

Poole's Medley

BY D. SCOTT POOLE

My memory is packed full of things which I learned over a long period of time. A store packed full of goods. I wish it were in a more orderly way.

I think of memory as an orderly way of placing facts and figures.

We used to delight in singing about the "Old Black Cat and the Big Mouthed Hound."

The corn crop in the United States is the largest grain crop in acreage, but the wheat crop is the most valuable grain crop. Our country grows five grain crops.

North Carolina voted more than two to one against repeal of Prohibition. President Roosevelt requested that Prohibition be repealed because the United States needed the revenue.

I did not vote for repeal, nor did Hoke County. Hoke voted three to one against repeal.

I have heard men say they wished we had liquor stores here. I am sure I am for the best interests of the people of the town and county, but liquor stores are ruinous. They are worse than old barrooms.

It is such a gigantic effort to make the Devil's business respectable.

Jesse Thomas, who had a corn mill on Drowning Creek a half-mile from our home, and a cotton gin, in summer threshed wheat when people brought it.

Thomas ginned cotton in a house built adjoining his corn mill, and in that house he ginned cotton in the fall, and carried it to his press on top the hill.

Those presses were numerous, and near the gin were those tall presses made of hewn heart longleaf large timbers. They all disappeared with new gins and presses.

When a man does not make



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some money, he is charged with being lazy or a poor manager. Money does not make the man, but it certainly helps him onward and in society.

It never entered my mind that wages and salaries would ever reach the present level and while I am not sharing in this prosperity, I rejoice to see others climbing.

The late Frank Blue said to me one day, "Mr. Poole, an automobile annihilates distance."

I agreed with him. But at the time Frank made that statement, twenty miles an hour was fast driving.

Twenty miles a day was average traveling in wagons, and twenty miles an hour was fast driving for several years after automobiles became plentiful.

I think the catfish is the winning fish fighter. Those side sharp fins win the battles.

If you are riding on a train in the mountains, a high well timbered mountain looks like a great thundercloud.

We had one large ox on my father's farm, and he ran away every time he found he was not tied good and beyond going.

I cast my first Democratic ballot in November 1880 and I have been careful to cast the same sort of ballot since.

Dirt Is Valuable Ingredient In Turkey Diet

Dirt, the stuff that friends of Pogo, the comic strip's possum have been trying to market as "the housewives' friend," may be the turkey's friend, too.

Three North Carolina State College scientists have discovered that dirt seems to control enlarged hocks of turkeys. The trio found that adding a handful of dirt to the diet of a test flock reduced the incidence of enlarged hocks by 56 per cent.

The discovery was made in connection with research based on the assumption that turkey diets may be below in one or more unknown nutrients.

Roy Dearstyne, head of the college's Department of Poultry Science, J. W. Kelly, associate professor of poultry science, and H. L. Lucas, professor of experimental statistics, say that it may be possible to further reduce or prevent the disease by increasing the amount of soil in the feed.

There are three possible explanations for the action of the soil: (1) the soil contains one or more beneficial factors, or (2) its effect may result indirectly by providing favorable conditions for micro-organisms to manufacture the unknown factors, or (3) the soil contains factors that slow the growth of harmful organisms.



ILL WIND, ETC. . . It's an ill wind that doesn't blow somebody some good, or something.

Anyway, you heard couple years back how the Scott administration was cursed from here to the barn for the terrible expense of putting an elevator in the Governor's official residence on Blount Street here.

"Anybody in the world ought to be able to climb those stairs at the Mansion," was the remark most frequently heard. Well, in the first place they are not so easy to climb—old fashioned, steep, and big-stepped. Of course Kerr Scott didn't mind them, being an old hill-climber.

But William B. Umstead will, for chances are his physician would rather he didn't do so much step-climbing for some time to come. So the accused elevator seems to be not only a great convenience but—for the time being at least—a necessity.

Another change made while Scott was in office involved moving the Governor's office from the southeast corner—away out in left field—to an interior office of the Capitol. All of Scott's predecessors had been in the corner. And they were actually cornered. There was no inner office, no bathroom, no way to get out of there except to dart with reckless abandon into the main foyer of the building. Escape? Yes, into the arms of the little people—10,000 school children—wanting autographs and big people hungering for the proverbial "just a word."

There was no real escape for the Governor. He had to go through the foyer, or through the crowd, even to get to the bath room.

Now despite cries as soon as Scott left that the Governor's office should be moved immediately back to the southeast corner, chances are it will not be.

The Mansion elevator and the office change may prove to be two of the best things Kerr Scott ever did for William Umstead.

AND COURTESY . . . Members of the Legislature, by the time they have been in Raleigh a few weeks, frequently feel they are merrily riding off in all directions. This feeling of frustration more often than not stems from pressure at home: a group doesn't like the sheriff; another wants to change the county school board; and still another wants that county freed of State restrictions on the sale of that fine old skidrow commodity, bay rum.

This local legislation causes the average legislator much more worry than items of Statewide significance. I am told that in times past—and it may be so this time—members of the General Assembly have stayed in Raleigh six and eight weeks at a time dreading to go home and

face the music. Yes, more home rule is needed. Those cities, counties and towns who mourn the movement of government from the local level to Raleigh and Washington should get together and call firmly for a place in the sun.

Then it would be not necessary for the Legislature to decide whether bears may be hunted under certain conditions in Bertie County, whether bay rum may be sold in ditto, or if certain volunteer firemen in Dunn may be freed of jury duty.

Worry with local legislation and the never ending extension of the courtesies of the lobby and floor to every Tom, Dick and Harry, each Jane and Sue visiting Raleigh may well consume one-third of the Legislator's time.

Lift these burdens from the shoulders of the average legislator and you will find away down, under the circumstances, a reasonably happy individual.

NO HURRY . . . Not in recent years has anybody seen as much real executive-legislative harmony as exists between members of the 1953 General Assembly and Governor Umstead. His okay on a bill is like lighted match applied to guided missile. On at least one occasion a whispered word from the Mansion has jerked from the jaws of defeat legislation which had been floundering.

Each Governor has it easy with his first Legislature. Nobody ever had it better—never was a cr than this. It's a natural thing,

in a way, based on solid respect for, and confidence in, the Governor. All in all, it amounts to one homerun after another.

When will Governor Umstead return to the office he vacated within a few hours after taking over from Kerr Scott? Nobody seems to know. Meantime, things could not go better were Governor Umstead sitting plunk in the middle of both houses armed with cocked six-shooters and ready to blast away at any finger lifted in opposition. So there is really no hurry about Governor Umstead's getting back on the scene. He's resting, but is definitely in the saddle. He's at home, but still knocking homers. He is champing at the bit to be back in there swinging. You may be sure he will return the minute the doctor gives him the green light.

THE TOTIN' . . . When a bond issue is presented to the people, it doesn't just click along by itself. Somebody has to do the totin'. Somebody has to carry the ball. Size of the bond issue doesn't seem to make as much difference as the amount of educational work done in connection with it. You folks who have worked on such things out in the counties know how it is.

In the famous 1949 bond vote for 225 million dollars—200 million for rural roads and 25 million for schools—the contractors carried the ball. Everyone knows now that it cost them close to \$50,000 to get out the vote. Even then, a handful of mountain counties, nine to be exact, proved to be the deciding factor. Going into the west, the 1949 vote was lost.

Who is going to do the totin' in the voting on 73 million dollars in bonds to go for schools and for mental institutions?

Of course, the powerful N. C. Education Association will be in

there pitching. Gov. William B. Umstead's friends throughout the State will be supporting him on the projects.

But who will be out there beating the bushes for those hundreds of patients in insane asylums and the hundreds more needing admittance? This is the most important question facing us as the way is cleared in the Legislature for the bond vote later in the year.

NOTES . . . Biggest opponents to upping the sales tax over the present \$15 will be the N. C. Auto Dealer's Association. From here it looks like Clyde R. Greene of Boone will succeed J. M. Baley, Jr., of Marshall as N. C. GOP chairman . . . Reports are that two Pou descendants—Wake Representative Edwin Pou, son of the late George Ross Pou—and State Senator James H. Pou Bailey are at daggers points over a bill which would permit auto races in Wake . . . On top of this it is reported each would like to run against Congressman Harold D. Cooley . . . Pay no attention to the rumors, just a rift, and each of the Pou descendants is extremely popular in Wake. . . Bailey is son-in-law of Edwin Pate, president pro temp of the State Senate. . .

We understand that a dollar book on former Gov. Kerr Scott will soon be available at your corner drugstore. May we suggest a title? How about "The Dreaded Scott Decision"? We hear, meantime, that WKS in on a radio network farm-friending each morning . . . and speaking to Ruritan clubs at the drop of a bandanna . . . If he is planning to run for the U. S. Senate, Scott should not overlook one angle: It is catch-as-cash-can here in North Carolina.

Bernhardt adds that Kobe lespepeza produces more hay than Korean. Fritts cut 763 bales from seven acres. This lespepeza was limed, phosphated, and fertilized. The lespepeza grew three feet high and was baled with a pick-up baler, without raking.

Not only did Fritts get a nice income from this land, but he left it more fertile than when he started.

Drying of corn allows early harvest and eliminates losses caused by insects, birds, and seasonal wind storms.

Farmer Finds Good Income In Rotation

Nine acres of land yielded an income of \$339.45 per acre for Jeff Fritts, Route 1, Linwood, which is proof enough to the Davidson County farmer that cotton, small grain, and lespepeza make a good rotation.

C. E. Bernhardt, county agent for the State College Extension Service, reports that Fritts planted the land in Coker 100 cotton on April 28, 1951, applied manure to the land and used 500 pounds of 3-12-6 per acre. In the fall of 1951 he sold 11 bales of cotton, then sowed the land in Atlas wheat, using 200 pounds of 2-12-12 and five pecks of wheat per acre.

In February, 1952, Fritts sowed 35 pounds of lespepeza seed, applying 200 pounds of 2-12-12 and 100 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre.

He harvested 36 bushels of wheat per acre, cut two acres of lespepeza hay, and harvested 5,663 pounds of clean seed from the other seven acres.

The cotton sold for \$2,320, the wheat for \$691.40, the hay for \$172, and the lespepeza seed for \$1,075.97—a total of \$4,259. Expenses were \$1,204.30.

Bernhardt adds that Kobe lespepeza produces more hay than Korean. Fritts cut 763 bales from seven acres. This lespepeza was limed, phosphated, and fertilized. The lespepeza grew three feet high and was baled with a pick-up baler, without raking.

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1. Reduced labor requirements for producing the crop.
2. Greatly reduced cost of insect control.
3. Eliminate all or part of the need for insecticidal dust and sprays.
4. Eliminate weather hazards encountered in present control methods.
5. Data indicate that black light traps are most effective in rainy weather when it is most difficult to use dust or sprays.
6. Eliminate or reduce the possibility of harm or injury to humans and animals in the control of insects.
7. Eliminate or reduce insecticide residues that may prove harmful or undesirable from the standpoint of processing or final use of the product.
8. On larger farms, the traps may prove quite desirable as an early indicator of insect flight in order that other fields or locations may be promptly attended.

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