

GLIMPSES OF THE PAST

By CAROLYN LLOYD

A rainy Saturday afternoon should be the perfect time to muse upon the past and come up with interesting nostalgic memories.

The book that tempts me so is Moss Hart's autobiography, "Act One," a well-written book particularly appealing to one who has always been a bit stage struck.

It is not strange, of course, that Hart should remember the Christmas when he was ten and his father had been out of work for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dearing and daughter are leaving Saturday for her home at State Road, N. C. for Christmas and will then go on to Chevy Chase, Maryland, to visit his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gaskins and son of Wilmington, Delaware, are expected home for the holidays, and will visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Forbes and his mother, Mrs. Ethel Gaskins.

It would be good to think that this year no child in all the world would learn that bitter lesson. For every one who rises above crushing poverty to fame or fortune, there are many whose spirits are crushed forever.

OCRACOKE PERSONALS

OCRACOKE, Dec. 16. — Ocracoke Civic Club met on Monday night, with Jack Willis presiding. Matters of routine business were discussed.

Van Henry O'Neal arrived home on Saturday, convalescing from hospitalization at Washington, N. C. Jake Alligood, Sr. is also at home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Boyette are expecting their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Boyette, Jr., from San Jose, California, for the holiday season.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edwards of Knightdale spent several days at the Spencer Apartments. They are building a home here at Ocracoke in the Wahab Village section.

James Moore Williams of Staten Island is also building a new home here and has been spending several days with his mother, Mrs. Britnie Williams, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Doward Brugh and daughter, Debbie, will spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Overton in Norfolk.

Mr. and Mrs. Wahab Howard are back from a three day trip to Richmond, Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dearing and daughter are leaving Saturday for her home at State Road, N. C. for Christmas and will then go on to Chevy Chase, Maryland, to visit his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurston Gaskill will spend Christmas with her son, Myron Garrish and his family, in Norfolk.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Harvey Wahab left last week for Virginia Beach to visit Harold Wahab there, and will then go on to Alexandria, Virginia, to visit O'Neal Wahab. They are also including in their trip a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Chesley Austin and family in Winston-Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin E. Spencer are planning to spend the holidays in Florida, visiting relatives and friends there.

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Forbes had as week end guests his sister, Mrs. Shelby Burgess and Mr. Burgess, of Raleigh.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter O'Neal and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Howard are back from a trip to Washington, N. C., and while away also drove on to Roanoke Rapids and spent two days there with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kennedy and family. Mrs. Kennedy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gaskins and son of Wilmington, Delaware, are expected home for the holidays, and will visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Forbes and his mother, Mrs. Ethel Gaskins.

Mrs. David Styron and daughter, Belinda and son, David, Jr., came for Thanksgiving and are staying on through the Christmas holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Calvin O'Neal, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. O'Neal also expect Mr. and Mrs. John Puett O'Neal for Christmas. Calvin O'Neal, Jr. and Larry Williams are planning to spend the holidays on a trip North, visiting in New York City, Portsmouth, N. H. and Portland, Maine.

On Monday night of this week members of the Assembly of God enjoyed their monthly Fellowship Meeting, representing the Ocracoke charge of the Cape Hatteras section. Mrs. Alice Austin of Buxton brought the message of the evening, and Presbyter Allen Price of Avon, Rev. David Raynor of Buxton and Rev. Jerry Hall of Hatteras also had a part, along with Rev. Charles Clary of

DECEMBER MORE DANGEROUS FOR DRIVING LATE

RALEIGH.—There's be more after-dark driving in December than in any other month of the year, it was emphasized this week by State Motor Vehicles Commissioner Elwarl Scheidt.

"This is the month of short days and long nights," he pointed out. Most workers are finding that they must use their headlights when driving home after the day's work now. And many stores are keeping their doors open every week-night for Christmas shopping.

Plans are in the making for holiday parties later this month, and automobiles are the favorite means of transportation to and from such events, he added.

"Mix these factors with quick changes in the weather, add snow and ice to make the going rough, and you can appreciate that the problems of traffic law enforcement officers become aggravated at this time of year," Scheidt declared.

"Individual citizens can help a great deal to alleviate these problems if they will accept greater personal responsibility," the state official advised.

"Highway patrolmen are ready to assist any motorist who is in distress, but so often the driver finds himself in a wintertime difficulty simply because he failed to check his battery, he forgot his gas tank was near empty, he overlooked replacing his old wiper blades that smear and streak his windshield instead of wiping it clean, or he took a chance that it wouldn't snow and left his tire chains at home. Now is the time every driver should be prepared for the worst winter has to offer," Scheidt declared.

"December is a month when everyone seems to get into a holiday mood," he observed.

"This should not and does not, mean that laws can be violated or logical safety precautions neglected without fear of punishment," he added. "The spirit of the season calls for extending goodwill toward all men and surely a good place to demonstrate such goodwill is on the highway."

The vehicles chief cautioned citizens to show good sense in driving and walking since "obeying the rules of courteous conduct will enable everyone to enjoy the entire holiday month." Failure to heed traffic laws, he warned, could make December indeed the "darkest month of the year."

the local charge.

Ocracoke School is closing on Friday of this week. On Thursday afternoon pupils of different rooms will present a Christmas program in the school recreation hall. It is an annual custom for parents to enjoy this particular program with the children. Two plays will be given, one by the elementary school, the other by the high school, and there will be recitations and songs. On Friday each room enjoys its own Christmas party before school is dismissed for the holidays.

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SOCIAL SECURITY TAKES MORE AFTER JANUARY 1

When employees receive their first paycheck after January 1, they will notice it is a little smaller.

Effective January 1, 1960 all employers will be deducting 3% of each paycheck for Social Security taxes and the employer's contribution also increases to 3%. During 1959 the tax was 2 1/2% from employers and employees alike but the additional tax is needed to keep the Social Security program in sound financial balance and was provided for by the Congress in the 1958 Amendments to the Social Security Act.

Self-employed persons will pay 3% self-employment tax on their 1959 earnings and will not feel the increased tax until the end of 1960 when they will pay a 4 1/2% tax on their net earnings.

These new tax rates are scheduled to remain in effect for three years, from January 1, 1960 through December 31, 1962.

The Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and the Disability Insurance programs are designed to operate on a "pay as you go" basis. All benefits and administrative costs are paid from Social Security taxes and interest. It has not been necessary for the Congress to appropriate any money from the general treasury to support these programs in past years and it is planned to maintain them on a self-supporting basis by increasing Social Security taxes when necessary.

Self-employed persons and wage

earners will pay the Social Security taxes only on the first \$4800 of earnings in 1960 as they did in 1959.

Anyone desiring information concerning these rates should contact their nearest Internal Revenue Office. For detailed information concerning Social Security contact your Social Security Office at 220 W. Brambleton Ave., Norfolk, Virginia. Hyde, Tyrrell and Beaufort counties are served by the New Bern office.

HOSPITAL NEWS

White patients listed at the Pungo District Hospital in Belhaven, December 7-14 were Mrs. Monteen Waters, Pinetown; Harry Blake, Scranton; Mrs. Shirley Tolan, Belhaven; Toliver T. Smith, New Holland; James E. Courson, Belhaven; Mrs. Rupert Norfleet, Rt. 2, Belhaven; Mrs. Mary Latham, Rt. 1, Panteo; Dan Sparrow, Scranton; Mrs. Carolyn Gibbs, Engelhard; Mrs. Hazel Williams, Swan Quarter;

Mrs. Jessie Matthews, Bath; Mrs. Naomi Thompson, Panteo; Mordie Chauncey, Belhaven.

Colored patients were baby Betty Watson, Belhaven; Emma Jane Satterthwaite, Rt. 2, Belhaven; William Braddock, Belhaven; Joyce Ann Spruill, Rt. 1, Panteo; Manuel Lanier, Rt. 1, Belhaven.

Births, white: Mr. and Mrs. Hallet Long Waters, a son, Hallet Long, Jr., on December 6. Mrs. Waters is the former Monteen Aster Harrison.

Invention of Camembert, the creamy cheese named for a village in France's Normandy, is credited to Marie Harel, the National Geographic Magazine says. She supposedly popularized the cheese by presenting a sample to Emperor Napoleon III.

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