

IN REMINISCENT MOOD

Van Wyck Citizen Writes of Life and Conditions Half Century Ago.

PLENTY OF WILD DEER AND TURKEY

Wild Cats, Foxes and Raccoons Were Then Also Plentiful—Organization of Several Churches Recalled—Waxhaw Section of Lancaster County Rich in History.

The snows, rains and muddy roads of this February puts me in a reminiscent mood and I let memory carry me back to February, 1875, when I came to the Waxhaws, writes J. M. Yoder, of Van Wyck, in the Lancaster News. We drove out of Rock Hill, which was the nearest railroad point to this part of the country at that time. We crossed the Catawba river at Cureton's ferry and was over in Lancaster county and found the Waxhaw mud almost impossible. We were traveling in a two-horse wagon, which was about the only vehicle that could locomote the Waxhaw roads at that time. I was a little surprised to see so many hills in the Waxhaw country, as I had been laboring under the impression that it was a level, flat country. In my observation, I found a fertile, red soil and much original growth forests of heavy oak, hickory, poplar, chestnut and fine pine timber. The fields were enclosed in high rail fences and much of this fine timber had to be cut annually to build new fences and repair the old ones. Razor back hogs, poor cattle, sheep, goats and a few colts had the run of the range. The wild deer, wild turkey, wild cat, fox and raccoon were found in the forest and swamps along the creeks and gave nimrods some fine sport. These are all extinct on these lands now. The streams were well stocked with fish and were the angler's paradise.

No Railroads.

The crops grown on these fertile lands were mostly cotton with some corn and other grain and forage crops. There was not a railroad in Lancaster county at this time and the nearest railroad points were Rock Hill, Fort Mill, Charlotte and Monro which the people used as markets. The population of this part of the Waxhaws was largely colored, the negroes about ten to one white. This was in reconstruction days, under "Carpet Bag" and negro rule. But to the credit of the colored citizens of the Waxhaws, they did not give the whites much trouble. The leaders among them generally counseled wisely and regarded the whites as their best friends. The population of the Waxhaws has been changing all these years—the colored decreasing and whites increasing and stands now about two colored to one white. The white citizens of the Waxhaws were very hospitable and social. They had their summer picnics and winter sociables at their homes and had music and engaged in the old square dance in which nearly all engaged. I have seen fathers, mothers, sons and daughters on the floor at the same time. Often refreshments were served on these occasions. Churches and school houses were not numerous, but sufficient to meet the real needs of the people. Most of these attended Old Waxhaw church. Rev. D. P. Robinson was pastor. A few years later Dr. J. B. Mack of Fort Mill. Some attended Six Mile and the Methodists had a small church near where Van Wyck is located. Rev. J. P. England was the pastor of this church at that time. A few years later the Presbyterians built a church on the road leading from Cureton's ferry to Monroe on the Joseph Crenshaw lands about two miles east of Van Wyck. E. B. Mobley, J. L. Rodman, James Steele and John Porter were the prime movers in this building. It was called Beulah by request of E. B. Mobley.

During the Civil war, while Mr. Mobley was stationed in Virginia, the camp was near a small beautiful country church, where he attended services at times. He was so well pleased with the church and its name that he requested the new church be named Beulah. A few years ago this church had served its day and the congregation reorganized and built a beautiful little brick church in the village of Van Wyck. Some years previous the Methodist moved their church location and built in Van Wyck, and discontinued the name of Waxhaw Methodist church, and it is known now at Van Wyck Methodist church.

Mail By Star Routes. The people of the Waxhaws, when I first knew the country, received their mail by star routes and had postoffices at Behair, Cureton's store, Waxhaw office at E. B. Mobley's store and at Lindsey's, near Riverside station as it is now. Some of the patrons had to go five or six miles for their mail. There were a number of country stores back in those early days and one of the principal articles of merchandise was whiskey—in almost any quantity from the small class to the gallon.

In the fall and winter, the mule and the horse drover from North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and Kentucky and the hog drover from Tennessee would make their annual visits and supply the farmers with mules, horses and fat hogs. Many are the changes that have taken place in these years. There are two railroads passing through the Waxhaws which have given them four railroad shipping points. The mails are delivered at the people's doors, the rail fence has long since passed away and with it many of the inferior stock and now purebred hogs and cattle are found on almost every farm. Much of the fine Waxhaw lands have passed out of the hands of the owners as I first knew them and citizenship has changed largely several times. J. L. Thompson, H. W. Sistare, R. H. Massey, C. J. Grif-

Meeting the Housing Problem in Berlin



View down one of the streets of a "municipal village" constructed by the Berlin authorities to meet the shortage of houses.

fin, T. W. Plyler and W. G. Ferguson, who recently moved to Lancaster, are the only ones of my first acquaintances still living in the Waxhaws. J. M. Nisbit, G. L. Vaughn, W. J. and J. H. Crenshaw were small boys just beginning to learn their letters and are now moving down the shady side of life."

LAWNS WITHOUT WEEDS

Fertilizer Found That Will Grow Crops and Kill Grass.

Discovery of the long sought fertilizer that will grow grass and kill weeds, is announced by the experiment station of Rhode Island state college, as the result of twenty years of research, relates a Kinston, R. I., dispatch. The realization of the dream of gardeners of the world, over, a weedless lawn, is now a reality. It can be done without trouble or expense, according to the official college statement, and merely by the use of ammonium sulphate instead of nitrate of soda in the application of fertilizer. Slowly, but surely, the weeds will disappear and the lawn will become the even velvety green that is the envy of every neighbor.

"Gardeners have almost universally advised supplying nitrogen, the chief element in the plant food of grass, in the form of nitrate of soda," says the statement. This gradually tends to create an alkaline condition of the soil which is especially favorable to the growth of weeds. Soon the grass, is crowded out and the lawn has an uneven appearance.

"By using ammonium sulphate, which is not more expensive, in the same quantities as the nitrate of soda, the required amount of nitrogen is furnished and the soil kept in the acid condition under which the grass develops best, but the weeds are so weakened that they are crowded out. Experiments carried on at the Rhode Island state college with different lawn grasses under various methods of treatment have shown that Rhode Island bent grass, the grass that stands the closest clipping for golf putting greens and fine lawns, is usually quickly crowded out by coarse weeds. All attempts to better the soil conditions made the weeds grow faster than ever, except in the case of ammonium sulphate, which helps the grass and weakens the weeds.

"Now after twenty years without any treatment than the repeated applications of the ammonium sulphate, this one plot stands out in marked contrast to all the others in the experiment. Scarcely a weed can be found, and the even green of the plot is an example of what the finest lawns can so easily be."

FACTS FOR YOU

Some Things You Know and Some You Don't Know.

- Utah has 25,662 farms.
—Cotton seed was considered useless twenty years ago. Now it is the basis of a trade of three-quarters of a billion dollars.
—The United States manufacturers \$30,000,000 worth of the \$100,000,000 worth of toys sold in this country.
—The Pennsylvania State college inaugurated a course in cooking for men beginning with the second semester, February 1.
—The cost of running the government last year amounted to \$5,064,000,000, compared to \$11,725,000,000 the previous year.
—Bounties paid by Montana stock growers in the last seven years for the killing of predatory animals amounted to \$722,453.
—French and Belgian military authorities are testing a super-long range gun which is estimated to be able to fire a shell two hundred miles.
—Los Angeles has passed an ordinance prohibiting rentals in excess of 11 per cent. of the gross investment on real estate and 10 per cent on furnishings.
—During October immigrant arrivals at the port of New York exceeded departures by 40,672. For the ten completed months reported on, the excess of arrivals over departures was 193,305.
—A single county in Oregon has a larger territory than that covered by the entire state of Massachusetts and contains 9,833 square miles.
—The American Quakers are furnishing one hot meal a day to 650,000 German children and nursing mothers in the sector occupied by the American troops of occupation.
—Naval divers recently recovered \$75,000 worth of opium from Honolu-lu harbor.

—An anti-alcohol society has been formed by the women of Mexico City who plan to form similar societies throughout the republic.

—The only open slave market in the world is located in the holy city of Wazzan, Morocco. The slaves are brought to Wazzan by caravan from parts of the country still unexplored.

—Accident insurance companies declare that home is really the most dangerous place in the world, as twenty-five per cent. of all disabling accidents are incurred there.

—During the fiscal year 1920 the printing bill for all publications issued by the department of commerce was \$425,370.75.

—In November 24,308 men were accepted for enlistment in the regular army, breaking the record for peacetime recruiting.

—Pension disbursement for the fiscal year 1920 aggregated \$213,295,314 a decrease of about \$9,000,000 from last year.

LATEST AERIAL PROPHECY

Inventor Predicts Flight from Paris to New York in Eight Hours.

Paris to New York in eight hours is the latest aerial prophecy. It is made by Marquis Pateras Pescara, a French born subject of Spain, who has perfected a device for aerial navigation which by means of helices rotating at terrific speed he asserts will enable an airplane to hover in the air as well as fly at a great pace. He has just closed a deal with the French government to deliver a large number of his flying machines, providing tests in Barcelona early next month prove as successful as were the initial trials when Marquis Pescara arose vertically to a great height and without difficulty landed within a few feet of a chosen spot.

Marquis Pescara said that in building the airplane of the future, wing space would not be taken into account, since selices placed above and below the body of the flying craft would be sufficient to lift perpendicularly to the higher altitudes heavy machines with heavy motors capable of developing a speed of four hundred miles an hour and also keep the plane in a fixed position when desired.

SWEET POTATO SYRUP

Government to Establish Plant for Its Manufacture in Georgia.

A sweet potato syrup plant is to be established by the government at Fitzgerald, Ga. Under a laboratory process worked out and planned for the public by Dr. H. C. Gore, bureau of chemistry, the commercial possibilities in manufacture of a fine, brown "highly palatable" syrup from a heretofore waste product are to be exploited, according to announcement recently by the agricultural department.

"Many persons think it equal to first class cane syrup," the statement said of the sweet potato product.

Fitzgerald was selected because a building was available and also because it has already a sweet potato curing and storing establishment. Equipment will be shipped from Washington for the syrup plant and the department says it can make no recommendations for commercial manufacture without comparative cost data to be obtained from the experiment mill. The chance for developing a new industry is held to be good, however, as much of the sweet potato crop of the south has been wasted in the past.

DISGRACEFUL DIPLOMACY

Women at Consular Party Arrested by Norfolk Policemen.

Misdemeanor warrants have been issued here for the arrest of Don-Ramon Escobar, Chilean consul at Norfolk, Va., as the result of a party held in the consulate. Police stationed at an adjoining window observed the conduct of women present and arrested them after they left the consulate. Escobar claiming diplomatic immunity was not arrested at the time. Arraigned in court one of the women was fined \$50. for a statutory offense and the other held as a state witness. Warrants are being held up because of difference of opinion between state and federal authorities, it being claimed the arrest can only be made on federal warrant and state has no jurisdiction. Escobar disappeared immediately after issuance of warrants and cannot be located. —Of our virgin forests one-sixth remains.

Patsy's Perfume

By HARMONY WELLS

(©, 1920, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

"The only talent I have," sighed Patsy Van Bureon, "is my nose!" "Nose—a talent?" Joe Robinson exclaimed. "I'd never call mine by that name, Patsy!" he laughed, examining his own too prominent nose in an opposite mirror.

"Well—by any other name 't smells as sweet," Patsy retorted. "But I don't mean my nose, itself—I mean my sense of smell. It is surely developed to a degree that might be classed among the talents."

"Much good 't'll do you, methinks," Joe consoled her. "Now if it were your sense of taste you might be a tea-taster or a judge of good liquor—if the latter weren't among the extinct professions."

"I can see plainly that I am going to get no satisfaction from struggling for an outlet for my creative ability—which I know I have in spite of all you home folks' pessimism on the subject! Something tells me to use this extraordinary sense of smell of mine—just how?"

Joe seemed perplexed. "That's all very well, but how can one make a living—or even an approach to one from it?"

"I suppose," said Patsy, "you are not far enough advanced to conceive of a girl going in for perfumes and fragrances that might appeal to the individual personality. Men and women have very distinct colors in their auras, and if colors have tones, one for each, as has been proven you know, why should not colors have perfumes? And then, to follow it up, why should not I, with my finely attuned sense of smell, be able to detect the fragrance of an individual's aura colors and try to duplicate them in extracts or powders or toilet accessories?"

Joe scratched his head, impolitely, but his eyes looked thoughtful. "Yes—I suppose it could be developed, but every one would think you were crazy and only the nutty ones would come



Her Plans Took Effect in the Form of a Diminutive Shop.

to you, wouldn't they?" he asked, half in jest, half in earnest. He was fond of Patsy, his chum from childhood, and he did not want to seem too hard on her. "Perhaps it would be difficult, at first, Joe. But I don't have to make an immediate living, you know, with father and mother to take care of me. And it has been my experience in watching the development of any of the arts or any phase of them, as soon as you begin to educate people in the direction that they reach, you find many who have already been interested, but for lack of some one of understanding have kept it to themselves." "That's true, too. Human beings are afraid of being ridiculed, and they

frequently smother their best selves, and sit about making trivial small talk instead of opening up what might prove to be an enlightening subject. "Why, Joe, even you are beginning to think," Patsy remarked, patting him affectionately. "Even I," Joe admitted, nodding. "But you just go to it, Patsy, and if it can help you, I'll do it."

"Thanks—I'll probably need you, Joe," Patsy said. "But now, I am making a study of the fragrance of colors. For instance, a red rose smells quite different from a white one. I have a lot of tests I want to make today, so—so long, Joe."

Patsy almost danced off to her little third floor studio room, where, all alone, she had been working out her theory of colors, perfumes and human auras. Until now she had said almost nothing about her intentions, although it was known that she had a wonderful esthetic development in her sense of smell.

In time, her plans took effect in the form of a diminutive shop and studio where she handled exclusive perfumes, potpourri, fragrant powders, and where she made up bowls of dried petals from gardens of individuals, preserved wedding bouquets, etc. In this way she believed she would come in contact with persons who cared for fragrance, and in finding a common meeting ground she could learn much of individual tastes and preferences.

"One thing that amuses me in my superficial observation of men is that they like red. Men and boys love red roses, red neckties, red carpets. Also, I have learned that most men like a faint, a suitable perfume on the woman they go about with, but, for fear of being thought effeminate, poetic or artistic, they pretend not to. The more cultivated the individual, the less easily suited he is in perfume. We are beginning to appreciate the most subtle sort of odors, odors that a generation or two ago would have been hardly perceptible to the senses at all. A person whose artistic development has been neglected is apt to need the heavy scent of a tube rose or a cinnamon flower or some equally compelling odor."

Patsy explained all these observations to Joe, who was becoming really interested in the little studio shop. He had helped her fit it up; he had tacked up curtains, painted furniture to make it harmonize with the surroundings and he found himself spending every spare moment in the pleasant environment of Patsy's shop.

"What do you know about my aura, Patsy?" he asked, suddenly, one day when he was helping her.

"More than I'd care to tell you, Joe."

Joe looked up at her. The tone of her voice had seemed strange. "If it times in with the color of your blush just now it must be some aura," he remarked, half merrily, half seriously. Then he went over to her where she sat among baskets of rose petals. "Patsy, why don't you make a study of the flower of all emotions—love? I—I love you so much and I've been afraid to tell you till I heard that note in your voice just now as you spoke of—of me. Won't you promise to marry me? You do love me—and I'll help you all I can, dear."

Patsy's blush had deepened in color and her eyes had gathered a wonderful light. It might be interesting to find that perfume, Joe," she said, as he stepped close to her.

And then, for long moments, the study of the fragrance of mere rose petals from other people's gardens was forgotten.

—The United States spends more money on tobacco than it spends on automobiles. Two billion dollars a year is spent on autos, but the tobacco bill exceeds this by \$200,000.

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By Irving Bacheller

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Watch for It!

BIG FERTILIZER BILL. South Carolina Spent \$50,000,000 on This Account. Records of the South Carolina board of fertilizer control show tags were sold last year for 1,253,890 tons of fertilizer, according to H. M. Stackhouse, secretary of the board. Estimating that all grades including nitrate of soda, blood, acid phosphate potash, etc., were sold at an average cost to the buyers of at least 50 per cent. per ton, Mr. Stackhouse figures that South Carolina invested well over \$50,000,000 in fertilizer in 1920.

—A car of alfalfa seed recently shipped from Kansas sold for \$8,500.

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