



Through  
THE  
Looking  
Glass

# The NEW BERN MINOR

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Yesterday was when, at the turn of the century, New Bern was already boasting a population of "nearly, if not quite, 10,000 souls." We've grown since then, but not as rapidly as Jack's bean stalk.

That year (1900) the New Bern Fair and Fourteenth Exhibition of the East Carolina Fish, Oyster, Game and Industrial Association made it clear that no one would be permitted to break bad during the big promotion.

According to printed regulations, "The sale of spirituous, vinous or malt liquors on the grounds or in any of the buildings is absolutely prohibited, nor will any pool selling, gambling devices, lotteries, or games of chance of any kind or description be tolerated or allowed, and any person found engaging in the same will be excluded."

Nary a word was said about banning hootchy kootchy shows. Apparently, thirsty males at least had the satisfaction during their rigidly enforced sobriety of sinfully watching undressed girlies grind and bump.

The rules spelled out that "The President and Directors shall have the general supervision of the Fair, and shall see that order and decorum are observed on the grounds and in the buildings."

To this end, "It shall be the duty of any of these officers to take speedy and efficient means to quell any disturbance that may arise, and the employees and policemen will obey any one or more of them."

If somebody did forget to be a lady or a gent, it wasn't hard to identify an official to whom the misbehavior could be duly reported. "The President will wear a white rosette; each of the Vice-Presidents, red and white; each of the Directors, blue; the Secretary, red; Managers, green."

Price of admission for each person, "whether in carriage, on horse or on foot" was 50 cents. Season tickets were \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children.

The charge for each two horse vehicle was 50 cents, and each one horse vehicle, 25 cents. By paying \$2.25, the owner of a two horse vehicle could get a badge admitting the vehicle and driver all during the fair. It cost \$1.50 for this privilege, if you had a one horse vehicle.

Even if you entered an exhibit that won a prize, you couldn't get rich. For example, the best sow entered with six of her pigs under one years old got the owner only \$2.00. Second prize was a red ribbon.

It should be said, however, that there was no entry fee, and stalls and grub were furnished the animals without charge. Besides, there were contests for everything imaginable, and it added up to a tidy sum.

In the wild game division, there were cash prizes for quail, woodcock, English snipe, greyback, double rail, single rail, doves, meadow larks, willet, curlew, yellow shank, robins, plovers, and oyster



**READY AND WAITING**—Nancy Lynne Mason, three year old daughter of John and Karen Dunn Mason, is an excited young lady these days. She expects to have a baby sister or baby brother around the house in a little more than two weeks, and this adds up to happiness. What she doesn't know yet is that sharing takes some adjusting. It's

a problem faced by parents and their firstborn since time began, but fortunately Nancy Lynne will eventually conclude that the newcomer isn't a rival for affection but somebody who is loads of fun. Her paternal grandparents are the Clyde Masons, and the maternal grandparents are the Ernest C. Dunns.