

The MacQueen Clan

(Editor's Note: Donald F. MacDonald, South Carolina native and a former newspaperman in Charlotte, now resides in Edinburg, Scotland where he is a staff writer on "The Weekly Scotsman." He has written a story of the MacQueen family — which furnished the church in Scotland with ministers without a break for seven generations and a chain of ministers among MacQueen emigrants to North Carolina, some of whom have served in Central Carolina. Here is a copy of MacDonald's story reprinted in "The Presbyterian News," official organ of The Synod of North Carolina.)

The history of the MacQueen clan begins with the story of Big Kate MacQueen, a woman of phenomenal strength, who lived in the area of Riggs on the east coast of Skye. Besides her gift of strength, she also had a bad temper — so bad that her kinsmen banished her to the hills, where she was left to make her way alone.

But, according to the story recounted by Mr. MacDonald, a family of Martins, Kate's relatives on her mother's side, once unsuccessfully tried to capture an unbroken filly. They had the animal surrounded except for one avenue of escape. When they saw Big Kate standing in the distance, they asked her to help them catch the filly. Kate sprang into action and not only caught the filly by the neck, but flipped it over on its back and held it down until it could be roped. For this deed, the family forgave Kate and her bad temper and welcomed her back.

Dr. Donald MacKinnon, retired Skye minister and Gaelic-speaking historian, believes the record of MacQueen service to the church is unparalleled. In all, nine Riggs MacQueens were Skye ministers for a combined period of 281 years.

"Although the MacQueens in Skye were not a large family," Dr. MacKinnon writes, "the remarkable feature about them is the number of sons they gave to the service of the church in Scotland, and later in North Carolina. Their record of service is altogether unique in the history of one family."

Dr. MacKinnon, who holds the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature from Flora MacDonald College, has written an unpublished history of the Skye MacQueens.

Boswell to Skye
Dr. Samuel Johnson and James Boswell met Rev. Donald MacQueen, one of the early MacQueen ministers, on their tour of Skye and noted that Mr. MacQueen was the most intelligent man on the island. They also told of having dined on "fried chicken," a Skye dish which was apparently new to them. This was in 1773 and about the same time hundreds of Skye families migrated to the American South, where "Southern fried chicken" has since become famous.

The first of the MacQueen family to come to North Carolina was Archibald MacQueen who married a half-sister of Flora MacDonald. They had a son, James, who married a Miss Ann MacRae and became a prosperous landowner at "Queensdale" near Maxton in Robeson County.

Came To N. C.
In 1802 Margaret Martin MacQueen, widow of Alexander MacQueen brought her daughter and three of her sons to live near her kinsmen in North Carolina. Her son, Donald, wed Katharine, a daughter of Col. James MacQueen. Descendants of this line have since kept up the MacQueen tradition of church service.

Archibald, the eldest son of James and Ann MacRae MacQueen was a famous Gaelic-speaking minister. After graduating in law at the University of North Carolina, he turned to the ministry because of the difficulty of finding Gaelic-speaking clergy for the hundreds of emigrants from the Highlands who could not speak English. He preached in his native tongue at Centre, Old Laurel Hill, and Smyrna Churches in North Carolina, and several churches in South Carolina. He was married three times and widowed twice. He was suspended by the church for having married his deceased wife's sister, but won an appeal shortly before his death in 1851.

In Dunn 40 Yrs.
Archibald's sister, Katharine, who married her cousin, Donald MacQueen, was the mother of twelve children, including seven sons, each over six feet tall. One of these sons, also named Archibald, was minister at Iona, Ashpole, Smyrna, and Old Bethel Churches. Another of her sons, Martin, was the father of the late beloved Rev. Angus MacQueen, minister at Dunn for over 40 years.

From still another of the seven

sons, Edmund, is descended one of the state's best-known ministers, Rev. Mac Carmichael MacQueen of Clinton. Edmund had at least four sons — Edmund, Dick, Donald, and "Jenks" was the father of Rev. M. O. MacQueen.

Marry Descendants
Hundreds of Scots-Americans — from the Carolinas to Texas — can trace kinship back to the famous MacQueen ministers of Rigg, Isle of Skye. Other descendants known to North Carolina Presbyterians include, Mrs. Flora Gammon, wife of the Rev. R. R. Gammon of Greenville, who is the great-granddaughter of Edmund MacQueen; and Donald F. MacDonald, from whose account this article is based, and who is the grandson of Edmund MacQueen.

Closely related to the MacQueens is the Rev. William MacInnis of Henderson. The late Rev. Neil MacInnis of Red Springs was collaterally descended from the Queensdale family as was the late Angus W. McLean, Governor of North Carolina, 1925-28.

Tuesday Rites For Matthews Baby

Baby Matthews, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Matthews of Erwin, died Sunday afternoon in Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital. Graveside services will be held Tuesday morning at 11:00 from the Erwin Memorial Park. Officiating will be Rev. Ralph O. Byrd.

Surviving in addition to his parents are the paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Matthews of Erwin; the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Lela Wallace of Erwin; the great grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Naylor of Erwin; and a great grandmother, Mrs. Lena Matthews of Coats.

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Under Hatcher-Skinner & Drew Funeral services will be held at the Hatcher-Skinner & Drew Funeral Home Chapel Wednesday morning at 11 a.m. for Charlie L. Allen, Sr., of Bilozi, Miss., who died Sunday.

Mrs. Sherrill Glover, 22, died early this morning in Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 3 p.m. at Long Branch Free Will Baptist Church.



JUST DAYDREAMING—Artist Josy Prayer, captivated by the landscape of the South of France, just leans back and reflects. In so doing, she's creating a charming subject for other artists.



GLAMOROUS—Margaret Weiskopf's legs are the prettiest at the New York World's Fair, at least according to actor Jean Pierre Aumont, who judged the contest held at the Du Pont pavilion. Margaret is a junior at New York University.

James Adams Gets Promotion

LEMOORE, Calif. (FHTNC) — James W. Adams, Jr., storekeeper second class, USN, son of James W. Adams, Sr., of 702 East Edgerton st., Dunn, was recently promoted to his present rate.

He is stationed at the Naval Air Station, Lemoore, Calif., the world's newest and largest master jet air station, which was commissioned in July 1961.

Adams will order, receive and issue materials and cargo used by the station, and prepare and main-

tain correspondence and files.

The Lemoore Naval Air Station is located in the heart of California's San Joaquin Valley, 40 miles south of the city of Fresno, Calif. A graduate of the Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina, Greensboro, Adams entered the Navy in March 1955.

AT TRAINING CENTER

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (FHTNC) — Jimmy L. McCauley, son of H. C. Strickland of Erwin, has reported to recruit training at the Naval

Training Center, San Diego, Calif. He is learning basic military law, customs and etiquette, seamanship, and a basic knowledge of shipboard routine.

PRAYER SERVICE

The pastor of Spring Branch Baptist Church, the Rev. C. Gary Long, will address the business men's prayer service held weekly each Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the conference room of Home Savings & Loan. It is open to the public.

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Tumor Caused Woman's Death

An autopsy report in the case of Martha J. McDowell indicates that she may have died due to a benign tumor of the adrenal gland.

The 32-year-old Negro woman was found dead in bed June 25 at her home at 802 West Johnson Street by one of her four children.

A partially filled bottle of bootleg was discovered under the mattress. And it was thought she might have died from poison whiskey, but this proved not to be true.

In medical terms the tumor is known as a pheochromocytoma and might have caused Mrs. McDowell to have had headaches, dizziness, fainting spells and a pounding sensation in her chest. Coroner Bill Warren said the report showed no other probable cause of death.

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