

CHRISTMAS 40 YEARS AGO

By BILL ARP LOWRANCE (In the Mecklenburg Times)

To those of us who were children more than forty years ago, we hardly see how any child could want more than he has every day in the year. The gifts and luxuries which we enjoyed at Christmas time are common place every day in the year now.

There was little candy during the year and at Christmas we had sticky candy and chocolate drops to last most of the big day. Apples grew on most every farm and some of them were saved for Christmas, and there was enough to go around with the family and some to give to the neighbors who had none.

Other gifts for members of the family and close friends were limited to handkerchiefs, lace collars, vases, tin horns, tin trains, dolls, and pocket knives. There was little else to buy and little else expected. Some of the older people did do a little knitting of special gifts for special friends and loved ones and occasionally there was a new quilt for the married son or daughter.

Now everything is available and everything is expected up to the limit of the pocketbook or bank account, and so many times to the straining of the credit of the giver. Forth years ago no one thought of giving a gift that had not been paid for in full at the time it was given.

In those days the families would get together and the men and boys

spent most of the day hunting with dog and gun. This sometimes continued through the whole of Christmas week and the families would spend a day in each other's home. The hunters usually furnished plenty of rabbit, turkey, squirrel, quail and other game for families to eat.

The women did the cooking and cared for the small children and had a good time with their visiting. It was a great time for all and there was plenty.

During the evenings the group would gather around the organ and sing gospel hymns, while the young people sat in the corners and courted or played games in the parlor.

Many of the boys of the teen age had a little money and spent a part of it for firecrackers, which they shot during the holidays. Those who did not have the money for firecrackers usually devised some other means of making a noise. Every family had a gun and powder to load it with. This could be used to make a noise, but the boys wanted a louder noise than the gun would make, so they would get the anvil from the shop and put powder on the holes and "shoot anvils." That would make a noise. Occasionally a stick of dynamite would be fired to wake up the community, and it did. We believe that this had more to do with the laws against fireworks in this state than anything else.

Once we tried to make a noise that was a little different. A hole was bored in a big stump and an iron used to place over the hole in which the powder had been packed was weighted down with a few sticks of wood. When the charge was fired the iron came down and a big log of wood on top of it broke the handle off. It was the best iron in the house and we learned from

mother that this was no way to make a noise.

And there was the nice custom of kissing the young lady under the mistletoe. But this should be done properly or your efforts are in vain. Every time someone kisses under the mistletoe a berry should be plucked from the branches for there are only as many blessings bestowed as there are berries. And if the mistletoe ever touches the ground its properties of good luck are destroyed.

The romantic story of the mistletoe is an old one and still popular. The reason for failure in most cases is that the rules are not strictly carried out. Remember the rules and "she who is not kissed under the mistletoe at Christmas will not be married in the year which follows."

COLUMBIA PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Kimberly, and son, Ralph, of Norfolk spent the holidays with their mother, Mrs. J. A. Spencer.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Thurston and family of Whiteville, N. C., are spending the holidays with Mrs. Thurston's father, J. B. Snell.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat McCormick and daughter, Louise, of Norfolk, are spending the holidays with Mrs. McCormick's brothers and sisters.

Mrs. W. B. Cobb and Misses Mary Martha, Carol and Billy of Chapel Hill are guests of Mrs. S. C. Chaplin.

Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Darden and family, of Wilmington, are spending the Christmas holidays with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Walker.

Charles McClees of Williamston is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McClees.

Miss Martha Sykes has as her house guest, Miss Sabra Sykes of Durham.

Miss Iola Harrell of Valdese, is visiting her father Mr. Clyde Harrell.

BUFFALO CITY

W. B. Cain spent several days in Elizabeth City last week.

David Twiford of Lexington is spending the holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Twiford.

George Ambrose motored to Elizabeth City Thursday.

Mildred and Dorothy Pinner spent Friday and Saturday in Elizabeth City and Columbia.

Jessie Basnight, Hubert Ambrose, Wilferd Creef, Dick Twiford, and David McGowan of Nashville, N. C., are spending the Christmas holidays here.

Mrs. Odell Duvall and Maynard Duvall of Manteo spent Friday here.

Misses Johnnie and Julia Jordan are spending some time at Stumpy Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Ambrose and Lee Ambrose motored to Columbia last week.

Lennon Twiford, Asa Cahoon, Charise Smith, Mrs. Walter Crain, Mrs. E. L. Twiford and Mrs. John Twiford motored to Creswell Wednesday.

Charlie Bateman of Camp Virginia Dare is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Bateman.

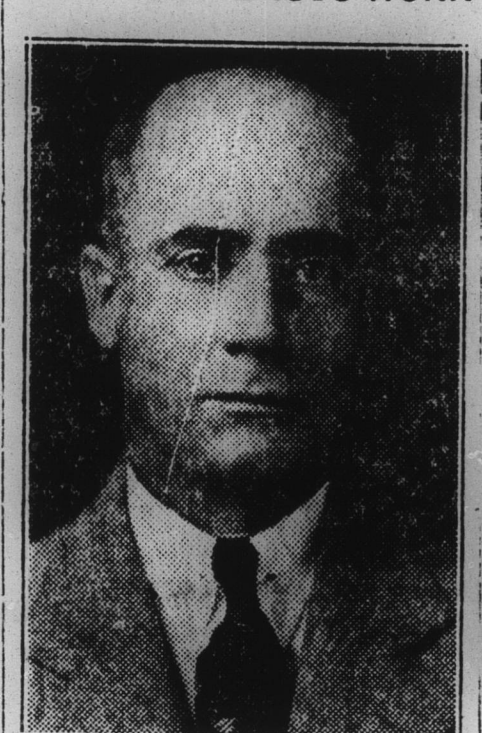
McAdoo Creef of Camp Virginia Dare is spending the Christmas holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Creef.

Mrs. Noland Ambrose and Doris Cain were in Norfolk Friday.

BUSY

Four-H Club members in Caldwell County are electing their 1940 officers, planning future club programs, and starting project activities for the new year.

WARREN WATSON NAMED FOR HYDE CENSUS WORK



W. WARREN WATSON, prominent Hyde County man, former chairman of the County Commissioners, and former State President of the Association of County Commissioners has been named to compile the business census in Hyde County.

D. W. Lupton, District Supervisor of the Census of the First Census or Congressional District announced that his office had completed preparations for the taking of the business census in January. The Bureau of the Census only allotted 12 people to do this work in the entire district and selections have been made as follows:

Pitt—Frank Brooks, Greenville and Mrs. John Andrews, Ayden.

Beaufort—Ruffin O'Neal, Washington and R. H. Paul, Jr., Edward Martin—Claude T. Smith, Robertsonville.

Pasquotank—J. J. Hughes, Elizabeth City.

Hyde—W. W. Watson, Lake Landing.

Dare—Mrs. Vivian Ryder, Manteo.

Camden and Currituck—James A. Taylor, Maple.

Washington and Tyrrell—Delbert Allen, Plymouth.

Hertford and Gates—W. A. McGlohon, Murfreesboro.

Chowan and Perquimans—R. T. Brinn, Hertford.

These enumerators will be in conference during the week with Mr. Lupton and the Assistant Supervisor, W. A. Everett, of Edenton.

Mr. Lupton stated that the farm and population census would not be taken until April and that enumerators for that work would not be selected until the latter part of March. No information has yet been given him as to how many enumerators will be assigned to each county and those who do the work must successfully pass a test.

Enumerators do not receive any salary nor travelling expenses and are paid fees for their work.

ENGELHARD NEWS

Miss Christine Cox of Murfreesboro spent the holidays here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Cox.

Bryan Berry of Raleigh spent the holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mat Berry.

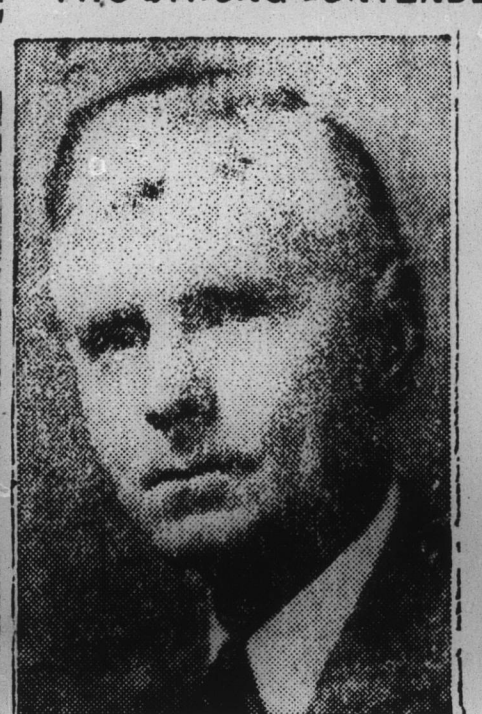
Miss Dorothy Long of Louisburg spent the holidays here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Long.

Miss Claire Matthews of Greensboro spent the holidays here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Matthews.

The Engelhard Alumni All-Star basketball team defeated the Swan Quarter Townsman 28 to 27 in a hard fought battle at the local gym last Wednesday night. Robert Burrus was the outstanding player of the game for the All-Stars.

Many of the young folks of the

TWO STRONG CONTENDERS FOR GOVERNORSHIP



WILKINS P. HORTON



J. MELVILLE BROUGHTON

The first two men to announce for the Governorship in the Democratic primary of 1940 are Wilkins P. Horton of Pittsboro, Chatham County, and J. Melville Broughton of Raleigh. Mr. Horton is the Present Lieut. Governor, and has served as Senator from his district. Mr. Broughton is a prominent Baptist, and former representative of the State Bar Association. The two men are regarded locally as per-

haps the two strongest contenders for the list of prospective candidates which includes Lee Gravelly of Rocky Mount, Tom Cooper of Wilmington, and Willis Smith of Raleigh. Dr. Clarence Poe has been suggested and is expected to take top rank with the candidates, should he run. Both Mr. Broughton and Mr. Horton are well-known in this section. Mr. Horton particularly, as he has been visiting here for several years.

section gathered at the local gym last Friday night where the Alumni Association was giving its Christmas dance. Miss Hazel Asby, Leon Ballance and Mendall Long were on the decoration committee.

Miss Elizabeth Gibbs of Raleigh spent the holidays here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gibbs.

Miss Julia Cox of Swan Quarter spent some time here during the holidays with friends.

P. D. Midgette, president of the G. A. A., attended the Alumni dance here Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Mann spent Christmas with Mr. Mann's father, Ed Mann of Middletown.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Mann were visitors here through the week end. Sidney Lee Roper and Miss Dorothy Long from Louisburg College are home for the Christmas holidays.

Miss Christine Cox from Chowan College is home for the holidays.

John Watson of the Navy is spending the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Fannie Watson.

Misses Hazel Asby, Sarah Roper and Robena Gibbs were supper guests of Miss Christine FuFord Friday night.

Mrs. J. M. Long was taken to the Columbia hospital Thursday for treatment.

The members of the Christian church gave a very impressive program Sunday night.

The Engelhard M. E. Sunday school is progressing nicely under the leadership of Earl Meekins. Mr. Meekins has had wide experience in Sunday school work and we are very fortunate in having him for our superintendent.

BOLL WEEVIL CONTROL REPORTS ENCOURAGING

J. O. Rowell, extension entomologist of State College, says that encouraging reports of boll weevil control through the 1-1-1 molasses poisoning treatment continue to pour in to his office. As an example of the effectiveness of the control measures advocated by the extension service, Rowell quoted the following report from F. W. Reams, assistant farm agent in Halifax County.

"Three farmers—C. H. Smith of Scotland Neck, R. Hunter Pope of Enfield, and J. G. Shields of Scotland Neck—averaged 499.7 pounds

of lint per acre on 27 acres treated with the molasses poison. Farmers not using poison made average yields of from 150 to 200 pounds of lint per acre, with a number of growers reporting less than 100 pounds per acre.

"Mr. Smith made a yield of 510 pounds per acre on 37 acres, where the cotton was grown on land that had a good growth of lespedeza turned under. Mr. Pope reported an average of 498 pounds of lint per acre on 211 acres. Mr. Shields grew 483 pounds per acre on 28 acres."

Rowell explained that the 1-1-1 treatment consists of mixing one pound of calcium arsenate with one gallon of water and one gallon of cheap molasses, and mopping the cotton beginning several days before the squares form, and continuing at the rate of one application per week until at least three applications are made.

"The best results are obtained when the treatment is made early, and at least three applications of the poison mixture are used," the entomologist stated. Farmers who mopped late, and mopped only once or twice, obtained better yields than those who did not try to con-

rol the weevil, but their yields fell short of those of growers who followed the complete recommendations.

HUNTING GUIDES INJURED IN WRECK

John Lee and Earl Harris, hunting guides of Swan Quarter, were injured Monday morning as their car crashed into a fish truck on the lake road. The heavy smoke near Marvin Swindell's prevented the drivers from seeing the approaching car. Lee was injured most

SHEEP

Federal and State research agencies are renewing attempts to adapt sheep types to the region or sections in which they are being produced so as to produce superior animals.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

COLUMBIA Theatre COLUMBIA, N. C.

Friday, Dec. 29th Last Showing Bing Crosby "THE STAR MAKER"

Saturday, Dec. 30th Charles Starrett Outposts of the Mounties also Dick Tracy's G-Men and Cartoon Matinee 3:30

Sunday, Dec. 31st NEW YEAR EVE "These Glamour Girls"

Monday, Tuesday, Jan. 1-2 "The Harbors Ride High" Mickey Rooney, Lewis Stone

Thursday, Jan. 4th with Margo, Walter Abel, "Miracle of Main Street" Lyle Talbot

Beware the Danger Month. The slightest cold or chill is a warning sign that should not be neglected. Be sure you have an approved remedy on hand when you need it! Phone 29 Columbia Drug Co. EDWARD P. COHOON, Jr. Prop. Where Quality Counts Columbia, N. C.

New Arrivals! Butcher Boy and Tom Girl Pajamas \$1.99 Man Tailored Pajamas \$1.19 Satin House Coats in solids, Scotch Plaids and Stripes. Both zipper and wrap-around models \$3.49 to \$5.95 Slips \$1.00 and \$1.98 Satin Night Gowns \$1.98 \$2.98 The Fashion Shop Located in old bus terminal Elizabeth City, N. C.

NOTICE Tyrrell County Property Owners Your Property Must Be Listed in JANUARY, 1940 Failure to Do This Subjects You to Minimum Fine of \$1.00 WATCH FOR TAX LISTER IN YOUR TOWNSHIP M. OWENS Tax Supervisor Columbia, North Carolina

HAPPY NEW YEAR To All Our Friends And A Timely Thought; Plan Early For The Lumber You Need 1940 will likely be an exceptional year: new conditions may advance prices. Buy now when you can benefit by present low prices. "Everything in Lumber for the Complete House" Millwork, Windows, Doors, Frames, Shingles, Laths, Wallboard—Delivered on the Job Anywhere in Eastern North Carolina Chesson Manufacturing Co. Elizabeth City, N. C. TELEPHONE 615 "THE LUMBER NUMBER" OFFICE AND MILLS NORTH ROAD ST. EXT.