# Lanier Library Wonderful Help to Tryon People

\* ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR IN WESTERN CAR. -:-

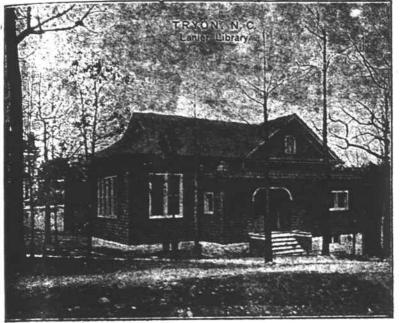
## OLDEST CLUB IN NORTH CAROLINA

## club Now Has Over Five Thousand Books During the War Building Was Given Up To Red Cross Work.

the war, about 1871, lived, were built near the kitchen

Aboy, a Presbyterian but the ban, was built right in front etsburg, heard from a of the house, with the Highway being at Rutherfordton, tween the barn yards and the house ful climate of this because a man liked to have his had ten children, four barns where they were under his very delicate, so he eye all the time.

ve to a more equi- On the front porch was a large than that of Pittsburg, and stout Joggling board where Dr. through the country Mills used to spend a good part of r of horses, the carriage the afternoons with a little darkie of army mules, and the to joggle him. There was no grass on the train, spending but there were beautiful Mimosa as k on the way, the short- trees and some ornamental shrubs.



The Lanier Library

In ord-r to secure the plantation was brought to Columbus, the nearthe valley of the pacolet, now est Post Office. nown as Mimosa, which particularseparate tracts of land,

nickory, chestnut, lo-

Rebellion, his ized them so by arthe doctor's house him under his fea- platform. thile the crowd was ouse, secured horses dered safe for the is face here again. next plantation

drs. T. T. Ballenger,

sent to Spartanburg to bring up supplies and once a week the mail

Many Slaves On Old Plantation

Many of the old slaves were reover the adjactent moun-tained on the plantation and Dr. Mcprice asked for the home Aboy became the greatest authority acres, was \$12.50 per on the climate, the Thermal Belt , but, said the owner, if you will and the possibilities of the country. mountain, land, and The delicate members of his family acres you can have it were restored to health and many Why that, acording friends, desiring to avoid the severe my arithmetic would be less for winters of Pittsburg came to stay whole than for the farm, said with him, taxing the capacity of the Well I don't know how old plantation house until it was but that is my price, necessary to build additions from er. As it was cheaper time to time. Then a few years whole than a part, Dr. later, when the railroad was built, heluded to take the the terminus being at the Block oll as the valley, with. House, three miles away. For a xactly what he would long time (owing to the difficulty he had no desire to of building across the mountins) shows color all all passengers for Hendersonivlle and could make no and Asheville, had to spend the valuable timber, night at Lynn, taking a stage coach for the rest of the journey, a reguetc. for there was lar old fashined coach and six, cansportation. And ex- sometimes eight, horses, or mules use he did not know and the sound of the musical horn the fruit unless he used to be listened for just as one expects the whitsle of the locomoa la western North , ach brandy for home tive.

When the railroad reached here the President gave Mrs. Aboy the honor of naming the place and she chose Tryon (probably being fond Tussands Wax Works and Tableaux of the mountain.)

For a long time there was only a tiny little station house and it was several years before there was any telegraph and, if the daily train, consisting of several passenger coaches and freight cars was late, ard a manner, that a perhaps one hour, perhaps four or was the result. The five, one had to wait. The conductwore vengence, and or would always wait the train for Dr. McAboy, if he did not find him killed him had it waiting and once, the last time, he Pauldo, his body found Dr. McAboy had died suddenrried him out to his ly of heart trouble on the station

#### Ballenger a Real Pioneer

Mr. T. T. Ballenger is a pioneer of Tryon as he was one of the first settlers, building several buildings, thors Dr. McAboy starting a store and finally building

built in the early days in which all numbered 27 members of ages rangdenominations worshipped in Tryon. ing fom 14 to 70 years and all takr, and their daugh-We used to all attend the services whenever a preacher was to be had, adjournment for the summer, our that day and time and sometimes the little place would Kentucky guests entertained the house was made of be full of persons of all ages and club at the Laurels, the first five all stand on the several dogs which occasoinally had o'clock tea in Tryon. The next fall open fireplaces, and a fight, which made a lively time, the first books were purchased and

ix feet, could reach seats to be out of the way. rds from the house, lumbus on the upper room of the The month we also gave our secthe fireplace in it, a Court House regularly once or twice ond entertainment, realizing \$17. bout forty yards fur- a month, and once we heard a clat- This sum was expended in books esquarters in which ter on the stairway and a big pig pecially for young people. It was and by Dr. Mills had walked solemnly up the aisle until during the early days of the club

him out. Once, in Tryon, after the William Gillette. heads of the people. The Bishop sistance might be given.

recommend it to their friends.

brary entered the minds of its resi-But the thought came naturally enough to the three lonely occupants of the little red octagon house who said to each other, why cannot there be a weekly or semi weekly social or intellectual gathering of the women and young girls of the village with the object of starting a town library. And just before the going out of 1889, two winter guests, happening to lea, were asked the same question, and then and there was born a sudden enthusiasm which resulted in the Lanier Club as it stands today, inaugurated January 1st. 1890 to meet for multual improvement and to procure a library

#### Old Library Site Burned

We weer to meet at The Laurels, which since has burned, but stood on the sight where Mrs. Chas. Wilsons larger house stands. Officers were elected and for five weeks \$400 and the present building was meetings were held each week, moved into January 1, 1906. when it was decided to change to been followed to the present time. At the second meeting, the first given and Mrs. L. N. Wilcox, read a letter from Mrs. Sidne yLanier, and related facts concerning the poets life and death at her home.

Appointmens were then made for the following week and persons chosen to take characters in reading Julius Ceasar, also a committee appointed to arrange for an entertainment. Duing the remainder of the winter and following spring until June, when meeting were discontinued until cooler weather, the plays of Shakespeare were read with interest and pleasure for Julius Ceasar was followed by Richard III and Anthony and Cleopatra; nor did we confine ourselves to the plays only. Home and Foreing news given at every meeting, the history of Julius Ceasar was read, also lectures of Cicero and Mardus Aurelius and many articles improving and amusing. Music, instrumental and vocal, often added to our pleasure. February 19, 1890 the club decided the members should pay a fee of 15 cts. received toward the object we had the first books in the Library. In M. E. Church, north, now the Erskine Memorial Church. Madams of the Nations, were exhibited and were a great success. A gentleman at the Lynn Hotel was so much pleased that he presented the club with twenty dollars. We realized from this entertainment \$15.20 which considering the small charge for admission and the few to draw an audience from was very encouraging Before adjourning for the summer, a third volume of Sidney Lanier was presented by a guest and book case to be placed in the M. E.

Church where our library and future meetings were to be held. The church was furnished with the old fashioned hard benches and our president used to say that she beleived it would be alright if we tipped them just a little. We now and Mrs. Garrison, the hotel now known as Oak Hall. had a number of books donated, our There was a little union chapel treasurer reported \$42 and our club ing active part. Very soon after our only Dr. McAboy when we would all stand on the April 1892 the Library was open to Dr. McAboy used to preach at Co-girls acted as librarians, alternately.

mountain fashion, got up and drove Mark Twain impersonated by Mr. given, ranging through all shades

chapel of their own the Bishop was donate the fees of the coming year they thought a hearty laugh was makinb his visitation, and the con- to the Vilalge Improvement Asso. in good for folks. gregation, unusually large in conse- purchasing land for a town cemequence ,a black snake was seen tery and also to suspend study for was the old man's part in the Vioclimbing around the rafters over the same time that all possible as lin Maker of Cremona. At one per-

did not seem to notice it and con- After this date the Club met only in the audience proved to be an tinued the service the congregation when called by the President for actor who had played one of the becoming slightly nervous as it special business, even after the Im- boys for eight years. He was enwould travel from side to side over provement Assn. had accomplished thusiastic over the presentation. their heads, finally dropping in front its object for it was inconvenient The music for these plays was furof the seats where one of the men for most of our members to give nished by a splendid home talent dispatched it and carried it out. | the time but the dues were kept orchestra of 8 persons consisting of The growth of Tryon was always up and books added from time to a piano, three violins, a viols cello, slow, but owing to the fact of a time both by purchase and donation. and two flutes, playing the best lack of advertising it has always Mrs. Lanier gave two readings at music, well rendered, no jazz. Durbeen a place of people worth while difference times from her husbands ing this time we had sevreal prowho loved the simple life and would leters, adding much to our funds. fessional players to help or coach In September, 1896 the Library, which the plays. Those who knew Tryon thirty up to that time had been in the years ago with only its twenty-three Congregational Church was moved or four residences may wonder how to the Fisher Block, now burned the idea of establishing a Public Li- and from then we had to make several moves until in 1899 it was dents and the few visitors here at moved to the late Major Strong's a card party, dance, or reception. brought into their own by the state the city in the French Broad valley. that with any thought of success. office. In February 1898, on account of renewed interest in club work, a desire was expressed to reorganize for more active work, the and Mrs. Dowe very properly took ists not one-hundredth parth of the courses are under construction and library now numbered over 200 volumes all in good order and well selected. An entertainment was de- someone. That was one great bluncided on for February 22. The Lanier Club infused with new life took up their work again with renewed courage. January 1900, the tenth anniversary of the club, the library had been increased to 400 volumes, the lot for a club house assured, there were funds in the

In the meantime we had been every two weeks and that rule has slowly accumulating books. On our nearly paid for and more than 1500 many of these had been donated. The money to do this was raised by entertainmens, suppers and the exchange. Since that time the porch has been added a well equipped kitchen establshed, and still later in 1918 sanitary toilet arrangements.

bank, and the Woman's Exchange

started. Then came the disasterous

fire of 1904 when all the books were

few loaned out. We now rented a

buiding, formerly H. E. Church

south, now used as a grocery. In

1905 it was decided we must have

a building of our own, the necessary

funds borrwed to add to our own

During these last years we have had the Civic and Education committes which have accomplished much. The club now has over 5000 books not withstanding the six boxes that were sent to the soldiers. Dur-There are several charter members conducted. living, three in Tryon.

#### Play House Opened in 1895

of in the early history of Tryon tion forces of the state with the co- He is also active in the development is th building and opening of a play- operation of the State Health Dehouse in the summer of 1895. This partment. house was built by Mrs. Dowe and 1. Drink at least six glasses of stood between Tryon Lodge and the water each day. quarterly which was the first money Episcopalian Church on Melrose 2. Brush teeth night and morning. Ave. With the permmission of Mr. in view. In March, Mrs. Lanier sent Gillette. "Esmeralda" was belected windows up. two folumes of her husbands works, as the play to open the house, the parts being taken by members of milk daily, or part chocolate - no April the club gave their first en the Tryon Dramatic Club, with Miss tea or coffee. tertainment in the b uilding of the Lillian Pierce, a pofessional actress here for her health, in the title role. The performance being pronounced a great success.

> To speak more definitely about the house, it would seat from 200 to 250 persons, with four dressing painted by a scenic painter from Columbua, S. C. The footlights being a row of lamps, so placed that they gave the poper effect but were not in evidence themselves.

was given, the text of the play and eries which specialize in selling high the costumes were produced by grade baby chicks. it was voted to purchase a small home talent and the musicians and singers all belonged to Tryon. For READ THE POLK CO. NEWS

some of the men in the leisurly that we had the honor of seeing several years many plays were of sentiment, but those intended to Episcopalians had a little frame In the fall of 1892 it was voted to make merriment were selected as

One of Miss Pierces best roles formance our, "Our Boys" a stranger

#### Housed Entertainments

The house was open every Tuesday evening during the season, for some sort of entertainment, a play, away a useless thing and built cottages that would be of service to der whic hwe of the town realized when it was too late.

In the last twenty years the Congr gational Church had been beautionly remodelled and the Episcopatian Church is a new building. When we first came to Tryon the only building on the north side of Melrose Ave. where the playhouse, 2 hirches and 2 dwellings, and on the south side 6 homes 2 homes on burned with the exception of the Meirose Circle, 2 homes on Laurel Ave, and 3 homes on East Hill or Godshaw Hill as we knew it, with a few more homes scattered around. The Beatson home was the only one across the Pacolet Rier on Warrior Mt. There was one department store building standing where the drug store is now, no drug store except your own medicine chest or Dr. Kenworthys' bag. The Post Office ed. Our meat market was a travelces and the many new stores and dwellings have come along slowly in the last twent years. But we always had had much sunshine, good fruit and many noted and charming

#### FINE RESULTS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA HEALTH CONTEST

isitors and much happiness in the

little mountain nook.

Recently we published a photoing the war the building was given graph showing the healthiest girls up to Red Cross work, the members from each county at the Winthrop giving their time to that while all Short Course this year. Now some club work was suspended. The La- readers wisely want to know more nier Club is the oldest in the state, about this contest and how it is to a number of developments. Many

Contest, begun in 1924 and having ville. Outside Hendersonville, P. L. more far reaching results each year One interesting event to be spoken is conducted by the home demonstra-

-3. Sleep at least nine hours with

4. Drink three glasses or more of

5. Eat fruit and vegetables daily. 6. Take plenty of exercise, and rest when necessary.

7. Have your bowels move at least once each day. 8. Take a bath at least twice

9. Stand, sit, and walk erect. 10. Be cheerful and learn not to

-The Progressive Farmer.

Later in the summer a minstrel flocks are in good demand at hatch-



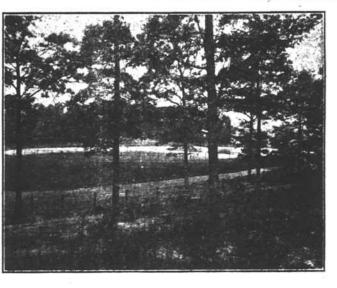
# HELP TO CAROLINA

### **Good Roads Have Helped Developments** Much In Western North Carolina

The New York Sun in its recent dollar hotel is being built on top of issue on North Carolina carried the the mountain. following interesting article on the "Near Chimney Rock, one of the resort developments of the west natural wonders of the mountain made possible by the building of fine country, in Rutherford county a highways leading into all pats of company which holds 8,000 acres of the mountains:

"The 25 counties in the western "Sulphur Sprigns Park is to be a part of North Carolina have been suburb of Asheville built close to Then there came a time when no highways; that is almost axiomatic. "Near Tryon a development known one seemed to be able to give the Until the hard surface highways as Blue Ridge Forest is being time to carry on these social events made this area available to motor- brough into existence. Two golf

land is creating a 1,500 acre lake.



W. N. C. Good Roads

possibilities of this region as a re- three artificial lakes are being made.

"This resort area. lying in the Southern Appalachians, with the out of Linville, to Donaid's timbered spurs and foothills, has an occurs in four or five miles. elevation varying from 800 feet above sea level to over 5,500 feet. The annual mean temperature for is situated in the foothills of the the region as a whole is shown by Blue Ridge mountains, about midgovernment observations to be about way between Asheville and Spartan-55 degrees Fahrenheit.

"The influx of visitors summer, winter, spring, and fall, has led of the most ambitious of these are This South Carolina State Health grouped at Asheville or Henderson-Wright has developed Druid Hills, an extensive suburaban community. of the Lake Lanter project, near Tryon where an artificial lake is being created to supply the one recreational element sometimes lack ing the North Carolina resort.

"Another extensive Hendersonville Jump Off Mountain. A two million mountain crafts."

slowly accumulating books. On our kenworthy's bag. The Post Office was in a small building since burn
20th anniversary our building was a small building since burn
and Our meet market was a travelthe scenic beauty, the natural reling is a government reserve of 39, but the iscovery by a great num | mountain, the source of more difber of people necessarily waited on ferent streams than any other mountain in the east. There are scores of scenic trips which can be made peaks of the Great Smoky and Blue near the Eseeola Inn, or Linville Ridge mountains towering 'above Falls, where a descent of 1,7000 feet

> "Tryon, in Polk county, near the border between the two Carolinas, burg, S. C., at an altitude of 1,500 feet above sea level. On every side of the city peaks rise to a height of 3,000 and 4,000 feet. It lies within the famous "thermal belt" of North Carolina, notable for the ab sence of frost and dew and for the narrow ranges of temperatue within the course of a year

"The hills that hem in Tryon have been spared the devastation that usually follows lumbering operations and the mountains are still clothed with the forests that covered them a century ago, when they belonged to the Cherokee Indians. Numer ous picturesque local industries have development is Laurel Park on sprung in Tryon, based on the

People Here From Practically Every State in the Union, Many Foreign Countries

Tryon has been variously classed other place in the country. As the Alabama, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. simple life with porcelain bath tubs" as the spot "everyone comes been loudly exploited, over-developback to." and other spontaneous ed or widely advertised, except by slogans which boiled down still fur- its satisfied visitors speaking kindther to the fact that for its size by of it. It would seem to recommend it is extremely cosmopolitan.

nier Library during the spring sea- and agreeable accommodations. son several years ago. ach guest was asked to stand and tell from every state in the Union doubt would be presented and some coun-

House, in Blue Ridge Forest, the at one dollar per gallon. latest point to establish a guest that this point is 3400 feet above from their hands.

nearest town, one migh tthink the cities, but not only are North and South Carolina widely represented but also Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Missouri, California, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, W. Virginia, Washington, D. C., Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Michagan, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin. Toronto, Canada, and Havana, Cuba, Among those who have bought

homesites and will build cottages as the town where more people have are citizens of North and South Cawritten books per capita than any rolina, Florida, Illinois. New York. Consider that Tryon has never highly its unusual beauty, comfort-At a party given at the Lake La- able climate, congenial companions

what state he came. Over thirty farmers of Pasquotank County were were represented. If the vaccinated by the county agent in leases and hotel registers time to stop an outbreak of cholera. carefully examined, without The hogs were valued at \$500.

B. D. Nelme of Anson County plants ten acres to sorghum cane At Hog Back Mountain Club and sells his syrup in gallon cans

register, the variety of town and It's too late for farmers to think

state is quite remarkable. Consider of holding cotton after it has passed