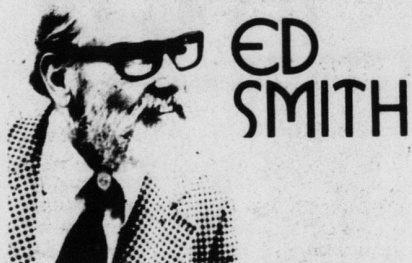


Raleigh's fourth expedition to America was to be known as 'The Lost Colony'



One of the most famous events in North Carolina history is associated with this week.

Sir Walter Raleigh's fourth expedition to America — fated to become known as "The Lost Colony" — set sail from Plymouth, England in three small vessels on May 8, 1587. There were 150 settlers, men, women and children, under the command of Thomas

White. An earlier expedition, 108 men under Ralph Lane, had given up and returned to England with Sir Francis Drake a year earlier.

In August, after seeing his new colony established, Thomas White returned to England with the expedition's ships to secure additional supplies. The outbreak of war with Spain delayed his return for several years. When White finally reached Roanoke Island (or "Hatorast" as they

called it) he found the settlement abandoned and no clue to the fates of the colonists except for the word "Croatoan" carved on a post.

Several famous Tar Heels are also associated with this week in history. Willie Person Mangum is little known today, yet he occupied the highest national political office ever held by a citizen of this state.

As President of the U. S. Senate from 1845, Mangum also served as Acting Vice President (under the old Presidential Succession formula) when Vice President John Tyler succeeded to the top spot up to the death of President William Her Harrison. As the number two man in the Senate (who then presided when the Vice President was absent) Mangum moved up to become Acting Vice President for the remainder of that term.

Though men born in this state have served as both President and Vice President, all so after leaving North Carolina. Mangum long-time U. S. Senator, was thus highest office-holder while still a North Carolina citizen.

Mangum, a Whig, was born in Durt County on May 10, 1792.

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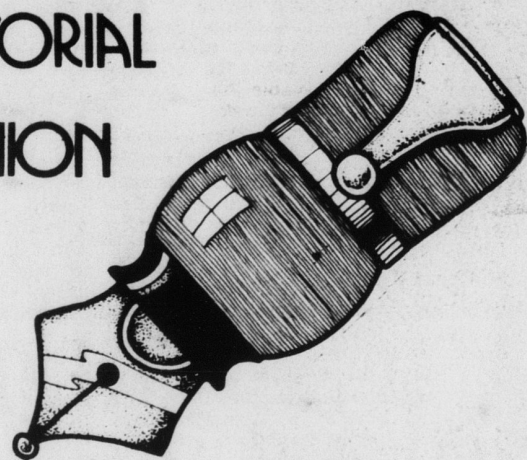
George Edmond Badger is also almost forgotten today, since North Carolina history has become such a badly-neglected subject in our schools. Yet as late as 1900, he was regarded by historians as... "one of the most outstanding North Carolinians of time."

Badger died on May 11, 1866.

Badger enjoyed a national reputation of brilliance, scholarship and versatility at a time when few citizens of this state were achieving national notice. As a lawyer frequently appeared before the Supreme Court.

A Whig — as were most of the state's outstanding men of that period — Badger served as a judge at the age of 21, and was appointed Secretary of the Navy during the Harrison Administration. A contemporary of Mangum's, he served in the U. S. Senate from 1846-55. Badger generally supported southern rights, but as a firm Unionist he opposed secession and was only a lukewarm supporter of the state's role in the Civil War.

EDITORIAL OPINION



The people remained quiet on election day

At a time when the people should speak they are remaining uncomfortably quiet.

We refer to the very light turnout at the polls on May 2 for the Democratic Primary election. Only about 30 percent of the registered Democrats in the Kings Mountain precincts bothered going to the polls May 2.

The light turnout, however, was indicated earlier during the individual campaigns through the lack of interest among the citizens. It was difficult to even get a good argument going on the pros and cons of the candidates.

The irony of it is that this time out there were numerous well-qualified candidates stumping for votes. When the candidate interest is high the voter interest should also be high. With such poor response to so much effort by men and women willing to serve, there could come a time when that candidate interest will become as apathetical as the interest of the voters. When that happens we are going to be in deep trouble.

Congratulations are in order to bikers

KMers should be proud of the fact that a bunch of bike riders have made sure research to find cures for killer diseases of children can continue for awhile longer.

During the Apr. 15 St. Jude Children's Hospital Bike-A-Thon citizens from 8-years of age on up raised over \$4,000 for the hospital's research program. They did it by riding bicycles over a 21-mile course, then collecting per mile pledges from local individuals, business firms and industries.

There is still a little over \$300 to be collected from the community pledges. It doesn't sound like much, but in research every dollar counts. We feel sure the pledgers will come through and the funds can be forwarded.

It took a great many people to bring off the event here on Apr. 15 and they did it beautifully under the chairmanship of Robert Dodge. To Dodge and to all of you who helped make the bike-a-thon a success, the Mirror-Herald offers congratulations.

Quality of life for senior citizens looks better

Improving the quality of life of senior citizens is the top concern of the Division of Aging of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, headed by Nathan Yelton.

Fewer than one-third of the 100,000 North Carolinians responding to a statewide "North Carolina Tomorrow" survey indicated they were satisfied with programs for senior citizens.

Yelton is trying to ease the problem through development of a state policy on aging. The policy provides our elderly citizens choices about how they want to live as well as enabling them to stay in their own homes.

Participation is the key in the decisions that will affect senior citizens. As a result of seventeen "speak out" sessions scheduled across North Carolina last spring, participants came up with 115 recommendations. Already 40 of these recommendations are being implemented.

According to John Tanner, head of the Individual and Family Support Services for the Division of Social Services, "We need to

expand our services to keep elderly out of our institutions. We can do this by use of homemaker services, chore services, adult day-care services, and housing and improvement services."

"There are approximately 86,400 elderly people in North Carolina who are not getting the necessary care services," added Tanner.

In North Carolina, nearly 13 percent of our people are 60 years or older. One-third of those live in poverty. One out of five live alone. Many of them are without even a telephone. Some live in their own homes even when they can no longer repair the broken steps or pay the utility bills. Because most of them live on fixed incomes, they are vulnerable to rising prices resulting in inadequate energy supplies, poor nutrition and bad housing conditions.

Currently, 70 county social services departments provide homemaker services for the elderly, 90 counties provide chore services, 16 counties provide day care services, and 80 counties provide housing and home improvement services.

"Our goal is to make all these services available in all 100 counties," said Tanner. But the task is not easy.

"Right now, there just isn't enough money. We're looking to the General Assembly to provide more money to this program in order to make sure every senior citizen in North Carolina gets the proper care," continued Tanner.

It is estimated that from one-third to one-half of the health problems of the elderly are directly related to nutrition. Nearly 23 million Americans over 65 years of age, 85 percent, report the presence of at least one chronic health condition. Although poverty imposes nutritional limitations on approximately 20 percent of older Americans, over eating appears to play a major role in the nutrition related health problems of the remainder.

Steps have already been implemented to reduce the problem of poor nutrition for the elderly. Strategically located centers such as schools, churches, community centers, and other public or private facilities provide

low cost nutritionally sound meals and other social and rehabilitative services. Lack of funds does not permit expansion.

What can be done to provide our elderly with a choice of how they want to live? It requires two things: active involvement of our older adults and the development of procedures within state government to implement what our older citizens want.

Altogether our society has treated older people as though they don't exist, economically, physically or psychologically. "However, senior citizens are still members of our society, and they can be productive citizens if given the opportunity," said Yelton.

"The best leaders in this effort are the senior citizens themselves. Our North Carolina elderly comprise about 30 percent of the voting population," added Yelton. "They take their duty seriously and vote more frequently than any other age group."

"Despite all the problems, progress has been made for our senior citizens; indeed their quality of life is beginning to look better," he concluded.

Color photos give us big problems

Wonder what would happen if we announced to the public that color photos are no longer acceptable to run in connection with news and social stories, birthdays and advertising announcements?

Would the public understand? We realize that the majority of photos made for family use are made in color. Only the newspapers, news magazines and amateur photographers use black and white film much these days.

The reason we have discussed cutting out the acceptance of color photos is simple. All of our half-tone reproduction work is done in black and white. Reproducing a black and white photo presents very little problem, but reproducing a color photo into a black and white halftone, sometimes, is the biggest headache you ever saw.

There are three primary colors used to reproduce color in a photo: red, yellow and blue. When the photo has a heavy red tint, then reproducing it into black and white causes the red to come up black. Remember the old black and white cowboy movies when the villain was shot? His blood looked black, didn't it?

The same thing applies when we reproduce a red tinted photo in our news columns nine times out of 10 the person's rosy cheeks look like inky smears. The more red tint, the inkier the reproduced photo looks.

There are exceptions to the color photo rule and those are the ones with a blue tint or yellow tint. These colors are light enough to allow pretty good reproduction in black and white.

It's for this reason that we have not made it a blanket policy not to accept color photos for publication. If the person with the news item or birthday announcement or whatever calls us first to ask about using color photos we always explain the difference between the red tint and the others. In any case we will always look the photos over and give you an on the spot opinion on the merits of using the color photos.

More often than not people will say, "Well, go ahead and use it anyway." We try to oblige, but cannot accept the responsibility of the outcome because of the aforementioned reasons.

We don't want to be hard to get along with because we are, after all, here to serve the public. We have on several occasions told people, "Sorry, we cannot use this photo."



This is when the photo brought in is hazy, dark or out of focus. In these cases there is nothing we can do to improve the quality. We have a color photo lying on the copy table right now of some Brownies that fits into this category. It has a group of fuzzy faces partially obscured by light streaks. We will not use this photo or any like it. In the first place, it does nothing for the people in the picture and even less for the reader and in the second place, we screw up enough on our own without consciously running something we know is wrong.

And we haven't even mentioned color polaroid shots.

The instant photo, even in black and white, was a tremendous advance in technology and when color was added, look out. These instant shots are great to paste into the family album, but lousy for reproduction in a newspaper. We cringe everytime someone brings in an instant photo, color or black and white.

But, times being what they are and The Mirror-Herald not being a big-time daily with hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of photographic equipment, nor the manpower to cover all situations, our policy will remain to take a look at what you got and if we can possibly use we will.

However, if it is all possible for the public to submit sharp black and white pictures for use we sure would be eternally grateful.

READER DIALOGUE

In praise of scout leaders

To the editor,

I would like for you to print this about my three great scout leaders. They do not get paid for their job. They do it voluntarily.

My scout leaders spend hours and days planning for our meetings and special events, such as camping trips, outings, parties, yard sales and our trip to Washington.

They take time for small details and they

are always careful to see that every girl is included. These wonderful people are Sheila Bolin, Linda Davis and Sheila Brown. If there is a badge for great scout leaders, one should be given to each of these three leaders.

LIZA BLANTON
Troop 155
Kings Mountain



A ROBIN PUT ME TO SHAME

A Robin looked in my window
He wondered, what kind of bird is that,
Frowning instead of singing
And pouring milk for a cat.

The robin caught me in distress
So obvious that I was fretting,
About the things I would like to claim
And the undeserving were getting.

He could see the larder was filled
Filled to overflowing,
But he must go and search for a worm
Wherever the trees were growing.

A robin looked in my window,
He was singing and seeing the world in pink.
He saw all the water there flowing
But wondered where he would drink.

VIVIAN STEWART BILTCLIFFE

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