



**Andrew Poston
(1829 - 1916)**

Left-Handed Cup Secured For Resident of Pee Dee

Since the advent of the penciled eyebrow type mustache, as featured by Clark Gamble's upper lip, the mustache cup is about as useless as galoshes to a mermaid.

Mustache cups are relics of a more rugged age when men were men and mustaches covered the mouth like an awning and draped gracefully into the coffee.

Time was when all masculine faces were completely covered with plumage or at least the mouth was covered with a shaggy fringe, and mustache cups were standard equipment in every home. They were a facial necessity, for without the special attachment at the rim of the cup to displace facial adornment, it would be well nigh impossible to get close enough to the cup to drink. The possession now of such a cup is an oddity in itself, but the oddest cup in the state or probably anywhere else is a left-handed mustache cup in Florence County.

The origin of the cup was told to an American Guide writer by Fred Wilcox, a Florence attorney and volunteer consultant for the Federal Writers' project.

Andrew Poston, a leading citizen and Confederate soldier, was wounded in battle and lost the use of his right hand, which put him to no end of inconvenience. It was difficult to use a right-hand-

ed mustache cup with his left hand and he refused to dispense with his beard. Mr. Poston consulted traveling salesmen

men far and wide in an attempt to get a left-handed cup. But there wasn't any such article.

"Finally J. L. Barringer, then a leading merchant in the Pee Dee section, had a cup, such as Mr. Poston wanted, made to order in France and shipped to Florence. When the cup arrived Mr. Barringer had Mr. Poston's Confederate service record painted on the side. A delegation of leading citizens met at the Pee Dee river bridge and took a steamer down to what was then Savage or Godfrey's ferry where they dined with Mr. Poston after the presentation ceremony."

Recently Robert L. Ridley made an effort to obtain the cup, but Owen Poston, in whose charge it is now, was not willing to part with it even to the extent to permitting it to be sent to New York.

*Columbia Record
November 14, 1936*

Editor's note: Andrew Poston, a son of Hugh Poston, founded the town of Poston on the Pee Dee River, which is now a ghost town.

Sawmill Burns At Lake City

LAKE CITY, May 18 - Twenty Lake City firemen saved a threatened lumber yard from total loss tonight as wind-swept flames destroyed a sawmill of the Moore Lumber and Trading Co.

The loss will run into thousands of dollars, a mill employee said and at least 21 men will be out of work until the mill is rebuilt.

Its origin unknown, the fire quickly spread through the sawmill and flames were leaping up 100 feet when firemen arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Some 20 Lake City rural and city firemen fought the blaze. The firemen laid more than 1,100 feet of hose to bring water from a pond in the lumber yard at the southeast city limits.

The firefighters saved the planer mill and the yard where stored lumber is stacked. Practically destroyed was a boiler room.

Night Watchman Willie Jenkins first spotted the fire and gave the alarm at 7:10.

The sawmill has been closed since Friday for repair, mill foreman Scott Lowder said.

The lumber yard is owned by R. M. Moore Jr., who was out of town tonight.

Keels Brockington, president of the rural fire department, estimated flames were 100 feet high when he and his men began laying lines to the pond.

Four trucks from the rural and city fire departments were used to fight the fire with another parked on Highway 52 as a standby.

*Florence Morning News, Florence, S.C.
May 19, 1955*

Thieves Rob Lake City Store Safe

LAKE CITY Sept. 17 - (Special) Safecrackers entered Belk's Department store here last night and stole between \$2,000 and \$3,000 in cash.

The theft was discovered when the store was opened this morning.

The robbers tore a small hole through the roof to gain entry to the second story, came down a flight of stairs. They knocked off the combination and proceeded to pry off the door setting off the tear gas bomb inside.

Store officials today were still trying to ascertain exactly how much cash was taken. Employees on entering this morning found checks scattered over the floor about the broken safe. Apparently the thieves took no checks.

Members of the Florence County sheriff's office, members of the Lake City Police Dept., headed by Asst. Chief Joe Veal, Harry Miller of the Florence County identification bureau and members of the State Law Enforcement Division are investigating the crime.

*News and Courier, Charleston, S.C.
September 18, 1956*

A group of 40 men in Williamsburg District, who had associated themselves together for the purpose of hunting and destroying the enemies of their stock and crops, counted on the 9th inst., upward of fourteen thousand scalps, including those of bears, wolves, wild cats, crows &c.

*Winyaw Intelligence, Georgetown, S.C.
January 13, 1819*

When the stock market is "quiet" money talks in whispers.

*County Record, Kingstree, S.C.
February 13, 1908*