

Patrick Praised For Home Mission Work

(Editor's Note: The following article by Hugh A. Query, former editor of the GASTONIA GAZETTE, appeared in the June issue of PRESBYTERIAN SURVEY official magazine of the Presbyterian Church, U. S.)

Within the past few years there has been a remarkable Home Mission advance in Kings Mountain Presbytery of the Synod of North Carolina. Church after church has become self-supporting. New churches have been built and attractive manses erected. The Home Mission Committee, under the able leadership of Rev. P. D. Patrick, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Kings Mountain, has led the Presbytery in a real forward movement. After having worship-

ed in the building that was erected soon after the Civil War, the Presbyterians of Dallas on April 2, 1950, held the first service in a new and modern church edifice, erected largely through faith and the hard work of its members and two former pastors, Rev. J. Hector Smith and Rev. J. C. Plexico. Back in 1927 the women in the church launched the movement for a building fund by distributing small wooden banks to members of the church and Sunday school. The fund had a steady growth until the bank failure of 1932 wiped out most of the savings. In 1938 the task of raising money for a new church began again. Kings Mountain Presbytery, through its Home Mission Committee, responded with a gift of \$3,560.00. Rev. O. V. Caudill, Director of Planning and Building in the Synod of

North Carolina, helped draw up the plans, and the people went to work. Practically all of the work was done by members of the congregation, including the excavation for the basement and the carpentry work. It is estimated that the actual cash outlay was \$30,000.00, and the plant is believed to be worth \$45,000.00. Soon after the completion of the building, Mr. Plexico resigned to accept the pastorate at Fairmont, North Carolina. The Dallas church has recently called Rev. J. C. Stauffer, and he has begun work.

The history of the Cherryville Presbyterian Church, from its organization in 1893 with twenty-nine charter members through many lean years to the present time, when it is one of the most flourishing churches in Kings Mountain Presbytery with a membership of 279 and an annual budget of \$12,000.00, is one of the most interesting and thrilling of the former Home Mission-supported churches. In recent years, under the dynamic leadership of Rev. George L. Riddle, a former chaplain, a new building has been erected at a cost of \$54,000.00.

Two of the newest churches in Kings Mountain Presbytery are Springwood and Westview, located in a section that has had no churches of any kind. It is virgin territory and a few years ago was open fields and woodland. Through the foresight of Rev. P. D. Patrick, chairman of the Home Mission Committee of Kings Mountain Presbytery, Rev. R. H. Ratchford, pastor of historic Goshen Church, not far from the area, and Mr. R. Clarence Dixon, an elder in the Belmont Church and treasurer of the Home Mission Committee, chapel work was started in this area. These two fine churches are the result. Through the generosity of Mr. Dixon, a lot was donated and a manse has recently been erected halfway between Springwood and Westview. The Springwood Church was built in 1949. Church was built in 1949.

The Stanley Church affords an inspiring example of what can be done by a congregation that is determined to go on a self-supporting basis. For sixty years the struggling Stanley Church had a

minister for only part time at a salary of \$900.00 a year. It was linked with Castanea, a rural church in Lincoln County. Under the encouragement of the Home Mission Committee, the congregation decided to build a new church and to call a pastor for his full time. Many stout hearts in the Stanley congregation quailed at the thought, but they went ahead with the aid of the Home Mission Committee and generous contributors. They completed a handsome addition to the church and are now adding an educational building. They are paying their pastor \$2,700.00 a year, or three times the amount they formerly paid for the half-time service. Rev. G. T. Matherly is the pastor and is held in high esteem by the members of his own church and the people of the community.

The Castanea Church has recently erected a beautiful manse of native stone matching the church building. It is a six-room structure with automatic stoker, hot and cold water, and all the conveniences of any modern home. It was built through the hard work of the people of the community, the members of the church, and friends of historic Castanea in the Carolinas. Castanea, Unity, and Machpelah formed a trio of old churches in Lincoln County which were prominent in ante-bellum days.

Hephzibah, another rural church, formerly linked with Dallas, now self-supporting, is building a manse for its full-time pastor. Mr. Edward Craig of Columbia Theological seminary supplied this church last summer, and preaches now twice a month, coming up from Decatur, Georgia. A new spirit has taken hold of the church and interest is keen. One of the members of the church gave an acre of land for the manse, the men of the church cut the timber from their farms, and many pledges of time, work, and money have been made toward the building of the manse.

Another beautiful manse built recently is that at Tryon where the Rev. George W. Hayward is pastor. Erected at a cost of \$13,500.00, it is valued at \$18,000.00. The Saluda Church has recently completed a Sunday-school building at a cost of \$14,000.00, and plans are under way for the erection of a church building.

Other outstanding churches in the Presbytery that are the results of Home Missions include Dixon, near Kings Mountain in Cleveland County, the only rural Presbyterian church in that predominantly Baptist county, East Belmont, Northside, Adams Memorial, and Linwood, the latter four products of congregational missions of the Belmont and Gastonia First Presbyterian Churches. Spindale has recently occupied a handsome new church building, and the Forest City Church has completed a modern manse. From this hurried survey, it can be seen that Home Mission work in Kings Mountain Presbytery has made tremendous strides in the past few years. The Home Mission Committee has caught a vision of a far-reaching work to be done and aggressively with God's help they have set about to make their dream come true.

Four-H pig chain members in North Carolina's mountain counties are doing an outstanding job of producing home-grown pigs, says Jim Butler, extension livestock specialist at State College.

GIRL SCOUT News

Mrs. J. B. Simpson's scout troop met at the Lutheran church Wednesday afternoon at 2:00. We opened our meeting with a prayer. We planned to go to Luther Ridge Sunday. Buck Early is going to teach us swimming. The last Thursday night in July we are going to the Boy Scout camp to see their Indian pageant.

We selected the following officers: patrol leader, Judy Cox; assistant, Jackie Dixon; secretary, Barbara Proctor; treasurer, Becky Blanton; scribe, Linda Mitcham; scrapbook, Elaine Burton; parties, Cornelia Houser; color ceremony, Sue Sanders; good deeds, Patsy Sisk.

We all joined in some folk dances afterwards. Comin' Round the Mountain and Queen Mary. Becky and Judy planned a hike for us in the woods. Sue and Linda who were leaders followed a rough sketch map and trail signs. After our picnic supper we learned to build fires. We built the camp fire and made bread twists. Mr. Cox took us home.

Linda Mitcham—Scribe

Life Insurance Ownership Up

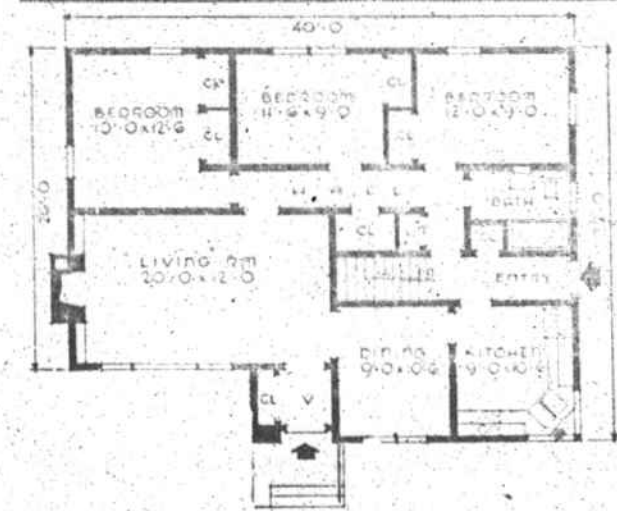
North Carolina ownership of life insurance has increased by \$2,789,000,000 since 1930, the greatest 20-year growth in the history of the state, in spite of the slowing up during the early '30s, the Institute of Life Insurance reports. This is a gain of 211 percent.

Some of this increase was due to population increase, but the Institute points out that, even adjusting for the gain in number of people living in the state, the rise in life insurance ownership per capita in the 20-year period was 143 percent.

At the start of this year, life insurance owned by North Carolina families totaled \$4,112,000,000. This compares with \$1,323,000,000 owned in this state 20 years before.

The 1930 population in this state of 3,170,000 had risen to 4,054,000 at the start of this year. For the nation as a whole, the 20-year gain in life insurance ownership was 120 percent, rising from \$106,413,000,000 to \$234,047,000,000. In the same period, however, population increased from 122,775,000 to 150,521,000. Adjusting for this population growth, the gain in life insurance

Herald "House-of-the-Week"



THE CLAY has three bedrooms in the rear of the house, dining room and kitchen are in the front. The dining room and kitchen, as shown, are separated by a partition, but this can be replaced by a snack bar which would form a combination kitchen-dinette.

In addition to the wardrobe closets in the bedrooms, there is a general closet and a linen cabinet in the hall and a coat closet for each entrance.

These plans call for a frame construction with siding and asphalt shingles. Also in-

cluded is provision for a full basement. Some of the other features that are considered are a wood burning fireplace, a corner kitchen sink and a recessed bath tub.

The dimensions of the Clay are 40 by 26 feet with a front projection of 6 feet. The floor area is 1,196 square feet and the cubage is 23,322 cubic feet.

For further information about THE CLAY, write the Small House Planning Bureau, St. Cloud, Minn.

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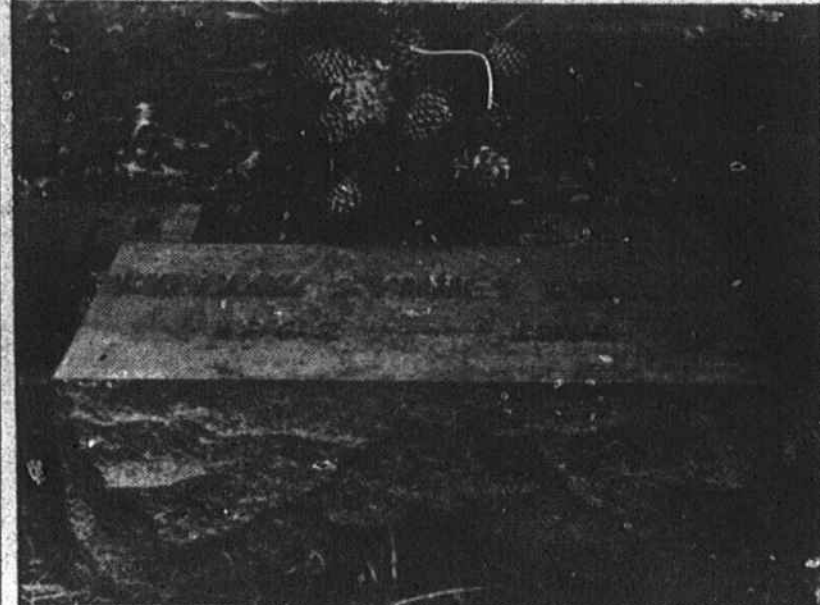
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PRESENTS

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA



O. HENRY

William Sidney Porter, better known to the world as O. Henry, a short story writer, was born in Greensboro in 1862. As a boy he worked in a local drug store. He was probably the most famous literature figure North Carolina has produced. O. Henry died in 1910 and is buried at Riverside Cemetery, in Asheville.

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Yes, there are so many things you do by telephoning instead of going—arranging meetings, appointments and purchases... rounding up the children when they're at play in the neighborhood. And what a difference it makes in getting things done, and in gaining leisure to spend with family and friends.

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H. G. BOOTH, North Carolina Manager

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Maximum safety—You get the finest truck brakes in the industry! On many models you get new, molded, tapered, Cyclobond brakes, lining for smoother, quieter, safer braking. And you'll ride in a welded all-steel cab with an extra-big windshield.

Easy handling—You can turn, park, back up and maneuver with the greatest of ease... because of cross-steering, short wheelbase and wide front tread. Other aids to easy handling are the comfortable new steering wheel position and extra cab visibility.

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