NEWS

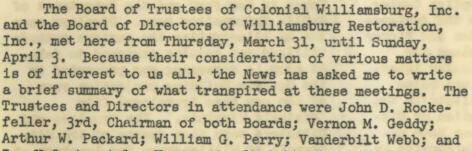


of COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

Volume 1, Number 11

April, 1949

NOTES ON THE BOARD MEETING



I. Unfortunately, Horace M. Albright, Harry F. Byrd, G. S. Eyssell, and Winthrop Rockefeller were unable to attend.

We had hoped at this meeting that our Trustees and Directors might have a maximum amount of "free time" in which to enjoy Williamsburg but, as usual, the opening session on Thursday found a full agenda. Among the items of business that came up here were:

New rates for the Exhibition Buildings after the Magazine and Guard House opening. It was decided that the new rates, which will not take effect until January 1, 1950, will give the visitor a choice of a block ticket of admission to all seven exhibition buildings, with repeat privileges, for \$3.00 (including Federal tax) or a block ticket of admission to any five exhibition buildings, without repeat privileges, for \$2.40 (including Federal tax).

The 250th Anniversary of Williamsburg. As you know, this year marks an important milestone in the history of this city and this session permitted the Trustees and Directors to be brought up to date on our plans for commemorating this event. I am pleased to report that they were in hearty agreement on our overall plans and were especially interested in the community aspects of the occasion.

"Eighteenth Century Life in Williamsburg, Virginia." This film, which was made for us some years ago by the Eastman Kodak Company, has been seen by an estimated four million people in this country and abroad. However, its very popularity has threatened its continued use as the prints are fast wearing out. The Board has taken steps to correct this by authorizing the processing of enough new prints to keep us at a level of 100 prints to be available for free loan distribution.

Following this busy morning session, the Trustees and Directors joined with the administrative officers for luncheon at Chowning's Tavern and, in the afternoon went on a tour of inspection of new construction projects. At five o'clock, corporate duties were put aside while the Board adjourned for a most pleasant reception at the home of Vernon and Carrie Cole Geddy.

Continued

NOTES ON THE BOARD MEETING (Cont'd.)

On Friday morning, the Committee on Interpretation met and were brought up to date on how the presentation of Colonial Williamsburg to the public is being constantly improved. The committee, like most of our visitors, attended the showing of the introductory film and slides in the Reception Center. They were given a report on the Antiques and Decorations Forum, Garden and Flower Symposium, and our future plans for events of this kind. Particular interest was shown in a new venture being undertaken, whereby an Institute in the Preservation and Interpretation of Historic Sites and Buildings has been established by the American University in cooperation with the National Park Service and Colonial Williamsburg. ialized courses will be offered to a selected group of sixteen students from June 6 to 24. These classes will be held in Washington from June 6 to 17 and in Williamsburg from June 20 to 24.

Reproduction Program

The Committee on Crafts reviewed the Craft Program or, as it is now to be known, the "Reproduction Program." This latter classification came about after a discussion of proper nomenclature for the program. While the Board has approved the continued use of the name "Craft House" for the salesroom, it is felt that the program should hereafter be known as the Reproduction Program to avoid confusion with our craft shops. The Board noted with satisfaction the many items that are once again coming into stock and the new items that have been added. The new catalog was displayed and announcement was made that the long awaited commemorative plates may now be expected for delivery in the fall, as is the new Queens Ware china in the Husk design.

Luncheon was held on Friday at the Williamsburg Lodge, where the Trustees and Directors met with members of the

staff. After lunch they inspected the Louis XV coach from the "Merci Train" at the Warehouse and were then given a well earned time-off until that evening, when sessions were resumed.

Promotion-Advertising Saturday morning was devoted to a review of the advertising-promotion program being carried forward by Allston Boyer in New York and the Department of Public Information here. Displays were set up illustrating the various methods utilized and results achieved to date. At noon, a screening was presented in the Goodwin Building projection room of the new Esso travelogue film "Historic Virginia." The Trustees and Directors were then guests of the City Council of Williamsburg for luncheon at the Williamsburg Inn and in the evening we were all entertained by "The Cheats of Scapin" at the Reception Center.

These highlights of the activities of the Boards while they were in Williamsburg will, I hope, give you some idea of the scope covered in these meetings. The interest of the members in our activities and their appreciation of your loyalty and constant effort on behalf of Colonial Williamsburg should be of encouragement and gratification to us all.

--K. C.

* * *

GARDEN WEEK PROGRAMS

A special series of evening programs has been scheduled as a new feature for Garden Week visitors. On Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday, Mrs. David Holmes will give an illustrated lecture on "Williamsburg Gardens" at the Reception Center and on Monday and Wednesday, Mrs. John R. Fisher will give her popular talk "Flower Arrangements of Colonial Williamsburg." The special Garden Week programs will begin at 8:15 each of the evenings.

RESEARCH NOTES ON WILLIAMSBURG'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

(On Sunday, May 1, one of the first featured events of Williamsburg's anniversary celebrations will be held in connection with the Spring Music Festival at 3:30 p. m. at the Lake Matoaka amphitheater. As a proper background on the significance of the date and the 250th anniversary, the following excerpts are given from the report made for the Community Committee by CW's Research Department.)

No one can read through the surviving records of the Council and the House of Burgesses between October 20, 1698, when the old state house at Jamestown burned, and June 7, 1699, when the "Act Directing the Building the Capitoll and the City of Williamsburg," was passed, without being impressed by the extraordinary ease with which this momentous decision was made. It is intelligible after two and a half centuries only by supposing that the way had been prepared, carefully and adroitly, by someone who had an interest in bringing the seat of colonial government to the neighborhood of the College of William and Mary.

May Day Celebration

This person was the royal governor, Colonel Francis Nicholson, foremost of the active patrons of the College. As early as February 25, 1699, Governor Nicholson began to lay plans for a gala observance of May Day at Middle Plantation, by calling upon the Indian interpreters to bring representatives of "the severall nations of Indians...to Pay their tribute to his Excellency at Middle Plantation."

When the General Assembly convened at Jamestown, April 27, 1699, Governor Nicholson invited the Council and House of Burgesses to be his guests at the College of William and Mary on May Day. They accepted and attended, where presumably they witnessed the performance of the Indians and where they were exposed to orations delivered by five college students to impress them with the intellectual achievements of W & M students and to interest them in Middle Plantation as a suitable site for the future capital city.

Third Speech

The third of the five speeches directly appealed to them to build the state house here, setting forth the advantages of the wholesome and pleasant situation, "so high, so dry, so free from the plague of Moskitoes and the noisom stinks & thick Fogs of Fenny, Marshy and Swampy grounds" of Jamestown. The Councillors and Burgesses returned to Jamestown greatly impressed by the College and the advantages of Middle Plantation as a suitable site for the colonial capital.

Until May 18, 1699, the surviving records indicate that no one other than the student orator proposed Middle Plantation as the best site but on that date Governor Nicholson said "I do now cordially recommend to you the placeing of yor Publick Building (w^{ch} God Willing you are designed to have) somewhere at Middle Plantation nigh his Majesties Royall Colledg of William and Mary."

Williamsburg Becomes Capital!

So well prepared was the way, thanks to Governor Nicholson, that on the same day that Middle Plantation was officially proposed to the Burgesses as a suitable capital, they resolved to accede to the proposal. It seems reasonable to conclude that the Assembly was won over to Middle Plantation by what its members saw and heard at the College on May Day, 1699. On June 7, the bill became law making Williamsburg the capital of the "antient and great colony and Dominion of Virginia."

BEHIND THE "NUMBER PLEASE"

At the mid-point of the extensive telephone network that ties CW into a smooth-working unit is a group of ladies whose deft touch speeds and makes pleasant the daily business of the organization.

The operators at the Lodge, Inn and Goodwin Building switchboards have a busy and interesting life. Seated before their boards of cords, switches and winking lights, they bridge the gap between dial and manual and between the outside and the inside while taking long distance calls, information requests, complaints and the vagaries of human nature in their stride.

Just recently, "Your PEX," publication of the C & P Telephone Company of Virginia paid tribute to the CW switch-board operators with a fulsome story and pictures and reported that the Inn PBX takes care of 108 stations, the Lodge 239 stations and the Goodwin Building 154 stations.

Of the three, the Lodge board is the busiest. With the opening of the new West Wing, it was enlarged into a two-position board. Out of office hours, most of the incoming calls to CW extensions go through this board increasing the traffic. There are also direct lines to the Chamber of Commerce reservation office, Inn and Lodge reservation office, taxi and to the Inn and Travis House. Mary Taylor, who left the board for a brief spell last month to get married, says that for some reason Tuesday night seems to be the busiest, but that she has to be on her toes all of the time. She alternates with Elizabeth Hodges, wife of Lodge desk clerk Ray Hodges, and Mary Andrews comes in as relief. Just the other night they had to put through a call to some unpronounceable place in North Africa for a guest - not quite a routine affair.

At the Inn, the operators there - Nellie Mahone and Mary Fish - have an equally busy time with the board and other special duties. Many's the time they have been startled by a familiar sounding voice, only to look on the register and find that they have just spoken with some famous person from the national scene. On busy days they place upwards to a hundred long distance calls, some as far away as South America. Hattie Lee is the Chief Operator for the Inn and Lodge, and roves between the two boards, trouble-shooting and filling in. After 11 p. m. each night, the night auditors at each hostelry take over the boards.

Betty Hedgebeth, operator of the Goodwin Building board, has gotten to know all of the dial numbers by heart in the two years she's been there. Now she associates the employees with their numbers ("There goes #283." "How do you do, Mr. #331!") Monday is her busiest day and she reports that around 4:45 each evening there is usually a rush of incoming calls for husbands to bring home a loaf of bread. The Goodwin Building operator often has to double as receptionist. Also she has to phome-trace numerous people such as Charlie Hackett, Otis Odell or Monier Williams so that a telephone call can catch up with them. Relief for the switch-board is provided by Sally Mapel and Betsy Hall.

The real trick of all the switchboard operators is their ability to carry on several conversations virtually at once and still be coherent. One thing, however, that still makes them do a double-take each time is the voice that comes across the wires saying "I want to speak to the manager." That always takes a bit of doing to figure out!

RED VAUGHN: BRICKMASON EXTRAORDINARY

The past master of the difficult art of colonial masonry and producer of what has been rightly called the "finest brickwork in America" is at the moment reclining peacefully near the end of a deserved vacation - made lengthy by a two-week bonus for twenty years' service.

Actually Alonzo Thomas Vaughn, CW's efficient and experienced bricklaying superintendent, dates his service from the days prior to the official start of the restoration organization. His first work was with Dr. Goodwin and Elton Holland down around Bruton Church. That was in March, 1928. Since then, many a million of the distinctive oversize Williamsburg brick have been laid by his hand or under his watchful eye. He's laid the sidewalks of Duke of Gloucester Street from end to end and worked on virtually every project undertaken here. Strangely enough, the only one that he's missed working on was the Nancy Camp House, home of Ed Kendrew. At the time of its reconstruction he was laid up as the result of a broken leg incurred while working on the Post Office annex.

headers and stretchers as:

The mortar also is different. Back in the early days, Red filled the yard of

The mortar also is different. Back in the early days, Red filled the yard of the Coke-Garrett House with more than seventy-five samples of brickwork before the exact formula could be determined. It is oyster shell mortar made of ground oyster shell, yellow sand for color and white cement.

At one time Red had as many as thirty-four masons working under him and as many helpers. That was at the time of the work on the Palace and Capitol when he had nine different jobs to keep an eye on. That was also the time that he kept three men going steady for three years in the grinding shed turning out trim brick. He says it's that type of work that interests a brickmason most and points to the rear doorway of the Palace ballroom with special pride. The delicate and complicated moulding is an exacting job for which Red must cut patterns and carefully piece together. After a job like that he has increased respect for the early builders of Williamsburg.

Modern jobs, by comparison, are simpler and while he likes the change of pace provided by such jobs as the Laundry, he prefers the 18th century work. As in the reconstruction of Williamsburg, brickmasons were doubly important in colonial days. Without steel for structural supports, masses of bricks had to be used for strength. For example, the chimney on the Orrell Kitchen, just finished, has something over 7,000 bricks in it while the chimneys at the Palace have over 70,000.

Not all of his work is for Construction Superintendent, Charley Hackett. A large amount is maintenance under Granville Patrick, the greater bulk of which seems to be repairing the brick sidewalks which give way under the weight of thousands Continued

RED VAUGHN (Cont'd)

of visitors.

On the job with Red are several masons who have been with him, off and on, since the early days here. J. L. Hudgins has been with the bricklaying crews since 1930, Tommy Holland since '33 and Tommy Michie, who has been in charge of the crew while Red was on vacation, first started work here in 1936.

Red's vacation has included a tenday trip to Wichita, Kansas, to visit his brother. He and his wife, the former Mattie Virginia Clowes of Williamsburg, left their seven children behind for that jaunt. The offspring range in age from twenty-one to six years, and there is even a grandchild.

His wife was one of the reasons he stayed in Williamsburg in the first place. Born, raised and schooled in Lunenburg County, Red learned masonry with a small contractor near Victoria. He was on his way to Florida to take a job when he stopped off in Williamsburg, took a job on one of the dormitories being built at the College and met Mattie. They were married in 1927 and he's been here ever since. Before starting with Dr. Goodwin and learning his trade all over again, colonialstyle, Red worked on the bus terminal at Lee Hall and helped restore Brandon.

Red was fire chief of the local volunteer company for a number of years and otherwise has been extremely active in the community. He's another on the long list of CW gardeners and is justly proud of the tomatoes and lima beans he grows in back of his Francis Street home.

As to the amateur who wants to build a backyard fireplace, Red says to go ahead and try it. You can't learn bricklaying by watching; only by doing it yourself. He would give this bit of advice, however: it's more difficult than it looks!

ISHAM JOHNSON RETTRES

Isham Johnson says he "drove his tack at the Wren Building," another way of saying he drove a nail in the ground where he started work. That was in March, 1929.

On April 6, Ishem's 65th birthday, the faithful and respected plumber's helper was retired. His fellow workers at the Warehouse gathered around as a cash present from them was presented to him along with a lifetime pass to the exhibition buildings. Ishem also was the recipient of a twenty-year service button.

In the time since he started work at the Wren Building until his retirement this month, Isham says he didn't lose a single day's pay. After working on the College buildings, Isham next was with the crews planting the prized tree box on the bowling green at the Palace. He also worked on the Palace and Capitol. Then he went with Pete Tucker's mechanical maintenance section. For the last ten years or so he has been helper to Plumber Frank Strupel.

Isham was born in York County and before "driving his tack in the Wren Building," was an oysterman. Also he worked for twelve years at a brickyard in New York State. He has nine children and four grandchildren, one of which, Cynthia Johnson, baby daughter of Floyd Johnson of the Curator's Department, was pictured in the collection of snapshots in the last issue of the News.

* * *

NOTICE

Burbank Street in Highland Park has now been completed and there are still a limited number of lots available for sale to our employees. Anyone interested in purchasing these lots should contact Mr. Spratley in the Goodwin Building.

THE BOARD IN SESSION

RIGHT Board members inspect the Tower of London collection of arms for The Magazine displayed at the archaeological lab. The guns arrived the day before the Board meetings began late last month.



LEFT Messrs. Chorley, Geddy, Webb, Rockefeller, Perry and Packard pause in their deliberations to pose for Tom Williams' camera.

Ends 20 Years Service

Isham Johnson (right) hands Frank Strupel a wrench for the last time as Isham retired on his 65th birthday. Story on page 6.





"The Cheats of Scapin" is continuing its highlysuccessful run with college students in the old roles. ABOVE, Bill Harper, an adept town crier, heralds the performances with handbills. RIGHT, Mary Gerschank, John Donovan and David Friedman, before the Reception Center footlights



LONG ARMS - Minor Wine Thomas and Harold Peterson, consultant, inspect the oldest gun in The Magazine, a lengthy Queen Anne rampart musket, as they prepare the arsenal for its summer opening.



CW SWITCHBOARD OPERATORS pose with Elizabeth Henderson at the Palace. Left to right, Nellie Mahone (Inn), Betty Hedgebeth (Goodwin building), Hattie Lee (WI&L), Mary Fish (Inn), and Elizabeth Hodges (Lodge). For details of PBX life, see page 4.

NEWS AND COMMENT

Springtime on the Peninsula has brought many local golfers to the Williamsburg Inn course, with many puttand-pray competitors taking advantage of the new annual dues (adv.). Tourists, however, are often unaware of the well-kept expanse of greensward and hazards stretching out behind the Inn and along South England Street. CW'ers could lend a hand to the golf course budget by reminding newcomers of the nine-hole layout. Sets of clubs are available for rent at one dollar per day According to Len Biles. the best golf is currently the product of Charlie Hackett, who has compiled at least one nine-

hole total of 35 and who is ex-

pected to have an uncomfortably

low handicap for the coming season.... Spring has also brought a spate of local fund-raising drives. Red Vaughan and his wife spear-headed sponsorship of a highly successful dance in the Matthew Whaley gym to benefit the P. T. A.'s efforts to equip a school band. Alice Alexander, as president of the P. T. A., has actively directed this campaign which is nearing the top Ellen Hoke, Tom Williams, and many others worked long and hard to see the Red Cross reach its 1949 goal....Don Taylor, ex-CW'er and local attorney, is heading the Cancer Society's drive, scheduled to begin on April 24, and featuring a big informal dance and gettogether at the Skating Rink on Friday evening, April 29.... After long months of investigation, the Community-Council -sponsored Community Chest was formed and is laying plans for an autumn drive which should reduce the number of campaigns next year and simplify life for local contributors.....John Goodbody is president and Virginia Holmes and Max Rieg are members of the Community Fund

Board.

The Williamsburg Quintet (Alfred and Fred Epps, Lisbon Gerst, Archie Rucker, and Levi Stephens) will soon

be immortalized in a phonograph album - and on vinylite (unbreakable) records at that. With Dick Showman directing the party, the Quintet motored to Washington recently for a "waxing," which included high-lights from their large repertoire. The album, to be priced at about \$4.00, is expected some time this summer.

Spring gardeners, along with such old standbys as Ed Kendrew, Jeff Graves, and Bela Norton, this year include Dick Showman and Harold Sparks.

Perhaps influenced by the recent barn-dances, they have plowed up a sizable plot behind the

Carter-Saunders House (aided by an unauthentic jeep tractor owned by Minor Wine Thomas, Jr.).

Elmo Jones, the versatile Richmond artist whose Williamsburg work is so well known, is continuing his long association for CW. He has completed art work for a new ticket-map and plans to revise the perspective map for our map folders. Also, he rendered a special map and some related drawings for the article in the Sunday Magazine section in the New York Times which appeared last year.

Easter-time visitor attendance in Williamsburg has been tremendous. There were over 2,100 persons at the Palace last Wednesday, exceeding the total for Easter Sunday and establishing a midweek record. Another record would have fallen on Easter Sunday if just two more persons had eaten at the Inn, Lodge, Travis House, or Chowning's. The total was just one less than the all-time record number on Memorial Day, 1948, when 4,361 persons were served.

NOTES FROM CONSTRUCTION

Bill Atkinson and Johnny Autry launched their newly-acquired sail boat on Easter Sunday at 9 a. m. Recently, they have been quite busy making some minor changes, such as relocating the mast. This required calculating the location of the center of gravity in relation to the center of buoyancy. Billy pulled quite a practical solution to this mathematical problem by simply pushing the boat up on a roller to the point where it was balanced.

Bill and Johnny expect to ply the waters of the peninsula beginning with the James River, and then the York, if fishing is better there.

C & M welcomes Sid Benton back into the Construction Department. He will take over the superintendency of the restoration of the Brush-Everrard House.

Otis Odell has started construction on his new home out on Route #5. It is located on a James City deer range, but the deer will still be allowed to have their right-of-way. It is a six-room, two-story, brick veneer house with a cellar....We note that he has a competent inspector on the job-none other than C. E. H!....The architectural, structural, and general advice as well as side-walk superintendency also has been extended by other CW employees.

Congratulations to Emanuel Owens whose wife presented him with his first child on April 8. It is a $7\frac{1}{2}$ pound baby boy, and shall be christened James Curtis Owens. (Mother, father, and baby are all doing fine!)

To the surprise and pleasure of the residents of Highland Park, Bill Atkinson, with F. M. Snidow's excavation equipment and personnel, moved in on Friday, April 8. By Thesday, April 12, they had staked out the proposed Burbank Street from its intersection with North Henry Street westward 1200 feet over two hills and across a ravine; they had removed all stumps from 31,000 square feet of area, graded the street to a 24-foot width, and installed 90 linear feet of 12 x 15-inch drainage culverts....Bill figures he moved nearly 1,000 cubic yards of earth to form the fill across the ravine, and flatten the steep grades of the two hills, so that it would be acceptable as a first-class street....Now all is in readiness at Highland Park for homes to be constructed along the newly-laid streets.

Jimmy Knight and Sid Benton have an agreement between them whereby if one catches the other smoking a cigarette he may collect a dime. Poor Jimmy has been caught twice that we know of!

If Rand Carter's wife has been wondering why it's so long before he completes his new home - we think we have the answer, Mrs. Carter. He was sitting down on the job the other day. But he claims everything is finished now except for a leak in the roof, and that is down the vent pipe.

Ralph Bowers, just before proceeding to his Bridge Club meet, made a bet giving ten to one odds that he would win high score among the eight players. And so he did!! Keep it up, Ralph. Come to think of it, that was an 80 to 1 shot!

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GOLFERS ATTENTION

All employees who expect to enter the annual CW golf tournament at the picnic this summer, are requested to start turning in their scores for handicap purposes by Committeeman Harold Sparks. All scores should be turned in at the Caddy House. Linksman Sparks points out that this will be a great help in assigning a fair handicap to all.

SO YOU'RE GOING ON A VACATION?

Comes Spring and folks who directly or indirectly serve a large chunk of America's vacationers start thinking of their own vacation with pay. Feeling the urge for the open road, the News herewith starts its own travel section as a timely aid to CW-ites already collecting road maps and travel folders.

The vogue in vacations this year, according to travel forecasters, is to take them nearer home. Chief reason is economic, but in Virginia there's a better reason....that the East and the West should know each other more completely.

To the average Tidewater Virginian, the great mountain and valley country of the Old Dominion is often unknown. It is so near home that we are apt to put it off from year to year in favor of more distant attractions.

Apple Blossom Festival

All that will change this year, so we are told. Already plans are ready for many local travel fans to go out to Winchester to see the great Apple Blossom Festival. This is one of Virginia's greatest shows, lasting two days (April 28-29) and drawing as many as 100,000 persons. Its main attraction is a pageant in which 2,000 actors participate in costume. It is a great extravaganza of music and color, two parades, familiar names from Hollywood and other attractions.

Other local folks, after talking with Williamsburg's exploration party to western climes (Bill Bippus, Pete LeCompte, Allan Matthews, Ten McCaskey) are making plans to get to know the valley country. Such things as the Natural Tunnel at Gate City; marvelous caverus at Luray, New Market, and Salem; White Top Mountain and Barter Theatre at Abingdon; and the Natural Bridge near Lexington, are only a few of the things with which all Virginians should be acquainted.

On the Skyline Drive there is a welking path which parallels the Drive for 94 miles. It is known as the Appalachian Trail and extends into other states from Maine to Georgia. The rangers in the Shenandoah National Park report that hikers use this trail the year round. It runs along the crest of the Blue Ridge where some of the most beautiful scenery is to be found. There are overnight shelters, fire pits and supplies of wood available free along the trail. In addition to the usual hiking facilities, the Shenandoah Park offers excellent fishing, swimming, camping, tennis, and motoring over the far-famed Skyline Drive, the best known item in the Park's varied vacation possibilities.

Bath County, Va.

If it's just a rest you're after, Warm Springs, Va., just around the corner from the Park, is tempting for the jaded CW-ite where your money will buy the same mountains and the Watteau-like landscape that tenants of the more plush Hot Springs consume. If you are bored with taking warm baths at 75¢ a throw at "The Springs," there are movies at Hot Springs, free Sunday night concerts in the lobby of The Homestead, and, if you feel more reckless, a quick drive over the mountains for luncheon on the porch of the Casino at the lush Greenbrier overlooking the eighteenth hole of the most magnificent golf course you can imagine. While you're there

SO YOU'RE GOING ON A VACATION (Cont'd)

take a look around the public rooms of the Greenbrier and see the face-lifting job performed on the furnishings of the old spa. All this is available if you can engage a room at the home of Mr. John Steele, who has a mountain brook running right through his front yard, for \$2.50 per day, one person to a room. Meals can be had at the home of Miss Somers Anderson, if her tables are not filled, at \$3 per day.

Before we get out of Virginia, the Travel Office has folders and details on the better-known attractions to our west. Nancy Foster there will help you plan that trip and tell you about many things you will want to see along the

Down across the border in the mountains of North Carolina, seven miles out of Hendersonville, is the Huckleberry Mountain Workshop. This might appeal to those who like living out-of-doors, writing, studying, music, trying out for radio programs, doing handcrafts or just living among fascinating people along with hiking and eating all homekilled meats, home-raised chickens and eggs and home-grown fruits and vegetables. It is only forty miles from beautiful Asheville and the Smoky Mountains. Meredith Dietz of the Craft House says she especially enjoyed having her meals at a table in charge of a Central American family where only Spanish was spoken at mealtime.

And of course you have heard about how many people have enjoyed Nag's Head at the other end of Tar Heelia, where you park your shoes when you go to a dance, and sleep and eat in a bathing suit.

But if you're really anxious to get away from it all, there's Mexico no kidding. It's really not so far or as expensive as might be thought. If you are air-minded the round trip rate

from Richmond to Mexico City is \$198; if terra firma is your medium and you can sleep sitting up, the day coach fare from Williamsburg to San Antonio round trip is \$85.22, or you can take a bus over the Inter-American highway for only \$30 there and back - if you get back. The round trip train fare from San Antonio to Mexico City is \$48.93. There is a former Dutch consul, H. Ph. DeKanter, Rosas Morena #103, Mexico D. F., who will take you as a paying guest (room, board, laundry) for about \$25 per week, and you are always invited into the salon before dinner for a small glass of Tequila, the effective drink of the country made from cactus. While you are still feeling the effects, if it is Sunday afternoon you can go to a bull fight, or, if you can't stand the blood, go out to Xochimilo and see the floating islands of flowers and buy an armful of carnations for 35¢.

* * *

SUGGESTION AWARDS

Each of the following received \$5. for their prize-winning suggestions:

Horace Morecock - That a disappearing stairway be installed from second floor hall to attic at Williamsburg Inn to assure ready access to exhaust fans, air conditioning unit, etc.

Helen C. Dewing - That memoranda and

information from Research Department to hostesses be prepared for insertion in three-ring binders so that they may be kept in better order.

Frank S. Jacobs, Jr., and William T.

Reinecke - That to prevent further
breakage of glass by the mail trucks,
a mail guard be installed on doors
leading to the Post Office platform.
Melvin Hille - That telephone numbers of

Company physicians be listed in the CW Directory.

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Nathaniel R. Hedgecock has arrived from his home in Winston-Salem, N. C., to resume hand-making of brick for CW. Under the wary eye of Ed Watkins, Nat has been busy assembling tools and equipment. Weather permitting, he hopes to soon be in full operation....Floyd Martin returned to work after a pleasant vacation....Dave Morton and his family were recently called to Mt. Vernon, N. Y., following the death of Dave's father.

Willie Meekins and Ben Spraggins are quite busy these days keeping harness, horses, and carriages in order to take care of the recent spring increase of visitors. Between showers and soakings the boys are doing a good job.

J. B. Brouwers recently attended the Southern Shade Tree Conference at Gainesville, Fla. While away, J. B. toured several southern states in search of landscape material.....Robert Webb is again enjoying a well-deserved vacation.....Robert Robinson, warehouse attendant, recently returned to work after being out with a badly burned arm.

Out at the old College Airport, a thing of beauty will soon emerge from its winter cocoon, spun by the skillful hands of Harry Sutton. From keel up, Harry has built, in his spare time, a cabin cruiser as trim as any afloat. A bit ruefully, but with justifiable pride, he says she may have to be christened "Last Penny."

Ewell Jones has been promoted to a utility man, taking up where Isham Johnson left off. We wish him lots of good luck and success in his new venture.

David Wallace and his wife spent a quiet Palm Sunday in the country with David's mother- and father-in-law; they went to Newport News Easter weekend.

R. D. Harris and his family spent the Easter holidays with Roosevelt's mother in Hampton, Va.

NEWS FROM THE GOODWIN BUILDING

Fresh on the heels of spring came the New York contingent consisting of Kenneth Chorley, Mildred Layne, Barbara Jeffrey, and Mae Peterson.... A welcome is extended to four new members of the Architectural Department. They are: Joseph Jenkins, of Hagerstown, Maryland; George Bennett of Wilmington, Delaware; Eric Enholm, of Mount Vernon, New York; and Loren Curtis, who was formerly employed in the Virgin Islands and Guam. Mr. Bennett is the author of "Early Houses in Delaware." a reference book on the shelves of the department. Catherine Daniel Saliske, former secretary in the Architectural Department, is spending a month in town and is lending a helping hand with the "specs" that the increased force is grinding out at break neck speed. Mrs. Rose Keyser is also "translating" the specs to typescript.... Mario Campioli's wife and daughters spent Easter week with him.

Alden Hopkins attended the fiftieth anniversary meeting of the American Society of Landscape Architects at The Shoreham in Washington. He recently entertained two former classmates at Harvard: Ralph E. Gunn, landscape architect for that sensational new hotel, the Shamrock, in Houston, and Charles F. Riley, landscape architect of Boston.

We regret to report the passing of Mrs. Barone, mother of Mrs. Bert Koch, in New Jersey.

Mar Kent Stevens and Mary Jane King went to Delray Beach, Florida, to see Trudy Monson, where she takes dictation on the beach!....Schuyler P. Roberts, veteran of World War II, and Ann McCulley, wife of Professor McCulley at the College, are recent additions to Gene Sheldon's staff.

Angie Cowles and her son, Carter III, spent Easter weekend with her twin sister in Hanover County....Shirley Stone's Continued

NEWS FROM THE GOODWIN BUILDING (Cont.)

mother, Mrs. Audrey Starnes, visited her recently.... Charles Willis has moved to 311 East Scotland.... Robert Judkins is on vacation.

Vernon Geddy spoke before the alumni chapters of Boston, New Haven, and New York, on the present state of the College of William and Mary and its alumni society....Duncan Cocke relieved the "monotony" of a vacation at Camp Peary with side trips to Washington, Philadelphia, Charlottesville and Warrenton.

Patrolmen Dean, Ripley and Alphin are attending a police school conducted by F. B. I. instructors in Warwick County.

Alma Lee Rowe and her sisters, the Parker girls of Richmond, recently held "open house" in their flower garden in Ginter Park. Three of the sisters spent Easter in New York as a guest of Preston Ellett. They had tickets for several hit plays, and Alma was entertained at a reunion luncheon with Near East friends at Plainfield, New Jersey....Wicky Wierum was a bridesmaid in the wedding of Gary Clark (son of Mrs. Glenwood Clark) at Wren Chapel.

Elizabeth Stubbs motored through the Shenandoah Valley with her sister; destination - Winchester....Peg Fisher and Becky Levering visited their parents on Palm Surry weekend in Baltimore....Lillian Bush spent the weekend in Washington....Grace Raiter entertained Mrs. Walter Blau, former indexer for the Virginia Gazette, and her husband the other day.

Louise Fisher talked about her great love, flowers, to the garden clubs of New Castle, Delaware, and Newton, North Carolina recently....Lester Cappon "endured" one of those business trips to New York and Princeton.....

Jane Gerten spent Easter weekend in New York....Shirlee Sanderlin split

her vacation between Norfolk and Washington.

The dandelions and bu tercups on the Williamsburg Inn Golf Course are afraid to raise their little heads these days because of the onslaught of divot-diggers. Colonel Wheat reports an 87 of which he seems to be pretty proud. The "Boss" was heard to say in the Caddy House that he can't hit a ball since he took lessons from Len Biles. It is reported that Harold Sparks broke the record for the course as high scorer!! Mildred Lanier is in training for winning the golf prize again at this year's picnic.

Mary Stephenson spent Easter weekend in Sussex County....Carolyn Muser,
who calls herself "general flunkey" for
the New York office, spent a week's vacation in Williamsburg....Mildred
Layne's sister, Mrs. Lefevre, spent a
week with her in Williamsburg.

-- Wanda R. Castle

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INSIDE THE CRAFT HOUSE

Visitors are pouring into the Craft House and there isn't even time to make news. However, Page Folk deserves "Society Column" headlines for the cocktail party she gave Craft House and its several husbands, wives, and sons "one Sunday afternoon;" and were this a country weekly, the list of refreshments would be published in tantalizing detail....Dr. George Oliver, Jr., interning at Medical College in Richmond, spent his two-weeks' vacation with his parents.

Catharine Don Pier enjoyed a long Palm Sunday weekend at her home in Waynesboro....Clara Charlton and her husband, Lt. Nelson Charlton, saw the cherry blossoms at their height in Washington last week.

--M. Dietz

WILLIAM AND MARY AND CWI COOPERATE

Within the past few weeks the two great Williamsburg organizations, the College and Colonial Williamsburg, have joined hands to put on activities of mutual interest which bring our restored community new color.

The William and Mary Players, under the direction of Howard Scammon and with the cooperation of Miss Althea Hunt, have started a series of Eighteenth Century players on Saturday nights at the Reception Center.

The William and Mary Chorus under the direction of Carl A. Fehr, has undertaken a series of spring concerts with his nationally known singing group on Friday evenings at the Reception Center.

Both events have brought highly favorable comments from our visiting public. Both have been reasonably successful from the financial standpoint, but extra support is needed to insure their continuance. All employees of Colonial Williamsburg are invited to have a part in this evening entertainment program by directing visitors to both the Chorus concerts on Fridays, and the Scammon plays on Saturdays.

It is hoped that both activities will be resumed in the fall. At that time it is expected that the Chorus will feature an all Eighteenth Century concert. At the present time it is a variety concert of music from the past five centuries. Mr. Fehr plans to do research this summer to build a program and make arrangements so that the Chorus concert will be an authentic program, such as might have been heard here in Colonial times.

The admission for the Chorus is \$1.00 for adults, 60¢ for students. For the play the price is \$1.20 for adults, 70¢ for students. All of these prices include the Federal tax.

Tom McCaskey is coordinating the

Chorus event, while Richard Showman is the maestro of the plays. Bill Bippus and his efficient Reception Center staff are doing a grand job with the staging of both events and the ticket sales for them. It is hoped that all employees will get to see both events before the spring season closes on May 28.

-- Tom McCaskey

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HOSTESS BRIEFS

April, fickle and beautiful. The tourist begins his day in April sunshine, to be caught an hour later in April showers.... Every state in the union is represented by the cars on Duke of Gloucester Street.... Visitors throng the buildings, the streets are a panorama of spring loveliness. The horses step briskly while Ben points out the sights..... The door of Chowning's is open.... Summer is on the way!

Nouvelle Green left her post at the Palace desk to spend a few days in Washington while the cherry trees were in bloom....Lilah Dunn was one of a party which motored to Richmond to attend a luncheon at the Women's Club, as guest of Mrs. Laurie Smith.

Minnie Pate spent several days in Scottsville with her mother, Mrs. R. M. David, who has been ill....Mrs. Shipman was a delegate to the State Convention of the D. A. R. at Roanoke. She spent the following weekend in Lynchburg.

Nancy Hart dropped in from Richmond to visit her mother, Mrs. Walter Bozarth and was just in time to lend a helping hand during the Palm Sunday rush at the buildings.....Chloro Marsh has donned farthingales and joined the hostesses.....A few days ago Gwendolyn Haller of City Point, Hopewell, Va., dropped in with the welcome news that

Continued

HOSTESS BRIEFS (Cont'd.)

she and Ruth Woody - also of Hopewell - who have both served as "summer hostesses" for several years would be with us again this summer.

Helen Young flew to New York to spend the Easter Holidays with Evelyn Stryker....Annette Wattles and Capt. Wattles have gone to Charles Town, West Va., to take part in the festivities of the wedding of Capt. Wattles' niece, Nan Fox of England to Capt. David Pierce, USA.

George B. Daniel, his wife, and small son spent a week at Williamsburg Lodge visiting his mother, Mary Daniel. Mary's daughter and son-in-law, Catherine and Frank Saliske of West Hartford, were here also to attend the christening of little George Myers Daniel at Bruton Parish Church.

Hallie Wermuth's mother, Mrs. Chastain Attkisson, will make her home in Williamsburg with her daughter.

The Hostess Section extends sympathy to Rose Wing on the sudden death of her father, Mr. J. W. Beaston.

Virginia Holmes and her husband made a trip to Washington to enjoy the beauty of the Capitol in springtime.... Mary Carter's brother, W. F. Carter of Harrisonburg, has been visiting her.

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DR. PARDEE DIES

Mr. Rockefeller's annual spring visit to Williamsburg was ended unexpectedly on April 10 because of the death of his son-in-law, Dr. Irving H. Pardee, husband of his daughter, Abby Rockefeller. Dr. Pardee was an eminent neurologist and was connected with Columbia University, Presbyterian Hospital, Saint Luke's Hospital, and several other smaller hospitals. He was an active member of many medical organizations and was descended from a family of distinguished physicians.

NEWS FROM THE INN AND LODGE

Ed Hughes has joined the organization as room clerk at the Inn. A graduate of Lafayette, he also attended the Cornell School of Hotel Administration. Ed has been in the hotel business for three years, having worked at the Sun Valley, Idaho, inn and lodge and other places.

Mary Andrews, formerly at the Inn Gift Shop, has transferred to the staff of telephone operators under Hattie Lee.

On April 11, the new Inn front offices were taken over by the crew. For the first time, the front office has an office and a cage similar to that at the Lodge....Dorothy Williams, formerly in the Lodge front office, has been transferred to the Inn and had the honor of opening the new window.

Bill Corr, of Gloucester, Va., is the new front office cashier at the Lodge. He replaces Dorothy Williams.

Yancey Spurlock, veteran member of the Lodge Bell crew, has been promoted to Bell Captain. Hardy Reed and Wendell Wright have joined the Bell crew at the Inn.

Elizabeth Parilla, Head Baker at the Lodge Kitchen, received her tenyear pin in March. Elizabeth has been with the Inn and Lodge continually since starting at the Travis House ten years ago.

Annie Taylor recently underwent surgery at Buxton Hospital in Newport News and is now recuperating at her home here.

Several employees have married recently. Among the happy people are Martha Carter Cumber, Mary Flood Bowman, and Willie Davis, who married Isabella Potter, a former employee.

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SERVICE RECOGNITION

Alma Wallace completed ten years' service with the I&L Dept. on April 5.

SCHUMACHER AND WILLIAMSBURG CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY TOGETHER

The F. Schumacher Company of New York, exclusive licensed manufacturer of Williamsburg Restoration Reproductions, joins hands this year with Williamsburg in celebrating an anniversary - Schumacher's 60th and Williamsburg's 250th,

This associate of our Reproduction Program specializes in printed and woven fabrics and is known as one of the finest fabric houses in the world, with offices throughout the United States and abroad.

Schumacher has been our licensed manufacturer since 1939 and they have reproduced many beautiful fabrics for Jack Upshur's extensive program. These can be seen (and purchased - plug) at the Craft House every weekday from 9 to 5.

Two New Fabrics

Two additions from Schumacher have recently been made available in our fabric line. These are "The Williamsburg Liner" and "The John Marshall Chintz." Sparks, Dorrier, and the whole Craft House are excited about them, going into raptures when they tell customers that "the Williamsburg Liner is a very sweet, very dainty little overall print fabric in glazed chintz, which comes in several very lovely colors, and sells for only \$1.50 per yard!" (said with gestures.)

John Marshall Chintz is a noteworthy addition to the program in that
it is a reproduction of an old fabric
once used in the bedroom of our great
Chief Justice, John Marshall, when he
lived in the plantation home of his son
at "Leeds" in Fauquier County, Va. A
piece of this old fabric was given us
by Dr. Norton Mason, of Richmond, who
is a great-great grandson of John
Marshall.

RECEPTION CENTER NOTES

A day at the Reception Center is a very novel experience....only the other day we learned from a visitor that it was Mellon who restored Williamsburg, not Mr. Rockefeller, and no amount of ensuing oratory on the part of Ida Carpenter would convince our visitor otherwise.

The other members of the Carpenter family working at the R. C. are Ann and Joan. Ann is very conscientious; in fact, only the other night she was playing bridge and instead of saying, "I pass," she said, "May I help you please." So if you see a blue-eyed blonde walking down the street mumbling "May I help you please," just tip your hat and say, "Hello, Ann."

Louis Pagano is the new projectionist at the R. C., and if you have ever
heard "Life with Luigi" you will appreciate Louis. Louis once cut Red Skelton's hair and ever since, Louis has
been a comedian. The other day he came
running out of the auditorium saying,
"Quick, call the cops - there is a riot
in here!" The auditorium was empty.

Of course, part of the evening's entertainment at the R. C. are Mike Savage, John Fox, and Clem Vaughan, who have a difficult time keeping the young ladies away from the desk. They are especially partial to the groups of 69-year old "girls" who flutter their lashes and say in school girl voices, "Girls, here is a nice young man who can help us!"

--Bill Bippus

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SERVICE RECOGNITION

Ralph E. Bowers completed ten years of service as Draftsman for the Architectural Department on April 21.

CW'S QUESTION BOX (No. 3)

- 1) In what category have the largest number of artifacts been found in the archaeology work?
- 2) What is the whiteish material used for garden paths at the Palace and other gardens that have been restored?
- 3) The wavy glass used in windows of the exhibition buildings has what name?
- 4) What are the hoops in the colonial dresses worn by the hostesses called?
- 5) What is the approximate date for the opening of The Magazine and Guard House?
- 6) Can we furnish escort service for foreign speaking persons?
- 7) May tourists take photographs in the exhibition buildings?
- 8) Up to the present time, what is the greatest number of persons visiting the Governor's Palace in a single day?
- 9) Is Colonial Williamsburg endowed?
- 10) What date does "The Common Glory" open?

1) Wine bottles. 2) Marl, a mixture of oyster shell and clay. 3) Blown glass. 4) Farthingales. 5) Around July 1. 6) Yes. Both Spanish and French. 7) No. 8) 2,500 persons. 9) No. Its operating costs are paid from income received from several divisions of the two corporations. 10)

ANSWERS TO CW'S QUESTION BOX (No. 3)

"G. T. T."

Just after the War Between the States, many of the Rebels abandoned their homes and invasion-scarred cotton fields in the South to move across the Mississippi into Texas, where whole sections of land could be had for the asking. The migration became so enormous that it was not unusual to see an office closed and bearing the sign, "G. T. T." meaning "GONE TO TEXAS,"

History repeats itself because there now hangs over the door of an office in the southwest corner of the Goodwin Building a sign reading "G. T. T." The occupant, Wanda Castle, is returning to her native state; that is, Texas. She says that she is reluctant to don her boots and saddle and begin her trek to her little gray home in the West, but circumstances require it. Wanda has chosen May 6 as the day of her departure and she requests friends not to send flowers.

She is leaving Williamsburg to accept an eminently good position with Remington Rand in Texas in order that she may be nearer a sister in Dallas who is in ill health.

Wanda's services with Colonial Williamsburg include approximately ten years as Office Manager and three as Assistant Archivist. Lt. Wanda R. Castle was in the U. S. N. R. from December, 1942, to March, 1946, on military leave.

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PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1949.

Patrick Buchanan, Theatre, and Abraham Barksdale, Ernest Billups, David Holmes, Thomas Kearney, Harold Loughrie, Elizabeth Parrilla, Judge Patton, and Thomas G. Peyton, all from the Department of Inn and Lodge.