

his motor business. Meanwhile, he had continued supervising the operation of his own farms and the Broadway farms. He also acquired business interests outside the State. But in February of 1951, he suffered a serious heart attack which necessitated his severing most of his business connections. He has since lived in semi-retirement.

Mr. Ferrell has been a quiet man, modest and unassuming. He has been a good citizen and a good neighbor. He belongs to the Masons, the Kiwanis Club, the Shrine, the Kinston Chamber of Commerce and has served on the Board of Directors of the latter organization. He also belongs to the Queen Street Methodist Church and has long served on its Board of Stewards.

The Ferrells have two daughters, Marilyn (now Mrs. Joe B. Gay of Kinston), born in 1926; and Marjorie (now Mrs. Robert A. Team, temporarily living in Germany), born in 1931.



*William John Herring*

#### THE HERRING FAMILY

The first person to obtain a land grant on Falling Creek, in what is now Lenoir County, was Ambrose Ayers. The second person to obtain such a grant was a Herring, one John Herring. One of the two first representatives of old Johnston County in the General Assembly was this John Herring, spelled then Herron. The name is a Palatine name. And there have been Herrings in the area ever since.

No effort has been made to trace the long lineal line. The present Herrings are descendants of WILLIAM ISLER HERRING, born in the Kinston vicinity on January 14, 1834. He married a Herring, Polly Herring, on March 18, 1858. Before her death on February 18, 1875, she bore him the following children: Mary Ann (Mrs. James Farnage), born October 4, 1859; Rachel (Mrs. Robert Ivey), born August 20, 1861;



*Thomas J. Herring*

William B. Herring, born July 29, 1865; John L. Herring, born November 6, 1867; Sarah (Mrs. Aba Wooten), born April 19, 1870; Edward L. Herring, born May 9, 1872; and Eliza (Mrs. Dunn Uzzle), born February 7, 1875.

Mr. Herring's second wife was Laura K. Luffin, born October 7, 1849, and died October 18, 1912. She bore him the following children: Julia, born October 8, 1876, and died September 30, 1878; Thomas J. Herring, born March 27, 1878 and died July 15, 1949; Della, born January 15, 1880, and died September 12, 1880; Henry L. Herring, born May 20, 1882; Berton J. Herring, born September 15, 1884; Bryan W. Herring, born January 20, 1888 and died July 4, 1889; Harriet L. Herring, born July 27, 1892.

This large family was close-knit; what affected one affected all. They worked together, they prospered together. Three of the brothers, Henry, Tom, and Beck, long owned and operated

successfully together the Central Warehouse in Kinston. A unique financial arrangement existed among the three; they had only a common bank account, and each checked on it according to his needs and none ever asked the other for an accounting. Maybe this was a sort of family Communism, but it was a remarkable and beautiful example of fraternal affection and trust.

HENRY HERRING lives in the same home in which he was born and has never lived in any other. He married on May 3, 1911, Miss Ozura Grech of Green County. Their children are: Laura Ella (now Mrs. Helmer Peterson, Babylon, Long Island, New York), born February 10, 1913; Kathleen Luffin (now Mrs. John K. Stanley of Kinston), born February 27, 1915; Henry Berton Herring, born December 2, 1919, and now living at the homestead; Frances Beamer (now Mrs. L. L. Tracy, of Livingston, New Jersey.)

*Henry Herring*





*William L. Herring*

THOMAS JASON HERRING married on October 24, 1907, a Lenoir girl, Nonie Orlene Sutton. Their children are: Emily Elizabeth, born September 1, 1908 and died June 30, 1909; William Isler, born July 6, 1910; Nonie Orlene, born July 28, 1916; and Thomasine (now Mrs. James M. Hayes of Winston-Salem), born June 28, 1918.

WILLIAM ISLER HERRING, of the present time, is the son of Thomas Jason Herring and Nonie Orlene Sutton. He was born in Lenoir County and like most of the Herring clan has grown up and remained there. His wife is Claire Worthington, also of Lenoir County. They were married on March 27, 1935. Their children are: Harriet Taylor Herring, born November 12, 1937; and William Isler Herring, Jr., born July 3, 1945.

All of the Herrings have been believers in education. The first William Isler Herring attended private schools and was a

man of some learning. Both Henry and Tom Herring attended private schools and Oak Ridge Military Institute. Tom spent a year at N. C. State College (then A. and M. College); Henry studied further at a school in Winterville. Young William Isler attended the public schools and went to Oak Ridge Military Institute also.

The Herrings, or most of them at least, have been Baptists. Young William Herring is now active in the First Baptist Church of Kinston, a member of its Board of Deacons and a trustee of the Baptist Home for the Aged at Winston-Salem. They have usually been devout people; never seeking for themselves, however, "chief seats in the synagogue." They have been good and substantial citizens of their community, but seldom active participants in clubs or organizations of any kind. They have been neighborly, but never aggressively so. They have had convictions, but never have flaunted them.

In the main, the Herrings have been and continue to be farmers. And yet from 1918 to about 1939, they operated successfully the large Central Tobacco Warehouse, which the family still owns but leases for operation. But the Herring men have usually been out-door men, not office men. They like for recreation hunting and fishing. But they are also family men, finding pleasure in watching and nurturing one generation after another.

#### CURTIS W. HOWARD

In the late years of the Nineteenth Century and the early years of the Twentieth Century, the Rev. C. W. Howard made a lasting contribution to the religious and educational progress of Kinston and Lenoir County. He was a man of noble qualities, vision, and ability. He strengthened the churches which he served as pastor, he had much to do with laying the foundations of the modern public school system, and he had a part in numerous progressive community movements. But not least among the notable contributions he made to the community is the fact that he left a son, Curtis W. Howard, Jr., who in later years has likewise served well his native section.

Although he chose not to follow in the professional footsteps