

Mrs. W. S. Carawan

# THE TYRRELL TRIBUNE

FOR GREATER PROGRESS OF THE LAKE PHELPS AND PETTIGREW PARK REGION AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OUR NEIGHBOR COUNTIES  
VOL. II; NO. 4 COLUMBIA, N. C. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1940 Single Copy 5c

## TYRRELL RECEIVES \$49,325 IN SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS

### Unemployment Compensation Group Reports on Payments in County for Old Age Pensions, Dependent Children, and to Blind, and For Other Social Services

Approximately \$49,325.00 has been distributed in Tyrrell County through operation of nine of the ten divisions of the Social Security Act, from its beginning and through June 30, 1940, it is estimated, on a basis of official figures, by Charles G. Powell, chairman of the N. C. Unemployment Compensation Commission.

Normally, unemployment compensation, or benefits to workers temporarily out of jobs, is the largest item in the program, except in agricultural counties. The more and larger the industries a county has, the more jobless benefits it gets. In the 2 1/2 years of benefit payments, through June 30, these benefits reached \$6,937.78, included in 1,046 checks issued to residents of Tyrrell County.

Chairman Powell reports that State agencies handling phases of the Social Security Act cooperate with him in supplying figures of their activities, which gives him an accurate picture of distributions in the State welfare department, Mrs. W. T. Best, superintendent, and Nathan H. Yelton, director of public assistance; Dr. Roma S. Cheek, secretary of the State Commission for the Blind; Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, State health officer; and the department of public instruction, particularly T. E. Browne, director of vocational education.

#### Old Age Pensions

Old age assistance, help for needy residents past 65 years of age, in the three years of distribution, through last June 30, amounted to \$18,913.00 in this county.

#### Aid to dependent children

Aid to dependent children, help for those deprived of their normal breadwinners, amounted to \$9,681.50 in the same period in this county.

#### Aid to the blind

Aid to the blind, in the same 36 months, amounted to \$2,268.24 in the county.

#### In these three divisions of the Social Security Act

In these three divisions of the Social Security Act, the Federal government provides one-half of the funds and the State and counties one-fourth each, with a State equalizing fund to help the smaller counties. Prior to January 1, 1940, these three governmental units furnished one-third each for aid to dependent children.

#### No county figures are available for old age and survivors insurance

Monthly payments in this division started after January 1, 1940, due to a 1939 amendment, after lump-sum payments for three years. This will, in due time, become one of the most important of the five major divisions of the Social Security Act.

#### With practically accurate figures

With practically accurate figures, it is evident, Mr. Powell points out, that about \$49,325.00 was distributed in this county to July 1 in for of the five major divisions of the Act, exclusive of old age and survivors insurance.

#### Child Welfare

In the other five divisions, classed as "services," approximately \$12,425.00 has been distributed in this county, including about \$350.00 in child welfare services and about \$800.00 in vocational rehabilitation.

#### Disbursement of funds in the other three "services"

Disbursement of funds in the other three "services" is made through county or district health departments, and only 76 of the 100 counties having such departments June 30, 1940, participated in this distribution. (Three other counties—Gates, Lenoir and Rockingham—started organized health work as of July 1, 1940, but did not share in the funds in the period being considered).

#### Twenty-four counties, therefore, received practically no funds in these divisions

Twenty-four counties, therefore, received practically no funds in these divisions, and what they would have received, and didn't increase the funds to counties with health departments.

#### Tyrrell county, with a health department, received \$2,205.00 for maternal and child health services

Tyrrell county, with a health department, received \$2,205.00 for maternal and child health services; \$1,940.00 for services to crippled children; and \$7,250.00 in public health work.

#### These five "service" division reports are approximate

These five "service" division reports are approximate. The 1940 census figures of 3,561,990 for the State and 5,549 for this county were used in prorating the funds, made up for Federal allotments, matched by the State and counties.

## NEW TEACHER FOR 3D GRADERS

### Little Scholars Shower Mrs. Melson With Gifts on Last Day of School

Mrs. John Melson, who has been granted a leave of absence by the Tyrrell Board of Education, will be replaced by Miss Anna Louise Taylor, of Everetts, N. C., according to announcements from the county superintendent's office this week.

Mrs. Melson is well known in Columbia and is the teacher for the third grade at the Columbia school. Her resignation is only temporary and she is expecting to teach again next year. Miss Taylor who is filling the vacancy is a recent graduate of Eastern Carolina Teachers' College in Greenville.

Showing their deep regard for their teacher, the little third graders showered Mrs. Melson with gifts on the last day of school. Very cleverly they made arrangements with Mrs. Clara Alexander, also a member of the Columbia school faculty, to get Mrs. Melson out of the room until they could arrange their many presents on her desk. Her marked surprise was a delight to the young scholars. She thanked each of them for their kindness and thoughtfulness.

## VOCATIONAL UNIT STARTED IN TYRRELL

The construction of a vocational building was started this week at the Tyrrell County Training School in Columbia with 30 workers under the National Youth Administration program on the job.

Taking advantage of the fact that the old Travis high school building was of no avail, the present board of education approved a proposal to take down the Travis building, move the salvaged material to Columbia, and erect a much needed vocational building on the colored school plot.

By turning the work over to the NYA group it was revealed that the cost of the building would be little, and since the group is under competent advisors and managers, a well constructed and useful building could be had very cheaply.

## THEY WERE HELPED

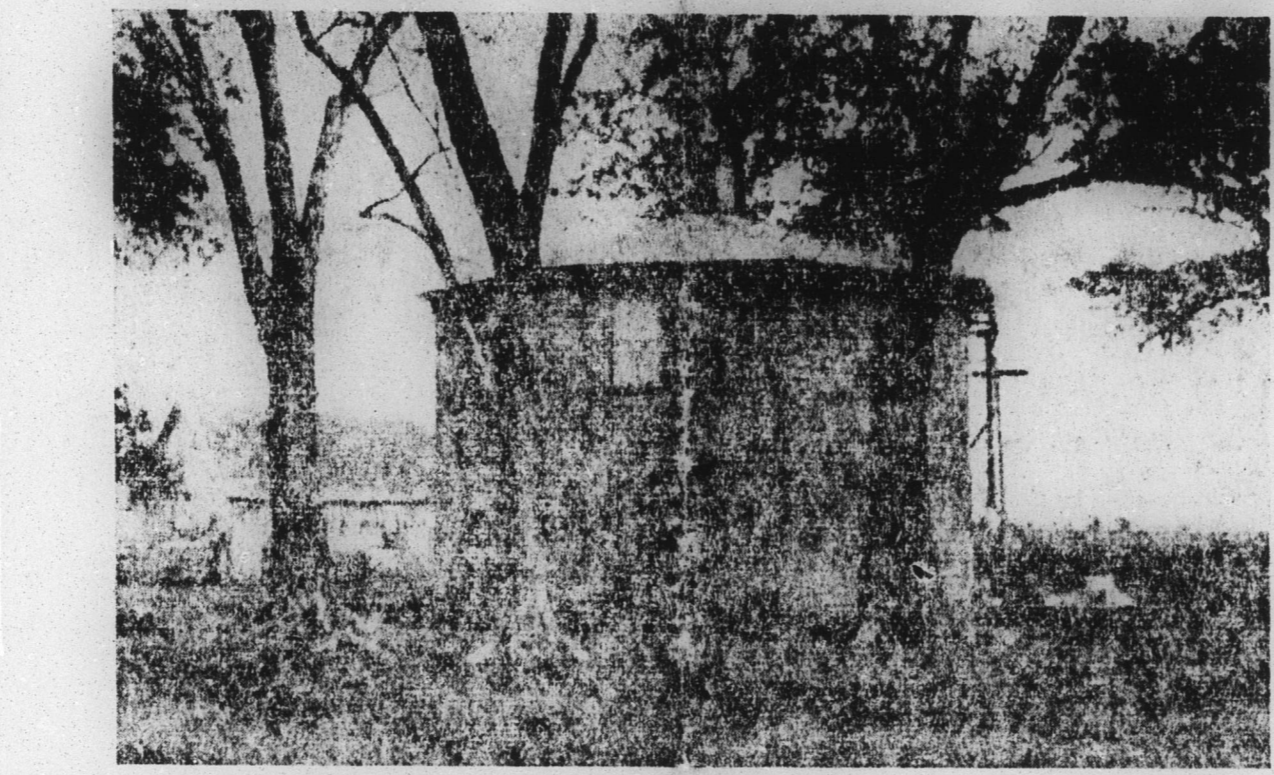
The twenty-five families which the Tyrrell Welfare office reported as needing help if they were to have an enjoyable Christmas all received surprises with baskets of food and presents officials reported this week.

Some of the families were taken by individuals, and others were taken in groups. The NYA toys made by those on the Federal program during the past two weeks have been distributed to needy families.

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is the word for  
**BEN AMES WILLIAMS'**  
New Serial  
**"THE STRUMPET SEA"**

★ Here is a story so vivid and real that it will fairly lift you aboard the home-bound whaler, "Venturer," where things are happening thick and fast.  
**Read It in This Paper**  
BEGINS TODAY

## OCTAGONAL HOUSE OF ANTEBELLUM DOCTOR IN HYDE COUNTY



ONE OF THE MOST interesting homes to be found anywhere in North Carolina and one of Hyde County's in attracting tourists is the "Round House" which is located about a mile north of the Lake Landing post office on Highway 264.

The building is octagonal-shaped. That is, it has eight sides, each of the same size and constructed in a circle like way, making it appear to be round from a distance. It has no post, being constructed in the same manner of a rail fence. One plank is paid directly on top of the other. There are two such walls made of 1x3 plank about six inches apart, with a plaster being applied in the middle to hold it together. A plaster was also used on the out side of the building in place of weather-boarding, but this has been torn off in recent years and replaced by wooden shingles.

There are six square rooms in this eight-sided, two story structure. Three of the rooms being on the first floor and three on the second. It is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Payne, well-known Lake Landing family, who own it.

This peculiar house was erected before the Civil War by Dr. William Sparrow, an anomalous man, who was a physician by profession. It was his one desire to have a home different from anyone else. As far as it can be learned, he succeeded well in his task, for it is said that there is only one other building like it in America, it being along the Maryland coast, and it is doubted that it is constructed on the same plan as used by Dr. Sparrow.

## DETERMINATION OF LEADERS MARK GROWTH OF LIBRARY

The struggle for cultural development has long been the epic song of all historians, even as the struggle for a public library in Tyrrell is today turning into an epic song of praise.

Whether you know it or not, the swelling advancement of Columbia's public library is vastly underrated and has never been acclaimed by the press. Its fight for existence, and the part it is destined to play in the lives of Tyrrell's citizenry, not only means that someone has put out an arduous effort, but also that behind the scenes there's a human story of what tomorrow should have in store for the people of the county.

It was first started by the Women's Club some three years ago. A few books were donated, the WPA offered to furnish the labor in the form of a librarian, and the initial scratch had been made.

Today the growing institution, housed in what was formerly the town hall, can boast a vevy of books, and offer to the reading public a well chosen list of up-to-the-minute selections just off the press. Today, the library is still struggling to exist, but it has something which can never be taken away—due directly to the tireless effort of Mrs. A. W. Houtz, chairman of the Library Board.

#### Obstacles

You'll find here that some very discouraging obstacles have been faced and conquered, and you'll find on the book shelves the reason why other nearby cities have nothing on the reading public of Tyrrell.

Just last spring the WPA revealed that if the government was expected to furnish a librarian, a certain number of books would have to be purchased for the library. The Women's Club called for a meeting of representatives of the leading civic organizations in the county. The response was gratifying, and out of this came a board to keep the library going, with Mrs. Houtz as its chairman.

First Mrs. Houtz gained the approval of the board to put in a rental shelf. Here novels were rented out for ten cents, and was listed as the first income towards the purchase of new books. Next she went before the Board of County Commissioners and got a pledge of \$15 per month towards books, all of which was followed by pledges from the Men's Club, the Women's Club, the Junior Women's Club, and the American Legion. The WPA officials accepted the policy, and Tyrrell's library made rapid growth.

#### Librarian

Miss Sarah Fleming was made librarian, and her capable work in keeping the records and cataloging the books has brought forth the praise of one and all. Her binding affection for the institution which she has so meticulously helped nourish into a thriving being, only came to light recently.

According to rules of the WPA workers must be re-certified after an eighteen month period. It takes some time to become re-certified. And Miss Fleming has worked faithfully on even though without assured pay until she can be approved again. Thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Houtz, the county commissioners have agreed to let

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

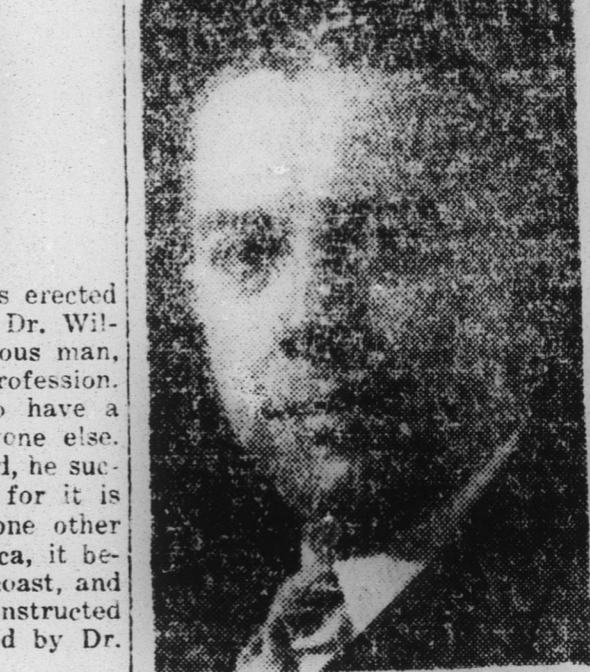
The Tyrrell County Democratic Executive Committee will be called sometime during the next few days, according to an announcement by W. J. White, chairman of the group, to elect a new member to fill a vacancy in the County Board of Education.

The vacancy occurred when C. Earl Cohoon, who is chairman of the board, handed in his resignation which becomes effective the first of the year. Mr. Cohoon, who is representative for the county, will be in Raleigh at the Legislature which meets early in the year.

## NATIONAL DEFENSE COURSES TO BE STARTED IN TYRRELL

### Federal Government Allots Money For Course To Train Youth in Trades and Professions; Auto Mechanics and Woodwork Classes to Be Held at night; Jobs to be Offered

## CHAIRMAN C. G. POWELL HUNTED IN HYDE CO.



CHARLES G. POWELL, Chairman of the U. S. C. in Raleigh, recently visited Hyde County at the home of Dr. A. G. Harris in Fairfield, and demonstrated to the people there he is a "straight shooter," for out on the Lake, "his kite" broke many previous records among local and non-residents sportsmen, and his friends say he is equally efficient in administering the affairs of the unemployed in North Carolina. The high tributes recently paid him by the Chairman of the Social Security Board and Governor Hoyie indicate an efficient record during the past four years.

Realizing the marked lack of skilled labor in the fields of preparing an armed nation, the long arms of the National Defense program reached down into Tyrrell last week and started the machinery rolling to turn out men capable of filling some of the many vacancies now listed on the program records.

The machinery started in the form of finances being given by the Federal Government towards starting classes which would give young men that knowledge which fit them for some specific trade. It was with this in mind that Tyrrell educational officials called a meeting last week of local high school grads now unemployed and started the proceedings which will mean active class work within the near future.

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There were eleven young fellows present at the meeting in the school building, and with V. H. Durrance presiding, the group elected to study auto mechanics for the eight week period named by the officials from the Nation's capital.

#### Night Classes

The class will meet for three hours every night at the school garage where actual equipment will be on hand for the learners. The class will meet five nights each week.

A similar program will begin in the Tyrrell Training school for Negro youths desiring to specialize in some trade. The first meeting held by the colored officials resulted in the inauguration of a class in carpentry.

At the completion of the eight weeks course the young men will not be classified as skilled laborers, but will be ready to step into positions as assistants to mechanics or carpenters.

Present information from Washington officials reveal that those taking the course will probably be offered jobs in nearby national defense projects, and since the course will cost the students nothing, the graduate is expected to give national defense openings preference over jobs he may be offered by private industry.

#### Open to All

The classes are open to anyone between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five. It was explained by local officials that even if anyone is employed at present and wishes to take the course he may do so. By holding the classes at night it will be possible to include almost every case which might be interested.

According to schedules and ratings made by the government, the instructors for the course will be paid a dollar each hour of class, but there can be no more than fifteen hours of class work during any one week.

The new program authorized by Congress, however, does not include only classes in auto mechanics and wood-work. If there is demand for other courses, the government will make arrangements for the starting of such, and herein comes the first real opportunity for the young generation to get competent instruction in a specific trade or profession. Information on this subject can be secured from the county superintendent's office at any time.

The courses are being offered throughout the nation, and it is expected that within a period of several months, a great deal of slack can be taken out of the present employment problems of the overwhelming defense program. Tyrrell County is one of the first counties in North Carolina to complete plans for these courses.

#### Return From Florida

Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Swindell and family, of Gum Neck, and Mrs. Pearl Roughton of Baltimore, returned home last week after spending the past two weeks visiting their uncle W. D. Ireland, of Fort Meyers, Fla.

## COAST AIRWAY ROUTE BUYS A SECOND PLANE

## Driskill Puts New Stinson Five-Place Job Through Paces; Begins Christmas

The new five-passenger plane, bought by Pilot Dave Driskill recently for the Coast Airways route, Norfolk to Beaufort via Manteo and Ocracoke, was inspected and put through its paces this week end. The plane went into service, beginning Christmas day.

The Ocracoke Manteo Transportation Company, a Stanley Wahab enterprise, owns the new air route. Driskill is president of the company, and chief pilot. The company has a plane bought from the Roanoke Island Flying Service, and it was the pioneering of this group and Pilot Driskill, who revealed the possibilities of air travel along the coast.

The plane service will operate between Norfolk and Beaufort. It will bring Ocracoke and Hatteras within close touch of the entire coast.

At Roanoke Island, a new and large airport is to be cleared soon on land owned by the county. Ocracoke has a good landing field which is to be improved. Hangars will be constructed, and other facilities added.

## MCCOLLERS GIVES PARTY FOR BASTARDS

Band organizer, Charlie L. McCollers, entertained the Columbia Bastards at a special Christmas party last week after the group presented an open air concert at the entrance of the County courthouse. There are seven grandchildren.

The party took place in the dining room of the Columbia hotel, where special games were played, refreshments served, and gifts exchanged.

Besides Mr. and Mrs. McCollers, and Columbia's band leader Miss Kathryn Walker, the following were present: Albin Hamilton, Hal Chaplin, Nan Chaplin, Gilbert Reynolds, Tillie Norris, Edward Hamilton, Mary Alice Cohoon, Durwood Cooper, J. E. Norris, Jr., Nancy Meekins, Kathryn Morris, Ann Cohoon, Dan Hassell, Norman Knight, Joseph Laughinghouse, Phyllis Liverman, Margie Davenport, Roy Smith, Sally Bateman, Joe Norcum, Thomas Yerby, John Eason, and Herbert Liverman.

G. T. Westcott, Mrs. O. C. J. Scharff, Robert Midgett, Mrs. B. H. Davis, and Miss Evelyn Davis. The poem, crossing the bar was read by Rev. M. W. Maness, who also pronounced the benediction.

Honors sung at the grave were: "Will the Circle Be Unbroken," and "In the Sweet Bye and Bye." The singers were: Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Overman, Mrs. M. W. Maness,