

# Along The Way



By Emily Killete

Today the life expectancy of men and women is almost double what it was 100 years ago. Modern medicine has contributed a great deal to extending our life expectancy.

Much research has been done to find cures and treatments for diseases once fatal. And, through medical research people all over the world are healthier. Americans, especially, are eating wiser and more healthful foods which along with the advances in the medical fields create a longer life expectancy.

One of the greatest steps toward better health in Duplin was made almost 30 years ago when a county hospital opened in Kenansville. The move to build a hospital created a much-needed service of local medical assistance for county people and at the same time provided new jobs for Duplin citizens.

The hospital was a long-awaited project and the roots were first planted by the early physicians in the Duplin area. Along the Way has been featuring articles about the early physicians in Duplin and the surrounding area. The series continues this week with a look at Mount Olive doctors who served parts of Duplin. The articles about the early physicians appeared first in the February 24, 1955 issue of THE DUPLIN TIMES. The following re- and was written by Mrs. H.M. Cox of Mount Olive.

### Mount Olive Doctors Who Have Served Parts of Duplin Since the Civil War

Dr. Benjamin Cobb seems to be the first physician to have practiced in this immediate area, and he lived in Duplin County about three miles east of Mount Olive. He came from Wilmington, his wife was the former Winnie Loftin of near Mount Olive, and they built a fine home and developed beautiful gardens around it. The main part of the house is still standing. I rather think that he practiced during and immediately after the War between the States.

Others in the order of their coming were Dr. Gid Roberts; Dr. Samuel Bryce Flowers, a native of Wayne County; Dr. Wellington Faison, then Dr. Julius Faison, both of Faison; Dr. M. McTatum, who came from Bladen County and practiced over a large area for many years; Dr. William Kornegay and Dr. Leonard

### DID YOU KNOW?

What is multiple sclerosis (MS)? Many people are confused. Yet it's one of the most common central nervous system diseases among young adults in the U.S., with 200 new cases reported each week. Here are some facts you should know:

- At least 250,000 Americans have multiple sclerosis. It's a disease of the brain and spinal cord that interferes with the brain's ability to control such functions as seeing, walking or talking.

- Multiple sclerosis is not a mental illness. It is not contagious. It is not preventable or curable—yet.

- Billions of dollars are spent each year on medical expenses and special services. Lost productivity adds to the financial toll. It's estimated that all medical costs and future earning losses amount to about \$21 billion for this one disease.

- According to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS), scientists have three theories about what might cause MS—virus attack, immune reaction or a combination of the two. Work continues in the areas of immunology, virology and genetics.

- According to Vice Admiral Thor Hanson, president of NMSS, each dollar invested in health research for diseases such as MS is estimated to have produced \$13 in savings from benefits such as reduced incidence of illness and medical costs.

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Kinston, and Dr. Milton Lownes, of Philadelphia; Dr. Maurice Coutouier of Chapel Hill was here recently for about two years but went away for further study. And, I must not overlook Dr. T. Monte Rivera, a Puerto Rican doctor, who is still here. And one time he had a small hospital and a large practice, but he has not been very active for the past few years.

The list of the doctors that are practicing here at the present time follows: Drs. Henderson, Crumpler, Shackelford, Lownes, and J.E. Cooke, who has recently become associated with Dr. Crumpler in the

Henderson-Crumpler Clinic. The real old-timers are Drs. Cobb, the Roberts, Flowers, the Faisons, and Tatum.

Last week one of Duplin's most dedicated historians came into the office with a book he had compiled of names of Duplin places. Sonny Sikes has spent many years putting the book together and digging into records to locate and define the names of Duplin places. The book is out and on sale at the newspaper office. The cost is \$20 at the office and \$21 through the mail — money will be well spent. The book

would make a perfect gift for the hard-to-please or the history buff in your family!

DUPLIN COUNTY PLACES: PAST AND PRESENT was originally meant to be a guide to assist the genealogists, but it turned out to be more. Included in the book are names and locations, and their origins when known, for watercourses, communities, river sites, land routes, ponds and lakes, bridges and fords, bays and marshes and other places that do not fall into any of the previous groups.

The book includes information and pictures — for instance, did you

know that the North East Cape Fear River was once used by riverboats? A photograph of one of the riverboats docked at Chinquapin is included in the book. Information about Duplin's plantation sites, the many produce auction sheds, railroads, lumber and milling, the incorporation of towns and early settlements can be found in the book.

Do not miss this opportunity to become better acquainted with Duplin's past and the people who molded it into the county we know today! Do not miss Duplin County Places: Past and Present.

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