



Social Note — Mrs. Locke Craig of Asheville was in Raleigh last week visiting with Mrs. J. Crawford Biggs. Although a majority of the readers of this column hardly remember when Craig was governor, here his widow is hale and hearty in this spring of 1951 and off on a visit with friends made while she lived at the Mansion.

Coffee Shoppe — Observed in quiet conversation while waiting for their lunch in the Sir Walter Coffee Shoppe last week were all the state supreme court judges save the top man, cane-swinging Judge Stacey. He is seldom seen with his assistants. They seldom lunch outside their own group; and almost invariably eat their mid-day meal at the S&W or the Sir Walter.

Among other prominent people who may be seen lunching in the coffee shoppe almost any day are Mrs. J. C. B. Ehringhaus and Mrs. J. M. Broughton.

Empty Houses — As service camps expand in Southeastern North Carolina, the housing shortage increases. Anything with four walls and a roof is acceptable.

The current issue of Time Magazine reports that at Camp Lejeune, newcomers stopped trying to rent "those empty houses over there," after it was pointed out to them that the buildings are used for training Marine Corps recruits in the tactics of house-to-house fighting.

Welcome Mat Dept. — Speaking of housing, Top Sail Beach real estate men down near Holly Ridge mailed letters to certain folks around Raleigh last week telling them they had been chosen to receive without cost a parcel of land right there on the big pond. The catch was that recipients of the gift had to take the letter to the beach within four days to stake out the claim and receive other conditions for ownership. At this writing, nobody to our knowledge has seen fit to make the trip.

The Hotel Sir Walter here is rendering service men a fine service. Few of them in Raleigh for the week end bring a bag with them. Custom everywhere of course is to require hotel guests not having suitcases with them to pay rent in advance. Instead the Sir Walter is presenting the service men with nice cards upon registering and letting them pay when they check out.

Business — Retail businesses along the North Carolina-South Carolina line for years now have been losing business to the Palmetto State because of the fact that Tar Heels could go just across the line and buy products without paying the sales tax.

That situation has now been cured, the South Carolina legislature having put on a sales tax a few days ago. Georgia also put on a sales tax this year.

North Carolina was one of the first states to go into the sales tax field. This year, 30 of the 48 states have a sales tax, and Uncle Sam is apparently thinking of putting on one. Tennessee now has a sales tax. Virginia is still without one.

More and more states are swinging away from a tax on land as the basis for their income and are going heavily into the sales and income brackets, which are so sharply responsive to fluctuations in business. North Carolina was a leader in this change and its wisdom has been amply demonstrated. We are one of the very few states that did not have to raise taxes this year.

Movement — At a party given for him last Saturday night by his former associates in the State Banking Commission, Gurney P. Hood as casually as tying a shoe lace announced that a movement was started "today"—last Saturday—urging him to run for governor. His wife seemed more surprised than anybody else at the gathering and chided the former banking commissioner for not letting her in on the surprise.

Joe Wolfe, executive secretary of the N. C. Bankers Association, had the day before reported on what the annual meeting of the bankers in Pinehurst this week would be concerned with. However, Gurney Hood Saturday night set the stage for the chief topic of

conversation, at the four-day meeting of the bankers.

Nobody contacted by this column over the week end seemed to know anything about the "movement," but it could have started down the outer banks, which are neither par nor non-par. That's where Hood has been resting since Scott turned him out as banking commissioner.

Political Activity — This brings the "semi-announced" gubernatorial candidates to three: William B. Umstead of Durham; Brandon Hodges of Asheville, presently the state treasurer; and Gurney P. Hood, lately commissioner of banks, born in Goldsboro and long-time resident of Raleigh. In addition there has been a movement for very able Sam J. Erwin, supreme court justice from Morganton, and some talk about Thad Eure. Finally we suspect Olla Ray Boyd will run as usual.

It begins to appear that 1952 will see more political activity than usual even for a gubernatorial year. For Lt. governor: Roy Rowe, able, young and likeable former senator from Pender county, is running. Rowe is a successful business man. John Larkins, the veteran irrepressible senator from Jones county may run. J. V. Whitfield, representative from Pender may run (this will undoubtedly hurt Roy Rowe); and J.E. Pittman, lawyer, businessman and former senator from Lee county is a candidate. Pittman is able, middle of the road, and well liked. His law partner, Willie Staton, was a public relations man for Frank Graham, and will be able to help Pittman considerably with his campaign.

\$165,000 — The state government is not only reaching out over the state figuratively, it is spreading literally as well, and last week completed negotiations for the purchase of Mansion Park hotel two blocks east of the capitol for \$165,000. The old Meredith college building will be used initially to house certain state agencies, but will in time be converted into another beautiful state office building. This purchase was made possible by a legislative enactment authorizing the state to purchase land in anticipation of future needs. A considerable saving in money may be thus achieved.

One of its residents is Frank Guy, Statesville native who has been a Mansion Park roomer for 25 years. He remarked last week that he could tell folks he was forced to move when the home he had occupied for a quarter of a century was sold for \$165,000.

Guy, a bachelor who knows the in's and out's of politics, is employed in the state auditor's office. He can send you into hysterics with tales of by-gone days. Some time he should write a book on "Raleigh Confidential" or something. His best story, which don't do to tell here, recounts how he first met the late Gov. A. W. McLean in all his dignity in a rest room in the capitol—and the conversation which followed about plumbing fixture and toilet facilities which were in existence in the State house in 1925.

Guy reports that the governor's dignity in the rest room that day was never matched again by him, or any governor since.

Fired — William T. Couch, who during his 20 years at Chapel Hill built the University of North Carolina Press into one of the best of its nature in the business, has been fired as director of the University of Chicago Press. Nobody in this state seemed to know much about the firing until they read the current copy of Scene Magazine.

In this article, Couch says he was turned out because he insisted on publishing a book, "Americans Betrayed," which tells of hundreds of Japanese families being moved out to California during World War II.

The book was written by Morton Grodzins, a member of the staff of the University of California. That university said the University of Chicago was behaving terribly in using the materials prepared by one of their staff members. There were probably other reasons for their not wanting it published. Couch went ahead anyway when it could not be ascertained that he was acting unethically or illegally. Anyway, the main thing in which N. C. is interested is that their man Couch, whom they had such a high regard for and hated so much to lose five years ago, is now out in the cold. He'd better have stayed down here with us liberal people and out of that rarefied atmosphere which seems to envelop the Univ. of Chicago.

HE NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD!
Lt. E. K. Brake of Camp Le Jeune spent from Thursday to Sunday with Mrs. Brake and children, Toni and Jerry.

TOMMY BROWN CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY

Tommy Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Brown, celebrated his seventh birthday with a party at his home Tuesday afternoon, May 15. The children were attracted by Tommy's pony and spent most of the afternoon riding.

Following a good time of fun and frolic, birthday cake and ice cream were served to the following: Kay Greene, Ann McSweeney, Linda Matthews, Pricilla Morris, Donald Stubbs, Rhoda Ann Morris, James Gresham Northcott, Inez Jones, Mack Kirkpatrick, Marshall Garland, Robin Corkran, Junior Jones, Rusty Lunsford, Sarah Jane Goodson, Bruce Knupp, Tameron Knupp, Bobby Fitzgerald, and Wanda Knupp. Mrs. Brown was assisted by Mrs. W. K. McLean of Asheville, Mrs. Lee Morris, and Mrs. Todd Knupp.

Tea And Topic Club Has Monthly Meeting

The monthly bridge meeting of the Tea and Topic Club was held at the home of Mrs. E. S. Jackson, Blue Ridge, Friday night, May 11. When scores were added Mrs. S. S. Cooley held high for the evening. Mrs. Carl Trickett received the consolation prize, and Mrs. W. W. White the bingo award.

Those present were Mrs. R. T. Greene, Mrs. A. F. Tyson Jr., Mrs. Roy Taylor, Mrs. Richard Oulahan, Mrs. White, Mrs. J. L. Holman Jr., Mrs. Cooley, Mrs. Otty Leeman, Mrs. John Ramsay, Mrs. Gordon Greenwood and Mrs. Trickett. A sweet course was served by the hostess.

SHORT VACATION

Mrs. A. J. Pemberton and Mrs. Douglas Jones left last week end for a short vacation in Norfolk, Va. Mrs. Pemberton will visit her brother near Norfolk, and Mrs. Jones will visit her son and daughter-in-law and grandson, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Milbee and Micheal.

PARENTS ILL

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Tinney returned Friday night from Pennsylvania where they were called due to the illness of Mrs. Tinney's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Davis Bowman, who are both ill in St. Joseph's hospital in Lancaster, Pa.

KEY CITY EMPLOYEE

Miss Jeraldine Collins of Rutherfordton is spending the summer with her sister, Mrs. Billy Stephenson. She is employed at the Key City Drug Store.

COMING HOME

Mr. and Mrs. Rush Whiteside will arrive about June 15 from Philadelphia, Pa., where they have been spending the winter.

Lions Will Report On State Convention

Members of the Lions Club who attended the state convention at Winston-Salem May 20-22 will report tonight at the regular meeting of the club at the Mountain Vista. President William Hickey will preside. Dempsey Whitaker is program chairman.

Plans are under way for the annual ladies night to be held on June 14 at the Black Mountain club house.

RODEHAUS GUESTS

Mrs. N. L. Perkins and Mrs. Mary E. Aleshire entertained a dinner Monday evening for Captain and Mrs. E. H. Rodehaus who will leave today (Thursday) for Kelley Field, San Antonio, Texas where Capt. Rodehaus will be briefed for European service with the air corps.

VISIT IN SPRUCE PINE

Mrs. L. H. Stepp of Ridgecrest highway spent last week end with Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Stiles and small son in Spruce Pine.

WEEK IN BIG TOWN

Mrs. E. M. Hoffman and daughter, Jean Stewart, are spending a week in New York City.

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MAY 24 - 25

ROYAL WEDDING
Fred Astaire - Jane Powell
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FURY OF THE CONGO
Johnny Weissmuller
SHORTS

MONDAY & TUESDAY
MAY 28-29

AL JENNINGS OF OKLAHOMA
A COLUMBIA PICTURE
TECHNICOLOR
starting DAN DURITA-GALE STORM with DICK LORAN-Gale's new
Guino "Big Boy" Williams-Screen Play by George Bricker-From a
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Directed by Ray McCarty

SHORTS

WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY
MAY 30 - 31

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COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
Starring
JEFF CHANDLER-EVELYN KEYES
with PHILIP FRIEND - A UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL PICTURE
NEWS

THIS WEEK'S Specials!

1949 CHEVROLET 4-Door Sedan - Radio & Heater Seat Covers ----- \$1295.00

1949 CHEVROLET 2-Door New tires, low miles \$1325.00

1949 FORD 8, Custom 4-Door Sedan, good tires, radio, heater ----- \$1395.00

1948 CHEVROLET SEDAN Bargain ----- \$975.00

1950 FORD 1 Ton Stake Dual wheels ----- \$1275.00

1949 CHEVROLET 1 Ton Pick-up, deluxe cab \$1195.00

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1941 CHEVROLET 1/2 Ton Pick-up, new tires... \$525.00

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