REGISTRATION AND  
INFORMATION

A Registration Desk will be maintained in the lobby of the Hotel Charlotte during all days of the session.

STEPS IN REGISTRATION:

1. Present membership card and indicate sponsorship of guests if you are bringing any. (Attendance at the session is open only to members and registered guests.)

2. Make out registration for guests.

3. Pay registration fee, $2.50.

4. Be sure to receive and wear registration badge. It will be required for admission to all meetings.

5. Buy ticket for banquet, dance, luncheons. (Any registered member may buy a banquet, dance or other meal ticket for one visitor.)

COST OF TICKETS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banquet and Dance</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banquet Only</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance Only</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition Section Luncheon</td>
<td>2.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurses’ Section Luncheon</td>
<td>2.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretarial and Statistical Section Luncheon</td>
<td>2.25</td>
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EXHIBITS—Mezzanine Floor
memory, and many history books, including the history book used in the Charlotte schools and throughout North Carolina, still repeat Dr. Phillips' erroneous statement.

Dr. Archibald Henderson of Chapel Hill, one of North Carolina's most renowned citizens, has been a staunch defender of the Mecklenburg Declaration. His historical research on this subject proves beyond any doubt the authenticity of the Declaration. Within the past year his papers have been collected and published in one volume, entitled "Cradle of Liberty," by the Mecklenburg Historical Association. A copy of this volume was given to every U. S. Congressman and Senator and the Mecklenburg Declaration was read before these august bodies. When Dr. Henderson was introduced to the Senate, he was given a rousing ovation—the bearer of the truth was rewarded. Requests for the book have come from universities and libraries from New England to California. Those who still doubt the Mecklenburg Declaration now have readily available the true facts for their enlightenment.

James A. Stenhouse, President
Mecklenburg Historical Association
March 14, 1956

Meet Your Friends at the

"DAIRY BAR"

Courtesy of
CHARLOTTE DAIRY INDUSTRY
(Biltmore - Foremost - Sealtest)
SAMPLE ROOM 229

"COKE" BAR

Courtesy of
COCA-COLA BOTTLING COMPANY
Charlotte, N. C.

BALL ROOM DOOR
PAST PRESIDENTS
NORTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

1911-1913  Dr. L. B. McBrayer  Asheville
1914  Dr. G. M. Cooper  Clinton
1915  Dr. W. M. Jones  Greensboro
1916  Dr. D. E. Sevier  Asheville
1917  Dr. Arch Cheatham  Durham
1918  Dr. D. C. Absher  Henderson
1919  Dr. J. R. McCracken  Waynesville
1920  Dr. E. F. Long  Lexington
1921  Dr. R. L. Carlton  Winston-Salem
1922  Dr. L. J. Smith  Wilson
1923  Dr. A. C. Bulla  Raleigh
1924  Dr. C. W. Armstrong  Salisbury
1925  Dr. L. L. Williams  Mount Airy
1926  Dr. Sidney E. Buchanan  Concord
1927  Dr. E. R. Hardin  Lumberton
1928  Dr. John H. Hamilton  Wilmington
1929  Dr. C. C. Hudson  Greensboro
1930  Dr. J. R. Hege  Winston-Salem
1931  Dr. D. E. Ford  New Bern
1932  Mr. J. H. Epperson  Durham
1933  Dr. C. N. Siak  Rockingham
1934  Dr. F. M. Register  Kinston
1935  Dr. Z. P. Mitchell  Weldon
1936  Dr. R. S. McGeachy  Weldon
1937  Dr. R. M. Buie  Greensboro
1938  Dr. M. T. Foster  Fayetteville
1939  Dr. J. A. Morris  Oxford
1940  Dr. A. H. Elliott  Wilmington
1941  Dr. J. W. Williams  Williamston
1942  Dr. Robert E. Rhyne  Gastonia
1943  Dr. N. Thomas Ennett  Beaufort
1944  Dr. W. P. Richardson  Raleigh
1945  Dr. W. K. McDowell  Tarboro
1946  Dr. Robert F. Richardson  Tarboro
1947  Dr. M. B. Bethel  Charlotte
1948  Dr. H. W. Stevens  Wilson
1949  Dr. Ernest A. Branch  Raleigh
1950  Dr. S. B. McPheeters  Goldsboro
1951  Mr. Harold E. Parker  Winston-Salem
1952  Dr. John J. Wright  Chapel Hill
1953  Mrs. Louise P. East  Asheville
1954  Dr. E. H. Ellinwood  Greensboro
1955  Mrs. Louise Y. Workman  Charlotte
EXHIBITORS

Alcoholic Rehabilitation Program
American Cancer Society
American Red Cross
Charlotte Health Department—Health Education Division
Charlotte Dietetic Association and Charlotte Health Department—Nutrition Division
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Health Department—Dental Division
Heart Services—Mecklenburg County
Hospital Care
Mecklenburg Tuberculosis and Health Association
National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis
North Carolina League for Nursing

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH:

Accident Prevention Section
Nutrition Section
Oral Hygiene Section
Venereal Disease Control Section
Crippled Children's Section

USPHS TRAILER
1224 N. TRYON

(16)
NOMINATING:

Miss Sarah Goggans, Chairman
Dr. W. A. Browne, Miss Asenath Cooke, Mrs. Corrina Sutton, Miss Laura Breese, Mr. J. H. Sechrest, Mrs. Carrie McNeil.

MEMBERSHIP:

Mrs. Betty E. Briggs, Chairman
Miss Doris Tillery, Mrs. Margaret Bryant.

AWARDS:

Dr. E. G. McGavran, Chairman

REPRESENTATIVES TO NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH COUNCIL:

Voting: Dr. Samuel Graham; non-voting, Miss Flora Wakefield.

RESOLUTIONS AND OBITUARY:

Dr. O. David Garvin, Chairman
Mrs. Norma Carroll, Mr. G. R. Council, Mr. John Andrews, Mrs. Mary K. Kneedler.

COMMITTEE ON PLANS FOR 1957 MEETING:

Dr. J. W. R. Norton, Chairman
Dr. H. W. Stevens, Dr. Margery J. Lord, Dr. M. B. Bethel, Mr. William A. Broadway.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE:

Dr. M. B. Bethel, Chairman
Members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Health Department.
COMMITTEES—1956

NORTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE:
Dr. Charles M. Cameron, Jr., Chairman
Miss Winston Osborn, Miss Margaret Bryant, Dr. S. B. McPheeters, Mr. William Long, Dr. Nell Hirschberg, Miss Elta Mae Mast, Miss Ann C. Barentine, Miss Mary B. Deaver, Mrs. Erroll Moore, Mr. J. S. Canady, Dr. G. Fletcher Reeves, Miss Anne Lamb, Mrs. Corrina Sutton, Mrs. Margaret Dolan, *Mr. Marshall C. Abee.

*1 year for Mr. John Ed Baker

PROGRAM:
Dr. E. G. McGavran, Chairman
Dr. M. B. Bethel, Dr. Charles M. Cameron, Jr., Dr. Fred T. Foard, Mrs. Betty E. Briggs.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY SALARY SCALES OF MERIT SYSTEM:
Dr. Robert F. Young, Chairman
Dr. H. W. Stevens, Miss Effie Maiden, Miss Helen Craver, Mr. Julian Taylor, Dr. John A. Fowler, Mrs. Kate W. Williamson.

FINANCE AND AUDITING:
Miss Mae Reynolds, Chairman
Miss Doris Tillery, Mrs. Betty E. Briggs.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS:
Mrs. Corrina Sutton, Chairman
Dr. Walter C. Humbert, Mrs. Edith Brocker.

SCHOLARSHIP:
Dr. Bernie G. Greenberg, Chairman
Dr. M. J. O. Gullingsrud, Miss Lucy Lopp, Miss Beth Duncan, Mr. E. G. Kilpatrick.
OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
1955-56
NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

President.......................... Dr. Bertlyn Bosley Raleigh
Past President.................. Mrs. Louise Young Workman Charlotte
Representative to A.P.H.A.
Governing Council.............. *Dr. E. H. Ellinwood Greensboro
Representative to Southern Branch
of A.P.H.A...................... *Dr. M. B. Bethel Charlotte
State Health Officer........ Dr. J. W. R. Norton Raleigh
Vice-President.................. Dr. E. G. McGavren Chapel Hill
Secretary-Treasurer............ Mrs. Betty E. Briggs Raleigh
President, N. C. Medical Society... Dr. Donald Koonce Wilmington
Alternate Representative to Southern Branch of A.P.H.A.............. *Dr. Bertlyn Bosley
Ex-officio Member............... Dr. W. S. Rankin Charlotte

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE
Miss Grace Daniel*.................. Salisbury
Mrs. Edith Brocker*................ Chapel Hill
Mrs. Corrina Sutton*................ Raleigh
Miss Emma Clinkscales**............ Salisbury
Miss Julia B. Fisher***............. Greenville
Calvin M. Wicker***................ Elizabethtown

SECTION CHAIRMEN
Miss Nettie Day, Raleigh............ Health Educators
Dr. William Happer, Lenoir......... Health Officers
C. C. Demaree, Asheville............. Laboratory
Miss Gwendolyn Krabne, Raleigh...... Nutrition
Mrs. Elizabeth P. Keziah, Charlotte................ Nurses
Robert W. Brown, Asheville.......... Sanitation
Mrs. Betty I. Neal, Halifax......... Secretarial & Statistical

*term expires 1956
**term expires 1957
***term expires 1958

(13)
SECTION LUNCHEONS

NURSING SECTION
Friday, June 1, 1956
12:30 P.M.—Chelsea Number 2
Annual Business Session

NUTRITION SECTION
Friday, June 1, 1956
12:30 P.M.—Chinese Room

SECRETARIAL AND STATISTICAL SECTION
Friday, June 1, 1956
12:30 P.M.—Kuester Room

Address: Mr. Stanhope Lineberry, Chief Plant Security,
Douglas Aircraft, Charlotte Division, Charlotte, N. C.

AWARDS

The North Carolina Public Health Association grants three basic awards each year:

1. THE REYNOLDS AWARD
   Limited to an individual for outstanding contributions to public health in North Carolina during the past year, for meritorious service above and beyond the call of duty.

2. THE RANKIN AWARD
   For an individual in recognition of outstanding contribution to public health in North Carolina over a period of several years.

3. THE MERIT AWARD
   For outstanding contributions or activities during the past year for a local health department or group.

Nominations are stimulated by any and all public health workers who become aware of outstanding contributions or activities and submitted in one of two forms:

1. A formal nomination with substantiating data and information giving as complete a picture as possible.

2. A simple nomination requesting the committee to investigate and provide substantiating data.
JOINT SECTION MEETING

LABORATORY AND HEALTH OFFICERS SECTION

Friday, June 1, 1956
3:00 P.M.—Chelsea Number 2

C. D. DEMAREE and WILLIAM HAPPER, M.D., Co-Chairmen

Laboratory Diagnosis of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases—Morris Schaeffer, M.D., Director, Communicable Disease Center of Viral & Rickettsial Diseases, Montgomery, Ala.

Discussion—Edward C. Curnen, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chief of Pediatric Service, Memorial Hospital, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Psittacosis in North Carolina—Jacob Koomen, Jr., M.D., Acting Chief, Communicable Disease Control Section, N. C. State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C.

Local Health Department Psittacosis Problems—Elizabeth M. C. Corkey, M.D., M.P.H., Mecklenburg County Health Department, Charlotte, N. C.

Cryoscopic Determinations for the Presence of Added Water in Milk—Lynn Maddrey, Ph.D., Assistant Director, State Laboratory of Hygiene, Raleigh, N. C.
LABORATORY SECTION

Thursday, May 31, 1956
2:00 P.M.—Chinese Room
C. C. Demaree, Chairman

More Important Aspects of the Significance of Leukocyte Counts in Milk—Marvin L. Speck Ph.D., Professor of Dairy Bacteriology, North Carolina State College, Raleigh, N. C.


Cerebrospinal Fluid—Dorothy G. McGhee, B.A.M.T. (A.S. C.P.), Chief Medical Technician, Rex Hospital, Raleigh, N. C.

Tuberculosis Research and Its Diagnostic Aspects—H. Mac Vandivere, Bacteriologist, Director of Laboratories and Research, Gravely Sanatorium, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Business

VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL SECTION

Thursday, May 31, 1956
2:00 P.M.—Parlor A

Gerald T. Moore, Chairman

Current Status of the Venereal Disease Program—Warfield Garson, M.D., Chief Venereal Disease Control Section, State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C.

Private Physician Reporting—(Panel Discussion)—Warren M. McFague, Venereal Disease Investigator, Wilmington, N. C.

Louis Hine, Venereal Disease Investigator, Raleigh, N. C.

Survey Trends—Edward H. Furcron, Health Program Representative, State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C.

Newer Approaches to Gonorrhea Problem—Maurice Folb, Public Health Investigator, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Venereal Disease Problems Around Military Areas—David Hammond, Venereal Disease Epidemiologist, Jacksonville, N. C.

Informal Discussion of Field Problems—District Epidemiologist and P&C Directors

(10)
Where Are We Going in Sanitation?

I A LOOK INTO THE PAST: Humorous Experiences of Four Pioneer Sanitarians:
B. L. Jessup, Senior Sanitarian, Stokes County Health Department
W. C. Stallings, Senior Sanitarian, Cleveland County Health Department
E. B. Roach, Senior Sanitarian, Charlotte Health Department
M. M. Melvin, Executive Vice-President, North Carolina Association of Quality Restaurants.

What Sanitarians Have Accomplished Through the Years—
E. A. Branch, D.D.S., Director, Oral Hygiene Division, North Carolina State Board of Health.

II THE PRESENT, OUR PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS:

In Our Health Organization—C. C. Applewhite, M.D., Local Health Division, North Carolina State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C.

In Economic Conditions—W. M. Pate, Chief, Environmental Hygiene Section, Pitt County Health Department, Greenville, N. C.

In Sanitation Education and Enforcement—Edward G. Kilpatrick, Senior Sanitarian, Cleveland County Health Department, Shelby, N. C.

In Public Institutions and Private Housing—W. M. Halslip, Senior Public Health Engineer, Charlotte Health Department

In Milk and Food Sanitation—E. S. Edwards, Senior Sanitarian, Halifax County Health Department

In Water, Sewerage, and Industrial Wastes—W. E. Long, Jr., Chief Pollution Control Section, N. C. State Stream Sanitation Committee, Raleigh, N. C.

In Fringe Area Development—Herman Dunn, Senior Sanitarian, Cumberland County Health Department, Fayetteville, N. C.

III A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE
C. A. Abele, Director, Public Health Research, The Diversey Corporation, Chicago, Ill.

Friday, June 1, 1956
2:00 P.M.—Chelsea Number 1
ROBERT W. BROWN, Chairman

Annual Business Meeting
SECTION MEETINGS

SECRETARIAL AND STATISTICAL SECTION
Thursday, May 31, 1956
2:00 P.M.—Chelsea Number 2
Mrs. Betty I. Neal, Chairman
Welcome: Mrs. Clara R. Smith, City Health Department, Charlotte, N. C.
Response: Mrs. Elizabeth Scruggs, Cleveland County Health Department, Shelby, N. C.
Introduction of Speaker: Mrs. Alma B. Shepard, District Health Department, Burnsville, N. C.
"Public Relations"—Mr. George W. Laycock, Administrator, Shelby Hospital, Shelby, N. C.
Business

HEALTH EDUCATION SECTION
Thursday, May 31, 1956
2:00 P.M.—Tryon Room
Miss Nettie Day, Chairman
Facts We Need to Know as Professional and Voluntary Health Workers—George Simpson, Ph.D., Sociologist, Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.
How Effective Are Our Efforts in Influencing Changes in Health Behavior—Audie L. Knutson, Ph.D., Chief of Behavioral Studies, Division of General Health Services, Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D. C.
Discussion—Led by Dr. Simpson and Dr. Knutson
Intermission
Business

NUTRITION SECTION
Thursday, May 31, 1956
2:00 P.M.—Parlors E & F
Miss Gwendolyn Krahnke, Chairman
Nutrition in Chronic Disease—E. J. Lease, Ph.D., Director, Nutrition Department, Clemson College, S. C.
Friday, June 1, 1956
2:00 P.M.—Parlors E & F
Miss Gwendolyn Krahnke, Chairman
Exploring New Roads to Better Nutrition—Panel Discussion; Moderator, Winston Osborne, Nutritionist, Guilford County Health Department, Greensboro, N. C.
SECTION MEETINGS

HEALTH OFFICERS' SECTION
Thursday, May 31, 1956

2:00 P.M. Kuester Room
WILLIAM HAFFER, M.D., Chairman

RECENT ADVANCES IN MEDICAL CARE; THEIR EFFECTS ON THE COMMUNITY AND UPON THE LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Geriatrics—Wingate M. Johnson, M.D., Professor of Clinical Medicine, Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Tuberculosis—C. D. Thomas, M.D., Associate Superintendent and Medical Director, Western Carolina Sanatorium, Black Mountain, N. C.

Cardiovascular Diseases—E. Harvey Estes, Jr., M.D., Associate in Medicine (Cardiology), Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, N. C.

Mental Diseases—James W. Murdoch, M.D., Ch.B., General Superintendent, North Carolina Hospitals Board of Control, Raleigh, N. C.

Business

NURSING SECTION
Thursday, May 31, 1956

2:00 P.M.—Ball Room
MRS. BETTY P. KEZIAH, Chairman


Discussion—Directed by a Representative of the Nursing Section, State Board of Health.

Continued Education in the Sanitation Field—Gilbert L. Kelso, B.A., M.P.H., Associate Professor, Department of Sanitary Engineering, University of North Carolina School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, N. C. John Andrews, B.S.C.E., Chief, Sanitation Section, Division of Sanitary Engineering, N. C. State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C.

11:00 A.M. Business Session

FOURTH GENERAL SESSION
Friday, June 1, 1956
Annual Banquet and Dance
Presiding: Dr. Bertlyn Bosley
7:30 P.M.

Dinner
Music—Gay Nineties Revue
Introduction of Guests
Presentation of Awards—Dr. Edward G. McGavran
10:00 P.M.-1:00 A.M. Dance
GENERAL SESSIONS

BALL ROOM

THIRD GENERAL SESSION
Friday, June 1, 1956
Presiding: Dr. EDWARD G. McGAVRAN
Vice-President, N.C.P.H.A.
9:00 A.M.

TEN-MINUTE CAPSULES OF THE SCIENTIFIC PROCESS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Studies of Nutrition and Growth in Wayne and Greene Counties—Elizabeth Corkey, M.D., M.P.H.*, Assistant Health Officer, Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Health Department, Charlotte, N. C.
S. B. McPheeters, M.D., Wayne County Health Officer, Goldsboro, N. C.
A. Hughes Bryan, M.D., Professor of Public Health Nutrition, University of North Carolina School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Tuberculin Testing Among School Children in Alamance County—William L. Norville, M.D., M.P.H.*, Alamance County Health Officer, Burlington, N. C.
Sidney Chipman, M.D., M.P.H., Professor of Maternal and Child Health, University of North Carolina School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, N. C.
Edward C. Curnen, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Rheumatic Fever Pilot Studies in Alamance County—Edward P. Benbow, Jr., M.D., Greensboro, N. C.

Poison Control Centers for Accident Control and Research—Charles M. Cameron, Jr., M.D., M.P.H., Associate Professor, Public Health Administration, University of North Carolina School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, N. C.

A Study of Safety as a Community Health Problem—H. C. Whims, M.D., Randolph County Health Officer, Asheboro, N. C.


Home Nursing in a Medical Care Program—Ann Barentine, Director, Public Health Nursing, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Health Department, Charlotte, N. C.

Community Organization for Health in Orange County—Joseph H. Huff, A.B., M.S.P.H.*, Health Education Consultant, N. C. Heart Association, Chapel Hill, N. C.
Eunice N. Tyler, Ph.B., M.P.H., Ph.D., Professor of Public Health Education, University of North Carolina School of Public Health, Chapel Hill, N. C.

*To make presentation
GENERAL SESSIONS

BALL ROOM

FIRST GENERAL SESSION
Thursday, May 31, 1956
Presiding: Dr. Bertlyn Bosley
President, N.C.P.H.A.
9:30 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

Invocation: Dr. E. A. Beatty, Davidson College, Davidson, N. C.
Welcome: Philip Van Every, Mayor of Charlotte
Response and Presidential Address: Dr. Bertlyn Bosley

The Scientific Process in Public Health: Community Development for Health

The Sociological Basis for Community Development for Health—Dr. Gordon Blackwell, Department Research and Social Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Community Development for Health from the Point of View of Labor—Leonard Woodcock, Vice-President, United Auto Workers, Congress Industrial Organization, Detroit, Michigan

Community Development for Health from the Point of View of Industry—N. H. Collisson, Vice-President, Ecusta Paper Corporation, Pisgah Forest, N. C.

The Agricultural Aspects of Community Development for Health—Dr. Horace Hamilton, Department of Rural Sociology, N. C. State College, Raleigh, N. C.

SECOND GENERAL SESSION
Thursday, May 31, 1956
Presiding: Dr. Bertlyn Bosley
"The Scientific Process in Public Health"
8:00 P.M.


An Epidemiological Approach to Prevention of Traffic Accident Injuries—Dr. John O. Moore, Automotive Crash Injury Research, Cornell University Medical College, New York

Rabies in North Carolina—Dr. Martin Hines, Chief, Veterinary Public Health Section, State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C. 

(4)
SCHEDULE OF ALL EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1956

7:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M. Registration, Hotel Charlotte, Lobby

THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1956

8:30 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Registration
9:30 A.M. First General Session Ball Room
12:30 P.M. Executive Committee Luncheon Parlor C
2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M. Section Meetings
8:00 P.M. Second General Session Ball Room

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1956

8:30 A.M.-5:00 P.M. Registration
9:00 A.M. Third General Session Ball Room
11:00 A.M. Business Session
12:30 P.M. Luncheon Meetings:
Nurses—Chelsea Number 2
Nutritionists—Chinese Room
Secretaries—Kuester Room
2:00 P.M.-5:30 P.M. Special Meeting, State Board of Health Parlor D
2:00 P.M. Sanitarians' Section
Chelsea Number 1
2:00 P.M. Nutritionists Section
Parlors E & F
3:00 P.M. Joint Session, Health Officers' and Laboratory Sections
Chelsea Number 2
7:30 P.M. Banquet and Fourth General Session
Ball Room
10:00 P.M. Dancing
Ball Room
Program

of the

45th Annual Session

NORTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATION

May 31-June 1, 1956

THEME:
The Scientific Process
In Public Health

HEADQUARTERS:
HOTEL CHARLOTTE
Charlotte, N. C.
MECKLENBURG DECLARATION 
OF INDEPENDENCE

May 20, 1775

Mecklenburg County takes justifiable pride in its illustrious history and the men who made this heritage possible are not forgotten. Mecklenburg was a hotbed of freedom-loving men, who demanded liberty above all things.

In Charlotte the tide of the Revolution turned. When Lord Cornwallis and the British Troops came marching up Trade Street Hill, they were met with such a fiery and determined resistance that Cornwallis called Mecklenburg a "Hornet's Nest" and "the most rebellious County in America." After Mecklenburg, the British never again were victorious.

Mecklenburg is also proud of the fact that this was the birthplace of two Presidents of the United States—James K. Polk and Andrew Jackson—but Mecklenburg's greatest claim to fame is the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence.

Mecklenburg was the cradle of liberty in America, and the date of the Declaration, May 20, 1775, is proudly displayed on our State Flag and Seal. The men of Mecklenburg declared themselves free and independent of Great Britain more than a year before the Continental Congress declared independence in Philadelphia. However inconsistent they were with the prevalent views of 1775, the Mecklenburg Declaration shows that the North Carolina frontiersmen were more logical and more realistic than were their hesitating representatives in the Continental Congress. In this year Congress was asking Britain for more liberal Colonial rights and accordingly the Mecklenburg Declaration was hushed as being rash and premature when it arrived in Philadelphia.

It was not until 1819 that it came into national prominence. In this year there was a debate in the Congress between Massachusetts and Virginia as to which had started the ball of the Revolution rolling. North Carolina's representatives came forward with their case for the Mecklenburg Declaration, and the debate was settled in favor of North Carolina. Thomas Jefferson was not in accord, however, for it was thus revealed that he had evidently copied parts of the National Declaration of Independence from Mecklenburg's.

Unfortunately this great event has been clouded by controversy over its authenticity. The only argument the doubters have is that the original Declaration is no longer in existence. The manuscript which went to Philadelphia has never been found, and the minutes of the meeting on May 20 were destroyed when the home of John McKnitt Alexander was burned in April, 1800. However, Mr. Alexander had made a copy directly from the records and his testimony to this appears in his handwriting on the copy. This authentic copy is now in the Archives of the Library at the University of North Carolina. In 1831 the State published a pamphlet containing all of the affidavits by participants and eye-witnesses to the Signing of the Declaration. These men of high character, leaders in the County, including one minister and ten ruling elders of the Presbyterian Church, swore that this copy by Alexander was a true narrative of the transactions of the meeting on May 19 and 20, 1775.

Many well-meaning historians have been misled by an article written by Dr. Charles Phillips in 1855 in which he erroneously stated that Alexander's copy was made from (Continued inside back cover)
Program

of the

45th Annual Session

NORTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATION

May 31-June 1, 1956

THEME:
The Scientific Process
In Public Health

HEADQUARTERS:
HOTEL CHARLOTTE
Charlotte, N. C.