

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: HOW TO COOL OFF ON A HOT SUMMER AFTERNOON

On Sunday, August 19, forty-five members and guests of the Apex Historical Society enjoyed home-made ice cream and cookies while visiting with their friends at our annual Apex Historical Society Ice Cream Social.

A great time was had by all. The only difficulty was in deciding which flavor or flavors to choose since they were all so good. Homemade ice cream came in six flavors: strawberry, pineapple-cherry, vanilla, chocolate, peach, or banana. All were savored by the participants, and the only disagreements heard were by those who found one flavor more delicious than the one selected by their neighbor. To top off the ice cream, homemade chocolate syrup was provided, as well as a selection of cookies. With all of the members enjoying socializing with each other, the only time the talking stopped was when everyone was busy eating the ice cream and cookies.

After we all enjoyed these fantastic desserts, Judy Miles, President of the Society, called everyone together to present the Preservationist of the Year Award. She acknowledged all the past recipients of the award and recognized those present including Shirley Harris Beasley, Allen and Helen Lawrence, Margaret Benton Ferry, Buddy Holland, and Harry Beasley. She then announced the 2007 Preservationist of the Year Award winner – **Teresa Harris Stern**. Everyone applauded the selection, acknowledging Teresa's work on Home Tour plans, decorating for the Ice Cream Social, contributing to Soup Suppers, and the numerous other ways in which she has been a great asset to this Society.

Judy Miles then discussed a few items of business while having so many members present.

Diane Long, Chairperson of the Home Tour, has already secured three homes, one cabin, and the Maynard-Pearson House for the 2007 Historical Homes Tour. It will be a great tour this year, and we all are looking forward to it.



**2007 Preservationist of the Year
Award Winner
Teresa Harris Stern**

THE DISPATCH

Ice Cream Social (Continued)

Judy also informed the Society that the home on the Seagrove property on Center Street will be moved back from the street and preserved as it is.

A brochure for the Apex Historical Society is almost complete along with a membership application for new residents.

By the time the Social was concluded, we all had enjoyed a wonderful afternoon, bringing together the past and the present, and remembering our desire to keep the best of the past while still helping to make the future of Apex even better.



AHS MEMBERS AND GUESTS ENJOYING THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The Dispatch...

<http://apexhisoc.freeservers.co>

...a publication of the Apex Historical Society. Distribution is to all members of the Society.

Co-Editors: Stephen Hennessey; Hope Blackford

Articles may be submitted to the editors via e-mail to: <sphennessey@bellsouth.net>.

APEX HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President, Judy Miles (362-3268; annmiles2006@yahoo.com)
Vice President, John Pearson (210-3117 jpearson@gmail.com)
Secretary, Mary Peterson (363-4817 mpete427@yahoo.com)
Treasurer, Marion Smith (362-6618; mhsmit@wakemed.org)

BOARD MEMBERS

Jan Brooks (469-5900 janbmsu@aol.com)
Shirley Fiorentino (303-2939 frankfiorentino@aol.com)
Mary Sue Lane (362-6318 mslane@mindspring.com)
Diane Long (362-8097; diane@forestduke.com)
Mack Thorp (630-5600 therustybucket@mindspring.com)

2007 HOLIDAY HOMES TOUR

Judy Miles

I recently read an article from the autumn 2002 *Dispatch* written by Claire Rousseau, a founding member of the society. Claire tells us, "The fall of 1987 was a fun time for a small group of newcomers to Apex. We met for the first time on October 22 at the Apex Chamber of Commerce office, then at Hwy. 55 and Upchurch St. Under the leadership of our first president, Jan Brooks, we began the Apex Historical Society... We were enthusiastic about sharing what we saw as special about our small friendly town and we wanted others to see the need to preserve and protect its heritage in a time when growth predictions were astounding and the move was on to tear down and build anew." With their goal ahead of them, this small group hosted the first homes tour on the first Sunday of December in 1987.

Twenty years have passed; the Apex Historical Society has grown to one hundred plus members, and the annual homes tour will once again be held on the first Sunday in December from 1-5 p.m.

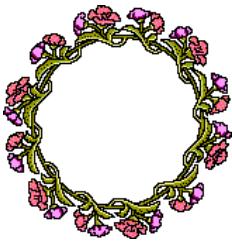
Preparations for the twenty-first annual homes tour began in April. We are blessed with a great group of workers in the society, and it is my pleasure to serve as chairperson of the homes tour this year. This year we will feature three homes, a recently constructed log cabin, the Old Depot (now Chamber of Commerce), and of course our historic Maynard-Pearson House. The Maynard-Pearson House will be decorated with vintage decorations, so come by to enjoy refreshments and visit our Sweet Shoppe for your holiday candies.

Presale tickets for this special event are \$10, and \$12 on the day of the tour. Presale tickets will be sold downtown at the following businesses:

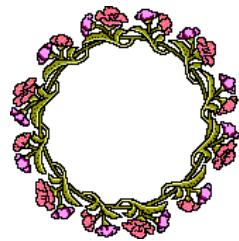
*Antiques on Salem Street
Chamber of Commerce
Pineapple Tea Room
Rusty Bucket*

This is our main fund raiser for the year. Buy your tickets early, bring your friends, and enjoy visiting some historical places in the Apex area.





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOLIDAY HOMES TOUR



Preparations for this year's homes tour began last April, and much work has already been done. Yet much remains to be done. If you would enjoy working on this worthwhile project, we welcome you to join us. Just pick your favorite activity, and call the person in charge to learn how you can help.

HOLIDAY HOME TOUR COMMITTEES

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Chairperson | Judy Miles | 363-3268 |
| Floral Arrangements | Marion Smith | 362-6618 |
| Home Tour Brochures | Mary Sue Lane | 362-6318 |
| Hostess Coordinator | Betty Coleman | 362-7889 |
| Maynard-Pearson House | | |
| Decorating | Teresa & Beth Stern Shirley & Harry Beasley Buddy Holland | 303-7854 362-6294 362-7983 |
| Yard Work | Harry & Shirley Beasley | 362-6294 |
| Publicity | Teresa Stern | 303-7854 |
| Reception | Pete & Mary Sue Lane | 362-6318 |
| Sweet Shoppe | Mary Petersen | 363-4817 |
| Ticket Sales | Debbie Douglass | 362-0213 |

Diane Long has contacted the homeowners who agreed to put their homes on tour this year. **John Pearson** has obtained the permits allowing the signs to be put out and has produced a map for the tour.



ATTENTION ALL CANDY-MAKERS!



We are in need of people to make candy for the Sweet Shoppe for the Annual Homes Tour. Please call **Mary Petersen** at 363-4817 to let me know if you can help. I will be at the Maynard-Pearson House on Saturday, December 1st setting up shop. You can either drop the candy off at the MPH or I can arrange to pick it up on that day. Also, please contact me if you would like to work at the Sweet Shoppe for an hour shift during the Home Tour.



NEW MEMBERS

We are happy to welcome the following new members to the Apex Historical Society:

David and Gwen Nyce
John and Martha Clement
Mrs. Jerrie Mills Murray

Hope to meet you soon at upcoming meetings and functions!

DONATIONS TO THE MAYNARD-PEARSON HOUSE

Judy Horton Phillips, society member, has donated several items from some of the older residents of Apex:

R. J. and Ethel Horton (Judy's parents)
Edith Maynard (4th grade teacher)
Mamie Luther (7th grade teacher)
Mamie Cunningham

These items are being displayed throughout the Maynard-Pearson House. Thank you, Judy, for these treasures.

NEEDED FOR THE MAYNARD-PEARSON HOUSE

We are looking for fireproof cabinets and/or a set of fireproof drawers that somebody no longer needs. We have many historically valuable documents in the Maynard-Pearson House and we are looking for a safe way to store them. Please contact Judy Miles if you have one you would like to donate.

Reminder!

Please plan to attend the annual Soup and Pie Supper on January 17.
Call Judy Miles with your favorite soup recipe that you plan to bring!

AHS CALENDAR

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| November 15 – 7:00 pm | Board Meeting-MP House |
| December 1 | Christmas on Salem Street-Downtown Apex |
| December 2 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm | Twenty-First Annual Holiday Home Tour |
| December 20 – 7:00 pm | Board Meeting-MP House |
| January 17 – 6:30 pm | Membership Meeting-Soup & Pie Supper |
| February 21 – 7:00 pm | Board Meeting-MP House |
| March 21 – 7:00 pm | Annual Membership Meeting-MP House <i>Pot Luck Dinner at 7:00 pm Meeting and Election of Board & Officers follows.</i> |
| April ?? – 7:00 pm | Board Meeting-MP House |
| April ?? | Garden Tour |
| April ?? | Plant Sale |

UNITED EFFORT LAUNCHED TO RESTORE CABOOSE

Jan Brooks

If our Railroad Depot is the centerpiece of the Town of Apex, the Apex Historical Society's caboose is the candle on the cake. Unfortunately, the caboose, the most outward and visible symbol of our heritage, has recently fallen victim to the ravages of time, weather, and deferred maintenance. This forlorn state has not gone un-noticed, and I'm happy to report that a mutual venture is being launched for the realization of a new and improved restoration.

I visualize the caboose and its surrounding streetscape as a potential downtown destination for people of all ages to enjoy. So the restoration of the caboose and its grounds present an ideal opportunity for a broad base of organizations to participate.

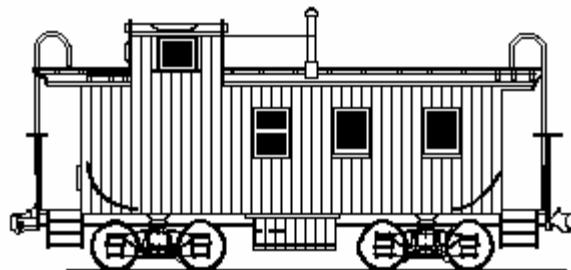
Already the Apex Garden Club has invested their time, talent, and treasure in creating the ambiance of a garden adjacent to the caboose. The Apex Chamber of Commerce has also indicated that they would be willing to assist with some funding. We're also exploring the possibility of several scout groups assisting with some landscape features.

A firm bid for the sand-blasting, two coats of paint (which will be donated), and appropriate stenciling has been obtained. Since this figure was substantial, we approached the Town of Apex and asked for their assistance, and they have assured us that we can count on their endorsement and their monetary contribution to the cause.

Fortunately too, the Apex Historical Society has a perpetual fund specifically earmarked for caboose maintenance/enhancement; therefore, we will be able to replace the broken glass in the windows and door and hopefully have enough funds left over with which to paint the interior.

We hope that the realization of this effort might conceivably be possible by the time of the Town of Apex Christmas celebration and that perhaps Santa can entertain and receive young guests and families in the newly restored caboose!

If so, the preservation, protection, and promotion of the history of Apex will be especially present (and truly visible) and represent a united Christmas gift to the Town of Apex from the Town of Apex!



Credit to Ken Houghton Rail Images

A Healthy Place Is Apex

[Transcribed from the News and Observer—Twentieth Century State Edition, August 24, 1899]
[Note: All typos are correct...this is how it was published in 1899.]

Highest Point on the Raleigh and Augusta Division of **THE SEABOARD AIR LINE**

A Place With a Future of Great Prominence in the
Industrial World of North Carolina.

A TOBACCO WARE HOUSE

Soon to be Erected Where Some of the Finest of
the Golden Leaf Will Be Placed on Sale.

Her Excellent Citizenship Unsurpassed in Health.

It was the first of June and the first days of summer were upon us and having tired of the hot sultry office I sauntered down to the Union depot in Raleigh and boarded the south bound mail train of the Seaboard Air Line system. The cars as usual were crowded and as we went flitting along with the fields of green on either side and everywhere the signs of prosperity the change of scene was indeed delightful, but presently the conductor shouted "Apex," and having heard so much of this place I decided to stop and spend the night and return to Raleigh the next morning.

My visit was a pleasant one and I have written the following lines relative to that prosperous little place, in order that some one of the many who are seeking new fields where they will not have to tread the frozen grounds of the far north west for six months out of the year may read of its opportunities many of which the lack of space will preclude mentioning.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The early settlement of Apex does not date back for many years and its streets are not marked, with colonial buildings, etc. But it is rather of recent date, having been settled shortly after the civil war upon the completion of the Raleigh and Augusta division of what is now the Seaboard Air Line and which road was graded during the war and after the close of hostilities the road was completed and the name "Apex" was given to the highest point on the division, then but a mere station, but what is now the hustling Apex. A charter was granted by the legislation in 1873 and the late Hon. H. O. Olive was the first mayor. But the last legislature that of 1899 passed an act granting an amended charter with full privileges of taxation, etc.

LOCATION.

Apex with a population of 500 is located in Wake county on the Seaboard Air Line railroad just

fifteen miles from Raleigh, the capital of the State. It is ten hours ride from Wilmington and eleven hours from Atlanta, with two mail trains each way every twenty four hours. It forms the back bone so to speak of the lands laying between the Cape Fear and the Neuse rivers and water falling on Salem street which is the main thoroughfare of the town will divide and all that falls on the west side go to the Cape Fear while that of the East will wind its way to the "Neuse."

HEALTH.

Owing to the high elevation of Apex and the surrounding health giving atmospheric conditions it may be truly said that the place is unexcelled in health and that a case of typhoid fever has never been known to originate in this place.

CHURCHES.

The people of Apex seem to be a God fearing people and who attend their churches of what ever denomination with a regularity that bespeaks well for them. It may be here mentioned that during the first years of Apex that numerous bar rooms were there, but ten or twelve years ago a vote was taken and since that time this beautiful little place has been dry as far as liquor is concerned. The churches of Apex are two Baptist and one Methodist besides the colored churches. These churches are the First Baptist, which was organized about 24 years ago, with Rev. Skimson Ivey as the pastor at that time, the present pastor being Rev. A. D. Hunter who resides at Cary. The Central Baptist was organized about 15 years ago with its present pastor, Rev. J. M. Holleman who has since been its able and efficient pastor.

The Methodist church was the first one of the place, but the building was burned and only about ten years ago they got a new building, erected and are now in a prosperous condition with Rev. A. L. Ormond as pastor.

Each of these churches are well attended and are presided over by able divines.

TOBACCO WAREHOUSE.

One noticeable feature in regard to the products of the fertile lands which surround Apex is that while the crops are well diversified that the land lying to the east sand south is devoted mainly to cotton, while on the north and west some of the finest of the yellow leaf tobacco produced in the State is raised.

THE DISPATCH

And upon thorough investigation it has been found that more tobacco is raised within twenty miles of Apex than is within the same number around Durham. This being the facts that merchants and farmers in the vicinity of Apex have decided to erect a warehouse at that place which will be completed, no doubt, in time for the coming crop, and it will not only be a benefit to Apex, but an enormous help to the farmers who previous to this have been compelled to haul their tobacco to Durham or Raleigh. Now this long haul will be saved.

RAILROADS.

The facilities afforded for passenger and freight traffic are excellent, and are furnished by the Seaboard Air Line, Apex being on the main line of the system with two day passenger trains going each way daily. Apex is also the northern terminal of the Cape Fear and Northern Railroad, which is expected to be extended on to Durham, and there connect with the Southern. At the present time it only extends from Apex, the northern terminal, to "Angier," a distance of twenty miles.

JOHN C. BURNS, *Mayor.*

This gentleman, who for the past ten years has served the town in some one or another of official capacity, is a North Carolinian by birth, and first saw the light of day in Chatham county, on April 28th, 1851, and at an early age in life he removed with his parents to Wake county, and settled in the eastern part, it being in Swift Creek township, where he attended the schools of that section. In December, 1874, he removed to Apex, where he has since continued to live. He was a justice of the peace for twelve years, and is at present mayor of the town, having been elected in May of the present year. He has served the town as mayor for several terms before, but had in 1897 resigned.

Mr. Burns has been engaged in farming the greater part of his life, which vocation he still follows, his place being located in the edge of the town. He is a member of the First Baptist church of Apex, a great worker and an ardent Democrat. Mr. Burns has been married for twenty-five years, and enjoys all the comforts of a happy home, and may he continue in health, prosperity and happiness is the wish of the writer.

EUGENE B. STURGEON, *Ex-Mayor.*

Among those of the citizens of Apex who have long since passed the maturity of life, but who are still in active service for the progress and advancement of that section, we find the above-named gentleman as zealous a worker as is generally

found among those of a much younger age. He is a native of Washington, D. C., by birth, having been born there on November 5th, 1841. His education was received at Alexandria and Annapolis, where he was prepared for the navy, which he entered in 1857 as an acting midshipman, and served until 1859, when he resigned and went to California, where he remained until the outbreak of the war when he rejoined the navy as a lieutenant, serving through the entire war, and at the end of which he resigned. In 1889 he made his advent into North Carolina and settled at Apex, where he has since continued to live, being engaged in agricultural pursuits, his place being located in the edge of the town, where he lives and enjoys all the comforts of a happy and contented home. He is numbered among the most enterprising citizens of the town, and during the last term was at the head of the city government of Apex, now being its ex-mayor.

H. C. OLIVE Co., General Merchandise.

The above named concern is looked upon as one of the principal factors which have helped to advance the material welfare, and one of the main props to the present solidity and importance of the town. The house is one of the pioneer mercantile establishments of the place, and during its life it has steadily increased the reputation of its goods and extended its trade throughout the whole surrounding country. The business was started by the late Hon. H. C. Olive, who continued at its head until his decease in 1898, the business a short time previous having been incorporated under the name of the "H. C. Olive Co." by the Legislature, with H. C. Olive as secretary and treasurer and general manager. Upon the death of the Hon. H. C. Olive, his son, L. S. Olive, was appointed as secretary and treasurer and general manager of the H. C. Olive Company.

The business from the start has been very successful, and just recently a branch store was opened at Mineral Springs, a distance of twelve miles from Apex.

The trade enjoyed at both places is very extensive, and is drawn from miles around.

The building at Apex, which is amply commodious, is replete with a choice line of general merchandise, and a specialty of fancy groceries.

The business is in a prosperous condition, under able and efficient management, and its future is indeed a bright one.

THE DISPATCH

DR. J. L. MOORE, Physician.

Is a native North Carolinian and was born in Northampton county October 21, 1863. He received his elementary education by attendance at Yadkin College of Davidson county. He began the study of medicine under Dr. I. E. Green, of Weldon, in 1882, and subsequently graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Baltimore with the class of 1886. He began the practice of his chosen profession in Bertie county, where he continued for a period of six years, and at that time he removed to Apex, where he has since continued to reside, and has an augmenting practice which extends throughout the entire section.

Dr. Moore has twice been married. The first time to Miss Lillie M. Mallory of Virginia, and the second time to Miss Annie E. Dunn, of Neuse, Wake county. He has one child, a beautiful daughter, now at the age of ten.

APEX CANNING COMPANY, Incorporated.

Apex has during the past few years manifested more spirit of progress and enterprise than at any other period of her history. Evidences of this substantial prosperity are becoming abundant by the progress of her manufacturing enterprises, and one of the most prominent of those may be stated as the Apex Canning Factory, which was incorporated under the laws of North Carolina on April 16, 1898, with a capital stock of \$10,000.

The first year of the business was very successful, as will be shown by the following lines which were taken from the report of the secretary and manager, Mr. J. J. Rogers, in his report to the board of directors:

"I beg to make this my first annual report as secretary and manager of your company. A year ago we issued and sold for cash at par 260 shares of stock at \$10 each, receiving \$2,660. Five hundred and eighty-six dollars and fifty-eight cents was expended for charter, seal, lot, house and fixtures.

"I have contracted for more than five times the acreage of last year, and with a fair crop we will be compelled to enlarge our capacity, which we can easily do. We realized the first year between 12 and 13 per cent. I recommend that we pay to stock holders at 10 per cent dividend. This will give the new stock some advantage, and should render it very desirable. Everything is in good shape, taxes, insurance, etc., all paid."

The \$1,000 of stock was at once taken and the plant has been enlarged and all late and improved machinery have been added, so that now they

have a capacity of from twenty to thirty thousand cans per day.

In conclusion we might say that if Apex had a few more enterprises of different character, and under management equal to the above that their prosperity would be assured.

The officers of the Apex Canning Company are as follows:

W. E. Neal, president.
T. J. D. Pate, vice-president.
L. S. Olive, treasurer.
J. J. Rogers, secretary and manager.

The board of directors are:

N. E. Neal, L. O. Olive, T. J. D. Pate,
J. B. Parks, J. J. Rogers.

APEX NEWS, Arch. J. Wood, Editor.

Only a few years back the thoughts of a newspaper at Apex would have been ridiculed, but now they have a weekly paper there that gives the local news of the surrounding section and also the general news of the country. It is ably edited by Arch. J. Wood, a young man who is using the influence of his paper for all it is worth for the upbuilding of Apex. As an advertising medium it deserves the support of every man who has anything to sell or wants to buy anything. The circulation extends over the entire section, and although started in March of 1898 the Apex News has made many warm friends in the section, who give it their hearty support. May its future be even brighter than the past is the wish of the writer.

W. F. UTLEY, Merchant.

Among the oldest and most reliable citizens and business men of Apex is the gentleman whose name captions this article, and who is a native of Wake county. He is one of the pioneer merchants of the town, having established his business in a very small way in 1873 at Apex, but by his untiring energy and business acumen he has established a fine business, and is today one of the leading business men of Apex, as a general merchant and farmer, dealing in real estate and other securities. All of this he has accomplished by not being discouraged on account of the loss of one leg in the cause of the Confederacy, and by forging upward toward the crowning point of success in his chosen vocation.

He is married and a member of the Baptist church, and with his good wife and family of four children at their pleasant home dispense a most delightful hospitality.

THE DISPATCH

A. J. WOOD, Furniture.

This gentleman, who needs no introduction to the people of the section, has been a member of the business element of Apex for the past eight years, but only established his present business, that of dealing in furniture, three years ago. He handles a choice and select line of furniture, and is prepared to furnish his long list of customers with anything in the furniture line, and of the very latest and most artistic design.

PATE AND SON, Merchants.

Established this business three years ago, and in 1898 became known under the present name. They enjoy a good trade, and enjoy the respect and confidence of the people. They deal in dry goods, notions, fancy groceries and general merchandise.

W. E. CLARK, Butcher and Merchant.

This is the only place in Apex to obtain fresh meat, but no better place could be desired, as he keeps everything fresh and of the very best. He also keeps a nice line of fancy and staple groceries.

A. T. MANN, Blacksmith and Wagon Works.

This gentleman conducts an establishment from which is turned out work that is first-class in every respect, he having had a life time experience at the business. He is prepared to do work of any kind pertaining to the manufacturing or repairing of wagons, buggies, gun repairing and horse shoeing. Give him a call when in need of anything along that line.

HOTEL HOLLEMAN, Mrs. J. M. Holleman, Proprietor.

In the usual rounds of the weary traveler it is not often he finds a place to stop where the hotel is conducted in such a manner as to remind one of home, and when he does chance to such good fortune he thinks that if all hotels were made as comfortable and inviting as our homes that the average life of the "knights of the grip" would be extended many years. These words being the truth it might be well to mention a place in North Carolina where the hotel is conducted on the principal of home; and that place is the Hotel Holleman at Apex, with Mrs. J. M. Holleman, who has been for the past twenty years proprietress.

As a place to stop it cannot be surpassed, and where a pleasant room and comfortable beds awaits the weary one who makes a visit to Apex.

HARWARD AND HUNTER.

The business of which we speak was first established in 1872 under the firm name of Harward & Utley, which continued four years, when it became W. H. Harward, and in 1880 it became known under its present name, that of Harward & Hunter.

The place occupied for the conduct of the immense business transacted is 26x90 feet in dimensions, and two stories in height. Here will be found a complete line of general merchandise, which embraces a select stock of dry goods, notinos, millinery goods, hats, caps, boots and shoes, hardware, groceries, and a complete drug department, which is in charge of a thorough and competent pharmacist, both Mr. Hunter and Mr. Harward being registered pharmacists, and since 1885 members of the Board of Pharmacy.

They do a very large business, both in the mercantile and drug line, and also in the buying of cotton, they being considered the largest buyers at Apex.

They also do a large real estate, loan and security business, each of which are very extensive.

Their farming interest is not a very small item either, as they have over a thousand acres, fifty of which is in tobacco, and some of the finest tobacco that goes to the Durham market was produced on their land.

In the mercantile business they enjoy a very extensive trade, which extends for a radius of twenty miles surrounding Apex, and for seven years they conducted a branch house at Chalk Level, near the Cape Fear river. This house was under the supervision of the junior member of the firm, Mr. A. B. Hunter, but it had to be discontinued owing to the growth of the business at Apex.

In addition to the above interests they have a saw and planing mill, where all kinds of dressed lumber, mouldings, etc., can be had, and in connection with this a grist mill and cotton gin is also operated.

The personnel of the firm consists of W. H. Harward and A. B. Hunter, both North Carolinians, and who are among the most prominent citizens of Apex. They are married, and members of the Baptist church, and two gentlemen with whom it is a pleasure to meet.

WATER.

The water of Apex is excellent and an abundant supply can be obtained from wells at a depth of fifteen feet and it is a hard matter to find a well 20 feet deep. Owing to the immense flow of pure water—that is cold and very healthy.

