

The Dismal Swamp Region Fascinating

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water, which became something of a panacea in the late 18th century, finding its way in bottles and vials into the hands of an eager public in New York, London and Paris.

The Great Dismal is fed by springs whose waters filter through the roots of juniper trees, brewing up a sort of "swamp tea." The water is the color of dark tea or brandy, and like tea, its tannic acid retards spoilage. At the same time, the acid prevents mosquitoes from breeding.

From the first colonist on, Dismal Swamp water was highly prized by mariners. Ordinary fresh water was likely to spoil after a few weeks at sea, while water from the swamp remained fresh throughout the voyage.

However healthful or delicious, the juniper water was too much of a good thing for Washington and his business associates. The Dismal Swamp Land Company planned to drain the swamp and reclaim the fertile soil for farming. But the scheme was doomed from the start.

The springs that feed the Dismal Swamp supply no fewer than seven rivers that empty into Albemarle and Currituck sounds and Hampton Roads. Therefore, a single ditch—even though it was five miles long—had no hope of draining it.

Happily, the company discovered the resilience of juniper wood, which made excellent shingles and barrel staves. Thus began the first large-scale logging operation in the swamp, using Washington Ditch to float out the timber.

Steamboats once piled the waters of Washington Ditch and other swamp canals. Completed in 1812, the Dismal Swamp Canal, connecting Albemarle Sound and Chesapeake Bay, is the oldest surviving man-made waterway in the country and is still in use as an alternate route for the Intracoastal Waterway via the Pasquotank River.

A hundred and fifty years ago, the Hotel Drummond was a popular stopover for travelers on the canal. It straddled the state line, and a man could escape the laws of either state simply by crossing the lobby. The hotel became a duelist's haven and a marriage mill, drawing a steady, if impermanent, clientele among those who either loved or hated each other enough to act on the impulse.

From before the Revolution to the present day, the swamp

Canning Tips

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the jars. Open-kettle canning is unsafe because temperatures reached are not high enough to destroy all the spoilage organisms that may be in low-acid foods, such as meat and vegetables, other than tomatoes.

Spoilage bacteria may also enter the food when it is transferred from kettle to jar, making it undesirable as well as can other foods such as fruits, pickles, preserves, and jams by this method.

Q. Should jars and lids be sterilized before canning?

A. No, not when the boiling-water-bath or pressure-canner method is used, because the containers and lids are sterilized during processing. But be sure jars and lids are clean.

Q. What causes liquid to be lost from jars during processing?

A. Loss of liquid may be due to packing jars too full. Headspace must be allowed between the top of the food and lid as specified in the instructions for each food. Food expands when processed, so headspace must be adequate or liquid will be forced out of the jar.

Liquid may be lost if the canner's pressure fluctuates during processing. Lowering the pressure too suddenly after processing may also cause liquid to be lost. Pressure Canner should be removed from heat and allowed to cool normally at room temperature.

has been a hideout for runaways and outlaws.

Henry W. Longfellow, in "The Slave in the Dismal Swamp," and Harriet Beecher Stowe, in "Dred: A Tale of the Great Dismal Swamp," wrote about slaves who found freedom in the morass.

It was to the Great Dismal that Nat Turner, the Southampton, Virginia, slave-preacher, planned to escape after committing his mass murders in Courtland, Virginia. Every now and then, newspapers tell about bank robbers or other felons who slipped into the swamp to escape justice.

The natural beauty of the

piece has attracted writers and artists for centuries. Some 35 kinds of trees can be found in the swamp, including one of the last remaining stands of Atlantic White Cedar. With luck, you can also see pink ladyslipper, water violet, trailing arbutus and yellow jessamine in bloom. It's a bird watcher's paradise, being home to more than 150 species, many of them rare and unusual.

Although the buffalo are gone, there are still a few black bear in the swamp, along with deer, wildcat, mink, muskrat, fox and beaver.

At Merchants Millpond, you might see an otter floating

lazily among the lilies. Wild orchids are blooming nearby in the shade of a mossy old oak, and through the stillness comes the trill of a yellow-throated warbler, echoing like a flute.

Before you know it, you have fallen under the spell of the Great Dismal Swamp, just as George Washington did more than two centuries ago.

Five Make Carolina Dean's List
CHAPEL HILL—Five students from Chowan County made the spring 1983 Dean's List at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill here. They were: Eliot Anthony Atstupenas,



Rhonda Mizelle

Mizelle Gets Scholastic Honor

Miss Rhonda Mizelle has been named to the Dean's list with a 4.0 average for the spring quarter at the College of the Albemarle.

Rhonda is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Jackie Jenkins of Edenton, N.C. and William T. Mizelle of Colerain, N.C. She

was recently inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa which is the National Honor Society of COA. Rhonda has also been elected president of the Phi Beta Lambda for the upcoming year. She is a graduate of John A. Holmes High School and is majoring in Business.

Perquimans Horse Show Is Set

The Perquimans County Horse and Pony Club will be having their annual 4th of July Horse Show on Monday at 1 P.M.

The Show Ring is located on the Joe Perry Farm. There will be halter, pleasure and speed classes offered at the show.

The concession stand will be serving hamburgers and

hot dogs along with home cooked goodies. There will also be homemade ice cream available.



The first paper money in America was issued by colonists in Massachusetts in 1690.

Still Meadow

by Sarah Maxwell Trester
Good old Summer time in the meadow. There is a bob white that has been calling to his mate all morning and robbins all over the place.

It is Monday and the want is on the line—I picked the vegetables from the garden and raked the fallen fruit. I cheated a little on the grass that is growing by the fence—I piled pine straw on it—My old grandpa used to say "There is more than one way to kill a cat"—in my case grass—it is getting hard to pull—or kill—

There is a cardinal eating plums for his lunch. There sure has been enough of them. Some of the apples are turning red and some are still green—it makes a pretty picture—

at Still meadow

JULY 4TH SAVINGS

Explosive Super Summertime Sidewalk Sale

<p>Multi-Position Lounger \$888</p>		<p>Ice Cream 29¢ Per Dip</p>		<p>Sweet 'N Low 88¢ 100 Ct.</p>		<p>Ladies Tank Tops & Shorts \$2.00 Compare At 2.99</p> <p>Ladies' tank tops S,M,L, or Ladies' Jamaica shorts 17 & 18". Sizes 10-20. Tank tops sizes 40-48 & Shorts 32-40, 19".... Reg. 3.49 ... 2.50</p>					
<p>Foster Grant Sun Glasses \$2.00 Off Price Marked</p>		<p>50' Garden Hose \$4.97 1/2" - Nylon Reinforced</p>		<p>FULL SIZE Sheet Sets \$12.97</p> <p>One fitted, one flat and two standard pillowcases included.</p>		<p>Wading Pools \$6.97 5' Vinyl</p>		<p>9" Vinyl Playballs 77¢ Limit One.</p>			
<p>Styro Cups 2/\$1.00 51 Ct. Pkg.</p>		<p>12" Wide Foil 44¢</p>		<p>Assorted Candy Bars 19¢</p>		<p>Energizer Batteries \$1.77</p>		<p>SAVE EVEN MORE ON ITEMS ON OUR SIDEWALK DURING OUR EXPLOSIVE SUPER SUMMERTIME SIDEWALK SALE!</p>			
<p>Quaker State Motor Oil \$10.44</p> <p>Quaker State high detergent by the case. 12 Quarts per case. Subject to early sellout.</p>		<p>Boys Jeans \$8.97 RUSTLER® denim jeans in sizes 6-16 in regular and slim fit.</p>		<p>Ladies Shifts \$3.88</p>		<p>Ladies Panties 38¢ Unbearable! Limit 3.</p>		<p>20" - 3 Speed Window Box Fan \$18.88</p>			
<p>4" Pot Geraniums 77¢ Limit 4</p>		<p>Pampers \$6.97 60 ct. Daytime, 48 ct. Toddler. Limit 2.</p>		<p>Summer's Eve 2/\$1.00 Limit 4. Why pay 79¢ each?</p>		<p>Lawn Mowers 104.99 20", 3 H.P. 114.99 22", 3 1/2 H.P. Save \$25. No Rainchecks.</p>		<p>Ball Jars \$4.44 1 doz. mason jars, complete with 12 ball bands and dome lids, for home canning.</p>		<p>Bolo Rugs \$1.22</p>	
<p>24" Charcoal Grill \$11.44</p>		<p>Lighter Fluid 99¢</p>		<p>Paper Plates 73¢ 100 count</p>		<p>Ice Chest \$1.27</p> <p>30 qt. styrofoam cooler. Save 72¢.</p>		<p>SAVE EVEN MORE ON ITEMS ON OUR SIDEWALK DURING OUR EXPLOSIVE SUPER SUMMERTIME SIDEWALK SALE!</p>			

Northside Shopping Center
Hours: 9 - 9 Daily
12:00 - 7:00 Sunday

MACKS

PRICES GOOD THRU JULY 4TH!