is as comical looking as anybody else's son who enlists in the Corps, as Marines refer to the Service. He is really quite funny-looking with his shaven head that the Marines seem to insist upon as a part of the uniform.

Barry was quite fortunate. Since he has to wear a head with no hair on it to serve his Country, he is fortunate that he has one that favors mine, rather than the distaff side of the family. I'm serious about that, because some of Blanche's brothers have heads that are shaped like I wouldn't want my son's to be. Anyway, he is fortunate that he doesn't have any lumps or bumps or scars on his skull since, as a Marine, he has to wear it plumb-dab-out in the open like he does.

We visited him and his wife on Easter Sunday. Barry is a private, poor fellow, while his wife is an Officer and a Gentleman. Yep, Beth is a lieutenant with two stripes on her sleeve. She is stationed at the hospital down in Quantico and Barry is there too, but not in quite such an exalted position. All Officers get a tag on their car so that the enlisted personnel can give them a salute when it passes. As a result, Barry will be flat-footed by the time he gets out because he gets into trouble driving it without Beth in the car. As soon as the guard at the gate salutes the car and realizes he saluted another private, well, he gets mad and chases Barry and forces him off the road, then makes him explain what he is doing driving a car with an Officer's Seal. Next to being an out-and-out spy, this is the worst offense a man can commit in the Marines. As long as Beth goes with him, it is okay. He is accepted as a chauffeur. By himself, nowadays, he walks.

Beth is real nice about their difference in Rank though. She hardly ever makes him drill over an hour or so a day. Except, of course, when her family comes to visit. Then, naturally, poor Barry gets quite a workout. She wanted to drill him for Blanche and me on Sunday but I said no. She was real nice about it. She only made him stand at Parade Rest, most of the time. Of course, every now and again, from force of habit, I guess, she would bellow out

"Attention!" and Barry would snap into it. I thought it was real comical but Blanche, well, she didn't say too much, but I know she didn't fancy it. When they come down to Burnsville for a visit, I'll have Beth give him a workout, if any of you want to watch it. You'll like it because she is only as big as a minute. Maybe, almost five feet high, and weighs possibly a hundred pounds if you catch her with a wet overcoat over her full uniform.

I feel sure that Gordon and Eloise Bennett will love seeing Barry drill when they come this summer, that is, if Blanche doesn't get to them first they will. This sort of thing opens up a whole new can of worms in the marriage idea. Looks like the Government is making for more than equal rights for women. Worst thing is that the poor "private" husband can't do a thing to defend himself. He would get sent to Leavenworth Penitentiary out in Kansas if he struck a superior Officer — and who wants to go to Kansas?

RALEIGH REPORT

By: Ernest Messer

The past legislative week has witnessed hearings before legislative Committees on a proposal to increase the interest rate on home loans from 6 to 7 percent, a bill to liberalize the regulations concerning abortions, and a long and heated hearing on the proposal to make Eastern Carolina College a separate University.

A bill to revise the jury system was passed into law. This bill eliminates all blanket exemptions from jury duty. Hereafter, only individuals will be excused from jury service, and these on a personal application.

Each county will have a three man jury commission. One will be appointed by the resident judge, one by the Clerk of the Superior Court, and the third by the County Board of Commissioners. This Commission will be responsible for providing jury lists for use by the Courts.

The House passed and sent to the Senate a bill to give County Commissioners power to provide ambulance service to areas where such service is inadequate.

A hearing has been set for Tuesday, May 2, on a bill that would permit firemen in North Carolina to organize into a union, but would prohibit them from striking. The hearing was

IT NEVER FAILS



requested by the League of Municipalities.

Western North Carolina Wildlife Clubs have been much concerned about the diminishing number of deer in deer reserves in Western North Carolina.

Commissioner T. N. Massie of the Ninth District has been working with the Wildlife Commission in an effort to solve the problem. A solution which seems to be satisfactory to all parties has been worked out.

Beginning this fall Sherwood, Standing Indian, and Fires Creek will be closed to deer hunting, and deer hunting will be curtailed in other areas.

I have before me 13 bills that have been introduced in the General Assembly. These 13 contain a total of 751 pages, or an average of 58 pages per bill. The shortest contains 11 pages and the longest 234. These are only some of the long bills.

The "brown bag" bill has finally passed.

After a six year struggle, the teachers of North Carolina again have a Continuing Contract.

When a contract has been signed, it will remain in effect from year to year until terminated by the Board of Education by written notice sent by registered letter.

BE A

SAFE DRIVER

Auto accidents don't just happen.

They are caused. An overwhelming proportion of them are caused by some human element. Sometimes this human element involves a driver with a physical or emotional condition that makes him a less than ideal driver.

You may think you are in good health. You may have an excellent safety record. Yet, under certain circumstances, it can be dangerous for you to be in the driver's seat, says a pamphlet of the American Medical Association.

Doctors agree that the emotional stability of the driver is as important as any single factor in maintaining traffic safety. That's why you owe it to others — and to yourself — not to drive when you have serious problems on your mind. If you are thinking about that argument you had before you left your home or of-

FLIM-FLAM AT THE FOKTLIGHTS

This astute reporter, ever alert for headlines in the making, dropped by the Playhouse where it is said there is some action almost every afternoon, and fell into conversation with a juvenile stage hand languishing by the stone wall in the sun. Hoping to uncover some pre-rehearsal backstage gossip, we fed this candid character some adroitly phrased leading questions about the elementary school play which is coming up.

... if you're in a depressed or angry "I-don't-care-what-happens" mood; if you're very worried about a personal problem... you're better off not driving.

The sleepy driver causes many accidents. In fact, a sleepy driver is as much of a hazard as a drinking one. Dozing at the wheel can occur in broad daylight as well as at night. When making long trips in the summer vacations soon to come, rest every two hours and drink coffee or cola to stay alert. Next time you feel the least bit drowsy while driving, pull up and rest up.

Research proves that many medicines, not just a few, can affect the way in which you handle the wheel. Certain commonly used drugs such as anti-histamines, cold tablets and mild sedatives may dull your reflexes or impair your coordination. Stimulants can make you nervous. Tranquillizing drugs can cloud your judgment and interfere with driving skills. Consult your doctor about the side effects of any drugs you take. Don't drive until you know that the medicine or drugs you take won't affect your driving.

It goes without saying that alcohol and gasoline are a dangerous combination. You don't have to be drunk to be dangerous. Even a small amount of alcohol can impair judgment and reactions of many persons.

Driving calls for clear, healthy eyesight, side vision, judgment of distance and the ability to see well at night. Have your eyes tested regularly. If you have glasses for distance vision, don't forget to wear them.

If you have a nervous disorder, or a heart condition, or diabetes, ask your doctor whether you are a safe driver. This also applies as you get older. Past 65, reflexes and coordination tend to be a little slower.

"Now, what's this I hear about this Pied Piper rumble?" this reporter shrewdly inquired.

"Holy Houselights," ejaculated the unsuspecting hand, shifting his 2c sucker to the other cheek. "It's the greatest! This will be a swinging place Friday evening, May 12."

"They tell me that sweet Marilyn Laughrun is making her stage debut."

"Sweet!" guffawed the Reliable Source, "I'd say sneaky, and you oughta see Bobby Byrd hitched up to Carolyn Allen. Now! there's a pair."

"Does Mark Warner really play a pipe?" we cunningly probed.

"Like Benny Goodman;" brushing his long curly auburn bangs out of his eyes, "and Wesley Hensley ain't no slouch. He's a Chester, ya know," revealed the informant.

"What's this about Marsha Banks committing assault and battery against Charlie Metcalf in the first act?"

"That ain't nothing. Wait til you see that Tyner kid have it out with Janet Burhoe in the second act. But you can't blame him after what she does to him. But the cutest thing is those little kids that are supposed to be the townspeople. Ya see, in the first act, the rats, ya know, are — Oh oh. Here comes the cast for practice. I'm the Big Noise, ya know. Sound effectman. Very important. Crazy Cue Sheets, I gotta go now. Sorry Buh... Maybe next week..."

It seemed a good time for this interviewer whose penetrating observations have already won a host of enemies, to beat a hasty retreat. Besides, it is depressing to see a bunch of cats having so darn much fun working.

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