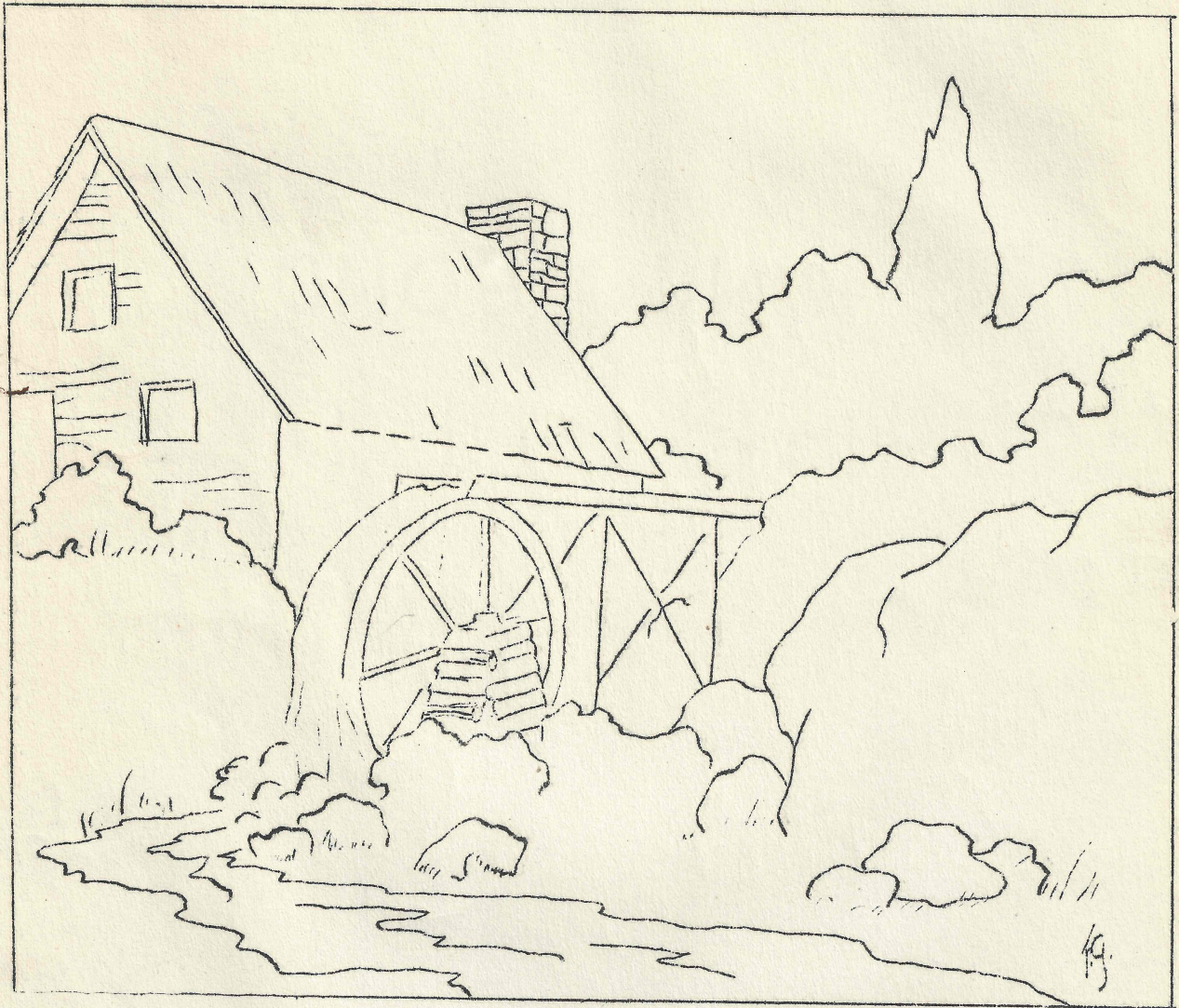


FLETCHER NEWS LETTER



ASHEVILLE AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL
and
MOUNTAIN SANITARIUM

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The present number of the News Letter is very largely the work of students. With little attempt at editing, we are letting them tell you in youth's own way of their daily lives of work, study, and play in the sanitarium and school.

- WE'LL CALL IT A DAY -

Brrrrrrrrrrrrrr, brrrrrrrrrrrr. Squeak, squeak, went the bed springs. A long arm reached out from warm quilts and blankets, groping over the table to find the cold alarm clock. It seemed to find everything else. Meanwhile the clock kept ringing.

It never would do to let it keep on. With a groan the form under the covers moved. Finally two feet hit the floor; a hand caught the alarm clock firmly, and the ringing stopped. Some one in the next room came back from the Land of Nod just long enough to have the happy thought that it was just the Fuel and Light Boy getting up; then he turned over and went peacefully back to sleep for another nap before time to get up for breakfast.

The hurry and noise, the flying feet and hands--it seemed impossible that they belonged to the same boy who was sleeping so comfortably a few minutes before. But the stinging cold made short work of dressing, and before long the Fuel and Light Boy found himself facing the cold wind that swept down from between the two peaks of Potato Hill, as he walked toward the Big House.

Before long there was a roaring fire in the kitchen range; he did his best there, for if breakfast is late, it is the fault of the cooks--not his. He did not stop long to warm, for he was so warmly dressed, and then too there were other fires to start. The furnace in the basement must have a fire, and then there must be a fire in the fireplace of the girls' parlor where the girls have morning worship. At five o'clock the cooks were down to start breakfast, and as the Fuel and Light Boy carried in wood and coal, he enjoyed the pleasing odor of the flour that was browning for gravy.

Five-thirty saw the Fuel and Light Boy down at the new chapel, starting a fire in the boiler, getting back just in time for breakfast. After that there was worship and a morning class. Two or three hours in the woods made the Fuel and Light Boy welcome the sound of the dinner bell. He felt kind of tired, and very hungry, but a bath and school clothes made him feel much better. After a good big dinner, he felt new life flowing into him, and he was ready for his afternoon classes, where he conjugated French verbs, and declaimed "Excelsior" with the bravest of them.

The evening found him in study period, unless it was Thursday evening when there was recreation, games, music, a health program, or something else. At an early hour he was asleep before the others had closed their books. Nothing disturbed him at all until that sharp buzzing sound came again to remind him that another day had started at Fletcher, and it was time for the Fuel and Light Boy to be about.

--Edward Turner

- THE BIG HOUSE KITCHEN -

Of all the departments in our institution, the kitchen is the busiest and the most interesting. It is true that things do not always go just right, but this is true of every department.

Our matron, Mrs. Smith, is very patient and understanding with her girls. If we are told to be careful and not throw out the potato water, I am sorry to say that we sometimes forget, and before we realize it, we have done exactly what we were told not to do. One time about four dozen egg whites were poured into the dish washing sinks, and the girls wondered why the water was so thick and foamy. It was then that Mrs. Smith missed the egg whites. She still had hopes of our learning, I believe, for she was very careful about her directions

after this. We try very hard not to make the same mistake twice, and to profit by our experiences. At least, we have never thrown any more egg whites into the dish water.

The breakfast cooks start their work at five o'clock in the morning. Breakfast is seldom late. When it is late, it is because the "Fuel and Light Boy" has failed to hear the alarm clock, or has turned it off in his sleep. By ten minutes to six the deck is set with the cold foods, and there are hot things steaming on the stove for the early comers.

Dinner is served from twelve to one o'clock. Then again there are dishes which must be done quickly in order to be at class on time. Supper is ready at six-fifteen. We enjoy supper hour, for then the day's work is about over. After chapel, the evening dishwashers perform their daily task, and so ends the day in the Big House Kitchen.

--Anne Sinor.

- THE LAUNDRY DEPARTMENT -

The laundry is a very important department in our school. Every day brings large bundles of sheets, towels, surgical garments, pillow slips, etc., from the sanitarium. Then there is the laundry for the boys and girls, and the nurses' uniforms, which we take great pride in ironing beautifully, besides the laundry for the school kitchen, and for families who live on the place.

Many changes have taken place in the laundry during the last few months. A large new power washer has taken the place of the two old Maytags that served us so long and so well. A new extractor simplifies the work of wringing the clothes. A new concrete floor has been put in, also new drain pipes and clothes bins.

The ironing rooms have been enlarged. Six ironing boards have taken the place of the three we had a few months ago. In addition there are two boards with irons that are in a small room, where anyone who wishes may go to press or iron at any time.

The greatest improvement is the steam-heated drying room that makes it unnecessary for us to hang clothes out of doors in rainy weather. We no longer hear the groans from the old hot drying room, nor do we dread rainy days. Instead we merely wonder how we ever got along before.

--Jeanette Trivett

- HOME HYGIENE CLASS -

A Home Hygiene Class with an enrollment of 26 has been organized for the women of our community who are especially interested in preserving the health of their families. Mrs. Clara Sheldon, the wife of our pastor, is supervising the class, assisted by teachers from the School of Nursing. Forty hours of instruction are to be given, the class meeting two hours each Wednesday afternoon for a period of five months.

Upon the completion of this course, an appropriate closing exercise will be held in the chapel, when certificates will be given to those who have satisfactorily completed the course and who have attended at least sixteen of the class periods.

--Gladys Lowder

- LATIN II

If you should happen to pass a certain class room about five o'clock in the afternoon, and would stand on tip toe and look through the glass, you would see a group of four, a teacher and three students. They probably would not see you, for they would be too engrossed in one of the most interesting subjects ever studied, Latin. True it is a small class, of lesser importance in the school perhaps, but to those who attend, it is forty-five minutes spent in the highest intellectual enjoyment. And I assure you that one student, at least, has developed a profound respect for the language of the ancients.

--Dorothy Case.

- AN INTERESTING VISITOR -

We greatly appreciated the visit of Mr. J. C. Mannerud, Assistant Manager of Operations of the Century of Progress, who spent three weeks at our sanitarium this fall. At two different chapel periods, Mr. Mannerud told us the story of the great fair, bringing to us much information that we could not possibly have had in any other way. He told of the plans for the fair, how it was financed, and how the best that the century had produced was obtained. We learned what it meant to make a world's fair.

Besides all the interesting things that he told us, we found Mr. Mannerud himself, very interesting. He was so energetic and active that we doubt his needing us as much as we did him. At that, we hope he will be taking the Southward trail again soon.

--Louise Adkins.

- WE ARE GROWING -

During the past year we have seen many changes in our buildings. Early last summer a cabin of logs was built for Professor Jorgensen and his family. The next building erected was another log cabin, the home of Mrs. E. C. Smith, our matron, and her daughter. This attractive little home is on the hillside above the chapel.

A building we are all proud of is our new hay barn, near the other barns. During the fall it was a pleasure to see it being filled with hay and grain for winter feed. It gave us the assurance that our cattle and horses would have plenty to eat this winter.

A vegetable cellar was another addition which we needed and appreciate. It is a cement building in a hillside. Our winter supply of potatoes, cabbage, and other vegetables is stored in this cellar.

A beautiful log bungalow for Professor and Mrs. Nestell is under construction at the present time. It stands among the other buildings of the boys' court. We are happy to have a home for our dean, as well as these other buildings mentioned.

We have just finished remodelling the women's treatment room at the sanitarium. A new steam room has been put in and two new showers added. The entire room has been repainted. It is now ready for the large amount of work that we anticipate for the summer. Our sanitarium is full at the present time, and we are perplexed about what we shall do for room next summer when our real season begins.

I am proud and glad to attend a school like Fletcher. Everyone works here. We are given duties to perform and held responsible to see that they are done. It is a wonderful opportunity for young people who desire a Christian education and want to learn how to take

care of themselves. We are taught, not only to use our mental powers, but are given instruction in trades that we may follow in future life.

--Welsford K. Case.

- WE MISS HIM -

We are missing these days the friendly visits of Mr. N. B. Baldwin, our kindly mail carrier, who retired the first of this month after service of thirty years. Mr. Baldwin began carrying the mail when daily delivery was new in the country districts. Mr. Baldwin realized it was new when upon leaving a home one morning where he had delivered mail for the first time, he heard a man's voice excitedly calling, "Mary, come here quick and see the mail-man." At first Mr. Baldwin travelled with horse and buggy in the summer; during the winter months the roads were so nearly impassable so much of the time that the luxury of a buggy had to be dispensed with, and he made the entire trip on horseback. In later years he has driven a Ford car, whose appearance at our place every morning was an event of utmost interest. Santa Claus has ridden with him in that Ford, and we have even suspected the presence of Cupid. During the years that Mr. Baldwin has brought us our mail, he has shared with us the joys and sorrows of the messages he has brought.

- STUDENT CAMPAIGNS -

Nothing puts so much life into a school, or does so much to develop a school spirit as a student campaign, and we have two of them!

Under the general name of "Master Builders", the girls have organized a club, known as "Artists". The boys have the appropriate name of "Artisans." It is the purpose of each club to solicit from their friends \$250.00. The girls plan to build a music studio; the boys, a study hall. Materials available from the place will be used so far as possible. The cash solicited by the young people will be used to provide windows, doors, flooring, hardware, etc.

The rally held last Sunday night resulted in much enthusiasm, and considerable mystery about each group. A prophet would not be needed to detect "a going in the mulberries" just now.

We wonder what we shall have first, a study hall or a music studio.

* N E W S I T E M S *

It was our pleasure a few weeks ago to have as over-night guests Mrs. H. H. Votaw of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. George T. Harding, Senior, of Worthington, Ohio.

This past week brought to us Dr. and Mrs. Droll of the Madison Sanitarium and School, and Mr. and Mrs. Grant Conser of Riverside Sanitarium at Nashville.

Christmas seems a long ways away, but one event in connection with the day we cannot forget. There were Christmas trees in sanitarium and school. The big hemlock in the frontyard was lighted, and Christmas carols were heard about the place. It remained for Reverend and Mrs. C. A. Boynton of Christ School to add the finishing

touch and furnish a real Christmas baby. Little Miss Carol Boynton was born at the sanitarium Christmas morning.

Miss Sallie Jenkins of Washington, D. C., is teaching the seventh and eighth grades, taking the place of Miss Steinman who was called to her home by her mother's illness.

A party of our teachers and students recently spent a pleasant evening at the Asheville Farm School at Swannanoa. We enjoyed very much the time spent at this splendid school where students participate in many wholesome activities in school and farm. Dr. H. S. Randolph, Superintendent of the school, and his staff, together with their fine crowd of boys, are royal entertainers.

Harland Lewis, a former student, is home from Madison for a few weeks.

January 3 marked the close of the preliminary period of the present first year nurses, at which time appropriate and inspirational services were held in the chapel. The class repeated the Florence Nightingale pledge, and received their caps, signifying their acceptance into the School of Nursing. The members of this class are: Lucy Beale, Mrs. Carrie Christiansen, Ruby Clark, Grace Chapman, and Elvera Youmans.

We were glad for a few days visit from Miss Marjorie Randall, a former teacher, who is now teaching at Charlotte.

Recently Miss Patterson and Dr. and Mrs. Brownsberger spent a week end in Atlanta, visiting student nurses who are affiliating at The Grady Hospital in that city. The young women there at the present time are Misses Marjory Meade, Marjorie Coe, Novella Orenduff, Dorothy Hudson, Estelle and Esther Fox. They found these nurses very busy, four of them on duty in the pediatrics ward, helping care for more than forty children, one in the tonsil ward, and another in medical and surgical ward. This experience in a large city hospital will undoubtedly prove of great value to them in the future practice of their profession. We deeply appreciate the splendid spirit of helpfulness and cooperation shown these young women by members of the Atlanta church and the Georgia Sanitarium. They found Mr. J. C. Trivett, a former Fletcher student, hard at work in the dental college.

Mr. Richard Hollar, manager of the Good Health Place, the sanitarium city center in Asheville, was married recently to Miss Lorena Hale, a graduate nurse from the Washington Sanitarium. They have just returned from two weeks spent in Florida. We wish for these young people every happiness.

It is with sorrow that we report the death of Mrs. June Austin-Adkins at Glen Alpine recently. Mrs. Adkins at one time was with us as school nurse and nurse supervisor of our out-patient department.

We greatly enjoyed two piano recitals given recently by our music students under Miss Rogers's direction. The first was by high school students; the last, a Little Artists' Recital.

On February 18, Dr. Brownsberger attended Tri-state medical meeting in Charlotte, in company with Drs. Grantham and Broun, both members of the sanitarium consulting staff.