

News of Columbia and Tyrrell Co.

For Subscriptions, see Mrs. Blanche W. Cohoon, or Call Her, Phone 317-1, Columbia, N. C. She will welcome news of Columbia and Tyrrell County

COLUMBIA PERSONALS

Among the students home for the holidays: Sam S. Woodley Jr. of U. N. C. with his parents Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Woodley Sr.; Miss Madge Morris of W. C. U. N. C. with her parents Sheriff and Mrs. Clair E. Morris; Monty Harrell of U. N. C. with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Plato Harrell; Miss Pat Brickhouse Chohan with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Brickhouse; Miss Shirley Cooper of Chowan with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Cooper; Miss Peggy Ann Walker of Chowan with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Weston Walker; Miss Mary Lou Kirk with her parents Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Harrell Jr.; Morris G. Pritchett Jr. of State College with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Morris G. Pritchett; Miss Faye Spencer of St. Mary's home with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Albert Spencer; Pat McDuffie of ECC with his parents Mr. and Mrs. N. P. McDuffie.

Miss Sue Snell of Durham was home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Worth C. Snell, of Creswell.

Miss Kay Spruill Melson of Raleigh was home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Melson.

Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Hamilton and daughter Julia of Conway spent Christmas with Mr. Hamilton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hamilton of Atlantic visited his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McCles spent Christmas with their son D. Ray McCles and his family in Ahoekia.

Mrs. E.H. Ange of Jamesville spent Christmas with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Borden McCles.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Armstrong spent Christmas in Raleigh with their son, Fred Armstrong.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Norman and daughter Betty of Durham spent the holidays with Mr. Norman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Seaton A. Norman.

Misses Reda and Jessie Godwin of Williamston visited Mr. and Mrs. J. Donald Selby Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Woodley of Ahoekia spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Dennis M. Pledger Sr. and the Eli and Henry Woodleys.

Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Lamb and sons David and Stuart of Charlotte visited Mrs. Lamb's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lem A. Cohoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Chas. Cahoon and daughter Andrea of Raleigh were in Columbia Tuesday.

Miss Jacqueline Harris of Washington, D. C., was home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Harris.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie O. Knight and son Guy were home with Mr. Knight's mother, Mrs. Ruth N. Knight.

Miss Peggy Griffin of Baltimore, Md., and Michael Griffin of Charlotte were home with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Basnight.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Everton of Atlanta, Ga., were home with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Davenport and Mrs. G. W. Everton.

Mrs. J. W. Randolph of Elizabeth City spent the holidays with her sister and brother Miss Sara L. Taft and G. Howard Taft.

Miss Joyce Bateman of the University of Illinois was home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Bateman.

Mrs. J. H. Bateman spent Christmas with her daughter and son-in-law, The Rev. and Mrs. John Lawrence at Shelby.

Miss Jane Shelby of Norfolk was home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Shelby. Miss Gail Cohoon of Norfolk was home with her mother, Mrs. C. Earl Cohoon; Miss Rena Mae Spencer of South Norfolk was home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd B. Spencer; Carlisle Harrell of South Norfolk was home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Harrell.

The Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Brickhouse spent Christmas with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brickhouse, and their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas K. Yerby Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Creston Simmons and children Cynthia and Cres of Lynhaven Va. visited Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Simmons and Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Yerby Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. George M. Kelley Jr. and son Trip of Norfolk visited Mrs. Kelley's mother, Mrs. W. A. Yerby.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd E. Cohoon spent Christmas with their son, Floyd E. Cohoon Jr.

Mrs. W. S. Carawan was with her daughter, Mrs. W. B. Brown, in Goldsboro.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Cooper and children spent Christmas with their parents Mrs. J. E. Alexander and Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Alexander.

Miss Carmen Harrell of Norfolk visited her mother, Mrs. J. Abern Harrell.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Ray Cohoon and son Fred spent Christmas with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Brinn, Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus A. Overton spent Christmas Day in Scotland Neck.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Boyd Jr. and children, Sharon and Robert, of

JAMES DEWEY MORRIS

COLUMBIA, James Dewey Morris, 61, died in the Columbia Hospital Saturday morning after an illness of about three weeks.

He was a native and life long resident of Tyrrell County, made his home on Route One; a former timber surveyor and member of Malachi's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. He was the son of the late Charlie H. and Carolina Owens Morris.

Surviving are his wife Mrs. Thelma O'Neal Morris; one son Floyd Morris of Columbia; two daughters Mrs. Virginia Mann of Columbia and Mrs. Jean Kuchey of Hampton, New Hampshire; three sisters: Mrs. Bessie Smith of Elizabeth City; Mrs. Lina Umphlett of Hertford, and Mrs. Alethia Walker of Hopewell, Va.

Funeral services were held at Malachi's Chapel Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with the Rev. Herbert J. Bryan Conducting. Interment was in the Church Cemetery.

PLYMOUTH MAN, 53, DIES SUNDAY, FUNERAL TUESDAY

Kenneth Jennings Davenport, 53, of Plymouth died Sunday. Funeral services were held Tuesday in Ludford Memorial Baptist Church, Burial was in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Inez Bateman Davenport; one daughter, Mrs. Virgil Orday of Plymouth; one grandchild; his father, the Rev. T. F. Davenport of Creswell; three sisters, Mrs. Mary Furlough and Mrs. Callie Swain of Columbia; five brothers, Seaton E. and Lonnie W. of Creswell, Gilbert of Boston, Mass., Thomas of Detroit, Mich., and Roger of Raleigh. He was a member of Ludford Memorial Methodist Church and an employe of Weyerhaeuser.

RODANTHE

(Continued from Page One)

was the only one in Rodanthe, too, with the result that some intolerant mainlanders called the Rodantheans "pagan" and "un-Christian."

Eventually the islanders conformed, at least to a degree, by observing both the December and the January date. But generally the latter is the more important occasion.

"Which is just as it should be," says a Rodanthean.

On December 25 there are church rites, a Santa Claus, and gifts—the standard Festival. January 5, old Christmas, is different, and it is honored in more ancient ways.

Traditionally the day began soon after dawn with a distant sound of soft music, "real Christmas music." A visitor described it as "faint, eerie," bordering at first on the supernatural. "The early morning atmosphere," he wrote, "lent a peculiar sweetness." The music came from the homemade fifes and drums of a band of serenaders, whose instruments had been passed down from father to son.

The gentle, worshipful procession went from house to house; on some years, it is said, there were prayers at each residence. The march continued for hours, until by dark every home had been reached.

At midday there was an intermission. The musicians, who had been joined by others during the course of the morning, arrived at the spot at which their holiday dinner was to be served. This was a hearty meal in which roasted oysters, the succulent specialty of the coast, had a large part. Then came more visits to homes, and about dusk Rodanthe's contribution to the Southern Christmas, mummings' night.

On this Old Christmas evening people stepped out in costume, simple, gayspirited bandannas, colored stockings, ancient furs, even more ancient hats. They made their own masks of cloth or paper with grotesque noses, long chins, and overhanging brows, or hid their faces inside dark stockings into which holes had been cut for the mouth and eyes. They wandered wherever the spirit moved them, hailing friends, laughing, joking, skylarking.

Then the high moment: the arrival of Old Buck, an animal half frightening, half hilarious. Old Buck, said the Rodantheans, had once been a monstrous scourge, the terror of the Hatteras Woods, who left his retreat only once a year, on January 5, galloping forth in maddened and also awkwardness. He consisted of a pole covered with bed quilts or blankets, and a steer's head with a fine pair of horns. At his neck hung a bell. The two men beneath his quilts cavorted and danced in a way that made the very young shudder and their elders giggle. Old Buck's rider, perched atop his quilts, directed the monster's wanderings. "Caper, Buck . . ."

"Straight ahead, now." "Right over there, fast!" As Buck approached, the crowd swerved, screamed, and

Hampton, Va., spent Christmas with Mrs. Bova's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julian L. Poston. Mr. Boyd expects to be transferred to Houston, Texas, in January.

HISTORY OF TOYS REFLECTS EARLY LIFE, PROGRESS

WASHINGTON—The world of toys has reflected adult life and progress since the earliest days of human history.

A London museum displays a little wooden baker from Egypt estimated to be nearly 4,000 years old, says the National Geographic Society. Bending over a pyramid-shaped board, he can be manipulated to knead "dough" by rolling a tiny wooden ball up and down the board.

French fashion dolls of the 18th century mirrored the glitter of court sophisticates. The severe dress of Victorian miniatures was in keeping with an age when respectable English families did not permit children to play with their toys on Sunday.

Homemade corn-cob dolls treasured by children of pioneer America wore sunbonnets and calico of the time and place. The flippant flapper doll of the 1920's gave little sister the thrill of vicarious participation in the rebellions of "flaming youth."

Accent on Science In present-day Christmas displays, the accent is on science and the Wild Blue Yonder. Formidably lifelike doll babies complete with toy models of moon viewers and microscopes, electronic computers, earth satellites, rocket launchers, and atomic reactors.

Among the most advanced of the new scientific toys are wireless telephones. One twin set, powered by flashlight batteries, transmits voices via infrared rays. Two youngsters can talk at any distance within line of sight.

The principle of the toy telephone is the same used in missile detection and satellite tracking. Both functions go back to 1880, when Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, produced the photophone and proved that sound could be carried by a beam of light.

First Dolls Were Sacred Where and when children's toys

called out encouragement: "Get 'em, Buck get 'em!" Not until every-doll felt tired, including Old Buck, did the Old Christmas end.

Whether the Rodantheans knew it or not, their custom went back to earlier English folk ceremonies. From Cornwall comes a description of "a hobby horse represented by a man carrying a piece of wood in the form of a horse's head and neck, with some contrivance for opening and shutting the mouth with a loud snapping noise, the performer being so covered with a horsecloth or hide of a horse as to resemble the animal whose curvettings, biting and other motions he imitated." Much earlier, Staffordshire had a horn dance at Christmas, with men carrying stag horns on their shoulders. Clearly Old Buck has English ancestors.

Old Christmas is homecoming time, and many men and women who have left Rodanthe return every year for this event. Last year they were joined by a few outsiders from North Carolina and Virginia.

Although the Old Christmas had been modernized in its details, the ceremony still retained its light-hearted flavor. In the afternoon the Rodantheans, in casual costumes like those of earlier times, drove their automobiles up and down the road. It was all most good-natured, neighborly, and simple. As dusk approached excitement grew in Rodanthe and the neighboring settlement, Waves. From nearby Avon, Salvo, Buxton, and Hatteras came men, women and children who still spoke with the "toime and toide" brogue of the Outer Banks.

Along the beach, parties of men gathered driftwood and wreckage to be used for the outdoor oyster roast.

As a large moon rose over the inkblack Atlantic, the people gathered in their old schoolhouse. At one end was a stage, at the other benches for natives and guests. The curtain parted and the program began. There were singers, dancers, musicians, and declaimers, most or all in masquerade and blackface. Then a pause, and out pounded Old Buck, as fearsome as ever. The audience fell away in mock fright as he clattered down the aisle, turning to left and right, tossing his head, threatening those around him. But Old Buck had been changed and modernized. On his back rode Santa Claus, impersonated by a young man.

Here was the new American Christmas wedded to the old.

Then the benches were pushed back and it was time for dancing, in square and other styles. Outside, a fire had been lit. It was covered with tin sheets on top of which the oysters were to be roasted. The people danced, walked out for oysters, and went back to dance again and to greet one another with the cry of "Merry Christmas."

In the words of an observer: "There was nothing 'quaint' about all this, nothing self-conscious. It had an honest look; these people were having a good time out of their own resources, a wonderful time. At 49 I can recall evenings when this happened in the country, and I was seeing it for the first time in many years: I hope the Rodantheans never turn "dignified" or "Picturesque" on us."

March of Dimes Clinic Head Forecasts Pre-Marital Tests for Birth Defects

Before most thoughtful young couples marry, they do a great deal of planning for the future. They ponder about jobs, homes of their own, saving money for their retirement years.

All well and good, but—The pediatrician-in-chief at famed Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Baltimore, Md., wishes they would invest as much thought—before marriage—in their planning for healthy children.

Dr. Robert E. Cooke predicts the development of pre-marital tests which would forewarn of genetic deficiencies or flaws in either or both parties to a marriage that could cause their children to be born with serious defects due to heredity.

Dr. Cooke speaks from extensive knowledge of the problem. In addition to his academic position, he is responsible for the Birth Defects Special Treatment Center at Johns Hopkins, which is financed by March of Dimes contributions from the Baltimore City and County chapters of the National Foundation.

The genetic tests which Dr. Cooke sees for the future would bring to light gene patterns in potential parents that could cause their children to be born deaf, blind, mentally retarded or malformed.

By the same token, the tests when adequately developed would also reassure the vast majority of young couples of the likelihood of their having normal, healthy families.

What if a young couple agrees to undergo these searching tests, and the results show they might have babies with congenital malformations? Would such a marriage be forbidden?

Tests Are No Bar To Marriage "By no means," Dr. Cooke said in a recent interview. "The tests should be voluntary. An unfavorable prognosis or prediction should not provide, in my view, either legal or moral grounds for advising against marriage."

The results of biochemical examination of their blood and cell enzymes should be made available to prospective parents and the outlook for their offspring made quite clear. But ultimate decision as to marriage should be left to the individuals themselves.

Dr. Cooke added that genetic defects in the husband and wife may also be the cause of childlessness.

Pursuing his line of thought further, Dr. Cooke said that our young people should be given a better understanding of this subject. Proper instruction would minimize anxiety and permit them to plan their futures in a mature manner. The noted pediatrician would like to see more genetic investigation and counseling of patients by physicians—he calls it "anticipa-

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Copying foreign designs is even more difficult. The engineer of an American toy company once spent months studying Soviet theory and history of aviation in an effort to guess what type of landing gear would be installed on a then-secret Russian jet fighter. Later, official photographs revealed that the toy gear chosen was the same as the real one.

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tory medicine." He feels that medical students should become much more knowledgeable about human embryology.

"More than a quarter of a million babies with significant birth defects are born every year in the United States—almost 700 daily. Until scientific research can develop means to prevent these tragedies, young people who are the mothers and fathers of future generations should understand how and why they happen," he said.

Such premarital tests as Dr. Cooke advocates are not practical today on a widespread basis because of a lack of appropriate laboratories.

"But with increased research in birth defects, and with improvement in our medical technology and our laboratory facilities, genetic tests will soon become practical and feasible," he predicted.

"Through them we may well come to the actual detection of future birth abnormalities and possibly prevent many by proper handling of the pregnancy."

He Defines 'Birth Defects' Dr. Cooke says there is a great confusion regarding the term "birth defects." Medically, these are congenital anomalies caused by genetic factors or by injury to the embryo during its life in the womb.

Most of the general public mistakenly believes that birth defects are limited to those apparent at birth, such as missing extremities, an enlarged head (hydrocephalus) or open spine (spina bifida). But many more subtle birth defects are not disclosed until maturity and even middle age.

For example, severe high blood pressure appearing in later life has been shown in many instances to result from congenital malformations of the blood vessels of the kidneys, a disorder present at birth but unrecognizable at that time. Birth defects also account for many cases of diabetes, urological disorders and gout that do not become apparent until middle life. The list could be substantially lengthened, Dr. Cooke pointed out.

The Birth Defects Special Treatment Center at Johns Hopkins is one of a rapidly growing number of centers in various parts of the nation financed by National Foundation chapters using March of Dimes contributions. They provide comprehensive medical care for victims, with emphasis on early diagnosis, prevention of disability, rehabilitation and expansion of knowledge concerning birth defects.

In addition, the voluntary health organization has established university-affiliated birth defects clinical study and research centers in Columbus, Ohio, Oklahoma City, and Nashville, Tenn. A similar program of March of Dimes-supported treatment and research centers in arthritis is also in effect across the country.

"Birth defects cause 21,000 deaths each year in the United States," says Dr. Cooke. "That's twice the toll taken by tuberculosis and ten times the annual number of deaths from whooping cough, measles, polio and infectious hepatitis combined."

"The National Foundation-March of Dimes is taking a historic forward step in searching for a preventive. Until it is found, one thing we might do is to determine, before marriage, what types of family genetic histories are likely to lead to the calamity of major birth defects. The means to do it are within our reach."

MRS. H. F. LEATHERMAN'S FATHER DIES IN VALE The Rev. Harold F. Leatherman, pastor of Mount Olivet Methodist Church in Manteo, and his family were called last week to Vale by the death of Mrs. Leatherman's father, Titus G. Wright, who passed away on Monday, December 18. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday in Vale. Mr. Leatherman, accompanied by his daughter Nancy, returned to Manteo for services last week end, but went back to Vale to spend Christmas with the family.

Midgett and Barbara Trueblood of Elizabeth City.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Meads and daughters, Jeanne and Kathy, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Walls and children, Sandra and Franklin Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Julian Austin Jr. and children, Brenda and Karen of Elizabeth City visited their parents here Mr. and Mrs. Julian Austin.

Mr. and Mrs. Hilton Gray of Virginia Beach visited Mr. and Mrs. George Austin.

A candlelight service was held at the "Little Grove" Methodist Church Christmas Eve. The Rev. Van Cash brought the message. Mrs. Odessa Wasili furnished the music and Inge Wick was soloist.

Mr. and Mrs. Craig Hughes and son Daman of Suss-x. N. J. were here for the holidays, with Mrs. Hughes parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adolphus Burrus.

Robert Austin U.S.A.F., who has been home on leave for 30 days, left Tuesday for overseas duty, and will be stations in Guam.

Those home for the Christmas holidays include: Edgar Tolson, Mr. and Mrs. Inge Wick, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Brinson and son, Mr. and Mrs. Romas Bass and children, Donald Niskanen, Ellis Willis, Er-Jene Tandy, Denny Ransom and Dianne Burrus.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Ware are spending the holidays with their son, in Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Talton and family visited Mrs. Talton's parents in Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Ina Burrus is home after a week in the U. S. P. H. Hospital in Norfolk.

Erlese Tandy had as her guests over the week-end, Misses Janet

FOR BEACH PROPERTIES —SEE— BILL WILLIAMS, Kitty Hawk or DIAL 2841

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GOLDEN WEDDING FOR MANTEO COUPLE DEC. 27

Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Midgett were guests of honor Wednesday evening, December 27, at their home in Manteo when their children held Open House on the 50th anniversary of their wedding. Mrs. Midgett, the former Darcus Midgett of Rodanthe, and Mr. Midgett, also of Rodanthe, traveled by boat to Manteo, where they exchanged their wedding vows.

Hosts at the party were Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Midgett, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Midgett, of Manteo; Mr. and Mrs. Max Hann of Alexandria, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Bernice Midgett of Richmond, Va. The couple also has four grandchildren.

The three-tiered white wedding cake was topped with a gold "50". Matching cake squares, mints and salted nuts were served with golden punch, poured by Mrs. Ellsworth Midgett, Jr., Mrs. Max Mann greeted guests and Mrs. Gaston Midgett assisted in the gift room and elsewhere. A large number of friends called to extend congratulations to the couple.

Out-of-town guests included Mr. and Mrs. Mann, Brenice Midgett; Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Midgett and son of Portsmouth, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Midgett of Powells Point; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Davenport, their son and daughter-in-law and granddaughter of Creswell; Mrs. Ellis Cox of New Smyrna Beach, Fla.; and Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Shannon and son of Hatteras.

WANCHESE PERSONALS Luther Midgett spent Christmas in Hampton, Va., with his daughter, Mrs. Gus Saunders.

Mrs. Louise Williams received medical treatment in Norfolk Tuesday. She was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Stetson and children.

Parker Midgett of Elizabeth City visited relatives here Saturday.

Mrs. Lucy Midgett spent the week end in Norfolk with her daughter Mrs. Dennis Creef.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jones and son Mike of Kill Devil Hills, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Voshille and son, Reese of Norfolk, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Daniels Jr. and children of Elizabeth City spent Christmas Day with Mr. and Mrs. Melvin R. Daniels.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Wright and daughter Jo Ann of Point Harbor Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Daniels and daughter Brenda spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Creef in Norfolk.

Mrs. Carrie Tillett, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Mavromattes and children of New York are spending the Christmas holidays here.

Mr. and Mrs. David Gaskins and children spent Christmas at Buxton with Mr. and Mrs. George Gaskins.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Ballance and baby spent Christmas in New Bern with Mrs. Ballance's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Pledger.

Mrs. Tommy Daniels and children spent Christmas in Currituck with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayland Baum spent Christmas in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Baum. They were accompanied by the Billy Baum children, Kay, Anna Mae and Judy Faye, who will remain in Florida. They did not accompany their parents earlier, in order to complete the fall school term here.

Mr. and Mrs. Allison Hazen and son Maynard have returned from Mount Airy, Maryland, where they visited Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Craighhead. Mrs. Craighhead is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hazen.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Daniels and son Barry of Windsor visited Mr. Daniels' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Daniels, during the Christmas holidays.

The pulp and paper mills in the 11-state Southern area represent an investment of \$3.7 billion. Florida has the largest investment for any one state, with mills valued at \$632 million.

Advertisement for Lewis 66 Blended