

# THE GAB BAG

By **ALAN BROWNING, JR.**



**WE ATTEND A HOME DEMONSTRATION MEETING**  
The Gab Bag, in the guise of reporter-photographer, last Thursday attended a county-wide meeting of home demonstration clubs at Rockford, and for a moment it looked as if we were going to break up the meeting.

The affair, which featured a fashion show, was held in the historic old courthouse, now in process of restoration, and the 150 women who were crowded into the building didn't give us much room in which to operate our camera and the flash gun. So, when we flashed the first bulb—and people not expecting a flash usually jump when it goes off—the ladies had to jump one at a time, it was so crowded. It took several minutes for every body to get through jumping.

Then to make matters worse, we unthinkingly tossed the used flash bulb into the fireplace, in which a fire was smouldering. A few minutes later, while the assemblage was in the midst of some singing, the blooming thing exploded like a small cannon. This time everyone jumped together, including us, and for a moment it looked as if we were

going to get ourself tossed out on our ear.

But aside from these incidents everything went along nicely, only we didn't get anything to eat, which made us very unhappy. We had two invitations to attend, one from Mrs. Paul Brown, of Mountain Park, and one from Mrs. J. W. Thore, who said she was one of our nine readers. However, neither one suggested that we bring our lunch.

The style show was the main attraction of the afternoon. The ladies would parade down a stairway while the judges would examine their dresses, note the size of the stitches, the fit and general appearance, etc. And while they were doing this, all the other ladies present were buzzing away like all ladies do when they get together, and a good time was had by all. We told Mrs. Thore that we, as the only male present, would be glad to model something, preferably a ham sandwich, if the ladies desired, and she said if she had known in advance she would have brought a new outfit that had just been rigged up for the family scarecrow. She said she was sure it would be a nice fit and that we would look well in it.

But all foolishness aside, we didn't know until we attended the meeting just how much interest there was in the county in home demonstration clubs. Even officials of the organization were surprised at the large number of members who were on hand.

The trip marked our first visit to Rockford, which has quite a history. And it cost us a quarter to get there, there being a toll bridge which spans the river from the Yadkin county side. If we hadn't had our wife with us, we would have parked our car and waded across, for after all a quarter is a quarter these days. And the boss is going to look awful suspicious when we hand in an expense item marked: "Toll charge to get across Yadkin river, 25 cents." He'll probably bowl us out for not taking our water wings.

**AFTER RATS AGAIN**  
A move is on foot here to eradicate rats. It's being sponsored by the Elkin Kiwanis Club, the Elkin Woman's Club and the Boy Scouts. As a preliminary, a motion picture, dealing with the menace of rats and with typhus control, will be shown free of charge at the Elk theatre this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Everyone interested in getting rid of their personal rats are urged to attend this movie, which was prepared by the State board of health.

From here it looks bad for rats, and they are not likely to have a picnic like they did the last time a move was made to exterminate them. At that time some salesman came through and sold a preparation guaranteed to send all rats to eternity, but it so happened that the only rat killed by the stuff was one that ate too much and grew so big and fat it got hung in a hole and eventually died of thirst and starvation.

If you are troubled with rats which run across the attic with the sound of a herd of wild horses, or who dig long tunnels in the basement and yard, attend the movie this afternoon at the Elk.

**THIS AND THAT**  
Last week, while writing this column, we made some comment on the number of buildings around here not located near fire hydrants, which have been saved by the booster tank on the Elkin fire truck which always carries 200 gallons of water. And it had so happened that we had just been

to Jonesville, where Elkin firemen had extinguished a blaze with their booster equipment, when we wrote the paragraphs in question. We commented on the fact that the booster equipment had saved the Jonesville house.

Later, just as the Gab Bag was on the press and ready for printing, someone ambled in with the information that the Jonesville house referred to had decided to burn up after all and that all that was left were a couple of chimneys and a badly scorched lot.

Another five minutes and the joke would have been on us. Looks like a fellow can't depend on anything anymore.

## MOUNTAIN PARK

The Mountain Park Home Demonstration Club met Wednesday at their annual spring luncheon and style show. Luncheon was served to twenty-three members and three visitors. Following the luncheon a business session was held to discuss means of carrying forward the Better Homes Week Campaign. A contest will be held during this campaign of homes inside and out. This contest closes May 4, with prizes being given at a special meeting being held that night.

It was decided to have the

Rangers to come for a concert in the near future.

The winners in the style show were as follows:

Silk dresses, Mrs. Paul Burch, first and Mrs. Paul Brown, second; house dresses, Mrs. A. M. Linville, first, Miss Stacy Swift, second; made over dresses, Mrs. W. B. Williams, first, Mrs. J. E. Shell, second; summer dresses, Mrs. C. C. Thompson, first, Mrs. Folger Cockerham; sport dresses, Mrs. Roscoe Smith and Mrs. Worth Smith.

The county style show was held at Rockford Thursday with two Mountain Park members winning first prizes, Mrs. A. F. Kenzie with her evening gown, and Mrs. C. C. Thompson with her summer dress. The Mountain Park Club won the gavel for the highest attendance based on the miles traveled. There were twenty-two members who traveled at total of 555 miles.

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## GREENWOODS ARE TO CELEBRATE WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Irvy N. Greenwood invite their friends to their home on Sunday April 21, in celebration of their 25th (silver) wedding anniversary. Those attending are requested to bring a basket dinner.

**It Was Peculiar.**  
Motorist—I met my wife a peculiar way—ran over her with my car, and later married her.  
Pedestrian—If everybody had to do that, there wouldn't be so much reckless driving.

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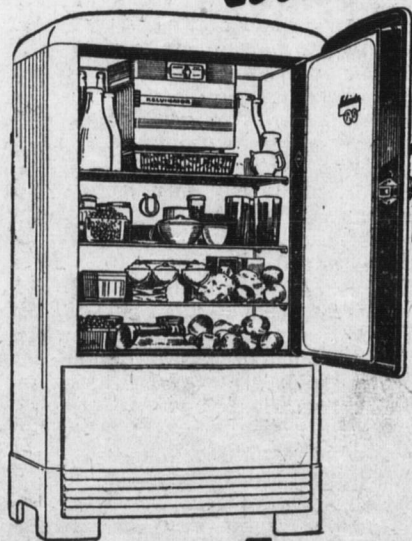
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