



FLETCHER NEWSLETTER

THE PRODIGALS

He who was born by a river
And moves away from it,
Always speaks with a hunger
Of where he used to sit
Low on a bank where the water
Ran by his home and heart,
Ever and ever flowing,
Ever and ever a part
Of all that his heart is seeking,
Of all that sets him free
With the flowing, flowing river
Running away to sea.

He who was born on a mountain
And leaves the snowy wonder,
Always speaks with a longing
Of a loud and marvelous thunder
Crashing between the pine trees,
Of clouds that wander low
Beneath the rustic cabin.
High as a heart can go,
He who has moved to the valley
Lets his mind roam far
Up through the night to the mountain,
Near peace and home and a star.

Joseph Joel Keith

SPRINGTIME

Spring affects people in different ways. Chaucer described it as a time "whan longen fouke to goon on pilgrimages". Even lacking a holy cause for motivation it would not, it seems, be hard for any of us to feel such an urge, in spring - or any other season. The angler begins to round up his tackle. The diligent get out the seed catalogs and lay out the garden in trim rows and beds. The indolent seek out a sheltered, sunny spot in which to lie and bask in the new rays of the spring sun. The small boy with a new glint in his eye raids the house for tacks, string, paper, and endless yardage of worn sheets. Life may never yield him more complete satisfaction than does the beautiful kite that floats aloft today and hangs tomorrow a battered wreck in a tree, to be superseded promptly by a bigger and better kite.

The housewife ties up her head, seizes a broom, empties closets, and pulls down drapes and curtains. Tread softly ye who enter!

The editor of this somewhat defunct News Letter feels a creative urge--the urge to write, to gather up all the happenings of the winter and tell them before we forget them in the exuberance of spring. And there is much to tell.

SWEDISH VISITORS

There are the interesting guests that Dr. and Mrs. Lundstrom have had. Dr. Lundstrom's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Georg Bacher, and their little two-year old daughter, Gerte from Skodsborg, Denmark, spent several weeks here. Mr. Bacher is assistant director in the Skodsborg Sanitarium, the largest sanitarium operated by Seventh-day Adventists. Mrs. Bacher, a graduate of an American high school, took her nurses' training at Skodsborg. We very much enjoyed the charming young woman, who translated beautifully. There was also Mr. Torsten Dahlberg of the Hultafors Sanitarium, Sweden, who is still with us. Both young men came with learning English as one objective. Mr. Bacher visited a number of sanitariums for ideas to take home to Denmark. It has been a pleasure to have this interesting party on our campus. They have been through a great deal in Europe and had much to tell us of the years of war. They gave us all a new interest in northern Europe.

SNOW STORMS

We had them. One time we were covered with six inches of snow. Our men had to get out the snow plows and clear out the roads; the boys shovelled paths all over the campus where activity goes on regardless of weather. We played "fox and geese", slid down campus hills; and, of course, went "coasting down Potato Hill".

INSTITUTION OPENS PHARMACY

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Roberts and young son, Jack Franklin, came in January from Montgomery, Alabama, to join our staff of workers. Mr. Roberts, who is a licensed pharmacist, has taken up the work of organizing the pharmacy for more effective service in the institution. Remodeling of the rooms has brought unused space into use and made the pharmacy seem almost spacious. Redecoration has made it very attractive. The News Letter reporter who called thought she had entered the wrong door.

Mrs. Roberts has charge of the sanitarium kitchen. We welcome this new family who seem to have slipped quickly into their places in our campus life, and we hope they will be happy with us.

GUESTS ARRIVE

We were glad to have with us during the last days of February, Prof. L. M. Rasmussen of the General Conference Department of Secondary Education, Washington, D. C.; Prof. H. C. Klement, Union Secretary of Education; and Dr. Ambrose L. Suhrie of Southern Missionary College. The days these gentlemen spent with us were full. Dr. Suhrie gave college entrance examinations to our graduating twelfth grade students. Prof. Klement presided over the commission of the Teachers of Tomorrow, and Prof. Rasmussen gave an address to our entire campus group on the subject of "Your Life Work". Classes were visited and our school inspected, as Dr. Suhrie said, "from garret to cellar". We appreciated the fellowship of this visit. We might also say the "comfort" they gave us, and certainly the encouragement and inspiration they brought.

TEACHERS OF TOMORROW

The club has had some pleasant experiences. Members are Gerald Kenyon, president; Hope Hardy, vice-president; Jack Price, secretary and treasurer; Lois Boggs, Hope Hardy, and Bill Straight constitute the program committee. Other members are Wanda Haviland, Martha Carey, Betty Dempsey, and Paddy Jean Pearson. The club received their commission and pins from Prof. H. C. Klement, following a dinner meeting at the Jasperson home at which Dr. Suhrie was also a delightful guest.

Another pleasant activity was a dinner meeting with the Pisgah Club at the S and W Cafeteria in Asheville. Following the dinner, there were talks by club officers and sponsors, and there were games. The responses of the young club members to the teacher dilemma game would indicate that tomorrow's teachers will not be without resources.

ALUMNI NEWS

There was a wedding at Takoma Park, Maryland, this winter of utmost interest to many of us. Barbara Brownsberger, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John F. Brownsberger, and Charles Casteen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Casteen of Wilmington, North Carolina, were married in the Takoma Park church. Barbara attended school here through grades and high school. Charles was also a graduate of the high school.

The bride's three attendants were Fletcher graduates. Mrs. Ralph Muckley (Gladys Ryan) was graduated from our high school and school of nursing. Mrs. Evan Richards, who was Ruth Peterson, cousin of the bride, was also graduated from high school and school of nursing. Mrs. Arnold Schwantes, (Frances Casteen) was graduated from our high school. Mr. Schwantes was best man. Mr. Doyle Mullinax and Mr. Reid Brownsberger, cousin of the bride were ushers. Mr. and Mrs. Casteen are now at home in Takoma Park. Our warmest wishes to them, and we are looking for a visit!

Occasionally an interesting bit of news of our graduates drifts in to us. We would very much appreciate more. Some we glean from campus papers. Recently we have learned from the Sligonian that Jack Williams (class of 1936) is president of the senior class of Washington Missionary College.

Lyle Marie Wallace, the Chronicle records, is secretary of the senior class of Pacific Union College. She is also listed on the honor roll. As president of the "Women of Graf (hall)" Lyle Marie presided over the Mother and Daughter banquet at which her mother, Mrs. Lew Wallace, was guest speaker.

Charles Mattingly, class of 1942, visited us this winter. Charles has completed his theological course at Berrien Springs, and is serving his internship in the Indiana Conference.

Dr. John T. Gilbert is president of the County Medical Society at Greenville, South Carolina.

We are interested to learn from the Southern Accent that Grace Marie Schneider-Turner and her husband are in educational work among an Indian tribe in South Dakota. Grace Marie (class of 1941) always declared that was what she would do, and we never doubted her interest or determination. Previous to her marriage she taught at the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin. We think the wheel of fortune was kind that brought into her life a young man of like interests.

LYCEUM PROGRAMS

Howard Cleaves, now lecturing under auspices of the National Audubon Society, came to us in January to give his very fine lecture, "Midnight Movies in the Animal World". This was Mr. Cleaves' third appearance here, and the second showing of this film, which we liked better than the first. The pictures which are Mr. Cleaves' own work, opened up a new world in the animal life about us. We shall all certainly be more curious about those eyes in the trees and elsewhere that are watching us in the dark.

One of the most popular lyceum programs yet given was heard in our chapel the evening of February 14th, featuring Miss Dorothy Evans, contralto; Miss Jean Morgan, reader; and Miss Mary Ellen Hartley, pianist and accompanist; all of Southern Missionary College.

Our campus felt honored the evening of March 20th to have as guests Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Swalin of the University of North Carolina, located at Chapel Hill. On tour through the state, as conductor of the North Carolina State Symphony Orchestra, Dr. and Mrs. Swalin with four members from the string section of the orchestra, gave two programs for our group, first in the patients' parlor and later at the chapel. Mrs. Swalin's descriptive comments of the music to be played were especially appreciated. Other members of the party were Mr. Bercudis, business manager of the orchestra, and Mrs. John Forrest of Hendersonville, chairman of the North Carolina State Symphony committee for this section of the state.

INTRODUCING THE SENIOR CLASS

Fifteen girls and boys constitute the Senior Class of 1948. Gone are the years of "petticoat rule", when a class could boast of one boy--or fewer. The seven male members of the present year are a husky group. Looking the class over, we find it interesting that eight seniors are the second of their family to graduate from Fletcher. Seven have been here throughout the entire four years of high school. Three started down in the grades. Only two have been with us fewer than two years.

The tall president, Marshall Johnston, is a native Tar Heel, coming from Hickory. He works on the farm, doing most of the tractor work. Farm life he loves, and a farmer he declares he will continue to be.

Elizabeth Reese, the vice-president, comes from Greenville, South Carolina. We are used to seeing Elizabeth in the Big House, cooking or serving our meals, or carrying our trays in the dining room.

Hope Hardy, secretary of the class, is from Jacksonville, Florida. She works in the Business Office. Hope has participated in many school activities; she has held offices in Sabbath School and Missionary Volunteer Society. She is now vice-president of the Teachers of Tomorrow Club.

Jack Price, another Floridian, is here this year for the first time. Jack, who is treasurer of the class, says he would like some money to treasure.

Lois Boggs, of Fletcher since early in her grade school days, is also a Teacher of Tomorrow and for the present a student assistant leader of the Missionary Volunteer Society. She is the daughter of our music teacher.

Carleton Wallace, who came five years ago as a grade school student, carries a consistently fine record of scholarship. His father and mother, Dr. and Mrs. Lew Wallace, have served as Medical Director and Director of the School of Nursing during this time.

Charles Cecil came to our school, also in the grades, to make his home with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sego. With Carleton he shares the honor of the highest scholastic record of the class.

Mary Jane Fricks another student with a fine scholarship record is from Birmingham. At some time or other she has worked in most of the industrial departments during her three year so-journ.

Martha Carey, the daughter of an early worker on the place, has spent four years in the school. She also is a Teacher of Tomorrow; her teaching interest will probably lie in the field of nursing.

Mary Frances Pennington, of Albemarle, North Carolina, transferred to Fletcher after one year in public high school. She works in the library where she enjoys learning the technique involved in the process of getting a book on the shelf.

Gerald Kenyon is the easiest of our class to find. For the past two years the print shop has seen him present and accounted for nearly every morning. Gerald is president of the Boys' Club, and also president of the Teachers of Tomorrow. He has served as student assistant in the Missionary Volunteer Society and Sabbath School.

Edwin Everett has made a large but frequently unrecognized contribution to our school life and comfort. For the past two years he has fired the large boiler efficiently and most faithfully. He came from Mississippi.

Charles Bishop, another Mississippian, has been here two years. Charles has given good help at the saw mill when it is in operation, as well as in other places on the campus. He enjoys reading poetry.

Patricia Westbrook, has been in the school four years. We will say she is from Fletcher, for most of the time she had no other home. "Pat", as we call her, is the musician of the class.

Wilma Parker from Jacksonville, Florida, is with us for the first year. She has been here just long enough to be numbered with the Tar Heels instead of Crackers. We enjoy her lovely voice.

OUT ON THE FARM

Spring weather, "never so punctual, never so beautiful" in the opinion of the Asheville Citizen, is stepping up activities on the school farm. The pastures, a beautiful green, have been used for grazing since March 15. Their early availability is due in part to the weather, but more to improved planting methods and pasture grasses. The ladino clover is making a fine showing.

The bulldozer has been at work clearing new pasture land. The hill north of the ball park has been cleared of stumps (Are certain alumni members lifting their eyebrows?) and eight more acres of pasture will be seeded.

An extensive and aggressive program of growing food for our large institutional family is in progress. Early garden work has begun in earnest under the direction of Mr. T. C. Lowder, who has charge of this work in addition to the care of orchards and small fruits. A new and modern hot bed and cold frame has been put in with permanent concrete side walls. One section is heated by buried electric wires for forcing early vegetable plants. Tomato and pepper plants are now ready for cold frames, from which they will be transplanted to open fields as soon as danger of frost is past.

From Columbus, Ohio, came the following announcement, which we take from the Hendersonville Times-News: "The herd of registered Jersey cattle owned by Mountain Sanitarium of Fletcher, North Carolina, is announced by the American Jersey Cattle Club from their offices here as having completed a year's work in official herd improvement registry testing with an average production of 7,744 pounds of milk and 413 pounds of butterfat per cow. The herd contained an average of 16 milking cows during the year.

All tests on this herd, were conducted by the University of North Carolina and verified by the American Jersey Cattle Club.

In accomplishing this production the Mountain Sanitarium herd has joined the select group of Jersey herds in which the cows have produced more than two times the amount of butterfat obtained from the average dairy cow in the United States."

Mr. Hodges and the boys have spent much time clearing creek banks, fence-rows, ditches, and tidying up in general. Our farm looks as if it has had a new haircut.

STUDENTS ENTERTAIN

The most important social events of the school year are the boys' and girls' receptions. The girls were first this year, February 11, using valentine decorations to decorate the chapel beautifully. The program centered around the life of a girl from the baby to the grandmother with music between scenes. The banana splits the girls served were so noteworthy as to be long remembered.

The boys entertained on March 25. They called up all boys, beginning with their youngest, J. L. Reese, Jr., two months. As we followed through the many interesting episodes of a boy's life, we decided that being a boy is a great adventure. When Mrs. Wallace had finished with young Clifford we realized what Carleton must have come through.

The boys used plenty of music and we liked it all. The ice-cream and cake served us were delicious. We thought we detected a feminine hand in the dainty mint cups, but the boys declare that they made them, assisted by Dr. Wallace.

Do invite us again, girls and boys.

FOREST SURVEY

We enjoyed our speaker last Monday evening. Mr. Price of the Tennessee Valley Authority gave a report of the survey made last fall of our forests to which he referred as one of our "few renewable resources". In one area of 626 acres there are now approximately two and one-half million feet of lumber, mostly red and white oak and short leaf pine. Mature and defective trees were marked for cutting. He figured that for a period of ten years we can cut timber at a sustained rate of 81,000 feet a year and still retain our present forest value. He commended us on the condition of our forests. There has been very little damage by fire in many years. Fifty bushels of tulip tree seed were collected on the place last fall. These will be used to grow seedlings, a part of the T.V.A. program. A good film on conservation of soil and wild life was shown.

RED CROSS WEEK

The campus workers and students of the high school and school of nursing contributed generously to the Red Cross in the annual drive conducted on our campus during the month of March. \$127.25 was turned in to the Hendersonville Chapter. With the rest of the nation we salute the American Red Cross.

THREE VETERANS

During the past year our institution has given in-service training to two veterans. Richard Anders has been working in the bakery for one year. He will transfer, when arrangements can be made, to a larger bakery to complete his training. Harold Brackett has been in the laundry nearly a year where he has mastered the work of laundry and dry cleaning. Recently Amos Crowder has begun in-service training in mechanical maintenance. His work will be directed and supervised by Mr. C. G. Marquis.

CAMPUS NEWS

Elder F. O. Sanders and Elder Mote, president and secretary-treasurer of the Carolina Conference, spent the week-end of March 5 - 7 with us. Both contributed to the Youth's Fellowship program. During the remainder of the week we had with us Elder Thurber, pastor of the Asheville Church, and leader of our district. Students of the school furnished music and otherwise assisted with the evening services and prayer bands that were held throughout the week.

Miss Bertha Lemort of Hendersonville, who had served as teacher of our French classes the first five months of the school year, was taken ill the latter part of January and was obliged to go to the hospital for surgery. We were fortunate to have Miss Beatrice Keith, who taught French here last year, return to help us meet a serious emergency. We are glad to see Miss Keith greatly improved in health and most thankful that Miss Lemort is making a good recovery.

The girls from Columbus, Georgia, Barbara Allen, Conchetta Sacramo, and Betty Harris were made happy by a visit from their mothers over a recent week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Jasperson spent a day at the Council of Mountain Workers, held at Gatlinburg, Tennessee, March 4. This group of earnest workers from mountain centers of a number of churches are sure to have much of interest when they gather to study their problems and exchange ideas. A talk and demonstration of mountain handicrafts as recreation was most interesting and replete with ideas for the Missionary Volunteer progressive program. We were also fortunate to have with us Miss Mary Ellen Davis, editor of the Saturday Review of Literature, for a most helpful address on "Recreation through Reading".

Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Price, their daughter, Phyllis, and two friends came from St. Petersburg, Florida, to visit Jack Price. Mrs. Veltman was also in the party to visit her daughter, Marie, freshman nurse. We are not sure the party enjoyed the cold weather and several inches of snow they found. At any rate, it cost less than their Christmas snow.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Reese and two little girls, Betty Ann and Ileta Louise, were made very happy by the arrival of a boy in the family, John Leslie, born February 14.

At the beginning of the second semester, Beverly and Paddy Jean Pearson arrived from Clear Lake, Wisconsin, and enrolled in the school.

Mr. James E. Lewis was called to his old home in Wisconsin, In February, by the illness and death of his aged mother, Mrs. Elias Lewis. Mrs. Lewis had visited here at Fletcher, and some of us had visited her home. Mr. Lewis, who found the mercury at several degrees below zero in Wisconsin, returned satisfied with Dixie.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Lorenz have had their parents as guests this winter: Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Lorenz, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dupper and children, Kenneth and Donnalea. All were from LaSalle, Colorado.

Miss Ora Lee Mashburn, graduate of our school of nursing (Class of 1946) has returned to Fletcher to serve as night supervisor. We are very happy to have Miss Mashburn and Miss Carlson two of our graduates, on our staff at the present time.

A group of nurses attended meeting of District Nurses' Association in Asheville, March 10. A vocal number was given by three of our student nurses, Misses Louise Jones, Rose Hines, and Ann Morgan, accompanied by Mrs. Frank Boggs.

Miss Gertrude Carlson is spending a week in Jacksonville, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Walters and little son visited Mrs. Walters' sisters, Dorothy and Thelma Akers.

Dr. and Mrs. Wallace and Lou Ann are back on the campus after a trip to California.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hansen and Mrs. Joe Beadle recently returned from a trip to the North where Mr. and Mrs. Hansen visited Mrs. Hansen's father, who is very ill at the Hinsdale Sanitarium, Illinois. Mrs. Beadle spent the time at her old home at Kankakee.

Mr. F. G. Hibben, institution's accountant, attended the Institute for Hospital Administrators at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, the last week in March.

Miss Jean Ulloth, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. G. A. Ulloth, was married Sunday night, April 11, to Dr. Rey Martinez, of California. The marriage took place in our chapel. A number of organ selections by Mrs. Boggs, and two vocal solos, "I Love You Truly" and "My Heart is a Haven", by Miss Wilma Parker, preceded the ceremony. Elder A. J. Clarke was the officiating clergyman. The bride was attended by her sister, Barbara, and Miss Marie Veltman. Her little sister, Sharon, was flower girl. The groom's attendant was Mr. Vernon Lewis. Ushers were Mr. Clayton Hodges, Dr. T. H. Lundstrom, and Dr. Forrest Port. Following the ceremony a reception was given at the Ulloth home.

On Friday, April 2, the male quartet, Marshall Johnston, Glen Herbert, Gerald Kenyon, and Charles Danner, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boggs went to Hildebran, North Carolina, where they sang at the Sabbath morning service. In the afternoon they sang at the Morganton church. Reports are to the effect that the visit was much appreciated by the two churches.