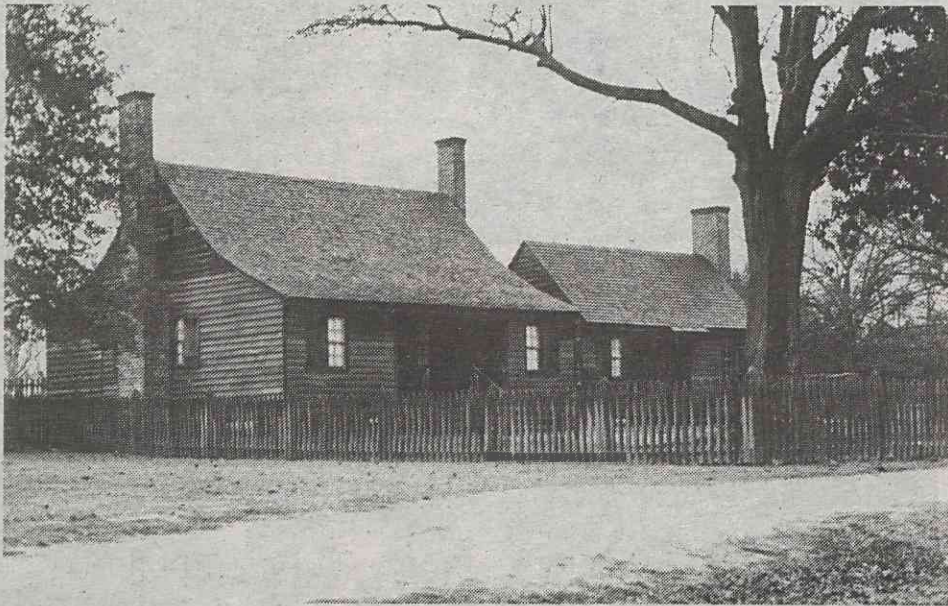


# Two-day symposium honors "education governor" Aycock



Participants in the Aycock Symposium toured the Aycock Birthplace on Saturday after viewing a film about Aycock's life. PHOTOS: CRYSTAL STRICKLAND

By CRYSTAL STRICKLAND

In observance of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the election of Gov. Charles B. Aycock, Ray Brannon, a WCC sociology instructor, dressed up in 1912's attire and gave excerpts of Aycock's last speech before his death.

Brannon's performance was just one event in a 2-day symposium held on Friday and Saturday January 19 and 20, 2001, in the Learning Center on WCC's campus and at the Aycock Birthplace in Fremont to honor the former governor.

The 2 days consisted of lectures and workshops. On Friday Ray Brannon gave Gov. Aycock's speech "In the Words of Charles B. Aycock." Dr. William A. Link, a professor at UNC-Greensboro, lectured on "The Paradoxes of Southern Reform: The Case of North Carolina".

After dinner, catered by Vermillion's, Dr. Jeffrey J. Crow, Director of the Division of Archives and History in the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, lectured on "The North Carolina Partisan Press in the 1890s."

On Saturday, a continental breakfast was held in the Visitor Center at Aycock Birthplace.

Following breakfast was a film of Gov. Aycock's life. At the ending of the film, staff at Aycock birthplace gave a tour of Aycock's historic home. Kathy Bundy, a historic interpreter, gave a school marm presentation in the historic 1893 schoolhouse.

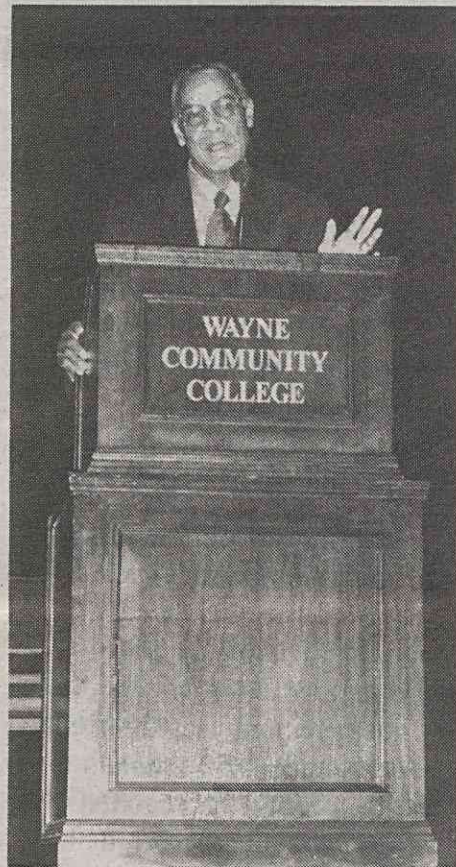
In the afternoon Dr. James L. Leloudis, a professor at UNC-Chapel Hill, spoke on "Public Education and the Making of a New North Carolina." Dr. John H. Haley, a professor from UNC-Wilmington, spoke about "Reckoning with Race: The Progressive Paradox."

Later in the afternoon, mini-workshops were held for middle and high school teachers. The purposes of these workshops were to create more projects and hands-on activities to make history fun.

Dr. Gary Freeze, professor at Catawba College, gave a workshop on "Making the Maps Match: Disfranchisement's Connections." Jo Ann Williford and Claire Pittman presented a workshop, "Making the Progressive Era Come Alive: Local History Inside and Outside the Classroom."

Approximately 200 teachers, students, and community members attended the events supported by the North Carolina Humanities Council, the Carolina Power and Light Company, Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace Advisory Committee,

Also, Governor Chares B. Aycock Birthplace State Historic Site, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, North Carolina Historic Sites, North Carolina Humanities Council, M&J Foundation, Wayne Community College, and Wayne County Historical Association.



Dr. John Haley, professor at UNC-Wilmington, makes a point during his lecture.

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Kathy Bundy, who volunteers as an historic interpreter, gave a "school marm" presentation in the 1893 schoolhouse.

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