

St. Thomas Church At Bath, Oldest Religious Edifice In State, To Be Restored

By MRS. A. C. D. NOE

Bath, Feb. 29.—St. Thomas Church in Bath, built in 1734, of English brick with Flemish-Bond workmanship, is the oldest religious edifice in the State. It has many valuable relics, among which are: The Queen Anne bell cast in London in 1732, making it eighteen years older than the Liberty Bell and doubtless the oldest in the United States; a Bible in a glass case, printed in England in 1703, was used in the services here before the church was built, and was long preserved by the Ashe family whose ancestors lived at Bath in the early 1700's; lovely three-branched candlesticks of Sheffield silver, presented to the church by King George II, of England; a large hand-wrought silver chalice from the Bishop of London to the Rev. John Garzia, first rector of the church; a book from the first public library in the province, it being bound in leather and stamped in gold letters, "Belonging to the Library of St. Thomas Parish, Pamlico." So far as is known it is the only remaining book from the collection of over a thousand volumes printed in England and sent to the parish in 1699, by the Rev. Thomas Bray.

The church was built by our worthy ancestors, of whom we are just proud, who in spite of hardships and privations dedicated a temple to the Lord. Their descendants are members of all churches. For more than two centuries this little temple on the Pamlico has been a religious shrine and regardless of denominational affiliation thousands have come here for worship and for a revival of their faith, on the sacred spot where their fathers put "first things first."

St. Thomas is now being restored to its former state, to be preserved for the present and future generations. It is fitting that the work be done by North Carolinians as a memorial to the faith and courage of these brave pioneers who laid firm foundations for us. It is not a work for one person, or a small group, but for every man, woman and child now living in the state, and all with a North Carolina background residing without our borders.

The operating committee at Bath has worked out a plan whereby every person may have a part in the program—"The Penny Parade," details of which are as follows: Each person in the State can send to their schools, or civic organizations the amount they wish to give, and it will be forwarded to the "St. Thomas Restoration Fund" at Bath, North Carolina. The organizations in each place are asked to appoint one chairman for the community to receive and transmit funds. Beaufort, Pitt, and New Hanover counties have been organized and funds are already coming in. They will conduct a triangular contest and report results at intervals through the press, for the information of others. This method of campaign is being used in order to save the expense of going from county to county organizing units, and to make a concerted and speedy campaign possible. Every individual giving a dollar will be listed as giving 100 pennies; \$10, a thousand pennies and \$100, ten thousand pennies.

Mondal morning a Pyramid of Pennies was started on the church lawn and the big 1890 penny, found while excavating at the church, was used as a foundation.

Mrs. T. A. Brooks, president of the Bath Garden Club and Mrs. G. W. Marsh, president of the Colonial Book Club, representatives of their organizations, and local churches, were among the first contributors to the pile. The Rev. E. N. Harrison, pastor of the Bath Methodist church, casting the first penny. Within an hour 2,000 pennies had joined the parade. Reports Monday night registered 5,000 from Washington and 3,000 from Bath, and 5,000 from Wilmington.

Tuesday, local school children began a pilgrimage to the pyramid to cast their offering.

The immediate restoration program will include the church, the Williams house as a rectory, a ballast rock wall around the property and a colonial garden. Much of this work has been done. Some property has

been acquired, about a thousand tons of ballast-rock fished from the creek and placed on the grounds, and work on the church has been in progress since September, accomplishments so far include: pulling a six-inch bulge out of the side walls, concrete foundation under the church, a reinforced concrete boom around the upper interior wall of the church, removing plastering, ceiling, floor, etc., in preparation for the work of architects and archaeologists, and placed beams for slave gallery.

Bath, the state's oldest town, was incorporated in 1705, and a number of the early governors and prominent statesmen, planters and business men lived here. John Lawson, the first historian; Christopher Gale, the first chief justice; Lionel Redding, the Moore, Ashe, Porter, Swann, Daw, Anderson, Moseley, Rowan, Mauld and Martin families. It had the first public library, the first free school (for Indians and negroes) was one of the first ports of entry, and was the home of the notorious pirate, Blackbeard.

Bath was founded by the Indian village of Pamlico, and was settled by French Huguenots from the James river section of Virginia in 1690. The English residents from the Albermarle, New England and Virginia began to come in about 1696. Attracted by the good port facilities and fertility of the soil. When John Lawson came in 1700 he spoke of the English plantations here. Bath soon became a religious, social and political center of a wealthy plantation country, with a radius of about thirty miles. In this area which includes Washington, Belhaven, Panteigo, Aurora, Chocowinity and Yeatesville. Many of the old homes are still standing, and foundations and historic sites attest the prominence of the former residents.

In the Upper Room

ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Scripture—Matthew 26:1-30



The chief priests, the scribes and elders assembled together two days before the feast of the Passover in the palace of the high priest and consulted that they might take Jesus and kill Him.

At this same time, Jesus was eating at the home of one of His friends in Bethany; a woman came to Him, having a precious alabaster box of ointment, which she poured on His head.

The apostles were angry because the woman was extravagant with the precious ointment which they said should have been sold and given to the poor, but Jesus said, "She did it for My burial."

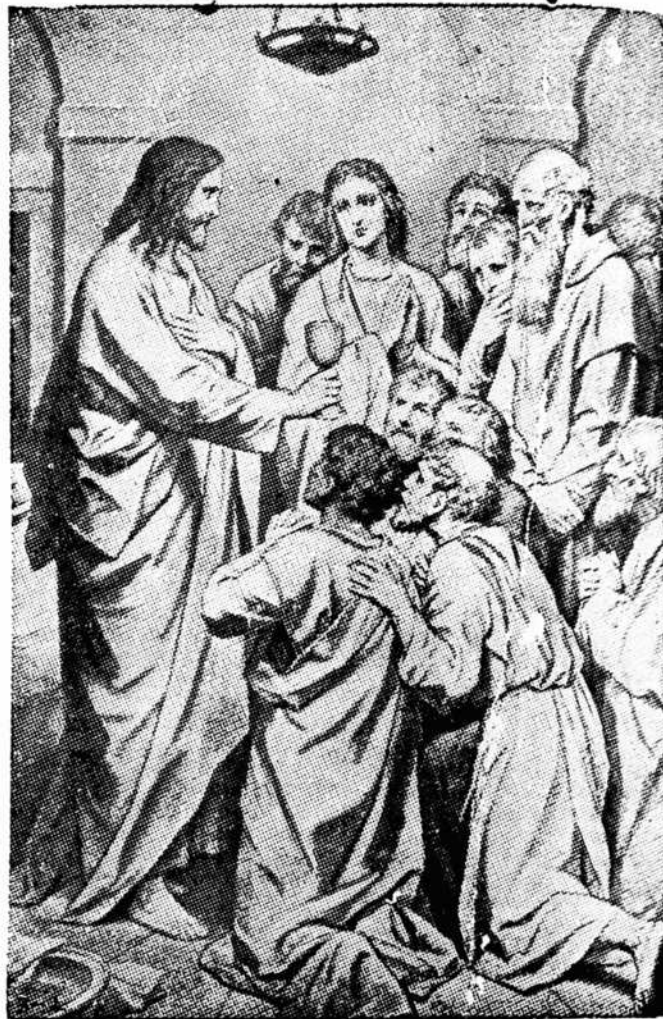
As they ate Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me." Judas asked, "Is it I?" and the Master answered, "Thou hast said!" (GOLDEN TEXT—I Cor. 11:24)

By Alfred J. Burescher

In the Upper Room

"BRASS TACKS" ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

The Golden Text.



The Last Supper

"This do in remembrance of me."—I Cor. 11:24

By NEWMAN CAMPBELL.
(The International Uniform Lesson on the above topic for March 3, being I Corinthians 11:24. "This do in remembrance of Me.")

He felt that someone would betray Him and Judas was the one appointed to do it.

Held in Upper Room.

The Last Supper was held in an upper room in the house, it is supposed of Lazarus, Mary and Martha. The disciples had asked where the Master wished to eat the feast; "Go into the city," such a man, and say unto him, I will keep the passover at thy house with My disciples." And the disciples had done as Jesus said.

There at the home of His friends, seated at the table with His apostles, He looked about at them and said: "Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray Me."

Very sorrowfully each apostle asked Him, "Lord, is it I?" And when Judas asked as the rest, Jesus answered, "Thou hast said." It is odd that the others did not understand and turn Judas out or put him where he could do no mischief. Or maybe, as all was planned, their eyes were blinded, their understanding dulled, or their hands were tied.

"And as they were eating Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body.'" "And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, 'Drink ye all of it; for this is the blood of the new testament, which is shed for many of the remission of sins.'" "But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink new with you in my Father's kingdom."

"And when they had sung a hymn, they went out into the Mount of Olives." Two days later Jesus was to die on the cross not for any sin of His, but to redeem us. Surely, we should strive to live the life He wishes us to live, to follow in His footsteps, as well as we are able, and so be fitted to meet Him in His Father's Kingdom.

The enthusiastic victory claims of Europe's warring powers sound amateurish compared to those glowing stories coming out of the baseball training camps.

WOMEN IN YOUR '40's

Read This Important Message!
Do you dread those "trying years" 40 to 52? Are you getting moody, cranky and nervous? Do you fear hot flashes, weakening dizzy spells? Are you feeling a lack of interest in your life? THEN LISTEN—
These symptoms often result from female functional disorders. So start today and take famous Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. For over 60 years Pinkham's Compound has helped tens of thousands of grateful women get "smiling thru" difficult days. Pinkham's has helped calm nervous nerves and lessen annoying female functional "irregularities."
The best known and one of the most effective "women's" tonics. In liquid or handy to carry tablet form (smaller formula). Try it!

Three-Fourths Of State's Cropland Included In 1939 AAA Program, Report Shows

College Station, Raleigh, March 1.—An estimated 366,093 North Carolina farmers, operating more than three-fourths of the cropland in the State, participated in the 1939 Agricultural Conservation Program, it was announced here today by E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State college. Tar Heel farmers earned about \$9,604,200 in conservation payments, \$4,436,299 in cotton price adjustment payments, and \$76,353 in wheat adjustment payments, for a total of \$14,116,943.

The preliminary report on the 1939 AAA program, issued by Floyd, shows that 6,231,300 acres of North Carolina cropland was in the farm program, or 78 percent of the total cropland in the State. That is somewhat below the participation in 1938, when 82.7 percent of the

cropland was in the program and North Carolina farmers earned nearly \$21,000,000 in Federal payments.

However, Floyd pointed out that the lack of a control program on tobacco reduced participation and thereby cost Tar Heel farmers about \$6,000,000 in conservation payments. Except for Tennessee, this State had more farmers in the AAA program than any other State in the East Central region, which also includes Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky. However, it trailed Tennessee, Kentucky, and Delaware in percent of participation.

Floyd predicted that 1940 will see North Carolina return to its dominant position in the AAA program, with marketing quotas in effect on tobacco and cotton, and more interest in soil-building.

SURPLUS COTTON TO FIVE N. C. COUNTIES

College Station, Raleigh, Mar. 1.—Distribution of surplus cotton to five North Carolina counties for the purpose of making mattresses for low-income families has been authorized by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. I. O. Schaub of State College was notified here today. The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation will distribute the cotton.

Rural Churches

MIDDLEBURG METHODIST
Rev. T. W. Lee, pastor.
Preaching at 11 a. m. at Cokesbury.
Preaching at Shocco at 3 p. m.
At Middleburg there will be preaching at 7:30 p. m.
The pastor will preach at all three places.
At 6:45 p. m. the young people of the charge will meet at the Middleburg church, and all young people of the community are invited to attend.

Capital Gossip

By HENRY AVERILL.

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In The Sir Walter Hotel.

Raleigh, March 1.—Times may be better in North Carolina, folks may be more honest about taxes, or reports may be more up to date. Anyhow figures released today by the revenue department show that nearly all sources of general fund revenue have paid more money into the State treasury during the first eight months of the present fiscal year than they paid last year. The revenue division, which includes all excise duties, motor vehicles taxes, shows an increase of 9.9 percent and the motor vehicle bureau receipts were up 7.01 percent. From all sources the State this year got \$43,267,341.01 for the first eight months as compared with \$39,797,270.4 last year.

How well educated are Americans? Recently compiled figures show that 15 out of every hundred adults in the United States are high school graduates, and 3.22 percent of the adults in the country are college graduates.

Information reaching Raleigh indicates that the entrance of Robert L. Steele, III, of Richmond county in the eighth district congressional race pretty nearly assures re-election of Congressman Burgin. Mr. Steele is a fellow townsman of Charles B. Deane, who came so near beating Burgin two years ago, and is expected to split the home town vote.

Up to last night there had been 26,524 revocations of drivers' license reported to the Motor Vehicle Bureau of the revenue department. Nevertheless, the sale of automobile tags continued to show an increase over preceding years.

Dudley Bagley, State REA administrator, is very much interested in the High Point power plant cases now pending before the Supreme court. He has nothing to do with High Point, but on a recent visit to Stokes and Surry counties he found that citizens up there would discuss a co-operative power set-up until the High Point matter is decided.

Prize Book Is Published

Durham, March 1.—The suppression of the Southern antislavery men furnishes one of the most impressive monuments in history of the ultimate folly of intolerance," concludes Dr. Clement Eaton, historian of Lafayette college, in his book "Freedom of Thought in the Old South" which won the \$1,500 Duke university press centennial prize last year.

Published today by the Duke press, the book is a revelation of manifold phases of Southern life and illuminates the social revolution that took place in the South between the time of Thomas Jefferson, when liberal ideas were in the ascendant, and the era of Calhoun, when a profound conservatism had won the land.

Eaton is a native of Winston-Salem, N. C., a graduate of the University of North Carolina and Harvard university, and was a member of the faculties at Whitman college and Clark university before going to Lafayette college.

The prize-winning manuscript was selected from more than 40 submitted, and the cash award was made last spring at a formal dinner.

PARADISE IS HERE

Alma Sioux-Starberry

WRITTEN FOR AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER FORTY-TWO

THE NEXT month was a busy one for everyone in Cecelia's newly formed family circle. Cissie was like a proud mother hen clucking over her two chicks as she watched their amazing radio careers unfold.

"I wouldn't have missed all this for the world," she told Romany one day in the studio, watching the first televised broadcast she had ever seen.

In her South Shore drive apartment, she had engineers install the best television reception equipment money could buy. And she invited all her friends to drop in for tea and watch and listen to her lovely niece as she came over the air.

Cissie was as unselfishly devoted to Charlotte as to Romany. At first Cholly was overwhelmed with the idea of being introduced to Chicago society as Cecelia Harlowe's ward. But she soon grew accustomed to her new role and found herself having a marvelous time playing Cinderella. Much to her amazement, she learned that a lot of people in the upper brackets were quite as human and unaffected as anyone else. And she began seriously to doubt that a lot of ideas she had entertained regarding the rich were entirely sound. For instance: There was Dover. Would he be any different if he had been brought up on a farm than with a silver spoon in his mouth? If you were a real person, did it matter whether you were rich or poor?

A few days before Christmas, Cecelia asked Romany:

"Do you know how to drive a car, dear? If you don't, you'd better take some lessons."

"Yes, I know how to drive. But why?" Romany looked puzzled.

"Because," Cissie looked up from the magazine she was reading in her boudoir—"I bought one for you today. And I can't wait till Christmas to give it to you."

"Oh!" Romany jumped up. "Aunt Cissie, you shouldn't have done it! Cissie kissed her affectionately.

"Don't you think I know how much money you've been sending home to your father and mother, and if you won't buy anything but annuities for yourself, I'll just have to buy the luxuries for you. Besides, I think you should have a car in your position. You seem to forget you're a famous young lady now."

Romany buried her head in her aunt's lap.

"Oh,—her voice caught—"everybody is so good and so many lovely things are happening to me. I ought to be the happiest girl in the world."

Cissie raised her head, looking into her eyes.

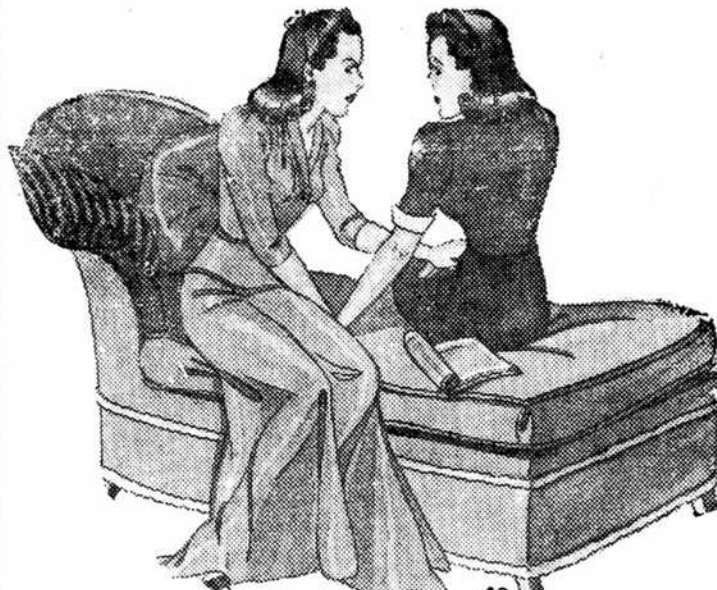
"But you're not happy, dear. Not quite," she said gently. "Could you tell me about it? I'd like to know. I'm rather fond of you, you know."

Romany stirred uneasily, her green eyes troubled.

"It's—something I can't quite explain. Aunt Cissie. Not even to myself. I—wish I could."

"Is it about Brent Nelson?" Cecelia asked, stroking her hair. "Is it that you aren't sure you love him, and want to marry him?"

"That's part of it," Romany sighed. "I know I'm very fond of him, and he has begged me to marry him. I think I'm crazy not to. But—I just don't feel—"



"But you're not happy, dear. Not quite," said Cissie.

love. I've seen so much of marriage for social position, and for money. I couldn't bear to see you marry and have your home smashed on the rocks. I guess I'm not very modern."

"That's the way I feel," Romany held tightly to her aunt's hand, as if she needed something to cling to. "I thought once that I wasn't the sort of person who would ever really fall in love. That if I married, it would be because I met someone who would be good to me and congenial. But now I'm not sure."

Cecelia said gently:

"Is there someone else, Romany, besides Brent? Someone you met at the university, perhaps?"

As if in answer to her aunt's thoughts, Romany said:

"There's—Baxter Tree. The writer I told you about. I'm very fond of him. I do miss him terribly. But I guess he's crossed me off his list. He really wasn't away for Thanksgiving. I doubt if he had the fare to go home. He's so poor."

Cissie watched Romany's face closely.

"But—he's just a friend, isn't he? You couldn't be in love with him."

"Oh, no," Romany turned away. "There's never been any romance between Bax and me. But"—she hesitated—"he did kiss me down by the lake the night I went to his apartment to find out why he hadn't come to see us."

Aunt Cissie was highly amused. "He kissed you? Did he act as though he meant it? Or just as though he thought it might be expected of him and he'd better get it over with?"

Romany smiled wistfully. "Very much as though he meant it the first time. But later, when I wanted him to kiss me again, he just looked at me and said no, he wouldn't like to get the habit."

"Ye—brazen thing!" Cissie laughed. "I can't imagine your going around asking men to kiss you."

"I can't either," Romany said, in a low voice. "And I'll know better next time. But he was so discouraged and unhappy. I felt so sorry for him, it just about broke my heart."

"Oh," said Cecelia, "so that's it!" "What?" Romany looked up questioning.

"Pity, my darling, is akin to love. Didn't anyone ever tell you that? And when a woman feels like kissing away a man's aches and pains, it looks pretty serious to me."

Cissie said it teasingly. But she decided Baxter Mason Tree would

come to her Christmas house party for lonesome and homeless radio performers if she had to go and bring him herself. She said a little later:

"What is Bax's show like? Is he clever?"

Romany said fervently:

"He writes out of this world, Aunt Cissie! If 'Paradise Is Here' gets on the air, it will make radio history. I've some of the scripts, I think about ten of them. Here, would you like to read them when you aren't busy?"

"I'd love it!" enthused Cecelia. "I'm getting to be quite a radio dramatic show addict. I find myself hurrying home for fear Lizzie Cornstassel will fall off the cliff the author left her on the day before and I'll miss it."

Romany took Bax's scripts to Aunt Cissie before she went to her own room to bed. Cissie kissed her tenderly.

"Good night, baby. I hope your starving genius is as entertaining as you think he is. We'll invade his attic and talk some sense into him some of these days if he spurns us much longer."

"You'd better stay away from him," Romany warned her, smiling. "Brent asked me today if I'd mind if he invited you to the opera with him next week when I was broadcasting. You're dangerous competition, Cecelia darling."

In the lobby of Interstate the next morning, Romany met Bob Lane. He held out his hand, grinning.

"Well, Miss Television, I haven't seen you in a long time. But I've been reading and hearing things."

"Not Miss Television," Romany smiled. "The withdrawn from the contest."

"You'd have won it," Lane said with assurance. "I hear the votes are pouring in for your girl friend, Miss O'Neil."

"Isn't it marvelous!" Romany said happily.

"She's a sensation," Bob nodded. "But I knew she would be when I saw her and heard her play. By the way, Baxter Tree was in to see me today. He's leaving for New York, he tells me."

"Oh! Romany's heart sank. "When? Do you know?"

"Next week. The day after Christmas, he says. I've done everything I can, but I don't seem to have any luck getting a break for him. He's got the best show in town, too. This radio is a crazy business!"

(To Be Continued)

\$1,500 Prize Book



Dr. Clement Eaton

March first is the publication date of "Freedom of Thought in the Old South," by Dr. Clement Eaton, former North Carolinian who is head of the history department of Lafayette college. The book won \$1,500 centennial prize offered last year by the Duke University press, which is publishing it.