

NEW NORTH CAROLINA BOOKS

by

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EDWARD L. DUPUY and EMMA WEAVER. *Artisans of the Appalachians*. Asheville: Miller Printing Company, 1967. 123pp. Illus. \$9.95.

The dust jacket subtitles this book "A Folio of Southern Mountain Craftsmen." It's that and more. It's a handsome picture book with superb photographs by Edward L. Dupuy, himself a craftsman with a camera. It's a record of native skill and ingenuity. It can be a source of pride to readers in this area that their country has produced such splendid artists.

In most instances a page of text faces a full-page picture of the craftsman discussed as he works. Sometimes one or more pictures of his (or her, or their) handiwork appears with the text. Much of what is said about these people is in their own words. Their enthusiasm and pleasure in work come through clearly. These craftsmen live in the two Carolinas, Tennessee, Georgia, and Kentucky. Nearly thirty crafts are represented, and several teachers of craftwork are also presented. Among those represented are basket-makers, cabinetmakers, cornshuck workers, doll makers, a gunsmith, a pewtersmith, rugmakers, spinners, woodcarvers, and wrought-iron workers.

ANDREW TURNBULL. *Thomas Wolfe*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1967. 374pp. Illus. \$7.95.

North Carolinians are so accustomed to hearing that a new book has been published on Thomas Wolfe that they may easily be excused for overlooking one of them now and again. Many, after all, are not Wolfe "fans." This book, however, was on national best-seller lists for months, and as an interesting biography it merits the attention of a wide range of readers. Wolfe's life *was* interesting. Although he was not always at ease with them, he did associate with many notable people of the time. He frequently broke away from the accepted standards of the day. He was widely travelled. He is perhaps the best known native of North Carolina. Andrew Turnbull's biography of Thomas Wolfe, while scholarly and carefully written, is a fascinating account of an interesting person. To enjoy the biography an appreciation of Wolfe's novels is not essential. For the Wolfe enthusiast as well as for those who unhesitatingly explain that they "couldn't get beyond the first chapter" of a Wolfe novel, this biography will prove to be one of those books "you can't put down."

CHALMERS G. DAVIDSON. *Piedmont Partisan, The Life and Times of Brigadier-General William Lee Davidson*. Davidson: Davidson College, 1968. 190pp. \$1.95 paper. (Order from Student Book Store.)

First published in 1951, this readable biography of one of the state's important partisan leaders of the Revolution has long been out of print. Those libraries which failed to acquire the first edition or which need additional circulating copies should take early advantage of the present opportunity to add them. The coming demand for in-

formation about North Carolina's role in the American Revolution which the bicentennial will create can be met in part by this book.

- J. WINSTON PEARCE and WINNIE PEARCE. *A Window on the Mountain*. Nashville, Tenn.: Broadman Press, 1968. 148pp. \$4.50.

This book may appeal to book-minded librarians more than to the general reading public. The Rev. Mr. Pearce, who is now professor of preaching at a Baptist seminary in California, was formerly pastor of the First Baptist Church in Durham. Mrs. Pearce was born in Buncombe County, a descendent of a Pennsylvania couple who settled there in 1800. Their book is in part autobiographical and in part an anthology of favorite bits of poetry, quotations, or ideas picked up through wide reading. Much of it is interesting and entertaining. All of it is readable, but most of it will be more meaningful to those who have been personally acquainted with the authors.

- WILLIAM M. STEPHENS. *Southern Seashores, A World of Animals and Plants*. New York: Holiday House, 1968. 192pp. Illus. \$3.95.

Written by a Tennessee-born graduate of the University of Miami's courses in marine biology and oceanography, this book will serve at least two purposes in North Carolina libraries. As a readable book for young people, yet informative even for adults, it will introduce many to the mysteries and beauties of the sea and the coast. Excellent photographs by the author will be found useful in identifying many forms of marine life found on the North Carolina coast. Both common and scientific names are used in the descriptions. Habits, life histories, interesting peculiarities, uses to man as well as warnings (where necessary) of dangers to man, are included. Plants and animals, as well as fish, are included.

- NEAL F. AUSTIN. *A Biography of Thomas Wolfe*. Austin, Texas: Roger Beacham, Publisher, 1968. 212pp. Illus. \$7.95.

The author of this new book for young adults is head of the High Point Public Library. He has successfully reduced the complexities of an interesting and involved life into an entertaining and highly readable book. Thomas Wolfe wrote long and complicated books of an autobiographical nature. His biographers and interpreters, of whom there have been many, have likewise written long and complicated books *about* Wolfe. It is refreshing to find a readable biography of Wolfe in a book which is easy to hold. Neal Austin's mastery of his subject and the ease with which he portrays Wolfe's life make an interesting book. Librarians who write readable books are rare. Neal Austin's readers should insist that his rare talent be exercised often for their benefit.

JACK D. FLEER. *North Carolina Politics, An Introduction*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1968. 165pp. Maps. \$4.95 (\$2.45 paper).

JAMES R. SPENCE. *The Making of a Governor, The Moore-Preyer-Lake Primaries of 1964*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1968. 125pp. \$1.95 paper.

These two little books on the workings of politics in North Carolina complement each other very nicely. The former will prove to be a handy reference source in answering many hard-to-answer questions about the inner workings of politics in the state. To convince librarians throughout North Carolina that they should add several copies to their book collections, there is nothing better than a concise statement of the book's contents: The chapter on "People in Politics" discusses qualifications for voting, facts about registration, and "registration and participating levels in the state." A chapter on "Party Organization and Activities" cites regulations, gives definitions, and explains such functions as campaigning, fund raising, precinct meetings, etc. "Nominations, Campaigns, and Elections" are discussed in a third chapter, while the two final chapters deal with intra-party and inter-party competition. A detailed table of contents in outline form will make the resources of this book apparent at a glance.

The second book contains detailed examples of much of this in a practical case study. The 1964 gubernatorial campaign was interesting for a variety of reasons, and James Spence, a qualified observer with a varied background of political experience, reviews the activity of the three Democratic contenders for governor. The organization of the campaign, "machines," issues, the role of television, personalities, "special interests," the race issue, and other matters are carefully discussed as they apply to each of the candidates. The people involved, posts they held in the organization of each candidate, and results of the first and second primaries are tabulated in concluding sections of the book.

M. A. HUGGINS. *A History of North Carolina Baptists, 1727-1932*. Raleigh: General Board, Baptist State Convention, 1967. 454pp. \$5.00.

A general chronological scheme is followed in this denominational history which includes a great deal of other history of the colony and state. The story of Baptists elsewhere introduces the book, and from 1727 onward the progress of Baptists is told in relation to events in North Carolina. The history of various branches of the church, of the Convention, and individual congregations are also treated. Throughout the book there are tables of churches, dates of founding, and other facts. Names of important leaders in the church occur frequently. It is to be regretted that the index is not more inclusive so as to bring out the great amount of local history found in the text.

OVID WILLIAMS PIERCE. *The Devil's Half*. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1968. 287pp. \$4.95.

Set in northeastern North Carolina in the years soon after the Civil War, this novel

presents a very moving yet accurate picture of the region. The characters are carefully drawn and are believable. The writing is superb. The story is engrossing. The strength and courage of Amy Prescott and her weak husband, paired by choice of parents, is the theme of the novel. The loyal support of Negroes (one of whom is half-brother to Raleigh Prescott) and the devotion and respect existing between white and black may remind twentieth-century readers that the races have not always been at odds.

RICHARD HAKLUYT. *Divers Voyages* (London, 1582, complete facsimile edition); and DAVID B. QUINN. *Richard Hakluyt, Editor*. New York: Barnes & Noble, Inc.), 1968. 2 vols. boxed. Maps. \$14.00.

This is three books in two. In addition to the two listed above a facsimile of John Florio's 1580 translation of "A Shorte and Briefe Narration of the Two Navigations to Newe Fraunce" is also included. Professor Quinn's scholarly yet readable sketch of Hakluyt (1552?-1616) as editor of English voyages is a worthwhile addition to any library. The facsimile of *Divers Voyages*, in spite of its black letter type, ought also to be in many North Carolina libraries. An index by Mrs. Alison Quinn makes both facsimiles and the essay all the more useful. An early description of North Carolina Indians is included as is the text of Verrazzano's visit to the North Carolina coast in 1524. For those whose interest in early Carolina history includes the southern territory, Jean Ribaut's account of the Port Royal colony should be noted.

EDWARD G. DANZIGER. *Papa D, A Saga of Love and Cooking*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1967. 206pp. Illus. \$6.50.

Many generations of University students in Chapel Hill have enjoyed the good food at Danziger's coffee shop. The owner, "Papa D," was the subject of many legends and the friend of countless writers and would-be writers. Danziger's soon was discovered by outsiders who enjoyed his Viennese coffee and other tasty treats. In his autobiography "Papa D" reviews and recalls his early life in Vienna, his army service in World War I, his friends, his loves, his confectioners' factory, his encounter with the German Gestapo, and finally his life in the United States after 1939. He writes frankly and with feeling, and what he has to say will appeal to a wide range of readers. Even those unfamiliar with "Papa D" or his gift shop on Franklin Street in Chapel Hill where the coffee shop once was, or his two restaurants in the town today, will find this to be an interesting autobiography of a man of varied experience.

CARRIE L. BROUGHTON. *Marriage and Death Notices in Raleigh Register and North Carolina State Gazette, 1826-1845*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1968. 402pp. \$10.00.

Those libraries and individuals who did not acquire a copy of this work published

in 1947 by the late State Librarian will be pleased to have it available again in facsimile. Marriage notes are included first in the volume and arranged year by year. Death notices fill pages 295-402, again year by year. We well realize that it would require resetting of the type, but if all marriage notices could be arranged in one alphabet and the same for the death notices, the volume would be more usable. Also, now that all known issues of the *Raleigh Register* have been microfilmed, index entries should be made for those issues not available to Miss Broughton in the State Library when the index was first prepared.

GEORGE F. SCHEER. *Cherokee Animal Tales*. New York: Holiday House, Inc., 1968. 80pp. Illus. \$3.50.

Written for the 8 to 11 year-old, this book contains a thirteen-page summary of Cherokee history which sets the stage for the stories which follow. There are more than a dozen well told tales which Cherokee children must have delighted in hearing long before they ever saw a white man. They explain things in nature which the observant child must have wondered about. "How the Groundhog Lost His Tail," "How the Turkey Got His Beard," "Why the Deer's Teeth Are Blunt," "How the Redbird Got His Color," and all the other tales will still delight children now that they have been retold by Chapel Hill author Scheer from the traditional versions collected many years ago in the Appalachians.

JULIAN SCHEER. *Upside Down Day*. New York: Holiday House, Inc., 1968. 29pp. Illus. by Kelly Oechsli. \$3.95.

An upside down day is when "Bees won't sting, Bells won't ring." "Clocks won't tick, Glue won't stick" on upside down days. This is a delightful nonsense little rhyme with intriguing pictures in full color that invite browsing among the many details. The 4 to 7 year-old will be fascinated by the idea of an upside down day. Author Julian Scheer (brother of George) was a *Charlotte News* reporter before he became Assistant Administrator for Public Affairs at NASA. Children might see him on television when space shots are in the news.

GLENN TUCKER. *Lee and Longstreet at Gettysburg*. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1968. 286pp. \$6.00.

Three-time winner of the Mayflower Award and recent winner of the Thomas Wolfe Award, Glenn Tucker has become known for his clear style in writing military history and biography. This is a North Carolina book only in that Glenn Tucker is now a citizen of the state, and does much of his historical research in the libraries and manuscript collections of the state. His latest work may be considered an extension of his

early *High Tide at Gettysburg*. In the present volume he analyzes some controversial features of the battle. It deals with the relationship between Lee and Longstreet, and even though some readers may not agree with the conclusions they will find it a challenging new presentation of the evidence.

RIXIE HUNTER. *The Checkerboard Corridor*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1967. 392pp. \$5.95.

Rixie Hunter, a 1943 graduate of Guilford College, winner of journalistic prizes, and veteran Winston-Salem newspaperman, died in 1965 at the age of forty-two. This novel, undoubtedly based on things he saw or imagined while covering City Hall for the *Winston-Salem Journal*, is an entertaining story of the effect of progress in a model city ("Granville") and the role played by politicians—some qualified and some not.

"The library is just as much a part of the American scene and the American heritage as is the little red schoolhouse." — David H. Clift, "Enduring Rights," *Wilson Library Bulletin* (June, 1954).

"The great hope for the future, as in the past, lies in the fact of change." — Norman Cousins.

"Books won't stay banned. They won't burn. Ideas won't go to jail." — Alfred W. Griswold, *Essays in Education*.

"Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man." — Frances Bacon, *Essays*.

"The desire to know more, the desire to feel more and accompany these . . . the desire to help others; here, briefly, is the human aim, and the library exists to further it," — E. M. Forester.

"The habit of reading is the only enjoyment in which there is no alloy; it lasts when all other pleasures fade." — Anthony Trollope, *Speech*.

"Of all the human relaxations which are free from guilt, none is so dignified as reading." — Samuel Brydges, *The Ruminator*.