

# Weekly Perspective

## Looking back

by VIRGINIA WHITE  
TRANSEAU  
NOVEMBER 1942

**SMALLEST VOTE IN YEARS HIGHLIGHT OF ELECTION HELD HERE TUESDAY:** In what is believed to be the lightest vote ever cast in Perquimans County, voters went to the polls on Tuesday to elect the entire Democratic ticket. Many persons, those who ordinarily stop in at the Courthouse on election night to get the returns, were disappointed Tuesday because the reports were returned so quickly that the results were known before 8:30, with the exception of New Hope Township, which has not reported up to late Wednesday afternoon.

However, it is known that approximately twenty voters cast their ballots in that precinct. The total number of votes cast in Perquimans at the Tuesday election was only three hundred. Little interest was shown in the election and in the only contest which saw Senator Josiah Bailey running against his Republican opponent, Sam Morris. Bailey received 263 votes to Morris' 14.

On the Democratic ticket for county office, Sheriff J. Emmett Winslow polled 255 votes; W.H. Pitt, for clerk of court, received 255; W.W. White, representative, received 246; Charles E. Johnson received 249 for Judge of Recorder's Court; Jacob White, candidate for Treasurer, received 250, and Dr. C.A. Davenport, coroner, 247 votes. For county commissioner R. Tim Brinn received 244 votes; E.U. Morgan 246 votes; E.M. Perry, 246 votes; L.L. Winslow, 250 votes; and Charles E. White 246 votes. The election throughout the nation held little interest for the people in general and the voting was reported light in all sections.

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT:** Mr. and Mrs. Wallie Knight, of Norfolk, announce the birth of a daughter, born Saturday, Oct. 24. Mrs. Knight is the former Miss Sallie B. Wood, of Snow Hill.

**ANNOUNCES MARRIAGE:** Mrs. A.A. Nobles announces the marriage of her daughter, Miss Louise Frezell, to Ralph Lane, son of Mrs. Lucille Lane, Elizabeth City. The marriage took place on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 1942 in South Mills.

## Durants Neck was first impression

When the Perquimans County Commissioners created townships in 1868, they combined the old Little River District and Durants Neck District into New Hope Township. Its bounds include Suttons Creek, Perquimans River, Albemarle Sound, and Little River.

Third of the public meeting places was the home of Richard Sanderson, also on Little River, where the legislature of 1715 revised North Carolina's laws.

The oldest building still standing in the township is the house built by Joseph Sutton in the second quarter of the eighteenth century east of the Creek along which his family had settled in the 1660s.

The Sutton, Godfrey, and Barclift families have lived in the township for three centuries, illustrating a continuity of residence which is a peculiar feature of Perquimans County.

As the part of the county where large plantations were common, New Hope Township has many fine ante bellum homes. Those built by James Leigh, Richard Leigh, James Whedbee, John H. Blount, Thomas Newby, Elizabeth Clayton, and Josiah T. Granbery all exemplify the wealth and taste of earlier ages.

The township takes its name from the oldest Methodist Church in Perquimans. New Hope Church was organized in 1809 by persons who had been inspired by Bishop Francis Asbury's preaching in the vicinity in 1799 and 1804.

The mercantile center which developed near the church boasted numerous stores, and nearby Pleasant Grove Academy was an election poll prior to the Civil War. The post office there, called Durants Neck, has handled mail for over a century and a half.

A post office called Jacocks was located near Pleasant Valley farm from 1894 to 1911.

At the northeastern corner of the township, the village of Woodville grew around the Little River Friends Meeting House. Probably named for William Wood, the community had an academy, a Methodist church, and a temperance hall before 1850. Its post office was in operation from about 1830 until 1910.

From Indian village sites to pioneer settlements to Greek revival mansions, New Hope Township is rich in history.



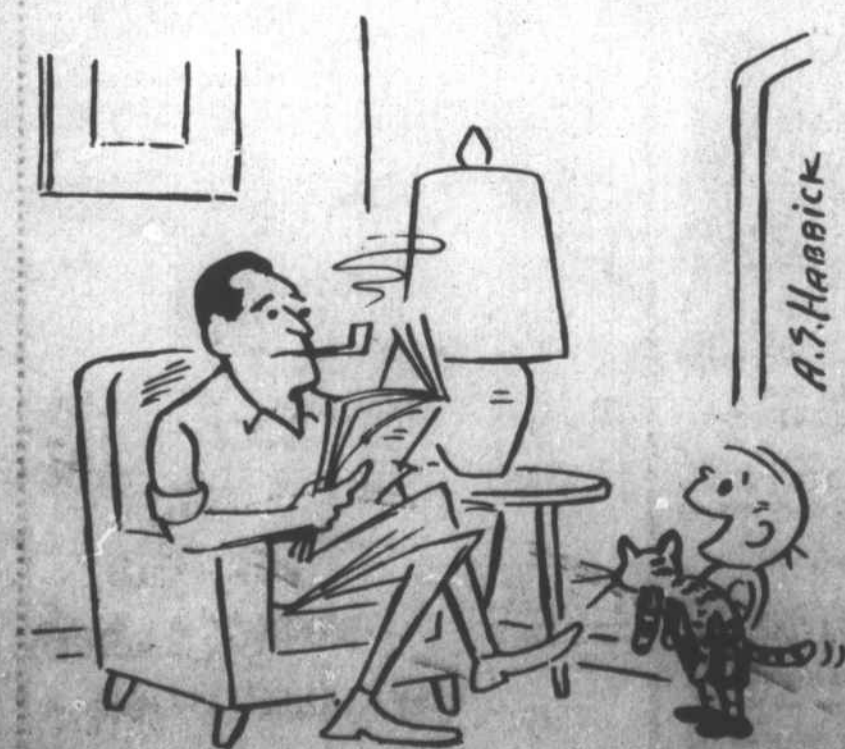
Ray Winslow

Durants Neck was the first part of the county to be seen by European explorers and the first to attract permanent settlers. In about 1660, George Durant left Virginia to settle in the neck of land between Little River and Albemarle Sound.

Durant purchased land from the King of the Yeopim Indians in August of 1661 and March of 1662. The purchase has passed into legend in Perquimans, with many distortions of the facts becoming widely circulated. Durant's deed is not the oldest in North Carolina, as formerly thought; that distinction belongs to Nathaniel Batts' deed of September, 1660. The Yeopim King was not named Kilcoacanen; phonetic study suggests "Kiskitano" is a spelling more representative of the original name.

Higher courts and the General Assembly frequently met in New Hope Township prior to 1716. Three sites were often used. One was the home of Diana Harris Foster White near Awosake or Muddy Creek, which was also one of the earliest taverns in the county.

The second popular meeting place was the home of Elizabeth Godfrey Hecklefield on Little River. This dwelling house was briefly called the "General Court House" at the beginning of the eighteenth century.



A.S. HARRICK

"I bought her for a nickel, pop. What does 'pregnant' mean?"



## The big answer was due last week

There had been months of speculation in the media and from Joe on the street as well.

All of us had our favorite candidate, though most of us were willing to confess that each of them had their drawbacks.

We wondered whether so and so was just too wishy-washy to get the job done. Another candidate was played up to be so mean that some of us didn't know whether he was up to the task or not. We thought perhaps the job required more subtlety than this particular character possessed.

And this other guy. Sure, he had some good ideas, but we weren't certain that he could translate his lofty pronouncements into action.

No matter which candidate we thought was best suited for the task, though, last week we were to get our answer. Like it or not, we would have to live with whomever the television camera zoomed in on as the person who had actually translated candidacy into action.

Out of the pomp and pageantry was to emerge the man who... SHOT J.R. But of course it could have been a woman.

Anyway, they were supposed to tell us last week as the grand finale of presidential election week and they didn't. Some of us "Dallas" fans are mad about it too.

The only question that had intrigued me as much as who shot J.R. was, who was going to be our next president?

Here I had waited through a long hot summer, a presidential primary and an actors' strike, and they didn't even let the cat out of the bag on the opening night of the new season.

Needless to say I was extremely disappointed.

It's enough to make me want to trade in my television set for a pair of knitting needles. But I know I can't do that. Dallas is on again tonight and they might tell us who-dunnit.

Then again they may never tell us who shot J.R.

If they do finally tell us, though, which I doubt because if they did America would stop watching the show, I predict that the attempted murderer will become a national hero.

He might even get the Democratic nomination for president in 1964 — if he doesn't get a life sentence.

In any event, I'm convinced that history will treat J.R.'s attempted murderer better than will our court system.

But if he does happen to get the presidential nomination after he gets out of jail, he just might get my vote, even if he turns out to be a girl.

Why not? He's got all the qualifications. He's a professional actor.

When revealed, the person who put a temporary restraining order on the dastardly deeds of J.R. Ewing will be richly rewarded — so much so, that going into government work will be a step down for him, just like Ronald Reagan said it ought to be.



Mike McLaughlin

## Facing South

a syndicated column:  
voices of tradition  
in a changing region

**LAFAYETTE, GA.** — At the Strawberry Mountain Medical Center, the doctor is always in, though not necessarily in the office. Sometimes he is in the garden.

Why would a doctor want to leave a lucrative family practice in cosmopolitan Atlanta to end up in a rural office almost a mile down a dirt road in the northwest Georgia mountains, thirteen miles from the nearest town?

The answer is obvious to Eldon Hoose, M.D., general practitioner, country doctor and proprietor of the Strawberry Mountain Medical Center. In an urban place like Atlanta, too many people want to see the doctor, which means the doctor can't spend enough time with each patient, which often means the patient is unhappy and goes to still another doctor, and the vicious cycle accelerates.

Over the past 10 years of his career, Hoose says he has developed a gradual dissatisfaction with the "system" of U.S. medicine. He has no quarrel with his fellow doctors; he believes most are professionally competent and up-to-date.

"But a doctor gets into a situation with such demand on his services that his practice and his hospital work pretty well guide what he does with his life. The demand is for acute medical care and the system is one in which he has little control," Hoose says.

For Hoose, opening a rural practice was a way to gain control over both his profession and his own life.

Winona Cochran is the Strawberry Mountain Medical Center's receptionist, lab technician, bookkeeper and nurse. She is also a 50 percent partner in the

practice. And she is the doctor's wife.

The met while both worked in the emergency room of a hospital. She says she didn't like him at first, but he was the best doctor she had ever worked with. Pretty soon, somewhere between the sponges and the forceps, more was sewed up than the patient.

If the Hooses wanted a slower pace, they have been rewarded so far. In the first four days after the office opened last year, they had a total of five patients. Business has picked up some now, but there are still days when the doctor and nurse do more waiting than the patients.

Of course the office is not in a high-traffic location. To get there you drive east from LaFayette, over the mountain ridge into West Armuchee Valley, turn at the Strawberry Mountain Medical sign (the doctor made it himself) and drive down the tree-canopied dirt road.

But Hoose says he knew business would be slow at first. "I may have to be here three years before the people build up enough confidence in me to accept what we are trying to do — improve on the system somewhat."

Hoose believes in preventive medicine, and that concept depends heavily on the patient's confidence and acceptance of the doctor's advice.

"Diseases like cancer, hypertension, obesity, heart disease and diabetes are preventable and controllable. When you concentrate on getting people healthy and keeping them that way, you decrease

both their illness time and their recovery time.

"Basically, my focus is toward preventing people from getting so sick they have to go to a hospital. We doctors aren't taught much about healthy people. We're 'medical doctors.' We spend 98 percent of our time studying illness and sickness and how to take care of it."

In preventive medicine, Hoose says, "You spend most of your time explaining to people what they are going to do to help themselves."

Hoose believes his rural slower-paced practice will allow him more time with each patient. This is important because he says, "The more time you spend with people, the more effect you will have on them."

Hoose's approach is unfamiliar to many. "Our very first patient came in and said, 'What's preventive medicine?' and I said, 'It's nothing fancy. Just nutrition, exercise and ecological awareness of our bodies and what our lifestyles and living conditions are doing to them.'"

Adds nurse Cochran, "We want to have enough time to work with each patient, to explain why, if we tell them to drink six glasses of water a day, that water is going to help their systems and make them feel better. Our practice is slow right now, but we don't want more than 25 to 30 patients a day."

At the Strawberry Mountain Medical Center, it means, too much success will be considered failure.

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