

Through... STATE CAPITAL KEYHOLES

By BESS HINTON SILVER

STEAMING UP—The campaign in behalf of Clyde R. Hoey, Shelby's silver-tongued, for the Democratic nomination for Governor next year, is being whipped into nice form if the political stars read true.

CONGRESS—The State Capitol this week is of the opinion that Congressman R. L. Doughton is in a mood to seek the governorship via the Democratic primaries and a candidate to succeed him in Congress from the Ninth District.

ONE MORE THING—Friends of Lieutenant Governor A. H. Graham think he is doing nicely presiding over his second term of the State Senate and they are beginning to roll the old political ball in his behalf for Governor.

CHANGED COURSE—Many close personal and political friends of Representative R. Gregg Cherry, of Gaston, say he is padding his canoe toward the Speakership of the 1937 House.

OPPOSITION—North Carolinians are writing their Senators and Congressmen to oppose the Rayburn bill which would repose authority to fix rates in the federal power commission.

MARATHON—The boys who know their legislatures say that a real bombshell exploded when the motion was made in finance committee to reduce the sales tax rate from three to two percent.

DIVERSION—Don't sleep upon your couch if you want your gasoline taxes spent on your roads. Designs looking toward using it for other things have not been abandoned.

COMING UP—Don't get the idea that the suggested system of textbook rental has been abandoned. The bill providing for such a system is still in committee but individual lawmakers are getting things in line to push the measure through the legislature ere long.

trenches, according to past records and present predictions, there is little doubt, however, that sentiment for renting books is growing and the proposition has a much better chance of becoming law than during past sessions.

WIELDS CLUB—Senator Lloyd Griffin, of Chowan, is one member of the General Assembly who gets things done without benefit of oratory. You couldn't exactly say that he has "it" but when it comes to the school system his ideas usually prevail.

DIFFICULTY—If the House of Representatives runs true to form this session it will make plenty of trouble for the Senate. Procedure of the last two or three sessions has been for the House to increase appropriations and cut taxes.

SIMMONS—Raleigh is taking with a grain of salt recent published rumors that former United States Senator Furnifold M. Simmons will oppose Senator J. W. Bailey next year. Likewise the politically-minded are not betting that former Lieutenant Governor R. T. Fountain will support Simmons in the event he runs.

BONER—Wets and Dries in the Legislature generally agree that the Reverend R. L. Arnold, of Raleigh, made a mistake in praying for defeat of the Hill liquor bill when he was invited to open the Senate, with prayer last week.

Carolina Strawberrys

By GUY A. CARDWELL Agricultural and Industrial Agent Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co.

An early estimate made by the Crop Reporting Board, United States Department of Agriculture, credits the Carolina strawberry belt with the same acreage as last year, 7,450.

The preliminary estimate of the total strawberry acreage in the United States for picking in 1935 indicates a little less than 170,000 acres. This is a decrease of more than 14 per cent compared with last year's harvested acreage, and is approximately 6 per cent less than the average acreage for the five-year period, 1929-1933.

According to a very recent report, a production of 546,000 crates (2 quarts) is expected in Florida this season, as compared with 675,000 crates last year, a decrease of 19 per cent. There is an estimated decrease of 7 per cent below 1934 in the average, or 8,400 acres this year compared with 9,000 acres last year.

Preliminary estimates indicate that Louisiana will have approximately the same acreage in 1935 as last year, 300 acres less. Investigations of the damage done to strawberries in the strawberry producing sections north of Lake Pontchartrain, point to a damage of from three to five per cent. The young plants recently planted and not well rooted were killed. The leaves of older plants were mostly "frost bitten." In most cases the buds of the older plants were not destroyed, and it is confidently expected that with the advent of warm weather, the plants will take on new life, put out new leaves, and later produce a good crop of berries.

Men Whose Careers Have Been Furthered by a Great Love Affair



By INEZ HAYNES IRWIN

Inspired by the 20th Century Picture from United Artists, "CLIVE of INDIA" with Ronald COLMAN and LORETTA YOUNG

TODAY "George Washington and Lady Fairfax"

Inez Haynes Irwin is one of a noted writing family. Her husband, Will Irwin, writes. Wallace, her brother-in-law, writes. So do Laetitia MacDonald Irwin, her sister-in-law, and Phyllis Dugane, her niece.

UNTIL recently, the world believed that so far as there was any love in George Washington's life, Martha Custis was the woman. There can be no doubt that George Washington held in the highest esteem the kindly, sensible lady who became his wife.

Fairfaxes of Belvoir Fairfax brought his bride to Belvoir, his ample, hospitable estate in Virginia. There, a lad of sixteen years, Sally Fairfax's junior by two years, met her and apparently fell in love with her on sight.

That lad was George Washington. There grew up between those two—shall we say a friendship on her part, a serious romance on his?

Hotbed of Ideas: What Belvoir and—especially—its mistress did for him in the malleable years between sixteen and twenty-five cannot be overestimated. The house was a hotbed of liberalism, probably of republicanism. To what discussions must the boy have listened!

At that time, Addison's Cato was the inspiration of all people with republican leanings. It is the tragedy of a patriot who died for the Roman Republic. Sally Fairfax introduced George Washington to this play. Possibly they read it together.

Such is the charm of romance back of the scenes in the lives of most renowned men. It is of such material as this that the romance of Robert Clive and his beloved Marguerite, is built. This tender love story, and other adventures, are beautifully presented in United Artists' new 20th Century production, "Clive of India".

group of States shipping strawberries in which the Carolinas are included and with which they have to compete, in part, in marketing, are shown to have 43,220 acres of strawberries in 1935, compared with 58,150 acres in 1934, a decrease of nearly 26 per cent.

Taking into consideration the above information, it would appear that

with him on his campaigns. In his plain but rather diffuse writings, he seldom quotes poetry, even indirectly, but when he does, it is always Cato. Finally in that desperate winter at Valley Forge, he had the play produced for the encouragement of his army. What memories those pompous periods must have evoked—Belvoir and Sally and the loveliness of Virginia! These memories were the more poignant because two years before our Revolution began, George Fairfax had taken his wife to England. They never returned; and George Washington never saw Sally Fairfax again.

His Wife Approved

In 1877, two letters written by George Washington to Sally Fairfax, nineteen months before his death, came to light. Although apparently she destroyed many of his other letters, these, carefully preserved, were found among his papers.

George Washington signed one, Martha copied and signed the other. She adds a message, "My affectionate regards for you." Washington says: "During this period many important events have occurred. . . None of which events, however, nor all of them together, have been able to eradicate from my mind the recollection of those happy moments, the happiest in my life, which I have enjoyed in your company."

Surely those sentences, coming from the contained Washington, are surcharged with meaning. The situation has a lovely fragrance. All three of these people were in their late sixties. The man tells the love of his youth what she has always meant to him. The wife adds a postscript as one who intimates "I know all about it, my dear, and I understand." The other woman keeps the letter all her life.

But more important than the fact that Sally Fairfax gave George Washington the happiest moments of his life is the quality of the ideals which she instilled in him. When he came to her, he had no opinions; when they parted, the republican principle was part of his mental fibre. When, after the Revolution, a group of his officers suggested to Washington that he declare a monarchy and seize the throne, he rejected the idea with horror. It is very likely that if he had chosen to become a king, the American people, still living in the uncertainties of hope and belief, would have approved. Instead he went on in his quiet, sober, powerful way moulding our scheme of government. Certainly we owe the man that George Washington became to Sally Fairfax. Perhaps we owe our republic to her.

The End.

Carolina strawberry growers should have a favorable season in prospect this year. However, of course, a great deal depends upon the buying power in Northern cities, quality of the berries, and the care and attractiveness with which the fruit is graded, packed and packaged.

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Importance of Sire It is an old adage that the sire is half the herd. In poultry breeding it may be assumed that the sire is half the breeding flock, since the potent male stamps certain characteristics of his line upon each cockerel or pullet reared from the matings of which he has been one parent.

Poultry Notes Every hen that drops into a molt is out of the production race until late in the season. One of the greatest troubles most poultry men have to maintain winter egg production is to maintain body weight. Infertile eggs may be left in a temperature of 103 degrees Fahrenheit for 72 hours and still be good for food, poultry tests have shown. It is best for the beginner not to cull too heavily, and not discard a hen on one point but rather on a combination of points. It is surprising what the changing of growing chicks to fresh, new, untainted ground will do for them. It seems to act as a wonderful tonic. Since four-fifths of the poultry in this country is raised by farmers and only one-fifth by commercial poultrymen, grass is an important feed item. TRY A HERALD WANT AD.

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