

Tyrrell Sees Landless

(Continued from Page One) which is to help farmers to get a fresh start, allotted approximately \$300,000 for the purchase of lands involved in this great Southern Albemarle project. Property was acquired from private ownership in many parts of Tyrrell and Washington counties and for the development of the project now known as "Scuppernon Farms" the government is said to have agreed to pay about \$115,000.

In connection with the Resettlement Administration's farm program land planning experts have worked out a huge map of the entire Southern Albemarle peninsula lying between the Albemarle Sound on the north and the Pamlico River on the south which covers probably the vastest amount of undeveloped territory in the Eastern United States. Parts of Washington, Tyrrell, Dare and Hyde counties are included on this big map for classification with a view of finding out the right type of farm program to which each tract of land is best suited.

Land that is too swampy to be drained adequately will be set aside as a refuge for wild game. Other tracts more suited for drainage will be reclaimed for cultivation. Thus many thousands of acres of rich, fertile, river-bottom farm land may be added to the agricultural map of the Southern Albemarle section before the work of the Resettlement Administration is over.

"Scuppernon Farms," in the vicinity of beautiful Lake Phelps, is to become a group of large and productive farms bordering the lake. These will be known as farm community projects where it is hoped a more satisfactory social and cultural life will be possible and where farmers will have the great economic advantage of cooperative marketing and purchasing in years to come.

Under plans now rapidly being mapped out Tyrrell's "Scuppernon Farms" will be something to which citizens of the whole Albemarle may point with pride and which farmers on the bordering counties may do well to copy and profit by.

There are other resettlement projects now under way in North Carolina among which are two large scale areas in Eastern counties designed to take poor lands out of agricultural use and convert them into uses to which they are best adapted such as game refuges and recreational sites. One of these is a 60,000-acre Sandhills project with headquarters down at Hoffman, and a 30,000-acre Jones and Salters Lake projects in this State are as follows:

Penderlea Homesteads, in Pender County; 300 farmsteads, 20 to 30 acres each; 142 farmsteads have been completed and land is being acquired for 150 additional units.

Roanoke Farms, 250 farmsteads, 50 acres average; under development in separate sections for white and colored; Enfield, N. C.

Pembroke Farms, 180 farmsteads, 40 to 60 acres each; land being acquired and development plans started; Pembroke, N. C.

Wolf Pitt Farms, 110 farmsteads, 40 acres average; land being acquired and development plans started; project headquarters, Rockingham, N. C.

North Carolina Tenant Security

COLUMBIA

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The thousands of fertile acres in and around Columbia township were first settled by a thrifty band of Scotch, Irish and English pioneer farmers who were attracted to this rich bottom land country by its great natural beauty and its soil so easily adapted to the growth of Irish potatoes, corn, peas, cotton and truck vegetables. Some of the first settlers to Tyrrell came by boat from Charleston, S. C., enroute up the coast to Virginia. In passing along the Scuppernon River they found themselves in the midst of a land so beautiful and so fertile that they disembarked and set up homesteads along the river bank.

These first thrifty farmers came to Tyrrell as homesteaders. They were an intelligent lot whose energy and foresight carved many acres of highly productive farm land out of the swamps and wilderness that are under cultivation today.

The pioneer settlers in Tyrrell chose the site of their country places on the more beautiful bends in the Scuppernon River which they named because of the abundance of rich mellow grapes that grew in profusion to the water's edge along its banks. The first grape vine in America is said to have been discovered by explorers along the Scuppernon River and by far the finest old grape vine in the Albemarle section is located on Chaplin's farm, some five miles from Columbia. It is believed to be the oldest grape vine in America from point of discovery, far antedating the celebrated "Mother Vineyard" on Roanoke Island which is said to be well over 250 years old.

Three Famous Sons
Col. Richard Burcombe, for whom one of Western North Carolina's mountain counties of which Asheville is the county seat, was named, was one of the early settlers in Tyrrell. Educated in the finest private schools in England, Col. Burcombe was a man of rare wit and intelligence who was attracted to the Southern Albemarle on the death of his uncle, Joseph Burcombe, who left his vast acreage to his nephew, Richard Burcombe, who moved his family to America in 1776 and settled in Tyrrell.

In the struggle for American independence Richard Burcombe, late of London, was one of the first to fearlessly place his fortune on the side of liberty. In April, 1776, he was appointed to command the Fifth North Carolina

project, with headquarters at Goldsboro; 100 farmsteads, 76 acres average, now under development.

Regiment in the Continental Army and died on the battle field during the Siege of Mifflintown in Pennsylvania the following year.

Archibald Currie, Jeremiah Pender, John Warrenton and Thomas Stuart, who rendered invaluable service in the House of commons during the revolutionary war were later counted as among Tyrrell County's most famous sons.

Brigadier General J. J. Pettigrew, one of the heroes of the war between the States and who lost his life in the Battle of Gettysburg was another one of Tyrrell County's famous sons.

Magnolia Plantation, located in the midst of beautiful woodland and fields near Lake Phelps has long been one of Eastern North Carolina's show places. The old Pettigrew cemetery, formed by a huge rectangle 70 by 100 feet may still be seen today. In it are huge slabs of purplish marble and sculptured epitaphs.

Backed by glorious traditions Tyrrell County has just begun to come to the front in interest among hundreds of people who are day by day rediscovering this most beautiful of all Southern Albemarle counties. It is a land of tall forests, beautiful swamps and low country, fertile farm lands and progressive little farm villages and towns. There are still many thousands of acres of undeveloped land in Tyrrell County — plenty of rich river bottom land for the plow and plenty of lumber for the saw mills. With all its great natural beauties Tyrrell County abounds in friendly folks, cheerful, helpful, law-abiding, God-fearing farmers who are literally the salt of our common earth. Abundance of native wit and genial good humor overflows in Tyrrell and Columbia, its thriving little capital and to have never to have been there is to have missed one of the garden spots of all North Carolina.

COLUMBIA DRUG STORE HAS FILLED 105,000 PRESCRIPTIONS

One of Columbia's oldest and most popular firms is the Columbia Drug Company which holds the distinction of being the first drug store opened for business in Tyrrell County.

Ed Cohoon, the present manager, spent six years with People's Drug Stores in Fredericksburg, Va., and Washington, D. C. He is a native of Tyrrell County and a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Pharmacy.

In the 30 years the Columbia Drug Company has been operating more than 105,000 prescriptions have been filled there.

THIS BOY IS HIS BROTHER AND HIS INDEPENDENT

Mrs. G. N. Hurdle is just another example of what a woman can do in the grocery business. For 25 years she has owned and operated one of the most modern up-to-date and attractive little grocery stores in Columbia since the death of her husband 19 years ago she has carried on his business alone, besides rearing two splendid children, G. Nobby and Lucia Hurdle.

Some for it and concerning other people for "sleeping their lives away."


The first Negro to enter the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis in 1862 years recently resigned. The Negro, James Lee Johnson, along with 134 other midshipmen, failed in class work during the first half of the school term which ended recently.

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