

THE TYRRELL TRIBUNE

FOR GREATER PROGRESS OF THE LAKE PHELPS AND PEK
VOL. 1; NO. 13

K REGION AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OUR NEIGHBOR COUNTIES
JANUARY 29, 1940

Single Copy 5c

FORT LANDING WOMAN SPINS OWN WOOL TO MAKE WARM CLOTHING

Sheep Considered Cash Crop in Area Where Trucks Come Around in Spring to Buy Wool; Why Sheep Always Sheared During Full Moon in April Told by Mrs. J. R. Roughton Who Is Using 100-Year-Old Spinning Wheel to Make a Sweater

Editor's Note: Sheep can be seen grazing on many farms in Hyde and Tyrrell Counties and on the mainland of Dare County, where they are considered a cash crop. There may be a few other scattered homes in this area where the women make their own clothes from wool, but this story about a Tyrrell County woman and her experiences is unique to this era and interesting.)

By CHARLES BOND

News which she hears over her radio in the little store at Fort Landing in Tyrrell County about the restrictions placed on distribution of food and clothes in the war areas doesn't bother Mrs. J. R. Roughton much, for as she says, "If they keep on having war and more war, I will at least know how to knit me some clothes."

The fact is Mrs. Roughton is already engaged now during her spare time in making a sweater which will be ready for the full moon of April. It was just the fleecy covering of the sheep out in the yard which came a running when she would go to the back of the store and call "cunnan, cunnan, cunnan" just as one might call "biddie, biddie, biddie" to chickens they desire to feed.

Mrs. Roughton, who estimated it would require a week's time of steady work to comb and card wool, spin it and knit into a sweater, is hoping to find enough spare time in which to finish her sweater before the full moon in April for with that time another busy season approaches for those who raise sheep. Two pounds of wool will be required on the sweater.

Mrs. Roughton proved an interesting entertainer—and a help to a news reporter—as the wife and I stopped in for a cold drink the other day while waiting for the arrival of the ferry. It was raining, but Mrs. Roughton, attracted by our curiosity wanted us to see her sheep and so she went to the door and called "Come Betty, Come Betty, cunnan, cunnan, cunnan," and 15 sheep came running and bleating, that is all but a ram named "Billy" who seemed at first a little adverse to emerging from the shelter. Betty was the mother of two little lambs as pretty as you ever saw. Mrs. Roughton explained that she had raised Betty on a bottle with a quart of milk a day for ten weeks, when her mother had disowned her as a kid.

She warned us to watch Billy as we started to turn and go back in the store. Sometimes he will butt you from behind. "I am not afraid of him though," she hastily added, "for he always licks his tongue out before he starts after you and that gives me time to be ready with a rope or a whip."

Sells Wool in Spring

The Roughtons have never kept any records to prove their profits from sheep, but they say they know they get more from them than it costs to feed them. They graze a lot on green stuff and then you have to give them different kinds of food, Mrs. Roughton explained. Always in the "full moon" of April the sheep are sheared, and the wool sold either by the pound to trucks that come around for that purpose or sent to Elizabeth City or some other place where there is a wool market. Sometimes wool sells for as much as 30c a pound.

"But why do you say that you always shear the sheep during the full moon of April," I asked. And Mrs. Roughton assured me that sheep sheared during the full moon won't shed as bad as those sheared at other times. Also Mrs. Roughton told me that if I ever wanted to have a sweater custom-made, to use wool from a live sheep that had been sheared rather than from one sheared after it had been slaughtered because a garment made from wool of the latter will always draw-up.

I just couldn't down my enthusiasm and interest, for as I told Mrs. Roughton it had been quite a while since I read in school about combing, carding and spinning and, in fact, I remembered very little about it at all. So Mrs. Roughton allowed she would just show me how to card wool even if it was Sunday, and so she went across the road to her home and brought back two boards about 7x10 inches which had

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WOMAN'S CLUB OF COLUMBIA NAMES NEW OFFICERS

Mrs. W. S. Carawan Made President; International Relations Program

Mrs. W. S. Carawan was elected president of the Columbia Woman's Club at its meeting Wednesday evening of last week. Other officers elected were Mrs. S. J. Holdway, vice president; Mrs. B. R. Colson, second vice president; Mrs. D. M. Bridgeman, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Russell E.erton, recording secretary; and Mrs. C. C. Lupton, treasurer.

His life, Mrs. R. L. Thompson made cultural class of Columbia under V. H. Durrance would improve the Pettigrew plot and that Mrs. J. G. Brickhouse would supply verberna plants for beds in the plot.

Mrs. J. H. Bateman reported that sufficient women had been interested and that an organization meeting of a demonstration club for women, not previously members of any club, was to have been held Monday of this week. The club also decided to sponsor a games party for the benefit of the Columbia library with Mrs. B. B. Baker being named chairman.

Mrs. E. J. Brickhouse reported the influence of Hitler's parents on his life. Mrs. R. L. Thompson made a talk on world peace through international relations. Others appearing on the program, which was in charge of Mrs. Alfred Chaplin, were the following with musical numbers: Mesdames S. W. Sykes, J. E. Norris, W. H. McCles, R. L. Thompson, G. M. Garrett, Mrs. A. K. Spencer, and C. C. Lupton.

Mrs. C. V. Liverman won the prize in a contest about club activities.

The George Washington motif was carried out in the refreshments. Hostesses were Mesdames H. N. McCles, C. V. Liverman, F. L. Liverman, A. M. Bateman and C. C. Lupton.

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BEER TAXES TOTAL 3 MILLION IN N. C., 1939

Raleigh—North Carolina's beer consumption of 301,800 barrels in 1939 provided \$3,194,870.57 in taxes to the Federal state and local governments, according to an analysis by the Brewers and North Carolina Beer Distributors Committee.

The state collected \$1,510,370.57 in licenses and excise taxes; the various cities, towns, and counties of North Carolina approximately \$1,760,000; and the federal government \$1,508,500. The federal government's tax is based on \$5 per barrel.

The beer industry furnished more than two-thirds of the \$2,278,421.12 collected by the state during 1939 from its beverage taxes; wines and liquor provided about one-third.

The State Department of Revenue disclosed that the state's \$1,510,370.57 in beer taxes last year were distributed as follows: Licenses \$54,632.32; excise or consumption tax on bottled and canned beer \$1,306,707.54; and excise tax on draft beer \$149,030.71.

The annual business volume estimated at \$10,400,000 has been developed and maintained in North Carolina by the legal beer industry and most of this volume is reflected directly in the state by employment, payrolls and taxes, it was explained.

NEW PRESIDENT OF THE WOMAN'S CLUB



MRS. W. S. CARAWAN was elected president of the Columbia Woman's Club at its last meeting. Mrs. Carawan has been devoted to her club work and has constantly worked for the benefit of the club.

DISTRICT CENSUS MAN URGES HAVE FULL FARM DATA

Says Agricultural Census to Start Soon Will Aid in Solving Problems

With the business and manufacturers census nearing completion work is expected to be started the first of April on the population, agricultural and housing census, Denton W. Lupton, of Washington, N. C., supervisor for the first district, reports.

"The farmer is confronted with the problem of adjusting his production to meet vital changes and the census will tell him what these changes are. The census figures will tell him what crops are being overproduced; what progress is being made to use more of his crops in industrial plants," declared Mr. Lupton.

"Industry has developed a fine statistical record which guides its future operations. No one of the 7,000,000 farmers can develop such a set of records for his own guidance because he has only his own figures. Census records of 7,000,000 farms combined is the only complete national picture of farm operations to tell the farmer which way he is going, and to provide students of the serious farm problem with the facts to meet this problem."

Mr. Lupton urges all of the

DIVERSION OF ROAD FUNDS NOT A POPULAR THEME

SOME EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT

AUTOMOBILES AND HIGHWAYS

(Oxford Ledger)

The stand that six candidates for Governor of North Carolina have taken in opposition to diversion of highway tax funds for other expenses of government reflects the emphasis which public officials and citizens of North Carolina are placing upon the improvement of and maintenance of the state's road system.

Citizens of North Carolina and of the United States have become good-roads conscious and they will not be content with a system of roads that is not adequate to meet the industrial, educational, economic and social progress being attained in accelerated manner throughout the United States.

Sound business judgment demands that North Carolina protect its investment of millions of dollars in improved highways by proper maintenance and as rapid replacement of inadequate roads as finances permit.

NOT AN ISSUE

(Statesville Daily)

Highway fund diversion is an issue that won't be an issue in the

gubernatorial campaign. It won't be an issue for the simple reason that when everybody is agreed on anything there is no controversy about it. And all six of the candidates so far announced, with the probability that there won't be any more, have frankly stated their opposition to the principle of diversion.

Obviously there would have been no railing down of these planks in the candidates' platform, if it hadn't been considered essential, which is another way of saying that the majority of voters are opposed to diversion and that aspiring candidates ambitions to make the grade had sensed this fact very definitely.

That leaves Governor Hony and diversion defenders out on a limb. The Governor was very definite about this matter. While he has used none of these funds, luckily for all concerned, he insisted that the legislature stake them down so they could be used, and members of the general assembly, anxious to please, conformed to his wishes in the matter, and the money collected from the motorists with the understanding that it would be used for one purpose, was ear-marked for another.

LADY CTOR TIME

In all her 32 years, Mrs. Courtney Gaskill had never had a doctor



—Photo by Victor Meekins.

to treat her until this year, when she had an attack of la grippe, and her son feared she might take pneumonia. Mrs. Gaskill, who lives at Hatteras, did all the cooking and housekeeping for the family until the attack of grippe in January, and from which she is recovering. She was born October 3, 1847, married William Wise Gaskill in November 1866, and lived with him 62 years. Since the age of ten, she has been a member of the Methodist church, and she never retires without praying, not only for herself, but for all the people she knows. The mother of a large family of children and the head of five generations, she clearly recalls the stirring scenes of the Civil War at Hatteras, and when Capt. Amasa Simpson and his Home Guards were put to rout by the invading Yankees, and fled across the sound to the Hyde County mainland, taking their wives and children with them. Her own father, William Austin, was with the company. One Confederate soldier got away without his wife, and the Yankees carried her to Elizabeth City to meet him. "When the Yankees took possession of Hatteras, nearly all the men were gone," Mrs. Gaskill told us the other day. "The people were facing starvation, and they had to feed the people. They allowed so many rations a week for the people, and they had to get it in those days, and were glad to get it. They didn't grumble, like they do these days, if the commodities aren't delivered to them. We did grumble at the split peas they gave us, which never would boil tender. There were three forts at Hatteras then. One near Trent was called Fort Duncan; Fort Clark stood about where the Gooseville Gun Club now is, while Fort Hatteras guarded the Inlet."

Mrs. Gaskill was the mother of the late Litchfield Gaskill of Hatteras. She is the mother of Henry Gaskill of Hatteras, and of Capt. John Curtis Gaskill of Engelhard. She has a number of daughters, and has lived to see her grandchildren's grandchildren.

She is a woman of spartan courage, facing unusual griefs with faith in God and a future life. She condemns sinful practices, and other things she thinks do not help one, as well as those who are unfaithful to God and a future life. She is a woman of faith in God and a future life. She condemns sinful practices, and other things she thinks do not help one, as well as those who are unfaithful to God and a future life.

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COLUMBIA MAN NAMED TO GROUP BANK COMMITTEE

C. C. Lupton Appointed to Executive Committee of Group 1 Bankers

C. C. Lupton, cashier of the Columbia branch of the Engelhard Banking and Trust Co., was named to the executive committee of district 1 at a meeting of some 150 bankers of northeastern North Carolina at Elizabeth City Thursday.

H. S. Gurganus of Washington was elected chairman of the district; G. R. Tucker of Hertford, vice chairman; and H. B. Copeland of Ahoskie, secretary and treasurer.

Others named to the executive committee included G. R. Walston of Farmville, H. T. Greenleaf of Elizabeth City and Roy Griffin of Murfreesboro.

The bankers heard speeches by Gurney P. Hood, state commissioner of banking, R. C. Kirchofer of Raleigh, chairman of the North Carolina securities advisory committee, W. E. Easterling of Raleigh, secretary of the local government commission, W. H. Woodard of Greenville, state president of the Bankers Association, and Walter W. Cohoon of Elizabeth City.

Charles M. Griggs, chairman of the city council welcomed the convention to Elizabeth City and J. H. Waldron, Greenville banker, responded.

CYCLE-AUTO WRECK INJURES TWINS

By J. L. SNELL
Marion and Maurice Bridgeman, local twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Bridgeman, were injured in an auto-motorcycle accident near Columbia Saturday morning about 11 o'clock. The accident occurred on the Engelhard-Columbia highway when a new Mercury driven by Billy Wells Bateman of Creswell, struck the rear fender of the motorcycle operated by Marion.

The boys were riding away from Columbia when the wind became so cold they decided to turn back. Marion drove off the highway and waited for one car to pass. Thinking the highway was clear, they backed onto the asphalt surface. The driver of the auto coming from Columbia tried to avoid the motorcycle by swerving away from it and Marion also attempted to pull away from danger but the fender of the car struck the rear of the motorcycle cutting Maurice's left foot seriously and causing a compound fracture of the left leg. He sustained several other cuts and bruises when he was thrown to the opposite side of the highway.

Marion received cuts and bruises about the leg and a sprained ankle but returned to his home after receiving treatment at the Columbia hospital.

MAXWELL PLEDGES BETTER ROADS AND BRIDGES FOR HYDE, TYRRELL AND DARE

Speaking at Swan Quarter, Gubernatorial Candidate Proposes to Recover Neglected Counties by Balanced Road Program; Horton Previously Endorsed Necessary Highways

Positive and vigorous assurance by A. J. Maxwell, gubernatorial candidate, that "his administration" would bridge Croatan Sound and Alligator River and connect the county seats of Dare, Hyde and Tyrrell, was given Monday night in an address at the Swan Quarter high school.

Mr. Maxwell was the guest of the Hyde County Chamber of Commerce. He gave high praise to School Superintendent P. G. Gallop for his activities in organizing the Chamber of Commerce.

His specific road pledge embraced the major projects the Southern Albemarle Association originally fostered, and which are declared to be the greatest needs in this region.

Candidate Wilkins P. Horton, who also recently spoke in Hyde has publicly declared he favored these projects. On Monday night March 11, a gathering in Engelhard will await the commitments of J. M. Broughton, another leading candidate.

Maxwell Recognizes the Picture

"This county is famed far and wide for its fertile soil—one of the most productive counties in this or any other state. It has less than 50 miles of all-weather road, with only one outlet. In its relatively unequal participation in benefits of

good roads, it lost 7½ per cent of its population between 1900 and 1930, while the State as a whole was gaining 67 per cent.

"This experience of a neglected county is representative of many rural communities in more prosperous counties throughout North Carolina, which have lost their relative importance in the economic and social life of the State. We cannot have a balanced progress in the State that does not do justice to these rural areas.

"These lost provinces—these lost communities throughout the State must be recovered by a progressive road program that extends hard surface coverage to them, and again gives them an equal chance with their neighbors.

"Specifically I pledge the three counties of Dare, Tyrrell and Hyde a place in my road improvement program for hard surfacing from Swan Quarter to Columbia, between Engelhard and Fairfield and between Engelhard and Manns Harbor, with bridges across Croatan (sound) and Alligator river.

"These projects," Mr. Maxwell continued, "would open up the three counties of Dare, Tyrrell and Hyde to through travel and a direct route to Roanoke Island. It's the road to progress for this whole section and state."

TYRRELL INVITES HELP OF NORTHERN NEIGHBORS TO COMPLETE ROUTE 64

Elizabeth City and Edenton Stand to Lose Much Patronage Unless Route 64 to Manteo Can Be Completed; Would Relieve Dare of Dependency Upon a Single Outlet, and Provide Direct East and West Route

NAMED BY BANKERS OF FIRST DISTRICT



C. C. LUPTON, cashier of the Columbia branch of the Engelhard Banking and Trust Co., who was last week appointed to the executive committee by the First district bankers of Northeastern North Carolina.

SENIOR CLASS MEETING

The senior class held its regular meeting at the home of Miss Audrey Pearl Swain Friday night, after the business session the hostesses served delicious refreshments.

Junior-Senior Banquet

The junior class of Columbia high school plans to give its annual banquet for the seniors, March 21 at the high school auditorium. A dance will be held after the banquet.

Chapel Program

Mrs. Spencer's students presented a very interesting play Friday morning at school chapel exercises. The play was based on the boyhood days of Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Snell and daughter, Sylvia, have returned from Greensboro where Mrs. Snell and daughter have been visiting her sister, Mrs. Tommy Farr.

An example of the great commercial value of Route 64, to the business houses of Edenton and Elizabeth City, when completed, may be observed this week as a result of the second break down of the Currituck Sound Bridge, within a month.

The threadbare patience of Dare County people could be greatly helped if the people of Elizabeth City, Edenton and all points south of the sound would unite in the battle for the completion of this route, with bridges over Alligator River and Croatan Sound.

There are many people in Dare County who greatly deplore being left dependent upon only one outlet, and they have suffered heavy financial loss because of this disadvantage. There are many not only in Dare, but in Tyrrell, who would prefer more wholehearted cooperation from Elizabeth City and Edenton interests in helping to get route 64 completed.

Since Dare County is often called Elizabeth City's best customer, and Elizabeth City's greatest rival is Norfolk, which continues to eat in more avidly upon the growing commercial activity that develops with Dare County's progress, it is believed that with Elizabeth City joining wholeheartedly with Tyrrell in this battle, much additional good-will and patronage might be developed for the Pasquotank capital.

At any rate, citizens of Columbia consider it a suggestion well worth taking hold of. Elizabeth City, they believe, could well afford to center all efforts on this single project, until it is completed.

LEARY THROWS BOOMERANG ON HEART BALM SUIT

Brings Action For Mrs. Russell Alleging Attorney's Divorce Illegally Obtained

Charging in effect that her husband is guilty of bigamy, Herbert R. Leary, attorney for Mrs. Flossie Russell of Manteo has filed a suit in Dare Court, seeking to have annulled the marriage of Mrs. Russell to D. L. Russell, which took place in June 1936.

Mr. Russell recently brought a damage suit against Capt. Thos. P. Midgett, 83, of Manteo, asking \$20,000 heart balm. He accused, in his complaint, his wife of carnal intimacy with Capt. Midgett. Mrs. Russell is 47 and Mr. Russell 63.

Mrs. Russell was much upset by the charges, and in her desire to be free of Mr. Russell, has entered the suit in which she alleges Mr. Russell used fraud to obtain his divorce from his first wife, and that he kept her in ignorance of the facts until May 1939. His first wife is an inmate of the State Hospital for Insane at Morganton.

The affair has created a great sensation in Dare County. Mr. Russell's answer has not been filed, but will be shortly. It is believed should Mrs. Russell win the annulment proceedings it would have the effect of "blowing up" the attorney's suit against Capt. Midgett.

CHEROKEE SHERIFF CAN'T FIND GOD

An official search for God in Cherokee County, in the mountains of North Carolina, resulted in a report by the sheriff that he could not be found. An eccentric woman's will left part of her estate to God. In an effort to settle the estate, a suit was filed in court and God was named a party. On summons in court at Murphy, the sheriff made the response: "After due and diligent search, God cannot be found in Cherokee County."

While egg prices were slightly lower than a year earlier, feed prices in January were about 21 per cent higher, according to the U. S. Agricultural Marketing Service.

Lud Howardton of Monroe was in town Monday visiting friends.

Miss Grace Swain and Slade Spruill spent Sunday in Wake Forest and Louisburg.