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Thonotosassa Lad, 12, Is Whole Newspaper, But He Covers Field



BRINGS UP THE NEWS
... Leland Hawes

-Tampa Tribune Photo

The Flint Lake Diver, mimeographed Thonotosassa newspaper, will be issued today this week instead of Monday as usual because Leland Hawes, 12, its one man reporter, editor, cartoonist, printer, pressman and distributor, wants to tour the Peter O. Knight airport tomorrow with The Tribune Air Cadets.

The publication date doesn't make much difference, anyway. The paper lives up to its motto, "The Diver Comes Up With the

News," and is always welcome to its 65 subscribers scattered from Maine to Florida.

Leland, a pupil in the sixth grade at Gorrie school, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Hawes, had been publishing the Diver on a mimeograph since last July when he became unable to type enough copies for his growing subscription list. He used to put out a week-end edition, but when school opened it was changed to Monday to give him a chance to work on Saturday.

The Diver carries everything from news of international import to the homeliest local happenings. It also carries advertising, and the editor's proudest boast is that one of his ads sold a cow. A cartoon drawn by the editor, reporter, etc., is a weekly feature.

FOR ROOSEVELT

Editorially, the Diver is for Roosevelt and against Hitler, and it minces no words saying so. At the moment it is conducting an anti-bolita crusade. A while back it stood up courageously for the status quo on a question of whether to change the name of the Thonotosassa Board of Trade to chamber of commerce. The name was changed.

The Diver is forthright in both its news and editorials, and the editor wastes no space in making his point. For example, a few samples of what the Diver has brought up:

"A common noise that is taking the place of the duster with its hum-like noise is the hum of the irrigation systems. Another noise is the hum of the Famed Flying Fortresses. But

we don't kick about those noises because they give us a feeling of secure defense."

"This year the watermelons stayed in Thonotosassa an unusually long time. They went through all June and July and the 1st of August."

GUARDING FORT KNOX?

"It is reported that Mr. Jimmie O'Brien, who joined the army recently, has been transferred to Fort Knox, Kentucky. He is now a corporal and probably guarding the \$11,000,000,000.00 that the United States has stored in the ground there."

"With sorrow, four dog owners found their pet dogs dead, of poisoning. All four died on the same night. Whoever did this was the largest coward on earth."

"It was reported Thursday night that Mr. _____ as he was going to bed sat down on a dozen of eggs. Enough broke to change the entire color of his pants. He was sitting down to take off his shoes to go to bed when it happened. The editor is not altogether sure on all facts of this story, as it was told to him by a certain young man."

The paper religiously records births and marriages and always adds its congratulations. It is running a promotion now to increase the sale of stamps at the Thonotosassa post office.