

PERSPECTIVE

"Places Roundabout"

If you want to acquaint yourself with some of the finer places here in the Tar Heel State, simply spend a few moments

Religion enters the picture with: Christian Creek, Church Island, Moses Knob and Parson's Branch, as do people themselves with: Betty McGee's Creek, Cathey Cove, Dennis Crossroads and Daniel Ridge, just for starters.

Now for trees. We've got Oakdale, Pineridge, Holley Grove and Cypress Point just to begin mentioning. Sometimes you think you've picked up the wrong map entirely when you are greeted by such names as: California, Canadian Top, Cuba, Egypt, Holland, Japan and Naples.

While all these names are different from those we might be more familiar with, even more interesting is just how some of them were finally acquired. Take, for instance, a place over in Ralldolph County called "Whynot." The gazetteer explains that a group of local citizens of the 19th century met to select a name. Many suggestions were heard... "why not name it for so-and-so?" In desperation, someone finally proposed they name it "Whynot" and it was so done. I guess they just got tired of bickering about it, folks.

Far be it for a hunter not to have at least one finger in this naming business. Over in Macon County there's a place where hunters used to leave unwashed cooking utensils in camp and return to find that they had been licked clean by dogs or other animals. Hence the name, Lickskillet.

While we're on the subject, let's not bypass the crossroads community in Wake County named by a passing observer who saw many lizards sunning and licking themselves on a rail fence. Haven't guessed yet? Name's Lizard Lick.

Bertie County boasts a place called "Trap" so named because a local tavern in the 1860's "trapped" men of the community... according to the wives. Pitt County is not outdone with "Toddy," ac-

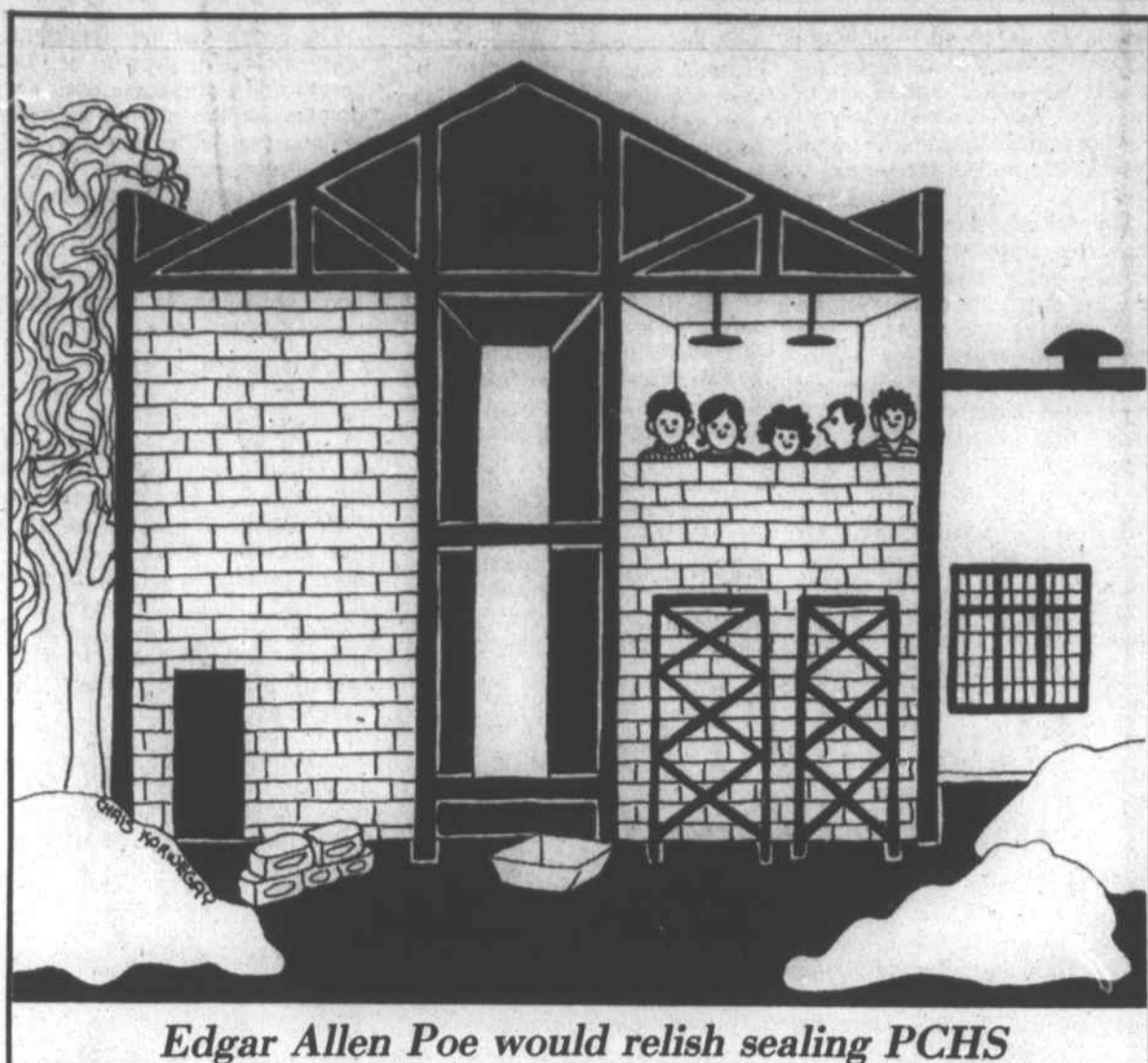
quired in the early 20th century after it was discovered that a drink of whiskey could be had at a local store, with little effort.

Black Ankle, in Randolph County, is so named because bootleggers operating there during Prohibition started fires over a large area when they were operating a still so that officers of the law could not find the still. Those stillers were said to have black ankles from walking through the ashes of old fires in order to start new ones. Smart fellows. However, Black Ankle, in Robeson County, acquired its name from the fact that a plowman's ankles would be black after plowing in this soil there.

The Yancey County community of Possomtrot didn't stand a chance. An early settler dutifully dubbed it that when he was riding down a trail on horseback and a lone possum entered the path ahead of him and trotted along in front of the horse for some distance. Creative, won't he?

Spoonwater Creek, in Person County, is legened to be named that due to its being so shallow that anyone wanting water from it would have to use a spoon to dip it up. Before 1881, local residents could see the sunshine on the top of the mountain in Rutherford County, so they just called their little community, Sunshine. Because the sun rose suddenly from behind a mountain ridge, a community in Haywood County call their place, Sunburst.

If you've always wondered how a place got to be called Pig Basket Creek, Tally Ho, Welcome, Calico, or Stinking Quarter Creek, reach for the nearest NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTEER by William S. Powell. There's usually a perfectly sensible reason for some mighty preposterous names. Believe me. I had some fun with it myself while I was learning.



Edgar Allen Poe would relish sealing PCHS

Woe predicted for New Year

I did something last week that I rarely do. I read my horoscope. I was sitting around with nothing much to do, so I picked up this magazine and started thumbing



through it. I came to this pull-out section called "Your 1986 Horoscope" or something like that. It should have been called a 'Horror-Scope' if it gives any true insight into the coming year.

I've never been quite so glad that I didn't believe in horoscopes as I was when I finished reading what was

predicted for little ole me in 1986. Believe me folks, it's the pits.

My downfall is to begin in January and steadily gets worse. I thought 1985 held enough undesirable events to last a lifetime; but it was a Sunday afternoon picnic in comparison to what the stars have planned for me in 1986.

You'd think that turning 30 next December would be enough, but with all the things that article says I have coming up this year, turning 30 probably won't even phase me.

First off the article stated that January would bring me financial ruin. Can't be so. Christmas did that already.

Later on in the year I'm to lose my husband. I've not been able to get away from him for more than a day or so in 13 years, and believe me I've tried everything, so I don't think I'll sit around and

worry about losing him for good this year.

Next I'm supposed to lose the respect of my children. Can you believe that? Michael is fast approaching those adolescent years, so it's only expected that he won't display parental respect, don't you think?

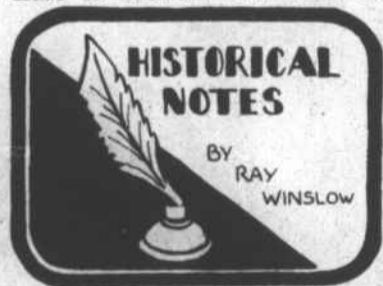
My job is the next to go. Oh well, I've often wondered how the other half lives.

In the fall I'm to leave the country. If I don't know anything else, I sincerely believe this will not happen. To leave the country requires inoculations. I do not take shots. No way. No time. No how.

In December things are looking up. In addition to turning 30 I'm to find the love of my life. I have three - my husband, my children, and my job. I guess come 1987 I'll have everything I ever wanted back again. Happy New Year!

Craven name honors one of Lord's Proprietors

A North Carolina county still bears the name Craven in honor to one of the original Lords Proprietors for Carolina, William, Earl of Craven. Born in 1606



Craven was a son of a Lord Mayor of London. Young William may have attended Oxford, but he became a soldier at the age of sixteen and his accomplishments brought him a knighthood in 1627.

Craven joined the nobility as Baron Craven of Hampstead-Marshall, Berkshire. He was soon sent to Germany as a military commander endeavoring to regain the Bohemian throne for this king's sister. (It was rumored in later years that

Craven may even have married the sometime queen.) He remained in that unfortunate queen's service for many years, even spending two years as a prisoner of war on her behalf.

It was not only with personal service that Craven aided the Stuarts. As Charles I battled Parliament, Craven gave the king as much as fifty thousand pounds, and enormous sum. After Charles I batted Parliament, Craven gave the king as much as fifty thousand pounds, an enormous sum. After Charles was beheaded, Craven offered his services to the king's son, heir, and namesake. For this Craven suffered the confiscation of much of his English property.

The younger Charles eventually became king and his return to England brought Craven with him. The loyal supporter became a lieutenant general, colonel of several regiments, lord lieutenant of Middlesex and Southwark, and privy councillor, and he received the additional titles Viscount Craven of Uff-

ington and Earl of Craven.

Whether he ever recovered his money advanced to the crown, Craven did receive a fine gift of land when he was created one of the Carolina proprietors in 1663. He would outlive all his fellow proprietors in 1663. He would outlive all his fellow proprietors and many of the early land grants in North Carolina begin their texts with his name.

Craven was apparently too busy to marry, and it is recorded that he spent many hours fighting fires, especially in the Great Fire of London in 1665. His horse reputedly became so accustomed to the work that he headed for the scene at the first smell of smoke.

Craven lost his position in government when he stuck with the hopeless cause of King James II a bit too long and tarried in accepting William and Mary as England's sovereigns.

The Earl of Craven died on April 9, 1697, and his share of Carolina was inherited by a grandnephew.

Every day offers opportunity for New Year's resolution

It's normal this time of year to take a few moments and list our hopes and expectations for the coming year. We "resolve" to make changes in our life that



should be an improvement. Usually, this resolve lasts less than the first month.

Perhaps if we looked at tomorrow in the proper perspective, there would be no reason for resolutions. Every day we greet the beginning of a new year, and offers new opportunities. January 1 simply offers us a new calendar year.

The number of days we have in when they appear on the calendar is as important as what we do with the day we are living in. I read the following recently, and believe the wisdom can provide a very valuable guide for each of us as we begin the new day:

Today is here. I will begin with a smile and resolve to be agreeable, no matter how difficult it may be. I will not criticize. I refuse to waste the

valuable time God has given me. Today has the one thing in which I know I am equal with others...time. All of us draw the same salary in seconds, minutes, and hours.

Today I will not waste time because the minutes I wasted yesterday are lost as a vanished thought.

Today I refuse to spend time worrying about what might happen. I am going to spend my time making things happen.

Today I am determined to study to improve myself, for tomorrow I may be needed, and I must not be found lacking.

Today I begin by doing, and not wasting my time. In one week I will be miles beyond the person I am today.

Today I will not imagine what I would do if things were different. They are different. I will make a success with what materials I have.

Today I will stop saying, "if I find time," for anything. If I want time I must make it.

Today I will act toward other people as though this will be my last day on earth. I will not wait or wait for tomorrow. Tomorrow never comes.

I've always felt I was a realistic individual. I've attempted to look at things in the proper perspective, never expecting too much. I realize we are all human

and no single person is going to meet every day with the perfect attitude. But we can take steps to improve ourselves and a positive attitude will make every day a bit easier. I'm going to try to make this my guide for the coming year, which is every day I live.

The longer we live, the more we realize the subtle difference between holding a hand and chaining a soul; and that love doesn't mean leaning.

We learn that company doesn't mean security and we begin to realize kisses aren't contracts. We learn presents aren't promises. We begin to accept our defeats with our heads up and our eyes open, with the grace of an adult, not the grief of a child.

We learn to build our roads on today, because tomorrow's ground is too uncertain and futures have a way of falling down in mid-flight. After a while we learn that even sunshine burns if we get too much.

So we plant our own garden and decorate our own soul. We don't wait on someone else to bring the flowers. We learn we really can endure, that we are really strong, that we really play an important role in life around us. That's the only way it is.

Letter to the Editor

Perquimans Weekly Editor, Include people on your new year resolutions list!

This is an excellent time of the year to renew our efforts to establish and maintain meaningful relationships with those we live and work with, neighbors included.

Here are ten commandments (suggestions) for living with people to consider as the new year begins:

1. Speak to people/Nothing is as nice as a cheerful greeting;
2. Smile at people/It takes 72 muscles to frown; 14 to smile;
3. Call people by name/The sweetest sound is one's own name;
4. Be friendly and helpful. If you want friends, be one;
5. Be cordial. Speak and act in such a way as to demonstrate

that everything you do is a genuine pleasure;

6. Be genuinely interested in people/Just try, and you can learn to love almost everyone;

7. Be generous with praise. Be courteous with criticism;

8. Be considerate of others. There are often three sides to a controversy: yours, his or hers' and the right side.

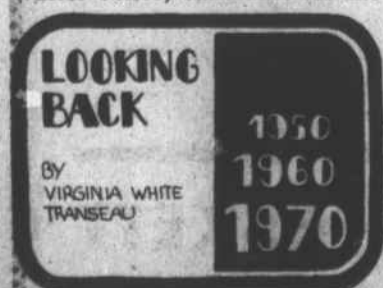
9. Be alert to give help. What we do for others' lives is immortal.

10. Add to all of this a good sense of humor, loads of patience, and a dash of humility, and you will be rewarded manifold.

May all of you have a blessed and prosperous New Year! Carolyn Modlin Rt. 1, Belvidere

Jones claims vote

VOTERS IN PERQUIMANS GIVE WALTER B. JONES MAJORITY IN BALLOTING: Walter Jones, candidate for the



First Congressional District's seat in Congress, led the race in Perquimans County here Saturday with 818 votes. Jones of Farmville will face Republican opponent Dr. John Porter East in

an election to be held on February 3.

GOAL REACHED BY COMMITTEE: The Merchants Committee of the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce has been influential in getting the town of Hertford to observe the city regulations as to the 90 minute parking. All merchants and business firms are urged to have the cars of their employees parked in their parking lots and away from the business area, in order to provide parking for those who come in town to shop.

Today is December 24th, 1985: We wish each of you a happy and joyous Christmas. Next week we will be back with the January 1986 Looking Back column.

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