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Retrospect

News from the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections at Winthrop University

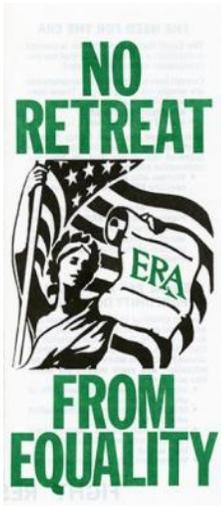
September 2017

Volume 13, Number 3



Manuscript Collection Spotlight

By Andrew Johnston, Asst. Dir. of Archives and Special Collections



EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (ERA) SOUTH CAROLINA COALITION RECORDS, 1970-1984 ([Accession 81](#), [Accession 168](#), [Accession 183](#), [Accession 388](#), [Accession 693](#), and [Accession 1062](#))

The March 22, 2017 ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) by the state of Nevada has sparked renewed interest and hope that the amendment will finally be added to the Constitution in the near future. The ERA was originally passed by the United States Congress on March 22, 1972 to guarantee equal rights for all citizens regardless of sex, however only 35 states ratified the amendment and 38 are needed for it to be added to the Constitution. With Nevada joining the ratifying states, only two more states are needed.

South Carolina is one of the 14 states that failed to ratify the Amendment. The South Carolina Coalition for the Equal Rights Amendment was formed in an effort to get the state of South Carolina to ratify the amendment. They succeeded in getting the South Carolina House of Representatives to vote by an 83 to zero margin to ratify the ERA on March 23, 1972, however the amendment failed to pass in the SC Senate. The Coalition continued to lobby the state to ratify the amendment following the initial failure and the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) South Carolina Coalition Records document their efforts. The collection spans from 1970-1984 and consists of correspondence, minutes, memoranda, brochures, reports, newsletters, clippings, mailing lists, and financial records.

For anyone interested in learning more about the ERA movement in the state of South Carolina feel free to contact the Archives or peruse the Archives' Digital Commons for collection records and finding aids. A quick [search](#) through the Archives' Digital Commons reveals 31 manuscript collections related to the topic of the Equal Rights Amendment.

For more information on the Manuscript Collection, contact Andrew Johnston, Asst. Director of Archives and Special Collections at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.



The Louise Pettus Archives is on Facebook. If you are on Facebook, please search for us under Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections at Winthrop University, and then like and follow our page. Please suggest our page to any friends or family who you think might find it of interest. If there is anything you would like to see on the Facebook page, we would love the input. Look on Facebook for events, historical facts, and other announcements from the Pettus Archives and the University.

Contact Brittany Pigford at archives@winthrop.edu for more information.



Quote of the Quarter

Marion A. Wright, born in 1894 in Johnson, S.C., was a lawyer and activist who championed social justice and civil rights in the South and served multiple terms as president and vice president of the Southern Regional Council. In a speech to the Fellowship of the Concerned in 1956, Wright said the following concerning actions taken against citizens standing up for tolerance.

As appalling as are the events themselves, they are mere symptoms of a disease which afflicts us, a distemper that devours. The disease is intolerance. I do not mean, at the moment, intolerance of people. I mean something far worse—intolerance of ideas, of opinion. I say it is far worse because ideas and opinions are more important than the individuals who entertain them. The individual perishes but ideas are the life blood of society, the thing which gives society vitality and causes it to evolve imperceptibly but surely into adaptations better suited to human needs. In that sense, ideas are immortal.—Marion A. Wright-Fellowship of the Concerned-March 6, 1956- Columbia, S.C.

Finding aids of Marion A. Wright Papers housed in Pettus Archives: [Accession 48](#); [Accession 197](#)

For more information concerning the *Quote of the Quarter* please contact Gina White at (803) 323-2334 or whitegp@winthrop.edu.



Update on Louise Pettus Papers

By Carson Cope, Processing Archivist, Louise Pettus Papers

Researching local history? By the end of the current academic year, the Louise Pettus Papers will be fully available to provide researchers with a wealth of information on this subject. Future researchers can expect to find information concerning the people, places, and events that have shaped the history of the Catawba Region. From genealogical materials regarding local families such as the Pettuses and Coltharps, to the numerous publications and articles that Louise wrote for local newspapers such as “Beautiful Mary of Ebenezer,” this collection will be an invaluable tool for those interested in local history. To name a few specifics, researchers will be able to access information on Louise Pettus, the Springs Family, the Katawba Valley Land Trust, and Six Mile Presbyterian Church. As you can see from this brief list, the collection includes a wide array of material. Currently, the collection is in the final stages of completion. Fifty-five acid-free archival boxes have been organized and filled with approximately five hundred sheets of paper each. The information contained within each box is being summarized and described to create an online, searchable finding aid to make research simpler. It is currently estimated that the collection will consist of approximately 150-200 archival boxes. That is roughly 30,000 to 40,000 sheets of paper for researchers to peruse! We look forward to completing this collection to serve your research needs!



Louise has given the Archives many collections over the years. One very interesting one is a delightful reminiscence by her mother Bessie Kathryn Rodgers Pettus. Look at the Finding Aid by clicking here: [Pettus Reminiscence](#).

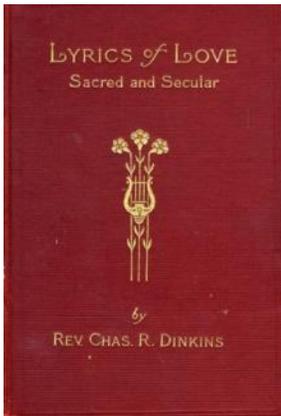
For more information on the Louise Pettus Papers contact Carson Cope at archives@winthrop.edu or (803) 323-2334.



Rare Book Collection Spotlight

By Gina Price White, Dir. of Archives and Special Collections

Lyrics of Love: Sacred and Secular by Rev. Charles Roundtree Dinkins



A slim but poignant volume of poetry resides on the shelf of the Pettus Archives Rare Book Collection. Although published around the turn of the last century, it is apropos to today. Very little is known about the poet, Rev. Charles R. Dinkins. He was born in South Carolina, most likely in the mid to late 1870s or early 1880s. He served as a minister of the AME Zion church. Dinkins began to preach at a young age and was known as “The Boy Preacher.” A volume of poetry seems to be his only foray into the literary world. *Lyrics of Love: Sacred and Secular* was published in 1904 by the State Company Publishers. In the preface of the book, Dinkins writes” ...I offer this little volume to the consideration of those who may feel disposed to join me in my humble lays, with the earnest hope that it may be to them what it has been to me—a source of real comfort and a delightful recreation. . . . I have written a few hundred poems and hymns, if such they are worthy to be called, and of these a few

choice selections are given.”

According to an article about Dinkins in the *Journal of Southern Religion* (Vol XI, 2009) by Randal L. Hall, Rice University and Managing Editor of *Journal of Southern History* titled “A Black Minister at the Nadir: The Poetry of Charles Roundtree Dinkins” ([click here for article](#)),

“...in his poetry lies all the dilemmas of a man in a deeply racist place and time . . . he used his poetry to call on white people to recognize the two races’ shared stake in southern soil and history.”

In the first and second stanzas of his poem, “We Are Black, but We Are Men”, Dinkins writes:

“What’s the boasted creed of color? / ‘Tis no standard for a race; / Justice’ mansion has no cellar, / All must fill an even place. / We must share the rights of others, / Dwelling here as kin with kin; / We are black, but we are brothers; / We are black, but we are men.”

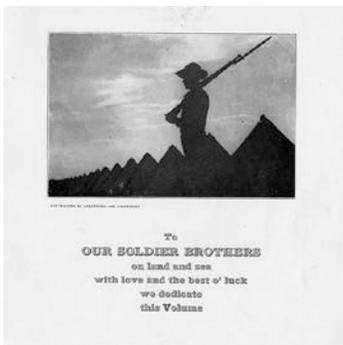
“Heaven smiles on all the dwellers / Of creation’s varied breeds; / Virtue beameth not in colors, / But in kind and noble deeds. / Though in humble contemplation, / Driven here from den to den; / We’re a part of this great nation; / We are black but we are men.”

Lyrics of Love is available to view in the Pettus Archives. Click here for [hours](#).

For more information on the Rare Book Collection, contact Gina White, Director of Archives and Special Collections at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.



CHARLES ROUNDTREE DINKINS



Foreword 1918 Winthrop yearbook [“Tatler a la Guerre” Volume 16](#) (link to digital copy)

The Tatler this year, it will be observed, is not so elaborate as it has been our custom to make it in former years. We, like our brothers, have felt the call of the war, and, while we could not go to the front, we were determined that we, too, should make sacrifices. As a result of this feeling, the student body, by a unanimous vote, decided that a large part of the money usually expended on *The Tatler* should be contributed to the Students’ Friendship War Fund, reserving only enough to preserve the continuity of our publication by issuing what is little more than a year book of the Seniors. We beg you, then, to deal very kindly with our little volume, remembering that, though it may have no other recommendation, it represents the cheerful sacrifice of a thousand sisters to the

boys “over there.” –The Editors

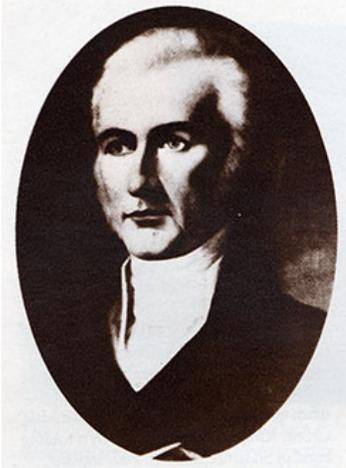


News Flash from the Past

By Charlene Drummond, Archivist

William Davie Was Noted Man of Carolinas Mausoleum will be erected over grave in Waxhaw

By J.B. Hicklin Evening Herald 1929



Whatever the differences of which the Carolinas may now boast, the two states seem irreparably bound together for all time by tradition and history. Claim of each state that Andrew Jackson and other notables are native sons have not yet and probably never will be settled to the satisfaction of the commonwealths.

It is interesting, to learn that the Daughters of the American Revolution of South Carolina have placed a great granite boulder on the Lancaster-Charlotte highway in the Waxhaw community at a spot where they contend that Jackson was born. A heap of stones purporting to designate the birthplace of the great soldier and president were piled by the Tar Heelians on the edge of the highway just across the North Carolina boundary.

Closely associated in the tradition and fact with the name of Andrew Jackson is that of William R. Davie, "A great man in an age of great men". Perhaps it was the interest aroused over the Jackson controversy that focused the spotlight on this great Carolinian; or maybe it was the discoveries of an inquiring age that brought his name to the forefront after more than 100 years of comparative obscurity. In either event, the Carolinas recognize his magnitude and claim him as a native son. Both states laid claim as a son by adoption, for he was born in Egremont, Cumberland, England, and had to admit they shared in the claim.

It was Preston R. Davie, wealthy New York attorney and direct descendant of the Revolutionary war hero, who became interested in restoring his memory. Several years ago he visited the old historic churchyard [Waxhaw Presbyterian Church] in the Waxhaw community in Lancaster County. He personally directed the building of the mausoleum. The bodies of General Davie and other family members which had been resting in the rustic graveyard were moved to the new location. A trust fund was established to care for the plots.

The New York attorney provided funds to build and endow a 50,000 modern church plant to replace the present structure that his ancestor attended. Residents of the community explain under the provisions the plant was to be erected in a five year period which will expire within the next year.

General Davie was born June 20, 1756, the son of Archibald Davie, the nephew of Rev. William Richardson, a Presbyterian clergyman in South Carolina.

General Davie died at the age of 65. He was buried in the Waxhaw churchyard across the Catawba River.

Other collections containing information on William Richardson Davie and Waxhaw Presbyterian Church include: [Accession 85 M36 \(48\)](#); [Accession 349 M139 \(175\)](#); [Accession 404](#); [Accession 591](#); and [Accession 1097 M506 \(556\)](#).

For more information on the Winthrop newspaper files in the Archives contact Charlene Drummond, Archivist at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.



New Collection Spotlight

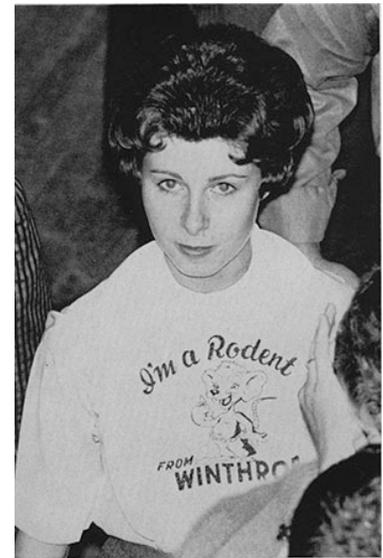
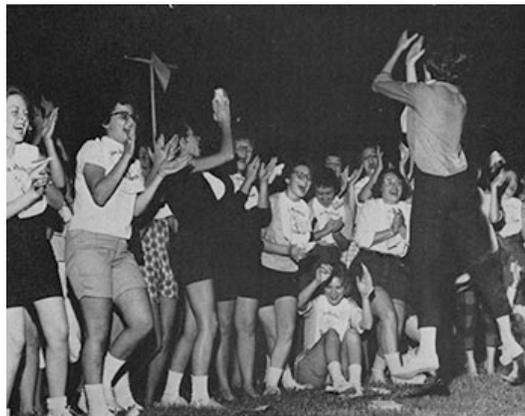
By Kaitlin Burdette, Archivist

Rodent Round-Up



The opening of a new school year comes with many of Winthrop's welcoming traditions: Convocation, the Community Picnic, and Welcome Week activities. However, not all traditions were so welcoming to new freshmen. One such tradition was the infamous Rat Week. Intended as an entertaining way to introduce freshmen to campus and the upperclassmen, this tradition required freshmen to wear beanie caps, called "rat caps", at all college functions for the first week, or more, of school. Each year rules were set by the upperclassmen and the freshmen had to follow. According to a recently received rat week rule book and rat bib (alternative to the rat cap) belonging to Class of 1965 alumna, Judith Collins Gaskins, the freshmen endured the

Rodent Round-Up in the Fall of 1961. The rule book stated that freshmen were required to wear the rodent bibs for the first three weeks of classes, to all meals and functions. The bibs had to be pristine and correctly worn. The freshmen were to retrieve supper trays for upperclassmen and always address them with a courteous "Miss." Adorned with ears, whiskers, and a tail, the freshmen had to attend Rodent Court. At any time during the three weeks, freshmen could be asked to entertain upperclassmen; however, the rules stated hazing was strictly forbidden. Thankfully (for freshmen!), Winthrop discontinued the tradition in 1978 and new freshmen can rest assured that rat week will never return.



Freshmen "rodents" 1961

For access to the complete collection or further information, please contact Kaitlin Burdette, Archivist at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.



Photograph of the Quarter

By Brittany S. Pigford, Archivist

The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League

Did you know that The Louise Pettus Archives has multiple collections dealing with the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL)? One of these is the Elizabeth “Lib” Mahon papers. “Lib” was a native of South Carolina and a 1942 graduate of Winthrop. She played in the AAGPBL from 1944-1952, during which she was a two time all-star. We have been working with the International Women's Baseball Center to showcase some of what we have by placing it on Digital Commons. Please go to Pettus Archives' [homepage](#) to see what we have already posted in Digital Commons and check back as we continue to post more. Also check out the Louise Pettus Archives Facebook page. Or, even better, we would love for you to come to visit us at the Louise Pettus Archives to show you the collections.

Here is the list of other collections that we have dealing with the All- American Girls Professional Baseball League.

- Elizabeth B. Mahon Papers - [Accession 992 - M434 \(485\)](#)
- Elizabeth B. Mahon Papers - [Accession 1215](#)
- Jean Faut Papers - [Accession 1369](#)
- Sue Kidd AAGPBL Collection - [Accession 1499](#)
- Ruth Born AAGPBL Collection - [Accession 1461](#)
- All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Home Movies - [Accession 1385 - M686 \(742\)](#)
- All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Collection - [Accession 1389](#)
- A Team of Their Own: All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Documentary - [Accession 1534 M745 \(802\)](#)

<http://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/aagpbl/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Louise-Pettus-Archives-and-Special-Collections-at-Winthrop-University>



For more information on the Photograph Collection, contact Brittany Pigford, Archivist at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.

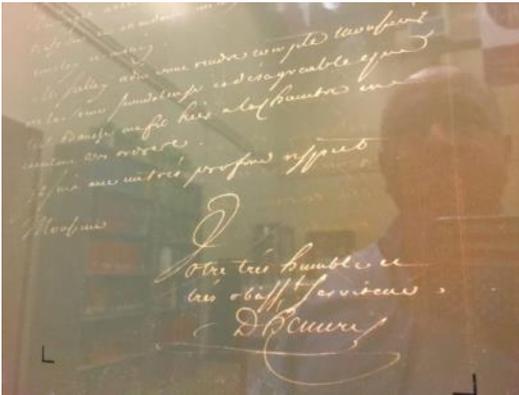


From Winthrop to the Bastille, 1760

A day sleuthing in the Archives

by Fred Powell ('83) Processing Archivist

That scrap of smoky microfilm rolled up in string at the bottom of a box being processed was puzzling. Unrolled on the machine, it was a scrawled letter in French with the date "Wednesday morning, June 11, 1760"...no idea who it was from or to whom, or from whence it came. The missive was simply addressed to some mysterious "Monsieur". In reading it, I could see that it concerned a complaint laid by a man named Palissot against a "Father Morley" who was a "Liouinois" (the writer misspelled both "Morellet" and "Lyonnais"--a native of Lyons, France). The film itself seemed to have been made at the National Archives of France---yet the page had been marked with an old stamp of the "Bibliothèque Nationale--Imprimé" (French National Library-Print Division). What the heck?? These are completely different organizations, and neither seemed to have it in their card catalogues in Paris and had no information.



The signature, like the crabbed writing itself, was a mess and looked rather like "D. Beurre" (Mr. Butter?), but scrunching up my eyes a couple of pages further down I guessed one of the names involved was "Salley" and that somehow "Malesherbes" (son of a minister to King Louis XV) was also involved...so I put Salley and Malesherbes into the internet to see what I could come up with...

...And after tweaking the search a couple of times, up popped an old book in French--a catalogue published in 1900 of loose papers that had lain in a dusty old collection since 1819. Poring over the page, a faint, pencilled-in number '164' in the margin of the manuscript page sent me to a numbered entry in the century-old catalogue: "Letter signed by 'D'Hémery' (so much for "D. Beurre") to Malesherbes informing him of the placement of Father Morellet in the Bastille, the author of a libel against Palissot and (admiring Alexander) Pope's (heretical) prayer... But who the heck is d'Hémery?



A few more taps on the keyboard searching "D'Hémery" pulled up an online portrait, in Germany of all places, of a hook-nosed, bewigged and beruffled middle-aged man, and a brief bio apprising us that Joseph d'Hemery was the chief police inspector of the press in 1760. In other words, he was the spy/enforcer, who, along with his colleague, Charles-Alexandre Salley, perused everything printed in France and had the power to commit authors to the Bastille for expressing their opinions 40 years before the French Revolution... And with that, we were able to resurrect this obscure functionary's life AND match his signature and scrawled letter on a scrap of paper with a PICTURE of him.

Fr. Morellet did survive the Bastille, and was liberated after a couple of months, but it set this little priest on a life-long push for changes in the justice and penal systems in Europe. Interestingly, M. de Malesherbes, who headed the department that D'Hémery and Salley ran, not only helped abolish the system of arbitrary imprisonment, but went on to defend Louis XVI at his trial (he lost) and followed the king to the guillotine a few months later in 1793. Malesherbes was the great-grandfather of Alexis de Tocqueville, the Frenchman, who in 1835, penned *Democracy in America* after his extended travels in our country.

This bit of blackened plastic had the power to take us from Winthrop to the BASTILLE, across 250 years, 5000 miles and through 3 countries, all without stirring from our chairs in the Pettus Archives. Come check out Winthrop's archival collections---who knows where your trip will take you!

If you have questions or enquiries, please contact Fred Powell archives@winthrop.edu or (803) 323-2334.



From the Echo Chamber

New Audio/Visual Archivist, Emily Cranwell



The Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections has a new Audio/Visual Archivist – Emily Cranwell started the position in June 2017. A native of Virginia, Emily graduated from the University of South Carolina in May with her Masters of Library and Information Science and her Masters of Arts in English. While as USC, Emily specialized in Archival Management and Preservation.

As the Audio/Visual Archivist, Emily will be working on the University Archives audio/moving images collection, the Oral Histories Collection, and the Veteran's History Project (which is partnered with the Library of Congress). The overarching goal of the position is to make the audio and visual files with the Louise Pettus Archives available digitally on our Digital Commons catalog. Additionally, Emily will be looking to build on and expand our audio and moving images collections by conducting interviews with community members on a range of topics.

If you have any audio or visual materials related to Winthrop, Rock Hill, or local veterans, feel free to contact Emily at cranwellv@winthrop.edu or 803-323-2257 and she will be happy to discuss how to preserve or donate the materials.



Current Exhibitions

By Gina Price White, Dir. Archives and Special Collections



Kate Wofford Hall has put up an exhibit of photographs from the Pettus Archives of the building and students for the 50th anniversary of the residence hall.

For more information, contact the Pettus Archives at (803) 323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.



The Enduring Qualities of a Small Town Druggist

By John B. Bowen III, guest columnist

John Bishop Bowen (1875-1957) exemplifies a dedicated pharmacist who served residents of York County for most of his life. His career did take him outside of South Carolina and to higher positions than a pharmacist, but you will see that he was always a small town druggist.

Background



John was the son of Margaret Elizabeth Shurley (1853-1945) of Tirzah, S.C. and Nathaniel Jeremiah Napoleon Bowen (1846-1923) of Bethel, S.C. His middle name honored Pierpont Bishop, pastor of the Ebenezer Presbyterian Church. He grew up in Yorkville, did well in school, and enjoyed sports including tennis. Paul McNeel was one of his closest long-time friends. He attended Ebenezer Academy and graduated from the University of Maryland Pharmaceutical College, Baltimore, MD. Upon returning to South Carolina, he became owner of the York Drug Store in Yorkville. He married Addie Erwin Moore of Morganton, N.C. who had moved to Yorkville with her family. At that time her father Thomas Peyton Moore and uncle Walter Brevard Moore co-founded the Lockmore Cotton Mill in Yorkville. John and Addie had one child, John Bishop Bowen Jr.

Highlights of John's Druggist Career

Shortly after John Jr's birth in 1908, the family moved to Spartanburg when John became secretary and treasurer of a wholesale drug company while remaining owner of the York Drug Store. In 1910, John became proprietor of Bowen Drug Store located at Central Hotel corner in Charlotte, NC. Next he moved to Washington, DC where he opened Bowen's Drug Store on 14th Street in the northeast section of the city. He then became the Director of Merchandise for Peoples Drug Stores, a large retail drug chain that had stores in the mid-Atlantic states. He and family lived in Chevy Chase, MD.

In 1934 after his wife Addie died of breast cancer, John returned to SC and operated the York Drug Store which he still owned. He met and married Ruth Gilchrist of Laurinburg, N.C., a school teacher living in York. In 1936 John and Ruth moved to Washington, DC when John accepted the position of V. Pres. of Peoples Drug Stores. Missing small town life and their roots in the Carolinas, they moved to Rock Hill, S.C.

First they opened a drug store at 122 East Main Street in Rock Hill. The franchised store carried the Rexall brand product line. Later they opened a new store at 124 Caldwell Ave. near the Rock Hill post office. The new independently operated store featured a modern interior design with an accordion-shaped soda fountain and lunch counter as well as a mosaic tile floor (see photograph below). A bus stop at the corner near the Caldwell location provided easy access for Winthrop College students.

In both stores Ruth managed the typical Southern mid-day meal, and John managed the store as well as filled prescriptions. John negotiated with wholesale drug salesmen who regularly visited the store. He would always start the business conversation by asking about the discounted items. John worked in the Caldwell store until his death at age 82.



Modern 1950s Store on Caldwell Avenue

Compassionate Service

John cheerfully greeted all patrons who came to the prescription and drug counter. The Rock Hill community showed their respect for him by addressing him as “Dr. Bowen.” Family members in his generation and close friends called him “Doc.” He showed his compassion for his patrons by filling prescriptions or providing medical accessories 24 hours a day. After store hours, you could call him at his residence.

At the store he provided free consultation for medical issues. If they were minor problems, he knew what over-the-counter medicine to recommend. For serious symptoms, he would tell them to see a doctor as soon as possible. If he could tell that a patron was reluctant to see a doctor, he would, in some cases, continue by saying that he was calling the appropriate physician right now and telling him that you are coming to his office.

Dr. Bowen was way ahead of his time when you consider that not until some 60 years later did large drug store chains provide 24-hour prescription service in selected branches, and in-store certified medical personnel to assess a patron's issue.

For more information about Dr. Bowen visit Accession 1512, [Bowen-Moore Family Papers](#), Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, Winthrop University or click on the above link to Digital Commons



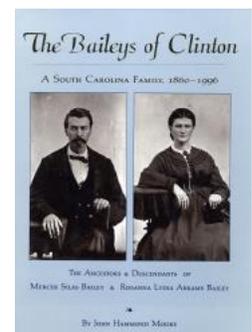
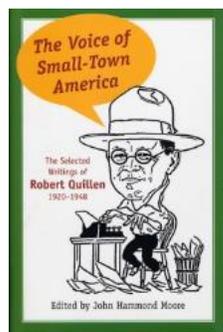
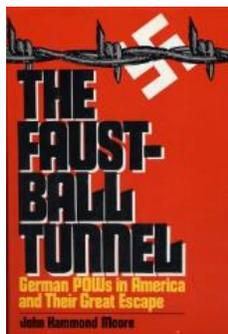
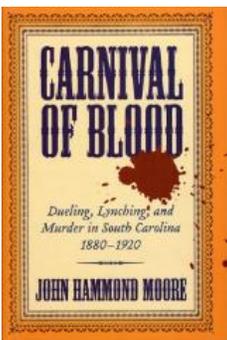
Collegiate Contemplations

By Gina Price White, Dir., Archives and Special Collections



Historian John Hammond Moore passed away September 2, 2017 at the age of 92. Dr. Moore taught history at Winthrop from 1962 to 1965. The Pettus Archives has some of his papers in our holdings [[John Hammond Moore Papers](#)]. He was born in Houlton, Maine and came to South Carolina when he was hired at Winthrop in 1962. Dr. Moore wrote over 20 books on topics ranging from dueling to Australian/American relations to German POWs in America to Errol Flynn to newspapers and publishing. His *South Carolina Newspapers*, a listing, with history, of all the state and local newspapers in the state is something I use quite a bit. I had the pleasure of talking with Dr. Moore when he would visit Winthrop.

He was such a fine gentleman and a consummate scholar and author. He will be missed.



For information on the Archives' collections and holdings, how to donate historical material, or how you can help, contact:

Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections

Telephone: (803) 323-2334

E-Mail: archives@winthrop.edu

Website: www.winthrop.edu/dacus/archives/

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