

## Southern Woman Runs Two Papers

By SIGRID ARNE  
(In Boston Traveler)

Morganton, N. C., Feb. 23. — "Miss Beatrice" should have gone to that meeting in Atlanta. She was a delegate. But one of her newspapers was going to press that day. She stayed home to work.

It was a Thursday. At dusk she settled down to her mail. The phone rang. Atlanta calling.

### SHIES AT WRITE-UPS

"Miss Beatrice?" It was a soft, Southern voice talking. A gentleman's voice. "Guess we are going to have to write a story about you."

"Petigru," she replied, "you know I don't like that."

"But, Miss Beatrice, we named you the busiest woman in the South today."

Miss Beatrice chuckled into the phone, considered a moment, and then said, "Petigru, had you said I was the most brilliant, or the most handsome, I'd say 'No'. But the 'busiest'. I'll just take you up on that."

So after 25 years of being the South's busiest woman, Miss Beatrice Cobb was written up. That was a year ago. The story told the South only what it already knew.

She's known as the owner and editor of two newspapers: the Morganton News-Herald and the Valdese News, the only papers in Burke county, N. C. What's more, over 25 years, she's never had two dollars to rub together, but what she went into debt for more modern equipment. She has one of the finest small plants I've seen.

### ONLY CONTENT IN DEBT

She says she's never comfortable unless she's in debt. She goes into debt for \$7000 linotype machines, for \$3000 steel cabinets, fire-proof buildings—and this in a town of 7800—although, as she says, "there are really 10,000 in hollering distance."

The newspapers, however, are only a string to thread together Miss Beatrice's other work. She's one of those rare newspaper owners who still believe, as Louisville's famous Marse Henry Waterson did, that an editor should be the glue to hold his community together.

So she's the glue. It's led to many national jobs.

She's been Democratic national committee-woman from North Carolina since 1933.

For over 20 years she's been secretary of the North Carolina Press Association—and that's done in the gallant Southern manner.

She could have been just a secretary. But she chose to get into the state's legislative battles. Like the time the Legislature got riled at a famous editor. They had a bill up to tax all linotype machines. That's like taxing your lawn-mower. Miss Beatrice went to Raleigh, the capital.

But she didn't go near the Legislature. She "felicitated around" a hotel lobby. And in her "felicitating" told who to see what lawmaker. The bill was defeated.

She says now with a bland, feminine innocence, "you know, I've seen the time women had to work indirectly to get things done." She calls felicitating "direct!"

She was one of the seven Democrats chosen to meet with President Roosevelt when a successor was chosen to James Farley. The only Southerner on the committee.

### "MOTHER" TO MOUNTAINEERS

She's a handsome size 38 who tops a feminine dress with a smart tweed top coat. Her curling hair is prematurely white. Her face is fresh and pink. Her voice soft. Her interests stretch from Florida fisherman's wages to Oregon's lumbermen's unemployment compensation.

That's probably because she's unofficial mother to Southern mountaineers. So many of them flow into her office that her staff of 18 men and women call the poor hill folks "Miss Beatrice's constituents."

Perfectly strange people walk into her office quite confident that Miss Beatrice will get them shoes or a doctor. The trouble with her bank account is that she will.

The most fabulous expression of confidence in her came from a farmer who'd lost an eye. Miss Beatrice got the farmer to agree to try a glass eye. She wrote an out-of-town doctor for samples. She coaxed a local doctor to handle the fitting. Then she wrote the farmer to come in.

He replied, "I'm busy with harvesting. I'll just leave it to you. You just pick me out a good one." She finally got him into town.

Her grandfather and father, before her, ran papers and dabbled in politics. When her father died she was teaching school at \$50 a month. She'd helped on press days. But she quaked at the idea of getting advertising, writing editorials, meeting the payroll. She was just past 20, and the oldest of six girls.

Then an amazing thing happened—for a Southern community. The town's best lawyer walked into the Cobb home with a long, signed petition from the county's best business men. Would Miss Beatrice take her father's place? They'd see that she got advertising.

She was cogitating when the world of printer's ink played a fatal card: a big story broke.

Morganton was cut off from the world by the district's worst flood. Miss Beatrice whipped together a curious staff: A tramp printer she'd permitted to sleep in her shop the

night before, and a salesman for linotype machines. The reporters were everyone in town. They tramped out to the floods, and scurried back to Miss Beatrice to write about what they'd seen. Her extra hit the streets five hours after the news broke.

Well, you can't be a school teacher after getting out an "extra."

That was in 1916. Now the papers are just something she does between other jobs.

Morganton, itself, is a patchwork of her ideas. It's rapidly becoming a tourist mecca because 10 years ago Miss Beatrice coaxed everyone in town to plant Mimosa trees.

There's a new glass and brick building used by a woman's cooperative which Miss Beatrice started. She made them incorporate, then she personally peddled their stock to business men. They grinned and kissed their \$100 bills good-bye. The joke's on the men. The farm women are paying off.

Miss Beatrice decided the town needed a community building. The result is a really beautiful colonial building. She goes there herself for the weekly Kiwanis luncheons. And that's led to an amusing National Kiwanis argument.

Morganton Kiwanis just thought it natural to take in Miss Beatrice. But National Kiwanis leaders, on visits look horrified and say, "but you can't have a woman member." So the Morganton men just put "honorary" in front of "member" for Miss Beatrice's listing. And everyone's satisfied.

Her busy life makes her best White House story understandable. She'd been there on business. But she was phoned one day to be there at luncheon the next. She was deep in work—in an ink-stained green dress. She phoned Laura, her Negro housekeeper, to pack her "one good black." She made the train in 15 minutes flat.

In a Washington hotel the next day she took count. She didn't have her admission card to the White House. Laura had forgotten to pack the "one good black." That was 12 noon. At 1 P. M. Miss Beatrice was sitting down to lunch in the state dining room. It had taken her 10 minutes to buy a second "good black," and the butler at the east gate had been phoned to let her in.

Laura, herself, couldn't escape Miss Beatrice. Laura has cooked for Miss Beatrice for 20 years. She was living in a Negro-town shack. But Miss Beatrice kept after her until she went into debt—for a spanking new four-room house. Miss Beatrice bought the lot. Laura has met her payments for four years. She'll own the place in another three. Laura had felt all along it was up to her to do something. Her "white folks" visits with he President.

## BATTEN'S CROSS ROADS NEWS

Mr. Richard Garner went to Goldsboro Saturday for treatment.

Mrs. Josephus D. Pittman left Sunday to see her husband, Josephus D. Pittman, who is stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo.

Mr. S. E. Hatcher is still on our sick list.

The twins of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brown have had the chicken pox this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Garner spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Richard Garner.

Mr. Earl Lee also spent Sunday with Mr. Richard Garner.

The many friends of Mr. George Brown are sorry to know that he is also on the sick list.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Will Creech gathered at their home near Selma recently for a dinner honoring their son who is in the Navy.

## Colored Draftees Sent To Fort Bragg Friday

The following is a list of Colored who went to Fort Bragg for physical examination on February 26, 1943.

(Transfers are registrants transferred to other Board for delivery).

Cleveland Cliven Godwin, Princeton; Matthew Williams, Clayton; Preston Hinnant, Middlesex, Rt. 1; Charles Hugh Atkinson, Smithfield, Rt. 2; Eugene Richardson, Pine Level; James Wiggs, Clayton; Jasper Elton Oats, Selma; George Exum, Selma; Edward Cobb Bostic (Transfer) Selma; Gaines Richardson, Clayton; Willie Stowe, Selma; James O'Neal, (Transfer), Selma; Wilbur Reuben Sanders, Clayton; Major Sanders, Jr., Clayton; Paul Willie Wells, Selma; Joe Lynch (Transfer), Selma, Rt. 1; Henry Perry, Princeton; James Matthew William, Kenly; Charles Perry, (Transfer), Selma; Donell Sanders, Smithfield, Rt. 1; Charlie Jones, Selma; Thomas Homer Mozell, Micro; Clifton King, Selma, Rt. 1; Jessie Sanders, Clayton; Elbert Lee Atkinson, Princeton, Rt. 1; Laddie Mangum, Clayton, Rt. 2; Thomas Atkinson, Princeton, Rt. 2; Robert Lee Horton, Clayton, Rt. 2; Walter Caren O'Neal, Jr., Selma; Elisha Calvin Williams, Princeton; Ralph Whitley, Zebulon, Rt. 1; Hubert Leroy Jones, Clayton, Rt. 2; Joe Madison, Selma, Rt. 1; Henry Mayo Smith, Clayton, Rt. 1; Russel Joyner, Princeton; Walter Lee Sanders, Selma; Paul Bledsoe, Wendell, Rt. 1; Jiles Beulah Wiggins, Zebulon, Rt. 2; Mack Millard Scarborough, Zebulon, Rt. 1.

### PINE SEEDLINGS

Ben Nicholson of Johns Creek in Jackson County set about 10,000 pine seedlings five years ago on a steep hill above his cultivated acreage. Six inches of pine needles prevent damage to his crops from washing.

### COTTON

Burl Talbert, 4-H club member in Catawba County, has invested the \$50 in profits which he made from one acre of cotton in a dairy calf, reports Assistant County Agent Jesse F. Giles.

## What You Buy With WAR BONDS

Many of the women of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps are already overseas serving in various capacities to help win the war. The WAACS go through a strenuous training to fit them for the arduous duties they must perform.



A uniform for a WAAC, complete, costs approximately \$170.00. The quartermaster's department must provide thousands of them. Your purchase of War Bonds helps pay for these uniforms. Invest at least ten percent of your income in War Bonds every payday through a Payroll Savings plan at your office or factory.

U. S. Treasury Department

## FARM Questions - Answers

QUESTION: What are the lime requirements of peanuts?

ANSWER: Peanuts need limestone both in the root zone and in the area of the land where the peanuts are forming, says Dr. E. R. Collins, who is in charge of Extension Agronomy at State College. Four hundred pounds of ground dolomitic limestone should be applied in the row and mixed with the soil with a fertilizer distributor. Burned lime, potash lime or gypsum (land plaster) may be applied along the row where needed.

QUESTION: How can I distinguish blue mold in my tobacco bed?

ANSWER: The plants may show various symptoms such as slight wilting, pale-green color, or dead leaves. The presence of gray to blue mold on the lower side of the pale-green or dead leaves is a sure sign of the disease. This symptom distinguishes it from cold injury, frost injury, burn from nitrate of soda, or other conditions sometimes confused with it. If the night temperatures are below 45 degrees or above 65 degrees, the disease does not develop rapidly.

QUESTION: Are all green crops satisfactory for poultry nutrition?

ANSWER: "No" is the answer to this question. R. S. Dearstyne, head of the Poultry Department at N. C. State College, points out that there is a fallacious belief that anything that is green is satisfactory for poultry nutrition. While in the young and growing stages, most green plants probably have some food value, it is also likely that after a certain stage of growth, some of these plants may

### AIR CORPS KATE!



Kate rates wings—says the Air Force! She makes cakes and cookies with RUMFORD—the Baking Powder that assures sky-high quality baking. No alum—no bitter taste. The original baking powder success.

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be highly fibrous and of little food value.

QUESTION: How should eggs be stored?

ANSWER: They should be stored in a cool, fairly moist, well-ventilated place. Moisture is just as necessary as keeping them cool. Both make for retaining good quality. Put them on a concrete floor, which has been sprinkled if possible. The best temperatures for keeping eggs are between 40 and 60 degrees.

### ICE CREAM

A recent food distribution order allocated to ice cream manufacturers about 65 per cent of the total milk solids used last year. It gives a full supply to the armed forces and curtails the civilian supply.

Fourteen Pitt County growers are protecting their hog crop by having 332 head vaccinated against cholera, reports S. C. Winchester, assistant county agent.

# Farmers Welcome

## FARMERS OF JOHNSTON COUNTY

are always welcomed at this market where your hogs always bring Top Market prices.

Here you have no sales fees to pay—no weighing fees taken out of your check—we pay you full prices for every ounce your hogs weigh.

Bring your next load here  
and try our buying method.

## Sampson Livestock Market

Fairgrounds,  
Phone 390-I

Clinton, N. C.  
STACY HONEYCUTT, Mgr.

# 1,000 Bags Feed

We are now prepared to serve  
your needs in the Feed Line

100 lbs. 24 Per cent Dairy	\$2.90
100 lbs. Allmash Grower	3.45
100 lbs. Kasco Laying	3.50
100 lbs. Kasco Pellets	3.55
100 lbs. Allmash Starter	4.00
100 lbs. Chick Grain	3.00
100 lbs. Cracked Yellow Corn	2.80
100 lbs. Mixed Grain	2.75
100 lbs. Flushing Mash	5.00
100 lbs. Pig and Hog Ration	3.35
100 lbs. Farm Feed	2.65

Do not be misled by a few cents difference in the bag of feed. These few cents are the difference in good and poor feed, between failure and success.

If you are in doubt about your feed, drop in and let's talk it over. You cannot afford to take chances with your poultry and live stock now that help is scarce; and do not forget we have those quality Baby Chicks that you have been looking for.

We have a complete line of Salsbury and Russell's Poultry Remedies, with experience to diagnose your case and prescribe for your particular case. "Come In".

We will pay, through Saturday, March 6, 26 1-2c in trade and 25c cash for your hens.

# Pittman's Hatchery

SELMA, N. C.

## MAN GETS 22 MILES PER GALLON WITH VACU-MATIC WHO PREVIOUSLY GOT ONLY 14 MILES



The following testimonial comes from E. L. Biscoe of Selma, Route 2, with regard to his Vacu-Matic:

"I bought a Vacu-Matic for my 1937 Chevrolet, and I checked the gas. I was getting 14 miles on the gallon. Now I get 22 miles on the gallon, and it gives my engine more exceleration. I would not be without it for TEN Times the price if I could not get another one. It does what they say it will do. If your engine is in tune it will save the gas."

You will Save Money by using less gas. You will save yourself from worrying about whether your weekly allowance of gasoline is going to hold out.

Start Saving With a Vacu-Matic On Your Car New supply just received and are on display at the Office of The Johnstonian-Sun in Selma.

E. W. WOMACK, Sales Representative.

## Johnstonian-Sun

Headquarters For Vacu-Matics