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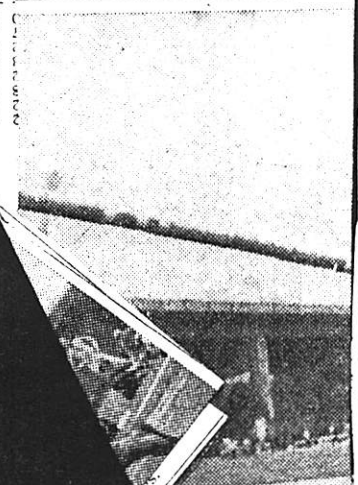
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Rev. H. F. Surles
Will Go To Society
Hill Church Sept. 1.
Minister Who Has
Served In Winnsboro
For Nearly Nineteen
Years Accepts Unan-
imous Call Issued By
Welsh Neck Congrega-
tion.



'Mr. Tom' Douglas Hasn't Missed Fair Since 1881



(Photo and story courtesy Columbia Record).

At 79 Sees 64th
Straight Fair

(By Tina Cannon)

Life may begin at 40 for some folks, but it begins each year at the South Carolina State Fair for 79-year-old Tom J. Douglas of near Winnsboro. For the septuagenarian has not missed one of the fairs in the past 64 years.

He was only 15 years old when he first began coming to the fair, and he remembers well when the exposition was held up almost in the middle of town on Elmwood avenue.

"Yes, sir, it sure has grown," the old man said, "and it keeps getting better all the time."

Won't Miss A Fair

Mr. Douglas, affectionately called "Mr. Tom" by his hosts of friends, is a retired farmer of a community about seven miles from Winnsboro. His son, A. P. Douglas, brought him to the fair this year.

"Mr. Tom" came for 20 years with a neighbor, and for 20 years before that with another friend. But no matter how he comes, or who brings him to Columbia, he is determined not to miss a single fair as long as he's able to get here.

Although he's somewhat enfeebled by age, Mr. Douglas still gets around in a wheel chair pushed by a boy. But he doesn't mind so much riding in his chair, because he gets to see the fair sitting down, which is something many footsore trampers over the huge grounds would envy.

Descendants In Service

He has 38 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Many of his descendants are with the armed forces overseas, and he gets lots of gifts from them, he said. He was displaying a slick watch yesterday, which a great-grandson had sent him from Germany.

Well-known by perennial fair attendants and attenders, Mr. Douglas is greeted on all sides by persons who hasten forward to shake his hand and stop for a friendly word. His wheel chair is usually surrounded by friends with the jocular old man as the center of the repartee.

After viewing the midway, the concessions, exhibits and the Steel building yesterday, Mr. Douglas was asked by a friend to have a snack at one of the stands. "Nope," he shook his head vehemently. "Don't want any. I want some beer."

Mrs. C. B. Rabb
Passes Wednesday

Funeral Services for Mother
Of Fairfield Sheriff To Be
Held Friday At Monticello.

Mrs. C. B. Rabb, 81, died Wednesday morning at the home of her son, Sheriff in Winnsboro.

she lived until which time she came to Loro to make her home with her son.

Mrs. Rabb spent her long life in devoted service to her family, her church and her friends, and was a most beloved woman of her community. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Monticello Methodist church and was most faithful and active in church work until recently.

Predeceased by her husband in 1914, she is survived by the following: Lee McMeekin, Charlie McMeekin and Captain Marion Pope of Monticello, Hayne McMeekin of Monticello, Eddie Setzler and Rabb Setzler of Laurens, Carl Friday of Spartanburg, and Buford McGill of Columbia.

Missing



Sgt. J. R. Bennett, a heavy bomber pilot, reported missing after the European theater. He was stationed in England. Sgt. Bennett, Alethia Bennett, Winnsboro, and B. Porter. He was at Winnsboro and was shipped on February.

*5/19/1999
copied from the scrapbook
of Miss Sadie Brooks*