

TYRRELL COUNTY TRIBUNE

FOR GREATER PROGRESS OF THE LAKE PHELPS AND PETTIGREW PARK REGION AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OUR NEIGHBOR COUNTIES

VOL. I; NO. 4

COLUMBIA, N. C., DECEMBER 28, 1939

Single Copy 5c

TOM SPRUILL'S NEWSPAPER REVEALS PRICES 80 YEARS AGO SIMILAR TO TODAY'S

Columbia Has Interesting Relic, Published in Elizabeth City; Corn 80 Cents; Cotton 10 and 12 Cents; Shingles \$5 to \$7 Per Thousand; It Cost \$1.50 to Go to Nags Head and a Chance at \$50,000 Cost Only \$10

An interesting newspaper, "The State," published in Elizabeth City under date of August 6, 1859, has recently been discovered in the home of Thos. Spruill, prominent citizen of Columbia, Tyrrell County. The State was edited by J. W. Hinton and W. H. Bagley every Saturday morning at \$2 per year in advance.

It was interesting to note that the publishers notified their readers of the newspaper law to the effect that if they failed to order the paper discontinued on expiration of subscription, it would be sent them until it was paid for in full. If subscribers removed and failed to notify change of address, they would have to pay for the paper just the same.

The front page of the paper was filled with advertising. A. J. Glover of Edenton was advertising much property for sale. He wanted to sell a 950 acre farm near the town of Edenton with 500 acres cleared and fenced and producing fine corn and wheat. He offered a valuable fishery for sale on Croatan Sound known as the "Glover Fishery." "This," he said, "is believed to be one of the most valuable sites on the waters and it is seldom such property is put on the market. There are at the fishery 3,000 bushels of salt, 1,400 barrels, 2 new boats, a large quantity of seine and rope, a sufficiency of good windlasses and everything necessary for the conducting of large fishery operation."

The North River fishery was also offered for sale in Camden County, with 127 acres of land well timbered with about 6,000 cords of wood.

Baker Hoskins was offering \$50 reward for the return of a runaway negro boy, Charles Spence, who formerly belonged to James Leigh of Boyd's Neck, Pasquotank. W. H. Jackson advertised the loss of a note for a little over \$900 and M. D. Hathaway advertised he would no longer be responsible for debts contracted by Wm. H. Jordan, his partner in a stage line.

E. B. Haughton, M. D., advertised he would occupy a room at the Nags Head Hotel during the "present season and will have a good supply of 'medicines,' and will be pleased to attend all cases of sickness to which he may be called. Charges will be moderate." Dr. Rufus K. Speed notified the public his offices were over the store of Whedbee & Pool, and thanked his friends and the public for very liberal patronage.

J. M. Jennings, coachmaker, offered good buggies and rockaways for sale for cash, or good notes. Practically all the doctors advertised, some of them running several different ads. Carpenters ran ads.

The Georgia State Lottery advertised tickets on \$60,000 at \$10 each.

James W. Hinton and W. H. Bagley, advertised as attorneys, also Jas. L. Ball, C. W. Grandy, Jr., and Thos. W. Costen and Jas. R. Doughtie were attorneys.

W. N. H. Smith had beaten Shaw for Congress by 600 votes. Editorially the paper said "While we write, our town is alive with the wildest excitement—everybody's face wears a cheerful aspect, and everybody wants to see once more the man that has beaten Dr. Shaw six hundred votes."

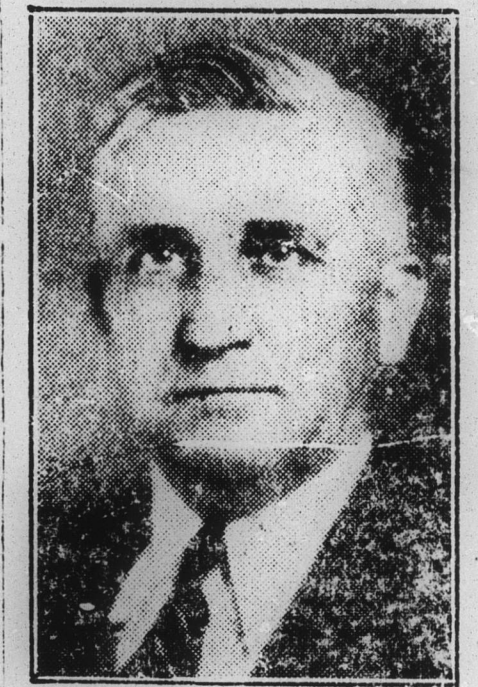
"Any mistakes in this issue of the paper must be attributed to a slight indisposition on the part of the Junior. The election news pouring in on us is rather more than he can stand up to."

Curlew Ran to Nags Head

"The steamer Curlew will commence her regular trips to Nags Head on Tuesday, July 5th, and run regularly thereafter between Edenton, Nags Head and Elizabeth City." Fare from Elizabeth City to Nags Head was \$1.50. T. L. Burbage was captain and he stated "fodder and other combustible materials would not be taken aboard unless packed according to law." Dr. L. K. Saunders advertised a large supply of medicine and would "promptly attend to any business entrusted to him."

Norfolk markets reprinted from the Norfolk Herald quoted corn at 81 to 83 cents a bushel; flour \$7.75 to \$9 a barrel, sugar 7c to 10½c; meal \$1 a bushel; cotton 10 and 12

HAS GREATLY AIDED PROGRESS OF TYRRELL



C. WALLACE TATEM of Columbia, who represented Tyrrell County for many years in the General Assembly, is a man of pronounced convictions, of sincerity and devotion to his section. He is a man who is opposed to sacrificing principles for policy. He has envisioned many things calculated to develop his county. While he has not always seen every project completed, he has continually stuck to his job of helping to achieve things that would help his county and region. He was for three years the president of the Southern Albemarle Association, and under his wise leadership many gains were made in the progress of Tyrrell and adjoining counties.

Columbia will be host to the schoolmasters of the Albemarle area January 8, in the annex of the Methodist church, it was announced this week by W. T. Crutchfield, county superintendent of schools who will act as host. A dinner will be served the school folk who are expected from Washington, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Currituck, Dare, Camden, Gates, Chowan and Bertie counties, Mr. Crutchfield said. The complete program will be announced later.

cents; guano \$32 to \$58 a ton; bacon 10½c and 11c; hams 12½c and 13c; shoulders and side meat, 8½ to 10½; apple brandy \$1 a gallon, and shingles \$5 to \$7 a thousand.

John H. Ziegler advertised all sorts of furniture and repairs to musical instruments; T. Parr made coaches and sold coffins; Reuben Madrin was agent for Caleb Sykes in the coffin business. Arthur L. Jones had taken over the coffin business owned by Hinton & Lamb; W. George Sartorius was watchmaker and jeweler. The Leigh House advertised fine food, a fine bar and fine stables; William C. Dawson ran an ambrotype gallery and made pictures at \$1 to \$10.

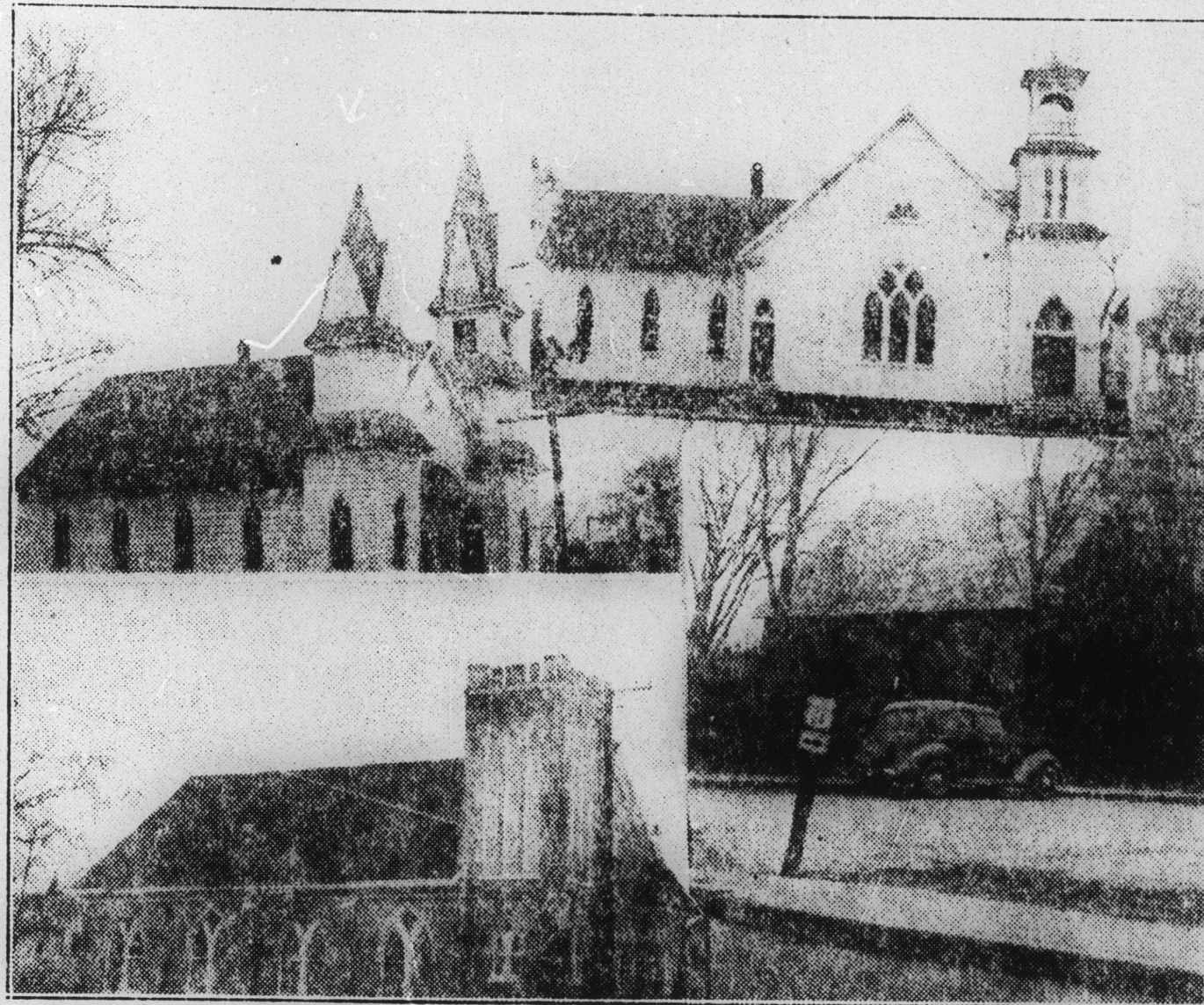
A half column ad for a year in the paper was priced at \$40 for a year, only a little less than the rates charged now in the smaller papers. The publishers were Keeling & Brooks. The paper referred to above was the 15th issue of Volume 1. It was full size with seven columns. Pages three and four were identical.

SHOW YOUR PRIDE AND LOVE FOR GOOD OLD TYRRELL COUNTY

Help along the cause of boosting good old Tyrrell. You who live here now, and you who have once lived here—no matter where you are—still have the spirit of Tyrrell in your blood and your bones. Send along a dollar for an eight month's trial subscription; a whole year for \$1.50, and keep in touch with the old friends and scenes of other days. There isn't a day you don't think of going back to Tyrrell. The next best thing is to get the Tyrrell County Tribune each week; just like a letter from home. And if you have a friend who wants to hear from good old Tyrrell, send him this copy after you read it. When you think of anything interesting to write, don't hesitate to send it in. Mail subscriptions to:

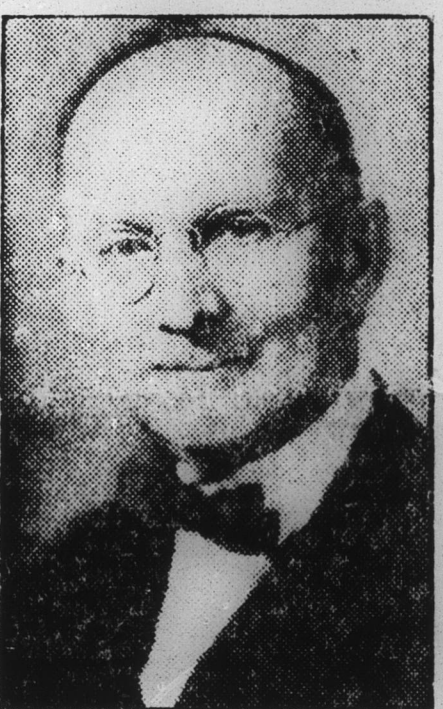
THE TYRRELL COUNTY TRIBUNE
Postoffice Box 282
COLUMBIA NORTH CAROLINA

MOST LEADING CHURCHES WELL REPRESENTED IN COLUMBIA



THESE snapshots show: Upper left the Christian church; upper right, Baptist church; lower left, Methodist church; and lower right, Episcopal church, of Columbia. Columbia is well served by churches and its splendid buildings and loyal congregations speak well for its pride in its churches. It is often said that a town with pride in schools and churches is the best one to select to live in. Hence Columbia may be considered good on that score.

WAS SUPERINTENDENT OF TYRRELL SCHOOLS



R. H. BACHMAN, former superintendent of the schools of Tyrrell is a man deeply interested in the general progress of the section. He recently retired and moved to Edenton after a life time of educational activity. Mr. Bachman, although now across the sound has many warm friends in Tyrrell County.

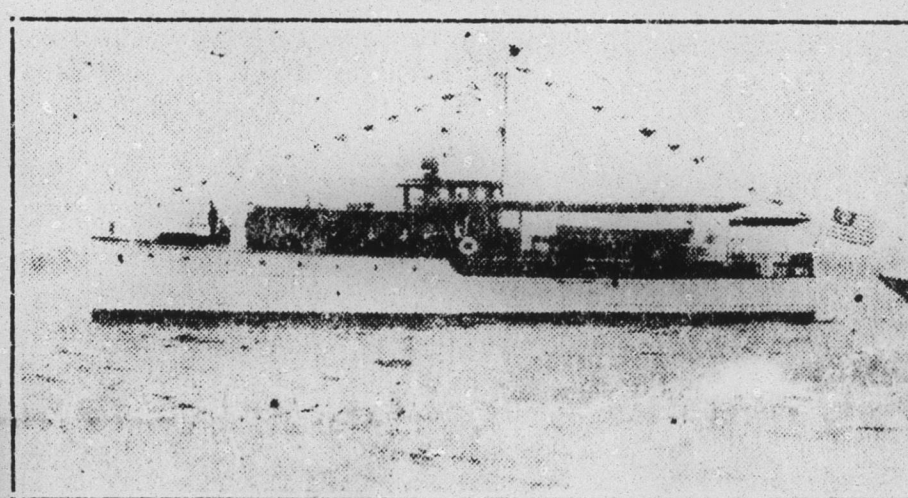
COLUMBIA HOMES HAVE SPLENDID DECORATIONS

Mrs. Floyd E. Cohoon Awarded Prize For Best Outside Decorations This Christmas

Mrs. Floyd E. Cohoon was presented with an indirect lighting table lamp by the Woman's Club of Columbia for having the most attractively decorated home in town. The judges were: Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Robbins of Greensboro, Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Egerton, also of Greensboro and Mr. D. M. Darden of Wilmington.

Close runner-ups were Mrs. Thomas Spruill and Mrs. Russell Everton. There was an unusually large number of homes decorated in the Yule tide effect this year, and the judges were pretty hard put in making a final decision.

Clark's Yacht Originally Built For Doris Duke



THE beautiful yacht pictured above was built for Doris Duke Cromwell, the tobacco heiress and world's richest woman. It is now owned by Miles Clark of Elizabeth City, and Mr. and Mrs. Clark often entertain their friends aboard this vessel. It is 77 feet long, and cost when new over \$100,000.

THE STORY OF AN EASTERN CAROLINA COAST OIL BUSINESS

Texaco's Great Success in Eastern North Carolina Founded Largely on the Friendliness and Enterprise of Miles Clark, Who Started in a Small Way and Grew Up Big

The success of the Texas Oil business in coastal North Carolina, and the rise in life of the man who built this business sounds like a dream. It is all the more interesting because it is about a young man we all know, right here in our home section.

Twenty-seven years ago Miles L. Clark, of Elizabeth City, bought an old junk boat at a Navy Yard sale for twenty dollars and started peddling oil and gasoline up and down North Carolina sounds and rivers.

Four years ago he sold his fleet of tank vessels to The Texas Company at a reputed figure of half a million dollars. And they are still keeping him to manage this business.

He is yet not more than 45. And now, if he wants to, he can spend the rest of his life fishing, playing golf, traveling or indulging in some other high-class loafing. But he doesn't want to; he keeps right on working.

How this young man made a name and fortune for himself makes an interesting story. As a boy, Miles was an ambitious youngster who wanted to do something on a big scale. He had no money; his father was the operator of two little sawmills near Elizabeth City. Miles happened to find out that the local agency for the Texas Oil Company was going begging. About the only gas consumed then in that part of the state was used by fishermen in their motors. There were no paved roads, comparatively few automobiles, and aside from railroad traffic most of the transportation was by boat.

Hearing of a sale of old vessels at the Navy Yard in Norfolk, Miles went up and put in a bid for a dilapidated old vessel which looked as though it might collapse on its very next voyage. His bid was twenty dollars, and he got the boat.

Installing some necessary repairs, Miles had the craft put in commis-

sion and proceeded to sail her up and down the sound and river country, delivering gas. He named her the Texas. The saw-mill business played out and Miles Clark's father skipped the craft.

Nobody paid much attention to what he was doing. Just a boy, holding down a mediocre job probably would play out in a short while. As a matter of record, Miles himself thought of it as a temporary proposition. He thought it would be a good enough job to hold until he finished college and got ready to take up the kind of position befitting a man with a college degree.

But he never finished college. He saw other boys depart from the institution of learning with their degrees and take up jobs of more or less trivial nature. He decided that inasmuch as he did not intend following some such profession as law, medicine or engineering, he might just as well quit school and go to work. And he also decided that the opportunity for success was just as bright in his old home town as anywhere else in the world.

So he went back to Elizabeth City the business of distributing gasoline and oil.

An Inside Secret
One finds on the walls of Clark's office a neatly framed card: "There is far less to fear from outside competition than from inside inefficiency, discourtesy and bad service."

Clark always gets efficiency from his men. In return, he has always paid them the very best of wages.

And that is the principle on which he has built up a great petroleum business in North Carolina. He was the pioneer in establishing the oil business in the tidewater region. He has always been on the alert to grab up new ideas. When it became apparent that the old Texas was no longer adequate, he built a larger and better boat. And

(Please turn to page five)

TELEPHONE OFFICIALS TO RAISE BEEF CATTLE IN HYDE CO.; HAVE CAMP

Reed Growth in Extensive Area Provides Excellent Winter Feeding; Soy Beans, Hay and Corn to Be Raised For Further Feed; Camp Houses Built For Employees to Enjoy Week End Hunting and Fishing

A BUSINESS LEADER IN COLUMBIA TOWN



J. FRED SCHLEZ, born in Germany, has seen lots of the world, yet he thinks there is no place like Tyrrell County. He has great faith in the future of the entire Southern Albemarle country and has invested a considerable sum in providing Columbia with as modern and up-to-date motion picture theatre as can be found in this section.

PROPOSED FISH LAW POINTS TO FEDERAL CONTROL

All Fish Would Be Graded by Federal Agents; Plan to Save Undersize Fish

A step toward the long feared Federal control of the fisheries, which would mean uniform laws enforced in all states, and protection for species scarce, or threatened with extinction, is being planned early in January, according to the following announcement from Washington:

A long-discussed move to establish a Government-operated system of compulsory inspection and voluntary grading of fish and fishery products will be argued in Congress next session.

The House Merchant Marine committee, headed by representative Bland (D.-Va.), has called a public hearing for January 16 on a bill for the purpose offered by Representative McCormack (D.-Mass.).

The bill would set up the inspection and grading service under the Federal Bureau of Fisheries, and the service would apply to "fish, fishery products, fishery by-products, shellfish, crustacea, seaweeds and all other forms of animal and vegetable life and the products and by-products thereof," in interstate or foreign commerce.

Bureau inspectors would be required to examine all fishery products before they were admitted to any processing plant whose products move in interstate commerce, and all products found unfit for human consumption would be condemned and destroyed or used for fertilizer or non-food purposes.

The inspectors would also have authority to enforce sanitation standards to be established by the bureau in the processing plants.

The bill would not apply to any fish taken by any individual fisherman and sold directly to consumers or to retail dealers.

The bill would also prohibit the importation of fishery products which failed to meet the same specifications to be established by the inspection service under the bill.

The grading service to be established under the bill would be entirely voluntary on the part of the processor, and upon the processor's application, the bureau, in cooperation with other agencies of the Federal State or local governments, would supply certificates of class, quality and condition of fishery products offered for shipment.

ENGELHARD HOST TO NEXT MEETING GAA

The next meeting of the board of directors of the Greater Albemarle Association will be held January 11, at 7 o'clock in the Engelhard school, it was announced this week by P. D. Midgett, Jr., president.

That this area provides excellent opportunities for the raising of beef cattle is the opinion of two executives of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company of Tarboro, who are starting beef cattle operations on an extensive farm which they have acquired in Hyde County which borders on the Pungo River.

The telephone officials, Mr. Porter, president, and Mr. Mullins, looking to the time when they will retire from the company five years hence, sought and located about 800 acres in Hyde County in the Scranton section. They took over the land a little over a year ago, and have already done much to reclaim some parts of the land which had not been cultivated in ten or fifteen years.

In the land which they have acquired and in adjoining land belonging to a lumber company from which they can acquire grazing rights, there are hundreds of acres of forest and waste land with a rich growth of reeds. Those reeds provide excellent winter grazing for beef stock and with the open land being reclaimed for cultivation with lespedeza, soy beans, and corn, they expect to provide feed for the stock.

Some 50 Hereford heifers recently been purchased from Panama and have the reed

stock on a big proving through breed

Not only will they cattle, but hogs will air stock raising operations. They have about 150 hogs after operations of only a little over a year.

Recent visitors to the farm known as the Rivershore Farm viewed the cleared fields, the widened and improved road, the new barns and stock houses, and recalled that the place had changed considerably in the past year. Reeds would have touched both the narrow road a year ago, they said, and the fences would have been that a car would have gotten stuck on the road besides.

The area teems with game of all kinds, including fish in the adjacent river. Employees of the telephone company have been permitted to build two log houses on the farm and since the houses were completed a short while ago, the employees and a limited number of guests Carolina hunting, fishing and enjoying camp life in general.

Logs were cut from the farm by a number of colored laborers brought in for that purpose. The logs were stripped, and all work in erecting the camps, except the brick work in fireplaces and chimneys, was done by the telephone employees at various visits.

And so Messrs. Porter and Mullins are starting stock raising operations and at the same time their employees are finding Camp Carolina an excellent place to spend week ends.

WHAT A SMART BOY DID SELLING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Master Thomas Yerby is the proud possessor today of the fine U. S. Regulation Army Bugle offered by the Tribune for a club of eight subscribers. This enterprising young lad is one real smart salesman. He even sold a subscription to a man who has been blind for ten years. (Which all goes to prove, "where there's a will there's a way." Keep up the good work, Thomas and how 'bout coming around some day and teaching us some of your high pressure methods of selling?)

We can help other boys to make some quick money for a little work.

HOME FOR HOLIDAYS

Donald Alexander, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Alexander of Columbia is spending his Christmas vacation with his parents. The younger Mr. Alexander is enrolled in the higher accountancy course at Norfolk College, Norfolk, Va., where he will resume his studies early next month with the opening of the midwinter term.