

Captain Jake's-A Reminiscence Of Old Edenton

(Editor's Note: Captain Jake's Place - A Reminiscence of the "Old Edenton" - by Dr. Richard Dillard, provides interesting reading. It was printed by The Independent in Elizabeth City and is undated. The booklet is reprinted in serial form in this newspaper in the public interest.)

Blue Laws, Then As Now

They had some blue laws then as now, and drinks could not be sold on Sunday but "Captain Jake" with characteristic ingenuity opened a barrel of soda crackers in his place, and sold crackers for 25 cents each and threw in a drink, and it happened that on Sunday mornings everybody, not excepting Polly, wanted a cracker. Just inside the door of his place on the counter was a rock the exact size and shape of a watermelon, this he had painted in stripes to resemble the rattle-snake variety, the deception was perfect, and the unwary would always stop and thump it to their sorrow. "Capt. Jake" enjoyed this proceeding very much. It

was the only practical joke he ever indulged in. About eleven o'clock in the morning there usually assembled somewhere in the neighborhood of Dr. Capehart's office quite a junta of the grandes and wisacres of the town, and without any apparent concert of action would begin to move down Cheapside towards the wharf, some twirling ivory-headed canes, some with long-stemmed pipes, punctuating their jokes with frequent puffs of smoke like the exhaust from a locomotive, while others arm and arm engaged in earnest conversation. Let memory hark back and the whole scene is rehearsed

White Assigned Airborne Division

At Ft. Campbell
 FT. CAMPBELL, Ky.—Army Specialist Four George E. White, son of Mrs. Geraldine T. Nixon, 133 East Gale Street, Edenton, N. C., was assigned recently to the 101st Airborne Division at Ft. Campbell, Ky. The specialist, a field wireman with Company C of the division's 426th Supply and Service Battalion, entered the Army in June 1965 and was last stationed in Germany. Spec. White is a 1965 graduate of Perquimans Union High School in Wigfall, N. C.

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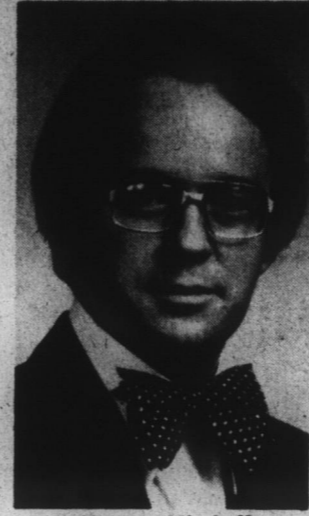
June 10, 17, 24, chg.

before us, and we shall follow them. In their spectacular transit they pass several bar-rooms, the common tipler was drinking there, gulping down his "short" from a dirty counter, while through the latticed door floated ribald songs and roistering and jests but they were not of these who frequent such places and no stop is made; down Cheapside they go merrily, now and then bowing their high heads to escape a bump from the little wallets of apples tied up in seine and suspended over the sidewalk in front of stores, the advertisements of those old-fashioned merchants that fine Northern apples were for sale within. At Sweedy Leary's barber-shop they pick up a recruit, some curly-headed dandy, who has just had his well-groomed hair perfumed with St. Thomas bay-rum or Oil of Bergamot pomade.

Those "Good Old Days"
 Now they stop a few minutes in front of a few minutes in front of Aunt Hannah Watson's cake shop to have a chat with her. Everybody knew "Aunt Hannah," a respectable old colored woman who baked the best ginger-cakes ever eaten. Her wares were displayed in a big wooden tray in the window. Sometimes you would see a large ginger-cake cut in the shape of a cantering horse hung in front of her door as a lure to the goodies she had inside: Her cakes were so large and thick and satisfying that the boys called them "Fourth Readers", but none of our gentlemen purchased these as they moved on down Cheapside. Our stage has been set to a Southern atmosphere, the morning is hot, noisy carts rattle along the street, the rill from the old town pump has overflowed with frequent use into the gutter where geese are wading and dabbling in the little pools. Over the eunymous hedge, from the seclusion of the Cupola House garden, is wafted the sweet amalgam of Crepe Myrtle, Mimosa and Cape Jasmine blossoms, the elegance of

subtle aroma born of these truly characteristic and much loved Southern flowers. Old mulberry trees gnarled and warty with age wheel black patches of shade upon the sidewalk, while dappled shadows spill down through the less dense foliage of the elm trees, that seem to stagger along the street dizzy with the torrid heat. The very dome of the sky is gray and metallic as if it were a big pewter chafing-dish-cover pressed down over the earth to keep the heat from escaping. The faint blue of the distant sound-shore seemed to drowse along the horizon's edge. Out on the bay wavelets are sparkling like Undine displaying her diamonds: The sun strikes silver spangles everywhere, the air pulsates with the heat of the midsummer day. Our cavaliers halt and beads of perspiration from their foreheads, taking in great draughts of the delicious elements about them.

Old John Broughton the shoemaker loved a good drink too, and as they pass his door he watches them from under his great shaggy eyebrows and shakes his head knowingly and returns to his cobbling, for it did the discernment of a Talleyrand to divine the object of their stroll at that hour of the day. Now Water Street is passed, and Aunt Emeline Dempsey's place too, where the best people of the town went to get their oyster stews, and as they go along their feet beat tune to the tempo of hope and anticipation. They arrive at the rendezvous—they are impatient—they would be unkind to detain them, so all unawares we shall take a peep through a side window—There they are, each of them in his favorite chair, some at backgammon, some some in a game of poker, "Capt. Jake" had gathered from everywhere all the best possible liquors to please their fastidious (Continued Next Week)



Mitchell Takes Jimbo's Jumbo's Sales Position

J. Wayne Mitchell joins Jimbo's Jumbos with 14 years of selling experience and sales management. For the last five years he served as area sales manager for Ralston-Purina Company. In his sales history with Ralston-Purina Company's Grocery Produce Division he was named salesman of the year for three consecutive years, along with numerous other sales awards. He in the past was general manager for his own four-store chain of men and ladies clothing. Mitchell states that he is looking forward to moving his family to Edenton and is excited with his association with Jimbo's Jumbos as director of sales. He further states that the Grocery Products Division of Jimbo's Jumbos has a viable marketing product with established consumer awareness of the nutritional value as well as the quality of Jimbo's Jumbos peanuts. Mitchell is married to the former Rose Marie Daughtry of Princeton. He is the father of two sons: J. Wayne Mitchell, Jr., 12 years old and Durwood Lee Mitchell, nine years old. The Mitchells are members of the Old School Baptist Church. Mitchell belongs to several civic and community organizations.

Wood Pushes Education Reform

RALEIGH—A comprehensive education reform package which includes increasing teacher salaries to the national average within two years and keeping them there was advanced Monday by George Wood, candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination. At a Raleigh press conference Wood said "It is high time that we make a fresh and bold commitment to strengthening our schools in every community in North Carolina."

In addition to the salary hikes, Wood proposed several other reforms. Enriching teacher training programs, depending the state-local government educational partnership and

appointing rather than electing the State Superintendent of Public Instruction were other Wood ideas. "In North Carolina we pay our foresters better wages than we pay our school teachers," Wood noted. He advocated increasing basic state support to bring teacher salaries "at least" to the national average which is currently \$12,500. Wood estimated that to raise salaries to this level would require an additional \$150-million in state funds. He suggested the increase could "be achieved in two stages, half in 1977 and half in 1978."

"Our teachers are the basic resource of our schools, and they have not been treated fairly," Wood said. "The quality of their teaching and their dedication to the task depends on our support." If state money is used to increase teacher salaries, Wood said, the millions of dollars in local tax funds now going for teacher salary supplements could be utilized to attract better qualified principals and superintendents and to reduce classroom teaching loads.

In addition, the Camden County candidate said, state-supported institutions of higher learning should strengthen training and

selection of its students of education. "I will support a request for the funds to enable each teacher-training campus to extend its assistance into the public schools," Wood, a long-time champion of education, said.

The appointment of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction by the State Board of Education rather than his public election was another change Wood endorsed as a means of better administration of public schools.

Wood's program also involved financial aid for teachers who wish to take in-service training.

"Our citizens view public education as the most basic and key service of government," Wood said, "because it provides the skills for making a living; it helps make well-rounded citizens able to cope with the world; and it holds the promise of a higher standard of living."

Leary Receives Advanced Degree In Business

WILLIAMSBURG—Joseph Clarence Leary, III, of Edenton, received a master of business administration degree from the College of William and Mary at commencement exercises held May 16 in William and Mary Hall. The commencement address was given by David Mathews, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.



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Young Ranchers Visit Farm

On May 30 the Young Farmers and Ranchers had an interesting field trip to Lester Copeland's turkey operation. Paul Copeland had taken pictures and prepared them into slides to give a general idea of how his operation worked.

He explained how the eggs were fertilized by artificial insemination. The eggs were then put into the incubator for about 23 days and then into the hatchery until they are hatched. They are then put into houses until they are large enough to go into the fields.

The group toured these different houses and fields. His operation consist of around 40 to 50 thousand turkeys. After a tour of the operation they enjoyed several ways in which turkey can be fixed, including barbecued turkey, turkey sausage, fried turkey and turkey salad.

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