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"If there be any question of the position of this newspaper," says the highly respected Coastland Times of Manteo, "regarding the brazen expenditure of taxpayers' funds through one of the biggest farces ever visited upon those who have to pay the freight, let us now set the record straight.

"We refer to the constant throw-away of funds of the U. S. Government through its program to combat poverty. It is disgusting to see the leeches who have been fired from private employment or who are unemployable for other causes, hired to the big-shot positions and rambling about telling our home folks what to do.

"The coastland is not immune. We have plenty of the so-called big-wigs who draw handsome salaries for little work, directing many other unemployables, in a program to help out the poor folks. What suckers can we be? What will it ever require other than guts and determination to ever throw this shackle off the taxpayers' backs?

"We maintain that the poor receive only a token benefit. The major portion of budgets are eaten up by administration. It has been suggested, not only by us, but in many other quarters, that the poor devils purportedly the target of upgrading through the programs, receive as little as 10 percent of funds allotted. Admittedly, this has been established in many areas.

"We are pleased," says the Coastland Times, "to see the truth told in a story by Marie Wood in her column 'SCRIBBLED ON A REPORTER'S PAD,' published in the Hertford County Herald of Ahoskie. We reprint herewith her Open Letter To People's Program On Poverty:

"People's program on Poverty workers plan to visit the woman in the new location daily and to work with her to see that conditions are kept as they were when she moved in, they reported."

"That promise was contained in a page 1 story August 11, reporting on a visit to The Herald by a PPOP delegation concerning their moving a family out of quarters at 530 Snipes St. that was in such filthy condition they 'told them to leave everything in it when they moved them.'"

"The family consisted of a woman with four children, expecting her fifth, and whom PPOP's four said told them she could meet the rent on the home to which they moved her.

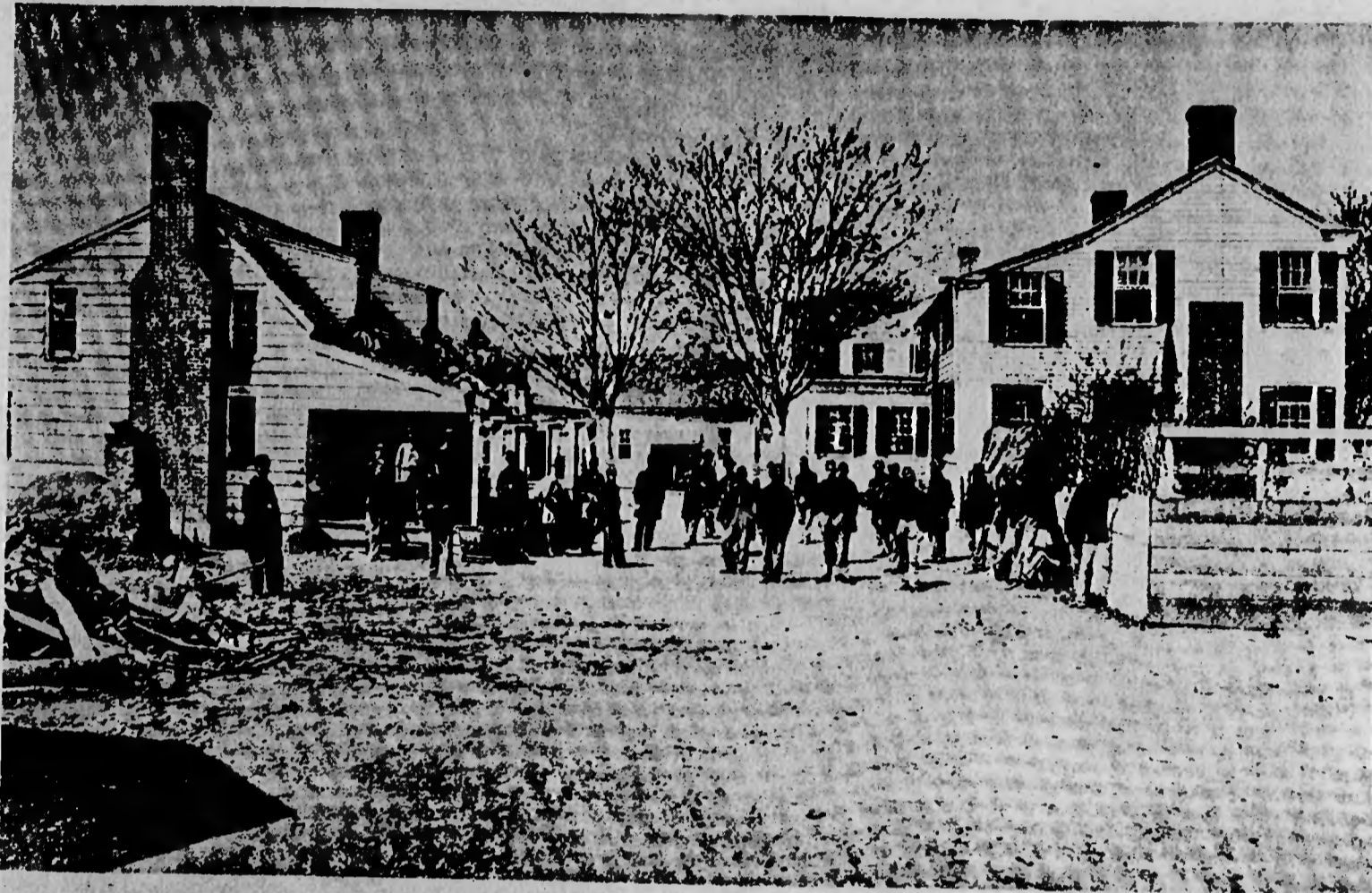
"Last Saturday I visited the woman in the new address to see how she was progressing.

"I found the knob gone from the front door, the front screen torn, and it necessary to go to the back door to get in. At the back porch there was slop all over the ground, flies, tin cans, and more of the same.

"The back door was screenless and wide open. Inside, the kitchen was filthy. A television was going strong in the living room, with condition of that room not quite as extreme as the kitchen, but with flies covering everything in sight.

"In other words the interior rapidly was approaching the

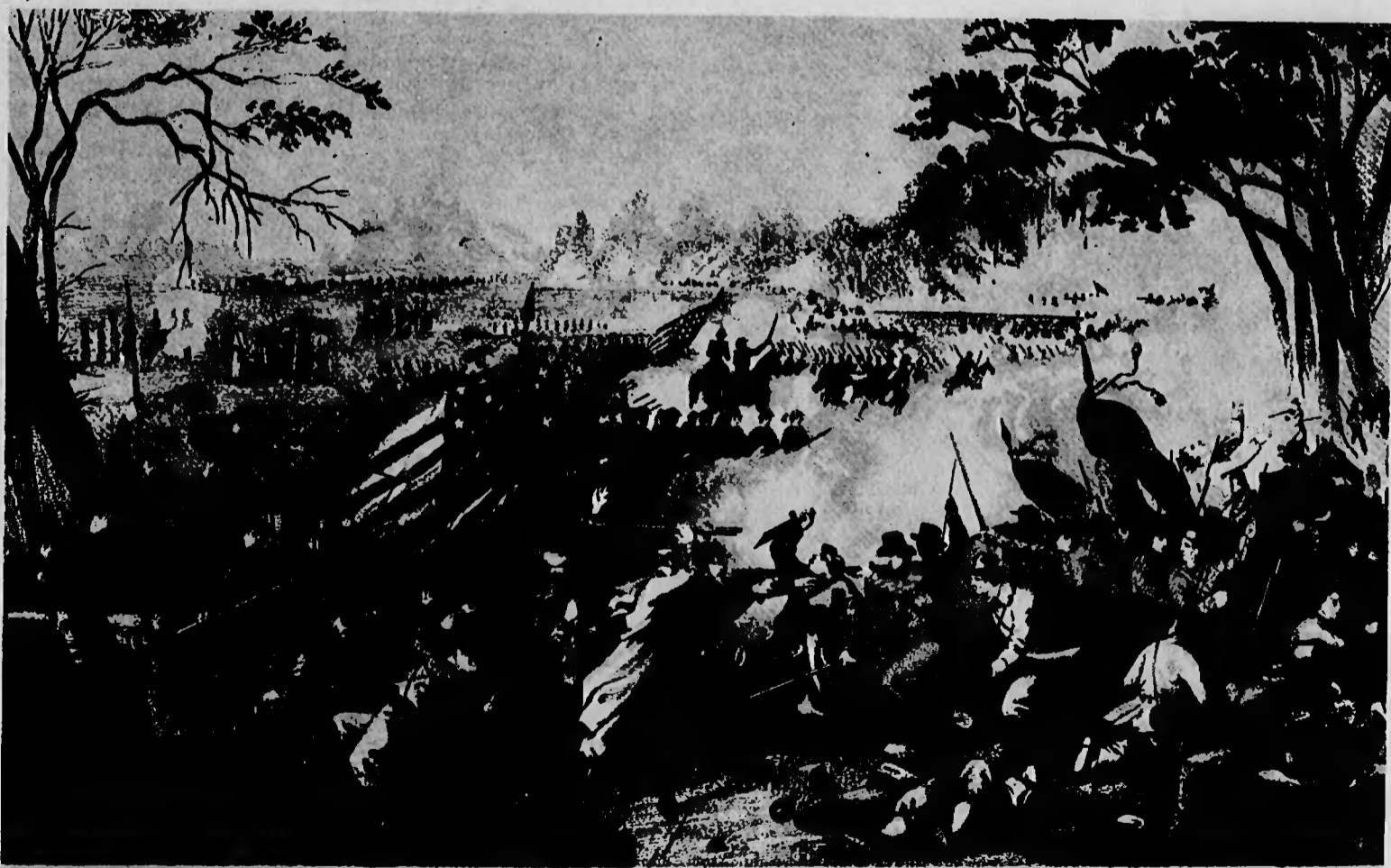
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REAR OF COMPANY A'S QUARTERS IN NEW BERNE WHILE DOING PROVOST DUTY

AT EASE—Unlike the drawing of the Battle of New Bern appearing on this page, you see here an actual photograph (also obtained from the University of North Carolina Library) showing Union soldiers during the town's occupation. Following the victory,

Yankee service men had little to occupy their time, and mostly wandered aimlessly when off duty. Observe closely, and you'll see a number of the invaders enjoying the sun on a conveniently low roof.



THE BATTLE OF NEW BERN

MORTAL COMBAT—The deadly skill of military conflict has progressed mightily since the War Between The States, and this grim fact is emphasized by an old engraving of the Battle of New Bern. The artist's conception seen here is from the North Carolina file of

the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. No one who participated in the hand to hand fighting is still around, of course, to verify this version of how New Bern was captured.