

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wheless Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. James Monroe Wheless, Sr., who were married fifty years ago, November 20, 1901, in Spring Hope, celebrated their golden wedding with an informal reception at their home here, Tuesday night.

The spacious Wheless home on East Church street was beautifully decorated for the festivities. The mantels in the living and dining rooms were banked with gold ivy and magnolia leaves that entwined the candlesticks which held lighted yellow tapers. In the reception hall a very large arrangement of giant yellow chrysanthemums and oregon fern with gold satin ribbon bow and streamers made a lovely decoration. Yellow chrysanthemums in various sizes were placed in a horn-of-plenty vase on the buffet and this setting also had yellow tapers.

The dining table, beautifully decorated in a color scheme of gold and white, was spread with a cutwork Madeira linen cloth, lace-trimmed, and was centered with an arrangement of pom-pom chrysanthemums, roses and snapdragons in shades of yellow with plumose fern. Golden wedding bells, with gold bows and streamers of matine, outlined the base of the flower arrangement and the candlesticks which bore opergnes that were filled with golden leaves. Yellow tapers illuminated the table. The white three-tiered wedding cake was decorated with yellow and topped with a golden wreath on which the numerals 50 were embossed. The white napkins were printed with a golden inscription, 1901-1951, Mattie and Jim.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wheless, Jr., greeted the guests; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Edwards of Jacksonville, Fla., received at the living room door and presented the honored couple, Mr. and Mrs. Wheless.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Wheless received at the dining room and directed the guests to the serving table where Mrs. Ernest Pearce of Raleigh, niece of Mrs. Wheless, poured punch and Mrs. R. E. L. Wheless, Sr., of Warsaw served the cake.

Assisting in serving iced cakes, nuts and mints were Mary Jo Edwards of Jacksonville, Fla., Sue Flanagan, Clara Flanagan, Martha Holmes, Nan Williams and Johnnie Jane Joyner. Mrs. Arch Flanagan and Mrs. C. L. Beaman, Sr., also assisted with the serving.

Directing the guests into the hall from the dining room were Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Paylor. Presiding over the guest book were Miss Annie Perkins and Mrs. J. J. Sanders of Spring Hope, only sister of Mrs. Wheless.

Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Duncan of Murfreesboro directed guests to the gift room, where Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. George W. Davis received at the door and Mrs. I. E. Satterfield of Durham presided.

Goodbyes were said to Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Wheless. Among out-of-town guests attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cox, Mrs. Roy T. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Riley Cox of Winterville; Mrs. L. E. Satterfield and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Wheless of Durham; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Edwards and daughter, Mary Jo, of Jacksonville, Fla., and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Pearce and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Dixon of Raleigh; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bush and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Waters of Rocky Mount; Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Duncan of Murfreesboro, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dixon McElhannon of Greenville; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Sanders of Spring Hope; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hargrove of Tarboro; Mr. and Mrs. A. E. L. Wheless, Sr., of Warsaw; Dr. and Mrs. A. G. Woddard and daughter, Mary Craig, of Goldsboro and Mr. and Mrs. R. E. L. Wheless, Jr., of Franklin, Va.

Mrs. Wheless wore an orchid dress of silk crepe and a shoulder corsage of orchids. During the evening Mrs. Arthur

Joyner, Sr., played piano selections and also accompanied Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Holmes and Mr. and Mrs. John D. Holmes who sang.

Mrs. Wheless is the former Harriet Hartfield Privette, daughter of the late Jos Privette and Joanna White Privette of Spring Hope.

Mr. Wheless is the son of the late William Gilbert Wheless and Harriet Edwards Wheless of Spring Hope.

The Whelesses have two daughters, Mrs. Cleveland Paylor of Farmville and Mrs. Clarence Edwards of Jacksonville, Fla., three sons, J. M. Jr., Robert P. of Farmville and Gilbert of Durham. They have eleven grand-children, three of whom are triplets.

Mr. and Mrs. Wheless moved to Farmville in 1911, and Mr. Wheless began the business which is now Wheless Drug Co. The couple have played important roles in the religious, cultural and business development of Farmville. Their fifty years of marriage is a symbol of what is best in life—wholesome living, Christian and worthwhile endeavors, neighborliness and good parenthood.

Self-Employed Folks Now Come Under Social Security Law

Many self-employed businessmen are not aware of their compulsory coverage in the old-age and survivors insurance system provided by the recent change in the social security law, effective January 1, 1951. Marshall H. Barney, manager of the Rocky Mount Social Security Administration office reports that about half of the businessmen he questions know of the tax liability they were incurring all through 1951. The tax liability for 1951 becomes due and payable in the first quarter of 1952, and each year thereafter. An equal number of self-employed failed to realize their self-employment earnings after 1950 were building toward old-age and survivors insurance protection for themselves and their families. Barney pointed out that the small businessman now has the same protection against loss of income due to retirement or death as wage earners have had since 1940. He summarized the self-employed person's status under social security as follows:

1. Generally speaking, coverage of the self-employed is compulsory under the old-age and survivors insurance section of the Social Security Act.

The self-employed person must have a social security number to identify the earnings to be posted in his insurance account.

If you have never had a social security card, fill out an application for one, or hand at any post office, and send it to the Rocky Mount social security office. If you have lost your card, you should ask for a copy. You should have only one social security number in your lifetime.

3. Self-employment earnings must be properly reported each year to secure credit towards this insurance. They are reported by the individual on a special section of his individual income tax form. 1951 earnings will be reported on the income tax form due by arch 155, 1952. A self-employed person cannot report himself on the quarterly social security form 41 used for reporting employer's wages. He makes one yearly report and pays his tax in full at that time. The tax is 2% of taxable self-employment earnings. Only the first \$3600 of earnings is taxable.

The 1951 tax will be between \$0 and \$81, depending on the amount of net earnings from self-employment. Payment is compulsory, so it would be a good idea to budget for the amount due.

Mr. Barney reminded all concerned that detailed information about this

program of old-age and survivors insurance is available without charge at the Rocky Mount social security office.

Canine Surgery Experiences of a Red Cross Gray Lady

By Grace S. Caraway

When I began to work for Dr. M. J. Gregg and Dr. Albert Smith, Jr., at the Willow Grove Veterinary Hospital, as bookkeeper, receptionist and later as an assistant, my previous nursing training consisted of a Red Cross Gray Lady course which was taken at the Camp Lejeune Naval Hospital. This previous training was not adequate for the work I was about to begin. I don't intend to underestimate my instructors at the Naval Hospital, some of the best doctors in the country; but the course was mainly planned to fit the ladies to help bolster the morale of the patients, encourage them in their dreaded period-convalescence, make arrangements for visiting families, learn what their attitudes were and help them to enjoy life as much as possible in a hospital. Some of this training came in handy later, but in the operating room it was of little help.

The first patient the doctors operated on with me assisting was named Music. Music's physical appearance was the very opposite of music; some people might even have thought her ugly. Her expression was that of a tragic opera, like some of the last scenes in Carmen. We removed several large surface cancers from her stomach or what I called her stomach but which was the abdominal wall. Several times during the operation it seemed there was a wad of cotton where my stomach had previously been located, and often I had to lean against the operating table, while my head took sudden spins, like a car out of control and in reverse. There was much cutting done and as arteries were cut, fine streams of blood would spray the doctor's white coats and the table. The doctors would swab with sterilized sponges and stop the source with the hemostatic forceps. When the operation was over I was proud of having been able to stay in the room for I had seen grown men faint from less. The doctors keep ammonia handy—for the owners, not the dogs.

Dogs and humans are given many of the same medicines, the sulfas, penicillin, dextrose, vitamins, the feminine dystyristol and many others. Blood transfusions are sometimes given to dogs and often the life of a hook worm victim is saved by one. Hook worms eat the blood of its victims and in the final stages before the dog dies, the worms eat the blood faster than the body can make it.

The Willow Grove operations are all-sterile. The instruments are sterilized, the patient is cleaned with a germicide and alcohol, a sterile drape is used on the body and the doctors use sterilized gloves.

I always thought I wouldn't be able to assist with an amputation. It was the saying that I thought I couldn't endure. But Mishand, a small liver-colored cocker spaniel was brought into the office one Saturday afternoon with a badly mangled front leg. A hog had severed the tendons in the bone axis of what would be a human elbow. The tendons could not be sewed together nor would nature mend them; so Dr. Gregg decided on immediate operations to save the dog's life, before blood-poisoning set in. Dr. Smith was off duty. I tried to keep out of Dr. Gregg's sight but one look at the men that had brought the dog in, and I knew I would have to assist.

This time I was reassured at my lack of fright. I was calm when Dr. Gregg cut the meat and muscles with the scissors. I pulled the muscle back and held the bone steady for the sawing with competent hands and at the same time retained my stomach—no wads of cotton this time. It was a job that had to be done to save the life of the dog—that was what I kept thinking and that is why I was able

to assist. We were proud of the work on Mishand. In several days I had her out of the cage, helping her to learn to walk on three legs. Mishand was more difficult than it would have been if she had lost a back leg. At first she would fall down, against furniture, would give up as if exhausted and cry. Before she left the hospital she could get about with good equilibrium. I wondered how she felt when she walked and realized her leg was gone. I do not think she was as depressed as a human would have been in the same case.

Queenie, a collie, was also brought in on Saturday afternoon. She had been hit by a car and had a broken lower mandible or lower jaw. Dr. Smith was on duty and Dr. Gregg was off duty. So, again, I had to assist. Dr. Smith did a partial examination, the best he could with the jaw in such a bad condition; without putting the dog to sleep. He explained to the owner the situation and said he would not make any promise about the outcome but would like to work on the mandible with the dog asleep. The owner agreed to his suggestion. The dog was put to sleep with an anesthetic that would last for several hours.

The break was not an even one, but was jagged and broken in many places. One of the canine teeth was cracked and the incisors broken loose in the alveolar. The break was about two and one half inches from the tip of the mandible and secured behind the second or third premolar teeth. The dog would not be able to eat unless the jaw could be mended to heal so that the masseteric muscles could work and the teeth come nearly in their proper places.

Dr. Smith fitted the mandible as near in place as possible and drilled a steel pin about three inches long through the gum into the marrow, on the side that was least broken up and into the unbroken section, making them fit. Then he took a fine wire and wired back and forth across the jaw around the substantial teeth on opposite sides, to brace and hold up the most broken-up side. I thought it was a wonderful job and it worked.

We fed Queenie on liquids for the first two days and sprayed the mandible with a sulfamethazine emulsion spray. She ate regular hospital meals after that. She left the hospital in twelve days, the wires were removed and the teeth fitted almost perfectly into the proper places. When her mouth was closed it looked normal.

I said the Gray Lady course did come into use. I encouraged the dogs during convalescence by taking them for a stroll around the hospital. I

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let them lay under my desk and I talked a special kind of language to them—what is generally known as "baby talk." I didn't have to make any arrangements for visiting families, but owners were asked to visit their pets and most of them did.

WELFARE OFFICE NOTES
The North Carolina School Compulsory Attendance Law requires all children from ages of 7 to 16 to attend school. Many of the larger children in farming areas have been permitted by the school authorities to help with the farm work. The reports coming in now from the school principals indicate that a few have not gotten their children in regular attendance. We hope that those who continue to disregard the law will take notice that reports to the Superintendent of Public Welfare will be promptly investigated and prosecution will follow.

CARD OF THANKS
I wish to thank each and every one for the kindnesses shown my family and me during the death of my granddaughter, Mrs. George W. Shirley.

Mrs. Mollie Murphy

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