Swannanoa News

MRS. A. C. CAMPFIELD

Route 1 Phone 7645

"THE COMMUNITY MEETING PLACE"

Teacher Requests Shoes

In the correspondence of Elizabeth Weaver, a letter written in 1840, by a sister, Saphronia, requests her father to make a pair of shoes and send them, supposedly near Brevard, where she is teaching school.

From the letter I would judge that Elizabeth has not been well and as a cure Saphronia advises her to "quit rubbing snuff and ride about a good deal," which seems to be a most unusual method for recovering.

April the 9th 1840. From M. S. Weaver. Dear bet

I take the opportunity this evening to drop you a fiew lines to let you know about matters and things in general. the day we left home it rained on us from Asheville to Mr. Moors and you may guess we was pretty wet, but Mr. Moor was very kind and soon had us dryed. the next day we landed safe and Monday morning I went to the school house accompanied by Mr. Lee Gash. I soon set things bout and gave the children their lessons and went on finely that week. friday they moved to their new house and we just live in splendor myself and Mary Younge hase a large room upstairs that we keep in order you may know, and on saturday Miss Maria Woodfin and her brother and Elizabeth Paton came to visit us and that knight we all went up to mr pattons and next day to singing. that knight we all come down to uncle gashes. we had a fine knight to be shure. monday morning I had to leave them and go to my little flock, me and captain killian went down to the chapple 12 miles below uncle gashes to a yr meeting returned a sunday we had a verry dry time I thought. this week there is a large meeting at Davidson's river I expect to attendmyself if it quits raining in time. I enjoy myself extremely well. I am very well satisfied with my employment. my school encreses every week. I had sixteen or seventeen scholars today. the people are verry good to me indeed they go and cut wood for me that is the gentlemen. It appears to me they do everything they can to make me happy and I am just as happy as I can be in this world. I have just as mutch snuff as I want and everything else that is good. Aunt Margaret always has something prepared for us when we come home of an evening, our family is verry large at this time there is fuor boarders besides myself, two Mr. Youngs and two of alfred Gashes children. there is some of my children studying geography and kneedle-work.

I reckon you would like to know what aunt is doing since she has moved. she about to make a carpet, she verry faithful about tacking rages together and nurses occasionally and uncle Gash has been very faithful in cleaning off his yard and setting out shade trees. has set out twenty locuses and a flower bush or two and is now building a negro house.

tell mother not to spend no unessiness about me for it is verry uncertain when I shall be at home. I do not know at this time but my school will last longer than three months. tell pappa I would like for him to get me a pair of shoes made and send them by lee for mine is no a count at all tell him if he pleases to have it done and I will think a power of him for it.

aunt Margaret says for you to get on a horse and come and see her and it will cure you and quit rubing snuff and ride about a good eal. I will now tell you about killian and Jane. I do not believe he has any intention of marrying her at this time. he has never been there since I came here. If I dare tell you somethings I would but I dare not. Tell aunt hannah some of her fortune has come to pass. Do turn a cup for me and write me what it is. it is a getting late Mary Young is settin by me a getting her lessons. I must quit writing I want you to write to me all about everything. Uncle Davy, mary, and tone and tell me whether phebe has her colt or not and what is it. whether Malayna has gone or not tell billy and torply I have not tome to write to them now, but I will. tell Jesse to try and get him a wife, give my love to all the family black and white. tell Sousa to take good care of my child. give my love to grand mother. no more at present, but remains yours truly.

—Saphronia Weaver.

Free Will Baptist

Subject for the 11 a.m. sermon next Sunday morning will be "The Light of the Cross." The Rev. Wayne Smith will speak on "The Greatest of All Gifts" at the evening service.

Move From Buncombe Co. To Arkansaw 1870

From an old collection of letters, an author could write a most fascinating account of the life of Saphronia Weaver. Letters from her to Elizabeth Weaver Gash date from the 1830's to 1880's. Earlier letters tell of experiences as a school teacher and in 1870 of the wagon trip to Arkansas. Many letters describe early life in that section. Saphronia was virtually a walking Chamber of Commerce for the state of Arkansas.

Beginning with this issue, a letter written by Jas. J. McElroy, husband of Saphronia Weaver, tells of the wagon trip as the family are making camp. Note the changes time has wrought in the toll gates and ferries. Extremely interesting is the description given to foreigners. Apparently this was the first time they had seen foreigners, which seem to be Japanese or Chinese, from the account given.

This trek was made from Buncombe county.

In the second letter below aphronia writes to the home folks in March of 1871, describing their arrival at Bellefonte, Ark. Describing the singing around the camp fires is certainly reminescent of moving pictures and TV plays so popular of the old west.

Nov. 6th 1870 to B. S. and Lizza Gash. Dier Brother and Sister. I thought as we was lying by in camp I would write you a fiew lines to let you know we are still alive. We are now in Illinois within five miles of the Mississippi River. When we cross that we will be in the Misouri. We have been well all the time and Saphonia says she never enjoyed herself so well in all her life. We have fine weather except a few days. It has rained on us. we traveled over three hundred miles by ourselves. we have got with a Mister Stone from White County, Tenn., and he seems to be very clever felow and his wife is mity smart woman. They are going to the same country, that we are and them and us both wanted company so we will travel together. I have been mutch disapointed in the country that we have come through. Southern Ky. is so hilly and rocky and Illinois is the hilliest country and the heaviest timber you ever seen. the largest oaks and poplers four and five feet through and elms and hickrys two and three feet through. But water scarse and sorry land inclines to wash more than Ky. or Tennessee. I bought some of the finest fish in Galconda on the Ohio River that weighed ten and twelve pounds.

I wanted Saphronia to write this page but she says she cant write on her knees, but says tell you that we have been passing through the world of change. Says some of the people their eyes covered their face. Some so small that you could hardly see them. Some put in corner ways and of all shapes and fashions. Trees baring goards and all sorts of quare things, and we hav passed through tole gate tel they become as familiar as household words. I think we have passed twenty gate and five ferries. it cost me 6 dollars to cross the Ohio. the gats and ferries has cost me more than the feeding of the mules. Saphronia says she will write as soon as she gets settled and then we will look for letters from you. Give my respects to all our friends. If we have any and if not friends the may go as Wards ducks went. So farewell. Jas. J. McElroy.

Arrival In 1871.

March the 12th 1871. From M. S. McElroy.

received your letter last thursday wich gave me great pleasure to think you had not forgotten us. I had almost come to the conclusion that all my relations had forgotten me. we have written a great many letters back to that country. yours and one from bill Garrison is all we got as yet. I looked for one from bob and brother john but it is no use I recon. Mr. McElroy wrote to you every week on the road to let you know how we was getting on. I would like to know if any one he wrote to you just before we crossed the great Mississipi and mailed it in old Jackson, Missouri reached you. my journey here was the most delightful thing I ever encountered with in all my life. we would stop late in the evening build our camp fire—spread our tent eat our supper then the children would sing their old sabbath school songs til bed time, it was at most like camp meeting of a knight. after we got with company to see the tents spread around and hear them sing so delightful in the still of the knight. I stood the journey well I felt better when we landed at bellefonte then I had for years before.

we drove up to town the gentlemen came flocking out to the wagons. insisted we should stop here. Dr. Robison said it was so healthy here and he had land to sell or rent. we are on his land at the present. we will stay here this summer. thare is good watter close to the house.

Mr. McElroy has traveled four or five hundred miles since we landed at bellefonte to look at the country. in the first place he went almost to the indian nation through this state then he went to springfield, Missouri. he came home and bought a farm one half mile from town. we will move to it this fall. we had rented this place. the boys had bin at work here before he bought. he has got renters on his farm.

you wanted to know the modes and customs of our people. i will try to tell you as nigh the trouth as I can. the ladies fashions here are like the fashion there. the gentlemen the same as thare. we have not got out of the world as to society. it is much better here than where I come from or whare you live either. I was disapointed myself, the people are kind and they are not so selfish as they are thare. I live in hailing distance of three families al refinned folks. some of them gets watter from our well. I wish you could see our country and people. they are generaly wealthy. thare is one family to my knowledge that can be got to do a days washing and they have property plenty. as to the schools we have good schools close to us. I expect to start nannie in short time to go all summer. the high school is going on at bellefonte in the masonic hall. they are going to build a fine colledge at bellefonte, thirteen thousand to built it. I think I can school my children much easier here than I could thare. my settlement is a good methodist one we will have a quartlemeeting near us in a short time. you have no idea how glod i would be to see brother john at that place and hear him preach, but alas I shall never hear his voice this side the river Jordan. tell john weaver to write to us, we have written him but gets no answer. our letters shurly dont reach you or why are they so careless.

You spoke about going to the old mansion the place of our childhood and the graves of the sainted dead. my mind often wanders to that place. When you go thare go to Walters grave look at it for me I shall never behold it no more.

Horace says I must tell you we have a fine cookin stove, goods of all sorts are about the same as thare. our stove cost 27 dollars in springfield. I msut quit for this time.

Martha Lunsford and James Bridges Marry

Miss Martha Ellen Lunsford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Lunsford of Emma, became the bride of James Fay Bridges, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Bridges, Swannanoa, Monday, Sept. 24.

The ceremony was performed in Greenville, S. C.

Mrs. Lunsford attended the Emma High school. Mr. Bridges attended Swannanoa High school and at present is employed by the Swannanoa Cab company. They are making their home with Mr. and Mrs. Lynol Gragg.

Dr. and Mrs. Bates Honored

The Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist church gave a covered dish supper Wednesday night, Sept. 25, in honor of Dr. and Mrs. C. W. Bates, who have served so well in their capacity as minister and helper in the Methodist church for the past two years.

Sixty-five were present in the Fellowship room at the church for the occasion commemorating Dr. Bates' retirement, which seems after all only partial retirement. Dr. Bates will serve as supply minister to the Burnsville circuit of Methodist churches.

Following the supper Ted Smith on behalf of the congregation, presented the Rev. Mr. Bates with a gift. Mrs. Bates, teacher of the Mary Shuford Sunday School class, was presented a gift by the class. Mrs. Pearl Jarrett made the presentation.

An address was made by Dr. Bates, in which he told of his enjoyment of the fellowship during the time he had been here. Everyone was invited to visit the Bates' new home in Weaverville, the "Shack."

A great deal of planning, time, enthusiasm, and love, has gone into the Bates' new home in Weaverville, and the congregation and friends here rejoice with them in their new-found happiness.

The Rev. Mr. Ratchford, Yadkinville, N. C., will replace Dr. Bates. His first sermon will be Sunday, Sept. 30.

Presbyterian Men

Men of the Presbyterian church had a stimulating program at their meeting Monday night, Sept. 24. "The Legacy of Woodrow Wilson," was the subject. Ellis Vaught reported on Woodrow Wilson as an educator. Bill McMurray told of Wilson as a Christian. Talmadge Burnette discussed Wilson as a statesman.

September's meeting opened with prayer led by Lester Connelly, with scripture read by John Brown. Dr. Clapp presided, a report of the meeting of Presbytery at Waynesville.

During the business session the purchase of the new bus for the Mountain Orphanage was discussed with the decision being made for next month's collection to be applied toward payment of the bus.

Attending were Paul Young, Charlie Porter, Fred Davidson, Lester Connelly, Charlie Nichols, Dr. Clapp, Bill McMurray, Ellis Vaught, G. B. Talbot, William Gettis, Paul Patton, Talmadge Burnette, Norman Freeman, W. J. Freeman, E. N. Howell.

Methodist

New officers have been elected to serve in the Methodist Sunday school class taught by Mrs. Sidney Croy, with Mrs. Ed Layne assisting. They are president, Claude Swann; vice-president, J. V. Brigman; secretary, Mrs. Kenny Woods; treasurer, Kenny Woods.

American Home

Members of the American Home department of the Woman's club assembled in the home of Mrs. Bessie Carr, Black Mountain, Monday night, Sept. 24, for their scheduled monthly meeting.

Mrs. Roy Russell presided over business as well as introducing Mrs. W. O. Swiggett, who spoke briefly about adult help in various Girl Scout troops. Girl Scouts need adults to help with leadership, to serve on committees, and women with skills in the following fields: arts and crafts, literature and dramatics, music and dancing, nature and games, agriculture, sports and games, home making, health and safety, and citizenship here and abroad. Mrs. Swiggett asked members to share their hobbies as well as help the scouts with their proficiency badge mentioned above.

Mrs. Carr introduced Mrs. Louis Carmichael, who demonstrated how to cover coat hangers with plastic craftstrip. Each member and guest was given a coat hanger to cover with craftstrip. As a favor each person took home a coat hanger. Social hour and refreshments followed.

Present as guests were Mrs. Arthur Ray Cannon, Miss Lynette Kelly, Mrs. W. O. Swiggett, Mrs. A. B. Whitt, Mrs. Louise Carmichael, Mrs. Robert York. Members present were Mrs. William Blaine, Mrs. Charles Hogsed, Mrs. John Kelly, Mrs. Howard Lewis, Mrs. S. R. Neskaug, Mrs. Charles Porter, Mrs. Roy Russell, Mrs. Arnold Buckner, Mrs. Maurice Jones, Mrs. Carr.

Homecoming

Last Sunday saw another memorable occasion, the annual celebration of homecoming following church service, at the Presbyterian church. As always the long tables were laden with food, all so appetizingly prepared, that one has a hard decision to make in his selection of foods.

Several former members, friends and guests were on hand. Mrs. V. J. Howell, who had been away for sometime due to illness was present. Mr. and Mrs. York, Fletcher, parents of Mrs. Arnold Buckner, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, Asheville, Mrs. Fred Davidson, Arthur Radcliffe, and Miss Lela Jenkins. Believed to have the largest family of brothers and sisters present was Mrs. W. B. Stone. whose brother, H. E. Young, and sisters, Miss Georgia Young, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Praytor, and Mrs. Eckles, attended.

Those who made arrangements were Mrs. Eugene Loven, Mrs. A. B. Whitt, and Miss Elizabeth Davidson.

Personals

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Tolley had as their guest John McCay from Washington, D. C. He was en route to Florida.

Mrs. Bill Brown, who has been a hospital patient, is doing nicely at home this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Nichols were guests last week of the Harold Nichols family.

James Bright, son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Bright, has returned to Clemson college for his senior year.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Bennett spent Sunday visiting relatives in Glenwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nichols, Swannanoa, and Mrs. Ethel Connor, Kings Mountain, attended the Davis family reunion in Cleveland, Tenn., last week-end.

Fred Nichols, Jr., Cullowhee, spent some time recently with his parents and friends.

S. W. Briggs has not been very well at home this week.

Mrs. Cecil Harris has returned following a wonderful trip to San Diego, Calif., where she visited a brother, Hugh Bridges.

J. R. Sibbett observed a birthday Sept. 30.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Plemmons observed their second wedding anniversary Sept. 28.

Mrs. Margaret Breedlove, Black Mountain, was a guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Roberts.

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Robertson, and Mr. and Mrs. John Padgett visited last week-end in Rutherfordton with Mr. and Mrs. Forest Roper, and Miss Messie White, who is a cousin of Mrs. Robertson's and is active at 91 years of age.

Harold Moore is improving at home following a seige of illness at which time he was hospitalized in Duke hospital, Durham.

Jimmy Pruitt, Darlington, S. C., grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pruitt, is reported improving from a serious motorcycle accident.

Mrs. Charles Stafford is a patient in St. Joseph's hospital where she is taking treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Register, Jr., of Durham, N. C., spent the week-end with Mrs. Register's parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Wayne Smith.

Friends and relatives honored the Rev. Wayne Smith with a

Mrs. Dixon Connelly was accompanied by Mrs. Yancey Fortune on a visit to Dublin, Ga., where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Grant last week.

Miss Ann Lindholm, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lindholm, Rainbow Ridge road, is president of Fine Arts club, and has recently been elected treasurer of the senior class at Dana college, Blair, Neb.

Mrs. Nancy Whitaker, who is 95 years old, held open house and dinner for friends and relatives last Sunday. Mrs. Whitaker has not been away from home since 1948 when she went out to vote.

—A recent survey shows most people save for the proverbial "rainy day." In the past few years, however, more and more people save with positive objectives in mind, such as buying homes and durable goods or providing for retirement.

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The Black Mountain News

FINER FARMS WINNERS!

In the annual Finer Farms contest sponsored by C P & L Co. in its service area, these communities were judged "Carolina's Finest"—based on Soil and Water conservation practices. Whether or not your community won a cash price it most certainly was not a loser, because conservation practices pay their own way and earn a profit. So, to every individual or community entered in the contest, our hearty congratulations.

1st Prize, $350, North Wendell, Wake Co., N. C., Joe Alphin, Chairman
2nd Prize, $250, Olive Chapel, Wake Co., N. C., L. J. Clark, Chairman
3rd Prize, $150, Dawson, Halifax Co., N. C., L. G. Barnhill, Chairman
3rd Prize, $150, Holly Springs-Wilbon, Wake Co., N. C., Garland Powell, Chm.

AND $50 "SUPERIOR RESULTS" AWARDS TO THESE COMMUNITIES:

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Brush Creek	Yancey, N. C.	John M. Randolph
Mechanicsville	Darlington, S. C.	Mrs. W. E Dargan
Sandy Creek	Vance, N. C.	R. C. Daniel
Lynches River	Darlington, S. C.	R. C. Scarborough
Lake Swamp	Darlington S. C.	Otto Davis
Mont Clare	Darlington, S. C.	R. G. Donald Jr.
Red Oak	Buncombe, N. C.	R. B. Thompson
Jordan Creek	Orange, N. C.	Vollie Tapp
Jacks Creek	Yancey N C.	Bruce Bailey
Hannahs Creek	Johnston, N. C.	Hunter J Woodall
Kelleytown	Darlington, S. C.	A. L. Segars
Cane Creek	Buncombe, N. C.	Carter Tweed
Keener	Sampson, N. C.	James Floyd
Bonlee	Chatham, N. C.	W. D. Wilson
Avery Creek	Buncombe, N. C.	R. Fred Reeves

TO COUNTY BOARDS of Soil Conservation Supervisors for best results with their communities.

1st Prize, $250, Wake County, North Carolina
2nd Prize, $150, Darlington County, South Carolina
3rd Prize, $100, Buncombe County, North Carolina

FOR GUIDING to victory the top-scoring communities, the following prizes to Soil Conservation Supervisors.

1st Prize, $175, Alvin Wilson (Dawson Community)
2nd Prize, $150, Marsh Knott (North Wendell Community)
3rd Prize, $100, B. O. Holland (Holly-Springs-Wilbon Community)
4th Prize, $75, L. O. Page (Olive Chapel Community)

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