

## Rocky Mountain Fever Reported In Area

Thirty four cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever have already been reported in North Carolina since April, according to Dr. J. N. MacCormack, chief of the Communicable Disease Control Section of the State Board of Health. "Eleven cases were reported in May and 23 so far in June," said Dr. MacCormack. "The disease usually peaks in May and June and slacks off when the weather becomes hot." At present North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee and Oklahoma lead the nation in reported cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Last year, North Carolina was first in the nation in the number of cases reported with 107, compared to 88 in 1970. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, so called because it was first diagnosed in the Rocky Mountain states, is spread by ticks. The common tick responsible for transmitting the fever in North Carolina. The lone star tick which inhabits eastern North Carolina may also be a culprit. According to Dr. MacCormack, the disease strikes

hardest in North Carolina's piedmont counties, but it has been reported from the mountains to the sea. Cases occur during the warm months when ticks are active and people spend more time out of doors. Most cases involve preschool and school children. The illness usually starts within three to 12 days of a tick bite. Fever, chills, headache, muscle aching, and sometimes an upset stomach are usually the first symptoms. A rash almost always appears on the second to sixth day. The rash, which may resemble the pinkish rash of measles or rubella, usually appears first on the wrists, palms, ankles, and soles. In a few days, it may become deep red or purple. In severe cases, death may occur; this is uncommon if treatment is begun early, Dr. MacCormack explained. What can be done about Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever? Dr. MacCormack gave these suggestions: Obviously a person should avoid contact with ticks if possible. This can be done by

staying out of bushy fields and woods during the tick season, and by wearing proper clothing when venturing into these areas. Trouser legs should be tucked into the tops of socks. Avoid sitting on logs or on the ground. Tick repellents for use on skin have not proven to be very satisfactory; however, the military has been experimenting with clothing treated with repellents with some success. Reducing the tick population in recreational or residential areas by keeping weeds and brush cut back is a deterrent. Various pesticides such as chlordane and carbaryl (sevin) applied at a rate of two pounds of actual pesticide per acre to one-half pound per acre, have also proven satisfactory. A Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever vaccine is available for persons frequently exposed to ticks. This vaccine should be given early in the season followed by a booster dose each year. Although it does not completely prevent infection, the vaccine does tend to make infection less severe if it does occur. Children and others who work or play in the out-of-doors during warm months should be inspected at least twice daily for ticks with special attention to the scalp. If attached ticks are discovered remove them by pulling slowly and steadily (preferably with tweezers) so that mouthparts are not left in the skin. After removal apply an antiseptic to the wound. Do not crush ticks between your fingers. Cases of "spotted fever" are being reported in North Carolina according to Richard G. Steeves, Cleveland County's

Health Director. Last year, 107 cases with 7 deaths were reported in the state. "Spotted fever," often referred to as "Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever," because of its original diagnosis in the Rocky Mountain states, is sometimes misjudged as measles or German measles. It is an acute infectious disease characterized by fever, headache, muscle pains, and a rash. The rash does not usually begin until about the third day of the illness and then appears first on the hands and feet, spreading rapidly to the rest of the body. In severe cases, death may occur; this is uncommon if treatment is begun early. The organism that causes this disease (Rickettsia rickettsii) is similar to a virus and is transmitted by the bite of the dog tick. The disease is most common on the eastern seaboard, especially in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and Tennessee. Cases occur during the warm months when ticks are active and people spend more time out of doors. The majority of cases are in pre-school and school age children. In calling attention to the seriousness of this disease, Mr. Steeves gave the following practical preventive suggestions: (1) Parents should examine their children at least twice a day for ticks. If present, they should be re-

moved gently with tweezers or forceps so that the head of the tick does not remain imbedded. (2) Dog owners should remove all ticks from their dogs each day. (3) The possibility of R M S F should be kept in mind whenever a person complains of fever, headache, and muscle pains during the warm months; the rash may not appear as early as other symptoms. Antirabic treatment is effective if instituted early.

## Keep Cool

Just in case the severe hot weather worries readers of this newspaper and makes them think they may be victims of sunstroke or heat prostration, we call attention to certain symptoms. Sunstroke offers ample warning, including headache, nausea and a dry skin, and heat prostration cautions us by pallor, a feeble heart action and subnormal temperature. They attack aged adults and the very young but everyone can, and should, take precautions. Over-exertion is dangerous and over-eating serious. Excess sugar and fat in the diet should be avoided, meat taken lightly and raw vegetables, salads and fruits freely consumed. Cool water, but not iced, is recommended, along with light clothes and frequent baths.

George Meany, AFL-CIO President, on living costs: "It is high time the President paid more attention to the inequitable, unworkable mess he has created."

Edward Kennedy, Senator (D-Mass): "I wish to repeat and state as finally as I can that there are no circumstances under which I would accept a nomination for any national office this year."

## reflections

by Rodney Dodson



A lot has happened in my life since last week's edition. Becoming a father is hard to prepare for, and even harder to get adjusted to. At 1:29 p.m. last Wednesday, Sue gave birth to a beautiful little 5 lb. 5 oz. girl. We decided to name her Holly Kristin, and although we expected a boy, I wouldn't have it any other way now.

About all I knew of the behavior of expectant fathers when delivery time comes is what I've seen on TV, and I suppose I anticipated a large lobby with young men pacing the floor or something. When the time came to go, and Sue was wheeled off to the delivery room, I was instructed to wait in the "mens waiting room" a little 6 X 8 cubicle at the end of the hall, and a nurse would be by to talk with me shortly. I was alone in the room, or at least felt that way, save one older man who was sitting chucking at a program on the color TV. I don't think I'll ever forget that TV picture, because my eyes were fixed to it. The colors were all blue and orange and out of adjustment. There we sat watching it - my mind still groggy from being up all of the previous night, and my stomach growling from lack of breakfast. I kept waiting for

the nurse who was going to talk with me, but they just kept scurrying by the glass windowed wall, oblivious to anyone inside. I couldn't help but think that June 28th, certainly a great moment in my life, was only another working day on the maternity floor at Cleveland Memorial. I was getting more nervous as each second ticked by. I hadn't heard any more from Sue, and that man, whose wife had obviously already given birth judging from his relaxed manner, kept chucking at the Beverly Hills rerun.

Sue's mother and sister-in-law arrived, and helped me wait. Finally, I asked a nurse at about 1 p.m. how she was doing, and after checking, reported back to us that I would be called, and Dr. Lamplsey was standing at the door grinning. He gestured to the hallway, where my wife and daughter were lying on the bed. At a moment when I would have expected elation, I could only stare in amazement. Dr. Lamplsey then patiently assured me that both were doing fine, a perfect delivery. I think he's a great doctor.

Finally I could relax...the months of anticipation and restless nights were over. Hal Little Holly come home with us Sunday. I'm writing this

Monday a.m., following a night of sleeping on the couch, with one ear open listening for whimpers, and bringing nursing supplies to mother. It's going to be another long year.

While my pride was running rampant over my new daughter, Co-publisher Lem was running wild in the streets. No he didn't have a baby - but he does have a new Olds with over 300 miles on it. If you look closely, you may see a blue Olds with white vinyl top circling your block. He says he's having to beat the females off with a stick!! I think it's about time I traded.

Never! The chief fault of the party system is that we never manage to get all of the liars on the same side. -Independent, Ashland, N.C.

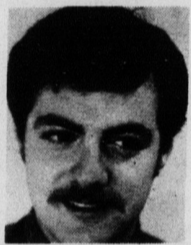
True Worry will make almost anyone thin - except the people who worry because they are fat. -Reporter, Kanawha, Ia.

## What New Budget Means

Budgets are a necessary part of any community. Money must be allocated according to the needs of each department. People realize this fact of life but unfortunately may never be aware of where the money is going. The 1972-73 budget includes all departments and plans to fulfill each department's needs. The fire department for example is to expect a new fire truck and pumper as well as safety equipment such as ladders, etc. The administrative department is on tap for a new billing machine and the electric and power system will receive a new substation. Sanitation department needs include a new truck and two garbage compactors. The water department will obtain fire hydrants, water pumps and meter boxes, while the gas system needs a detection machine for leaks and equipment. The KM Police department can look forward to three new cars. A backhoe, dump truck, and lawn mower will be in order for the cemetery department.

## perspective

by Jay Ashley



I'm not exactly what you might call a Mr. Fix-it. I am well acquainted with this species of human being which is more commonly referred to as a jack of all trades. This person could, with a little ingenuity and a lot of imagination, make a silk purse from a sow's ear. It is a trait that is born in them and everything they come in contact is immediately rendered workable.

Unfortunately I do not enjoy such a talent. If I had a ruler and a pencil with three pounds of eraser I'm sure the line I draw with these tools would resemble a mountain road. Knowing myself I should have immediately been apprehensive when I undertook the task of staining and varnishing a bookcase at home. When I first mentioned undertaking this massive task I was greeted by looks of terror by my wife Barbara who could only visualize the spare bedroom and its contents floating towards Lake Wylie in a sea of varnish. I assured her in a most confident voice that the strokes of my brush would be equal to the renderings of a Van Gogh or a da Vinci. I envisioned a lovely bookcase stained by the walnut liquid and lustered by a sealer of highest quality, sitting in a soft light resembling the work of a master carpenter.

You know as I look back now I realize that dreams usually work out a whole lot better than reality. With the idealist feeling of a youngster I went to the hardware store to make my purchases. Brushes, stains, sealers, sandpaper, the works. When I got home I burst through the door with a smile on my face that would make a child's face on Christmas day look like the visage of a mourner at a funeral. Off with the good clothes and on

with the slob suit, open the stain and get to work.

It really astounds me to look back at this incident. How far a pint of stain can go is remarkable, and I'm not talking about how far it goes on wood either. From hair to feet, no part of my body escaped the ability of this stuff to find a patch of skin previously untouched.

At last the first coat was on and I must admit it didn't look too bad. I could hear Barbara unleash a sigh of relief when she heard that the job was finished. "I'll wait until tomorrow for the second coat I proclaimed," and I got that same old look of terror. "I wonder what's wrong with her?" I thought. I should have left well enough alone. It can go without saying that the bookcase now looks like a railroad tie with the measles. Somehow those shelves were more spotted with stain than a leopard is with dots. It dripped from my brush and it dripped from my arms and it dripped from my fingers.

As I sit here now I can still detect the hint of brownness around my fingernails and the smell of stain in my nose. If carpenters have paint for blood and wood for skin maybe I had better stick with printers ink for blood and newspaper for skin. If I stick with newspaper skin it had better be thick cause I still hear those words ringing in my ears from Barbara as I left for work Monday, "Don't worry, I'll put the sealer on this afternoon!" The unkindest cut of all!!!

Being unfamiliar with most of the businesses and organizations has not been without its laughs. On day last week a fellow called the office and I answered the phone for the

first time. "Kings Mountain Mirror," I answered in my most professional voice.

The voice on the other end said, "I would like to make a public announcement, please."

Eager to get down the facts I began questioning the man about the public announcement he wanted printed.

"I wanted you to know that the wagi fellowship revival will be held next week, July 7 at 7:30 at the Crossroads Music Park," the man requested.

Now I had only been in Kings Mountain for one full day and I had heard of the Crossroads Music Park but for the life of me I couldn't figure out what wagi meant.

Not wishing to embarrass either the voice or myself I asked the man to please give me the spelling of "wagi."

"Sure," he politely replied. "That's w-a-g-i-f-m." I was really confused by this time. I couldn't see how in the world anyone could get "wagi" out of a word spelled with "fm" on the end. "Now w-a-g-i-f-m is pronounced "wagi," is that correct?"

"Yes sir and you tell everyone that the big wagi fellowship revival will feature all the preachers and gospel singers they hear on the big wagi radio," the man continued.

I guess we could have talked all day without my figuring out where or what wagi was until he said radio. Of course! WAGI-FM! It's a radio station. Luckily I had gotten all the necessary information because when it dawned on me what WAGI-FM was, I was so happy I really didn't hear the rest of the conversation.

## Don't Share Much

By John Kilgo  
KQ SYNDICATE

When Jesse Helms and Nick Galifianakis start picking at each other, it'll likely turn into a pretty good brawl, as political fights go.

About the only thing that the two men share in common is a desire to represent North Carolina in the U.S. Senate.

Helms, a former Democrat turned Republican, is an articulate, smooth-as-honey talker who has preached a conservative doctrine to thousands and thousands over WRAL-TV in Raleigh and on radio via the Tobacco Network.

Some newsmen complained during the Republican primary that Helms wouldn't make himself available to answer their questions. I never experienced any problems with Helms, but other reporters around the state tell me that Helms referred them to his editorials when they tried to pump him.

After Galifianakis defeated Sen. B. Everett Jordan in the Democratic primary, Helms came out with a statement congratulating Jordan on the gentlemanly way in which he conducted his campaign, implying ever so subtly that Galifianakis had indulged in some half-truths along the way.

Galifianakis was afraid during the primary that people would look upon him as a knee-jerking liberal. He went to great pains to produce his voting record in Congress, which proved, according to Nick G., that he was indeed a moderate politician.

Helms, you can rest assured, will try to paint a different picture of his opponent, hoping to give voters the view that Galifianakis travels down the left side of the highway.

Galifianakis will continue with his person-to-person campaigning, which he feels comfortable with.

Like other Democratic candidates in the state, Galifianakis must decide how closely he wants to be allied with the national ticket.

And from the early indications, the Senate race is going to be tighter than your average millionaire.



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