
New North Carolina Books

Alice R. Cotten, Compiler

Sam J. Ervin, Jr. *Preserving the Constitution: The Autobiography of Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr.* Charlottesville, Va.: The Michie Company, 1984. 436 pp. \$19.95

With the death of Sam Ervin on April 23, 1985, North Carolina lost its senior statesman and its last link with an era when southern politicians dominated the United States Senate. Ervin was the state's most distinguished political leader of this century and, with the possible exception of Billy Graham, the most recognized and respected North Carolinian of any stripe. Since his retirement from the Senate in 1974 and up until his last bout with illness, Ervin had kept busy traveling and speaking across the country, filing amicus briefs in cases involving constitutional law, and greeting the many people who stopped by his Morganton office. Somehow, on top of all this, he became, in his eighties, a prolific author.

First came his contribution to the literature of Watergate, *The Whole Truth*, published by Random House in 1980. Then Senator Ervin put down on paper the stories he had used on the bench and on the hustings for almost sixty years. The University of North Carolina Press published *Humor of a Country Lawyer* in 1983. Now his life story, written in his own words and without the aid of a ghostwriter, has been issued by the Michie Company, traditionally publishers of volumes devoted to the law. Perhaps this is as it should be since this, his last book, amounts to a legal brief for himself. The Senator gathered in one place what he had done, what others had said about his actions, and what official records disclosed. He recognized that in doing so he might be seen as immodest but pleaded "in extenuation of my offense that I have employed in everything I say about myself all the intellectual integrity I possess and am capable of exercising."

Born in 1896 and educated at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and at Harvard, Ervin served in France during World War I. After years as a legislator, trial lawyer, and judge, he was appointed in 1954 to fill the vacancy in the Senate created by the death of Clyde R. Hoey. Within weeks, he drew the attention of that body

with a speech urging the censure of Joseph McCarthy. Over the next twenty years, Ervin retained the respect of his colleagues across the ideological spectrum. Whether it was in championing civil liberties, the separation of church and state, and curbs on the abuse of governmental power or in opposing civil rights legislation, the Equal Rights Amendment, and judicial activism, the Senator acted on principle. He could count both Ted Kennedy and Jesse Helms among his admirers.

The story Ervin has to tell is for the most part that of his public career. With the exception of short sections about family members, we learn little about his life outside the public realm. The book is burdened by overlong quotations from speeches, other books, and newspapers. The section on Watergate is oddly truncated; the reader is referred to Ervin's earlier book on the subject. The entire account, however, is presented with Ervin's rhetorical flourishes intact and sprinkled with his preacherly wit and homilies. The book is made more useful by complete name and subject indexes. It belongs in every North Carolina library.

Ervin's devotion to the United States Constitution, "the most precious instrument ever devised by the mind of man," guided his actions and compelled him to write the book. He did so "in the hope that something I have done or said may prompt others to fight as I have fought for the preservation of the Constitution and the freedoms it enshrines." North Carolina and the nation are poorer without him but richer for having his version of the events of his career.

Michael Hill, North Carolina Division of Archives and History

Suzanne Newton. *An End to Perfect*. New York: Viking Kestrel, 1984. 212 pp. \$11.95.

"Perfect" is how twelve-year old Arden thinks of Haverlee, the small North Carolina town where she lives with her parents and her older brother. Arden wants things to stay the way they are forever. But things are not perfect for long; Arden's brother decides to spend his last year of

school living with their grandparents so that he can attend a better school. Arden's best friend DorJo is also going through a painful period with her family; she moves in with Arden's family temporarily because of her own mother's neglect and abuse. Arden sees this as the perfect solution: her brother may be leaving but DorJo is coming to live with them and will take his place.

That pat solution, however, is not to DorJo's liking; in fact, that solution does not suit anyone, even Arden. Arden discovers that things cannot remain the same for anyone. She must grow up and take into account other people's desires and happiness.

Once again Suzanne Newton has constructed a well-written story of a young person's maturing and growing awareness and understanding of herself and others. As always, she has dealt with both the pleasant and the stressful sides of life. She describes people and situations realistically. The primary difference between this book and *I Will Call It Georgie's Blues* and *M.V. Sexton Speaking* is that in this latest book the main character is much younger. For that reason, *An End to Perfect* will appeal to a slightly younger audience than the other two books. All three books are excellent novels and will be very popular with junior and senior high school readers.

Diane Kessler, Durham County Schools

David E. Whisnant. *All That Is Native & Fine: The Politics of Culture in An American Region*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1983. 340 pp. \$24.00.

One cannot read David Whisnant's book without gaining a better understanding of the culture of southern Appalachia. Whisnant, a professor of American studies at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County and author of *James Boyd* and of *Modernizing the Mountaineer: People, Power, and Planning in Appalachia*, focuses on the manipulation and exploitation of mountain folk by well-intentioned "cultural workers," which, he argues, results in neglect of the region's real problems. As case studies, the author uses the Hindman Settlement School (founded in 1902) in eastern Kentucky, the cultural work of Olive Dame Campbell (during 1908-1948) throughout the mountains, and the White Top Folk Festival (1908-1948) on the Virginia-North Carolina border.

Although believing that "all that is native and fine" should be preserved, Olive Dame Campbell and other cultural investigators from mostly edu-

cated, urban, and middle to upper economic-class backgrounds imposed their essentially alien ideology and social programs on a mostly uneducated, rural, and lower economic-class people of the mountains. For example, while espousing a commitment to the music of the region, the organizers of the White Top Folk Festival praised older ballads played and sung by local performers and condemned performances of more modern tunes; thus, local musicians played only music the organizers wanted to hear and omitted many pieces the performers enjoyed.

Whisnant's book not only successfully documents the systematic cultural intervention of one region by conscientious individuals seeking to impose the values they think best, but also reveals the dynamics of cultural continuity and change in other regions and in the nation as a whole. In achieving his objectives, the author's use of relevant primary sources is impressive, while his detailed footnotes and index allow the reader to focus on areas of specific interest. Finally, this book is a must for everyone interested in the southern Appalachian region whether he be a user of an academic or a public library.

Richard Shrader, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

David Beers Quinn. *Set Fair for Roanoke: Voyages and Colonies, 1584-1606*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985. 467 pp. \$19.95 cloth, \$9.95 paper.

It is no coincidence that this work appears in 1985, the four hundredth anniversary of the Ralph Lane colony at Roanoke Island—"America's Four Hundredth Anniversary," in the phrase adopted for this state's commemoration of that event and of the Lost Colony a few years later. In a sense, then, this is a commemorative volume. But while that term all too often connotes a work of many pictures, pious sentiments, and thin scholarship, *Set Fair for Roanoke* reflects a lifetime of intense, imaginative research and writing by the acknowledged dean of scholars of early English exploration studies in general, and of Roanoke colony studies in particular.

David Beers Quinn, professor emeritus of history at the University of Liverpool and prolific writer on early English colonization, dedicates this book "To the shade of Thomas Harriot." Like Harriot, the scholarly chronicler of the Lane colony, Quinn delights in every aspect of the Roanoke ventures, from the first stirrings in England of interest in overseas colonization to an archaeological report as recent as 1983. Indeed, a hall-

mark of Quinn's scholarship is its well-rounded approach to historical narrative; although he himself over thirty years ago assembled and edited a massive collection of contemporaneous documents on the Roanoke story, which thorough familiarity allows him to use to full advantage in the present work, he also employs geological and archaeological reports of our own time to help reconstruct the life of the colonies in as much detail as one could hope for. Nor does he dwell exclusively on the colonists: his account of the coastal Indians is full and sympathetic.

Quinn is not afraid of speculation. His conclusion that the fate of the Lost Colonists—the 114 men, women, and children of the colony of 1587—has “been clarified with reasonable certainty” will not be accepted by everyone. But he meticulously sifts available evidence and patiently builds his argument that the main body of colonists settled among the Chesapeake Indians in Virginia and that both the Chesapeakes and the colonists were massacred by the Powhatan Indians around 1607. Speculation is present in a number of more mundane matters as well, but is always buttressed by documentation and common sense.

Set Fair for Roanoke includes well-chosen illustrations, notes, bibliography, and a full index. It can be recommended without hesitation for high school and college libraries.

Robert J. Cain, North Carolina Division of Archives and History

Ronald B. Hartzer. *To Great and Useful Purpose; A History of the Wilmington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*. [Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1984.] 172 pp. \$10.00. Available from Corps of Engineers, Attn: Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box 1890, Wilmington, N.C. 28402.

The Library Programs Service of the Government Printing Office has recently encouraged United States depository librarians to market their documents collections so citizens can become more aware of the usefulness and availability of United States government publications. This book, which is distributed by the Government Printing Office to depository libraries, should not be overlooked by North Carolina documents librarians. It is an interesting, attractive publication which can be used to promote their depository collections.

The author's goal is to provide a comprehensive account of the contributions of the Wilmington District Army Corps of Engineers to the

economic development of North Carolina and a portion of southern Virginia. According to the author, most historians of North Carolina have ignored the role of the Corps in the development of the state. Archival records, interviews with past and present Corps employees, and numerous published sources have enabled Ronald Hartzer to provide a thorough account of the Corps' activities in the Wilmington District through 1982.

Although the Wilmington District was not established until 1885, Hartzer begins with a brief history of the settlement of North Carolina, emphasizing the importance of navigable waters in the state's development. North Carolina's development was hindered by the lack of navigable ocean ports and navigable rivers connecting the interior of the state to the ocean. The author describes early efforts by private companies and state engineers to deepen channels and clear obstructions from the state's waterways. The state sought help from the Corps in the 1820s after private and state efforts failed. Development of navigable waters was crucial to the economic survival of the state.

Early efforts of the Corps concentrated on improving conditions on the Cape Fear River and Ocracoke Inlet. Improvements that were made often seemed to be futile because of damage from storms and constant changes in the coastline. During the Civil War, the Corps was forced to abandon waterway projects in order to build forts. At the end of the Civil War, improvement of waterways was even more crucial to the state's survival. As a result of the war, North Carolina suffered severe losses in terms of manpower and transportation; railroads, bridges, and roads were destroyed and rivers were obstructed. The Corps resumed work on waterways in the state, and in 1885 a district office was located in Wilmington.

During the end of the 19th century and in the beginning of the 20th century, the Corps made significant improvements to North Carolina's rivers and harbors. Dams, locks, and jetties were constructed, and dredging methods were improved. The Corps also constructed the Intra-coastal Waterway during this period. From the mid-20th century until 1982, the Corps' activities included flood control, military construction, renourishment of beaches, regulation of construction along waterways, environmental quality planning, and continual dredging of rivers and harbors.

In addition to providing descriptions of various Corps projects, the author provides the reader with descriptions of the equipment developed by the Corps and various construction tech-

niques for forts, locks, dams, jetties, and dredging. Hartzler also provides information about political strategies and cooperation of the state and federal governments which resulted in funding for the projects. Throughout the book, Hartzler also gives credit to various Corps employees for their engineering innovations that have contributed to the development of a system of navigable waterways in North Carolina.

Each page contains black and white photographs, maps, illustrations, or tables which enhance the reader's understanding of the text. The layout of the illustrative matter and the quality of the photographs are excellent. Readers will frequently consult the glossary which provides brief, clear definitions of the technical terms associated with waterway engineering.

Four appendixes add to this interesting history. Appendix A is a table of freight traffic at the Morehead harbor from 1869-1979 and at the Wilmington harbor from 1924-1979. Appendix B is a chronology of the Wilmington District's boundaries from 1885-1981. Appendix C lists Wilmington District Engineers from 1884-1983. Appendix D lists the procedures followed in initiating, authorizing, and constructing Corps of Engineers' projects.

Chapter notes are provided at the end of the book. An extensive bibliography and index are also provided.

This book should be particularly interesting to people in the area served by the district, especially to those who have witnessed Corps' projects. It is recommended for public, academic, and engineering libraries.

Arlene Hanerfeld, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

John Ehle. *Last One Home*. New York: Harper & Row, 1984. 345 pp. \$15.95.

Last One Home spans the life of Pinkney Wright, born in 1881 in a remote farming valley of the North Carolina mountains. Pink is a born bargainer though, not a farmer, and soon after his marriage and the birth of two children, he moves into Asheville to work in cousin Hugh King's store. While his wife Amanda yearns for a cow and chickens, Pink bargains and barter—cider, paint, cabbages, hogs, peas, furs, and ginseng—leading Hugh King's store into great prosperity.

The story takes a new direction when Pink begins selling life insurance, first on the side, then as founder and chief salesman of Monarch Insurance Company. The second half of *Last One Home*,

then, is the story of Monarch Insurance and of Pink and Amanda's children and their shifting loyalties—to Pink, to Amanda, and to Monarch. Pink's illness weaves through this part, finally drawing the strings and bringing the novel to its conclusion.

Last One Home is similar in theme and characters to Ehle's earlier book, *Lion on the Hearth* (Harper, 1961). It, too, depicted a young man of the hills who gained great commercial success in Asheville. It, too, portrayed a wife distrustful of commerce and new ways, jealous children vying for favor in the family business, wandering sons and brothers who return to charm all.

Last One Home holds the reader's attention and is a good story, but it does not have the fire of Ehle's earlier books. The characters are not so intriguing as were Paul and Kin in *Lion on the Hearth*, and the plot does not carry the reader along as it did in *The Land Breakers*. Still, libraries across North Carolina will receive many requests for this new novel, and its purchase is recommended.

Becky Kornegay, Western Carolina University

Bruce Brooks. *The Moves Make The Man*. New York: Harper & Row, 1984. 280 pp. \$13.50.

A 1984 Newbery Honor Book, written in three parts and set in Wilmington, this sports story tells a tale of family relationships, illness, and how two boys, Jerome and Bix, deal with their respective situations. Jerome's respect for Bix begins with a Little League game, the black team coached by Jerome's brother Maurice, and the white team shortstop, Bix, playing to win: "He was the only kid I had ever seen who seemed to know with every part of himself just what to do on every single play." Jerome, who integrates the white school, feels himself to be without friends. With his mother in the hospital, Jerome registers for home economics where he again encounters Bix, who doesn't seem to be the same person. After Bix freaks out in class, he disappears from Jerome's life until they meet again by chance on a deserted basketball court. The story concludes with Jerome joining Bix for an event-filled trip to Durham to see Bix's mother, a psychiatric patient at Duke Hospital.

This is Jerome's tale, and he is the best developed character. Though slow in the middle with some unrealistic dialog, the story should hold the attention of both sports fans and students of human nature. This is the author's first young adult novel. Recommended as additional material

for school and public libraries serving grades five through nine.

Diana Young, North Carolina State Library

Roy Wilder, Jr. *You All Spoken Here: Prepared for the Edification & Jollification of Readers, Writers, Browsers, Dialecticians, Linguists, Folklorists, etc., and for Visitors from Foreign Parts who Need to Parlez-vous in Cornpone Country.* Foreword by William R. Espy. Illustrations by Glen Rounds. New York: Viking, 1984. 215 pp. \$16.95.

The title of Wilder's book may be misleading. The book is more than the frivolous paperback sold at beach restaurants to tell tourists that "rah cheer" is the southern pronunciation for "right here." It is an entertaining and useful, if somewhat random, collection of over three thousand southern words, expressions, and usages gleaned by the author from a variety of sources for some ten years.

"Leveling off. That's what our nation's language has been doing lately. Time and television are apparently the major culprits in eroding our linguistic heritage," Wilder writes, hoping with his book to preserve some of the uniqueness and spice of regional speech. Our linguistic heritage is part of the heritage being celebrated now in four hundredth anniversary activities, as Wilder points out.

You All did begin as a series of tourist-oriented pamphlets published in the 1970s. Wilder has compiled and added to the information in that series for the present work. The southernisms have been gathered from sources ranging from the "Sykes Seed Store Symposium of Stovehuggers" to Mary Boykin Chesnut. They vary from the poetic ("between hay and grass: between boyhood and manhood; too late for one thing, too early for another") to the earthy ("cold enough to take the stink off shit") and from the very local ("mullet blow: wind from the northeast ... in North Carolina's Bogue and Core Sounds") to the more common and not strictly southern ("front room: company room; the best room; where the preacher sleeps").

Linguists and folklorists, as Wilder's subtitle suggests, may indeed find material of interest here, though they may miss an index or alphabetical order anywhere to locate particular words. *You All* makes no pretense of being a scholarly work like Hans Kurath's *A Word Geography of the Eastern United States*. Other readers may not be edified or jollified by the profanity, references to

sex, or irreverent descriptions of reverent topics which are included.

Cautions aside, the format is attractive and readable. The book is divided into sections dealing with such subjects as personality, weather, religion, and food. Each section is introduced by a clever title, an anecdote, and a wonderful line drawing by Glen Rounds.

Wilder writes mainly for entertainment and exhorts his readers, "Have fun, you all ... heah?" *You All* is full of humor, much of it bawdy and colorful in the southern-fried tradition of writers such as William Price Fox.

Wilder is a native of North Carolina. After studying journalism at UNC-Chapel Hill, he worked for various newspapers, including the *New York Post* and the *Herald Tribune*. Later he worked in advertising and public relations and in the political campaigns of Frank Graham, Kerr Scott, Terry Sanford, and Robert Scott. Wilder now runs his own press, the Gourd Hollow Press, in Spring Hope.

Nancy Shires, East Carolina University

Other Publications of Interest

Tales and legends of the North Carolina coast are always popular books. Charles Harry Whedbee, author of three such volumes, has another that John F. Blair has just published, *Outer Banks Tales to Remember* (\$7.95). There are seventeen stories in this small volume (133 pages), some about Indians, some about animals, some about plants, some about romance and lost love, all entertaining. The dust jacket is wonderfully appropriate for the book, another excellent design by Virginia Ingram of John F. Blair.

School and public libraries will want to get a copy of a new booklet by Joe A. Mobley that has just been published by the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. *USS North Carolina: Symbol of a Vanished Age* is a well-researched, illustrated, and designed fourteen-page booklet that tells the story of our state's beloved battleship (for which many of us can remember collecting dimes while we were in grade school). The ship was built in 1937 and participated in about fifteen battles in the Asiatic-Pacific campaigns of 1942-1945. It was installed as a memorial in Wilmington in 1961 and has since attracted over six million visitors. Mr. Mobley tells the story well.

It's always gratifying to see a new history of an educational institution, particularly of an institution that no longer exists and thus could easily fade from memory. *Country College on the Yadkin: A Historical Narrative* by Virginia G. Fick, tells the story of Yadkin College, a Methodist school which opened in 1856 and closed in 1924. Mrs. Fick, a faculty member at Davidson County Community College, has done her research carefully and written well. The ninety-six page volume has notes, sources, eleven appendixes, and an index containing over eight hundred entries. It has many illustrations: photographs, reproductions of documents, letters, a map. Order from the Davidson County Community College Book Store, P.O. Box 1287, Lexington, NC 27293-1287. Price is \$15.95 plus tax, postage, and handling.

Libraries that buy travel guides or mountain material will want to get a copy of *A Traveler's Guide to the Smoky Mountains Region* by Jeff Bradley. The guidebook includes the mountains of Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia. The author states that "this book was written for people who want to understand the history and culture of the area they visit," and his commentary does give more historical information than many guidebooks do. He also gives location, address, hours, and telephone number for the sites, hotels, and restaurants that he includes. (Harvard Common Press, 535 Albany St., Boston, MA 02118; \$19.95 cloth, \$10.95 paper; 272 pages, including index.)

Libraries with genealogical collections may want to purchase *Cemeteries of Yadkin County, North Carolina*, compiled by Carl C. Hoots, an original publication from The Reprint Company in Spartanburg, S.C. (\$25.00 paper). The volume has four parts: church cemeteries, private cemeteries, Iredell County cemeteries, and Davie County cemeteries, totalling almost twenty thousand entries. The information given includes name, birth and death dates, and family relationships. There is an index by surname, a map, and an introduction.

Public libraries will want to get the revised and expanded edition of *The Andy Griffith Show* by Richard Kelly. (John F. Blair, 1984. 296 pages, \$8.95 paper). The show is currently celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary and is highly popular (two national fan clubs!). The original edition of the book was published in 1981. This edition has three new chapters, including an unfiled script. The book is a serious work in the field of television criticism, making it also appropriate for libraries that collect in that area.

Instructions for the Preparation of Manuscripts for North Carolina Libraries

1. *North Carolina Libraries* seeks to publish articles, book reviews, and news of professional interest to librarians in North Carolina. Articles need not be of a scholarly nature, but they should address professional concerns of the library community in the state.
2. Manuscripts should be directed to Robert Burgin, Editor, *North Carolina Libraries*, School of Library Science, N.C. Central University, Durham, N.C. 27707.
3. Manuscripts should be submitted in triplicate on plain white paper measuring 8½"x11".
4. Manuscripts must be double-spaced (text, references, and footnotes). Manuscripts should be typed on sixty-space lines, twenty-five lines to a page. The beginnings of paragraphs should be indented eight spaces. Lengthy quotes should be avoided. When used, they should be indented on both margins.
5. The name, position, and professional address of the author should appear in the bottom left-hand corner of a separate title page.
6. Each page after the first should be numbered consecutively at the top right-hand corner and carry the author's last name at the upper left-hand corner.
7. Footnotes should appear at the end of the manuscript. The editors will refer to *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 13th edition. The basic forms for books and journals are as follows:
 - a. Keyes Metcalf, *Planning Academic and Research Library Buildings* New York: McGraw, 1965), 416.
 - Susan K. Martin, "The Care and Feeding of the MARC Format," *American Libraries* 10 (September 1979): 498.
8. Photographs will be accepted for consideration but cannot be returned.
9. *North Carolina Libraries* is not copyrighted. Copyright rests with the author. Upon receipt, a manuscript will be acknowledged by the editor. Following review of a manuscript by at least two jurors, a decision will be communicated to the writer. A definite publication date cannot be given since any incoming manuscript will be added to a manuscript from which articles are selected for each issue.

Issue deadlines are February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10.