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**Monroe Reunion Brings Clan Together
At Church Their Forefathers Built**

By Bessie Cameron Smith

The Monroe Clan, whose ancestors were among the pioneer Scotch settlers of the Cape Fear country, Septmeber 1, met in annual reunion at Bensalem church where early generations of the clan worshiped.

Many of the younger members now play an important part in the life of this beautiful old country church, deep in the woods several miles out from Eagle Springs.

The program opened at 11 a. m. with worship led by the pastor, the Rev. H. A. McBath. Dr. Reid Graham, missionary worker in a theological school in India, as guest speaker told of revolutionary changes planned for India under its new freedom. He credited Christian missions with many progressive steps taken.

Dr. Graham, a native of Pennsylvania, was heard with unusual interest in that he lived in Carthage in early childhood, later moving to Hamlet, where his people still live. As a young Davidson college graduate he went to the Punjab in 1929 and remained until 1932, when he came back to attend Yale university for five years. Going back to India, he worked there until his return to Yale last year for a refresher course. He plans to resume his work in India this fall.

Officers Elected

Following Dr. Graham's address, T. Guy Monroe of Hamlet, clan president, presided over a business session during which Blanche Monroe of West End read minutes of last year's reunion. The following officers, nominated by Fuller Monroe of the nominating committee, were elected: Ernest Morgan of Star, president; John W. Monroe of Eagle Springs, vice president; Ellen Monroe of Aberdeen, secretary-treasurer.

Albert Monroe of West End, historian, reported progress made during the past year and asked the cooperation of clan members in securing additional information relating to clan history. Mrs. T. G. Monroe of Hamlet spoke briefly.

The awarding of special prizes created much interest. Those to the oldest and youngest clan members present went to Mrs. M. A. Monroe, 86, of Biscoe, and Brenda Kay Jeffreys, (2) granddaughter of Fulton Monroe of Spies. Two Monroes tied for the honor of being head of the largest family. Arch Monroe of Laurel Hill and Allen L. of Robbins, each the father of eight, received subscriptions to a Scotch magazine. Charles Monroe of Robbins, most recently married, was given a framed copy of the Monroe coat of arms.

A sumptuous dinner was spread on a long table beneath the trees and clan members lingered for an additional period of fellowship.

Church History

The setting for the reunion was one to inspire respect and reverence for the forefathers who built and worshiped there. One incident gives an insight into their character. The church, organized in 1813, had outgrown one or two chapels built in the community, and 90 years ago was preparing to erect the present building. They had difficulty in deciding between two proposed locations and a rift was imminent. However, they came to a friendly settlement, built their church, and fittingly named it "Bensalem," meaning "son of peace."

Their love for the church is shown by the building's fine materials. Resting on large stones the foundation has three hand-hewn sills 50 feet long and some 12 inches square. It is estimated that the trees from which these timbers were cut must have been a century and a half old to have attained such size, and how the sills were moved into place with the equipment of that day is puzzling.

The interior is ceiled with hand-planed boards still in perfect condition, and the floor is the pride of the congregation. A sanding machine only a few months ago revealed the hidden beauty of the richly colored heart-of-pine boards, which were so perfectly dried when laid that after nearly a century they fit with perfect smoothness.

For some the day was not complete without a visit to the shaded spring of cold water at the foot of the hill, reached by a picturesque trail canopied by boughs. Among the last at the spot were two brothers, one of whom had flown from Kentucky to attend the reunion.

"See those tall pine trees up there?" said one. "I remember when that was a field in cultivation."

"This is my first time to attend," said the Kentuckian, as the two walked back up the hill, "but next year I think I'll have

**Civil Court Opens
September 15
With Full Docket**

Fifty-seven cases are scheduled for hearing before the civil court which convenes at Carthage September 15, with an additional 13 on the motion docket, according to the civil court calendar made public by County Clerk John Willcox last week.

The Hon. J. A. Rousseau will be the presiding judge.

The first day of court has been given over to the hearing of divorce cases of which there are 17 scheduled.

Other suits, totaling 23, are scheduled for the second and third days of the session.

Scheduled on the civil court calendar are the following cases:

Monday, September 15

J. B. Dilling vs. Annie King Dilling; Sherman M. Arnold vs. Ruth Elizabeth Arnold; Aritia Yow vs. Rubin Yow; Roscoe Stevenson vs. Mary Stevenson; Margaret Campbell vs. Warren G. Campbell; Alberta Peterkin vs. Horace Peterkin; Mary A. Mashburn vs. Clarence Mashburn.

P. S. P. Randolph, Jr., vs. W. R. Clegg, Jr., al; T. J. Coore al vs. J. W. Rogers; Helena V. Straka vs. J. F. Carter, Carter's Laundry; Luther M. McPherson al vs. Cicero Council al; T. P. Norton; Elizabeth W. Claxton vs. J. C. Parks; J. Fred Stimson vs. L. H. McNeill; W. H. Caviness et al vs. Lula Caviness Brady et al; W. L. Stribling vs. J. B. Presley and wife; Mrs. Rosa Ellen Sheffield vs. Wayland Kennedy al.

Tuesday, September 16

W. Clement Barrett, Admr., of Paul Bleichroder, deceased, vs. Pinehurst, Inc.; G. C. Cole vs. J. E. Brown; Raymond E. Beasley vs. T. L. Williford; C. E. Lanier and wife vs. Mrs. Minnie Tyson; Robert Taylor vs. Edgar Trucking Co., Inc.; W. H. Currie al T-A J. A. Currie Co. vs. Van B. Sharpe; Lucio Hallman vs. Dora Cotton; Albert Freeman vs. Pinehurst Warehouses, Inc.; Cutters Exchange, Inc., vs. Van B. Sharpe al; Local Trademarks, Inc., vs. Graham Cullbreth al.

Wednesday, September 17

A. T. Massey Coal Co., Inc., vs. Van B. Sharpe al; Charles W. Breneman Company vs. Van B. Sharpe al; Thomas Keith Atkinson vs. Van B. Sharpe al; Pinehurst Warehouses, Inc., vs. Van B. Sharpe al; John W. Wicker, Admr., vs. R. B. Daws, Admr., al; Van B. Sharpe al vs. Blue Bell, Inc.; J. A. Jackson vs. Carthage Hardware Co., Inc. Mayo Crosby Clark vs. W. R. Parsons; Janice Clark, by Nxt Frd vs. W. R. Parsons; Househasson Hardware Co., vs. Van B. Sharpe al; The Patent Button Co., vs. Van B. Sharpe al; D. G. Dupree vs. Jack Davis; American Woolen Co., Inc., vs. Van B. Sharpe al.

Motion Docket

J. E. Hasty vs. Sandhill Financing Corp.; Elsie Kelly, by Nxt Frd vs. Woodrow Wilson; W. W. Frye vs. Wade Priest; M. G. Dalrymple al; vs. Katherine Shields Melvin al; L. R. Reynolds al vs. Mrs. Glenn Roberts, Extrx. al; Devreau Willis vs. Louise Rowan Willis; Charles E. Williams vs. Gladys Williams. Ethel Carter vs. C. A. Carter; Mattie Cutler Buttry vs. George H. Buttry; Ola C. Cay vs. Curtis A. Gay; Bankers Commercial Corp. vs. R. E. Davis; Thomas B. Brown, Admr. vs. Carrie Scott Moxley, al; Jesse Dunlap, al vs. Wilson Goins.

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"to come and bring my family." And so, with "I remember" thoughts, and plans for future periods of fellowship, another Monroe reunion ended.

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