

Brunswick Between Bookends

By Al Arntsen



THE STORY OF THE OLD NORTH STATE. By R. D. W. Connor. Published 1906. 169 pages. Available at Southport Public Library.

You might ask, "Now who in the world would sit down and read through a History textbook?" And let's face it, that's what this one is. There is no escaping the fact that in the majority of cases it would be impossible to honestly recommend such a book to an adult. However, the author being R. D. W. Connor makes the difference. A man who writes about the history of North Carolina with a love for the state as well as a love of history. It appears he had a real affinity for "the beautiful Cape

Fear country", as he calls it. Never does he fall into the habit of some historical writers of designating Old Brunswick and this region as being in the "Wilmington area".

Mr. Connor begins his story with Sir Walter Raleigh, and his desire to "build up colonies in the New World that would make England the greatest nation on earth." Though the author is primarily concerned with the colonies of North Carolina, he gives the facts more relevance by always relating events in their proper context thus showing this state's (including Brunswick county's) contribution to the development of the United States as a nation. Therefore, we follow

the settling and developing of the colonies and how through many setbacks they grew in strength and desire for freedom. We are led through the Revolution, into independence as a nation, then on the Civil War which shook this country. The book concludes with two chapters on the reconstruction era.

The first settlers who came to North Carolina from Virginia made their home along the shores of Albemarle Sound. However, it was not long before others were seeking to settle in the Cape Fear. The first two attempts, made in about 1660, met with failure. First some men from England attempted to settle here but gave up almost immediately. The second group were also Englishmen, but they came here from the island of Barbados where they had fled during a Civil War in England. It was not long before they too gave up and left these parts to the wild beasts and Indians.

Nearly sixty years later Colonel Maurice Moore made the first permanent settlement in the Cape Fear. We are told that he laid off 360 acres of land on the west bank of the river on his property. He called the town of Brunswick. Even though this town did not grow to any great size Mr. Connor never fails to emphasize its historical importance. There were momentous events that took place here, and there were great men who made their home in this town.

The author apparently finds in Cornelius Harnett of Brunswick the embodiment of all that is noble in our heritage. In this book it is recalled that he was known as "The pride of the Cape Fear". One of the leading patriots of this state, he did more than anyone to arouse the people to resist the tyranny of the English King. Right here in our own county he openly resisted the Stamp Act, and he was the man who wrote the famous resolution of April 12, 1776 which made us declare our independence before any of the other colonies. Fiercely hated by his enemies, he was eventually imprisoned and died a martyr's death. But the liberties for which he fought live on.

There are many more exciting avenues one could take in this little book. If you are like so many of us, who could profit from a good review of history, let Mr. Connor help you. In a picturesque manner of speaking, he tells the facts with forthrightness and clarity.

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What about mulches? What are some of the advantages? Disadvantages? Let's see what we can learn about mulches, objectively.

Nature mulches the roots of plants with fallen leaves. This means that no cultivation is practiced where plants grow naturally. The forest floor is a good example. Moisture is conserved and plant foods are manufactured due to the decomposition of organic matter. Soil is conserved by the prevention of erosion.

Under these mulches, whether natural or man-made, many things happen. Chemical change is taking place. Bacteria by the billions play a part, as do fungi. Moisture is necessary for all life processes. Good soil is teeming with living things and we who live on the soil are dependent upon its good performance.

I guess that we could agree, then, that the use of mulches is one method of duplicating natural processes by providing a happy soil environment in the flower, vegetable and fruit gardens. Now let's see why this is true by reviewing some of the advantages of mulching.

Probably the greatest advantage of a mulch is the conservation of moisture. Evaporation is greatly reduced by protecting the soil from the direct rays of the sun and from air movement. Raindrops are quickly absorbed and the soil is protected from compaction. Erosion, the greatest enemy of our soils, is prevented.

Mulches are especially helpful during prolonged periods of hot dry weather.

Don't expect a mulch to control weeds completely. It will help, especially with the annuals. Where pre-emergence sprays are used to control weeds, the mulch is more effective.

The soil temperature is reduced under a good mulch. This is of material help because some beneficial soil micro-organisms are not happy under high soil temperature conditions. Neither are tender roots near the surface.

The decomposition of most mulches improves soil structure, favors water absorption and aeration of the root zone.

Mulches in the apple orchard prevent bruising of dropped fruit and keep ripening strawberries clean by preventing the splashing of soil and sand. Mulches also prevent heaving of the soil during winter freezes.

While the advantages of mulches far outweigh the disadvantages, a few of the latter might be mentioned. The fire hazard—A match or cigarette carelessly dropped in pine needles, grain straw or leaves may destroy all you have tried to accomplish. Mice may be more troublesome under mulches but can be controlled by ground sprays or baits. This is the one you want to watch for—nitrogen starvation. The more woody or fibrous the mulch the greater the need

for nitrogen to decompose it by favorable bacterial action. The bacteria are going to get their share of the nitrogen supply first and the leaves may turn yellow on the plants unless the supply is adequate for both the nitrifying bacteria and the plants. This is not difficult to adjust if you use good judgment.

Mulching materials. Peat moss, sawdust, pine straw, grain straws, ground corn cobs, peanut hulls, shredded hardwood bark, softwood bark, composted leaves and plastic film.

An effort has been made to discuss some of the basic principles involved in the use of mulches rather than recommend which material to use. It is hoped that, whether you live in Mantoo or Murphy, you can select the mulch best suited to provide a happy environment for your plants.

Boiling Spring Lakes Team Tied

Boiling Spring Lakes dropped into a tie with Watson's Pharmacy for first place by losing a match to Seitter Bros. by a score of 3-1.

Joy Gregory led the lady bowlers with a high game of 180 and a three game series of 403. Substitute Mary Bellows had a high game of 132 and a series total of 376. Sylvia James had a 390 and Dot Manis had a 362.

Boiling Spring Lakes' next match is with Harrelson's Hardware August 1 at the Bowling Center in Wilmington.

Eugene R. Newton Dies In Florida

Eugene R. Newton, 51, of Lakeland, Florida, formerly of South-

Watson Bowlers League Winners

Watson's Pharmacy defeated Southern Bell by a score of 4-0 to place them in a tie with Boiling Spring Lakes for first place in the Summer Bowling League. Virginia Watson led the victory

with a three game series total of 449. Marie Brown had a 386, Lena Fisher had a 363 and Evelyn Gilbert bowled a 331. Watson's next game will be August 1 at the Bowling Center in Wilmington.

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REQUEST FOR BIDS USED MARINE EQUIPMENT

Sealed proposals will be received by the Wilmington-New Hanover County Civil Defense Agency, P. O. Box 965, Wilmington, N. C. until ten (10:00) o'clock A. M. on August 23, 1962, at which time they will be publicly opened and read for disposal of the following property which was removed from the Tug "T. B. McClintic":

- | Item No. | Description |
|----------|--|
| 1. | One (1) Atlas Imperial Diesel Engine, Direct Reversible Thrust Shaft, Thrust Bearing and Flywheel, Model 6HM763, Ser. 11577. H. P. 125 to 135. R.P.M. 325. |
| 2. | Two (2) 30" x 78" Fuel Tanks, Welded Construction. |
| 3. | Two (2) 24" x 58" Fuel Tanks, Welded Construction. |
| 4. | Two (2) 20" x 60" Air Tanks, Riveted Construction. |
| 5. | One (1) Size 3" Single Stage V Drive No. 25669 Raw Water Pump. Mfg. by the Weimann Pump Co., Columbus, Ohio. 2-10-40. |
| 6. | One (1) 6" x 36" Heat Exchanger Associated Valves Fittings, and Piping for Pump & Heat Exchanger. |
| 7. | One (1) C. I. Split V Sheave for Attaching to Propeller, Shaft to Drive Raw Water Pump. |
| 8. | One (1) Radio, Marine, Jefferson Travis, PHS 400-4019 |

Each bid must be for all items tabulated above, no single item bids will be accepted. The equipment is in storage at the City of Wilmington Street Dept. Lot, Anderson and Fanning Sts., and may be inspected by the prospective bidder at his convenience.

Dated this 31st day of July, 1962

James B. McCumber
Director, Wilmington-New Hanover County Civil Defense
WILMINGTON, N. C.

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Tentative Budget

A tentative budget for the City of Southport for the year 1962-63 has been approved by members of the Board of Aldermen and lies open for inspection at the City Hall until August 9, 1962. If there is no objection raised at or before that time it will be finally adopted.

W. L. ALDRIDGE
City Auditor



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TENTATIVE BUDGET

The Commissioners of Brunswick County have adopted a tentative budget for the fiscal year 1962-63 and it will be open for inspection during the next 20 days at the office of the Registrar of Deeds. The proposed rate is \$1.35.

Unless objection is raised and is successfully sustained, the budget will be formally adopted on August 6, 1962.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

Dog license became due on July 15, 1962, and notice is hereby given to all dog owners to come to the City Hall immediately to pay this fee and to obtain license tags which must be worn on the dog's collar at all times.

We urge you to attend to these matters immediately, before your dog is impounded and additional costs are involved.

W. L. ALDRIDGE

Auditor For City Of Southport