

Necrology.

The editor would here express a few words of appreciation for a few friends who have recently departed this vale of tears.

It seems only a short while ago when Samuel J. Porter came up from the backwoods of Columbus county to join the student body at Wake Forest. The young man soon demonstrated a real calibre. He became one of the greatest preachers of his generation. He was a prose poet. Dr. Porter recently passed away after having served the First Baptist Church of Washington, D. C., as pastor for a number of years. He began his ministerial work after completion of his education as a missionary to Brazil. No finer spirit and few more scholarly men have I known than Sam Porter.

It was only a comparatively short time ago that I became acquainted with Wm. L. Smith, a Wilmington attorney for many years. But a

very brief period was sufficient to acquaint one with the worth, the gentle but genial character, of the veteran attorney. Mr. Smith's ancestry included some of the greatest among the early Cape Fear pioneers. He was 81 at the time of his death.

When I went as a teacher to Burgaw in 1892, John Thomas Bland, Jr., was a mere baby. He grew up to be one of the handsomest of men and was as bright as a dollar. He was barely grown when he published a book of poems, some of which possess real merit. He is gone at the age when he should have been in his very prime.

J. Vance McGougan entered Wake Forest College the same day with the editor of The State's Voice. For a term we sat together in Dr. W. B. Royall's Greek class. Young McGougan remained in college only a short while. He studied medicine, located at Fayetteville, and built up a magnificent practice. In those days of Dr. McGougan's prime, he twitted his old school

mate thus: "Peterson, you got more education than I did, but you are a long way from making the money I am making." He made a fortune, but it was swept away. I am still as rich as ever. My good friend, after attaining to many honors in his profession and serving as state senator a term or two, has passed on. I feel a real personal loss in his going. *Quiescat in pace.*

A Few Reminiscences

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If some people had that ancestry they would be members of the "Sons of the Revolution", and of possibly a half-dozen other honorary associations. But Claude has possibly told very few people of his relationship to the worthies mentioned. He told it to the writer in a most casual manner, and only when it was most natural to do so.

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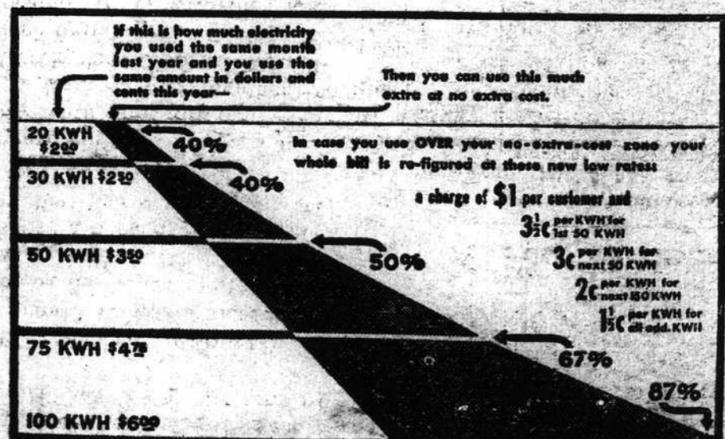
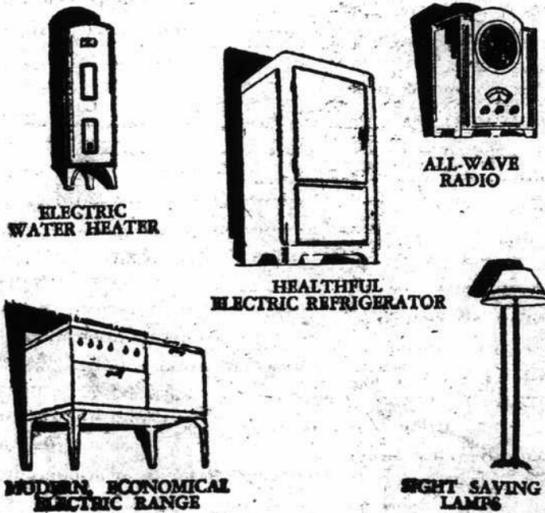
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