

## AID TO BEAUTY



Under this young woman's smiling hands the front of the Administration Building of the Sesqui-Centennial International Exposition, located at a quickly taken on a doll-like aspect. She directs gardeners to place the small trees and shrubs about the great stone building. She is doing her share to make the big celebration of the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence a success.

## A FAIR COLORIST



This young woman ascends a study ladder every day to put finishing touches to the "Rainbow City"—the Sesqui-Centennial International Exposition, opening in Philadelphia June 1 and continuing until December 1, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence. She is one of an army of young artists who are making the Sesqui a colorful success.

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## ACROSS THE TOPS OF THE MOUNTAINS

(Continued from page 1)

the western end of the state, and the drummers flock there every night if they are in reach of Murphy. With good roads radiating in all directions this makes that point easy of access.

Wednesday we made a side trip to Haynesville southeast of Murphy on a business trip and Thursday morning we went to Robbinsville, in a north west direction on the same strand. Large gangs of workmen were putting this road in the finest condition possible. When the road was first made hard surface, rock of limestone foundation was used, but the soon powdered like cinders from our electric light plant, and it was removed. Rocks of a flinty texture were laid in the road bed crushed rock and clay piled on top of that, and then tar and asphalt applied as a binder and finely screened rock applied on top of that and rolled with a powerful machine which is a part of the road equipment. This makes the smoothest and best road imaginable, and is far superior to cement when first finished. Cars can go over such roads at a speed of 50 to 60 miles an hour as easily as they generally travel over a sand and clay at 20 to 25 miles, and with far less effort and gasoline; but such roads are not as permanent as the cement roads and the road gangs are applying cement as rapidly as possible on the main line while the less frequented lines are of the above described construction. The people at the various towns in North Carolina are boosters at all times, and they state that the building of hard surface roads has done more for the development of their section than anything else. When asked about the bond issue and taxes they said that nothing like that worried them a bit, as provision had been made to pay the interest and retire the bonds with the tax on gasoline, which they claim will be ample for this purpose.

When it comes to farming we hardly know what to say. Many of the farms are about the size of an ordinary garden, but the land is naturally fertile and they produce wonderful crops of wheat, rye, oats, corn, Irish potatoes, cabbage that sometimes grow to weigh 25 to 30 pounds and every variety of vegetable desired. Nearly all of the farming which we saw was in the bottoms along the banks of the many rivers, but were told that back between the peaks of the mountains there is lots of splendid farming land which will yield from fifty to sixty bushels of small grain and corn. The small grain was just getting ready for the reapers the past week, while late oats and wheat was green and flourishing, and will mature some time in July. No fertilizers are required, as the land is naturally fertile.

The people up in the mountains are industrious and energetic and they keep busy at all seasons. When the farms do not require their attention they go out into the mountains and select such timber as may be best suited for tan bark and many wagon loads of this could be seen on several of the roads, while the timber is squared and sold for cross ties, which are worth a dollar each, a load of ten bringing ten dollars at the railroad station. One set of men will get out the cross ties and pay another set with teams and trucks twenty cents each to haul them to

the nearest railway station.

Our people would look with wonder at the mountain railroads and the trains. The topography makes it necessary to make many sharp curves and the trains in some places will face every point of the compass in going one mile. So steep are the grades that the two engines are necessary on many of the grades and they can be seen puffing and blowing through the valleys in running from one station to another.

At Yellow Hill, Swain County, a few miles from Murphy, there is an Indian reservation with a population of about 500. They have been provided with schools and churches and some of them are kept busy making various articles which they offer for sale at the railroad stations, their principal product apparently being baskets which are retailed at one dollar each. The government looks after the comfort of these simple people and provides many things which they could not secure by their own efforts.

Leaving Murphy Thursday afternoon we spent the night at the home of Col. and Mrs. J. W. Ferguson at Waynesville, one of the highest points in that section, and for many years a famous summer resort. A sulphur spring is one of the attractive features of the place as it has proven to be most beneficial to all who have been fortunate enough to go there. And believe it or not, but it is true, the weather there was so cool on the 10th of June we slept under three layers of blankets and a very heavy comfort; and having retired about 10 o'clock we did not know how the world rocked along until 8 o'clock the next morning. It was simply delightful beyond description, and we only wish that every reader of the Progress could have the same privilege which we enjoyed, as a night's sleep in that cool mountain air is the most refreshing thing imaginable. Col. and Mrs. Ferguson and their beautiful and accomplished daughter made our visit a most delightful one, which was one of the most pleasant experiences of our trip through the mountains. Mrs. Ferguson is a sister of our Mr. Cooper.

Friday morning we heard a sound which is familiar in middle Georgia in mid-winter, the chirp of robins, and inquiry developed the fact that they spend the summer in Waynesville and along the range of the Blue Ridge, while in the fall they leave for their winter resort at points in the south and Cuba and Central America. Mrs. Ferguson informed us that for several years the robins have raised broods in the large shade trees that surround her home, and the chirp is the first sign of the arrival of spring. Several of these handsome birds could be seen about the premises.

Leaving Waynesville Friday morning we rode over a splendid hard surface road to Asheville, the greatest city in that section of North Carolina. There were several thousand cars parked along the curbs of the many streets and it was with some difficulty that a place could be found to leave ours. But this was finally done and we registered at the Langren hotel. The streets presented a busier scene than Atlanta, as the people were moving in swarms all over the city, each one apparently racing to get to some place before somebody else got there first. Mr.

Cooper is well acquainted in Asheville and his friends were giving him cordial greetings of welcome as we sauntered through the streets to see the sights of the metropolis which has grown from a mountain village to a great city within a few years, and is expanding in all directions, with a most gratifying growth. The business men there don't ask if you are coming to Asheville, but they ask when are you coming, as they believe that every man who goes there will eventually become a citizen, because of the many attractions and the fine opportunities that present themselves in almost all lines of business.

We left Asheville Saturday morning and traveled leisurely through Hendersonville, N. C., Greenville, Abbeville, McCormick, S. C., and crossed the Savannah river thirteen miles above Augusta, arriving there about 9 o'clock where the night was spent, and returned to Sandersville about noon Saturday. It was a great trip and was enjoyed more fully than is possible to describe through the medium of a country weekly newspaper.

There was a fine rain in the McCormick section, which was greatly beneficial to all kinds of crops, but only a light sprinkle at Augusta, and none between Augusta and Sandersville on the Waynesboro route.

## PATRICK ITEMS

Rev and Mrs. J. A. Craig of Casco, Tenn., have been visiting friends and relatives here for the past week.

Mrs. Mary Hamby and children visited Mr. and Mrs. Tom Picklesimer and family Sunday.

Miss Edith Mason and brother of Culberson, N. C., visited Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Shearer over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Owen Picklesimer and baby visited the former's parents Mr. Tom Picklesimer Saturday night and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brown of Mascot, Tenn., visited friends and relatives here during the past week.

Mr. Frank King of Ducktown, Tenn., motored through our midst one day last week.

Miss Grace Hamby was the guest of Ora Picklesimer Sunday.

Mr. S. G. Baines made a business

## STAMP CLUB

The undersigned has been requested by several postage stamp collectors of Asheville to plan the organization of a Stamp Club or Philatelic Society of Asheville and Western North Carolina. In order to ascertain the number of persons in Asheville and Western North Carolina who are collecting postage stamps and who might be interested in the organization of a Stamp Club, it is requested that all such persons, men,

women and children, send their names and address to Joseph Hyde Pratt, Biltmore, N. C.

Anyone who has any old postage stamps, either of the United States, Confederate States, or foreign should be interested in the organization of such a club as it will give an opportunity for the exchange and sale of stamps.

Biltmore, N. C.

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