

Kilowatt News

November, 1944



(By permission of the Harris Estate) Hurst

JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS
"Br'er Fox, he lay low."

Vol. II

No. 11

'Famous Georgians' Series

No. 10—Joel Chandler Harris

"WANTED — An active, intelligent white boy, fourteen or fifteen years of age, is wanted at this office, to learn the printing business."

— The Countryman, March 4, 1862.

This advertisement appeared in the *Countryman*, a periodical published by J. A. Turner, lawyer, journalist and planter, at Turnwold, his plantation, nine miles from Eatonton, the small Georgia town in which Joel Chandler Harris was born on December 9, 1848.

In answer to this simple, forthright "want ad," young Joel Harris, not without misgiving, put away his tops and marbles, packed his little belongings in an old-fashioned trunk, and set forth on what turned out to be the most important journey of his life.

Already Joel Harris, at fourteen, had developed a passion for reading, which he inherited from his mother. Supporting herself and her young son by doing the village sewing, she spent her evenings reading to him, after the day's chores were done. Years later he wrote "My desire to write — to give expression to my thoughts — grew out of hearing my mother read 'The Vicar of Wakefield.' I was too young to appreciate the story, but there was something in the style, or something in the humor of that remarkable little book that struck my fancy, and I straightway began to compose stories and poetry."

It would have been difficult for Joel C. Harris to say which gave him the most pleasure—the outdoor life of Turnwold plantation, the hours of browsing in Mr. Turner's large library, or fraternizing with the plantation Negroes. It was there that Joel Chandler Harris knew Uncle George Terrell, thought by many to be the original Uncle Remus, although Mr. Harris said the beloved character was a blend of many personalities.

This idyllic period lasted for about four years. The war left Turnwold, in Sherman's very path, little more

than a piece of land, and publication of the *Countryman* necessarily was discontinued.

In 1870, at the age of 21, Joel C. Harris became associate editor of the *Savannah Morning News*. At that time, Frank L. Stanton, who was to become Georgia's first poet laureate, was beginning his career on the same paper. They were fast friends, and it was Stanton who wrote of Mr. Harris years later, "He made the lowly cabin-fires light the far windows of the world."

While in Savannah, Harris met the girl who was to become his wife. Esther LaRose was her name, and she was the daughter of a French-Canadian sea captain who, with his family, spent the winters in Savannah. The most bashful of lovers, Mr. Harris wooed the object of his affection by writing poetry to her. Married in April, 1873, they became the parents of nine children.

When Savannah was threatened with a yellow fever epidemic in 1876, Mr. Harris, his wife and two children moved to Atlanta. He became associated with the *Atlanta Constitution*, where he began editing a column first called "Round About Georgia." He also contributed

(Continued, Inside Fold)

KILOWATT NEWS, Georgia Power Co.,
P. O. Box 1719, Atlanta (1), Georgia.

Please send me — without charge — an enlargement of the drawing of JOEL CHANDLER HARRIS, suitable for framing, with separate biographical sketch.

I would also like to have drawing and sketch of the following:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Toombs | <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Crawford Long |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Henry W. Grady | <input type="checkbox"/> Abraham Baldwin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. H. Stephens | <input type="checkbox"/> Sidney Lanier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frank L. Stanton | <input type="checkbox"/> Benjamin H. Hill |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Martha Berry |

NAME.....

Address.....

City.....



How will YOUR Home Town look to Georgia's 300,000 young men and women in the armed services when they come home after victory is ours? Will it be as pretty as they remembered it—or shabby and rundown . . . with rubbish on the town square . . . and trash and litter on the streets? Will they want to stay after they have SEEN the town and visited for a while?

Or will they choose to settle in the North, the West, Mexico, South America, because opportunities seem brighter there?

What can YOU do about it? Read a booklet called "A Wartime Program for Georgia's Peacetime Progress," which tells you briefly, quickly, the broad outlines of a plan of ACTION to make Georgia towns BETTER HOME TOWNS. Send for this booklet now—it's FREE—just address a postcard to Georgia Power Company, P. O. Box 1719, Atlanta 1, Georgia.

Joel Chandler Harris

(Continued from Second Fold)

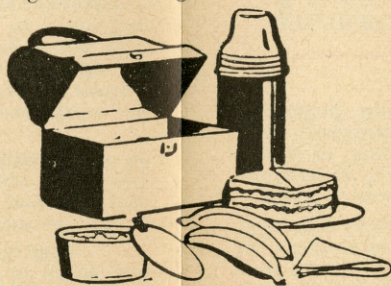
witty paragraphs, wrote book reviews and stories. His column first appeared over the signature of "Uncle Remus" on November 28, 1876.

His dialect sketches and songs presented very effectively certain phases of the Negro character, but they might not have preserved the name of their author in literature. It was when he struck the treasure trove of folklore that his fame was made secure through all time to come. The "Uncle Remus" stories were collected and compiled in book form and they have been translated into every tongue on earth.

After his death on July 3, 1908, a movement for a memorial to Joel Chandler Harris was begun. A statue in a public place, the more conventional type of memorial, might have been chosen except for Mr. Harris' own protest so often expressed to his wife and friends: "Don't erect any statue of marble or bronze to me to stand out in the rain and cold and dust." It was remembered how he loved his home in Atlanta's West End,

Pack a Lunch . . . That Packs a Punch!

Whether you're a lunch-packin' mama for school children, or for a war worker, you know that a good lunch must do more than satisfy hunger. It also must provide its share of the nutrients essential for growth and buoyant health. A lunch should not be simply a snack, but it should be a well-balanced meal. A husky lunch renews the well-springs of energy and banishes the threat of afternoon fatigue. Morale gets a lift, and Johnny gets better marks in school!



Dad and your football-playing son like a hearty lunch—good substantial slices of bread with a hefty slice of corned beef or roast pork or cheese—something a fellow can get his teeth into—but tasty, too. Sister needs rib-stickers, too, but make them daintier.

A good lunch should provide MILK in some form, whether it be supplied in soups, custards, or as a beverage.

Enriched BREAD is a requisite of a good lunch. Sandwiches are the backbone and the mainstay of most lunches. With a tasty filling, the sandwich is a convenient and delightful

which he called the Wren's Nest, and the Uncle Remus Memorial Association, in 1913, bought the home which it now maintains as a shrine to his memory. His letters and original manuscripts are being preserved in a room dedicated to him at Emory University in Atlanta.

Indicative of the true character of his gentle soul, Mr. Harris wrote the words that are used as his epitaph: "I seem to see before me the smiling faces of thousands of children—some young and fresh—and some wearing the friendly marks of age, but all children at heart, and not an unfriendly face among them. And while I am trying hard to speak the right word, I seem to hear a voice lifted above the rest, saying 'You have made some of us happy.' And so I feel my heart fluttering and my lips trembling and I have to bow silently and turn away and hurry into the obscurity that fits me best."

way to supply bread—an energy builder.

PROTEINS—cheese, eggs, fish, meat and poultry—are vital to a well-balanced lunch. Some form of these protein foods may be used in your sandwich fillings.

VEGETABLES and FRUITS belong in the lunch box. Raw vegetables or fruits are especially good for two reasons: they have all their food value without loss through cooking, and they supply something crisp to chew on. If fresh fruits are unavailable, you might tuck in a raw carrot or some celery sticks. Do include a lettuce leaf for the sandwich.

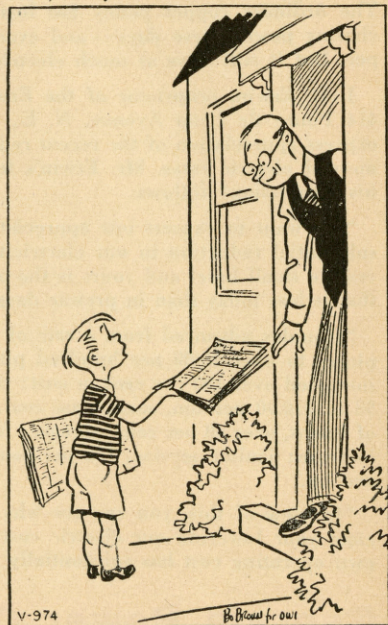
SWEETS, especially cookies and cup cakes, are a welcome treat. A few nuts, a piece of candy, a relish or a pickle adds zest and variety. Remember the packed lunch is like an every-day party. Each day it is more or less of a surprise—a prize-package to delight the eye, arouse the appetite and then satisfy it.

It is well worth the effort to pack a good lunch. With a little imagination and resourcefulness you can pack a lunch that packs a punch! Don't send the same thing every day. Remember, variety is the spice of the lunch box, too!

A private was walking down the street with his girl when they met a Naval officer. The soldier saluted smartly and the salute was returned.

"Why do Army men salute Navy men?" the girl inquired.

"After all, my dear," replied the soldier, "they are our allies."



V-974

By Bessie for Ours

"Beginning now, I deliver your paper to-day and salvage it to-morrow!"

For Your Listening Pleasure

Have you formed the cozy habit of listening to the Electric Hour? This popular radio program is broadcast each Wednesday evening at 9:30, Central War Time, over the Columbia network. Starring Nelson Eddy, the program features Robert Armbruster and 35-piece orchestra. The Electric Hour is sponsored by the Georgia Power Company and 159 other electric light and power companies.





It's still BIG MONEY in our business!

The ordinary copper penny has lost a lot of its purchasing power these days — and even some of its copper. But it still buys as much electricity as ever.

J. D. Erwin, proprietor of the Erwin Tourist Hotel, 414 Ponce de Leon Avenue, N. E., Atlanta, writes to express appreciation of the recent reduction in his commercial electric rates. Mr. Erwin's letter (quoted with his permission) follows:

"We want to express our appreciation for the recent substantial reduction in our electricity charges. We operate a small hotel and yours is the only service we get that is less today than in prewar days.

"Laundry advanced from a rate of \$1.00 per hundred pieces to over \$5.00 per hundred pieces; maid service increased over 100 per cent in cost; coal heat . . . from \$8 to \$10.90 per ton, same class coal; replacement cost of linens, over 40 per cent increase; furniture, very high increase; janitor service, 100 per cent increase, and on and on.

"In view of this, you can see why we should appreciate your lowering our electric cost as we know your own operating cost has substantially increased."

Georgia Power Company

A Citizen Wherever We Serve