

SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS



WASHINGTON — Lawmakers, like those who visit the Nation's Capital, welcome the spring pageant that is traditionally known here as the Cherry Blossom Festival. The warmer days and the Japanese cherry trees unfold a panorama along the Potomac Basin that is inspiring to all who witness it.

GENEVA PARLEY — North Carolinians remind me on many occasions that they have an abiding interest in the prospects for peace and the avoidance of war by this nation. To this end I am mindful of the trust imposed upon me as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. This year our defense expenditures will be in the neighborhood of \$50 billions so that we may effectively cope with aggression directed toward our country. The President recently commented on the progress we are making toward peace. He said: "the great currents of history are carrying the world away from Communism and toward democracy and freedom". At the same time while the tide may be moving with the United States, we still find it necessary to engage in talks with the Russians at the Geneva meeting that recall by-gone days. While I am not opposed to talking with the nations of the world about effective safeguards for peace, history has demonstrated time and again that an aggressor nation has no intention of abiding by a disarmament treaty. Reports from the conference have in-

indicated a willingness by our British friends to reduce to a minimum the standards for international inspection to safe-guard disarmament. Signing a weak treaty will not make disarmament possible, nor do I believe that we will want to relieve a period of history when effective treaties were unwisely hailed as the dawn of the era of peace. It is well to remind ourselves that while Soviet diplomats sit around the conference table at Geneva, Soviet actions are going on in Berlin, Vietnam, the Congo, and Cuba.

HEARINGS — Woodrow Wilson in his commentaries on Congress said, "Congress in committee is Congress at work". The tax revision bill has been reported for debate by the House Rules Committee, but for the most part Congress has been engaged in hearings on major pieces of legislation yet to come up for debate. House committees have been holding hearings on foreign aid for 1962 and the general farm bill. Senate committee hearings have been going on concerning public works, wiretapping, and literacy voting requirements.

VOTING TESTS — Hearings are under way before the Constitutional Rights Subcommittee which seek to establish by federal law educational tests for voters. The fundamental concept of our government for 172 years has been that this republic rests upon the intelligent exercise of the voting privilege by the electorate. These bills expressly violate the Constitution which is specific on the rights of the States to stipulate their own tests of eligibility for voting. It is interesting to observe that the decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court have uniformly upheld reasonable requirements which exclude from voting the illiterate, the felonious criminal, and the mentally incompetent. The Court has held these voting requirements are neutral on the subject of race, creed, and color. None of the three bills before the Committee have any operative statutory provisions which refer to racial discrimination. The clear mandate of the Constitution of the United States and the court decisions to this hour has been that changes such as the proponents of these bills seek to bring about can be lawfully done only through Constitutional amendments adopted by the Congress and the states. The plain truth of the matter is that heretofore the Constitution and the Courts

MIDGETT IS HONORED BY FREE MEMBERSHIP IN OBSERVER SOCIETY

Arvin Midgett, prominent whale observer on the Outer Banks has been named as a member of the Dead Whale Observers International. Midgett, who located a 55 foot whale carcass recently at Pea Island, had previously spotted a 50 foot denizen at Oregon Inlet while "clamming."

The announcement of Midgett's appointment came from Roger Bell, president of the society and native of Roanoke Island, who praised Arvin as "an aimless wanderer who will be a definite asset to our organization."

Bell's letter, complete, follows:

It was with interest and pride that I recently read of your exploits in charting the drift of a dead whale carcass. Proud to know that the youth of America is not completely unobservant. Young man — your feats do us proud! Comparable to the heroism of our astronauts! It thus does me great honor to bestow upon you an honorary membership in the Dead Whale Observer Society. Normally membership fees run 10 to 30 pounds of rotten blubber but with your nose for dead whales, I'm certain you will be a definite asset to the Society in an honorary status.

Our Society is composed of beachcombers, like yourself, who have nothing else to do but wander aimlessly along the periphery of the Atlantic Ocean. With this in common we have formed a society whose main highlight is to gather once a year following some great storm, by the carcass of our beloved whale and roast "blubber marshmallows." And, as the sun sinks slowly in the west we generally sing the mournful refrains of our society hymn—"Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum... fifteen men on a dead whale's chest."

The headquarters of our society are down in Brunswick, Ga., and you are extended a cordial invitation to visit us during the hurricane season to scout for deceased whales... but let me warn you that finding dead whales is NO picnic here in Georgia. We're constantly being thrown off the trail by dead fish, rotten shrimp and other red herrings.

Again, my congratulations!
ROGER BELL
Pres., Sec., Treas.
Dead Whale Observer Society

have reposed a constitutional trust in the states concerning the eligibility of voters. The framers of this bill would remove that trust.

OCRACOKE PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith of Georgia are spending some time in their summer cottage here.

Junius Austin and Benjamin O'Neal spent several days in Norfolk recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Beacham and children visited in Manteo last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Corky Mason and sons visited in Atlantic last week end.

Edward C. O'Neal and Billy Garrish (USCG) were home recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack C. Willis and Mr. and Mrs. Doward Brugh attended a boat show in Williamston last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Salter visited Mr. and Mrs. Preston recently.

Mrs. Herman Spencer, Gaynell and Rickey are visiting Mrs. Bill Midgett in Norfolk.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack C. Lewis and children visited Mr. Lewis' parents in Morehead City last week.

Albert Styron, Jr., was in Beaufort during the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Howard visited their daughter in Norfolk recently.

Mr. and Mrs. George O'Neal spent several days on the mainland last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Wahab are visiting in Norfolk.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Parker of Meriden, Conn., are spending some time in their cottage here.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gallop have returned from Portsmouth, Va.

John Gaskill, Millard Williams and David Styron were home this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Russel Williams spent the week end here.

Mrs. Sabra Howard, Claude Gaskill and Rita Styron visited Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Austin in Hatteras last week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Travis Williams spent several days on the mainland this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gaskins are visiting in New York.

David F. O'Neal, USCG, is spending some time with his family.

Friends were sorry to hear of Mrs. Rondthaler falling and hurting herself while on the mainland last week.

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