## FLETCHER NEWS LETTER

he last good-by has been said for the 1959-1959 school

FLETCHER ACADEMY AND MOUNTAIN SANITARIUM AND HOSPITAL

Fletcher, North Carolina

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May, 1959

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Nancy Bean		
Nolan Darnell		Treasurer
James Garey		Class Pastor
Gary Cobb		Sergeant-at-Arms
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Dear Friends:

The last good-by has been said for the 1958-1959 school year. The campus seemed rathe deserted for the first few days after graduation, but soon new students came, and we settled down to a busy summer program. Because everyone is so busy and because most of our reporters graduated, or are gone home for the summer this will be a letter from the registrar's office instead of the usual reporting. Here is the news as gleaned from my calendar, Mary D. Pearson's memory and mine.

Our last NEWS LETTER, as you will recall, was an alumni number. We had to leave out many news items that we might have put in, so in this letter we shall try to catch up on the news of the year beginning with last November. I believe that the fall number of the NEWS LETTER brought us up to this time.

As we check over the year we feel that in most ways it has been a good one, and certainly it has been an interesting one. It passed so quickly that it hardly seems possible that it has been filed away in life's history.

It was so very nice to have our Conference president, Elder Reed, with us for our Week of Prayer, November 9 through 15. It was good to really get acquainted with Elder Reed, and the messages he brought to us were of inspiration and help toward making our year a success.

The 24th of November the student nurses were in charge of chapel and gave one of the best programs we had this year. They used their musical talent and we all agreed with Professor Nestell who said of the program, "Why do we go elsewhere for all of our lyceum numbers!"

The senior girls were a bit anxious about tests on December 2. That was the day for the Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow examination. This year when the returns came back Donna Reagan had received the award for our school.

One of my pet projects is the Teachers of Tomorrow Club. This year the club was quite active although we find that in a school such as ours where there are so many activities to crowd in during the evenings it is almost impossible to find a spot for everything. The T.O.T. members, with Mrs. Florence Beadle as their chaperon, went down to Tryon to make the Holiday House tour on December 12. I personally was a bit afraid of their reaction and thought maybe the boys of the club would come home feeling they had been sent off on a tour that was—well at least something that boys would not be interested in. The reports when they returned chased away any doubt concerning the success of the trip. When the ladies found that the boys' mothers had not made them come, or some teacher told them they had to come, they evidently took them under their wings and really made them feel they were quite important. Thanks again, Mrs. Beadle, for taking the group.

December just slipped up and the first thing we knew it was Candlelight time. I was sorry to miss the program this year. I believe it is the first one I have ever missed. All reports were that it was the best we have ever had. I like to think of Candlelight at Christmas time in the hot summer time and in my mind's eye watch the snow fall as I dream of a White Christmas. Sorta makes July and August seem a bit cooler.

Candlelight over, and dormitory Christmas parties done, busses and cars were loaded with students going home for the holidays and a few days of rest before semester exams caught them up in their whirl.

Back to school in January we enjoyed a lyceum program "One Man Theater" and tried to think that those exams were miles away. On January 12 Miss Patterson reviewed the history of the institution and we still were dreaming of exams in the future, but the next day they were reality. Teachers just love examinations!

All this time work on the annual was going forward and the deadline for that was also nearing. The annual staff and Mrs. Pearson need and deserve a special vote of thanks for the lovely job they did this year. We think our annual is tops. If you didn't get your order in in time to receive one all we can say is, "Don't procrastinate next year. Get your order in early!"

Professor Davis, Principal at Mount Pisgah Academy, came over for a chapel program in January. We are sorry he is leaving Pisgah and going over to Southern Missionary College, but our senior boys who are going that way are looking forward to getting better acquainted with their home dean.

Mrs. Joyce W. Hopp from the Medical Department of the General Conference visited us also in January. We know now why we should have a good breakfast every morning; and why, if we don't, a candy bar about ten thirty or eleven isn't much help. We enjoyed her visit and do hope she can come again.

The Teachers of Tomorrow sponsored the film "Lassie Come Home" in January. Students who are interested in poster making, etc. will be interested in the equipment purchased

because of this program.

Elder Yost and Elder Hanson were with us in February and the Teachers of Tomorrow were happy to be host to the faculty in a dinner held in the library just before chapel. Elder Hanson presented the T.O.T.s with their pins and then the faculty were given service pins during the chapel program. The pinning of the faculty was a surprise for the faculty and in some ways a surprise for the students when the years of service were revealed.

The North Carolina Symphony came to Hendersonville in February and the grade school children enjoyed the program given on the afternoon of the 13th. February 16 was Temperance Oration night. Gary Cobb, Dolores Ham, Pauline Hill, Donna Reagan, Ellen Sweeney, and Dana Ulloth had really worked hard on their orations and gave them well. We felt sorry for the judges for it must have been very hard to decide the first, second, and third winners. After deliberating the following report was given. First place, Dolores Ham; second place, Ellen Sweeney; third place, Gary Cobb. Poster contest winners were Max Moffitt, first award; Sue Anne Boynton, 2nd award; and Hobart Lowe, third award.

The grade school benefit film "Red Skies of Montana" was shown on the 28th. The hi-fi sets and records made possible by this have been a source of pleasure to the

elementary school students.

March brought the nurses! capping program. Of all the programs we have I believe that this one is one that I like best. As the girls say their pledge in unison it thrills one to think of these potential workers who have dedicated themselves to the service of mankind.

The 15th brought the Pathfinder Fair. Pathfinders were busy all over the place that day. They are working hard to get their campsite in order. We find they are getting very competent in soliciting both funds and labor for this project.

The French Program was interesting and I even heard one student say she didn't think she would mind taking French after listening to the program given by the classes:

March 29 was really a big day at Fletcher. The bands and choirs of Mount Pisgah Academy, Little Creek Academy, and Fletcher Academy combined and practiced during the afternoon and in the evening gave a concert in Pearson Hall. The only thing we felt was not to our liking was the weather. The weather man had promised a lovely Easter and it rained, snowed, and sleeted. In spite of this we had a wonderful day and hope that we can get together again next year.

Elder George Yost was with us for the Spring Week of Prayer. We appreciated his help very much. Operation Dixie had been in progress and a number of those from the outside

joined with us for the services.

April 9 Elder Yost was back with us for Investiture. The children in the grade school

and a number of the academy students and workers were invested at that time.

Mrs. Powell (Miss Bessie), and Peggy moved into their lovely cabin (once the oldest school house in Madison County) in April. If you haven't been to visit you should stop by. The welcome mat is out.

April 12-20 members from our band and choir went over to Collegedale for the Music Festival to be held there. Friday was really a day of work, but the programs given on Sabbath and Saturday night showed that it was worth it and also showed faithful work on the part of all the schools participating in preparing well for the program. At home on the 12th we had one of the best lyceum numbers of the year when Mr. Emerson Scott, Audubon lecturer, showed his film and gave his lecture on "Rocky Mountain Rambles." Many miss the Audubon programs because they seem to think they will be dull nature programs. If you are one of the ones who has had this feeling don't miss the Audubon program October 24 to be given by Mr. Robert Hermes and entitled "Between the Tides". If you do iss you will be missing one of the best lyceum numbers of the year. On the 13th the Pathfinders sponsored the program "Little Tyke". The seniors missed out on this program all around and had to be satisfied with reports given by those who stayed home.

College Days were full and happy days. We appreciated all the work and effort put forth by Collegedale and Madison to make our stay comfortable and worthwhile. It was good to get back to Fletcher on the 17th though and stretch our weary legs. Choir trips began on the 18th and ran right up until the week before graduation. They are fun and we like doing them but it seems it would be better if we could get some in the first semester. Mrs. Rust says we must think of the people who have to listen and until we have practiced, and practiced we just won't do. We agree she is right, but still say it would be nice to get some trips in early.

April 25 brought the Collegedale Band and the Tumbling team to us. We listened and watched and the boys are still trying to do some of the things those tumblers did. Max came up with a broken toe, and there were others with various bruises, etc. We are just

glad nothing of a really serious nature has happened as yet anyway.

The sophomore class gave a chapel program in April. We watched as Sir Launfal went in search of the holy grail and learned from him that it is

"Not what we give, but what we share,
For the gift without the giver is bare;
Who gives himself with his alms feeds three,
Himself, his hungering neighbor, and me."

Maud Muller raked hay and the judge dreamed of what might have been for "Of all sad words of tongue or pen,

The saddest are these: "It might have been!"

And on Saturady night, May 2, the speech students gave their program. We enjoyed every reading given and think that the students should be congratulated on their work along this line. I understand that more students plan to take speech work next year.

Just don't load Miss Keith down too much. After all you have to learn those verbs, nouns etc. you know.

The North Carolina Symphony came to Asheville on April 28 and then how we wished we had invested a dollar in a ticket last fall. A number attended the concert and all kinds of vows were made that next year at membership drive time memberships would be purchased.

Don't forget!

May 4, Pauline Hill gave her senior recital. She has been with us four years and has

taken most of her musical training here. We were proud of her.

Almost forgot, but the juniors took off for a picnic on the 29th of April and then on May 5 they took the Seniors to Camp Hope. The day was lovely and we had a wonderful time, that is we all had a fine time and John did too until he fell and cracked a rib.

The grade school recital this year was exceptionally good we thought. It was centered around 'Musical America" and featured the Indians, our Pilgrim Fathers, Colonial Culture, the Spirit of '76 on down through the Old West and Our Growing Nation, and then included our Near Neighbors. Gay costumes with lovely music made the evening one to be long remembered. May 11 the academy students gave their piano and organ recital. It was equally as good as the grade school's program and showed that the music department has been working hard this year. We appreciate their contribution to our happiness.

May 11 we also celebrated Hospital Day. The students who work at the sanitarium were more a part of this than the rest of us who don't get down that way so often. They reported that not even a speck of dust had escaped their eyes and that if things shone more they would frighten people. Anyway they were proud of their work and we hope the

visitors were as impressed as the student laborers were.

Then May 18 came and it was grade school graduation time. There were nine in the class this year. John Neff, president; Karen Brown, vice-president; Diane Hansen, secretary-treasurer; Carolyn Bischoff; Nancy Fletcher; Clifton Heatherly; Winnifred Maples; Stanley Robertson; and June Schroader. The class motto was "Earth Our Challenge" and the aim "Heaven Our Goal". Nancy Weech had made a lovely chalk backdrop for the stage of the world with the New Jerusalem coming down. The Juvitones furnished music. They sang "Can You Count the Stars" as arranged by Roff. Mrs. Helen Rust and Mrs. Myron Brown were at the piano and organ. Doctor P. J. Moore offered the prayer and Elder W. L. Latham gave the address. Karen Brown was valedictorian of her class. Diane Hansen presented the class gift--records for the record players. Professor L. E. Nestell presented the diplomas. The benediction was offered by Mr. A. B. Schroader. It was a lovely service and a pleasure to welcome all these graduates into the academy.

The things we have remembered to tell you about are only a beginning of the interesting things that have happened here at Fletcher this year. Our chapel programs have been good. The Sabbath services have been excellent. Our club activities, student

counsel activities—such as campus cleanup day—and many other things have added interest and spice to our school program. Of course there are always lessons to do, room cleaning to come in, and a few personal letters to get off home and things like that. The year was full of fun, friends, studies, some serious thought, some perhaps not so serious, of growing up and learning to be better men and women. But you know before we turned around it seemed it was graduation time! The last examination was over and we were faced with all the extra work and activity of the last week end of school. Parents, friends, relatives, alumni were arriving from here, there and everywhere. Everyone was busy. So much had to be completed before the class night program on Thursday night, May 21. The band concert began at 7:45. Then it was 8:00 p.m. and James Garey was giving the devotional that opened the evening's program.

Professor Nestell introduced the class of 32 members, the largest of our history, and we listened to the class sing "Bless This School" an adaptation used by our seniors for the last few years. Clifford Nestell, in his president's address, made us think of the good times we had had and of the things we have learned during the last four years of our lives and somehow that lump just would not stay down in our throats. The class gave a review of the "Seven Essentials of Education" as outlined by our denomination and showed how they felt their school had helped them gain the aims outlined. Maybe you would like

a list of these essentials as given. They are

Physical fitness and good health Strength of Character Pleasant Personality Educational and Technical Training Ability to Think Correct Attitudes Toward Life

Faith in God--based on the teaching of the Bible
Even driver training fitted into this outline and poor Mr. Vernon Lewis looked as if being
the driver training teacher, at least on those first drives out, isn't the most nervesoothing work in the world. He recouperated, however, and looked as pleased as the girls
when, after the course was complete, they came back with their driver's license.

Awards were given as follows: Citizenship Awards. \$25 each.

9th grade, Mary Garey; 10th grade, Sandra Bishop; 11th grade, Klause Leukert; 12th grade, Nancy Bean.

College awards: Ellen Sweeney and James Garey \$50 scholarship awards to Southern Missionary College; Mary Davenport \$400 (\$100 each year) to Madison College.

Danforth Foundation Awards -- the book I DARE YOU

Nancy Bean and Nolan Darnell

Temperance Awards: Orations -- Dolores Ham, first award, \$5.00; Ellen Sweeney, second award, \$4.00; Gary Cobb, third award, \$3.00.

Posters: Max Moffitt, first award, \$3.00; Sue Anne Boynton, second award, \$2.00; Hobart Lowe, third award, \$1.00.

Homemaker of Tomorrow Pin-Donna Reagan.

Typing awards: Order of Artistic Typists (for neatness of papers) James Garey, Dottie Charron, Dwight Clark. Pins for the following words as indicated: Dwight Clark 50, Sharlene Doolittle 50, Sharon Brown 51.7; Peggy Ricks, 55.6; Sandra Rust 52.3; Steve Bloomfield, 53.1; Margit Lundstrom 53.1; Dottie Charron, 54.2; Elaine Anderson 54.3; Sandra Bishop 58.7; Sharon Ulloth 76.5.

Nolan Darnell presented the class gift of the lights and walk leading up from the Flora Lewis cottage to Whitford Hall, and Mr. Wilson accepted the gift on behalf of the institution. The seniors at this time presented Professor Nestell with a new green rug for his office with a Happy Birthday wish and the wish that the next senior class would not be so hard on either the rug or the principal.

Diane Bonner has been with us only one year but made a place in our hearts. It was she who gave the valedictory address and said the last formal good-by for the class. The band played our school song and we sang "Fletcher, Our School" for the last time during the 1958-1959 school year.

Friday brought more practice, for marching should be just right you know, and finally '7:30 and our Consecration Service. The seniors took their places while the piano and organ

played "Pilgrim Chorus" by Wagner. Mr. Ferdi Wuttke offered the invocation and we sang "I Need Thee Every Hour" Mr. W. H. Wilson, our business manager, gave the consecration message. Elder Charles Arnold and the class gave the response to the message. We are enclosing this at the end of our letter for we feel it was very well done and well expressed the wishes of the class as a whole. Professor L. E. Nestell offered the consecration prayer and Mrs. Don Walterhouse and Mr. David Kulisek spoke to our hearts with their violin duet. The benediction was given by Mr. J. O. Carey.

Sabbath morning was lovely and we were all ready for the alumni Sabbath school at 9:30.

J. B. Lane was the song leader and Elder Charles Arnold superintendent. Elder Arnold gave the welcome and announced our opening hymn, "Faith of our Fathers". Mr. R. E. Marquis, class of '41, read the scripture and Floyd Hodges, class of '53, offered the prayer.

J. B. Lane, class of '58, sang "Great is Thy Faithfulness". Peggy Powell, class of '51, was the secretary. For the mission report Dr. Earl McGhee gave a report on the work that he and his associates are doing in Dalton, Georgia. Earl graduated with the class of '41.

Mr. Bill Nestell, class of '36, was to have taught our Sabbath school lesson last year and ended up in the hospital. We decided he should make amends for this by teaching the lesson this year. He did and we enjoyed the study very much. Don Lowe, class of '58, played "The Lord's Prayer" on his saxaphone. Our closing prayer was given by Eddie Straight, class of '58. Sabbath school pianist was Betty Reese, class of '58. I forgot to say that Elder Arnold graduated in the class of '43.

We were very sorry when word reached us that Elder N. C. Wilson of Atlanta had had has plane grounded in Atlanta and would not be able to get here in time to give our baccalaureate sermon. Some telephoning--really rather desperate telephoning--found Elder E. L. Marley, Jr. here on our campus. He most graciously concented to take the service for us. The choir number "How Great Thou Art" we thought was lovely. Mrs. Billie Mowery's (Pauline Hill's sister) solo "When God is Near" also filled our hearts to overflowing. We were happy that Dr. G. Ulloth was able to be with us and give the benediction.

Commencement. Impossible! but those strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" could not be mistaken. The last red rose was in place, the last corsage was pinned and the juniors were on their way down the gisle soon to be followed by 32 seniors. Every step was perfect, the practice had paid off. Finally all were in their places and Elder L. A. Wynn offered the invocation. "The Hills of Home" as sung by Elder R. C. Mills of Highland Academy could have been sung twice for most of us. Elder Gordon Hyde's message, rather challenge, was one that reached not only the class but the rest of the audience as well. The diplomas were granted by Professor Nestell and the class was welcomed into the alumni association by the alumni president, Elder Charles Arnold. The students presented their mothers with their class flower and again Elder Mills sang, this time "I Wonder". Mr. C. G. Marquis offered the benediction. Stickles "Grand March" took the class off the platform down in front for congratuations. Packing and getting ready to leave had to at last be faced. Of course there was the alumni breakfast the next morning still to look forward to, but, oh, such few short hours remained!

Mrs. Smith and Miss Covey had our grits and gravey ready for us at 8:00 o'clock on Sunday morning. We just couldn't have an alumni breakfast without grits now could we? As we sat down to the U shaped table arrangement it seemed good to have a few more minutes together before cars started in the different directions to scatter our group all over the Southland and to the west as well. The register, after the meeting, showed the following names (some we know did not get registered) Alex Clark '51, Merwin Ray '40, Clayton Hodges '37, Loraye Long '59, Frank Brown '59, Mary Blankenship '59, Ellen Sweeney '59, Glenn Cox 159, Floyd Hodges 153, Dana Ulloth 159, Billy Hudson 158, Leonard Brown 156, Lee Kuist '53, Genella Lowder-Hunt '42, Vester Elrod '50, Gladys M. Lowder '35, Annette Perkins '58, Janet Powell '59, Vermon Lewis '36, Norma Meinken '59, Marie Archer-Kuist '53, Sara Smith-Quick '55, Rebecca Crittenden '59, Charles Arnold '43, Margaret Donovan-Gilbert '38, Robert Marquis '41, Lewis E. Nestell, Bessie M. Powell, Minita Sype-Lyman '39, Bernice Grant '38, Margaret G. Foster, Winifred Fisk-Schneider '39, Peggy Dailey '53, Cora Hudson-Chandler ! 39, Sue Hodges-Sentella '54. Sue got in just as the last car drove off I believe. She just didn't leave Greeneville, Tennessee soon enough. Officers elected for the coming year were: President, Don Lowe '58; Vice-president, John Gilbert '37; Secretarytreasurer, Peggy Powell '51; Assistant, Betty Reese '58; Alumni Editor, Inez Beck-Nestell 132.

I don't know what we would have done without the Arnolds here to help get us graduated. Elder Arnold really didn't know what he was getting into when he came up I am sure. We hope we didn't give them so much to do that they won't come again.

Minita Bell Sype-Lyman and Winifred Fisk-Schneider, with their sons, drove all night Saturday night to be here in time for the meeting. The road is long down to Tampa but from the smiles on their faces it must have been worth it. Winifred's son is returning to be with us in the fall so maybe we shall see more of these two alumni members after that, at least we hope so.

When you visit our dining room be sure to notice the two new pictures, one with dogwood, and one a snow scene. We know that our guests over graduation weekend enjoyed them for so many told us so. The alumni association was very happy to make this gift to the school.

We still lack the following class pictures in our alumni album: 1932, 1933, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1948, 1950, 1951, 1952. If you have one of these won't you please lend it to us so prints can be made. Thanks to Joan Fisk-Hatt, class of '38; and Lauretta Sisson, class of '56, for lending us their class pictures. Incidentally pictures of these two classes may be obtained for \$1.00 plus about eight cents postage if anyone is interested.

And so graduation is over. Grades are all recorded, the closing reports are in, the halls are getting a new coat of paint, the offices are being cleaned, the library has had more shelving added, the lawns have been moved and moved, the men are building a new house over on Lancaster Corner, the cottages (76 - 79) have been redone, and just dozens of other extras beside the usual daily work.

Miss Marilyn wilkinson is helping with the dean work since Mrs. Entz is gone. She came down with Marcia Pearson after graduation at Adelphian and has stayed on. I don't know what I'd do without her. I think the girls feel the same way. The Kuliseks, Miss Keith and Mr. Wuttke are all in summer school.

It's July! The summer NEWS LETTER should be out soon and the May one isn't finished yet. School begins September 1. What has happened to those long summer vacations we used to have!

Best wishes from Fletcher

Inex B. Mestell

Registrar

Poem written by Mrs. Mary Donovan-Pearson, class of '36, to be given out at our alumni Sabbath school.

- A is for Alumni of
  A "school we all hold dear",
  We welcome friends both, old and new,
  To our Sabbath School here.
- L ove is like a golden key
  That unlocks the treasures that you hold.
  Love of school, of home, of church,
  Is better far than gold.
- U ntil we meet again in
  The beautiful earth made new,
  May you faithfully serve your Saviour
  In everything you do.
- M is for the missions that
  Are near to each our hearts
  Because our classmates are in many fields,
  Each doing well his part.
- N ew graduates, we welcome you
  To our Alumni here,
  And may the memories of this day
  Grow dearer year by year.
- I n the days when going seems quite rough,
  In everything you say and do,
  Put Jesus first and you will find
  That He will always see you through.

## CLASS RESPONSE

MINISTER: Prof. Wilson the graduating class of 1959 humbly accept your challenge to consecrate our lives for this great cause. In responding to your message we wish to acknowledge briefly those things which motivate this consecration. For the overall guidance and the daily protection of an all-merciful Heavenly Father--

CLASS: We are thankful.

MINISTER: For a country that permits freedoms that are unparalled in any nation-- CLASS: We are thankful.

MINISTER: For Christian homes, for parents, who have sacrificed to make this hour possible--CLASS: We are thankful.

MINISTER: For a church that planned and developed a system of Christian education according to the divine blueprint--

CLASS: We are thankful.

MINISTER: For teachers and workers in this institution, who encouraged and inspired us by precept and example--

CLASS: We are thankful.

MINISTER: For a multitude of friends who will follow us in memory--CLASS: We are thankful.

MINISTER: To further develop the God-given talents we possess by education and training--CLASS: We dedicate ourselves.

MINISTER: To use the skill of our hands, the love in our hearts, and the ability of our minds in the cause of God--

CLASS: We dedicate ourselves.

MINISTER: To abide by the laws of the land, to be loyal, patriotic citizens--CLASS: We dedicate ourselves.

MINISTER: To the establishment of Christian homes--

CLASS: We dedicate ourselves.

MINISTER: To let our lives be an example of kindness, sympathy, good will to all mankind--CLASS: We dedicate ourselves.

MINISTER: To hold high the good name of Fletcher Academy, to esteem myself a product of these hallowed halls, to point deserving boys and girls to this opportunity for a Christian education--

CLASS: I pledge myself.

MINISTER: If the call should come to leave home and loved ones and go to some foreign land, and give our lives in loving service--

CLASS: We will go.

MINISTER: If an all wise providence keeps us here at home to sacrifice that others may go--"Ready to go, ready to stay, ready to do His will," filling the demanding need for teachers, preachers, etc.--

CLASS: We will work.

MINISTER: To cultivate in our daily lives the great virtures of honesty, trustfulness, simplicity, patience, self-control, tolerance and charity. To sink our roots deep in love for the family, devotion to the principles of the Good Book, and the ideals that have made our country great. To do faithfully our part in the consumation of the Gospel that Jesus may come--

CLASS: Prof. Wilson, Prof. Nestell, faculty, loved ones and friends this is our

consecration.