

DR. WESCOTT SOLVES

The Case of  
The Silver Spurs

by Wilborne Harrell

## A CHOWAN HERALD FICTION STORY

Dr. Wescott was an excellent horseman—but I definitely was not. He sat his mount in a harmonious whole that made him a veritable Centaur. I—Jimmy Maguire—contacted the saddle just often enough to jar the teeth out of my mouth, and make my posterior feel as though it was taking a beating from a giant shillalah.

Dr. Wescott and I were on a trail ride on the huge dude-pardon me, guest—ranch of "Silver" Brady, who owned a spread as big as a State and ran enough cattle to graze half of Texas. Big, hearty, and booming-voiced Silver Brady had known Wescott in his early days before he ran a two-bit silver lode into millions, which had earned him the sobriquet of "Silver"—a name that had stuck through the years. Then Brady had branched out into the cattle business and ran a couple of mavericks into one of the largest ranches in the Panhandle. Today, in keeping with the growing popularity of things Western, Silver Brady had converted part of his ranch into a guest ranch; for wealthy vacationers who wished to "rough" it Western style for a spell. Silver Brady, giving his eccentric personality full rein, also wore a pair of silver spurs, studded with diamonds, and branded his cattle with a spur brand. His vast cattle domain was also known as the Silver Spur.

An urgent telegram from Silver Brady had brought Dr. Wescott to post haste—or jet haste—to the cattle kingdom of Silver Brady. It appears that Brady was beset with the age-old scourge of the cattleman—rustling. He was also beset with complications. Brady's lovely daughter, Jean, was madly in love with his ranch foreman, by the name of Joel King. And to complicate matters, it was King whom Brady strongly suspected of the wholesale rustling, and among other things actually embezzeling from Brady. But Brady wasn't quite certain of King's guilt, and rather than break his daughter's heart by firing King, Silver Brady in desperation had sent for Dr. Wescott. After all, Brady told himself, King could be innocent. So he dumped the whole problem in Wescott's lap.

We were riding abreast, Brady, Wescott, Jean Brady and I. Joel King was back down the trail, assisting some tenderfoot with a spooky horse.

"Tell me, Dr. Wescott," said Jean, "what do you think of all this?" Her arm swept out to indicate the immense Western landscape that spread before us. "I love it—every cactus tree, every bit of tumbleweed, every longhorn. It's the most wonderful country in the world."

"I am still amazed at what I see," said Wescott. "And I agree with you—it is marvelous."

"Nothing else like it in God's whole universe — nothing else crimes when confronted with like it," spoke up Brady in his greater crime of murder.

his fee," he said.  
He held the spurs out to me. His eyes twinkled. "You wear 'em, Jimmy. A fine horseman like you should never be without a pair of spurs."

Weekly Devotional Column  
By JAMES MACMENIE

The letter from our Lord Jesus Christ to the saints at Philadelphia (The Revelation 3:7-13).

The city of Philadelphia in Asia-Minor lies twenty-eight miles south of Sardis, and its name means "brotherly affection." It was named after Atlas II whose nickname was Philadelphia, and who founded it in 140 B.C.

Philadelphia was a border town on the main east-west highway, the last out-post of western civilization. Located as it was on the border between Europe and Asia it was the gateway to both. Perhaps our Lord had this in mind when He said, "Behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it" (3:8).

It lay on the edge of a great volcanic area which made the land around it quite fertile. The area was also subject to earth-quakes, however, and the people lived unsettled lives.

At any time of the day or night they might be called upon to pack up and move out. It may be that our Lord had this in mind when He said, "and he shall no more go out" (3:12).

The pet god of Philadelphia was Dionysius, the god of drunkenness. It was their custom, when they wished to honor a civic or religious leader to erect a pillar in his honor in the

Temple of Dionysius. This sheds light on the words of Jesus, "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God" (3:12).

The church at Philadelphia is one of two that received no criticism from Jesus. There are still Christian people in Philadelphia.

To begin with, it was a small church (verse 3). Jesus here refers not to spiritual strength but to numerical strength. It was a small church, a humble church, a poor church. Not many, if any, distinguished social climbers belonged to it. They are seldom attracted to that kind of church.

It was also a much tried church. Verse nine mentions the synagogue of Satan, which Bible scholars tell us refers to those so-called Christians who sought to bury the Gospel of the Gospel as we think it should. But the Lord calls us to patience. It is for us to do the work He set us to do and leave the results with Him.

Portsmouth; two sons, Kermit increase of 4 percent. C. Harrell of Suffolk and Roland Gene Harrell of Tyner; four brothers, Ernest Ray Harrell of Norfolk, Walter A. Harrell of Columbia, S. C., Jesse F. Harrell of Tyner and Carey Harrell of Elizabeth City; two sisters, Mrs. Abbott S. Hunter of Hertford and Mrs. Robert Perry of South Mills.

Hens and pullets of laying age on farms during the month was placed at 10,161,000 compared with 10,162,000 in December last year. The rate of egg production per 100 layers averaged 1,556 compared with 1,497 during December, 1958.

He was a member of the Warwick Baptist Church, where funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. The pastor, the Rev. R. B. Cottingham, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Lamar Seftel, pastor of Ballard's Bridge Baptist Church.

Burial was in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

## RECORD EGG PRODUCTION

North Carolina farmers produced an estimated 158 million eggs during December which establishes a new record for the month and exceeds the previous record set in December, 1958 by 6 million eggs or an

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## NOTICE!

This is to notify the shareholders and members of the Edenton Savings and Loan Association that the annual shareholders' meeting will be held Monday evening, February 1, 1960, at 8:00 o'clock in the Chowan County Court House, Edenton, N. C.

## R. E. LEARY

Executive Vice President



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