

Many Antiques Found In State

Unique Furniture All Over Western Part Of North Carolina Is Valuable.

(By MRS. JOHN IZARD)

"I wonder if you can tell me what is typical of this section of North Carolina in the way of antiques?" This question I asked Mrs. Stella Roberts, whom I found in her quaint and attractive home a few miles from Fletcher, built on land for which they have the original grant.

"Well," said Mrs. Roberts, "pioneers rarely have much space for furniture and the early settlers in North Carolina were no exception to the rule. A great many of them came from Virginia and Ohio in ox carts and probably the best piece of furniture they brought with them was the so called blanket 'chairs,' which was made of oak or pine, sometimes elaborately carved, and in which were packed their most valuable possessions.

"Once settled on the land they made their own crude furniture. The bed held an important and conspicuous position as an article of furnishing. This was crudely made with low turned posts and put together with rope cords. It was high off the floor to allow room for the trundle bed with wooden wheels, for the children to sleep on. This was rolled each morning beneath the larger bed and so took up no extra space in the room. Houses had few rooms and a bed was often put in the hallway or living room." Mrs. Roberts told of one old man who resented having his bed taken out of the living room. He said a bed is a good looking piece of furniture and dresses off a room.

Other Furniture.

"There were split bottom chairs made of white oak and hickory but benches were more common. Long tables with benches on each side constituted the dining room equipment and the children used three-legged stools. There were corner cupboards in many of the cabins. Tin sconces were used to hold the home made candles. These candles were made of beef tallow and moulded in tin moulds. Pine candle stands were used, too, and these are much in demand now by collectors of early American furniture. No mahogany was used, the furniture was made of walnut, cherry, hickory and pine. The hardware on early pieces was made by hand, forged by the country blacksmith.

"Cooking was done entirely in the fireplace. There was always a crane for iron kettles. Iron trivets served to keep the food warm. Other pieces of culinary equipment were: iron toasters, small waffle irons on handles which went into the fire, and iron tongs. Pewter plates were used and later tin plates took place among the poorer people."

Later on travel became somewhat more common and we find a record of the itinerant cabinet maker. Many of the best pieces to be found in this section are attributed to these craftsmen, some of whom received their training from the celebrated cabinet makers of the north. "For instance," said Mrs. Roberts pointing to a very handsome corner cupboard which is in her dining room, "that was made on my father's farm by a journeyman. It is made of cherry and you will notice the lighter inlay particularly, which is of holly. Old Mr. Westfelt brought over a Swiss cabinet maker and he made a number of beautiful copies of old English pieces. Out on the porch is a table which he made. While not quite comparable in skill, many a plantation boasted of one or more slave cabinet makers and some of the furniture we find was made by them.

"Every summer the Blakes used to drive through from Charleston to Newport, Rhode Island, in coaches. Stopping here they were attracted by the very fine climate and this led to the starting of a summer settlement at Flat Rock and incidentally to the bringing in of some very handsome pieces of English furniture by Charlestonians. Many beautiful pieces also found their way here from Virginia.

"There were no clocks or glass made in this part of the country. The clocks were mostly made in New England and sold by peddlers and the glass was made in Sandwich, Mass.

"One of the feminine crafts was quilt making and we find in this section many beautiful quilts. Lovely woven coverlets were made, too, and in many cases the materials were grown, spun into thread or yarn, dyed and woven by the housewife. She was most skillful in making vegetable dyes and throughout the year these colors have retained their luster and brilliancy. One of the prized possessions of the housewife was the spinning wheel and today we find some beautiful examples of this useful machine. In the mountain sections at the present time you can purchase hooked rugs and coverlets made by mountain women in the same patterns and by the same methods as their forebears used generations ago.

Capital City Comment

Washington.—As a rule, Washington is more or less in a state of coma during each period of absence of its activity-inspiring law makers. Furthermore, it is aroused with difficulty from this lethargic condition. However, this particular season of congressional inertia has been so prolific as a producer of brain-storming events that the Capital's usual deep sleep has been cut up into cat-naps, with harrowing dreams at that. We have had our weekly sensation—sometimes more than one of them.

This week's bomb was exploded by Mr. George W. Wickersham, chairman of President Hoover's recently created crime commission. There is no novelty in the letter about prohibition which Wickersham sent to the conference of governors at New London. Many times such a division as he suggests between federal enforcement and state enforcement has been advanced. This time, however, it comes not from a private citizen but from the head of the law enforcement commission appointed by the president. This fact is what makes the letter so sensational. From various sources it has been given as many interpretations. It is said by some that it will confirm the fears which the anti-Saloon League had at the time of Mr. Wickersham's selection by Mr. Hoover that his heart is not really in the cause, that he is weak-kneed about the prohibition law and its enforcement, and that his nomination by the president was one more sign that prohibition was about to be betrayed in the house of its professed friends.

However, as this is being written there has been no comment from the anti-Saloon League, while Deets W. Fickett, of the Methodist board of temperance and public morals, said that in general Mr. Wickersham reflected the views of his organization. He thought it unlikely, however, that his organization would sanction any modification of the Volstead act without pretty good guaranty that prohibition enforcement might not be weakened, even inadvertently, thereby. He felt that Mr. Wickersham merely proposed a "readjustment" of state and federal laws.

No comment was forthcoming from the White House, but Prohibition Commissioner Doran and Seymour Lowman, assistant secretary of the treasury in charge of prohibition, approved the sentiments expressed by Mr. Wickersham for active cooperation by the states in enforcement. Neither would comment, however, on other phases of the letter pending closer examination.

It is said that Mr. Wickersham has merely thrown out a suggestion, but it would seem to have the potentialities of a bombshell, the explosion of which will echo for many months. His suggestion is made directly to the states. The duty of the states is to make a candid and full response.

To Eliminate Abuse Of Power By Middleman.

Much has been said on the subject of the plans for farm relief; but it has been largely by way of generalities. It is thought that Alexander Legge, chairman of the new board, came the nearest to hitting the nail on the head when he announced that the first policy agreed upon by the new board was that of building up cooperatives to bring greater profits to the producer without increasing prices to the consumer. In other words, abuse of power by the middleman is to be made a much more difficult undertaking.

It is said by those in position to know that in localities tributary to the larger cities potatoes have been

bought "by the acre," before sprouting, with never a hoe used on the patch; that apples have been bought "by the tree," before the blossoms fell, and then permitted to rot on the tree or ground; that ship-loads of salt-water fish have been brought into harbors, the cargoes purchased and then dumped back into the ocean; that train-loads of fruit from the southland arrive at destination in the north only to be side-tracked for consignment to the dump-heap luxuries which would otherwise be available at moderate prices. Why? Manifestly because an adequate supply of any of these commodities would force lower prices to the consumer and forestall excessive and undesired profits to the middleman. Does the producer realize any move for his toil and effort? Foolish question. Mr. Middleman pockets the unearned and unjustified—or worse—tax on the consumer. It would seem to be about time the screws were put to that gentleman's activities.

Mr. Legge holds no theories as yet for the rehabilitation of agriculture, but he had clearly defined notion of the method the board will follow.

"What we farmers must learn," he observed, "is do collective thinking to solve our problems. A lot of fellows think the reason big business gets results is because big business has a lot of money. But the real reason is that big business has a lot of men in its organization who sit around a table and do collective thinking, and out of these conferences big business works out its problems."

Making Quack Doctoring Difficult.
P. T. Barnum is said to have been the first to remark that "there is a sucker born every minute." However, it is probable that the great showman himself did not dream that so many "suckers" could be so far steeped in stupidity as to say their very lives—to palpable quacks.

However, the mail order "doctors" have fallen upon evil days. With their "sure cures" for every ill to which flesh is heir, from dandruff to cancer of the liver, these ignorant and unscrupulous preys upon the sick and hopeless are finding it more and more difficult to conceal their advertising that it will not attract the watchful eyes of post office inspectors.

Recent fraud orders have put many of the boldest, most blatant and most ridiculous out of business. Post office inspectors frequently pose as patients, obtain samples of the "medicines," submit them to the Bureau of chemistry for analysis, and proceed to cut short the business careers of the quacks after hearings.

Occasionally an unscrupulous physician is found involved in some of these cases, but as a rule the "doctors" have no medical training whatsoever. The advertising is so ridiculous that it might be wondered how it attracts any customer. Investigations show, however, these businesses are immensely profitable, drawing their orders from the poor and ignorant.

Their Wives Are Busy.
Hastening to Washington to tackle the agricultural problem, members of the farm board have left their wives behind them. This developed when President Hoover, after meeting with the newly-organized board, invited the members to have dinner with himself and Mrs. Hoover at the White House. He added that if the members had their wives here they should bring them to dinner. There was a moment of silence. The

Music Dowager and Her Proteges



Madame Schumann-Heink returning to Europe with three young American singers, left to right, Miss Ellen Weekes of New York, Miss Grace Ellen Hopkins of Kansas City, Mo., and Miss Mary Rose Barrons of Kansas City, Mo. She will launch them on their careers in German opera houses. Two of the diva's grandchildren, Charlotte Guy, left inset, and Barbara Schumann-Heink, right inset, accompanied the group. (International Newsreel)

members looked questioningly at each other around the cabinet table, and then announced unanimously they were not accompanied by their wives.

Mr. Huston Hears Call.
Here is a bit of information which at this writing has not found its way into the columns of the daily press. From the most dependable sources comes the whispered announcement that Claudius H. Huston, of Tennessee, will succeed Dr. Hubert Work as chairman of the National Republican committee upon the latter's retirement in September.

Mr. Huston has never held public office other than that of assistant secretary of commerce under Mr. Hoover. He resides in Chattanooga and has been something of a storm-center in his state for years. He has been chairman of the board of the Transcontinental Oil company, but is said to have sold his holdings in that corporation in view of the forthcoming demands upon his time and energies.

STATE CAVALRY IS BEING TRAINED
Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.—The North Carolina National Guard Cavalry units in training at Fort Ogle-



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thorpe have become adjusted to the routine of camp life. For a week now the program of intensive training mapped out for the guard by regular United States Army instructors has been followed, and it is beginning to show results. The troops are proving themselves good soldiers and to a man seem to have determined to obtain the most possible good from the period of training.

The consensus of opinion among the officers of the regiment is that this camp promises to be the best ever attended by North Carolina.

According to census figures, out of 100,000 white women 78,207 eventually marry.

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My head is nearly bursting—I live in Misery Flat.
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I owe a tailor something. The gas bill isn't paid. And now my grocer'll have to wait. I'm very much afraid!
I've overdrawn my bank account—I'm in an awful stew.
But I am very thankful for The bills that aren't due! Calamity has hit me
In every place it could. I haven't an experience That's really any good. And yet when all is stated In language short and terse, I'm really very grateful that It isn't any worse—H. E. Homer in Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Behind Time.

St. Peter was interviewing the fair damsel at the pearly gate. "Did you, while on earth," he asked, "indulge in necking, petting, smoking, drinking or dancing?" "Never!" she retorted, emphatically.
"Then why haven't you reported sooner?" said Peter. "You've been dead a long time!"



A HEART TO HEART TALK

with Junior's teacher often brings out cold facts. A fond papa asked the teacher if his boy showed any special aptitude for work and was told: "I think so; I'm not sure however whether he will make a sculptor or a baseball player; he is unerring in his aim with paper wads, but the condition of the top of his desk convinces me that he can carve with considerable facility!"

Here's a few cold facts: SINCLAIR gas and OPALINE oil will withstand even the most critical test as to their quality and purity. They are the product of exhaustive research and experimentation. To specify these products is to display good judgment and correct inclination.

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STATE QUITS LIST OF BACKWARD STATES
Washington.—North Carolina has never had a federal survey of women in industry, as several other Southern states have had, but it has acquired a good reputation in another respect. It is no longer one of a half-dozen Southern states without workmen's compensation act.

The current release of the United States department of labor relative to women in industry everywhere carries the cheering news that North Carolina has pulled itself out of the class of backward states.
Only four states—Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi and South Carolina—now remain without a workmen's compensation act.

THINK!

Detroit, Michigan, is the automobile center of the world—it has held this distinction, steadily, for many years.

A large percentage of Detroit's population are skilled workers who know the real worth of an automobile. They are first to recognize built-in value, and to distinguish the real fundamentals of QUALITY which make a car worth the price it sells for.

In May, 1925, a new high record was made when 6,518 Model "T" Ford cars and trucks were sold in Wayne County, (Detroit) Michigan. This record was then considered "THE WONDER OF THE AUTOMOBILE WORLD." Over 6,000 Ford cars sold in one county in one month!

That was exactly four years ago. Today, Detroit's workers are more highly skilled than ever before, due to the searching light of modern progress. They are even quicker than ever to recognize THE ONE OUTSTANDING VALUE in today's modern automobile.

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