

Perspective

Thomas Nichols Home furnished room and comfort

When his house south of Perquimans became the meeting place of northern Carolina's higher court in February 1696, Thomas Nichols began a hectic year which saw as many as a hundred people from all over the

colony trying to cram into his small quarters in a single day.

Shoving his wife Elizabeth, daughter Elizabeth, and himself over, he had to make room for the numerous dignitaries and ordinary citizens who attended the sessions of the general, chancery, or palatine courts by necessity or by choice.

Select parts of the company had to be fed and some must be bedded. Nichols would have to call on all the neighbors for miles around to offer space in a bed, on a floor, in a barn, or under a tree to colonists from Currituck to the

east to the far side of Chowan to the west.

Many of Nichols' official visitors bore titles. There were colonels Thomas Pollock and William Wilkison; majors Alexander Lillington and Samuel Swann; and captains Anthony Dawson, John Hunt, Thomas Lutten, and Henderson Walker.

Management on the crowds and proceeding was in the hands of Provost Marshall Thomas Relfe and Clerk William Glover.

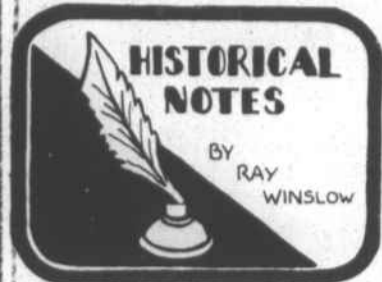
Nichols' responsibility was solely to furnish room and comfort, except for that part of the time when he was called for jury duty or when his law suit against Edward Yarsey was heard.

Following the Chancery Court session at his house on February 26, Nichols had a few months to catch his breath and consider how, on the basis of newly acquired experience, he could best order his household to host further meetings.

His next chance came in June when Deputy Governor Thomas Harvey and the Council exercised one of their many functions by sitting at the Palatine's Court. This court was more exclusive in function than most other segments of the proprietary judicial system, so the public need not have attended. The council-court could fit easily into a single room. After passing an order relating to admintations on estates, the Palatine's Court that

25th of June decided that it would continue to meet at Nichols' house the last Thursday in every month.

The real test of Thomas Nichols' hospitality, resources, and patiences would come in September when the General Court arrived for a session. That body held jurisdiction over the entire northern colony and much of the business at law of its citizens. There would be a crowd coming. (Part 3 next week.)



A new and safe way

Some people may have heard about food irradiation, but they might be surprised to learn that food is not irradiated with the same radioactive source as those found in nuclear power plants. Nor is irradiation a process similar to microwaving. No heat is produced in treating food this way. Some physical and chemical changes do take place, but

pork, it can eliminate the parasite that causes trichinosis.

Irradiation can also retard the ripening process for certain fruits and vegetables, allowing them to be stored longer. This could lengthen the shelf life of such fruits as strawberries and other perishable products.

Food processors and handlers have lobbied to expand the use of irradiation as an effective way to curb the amount of pesticides and other chemicals that can enter the food chain.

It now appears the food industry will move swiftly to adopt the new technology. Consumer groups have been skeptical. However, extensive research reviewed by federal officials has found no harmful effects on people.

Those who have worried about pesticide residue in their food in the past should welcome the new technology. As the new process gets into broad use, it will be less costly than the use of chemicals and safer for consumers.



none have been found to be harmful.

Irradiation can be used to inhibit spoilage of food by destroying bacteria. Used on fruits and vegetables, grain products and other materials, the process can get rid of insects or molds. On

Letters to the Editor

Editor
The Perquimans Weekly,

I am writing to you regarding the recent Academic Awards Banquet held to honor the outstanding students of our school system. You see, I did not attend the banquet this year, as the grades in two of my classes fell below an 85.

The 'rules' of the banquet state that a student shall be recognized only if he or she has no grade below a 'B' (an 85) and an overall average of 93 or above. There are supposed to be no exceptions.

In spite of my two "inferior" grades, I still have a 95 average, well above the required 93. Why is it that a student with an average higher than the required 93 is not recognized while the student with a 93 is recognized?

I am a member of the Beta Club at the high school, an organization which requires an 89.5 average to stay in it. I am also in the Art Club and the French Club at my school. I am the second marshal of my junior class, which means I have the second highest average in my class. I was the second marshal in my sophomore year also. I have

made contributions to my school's annual by doing a few pieces of artwork.

In addition to all of this, I was named Youth Artist of the Week by your own newspaper. It was a privilege and an honor for me to be noted as such.

I do not write this letter out of jealousy, but to reveal to the public what goes on in the school system. There are many other students in my school who were treated just as I was and I speak for them when I say that we deserve something for our efforts.

Isn't it the duty of the school system to acknowledge all of its outstanding students instead of a chosen few?

Again, I state that our treatment was extremely unfair. There is a problem somewhere and it is up to the school board to do something about it.

Sincerely,
Bruce White, Jr.
Student, Perquimans High School
11th grade

Editor
The Perquimans Weekly,
I am writing this letter as a concerned student of the Perqui-

mans High School student body. I am currently a sophomore who is in good academic standing. Ever since I have been in school, I have maintained an overall "A" average for the year. During these years, I have been honored by my parents and teachers for achieving these grades. When the Board of Education decided to honor students for their high averages, I was in the eighth grade. I attended the banquet that year, as well as my freshman year. However, this year, I was not honored because I received an 84 on one of my exams (an 84 is one point from a "B"). The fact that I still had a 94 overall average for the five six weeks did not seem to matter.

This seems to say that an "A" average for a whole year of work is of no importance if I make one "C" on a test during that year, which does not even lower my average from an "A" to a "B". The Board of Education might as well be asking me to be perfect.

When I was born, I soon learned that I would make mistakes in my school work, as well as my everyday life. But, I have also learned that I can learn from my mistakes and correct

them. As a student, I have always strived to do this and have succeeded so far. I guess I could let this disturb me and quit trying to maintain my "A" average since it is not good enough for the Board of Education. However, being the person that I am, I will keep trying to do this to please myself and my parents. Consequently, I will be honored in the long run of life.

Sincerely,
Tanya Howell
PCHS, 10th grade

When candles burn down to the stubs, they are hard to budge. Next time, spray the insides of the candlesticks with Mazola No Stick before adding new candles.

Whether you're grating cheese with a hand grater or food processor, spray the grater or shredding blade with no stick cooking spray. Keeps cheese from lodging in the grater or blade.

In The Course Of 25 Years, Attitudes Toward Money Have Shifted 180°

In 1960, an average 35-year-old American couple had three children and an income of \$20,480.

In 1986, they're likely to have just two children and their household income is probably over \$32,860.

It's the same for most age groups. People today just have more money to use than any other generation.

At the same time, our costs of living are a lot higher. All of which has brought about very different attitudes about money management.

You want to make money on every dollar you can. So we're helping out with Money Market Accounts.

You want all your money where it will do the most good. So we help with our Asset Management Account.

You want more control over your retirement planning. So we offer Investor Option IRAs, with your choice of variable rate and fixed rate options, stocks, bonds, and other investments.

You make a lot of your investment decisions. So, when you trade stocks and bonds, we can save you up to 55% on brokerage commissions.

You like credit available without



going through all the hassles of applying for it time after time. So we offer Line One, a line of credit with borrowing power up to \$50,000.

So come by soon and let us tell you more about it. Just as you've been changing the

American way of life, we've been changing the American way of banking. But there's one thing that hasn't changed.

All of us at NCNB are going to keep on working to be the best bank in the neighborhood.

