

One of North Carolina's great story-tellers is described by State Treasurer Edwin Gill on page 2B.



ROSEN



HARRIS



MAY



McKNIGHT



COVINGTON

## 5 Observer Staffers Win Press Awards

Five Charlotte Observer staffers were winners of 1956 press awards presented Thursday night in Chapel Hill at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Press Association.

They were Maurice Rosen, winner of first place in photography; Bunny Harris and Hoke May, who took second place in 674 news reporting; Ross Covington with honorable mention in spot news reporting and Editor C. A. McKnight, who claimed third prize in editorial writing.

Reporter Harris also copped third place in spot news reporting for a story written just before she left The Raleigh Times to join The Observer last March.

Rosen's first-place photo, "Square Dance," was his first entry in the competition. He came to The Observer in December, 1955, from the University of Iowa. He is a native of Davenport, Iowa.

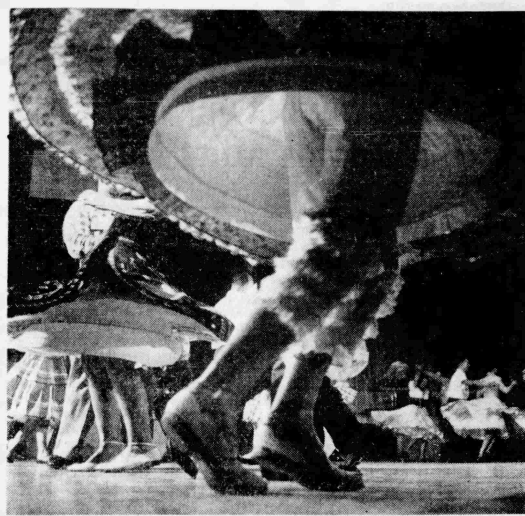
Judges commended Rosen for his thought and originality against the difficulties of making the usual square dance act. He shot the picture at a September session of square dance clubs here.

Harris and May, veterans at taking honors in the annual competition, collaborated in a series "Park Board Admits Huge Surplus for its prize."

Prince's editorials were on the special session of the 1956 General Assembly and on the heritage and challenge awaiting North Carolina's high school graduates.

Other winners in the daily newspaper division with circulation of over 20,000 were:

Charles Hamilton, formerly of The Observer, now of The Raleigh Times, first place in spot news reporting; Thomas Iman of The Raleigh News and Observer, second place; Harold Moore of The Durham Herald, third, and Charles H. Cooper, The Durham Herald, honorable mention, in photography; Marjorie Hunter of the Winston-Salem Journal, second place in feature writing; Howard Myers of the Journal and Sentinel; honorable mention in feature writing and Mark Fitchridge of The Raleigh Times, honorable mention in editorial writing.



Rosen's Prize-Winning Photo Of Square Dancers

### Crossroads

★ ★ ★

**Expectantly Yours, Mary!**

By KAYS GARY

Every time I meet a man like Marvin Beatty Jr. I get mad.

Not that Marvin isn't all right. It's just the sort of mad which accompanies the necessity to defer to a superior intelligence or talent.

Marvin does not have rocks in his head. People do who furnish him with a living.

He runs Mumford's Do-It-Yourself Store on South Boulevard. But this is no ordinary place. He sells the stuff and after the sale he tells you if something unexpected comes up, just call him and he'll do the job for you.

It is the way he says it. Marvin knows damned well that something will come up. He knows that 99 per cent of his customers will come back — on their knees.

But I am the chucklehead who did not realize this on Monday just as I did not realize on Christmas, 1953, that the "Merry Christmas" I sprayed on the bricks over the fireplace would still be there in February, 1957... and just as I did not realize in my determination to paint the little one's room myself that vermillion would dry the color of old liver and that the child would wake up screaming at daybreak.

This situation, though, was different.

The cook had let the sink overflow while she talked 45 minutes on the phone and the floor had buckled and one or two pieces of it had come loose.

This, anybody would think, would be a simple enough thing to correct.

I dare not, however, relate the devastation which came to the Gary kitchen in 18 hours of effort on four successive nights.

Marvin must, of course, be called. And while he's about it might as well have him fix the light switches I repaired six months ago. They work if you stomp real hard on the floor but I'm getting fatter arches.

**CORRECTION:** A dozen tactfully put calls and letters remind that Stonewall Jackson's horse, originally named "Fanny," was dubbed "Little Sorrel" and not "Old Sorrel" by his troops and Lee's horse was light gray, not white.

Also, Stonewall isn't forgotten since half of Charlotte must belong to the Daughters of the Confederacy and extended gracious invitations to the next Lee-Jackson dinner.

**KING COLE'S PLAN:** WBT's Grady Cole wants to send The Observer's Larry Jinks, now in England, \$100 or so "to help out any Americans he might run into over there."

Grady says he can't run for president because he wants to help Americans and since this is the only country which puts itself out for immigrants there must be plenty of displaced Yankees who need a handout.

He got the idea from Jinks' Wednesday dispatch from London about the former Charlottean who used to listen to Cole and now panhandles pennies in the shadows of Buckingham Palace.

**DIS 'N DATA:** From Stoye Barlow of Hickory, Dana Harris of Shelby, James Starves of Rock Hill, Frank P. Smith of Southern Pines and others, the Barlow knife is to hardwire what the Model-T was to the automotive industry.

They all own 'em and kids 50 years ago panted for a Barlow the way youngsters do now for portable TV sets.

They had handles half nickel and half bone with extra strong springs and sold for as little as 10 cents. All have the name "Barlow" stamped in the nickel.

Sign on highway between Rock Hill and Great Falls: "Mule For Rent, \$4 an Hour" Who says this ain't inflation?... On police bulletin board a wanted circular for a clean-cut young man. Description: tattoo on arm of small heart with names "Mom and Dad." Crime: He killed a cop. You figure it.

The series developed from Miss Harris' discovery of a \$250,000 surplus in park funds while the Park Board sought additional appropriations. The Harris-May series resulted in a reduced city tax rate.

Miss Harris, a native of Cary, was graduated from Meredith College. Last year she all but swept honors in competition among papers with circulation of over 20,000 by taking first and second place in spot news reporting and first place in feature writing.

May, 26-year-old native of Atlanta who saw service with The New York Times, International News Service, The Atlanta Constitution and The Anderson Independent before joining The Observer in December, 1953, last year took first and second place in reporting in competition of papers with over 20,000 circulation.

Reigion Editor Covington scored his honorable mention

## Press Told To Boost Own Area

CHAPEL HILL.—E. G. Gove, Hodges asked Tar Heel newspapermen Thursday night, "Are you going to make your writing and editing skills to help constructively your own community, county or circulation area?"

"Are you balancing the constructive work of community leadership against the ready-made news of death, tragedy and law violations?" Hodges asked.

"Do you take an interest in supporting worthwhile plans and projects, even when these subjects are not always popular or appealing?"

In a speech at the 32nd annual Press Institute here, Hodges said he knew that you possess the skill of translating ideas and thoughts into words and sentences which are widely read and understood.

The Governor thanked the newspapermen "for the excellent job which you have done in explaining in detail some of the more important legislative programs which will confront the 1957 General Assembly. While we naturally seek support for these programs because we believe they are vitally needed, we are most interested from a newspaper standpoint in a fair and honest discussion of all the details so the public can make up its own mind."

He added, "I have great faith in the ability of the people to accept any worthwhile proposal so long as they understand it."

Hodges said criticism was directed recently against the North Carolina newspaper "to the effect that 'adding machine' dominated the 'typewriter' in the operations of that company. While I'm not in any position to judge, I think that most publishers and business managers here tonight would agree that it takes a mighty productive adding machine and typewriter to operate successfully today."

"It still takes a rugged individual," Hodges asserted, "to leap spanning into the middle of a new publishing venture."

**Club To Hear C. A. McKnight**

LINCOLN.—C. A. McKnight, editor of The Charlotte Observer, will be guest speaker at the monthly dinner meeting of the Lincoln Executive Club on the night of Jan. 31 in the high school cafeteria. It was announced Thursday.

**Farm Loan Aid Offered**

WASHINGTON.—The Agricultural Department has designated five North Carolina counties as an area where its Farmers Home Administration may make emergency loans to eligible farmers.

The counties are Beaufort, Hyde, Pamlico, Tyrrell and Washington.

**REVENUE LOST Proposed Vehicle Tax Plan Scored**

The battle of tax officials versus Thursday produced a suggestion that these taxes be paid at the time the owners Mecklenburg tax authorities are fighting a proposed law calling for owners to list motor vehicles for taxation before they are allowed to buy a license.

"Such a law would not help collect the taxes on the cars and trucks," Assistant Supervisor R. N. Williams told the county commissioners.

"We get from the Department of Motor Vehicles a list of cars and trucks registered in Mecklenburg. This tells us who owns them."

"A law making the owners list before they are sold a tag would not produce the revenue."

Robert Alexander of the local tax assessing department pointed out that this is the main objection to the proposed law.

In practice the law would mean that a car owner would have to visit the tax office at the courthouse, list his car, get his registration number and stamped showing he had listed, and then go to Carolina Motor Club and buy his tag.

Nowadays 65 per cent of Mecklenburgers list taxes by mail. There are about 100,000 motor vehicles in the county.

If the proposed law is adopted, the tax office would have to fill out and mail to car owners 65 per cent of 100,000 registration forms.

"The law would do nothing that is not being done now except complicate the tax listing and tag buying for every man and woman who owns a car," Alexander explained.

Eight states now have statutes providing for payment of car taxes at the time the license tag is purchased.

Such an arrangement would be beautifully simple and would be convenient for the taxpayers themselves, it was said.

## Tax Notes: Here's How You List

January is the key month for listing and payment of local taxes. Here is a short breakdown on tax regulations:

**WHERE do you list taxes?** If you live in the city, by mail on a tax listing form or at the courthouse. If you live in the county, you have the additional option of listing with your township list taker.

**WHEN do you list taxes?** If you want to avoid a penalty for late listing, you'll do it before the end of the month.

Mail listings postmarked before midnight Thursday, Jan. 31, will be accepted without penalty. The penalty is 10 per cent of your tax or a minimum of \$1 each for city and county.

**HOW do you get tax listing forms?** If you don't already have one, go by the courthouse to get Form 7-1686 to ask for one to be mailed.

**WHAT ABOUT PAYING taxes?** The taxes you list this month will come due in September.

January is the last month to pay last year's taxes without penalty. Pay by mail or at the city or county tax office.

## OK To Tag Front Of Car

Memo to owners of city auto license tags: You can still put the tag on the front of the car if necessary.

A transparent paper covering on the city tags advises citizens that "the law requires that this tag be attached to the rear of the car."

But what about the new cars so built that it's impossible to affix the tags to the rear?

"If you can't put it in the rear, just list your taxes without penalty. Pay by mail or at the city or county tax office."

The rule was instituted last year and will continue in force, Henkel said.

## Health Unit Talks Today

The next step in approval of Charlotte's proposed new health center takes place in Raleigh today.

The federal government pays two-thirds of the cost of most urban redevelopment programs.

"O God, we thank Thee for those whose lives are living witnesses of Thy truth. Grant us that our activities be done in the name of Jesus Christ. Thine only Son; that Thy name may be glorified and Thy kingdom come in His name. Amen." (The Upper Room)

## Morning Prayer

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# Redevelopment Plan Is Revived

## Delay Is Laid To Law

By DON OBERDORFER  
Observer Staff Writer

Charlotte's Planning Commission Thursday tried the "soft sell" as a lever to clean up Charlotte slums.

The planners called together city councilmen, county commissioners, state legislators and leading citizens to hear the good word about urban redevelopment.

Planning Director William E. McIntyre illustrated the advantages of developing blighted areas and pointed out that North Carolina law is blocking this work here.

He pointed out that a workable law will be presented in the coming General Assembly.

Then Planning Commission Chairman Spencer Bell told the group:

"We do not feel that it is up to the planning board to take a position on this law one way or another."

## Little Hope Creek Waste Disposal Spawns 5th Suit

By PORTER MUNN  
Observer Staff Writer

Little Hope Creek spawned another lawsuit Thursday. This time against Academy Steel Drum Co. of Pineville Road.

Judge Susie Sharp in Superior Court signed an order citing the company representatives to appear Monday at 11 a. m. and show cause why they should not be restrained from dumping waste into the stream.

This is the fifth such suit filed against industrial concerns alleged to have been polluting the creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. Frazier, who own a home on Valley Stream Road, brought the latest action.

They allege that their lot on the rear extends to the center of the stream.

The defendant company is said to have dumped waste materials into the creek, causing foul odors to arise from it.

Some of the waste was inflammable and this caused fires to break out along the stream bed. It is contended.

The condition of the stream caused their home to be unfit for use as a dwelling and reduced its market value, the plaintiffs said.

They ask a total of \$35,000 in damages.

The drum company handles used containers and tanks and cleans them before resale. The fluids or semi-fluids from the cleaning processes drain into the creek, it is said.

D. E. Henderson, attorney for the plaintiffs, explained that the complaint alleges Academy Drum Co. was not sued when the other actions were filed because the company appeared to have partially solved its waste disposal problems.

## Armory Program Planned

Big doings will mark the dedication of the National Guard Armory at Morris Field today.

The National Guard head man in the nation will be on hand for the ceremonies. He is Maj. Gen. Edgar C. Erickson, chief of the National Guard Bureau, Department of the Army and Air Force, Washington.

Things get going at noon when gardeners and guests will have a barbecue luncheon.

At 1 p. m. Gen. Erickson will be the main speaker, along with Maj. Gen. John Hall Manning, North Carolina adjutant general. Gen. Manning will represent Gov. Luther Hodges.

The local armory is the largest in the state. It is a \$350,000 building with 33,000 square feet spread over its two levels.

From 2 to 6 p. m. the guardsmen will hold open house and furnish guides to conduct groups through the facility and explain the equipment used by the various units based there.

Lt. Col. William E. Moss, commander of the 10th Engineers, and chairman of the dedication committee, said that the observance will be concluded with a military ball from 8 to 11 p. m.

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