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"IN OLE VIRGINNY"

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A weekend vacation spent in Virginia was both interesting and restful. Leaving Zebulon about 5:30 in the morning, husband, wife, youngest son and grandson made the trip to Richmond in a little over four hours.

Crops

Cotton, corn and tobacco are average all along except around Fraklinton. Corn is small, cotton has a poor stand and tobacco is late. Apparently they had both a dry planting season and lacked rain since. The big nursery at Kittrell has little of its former immensity. Small clusters of shrubbery are seen along the highway for several miles where a few years ago there were acres.

Cantaloupes

There is a German settlement around Middleburg, about half way between Norfolk and Henderson that specializes on growing cantaloupes. For miles along the road we saw colored boys with great piles and crates of Netted Gem and Rocky Fords for sale. They wanted 10 cents each or \$1.00 a crate for them but sold them for 6 for a quarter!

Battle Fields

Virginia seems to have placed a marker for every important incident connected with its history. While battle grounds were far more numerous, yet churches, court houses, people of prominence were abundant. This side of Richmond were a number of markers telling about Revolutionary battles, churches established back in the 17th century, and famous men of Virginia.

Richmond

Richmond is one of the most beautiful cities we have ever seen. The main business district is compact and the streets run up and down steep hills. On one street we saw enough vegetables and other produce to feed a million people. At one stand we saw bushels of peaches grown at Condon, N. C. We saw old St. John's church where Patrick Henry delivered his famous "Give-me-liberty-or-give-me-death" speech.

A Modern Animal Hospital

Just out side the corporate limits of Richmond is the most beautiful and modern animal hospital I ever saw. As one enters the grounds he might well believe it was for folks and not beasts. A beautiful lawn and an abundance of shrubs and flowers are seen. Within is an office, operating rooms with all kinds of surgical instruments, a laboratory with microscope and other instruments for examinations and tests. In the rear are the "wards" where sick animals are kept. An old dog, 26 years old, was seen, placed there by some owner to be made comfortable in his "declining years." Back in the rear are the runs for animals kept for observation and board. Dr. H. T. Farmer, who owns the hospital and is assisted by a young "yankee" veterinarian from Cornell University, is kept busy doctoring anything from a parrot to a herd of 500 dairy cows. He says there is not much difference between people and animals when they get sick or in ailments. Many diseases which one has, afflict the other. And the treatments and medicines are very much alike, except that the "vet" must learn the dosage for every class of animals, while the M. D. has to remember only that for humans.

Vacationing

We left Richmond about 10:30 Saturday morning for Dr. Farmer's cottage on the Piankintank river, 60 miles east and ten miles from the Chesapeake Bay. We passed the famous battle

ground of Seven Pines. The seven large trees are still standing in a row along the way. Malvern Hill where the editor's fought was passed. We passed the place Mrs. Davis' grandfather was wounded. Abundant markers were everywhere telling of blood glory. At one was a marker telling of a place where slaves to massacre all the whites who were by a slave's faithfulness. He was given freedom, land and a place in Virginia history.

John Smith's Hunting Ground

Most of the country east of Richmond is grown over. Rivers everywhere with strips of land running between. The country lies between the rivers, narrow and long. Much land lies in waste. The people live along roads and rivers. They have no rural mail every few miles is seen a post office in a store or dwelling. New Kent county has one school, that at the county courthouse is a beautiful brick building set on a green. A little jail house not much larger than a house sits behind it while off to one side a large modern brick school building. The children are hauled 25 miles to school. This county has only 320 square miles — a long narrow strip lying between the Pamunkey and Chickahominy Rivers. Jamestown lies only a few miles south. Probably John Smith travelled here and explored this very land. At West Point a small town at the junction of the Pamunkey

Virginia. The dirt roads, are good except narrow and often very crooked. The driver goes slowly and sound his horn often.

The Cottage

It sits near the river which is a mile wide and has a large room, kitchen and screened porch. A wharf runs out to deep water. One may sit or stand there and catch crabs all day long. Just get a dip net, a string and a piece of beef. Tie the string to the beef, drop it into the water and soon one may be drawing up and scooping out all sizes of crabs. A skiff with oars and outboard motor provided for fishing. One may go out often and in a few minutes have a "mess" of fish for supper as we did. Dr. Farmer said his family near by went out every evening (Sunday too, for we saw them) and caught their breakfast meat. Ducks are abundant. A large crane lighted within 30 feet of the cottage to get breakfast from the water. One would never imagine that a large modern city was 60 miles away to the west and another was closer by the South.

Henpecked Road

We passed but did not enter Hen Pecked Road. It was so marked. We were told that sensitive husbands frequently tore the marking down, but others replaced it. There was something familiar about this road. Perhaps we were just imagining and not remembering. Any way it was a great vacation to all concerned.

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ABC STORE SUCCESS

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We note in an exchange rabid criticism of the way the ABC store setup in Wake county has progressed so far. Personally we like it. Anything that delay its accessibility to the public, putting dry at the head of the stores — all these help to accomplish the desired end.

The very best men who will accept should be placed at the head (as seems to be the case) of the setup and all clerks should be total abstainers. Everything should be done to make liquor unpopular. No inducement should be made to the public to buy. We are in favor of liquor stores so long as they are the next best thing to diminish the use of intoxicants.

One Wake county newspaper seems to think the way the ABC setup in Wake has been perfected. The slowness of establishing stores assures its future. In connection with the employment of dries to operate the stores it compares the situation to one proposed to missions making the best missionary a Republican making the best office holder in a democratic administration.

If the desired end was to make the mission enterprise a failure, and the Democratic administration discounted with the people, then that would be exactly what should best accomplish the desired end.