

**THE HIGHER
THE FEWER**

There's Always Plenty of Room
At The Top

By
NANCY J. MIDGETT

In the month of January, in the year of Our Lord, 1955, two important events took place in the life of yours truly, NJM.

The more important, and the event that comes in the "higher" category was that of my being granted citizenship as an American citizen. This had followed much thought on my part and the necessary time on the part of the authorities but I feel it was something I wanted to do and should do in view of the fact that I shall, as far as I know and plan, be living in this country for the remainder of my dotage. It is not that I have any dislike for either my native country, countrymen or its ways. I still love it and all my good friends there as anyone will the place of their birth, in fact it was the fact that I liked and knew my part of it and a few other parts so well that made me feel I wanted to go abroad and see if other places were just as comfortable and the folks as easy to get along with. Apart from some localized habits that one finds in any country, a general ability to enjoy the moment with not too much thought to the future, more than I find in my own folk, and of course the vastness of the country

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FOR LESS"**

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WANCHESE PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Daniels, Sr. visited their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Daniels, Jr. in Elizabeth City.

Mrs. Louise Williams has returned from visiting Mr. and Mrs. Irving Williams in Norfolk.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Daniels of Columbia visited relatives here.

Mrs. Dewey Tillett was in Elizabeth City Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Creel and son Lester Lee of Norfolk visited Mrs. Lucy Midgett.

"Buster" Daniels of Norfolk visited Mr. and Mrs. Kalb Daniels.

Miss Ola Tillett is recovering after being a patient in De Paul Hospital, Norfolk, and will return home today.

compared with the British Isles, I find little difference in people, once you get down to rock bottom, and find great joy in the living I have done in this country.

The second event is of no great importance to others than myself and my sister-in-law, Rosalene who, I think, isn't quite sure yet that I'm safe to be around. It all started Saturday afternoon when I was cleaning up the house. When picking up and brushing off the lounge seat cushions and brushing under same, what should I find but a cigar; goodness only knows what it belonged to but I looked at it, turned it over in my hand, and gave way to the whisper of the gremlin in my ear that I should smoke it. I had never smoked a cigar and wondered if they were as strong as they smelled and thought, "Well, this is good a time as any to find out"—so I lit up, and knowing more or less what Rosalene's reaction would be, strolled out on the back porch and into the back yard where she was working. She looked up, turned white, and squeaked, and on recovering the use of her voice, bawled out, "For Heaven's sake, Nancy, Crighton Midgett, (a sure sign of displeasure) have you lost your senses?" — and more — and more. Every time she goes down town now, I suggest she bring me a cigar; after all, candy does get monotonous.

Seriously though, I don't advise anyone else to try the darned things. Blowing good money, that could be used for useful and necessary things, up in smoke has always seemed to me the height of foolishness, and even if it hasn't been definitely proved that smoking is harmful to the health to any great extent, it has been proved that the health is better without them. Also, I must admit that though I waited in vain for the green tinge to appear in my face and the dash for the great outdoors, the floor did start doing peculiar things and I had to go and look at the calendar to make sure I wasn't already on the Queen Mary in mid Atlantic. I know our foundations need fixing but that couldn't account for acute angles that came and went in our sitting room Saturday. No one can convince me now that tobacco isn't harmful for something that can do that to a slightly ancient, but in good health, I believe, human like myself, must do something to one's make up to bring about the state of adaption to the angles.

If you've got to wear those stockings right away after washing, wrap them in a terry towel and run it through the washing machine wringer. Do it again with a new towel, if necessary.

OCCRACOKE PTA HAS ACTIVE PROGRAM IN IMPROVEMENTS**Building Repairs, Playground Improvements, and Kitchen Additions Voted**

Ocracoke Jan. 17.—Ocracoke School P. T. A. met on Monday night at the school library, with Harvey Wahab presiding. Treasurer Eph Esham reported a balance of approximately \$400 in the treasury, and the P. T. A. voted to spend about half of this for asbestos shingles for the recreation hall in order to insulate and weatherproof the building. Mr. Rondthaler reported that the new belt-type safety swings had proved fine for the playground and the P. T. A. voted to purchase four more of these. Mrs. Doris Garrish, Mrs. Dicie Wells and Mrs. Theodore Rondthaler were appointed to act as a P. T. A. kitchen committee and purchase any needed equipment from time to time. The P. T. A. voted to have a "stunt night" in February; definite plans for the program to be worked out by Mrs. Benjamin Spencer and Mrs. Theodore Rondthaler. Mrs. Frank Gaskins of Ocean City, who is visiting Mrs. Carlson O'Neal was a visitor. She has been away from the Island for about twenty-five years and is always glad to get back for visits with her relatives and friends here. Hostess Mr. R. Wahab Howard, Mrs. Taft Howard, Mrs. Marvin Howard, Mrs. Bertha O'Neal, Mrs. Edna O'Neal, and wives and coffee. The Secretary Mrs. Bessie Howard served sandwiched hostesses for the February meeting: Mrs. Kelly O'Neal, Mrs. Katie O'Neal, Mrs. Benjamin O'Neal, Mrs. Neva O'Neal, Mrs. Ellen Robinson, and Mrs. Theodore Rondthaler.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurston Fuller Gaskill are building a new home on land adjacent to the home of Mrs. Eleanor Burrus, across the street from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thurston Gaskill, Sr. The construction work replacing the Assembly of God parsonage, burned to the ground in October, is slowly but surely progressing. Each day some members of the church are seen at work on the foundations. Meanwhile Rev. and Mrs. Whitaker and Deborah are living in the Sunday School rooms. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gaskins of Ocean City are spending two weeks with Mrs. Carlson O'Neal. Mrs. O'Neal was home this past week end. Roy Parsons, working in Philadelphia, spent the past week end at home.

Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Howard and two children of Wake Forest were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Cox. Mrs. Reginald Burrus and Mrs. Al Gibbs visited Pvt. Al Gibbs U. S. A. near Pittsburg in Penn. to be with her husband. Mrs. Burrus flew back to Elizabeth City where her husband met her.

W. H. Cox left early this week for Illinois to visit Mrs. Cox's parents. She will return with him.

R. S. Spencer, Engelhard merchant, went to the High Point Furniture Mart.

Seventeen young people of the local Christian Church attended a C. Y. F. meeting in Elizabeth City Sunday.

Engelhard C. W. F. met at Mrs. Fred Berry's home Thursday with 19 attending. The meeting was held by the vice president, Mrs. L. M. Neal in the absence of the president, Mrs. Durwood Gibbs. Refreshments were served by the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Williams and Chester Williams visited in Hardeville, S. C., and Savannah, Georgia, with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lassiter and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Williams last week.

Mrs. Brittina Williams has returned home after spending several months with her son at Staten Island, N. Y. Her grandson, Alton Williams, accompanied her home and spent the week end here.

Mrs. R. S. Wahab has returned from a visit with her father in Belhaven.

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