

The Busbees And Jugtown

Laugh On Earleella When Two Home Grown Artists Win Appreciation Carolina Product In New York Art Circles

By MILDRED HARRINGTON
(In Sunday's *Greenbacker* News)
New York, Dec. 10.—The North Carolina folk artists, Earleella and Juliana, and the Jugtown pottery, which they have rescued from obscurity and introduced to the lovers of the beautiful, are inseparably associated in the minds of New York artists and art enthusiasts.

A few years ago, Jugtown pottery was as unknown and unappreciated in New York as generally speaking, it still is in North Carolina. Today there is in this country no important exhibition of art which does not receive an honored place for the work of the humble Carolinians. We find great museums and private collections competing for choice examples of Jugtown pottery. Some early pieces salvaged by the Busbees from family cellar and attic may now be seen in the California Museum of Fine Arts. The Metropolitan has also shown a flattering interest in the Busbee collection. It does seem something of a pity, however, that a place nearer home could not have been found for these valuable old pieces.

Catching the enthusiasm of the artistic minority, the press has recently begun to exhibit a lively appreciation of the "find" unearthed by the pioneering Busbees. During the past year, special feature articles exploiting Jugtown art and artists have appeared in such magazines as "The House Beautiful" and "Country Life." Not many months ago "Century" purchased from Mr. Busbee an intimate sketch telling about the Jugtown community and his relation to it.

Which brings us quite naturally to the question: Just how have the Busbees been responsible for the present day interest in Jugtown folk and their handwork?

To begin with, both Busbees are artists with a keen eye for the beautiful and the courage to look for it in unlikely spots. All of ten years back, they tried their honest best to persuade us—their fellow North Carolinians—to see beauty and artistic merit in what we were prone to regard as so many "dirt dishes." Most of us smiled behind our hands a little at what we chose to look upon as the misplaced enthusiasm of the Busbees for a lot of common stuff we could buy any day from a covered wagon. Some of us even went so far as to suspect that they were a little "off" on the subject of home-made pottery.

Decidedly the laugh is on us. Failing to provide any interest in their "find" at home, the Busbees brought their faith and samples of the Jugtown handcraft to New York where Mrs. Busbee promptly set up a tea room and her husband began making the rounds of the art and specialty shops with the samples. In less than no time a few carefully selected dealers were showing his quaint wares. Connoisseurs and collectors became interested. Artistic folk began to talk about the possibilities of this beautiful pottery from North Carolina. Presently it became the thing to have one's tea table furnished with odd pieces of Jugtown ware. Butter crocks and sorghum jars found themselves put to strange uses in Greenwich village studios and smart uptown drawing rooms. Juliana Busbee's little tea room was blessed by people who wanted to buy the last piece of crockery off her shelves.

So insistent became the demand for Jugtown pottery that Jacques Busbee put aside an easel that had served him well to give all his time and energies to directing the work of the potters in their home community. For the past six or seven years, he has lived with the Jugtown people and worked with them. During his periodical visits to New York he spends much time studying the fine examples of Egyptian and Chinese pottery in the Metropolitan museum. When he returns to Jugtown, he shares with his fellow workers the inspiration derived from his study for the ancient masters of the potter's art. The result cannot be over-estimated for an artist realizes as no one else could the necessity for holding to the traditional shapes and methods of working.

It might be interesting to try to locate Jugtown. Well, you couldn't find it on the map, not even if you were Mr. Rand-McNally himself. Nor could you reach it by railroad were you the president of the Seaboard Air Line, the Southern, and the Atlantic Coast Line rolled into one. But if you should decide to make a pilgrimage to Jugtown, I think you would be safe in setting your face toward that section of the state where Moore and Montgomery and Randolph counties rub elbows.

Despite the fact that Jugtown boasts neither railroads nor parking space on the map, it was the home of a well-established and flourishing industry when the Father of his Country wore pinafores and made mud pies under the late lamented cherry tree. And in all except a few unimportant details, Jugtown is the same today as it was one hundred and seventy-five years ago. That is to say, since earliest colonial times the folk of this tiny backwoods community in North Carolina have been making for home consumption the quaint and really beautiful pottery which gives the few scattered houses a name.

An art like that handed down from father to son in Jugtown has its beginnings in necessity. Jugtown pottery in colonial days was pottery

By Fashion Hit



A NEW PARIS INSPIRATION

Straight-line frocks in a new style, with deep rounded collars, are the lower edge of the fashion. The inspiration of Paris is seen in every new design. The color is a soft, delicate blue. The frock is a simple, straight-line design, with a deep rounded collar and a long, flowing skirt. The price is 43 cents.

designed for the kitchen and only occasionally for the dining room. It was during the Civil War when North Carolina was cut off from the outside world of "chimey dishes" that the potters made their first real efforts at producing "dirt dishes" for the table. Thus it is that we now find them expert at "turnin'" cups and saucers, tea pots, small pitchers and bowls, candlesticks, and the like. Churns, butter crocks, stew jars, sorghum, and until recently, "heker" jars, are still, however, the principal offerings of these humble artists.

Not only has the traditional industry of these pure-blooded descendants of sturdy Anglo-Saxon stock been preserved, but their social customs and tricks of speech as well. In Jugtown nobody would speak of an unhealthy, under-sized child as "dainty"; he would be "puny" or "pin'lin." In answer to an inquiry as to the well-being of a Jugtowner, you would probably learn that he was either "purty to'able" or "jost to'able." Prolonged drought will be described as a "right smart'n dry spell." A wedding is spoken of as a "jikin' up" or "hitchin' frolic." Should a Jugtowner, male or female, hospitably offer you "a chaw off'n a plug o' Brown Mule," he or she would likely explain that it was "fotch back" from the county seat to which some member of the family had recently made "a kivered waggin trip with 'a passel o' dirt dishes." A housewife may invite you to share the noon-day meal with the laconic announcement, "We-all hev got a bilin' o' fresh pork fer dinner today. Better draw up yore cheer an set a spell, stranger."

Undoubtedly a custom which Jugtown folk share with no other people in the world is their method of marking the graves of their dead. A tombstone agent would starve to

death in Jugtown for the simple reason that every family supplies its own needs in this direction. It is said that even made a visit to the Jugtown cemetery "around" you know what I mean. At the best of all times there is a 100 percent of all dead men with the names of 10 or 15 or 20 or 30 and dozens scratched in the marble before the marker is put in the "dirt" to below. Some of the old ones are used for foot stones. One or two sees tiny pieces of the finest workman-like marking a baby's grave.

And these are the simple, unpretentious folk in whom the Busbees have discovered the true artistic spirit. Let us not be outdone by metropolitan art dealers and an art-loving metropolitan public in appreciating at its true worth a handicraft so peculiarly our own.

NORTH CAROLINA'S RANK IS EIGHTH

Washington, December 10.—North Carolina ranked eighth among the states of the Union on January 1, 1922 with regard to the mileage of surfaced roads in the State according to a report of the Department of Agriculture made public here today. At that time 16,755 miles had been surfaced. At that time only one state in the South had a larger mileage than the North State, it being Georgia with 18,000 miles of improved highways.

During the year 1922, according to the report North Carolina with 2,115.9 miles of highways constructed was third in the Union only to Michigan and Indiana respectively. The mileage of surfaced roads in the country including sand clay, gravel, macadam as well as those which had been paved was well over 400,000 miles at that time, according to the report.

"It is believed," read the report, "that the 1923 construction will not fall short of the previous year's record and that by the end of the present year the surface mileage will be somewhere near 430,000 miles."

million. This means, it is believed, that a portion of the 1922 and 1923 construction will be completed during the first part of 1923.

RECOMMENDS SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Richard B. Fisher, D. A. School of Physical Education, and a member of the State College of Physical Education, has recommended that the State College of Physical Education be established at State College. Dr. Fisher presented a plan to a meeting of trustees, alumni, athletic committee, and faculty, embracing the new school divided into four sections. Included in the proposal were departments of social hygiene, department of physical instruction of physical hygiene, department of campus athletics, and department of intercollegiate athletics.

C. T. The "returned" Saturday after a week's stay at Coimlock, Poplar Branch and Waterbury on a business trip.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Sale of Valuable Real Property
By virtue of a certain deed of trust executed to the undersigned by J. G. Forbes on June 8, 1923, and recorded in Book 58, page 44 of the office of the Register of Deeds of Pasquotank County, North Carolina, on Wednesday, December 27th, 1923, at 12 o'clock M., the property conveyed to me in said deed of trust, to-wit:

That certain lot of land, containing of more or less, situated in Elizabeth City, N. C., beginning at a point on the South side of Williams or Duke Street, 50 feet Southwardly from the Southern corner of Richardson and Williams Street, thence Southwardly parallel with Richardson Street 100 feet to the point of beginning, bearing same house and lot conveyed to said Forbes by V. E. Greger, This Nov. 26, 1923.

L. B. TWIFORD, Trustee.
By GEO. J. SPENCE, Attorney.

Sale of Valuable Real Property

NORTH CAROLINA, PASQUOTANK COUNTY, IN THE SUPERIOR COURT, BEFORE THE CLERK.
IN RE: TOM BROTHERS, DECEASED.
HESSIE BROTHERS FELTON, et al, Claimants.

By virtue of an order made in the above entitled Special Proceeding by the Clerk of the Superior Court of Pasquotank County, I shall sell to the highest bidder for cash on Saturday, December 29th, 1923, at 12 o'clock M., at the Court House door of said County, the following described real estate, to-wit:

FIRST TRACT:
Lots and being in Newton Township, Pasquotank County, N. C., and bounded on the North by the lands of Mrs. S. M. B. B. on the East by the lands of the heirs of Thos. G. Skinner, deceased, on the South by the lands of Geo. T. Bailey's heirs, and on the West by the lands of David Simpson and the Butler heirs, remaining eighteen acres, more or less, for further description see deed from John S. Morris and wife to John F. Brothers recorded in Book 25, page 627, office of Register of Deeds of Pasquotank County, N. C.

SECOND TRACT:
Lots and being in Newton Township, Pasquotank County, N. C., commencing at a ditch on the Northwest corner of the Louisa Goddard's line, thence along the said Louisa Goddard's line Eastwardly down the ditch about 725 yards to the lead ditch known as the line between the Ford heirs and the Aydtel heirs, thence North along said ditch about 200 yards to Joseph Goddard's line, thence Eastwardly along Joseph God-

ard's line about 725 yards to the Chance Lane, thence Southwardly along the Chance Lane to the place of beginning, remaining thirty-two acres, more or less, see deed from Henry Young and wife to J. F. Brothers recorded in Book 27, page 138, office of Register of Deeds of Pasquotank County, N. C.

This 27th day of November, 1923.
GEO. J. SPENCE,
Commissioner of the Court.

NOTICE OF SUMMONS

The defendant Elisha Banks, whose name is set forth in the caption of this summons, is hereby notified that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Pasquotank County, to obtain judgment declaring the bonds of matrimony now existing between this plaintiff and defendant, null and void. (For divorce a vinculo.) And the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear before the Clerk of the Superior Court of Pasquotank County, North Carolina, at his office at the Court House in said County on the 20th day of December, 1923, at 10 o'clock A. M., and at that time, or within twenty days thereafter, to answer by law provided, answer or demurrer to the complaint of the plaintiff filed in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the said Complaint.

ERNEST L. SAWYER,
Clerk of the Superior Court of Pasquotank County.
This 25th day of Nov., 1923. Dec. 13, 1923

NOTICE

Pursuant to deed of trust made by Providence Farms, Incorporated, on May 21, 1918, and recorded in the County of Currituck, North Carolina, in Book 15, page 382, in the office of Edward G. Schuller, Trustee, and pursuant to an order of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of North Carolina, in the matter of Providence Farms, Incorporated, a bankruptcy case, filed in said court on January 15, 1924, at 12 M., the following property is being offered for sale, to-wit: the whole and undivided interest of the principal and interest of the debt secured by the said deed of trust and demands having been made by the holders of said indebtedness for sale as in said trust provided, the undersigned will receive for sale, to the highest bidder for cash and at the Court House door of Currituck County, North Carolina, on the 5th day of January, 1924, at 12 o'clock P. M., the following described real estate conveyed by said deed of trust:

All real estate of the Providence Farms, Incorporated, situated in the County of Currituck, North Carolina, and a small portion of which may extend into the County of Camden, North Carolina, described and conveyed by the said deed of trust, excepting therefrom, however, all land lying North of the Gosport Mill Canal and all land lying West of the Gosport Mill Canal and also which lies West of the Old Swamp Road, and also the lots or parcels of land numbered 4, 12, the Western one-half of 8, and lots 7, 11, and 12 to 18, both inclusive, as shown on Plat B, made by William Mitchell, as well as any other real estate of the Bankrupt in the State of North Carolina, if any, excepted from the operation of the deed of trust from the Bankrupt to Edward G. Schuller, Trustee, dated the 1st day of May, 1918, duly recorded in said Office of the Register of Deeds of Currituck County, North Carolina, and/or which has been released therefrom by the said Edward G. Schuller, Trustee, in accordance with the terms and provisions of the said deed.

All the said lands, improved, which were conveyed to it by a certain deed from Providence Land Company dated the 21st day of May, 1918, duly recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of said County in Book 52, beginning with page 82, and which were conveyed by the said Providence Farms, Incorporated, to Hugh C. Davis, Trustee, by the Bankrupt to Edward G. Schuller, Trustee, in the County of Currituck, North Carolina, and some portion of which may extend into the County of Camden, North Carolina, bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

A plat made by David Cox, Engineer, will be exhibited at the sale, and the said tracts or parcels of land according to said plat, contain approximately 2,503 acres, a portion of which land is improved by substantial buildings, all of which buildings will be sold with the land. A deposit of \$1,000.00 in cash or a check for said amount of \$1,000.00 in some bank in Elizabeth City, North Carolina or Norfolk, Virginia, duly certified, must be made to the Trustee before the property is knocked down. Confirmation by the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

HUGH C. DAVIS, Trustee,
No. 1102 National Bank of Commerce Building,
Nov. 26, Dec. 13, 1923. Norfolk, Virginia.



Gift Problem

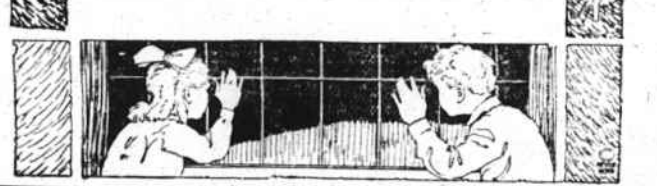
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