

Tribute



MRS. MAUDE BROOKS COTTON  
Charter Member and Author of  
"Lifting As We Climb"

Maude Rebekah Brown Brooks Cotton was born in Oberlin, Ohio, August 12, 1872. At an early age she was taken to Knoxville, Tennessee, where she spent the remainder of her girlhood. She received her early school training at Knoxville College. Later enrolling at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, she was graduated with the Mus.B. Degree in 1896.

Miss Brooks returned to Knoxville as music teacher in Knoxville College, a position she retained until her marriage in 1900 to Rev. John A. Cotton. With her husband, Mrs. Cotton went to Cleveland, Tennessee, where they worked in the mission field of the United Presbyterian Church. Among the families with whom they worked in Cleveland was the Peters family, one son of which, Lowell, is singing with the Southernares Quartette. In 1903 Rev. and Mrs. Cotton were called to the work in Henderson, N. C. Mrs. Cotton, during her girlhood had spent some months with relatives and friends in Goldsboro and Tarboro in that state, so it was somewhat in the nature of a homecoming. The general prospect at Henderson was, however, so discouraging that when they first arrived, they did not see how they could possibly manage to stay through their assignment, of one year. They never dreamed they were destined to spend the rest of their lives in Henderson, a period of over 40 years.

Mrs. Cotton was extremely interested in and active with the N. C. Federation of Negro Women's Clubs and along with Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, she became a charter member of this organization. She worked faithfully and long for many years with a group of fine women who labored so faithfully for the uplift of women and girls in the state and the nation. During the later years of her life.

LIFTING AS WE CLIMB

From the valleys of Carolina,  
To the golden sands,  
There are sisters who need helping  
Shall we reach to help their hands  
There are children of our neighbors  
Who need a mother's helping hand  
And we are our brother's keeper  
Hear their cry throughout the land.

There are girls to be incited,  
To a higher, better life,  
There are those for whom life's struggle,  
Has been little else but strife,  
There are homes to sweeten, brighten,  
And there are hearts to gladden, cheer,  
Shall we live for our self, no never,  
We'll bring comfort everywhere.

CHORUS

Rise, ye daughters of Carolina,  
For our mission is sublime,  
Listen to the clarion watchword,  
"We are lifting as we climb."  
Rise, ye daughters of Carolina,  
For our mission is sublime,  
Listen to the clarion watchword,  
"We are lifting as we climb."

Mrs. Cotton became equally interested in the Parent-Teachers Association, both in Henderson and throughout the state. During this period, Mrs. Cotton wrote the words and music for the Federated Song, "We Are Lifting as We Climb." In addition, Mrs. Cotton held many offices in both of these state organizations, living to see the dearest dream of her life come true when the North Carolina Legislature passed a bill which made possible state support of the Home for Delinquent Colored Girls.

In 1943, Mrs. Cotton accompanied her husband to Knoxville, upon his election

A NEW USE

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cially in the use of quinine, success... need for quinine and... ordinary supply were cut off, other sources had to be found. It was then that American scientists came up with several forms of a synthetic substance to take the place of quinine. Chiang Shen, a native Chinese plant used for centuries by the Chinese in their treatment of malaria, was experimented with. American scientists tried out various other plants in their efforts to find substances that might contain drugs valuable in anti-malarial treatments, and finally discovered the root of the beautiful hydrangea to be efficacious.

Through careful analysis of the molecular structure, the arrangement of the atoms a synthesis was completed, a derivative developed and the use of the drug given clinical trial. While the study of the hydrangea was made primarily for its use in the treatment of malaria, it is now thought that this new drug derived may be beneficial also in other diseases that originate in parasitical agents in the blood stream as well as in such new types of malaria as are found in Korea.

-R. D. A.

to the presidency of Knoxville College. There she made a home for him until the time of his last illness. After his death, Mrs. Cotton made her home in Henderson, until October of 1944, when at her desire she accompanied her daughter to Chicago, Ill for only a few months. Mrs. Cotton passed quietly and peacefully into rest on February 2, 1945.



The above picture represents a group of Boy Scouts described in a previous issue of the Federation Journal as having been sponsored by the Lenoir Club; but which is a troop sponsored by Miss Marie Postum, a teacher at the Ridgeview High School of Shelby.

er. She was attracted to this girl, whom resume her place in Washington and her