

## Age Hasn't Dimmed Aunt Vet's Hopes

On Sat., Aug. 13, 1887, good watches sold for \$2.50.

The Republican State Committee at Richmond, Va. claimed the Democrats were inconsistent in their declaration of favoring abolition of the IRS while supporting President Grover Cleveland's administration which opposed that line of policy.

The leader of a Texas gang of desperadoes known as the "Fence Rangers" had been captured and was in jail.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets and Ayers Pills "cured" people and Dr. McLean's volcanic Oil Liniment "cured" livestock.

The Methodist-Episcopal Sunday School Convention met at New Hope Church in Chester, S. C.

And, Novella Randall Herndon was born in Kings Mountain, North Carolina.

"Aunt Vet," as Mrs. Herndon is affectionately known to her relatives, was surprised by a special birthday celebration at David Baptist Church Friday, Aug. 5, during the Senior Citizens monthly luncheon meeting.

Honoring Mrs. Herndon was her grand-nephew, Jack Owens, who was born on her birthday 41 years ago. Jack and his family presented Mrs. Herndon with a pink cake decorated with pink candles in the shape of the numerals, "1887", a scroll with facts about Aug. 13, 1887, and a white orchid, which was removed and given to Mrs. Herndon to wear. She was also

presented a copy of the front page of "The Charlotte Chronicle" dated Aug. 13, 1887 and a framed tribute written by Joan Owens and read by Mrs. Max Bolin, coordinator of the Senior Citizens activities at David Church.

Novella Randall Herndon's parents, Pinkney Elec Randall and Susan Elizabeth Whisnant Randall, lived in Oak Grove near the present Woodbridge Community. There Mrs. Herndon, along with her sisters, Rettle, Beth, Minnie, Pinkie Lee, Addie, Bernice and brother, Alec, were born and raised. The Randall family came to Kings Mountain in 1865 from Knox Creek near Belwood. The Whisnants, David and Martha Elizabeth Collins Whisnant, who were married in the early 1850's, also lived in Oak Grove, according to Mrs. Herndon's niece, Mrs. Flora Herndon Ledford.

Novella Randall married Floyd Herndon on Dec. 13, 1909 and they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1959. They enjoyed a long and full life together until his death.

Mrs. Herndon's children, Lamar, and Lexie (Mrs. Hugh) Dover, are residents of Kings Mountain. She has two grandchildren, Paul and Troy Dover and three great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Herndon gardens, cooks, cans, dries fruit and does needlework. Gifts of yarn are returned in the form of finished needlework. She also enjoys traveling. This summer she went

to Texas and in 1975 on a Florida trip she wore shorts for the first time.

Age has not dimmed the joy this lady gives to those around her.

The present generation of children love to go to her house just like their parents and grandparents. One of her great-grand nephews has named his cat, "Aunt Vet." He and her great grandson plan to go to live with "Aunt Vet" in about eight years when they are 16. They think she might need their help on the farm.

Flora Herndon Ledford remembers how "Aunt Vet" always had the Easter Egg Hunt for her class at school. Betty Lynn played at "Aunt Vet's" and later her daughter, Sandi, enjoyed "spending the night." Nieces and nephews recall how she was never too busy to go fishing or play games or wander down to the creek with them.

The children love "Aunt Vet's" exclamation, "Aw, shut up" and "I'm gonna give it up," meaning, "you don't say."

Every year on her birthday, Aunt Vet reminds the family that she may not be here another year. One little great-grand niece said that "when Aunt Vet is ready, she'll just laugh and slap her leg and say, Well, I'm gonna give it up" and go quietly home. She does not appear to be "homesick" yet, it is observed.

Says her grand-niece, Joan Thomasson Owens, "Aunt Vet is a dear and precious gift to all



Photo By Lib Stewart

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY AUNT VET** — Mrs. Novella Herndon was surprised on her 90th birthday Friday during the Senior Citizens Club meeting at David Baptist Church by her grand nephew and his family. Pictured with Mrs.

Herndon are her grand-nephew, Jack Owens, and son, Luke, age eight, and Keia, age 10. The family will honor Mrs. Herndon this Saturday evening at a birthday dinner at Bethlehem Baptist Church.

who know her. If she was put on earth to make others happy, she is surely doing her job.

The Herndon family appreciate her and honor her at every occasion. On Saturday

they will gather at Bethlehem Baptist Church, where she is a member, for a covered dish birthday party at 7 p. m.

There have been others like "Aunt Vet," for surely when the

writer of Proverbs wrote, "Her children rise up and call her blessed, "and many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." He had someone just like her in mind.

## Joyce Bolin Filled A Need And Bought Joy To Elderly

When Joyce (Mrs. Max) Bolin organized the Senior Citizens Club at David Baptist Church nearly four years ago with 18 members she realized a need for the program but didn't dream of the joy it would bring to those participating.

Now, the program includes 40 active senior citizens from six area churches who meet together once a month for covered dish luncheon, educational programs, entertainment and group outings.

Joyce arranges the meeting date on her day off from work at Fiber Industries where she has worked for 10 years.

Some of the club's favorite trips were to the Capitol at Raleigh where they were guests of KM Senator J. Ollie Harris; to Old Salem at Winston Salem; to the mountains and they plan an overnight trip this Fall.



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They share their crocheting, knitting, crafts, hobbies, and have devoted several "fun" programs to reminiscing on "the good old days" and invited their grandchildren to perform.

Mrs. Hester Bolin, Joyce's mother-in-law, quilted a quilt and proceeds from the quilt will finance the Fall trip.

"Aunt Sally" Harmon, one of the regular members of the club, says she wouldn't miss a meeting.

And the other members echo her statement that "we're living in the good old days now."

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It's a picnic.

Members of the Good Earth Garden Club and their husbands will gather at Lake Montonia Club on Sunday, Aug. 14 for a picnic-style supper and activities including tennis, volleyball, swimming, backgammon and pingpong.

Hamburgers will be furnished by the club and each club member is asked to bring a side dish or dessert, a beverage and a blanket to sit on.

Good times will be enjoyed by all from 4 p. m. until dark.



No matter how old you are, ice cream tastes great



Mrs. Bolin stops to chat with senior citizens



Mrs. Joyce Bolin and helper prepare ice cream for the 40 senior citizens at David Baptist Church