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JOHNSTON LETTER.

Splendid Report of W. M. U. of Ridge Association. Beautiful Church Wedding Watkins-Galphin.

The annual meeting of the W. M. U. Ridge association held last Thursday and Friday with Red Bank church, Saluda, there being delegates from nearly all the societies represented. The handsome new brick church where the services were held, is well planned and the meetings were more enjoyable by having such a beautiful house of worship to gather in. The people of Saluda were hospitable, kind and thoughtful and automobiles transported the delegates back and forth during the services, and delightful rides in the new town were enjoyed. Two of the state officers were present at the meeting, Mrs. W. J. Hatcher, state president W. M. U., and Mrs. Mamie Tillman, vice president, western division. The union president, Mrs. Alvin Etheredge, presided over the meetings with ease and dignity and it was a great pleasure to all to see her as sickness has prevented her from being present for two years. Miss Leila Ataway, the faithful secretary and treasurer was at her post. The programs of both days were very full and the reports from the various societies, auxiliaries, R. A.'s and bands were interesting. The Johnston Sunbeam Band, under the guidance of Mrs. W. J. Hatcher is still the banner band having given during the year, \$123. The guest of honor was Mrs. Lawton, of China, who on Thursday gave a heart to heart talk, and after the service exhibited many Chinese articles. On Thursday evening, Rev. Murray, of Ridge Baptist church preached a forceful sermon, and Mrs. Lawton again made an interesting talk.

The officers for the coming year will be superintendent, Mrs. Alvin Etheredge; president, Miss Sallie May Burton, of Batesburg; secretary and treasurer, Miss Leila Ataway; president Y. W. A. was Mrs. McKirrick, of Good Hope, who is a recent graduate of the training school at Louisville, Ky.; R. A. leader, Mrs. P. C. Stevens, and Sunbeam band leader, Mrs. W. J. Hatcher.

The union will be held with the Johnston church next year. Those from here who attended the convention, were Mesdames P C Stevens, L C Latimer, W J Hatcher, Lizzie Crim Viola Herlong, J C Barnes, J M Wright and Misses Beulah Sawyer, Martha Watson, Mary Edwards, Zena Payne, Bessie Ford Turner, Mary Waters, Loisa Watson, Corbel Stevens and John Barnes, Jeff Wright and James Johnson.

A wedding that was beautiful in every detail was that of Miss Emma Johnson Watkins, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Watkins, and Mr. George Galphin, of Ninety Six, the affair taking place in the Baptist church on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock, the Rev. S. Perrin Cogburn, of Hampton, officiating. The interior of the church was made more beautiful with ferns and palms and the only color used, was in the tall vases of pink roses. Previous to the ceremony, a musical program was rendered by Mr. Fred Parker, Jr., and Lohengrin's wedding march announced the approach of the bridal party, and the ribbons were taken up by little Miss Christine Lowry and Elliot Lewis, the ushers, Messrs. Wille Lee Wright, A. B. Lott, Grady Satcher and Frank Kenny. There were 12 maids and groomsmen who entered in the following order: Miss Annie Crouch with Mr. F. C. Devore, Miss Helen Lewis with Mr. J. R. Horn, Miss Frances Andrews with Mr. Archie Lewis, Miss Eula Satcher with Mr. Walker Mobley, Miss Mary Lucia Mobley with Mr. Robert Kenny, Miss Antoinette Denny with Mr. Stanton Lott, Miss Elise Mobley with Mr. G. Platts, Miss Elizabeth Beckham with Mr. J. F. Crouch, Miss Pauline Lewis with Mr. William Watson, Miss Elberta Bland with Mr. Wallace Turner, Miss Lottie Bean with Mr. W. L. Smith. The bride entered with Miss Galphin, a sister of the groom, and the groom was attended by Mr. Claud Watkins, a brother of the bride. The bride wore a

light tan broadcloth coat suit, with each detail of her toilet harmonizing, and carried a shower bouquet of bride's roses. The maids wore pure white, with white picture hats and carried ferns tied with tulle, and the groomsmen each wore a white carnation. Immediately following the ceremony the happy pair left for a visit to Knoxville, Tenn., amid showers of rice and good wishes. As the train rolled away, the bride tossed her bouquet from the rear of the car and it was caught by Miss Elberta Bland.

On the evening previous to the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Watkins entertained the bridal party and other invited guests with a reception, and the occasion was a bright and happy one. The home was prettily decorated in southern-smilax and flowers, and sweet music was enjoyed during the entire time. Mesdames Walter Sawyer and Clara Lowrey welcomed the guests and as they entered they registered their names in the bride's book held by Misses Lottie Bean and Elizabeth Beckham. The receiving line stood within the parlor and Miss Zena Payne introduced the guests to them. They passed from the parlors into the hall, where a huge punch bowl, presided over by Misses Frances and Bessie Ford Turner, Marie Lewis and Nelle Beckham, drew all to this corner to enjoy the beverage. Later in the evening a wedding feast was served and the bride's table was very attractive. The cover was of lace over pink with chandelabrae with pink and white lights. The bride's cake, iced in pink and white occupied the center and was cut by the young ladies, the ring falling to Miss Galphin, the thimble to Miss Helen Lewis, the dime to Miss Antoinette Denny and the button to Miss Pauline Lewis.

Sunday September 14th, will be Rally Day with the Baptist Sunday school, and a special program will be arranged and invitations sent out. The superintendent earnestly desires that there will be a very large attendance, and it is hoped the number will reach 300.

Those from here who attended the Sunday school convention at Wards were Dr. King, Messrs. W. L. Coleman and J. P. Hoyt and Mrs. A. P. Lewis and Miss Josephine Mobley.

Mrs. E. G. Rodgers and Miss Willie Bell, of Augusta, have been visiting Mrs. Goodyear.

Mrs. Mamie Scott Shaffer will leave in a few days for Greenwood to take the same position in the Bailey Military Institute, that she occupied at Edgefield while the S. C. C. I. was in session.

Mrs. H. W. Crouch and Miss Elise Crouch returned on Saturday morning from Greenwood, after a two week's visit to the former's sister, Mrs. Taylor Goodwyn.

Preston Wright, of Toledo, Ohio has been the guest of his sister, Mrs. Wiley Derrick.

Mr. P. N. Lott spent last week in the eastern part of the state conducting a farmer's institute. Miss Lottie Bean gave a miscellaneous shower on Tuesday afternoon of last week for Miss Emma Watkins, whose marriage was the chief social event of the latter part of the week. The means of entertainment was a bride puzzle and Miss Elberta Bland made the most successful picture and received the prize, a bouquet of flowers tied with the colors of the afternoon. The shower gifts were varied and they were presented in a very novel manner. Lues with a variety of cake was served during the latter part of the time.

Miss Watkins, the bride-elect, was again honored with a towel shower on Wednesday morning, the affair being held with one of the members, Miss Frances Andrews. Progressive Rook was enjoyed and a delightful luncheon was served.

On Thursday afternoon, the Philathea class gave a joint handkerchief shower for Misses Andrews and Watkins, the occasion being held in the home of the president of class, Mrs. Edwin Mrs. Mobley. There are 25 in the class, and the parlor was filled with a band of beautiful and happy young ladies. A contest was arranged, and the gift was a hand embroidered handkerchief, which Miss Watkins won. The shower gifts were dainty and a number of them the work of the members. Delicious refreshments

were served. Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Mobley will leave Thursday for Auburndale, Fla., to take up their abode at their home there.

Washington a Unique City.

Washington is absolutely unique among the cities of the United States. It is the most American, because its population is made up of people from all the states, and not American at all, for the reason that its residents cannot vote. It is the most cosmopolitan, because representatives of all other nations dwell in it yet it has no foreign quarters. Washington's greatest industry is government, and its greatest product is politics, but the issues are all national! And it is the most beautiful city in the United States, and is claimed by many authorities to have no peer in the world. There are more shade trees in Washington than any other city in the world. It has 92,000 beautiful trees, with a population of 330,000. The city has 275 little parks, less than one acre in size. There are ten large parks the largest being the Mall, reaching from the Botanical garden, at the foot of capital Hill, to the Washington monument, a distance of three fourths of a mile. The crowning of the park system are the Rock Creek park and the Zoological park, which are practically one, and have a combined area of 1,776 acres. More negroes live in Washington than in any other city. The Washington monument is the most imposing memorial ever raised by man to the memory of a leader of men. The capitol and dome soaring above the clouds is crowned with the emblem of freedom, that symbolizes the highest national attainments of the human race. This great government of ours is a builder. It can construct anything from a gau that will hurl two thirds of a ton of steel a distance of fifteen miles, to a pair of scales so delicate that the balance will turn sharply under the weight of a millionth part of a grain. It performs functions ranging from diplomatic affairs to the driving of mules, from making maps to feeding hogs; from coining money to making ice cream; from digging canals to flying kites. The service of a half million men and women, and at a cost of more than a billion dollars a year is required to keep this huge machine going. This is a great country, as well as a great government. Having only one sixteenth of the world's population, the United States has one fourth of its wealth, owns a third of its railroads, distributes a third of its mail, wields a third of its banking power, and prints more than half of its newspapers and magazines. Having only one twentieth of the landed area of the civilized world, the United States produces one fifth of its wheat, one third of its coal, one fourth of its gold, one of its manufactured wares, nearly one half of its steel, more than half of its petroleum, nearly two thirds of its cotton, and four fifths of its corn. It is the land of plenty, for it is the only country on earth excepting some of the British colonies where an ordinary laboring man may eat meat every day if he wants it. This is the greatest republic on earth, how the president, congress and officers of the government, protects this nation against foreign foes, safeguards the public health, and administers, its laws to preserve peace at home.

The president of the United States is the foremost ruler of the world. He is not a ruler by accident or birth, but by virtue of the will of 90,000,000 of people, who fight the world's greatest political battles every four years for his selection; and they willingly and fully acquiesce in the verdict of the ballot box. Washington has no factories, no smoke in the city, all trains run underground. The great brass eagles at the union depot with outstretched wings fifty feet high watching the capital is very significant and one can easily read the meaning. Now I will tell of the cat at the Washington monument, and the curtain falls. My guide told me that when the monument was 455 feet high the builders had a cat up there with them and from some cause it jumped off and hit the ground running, but a dog caught the cat and killed it. I said, Bud I believe what you say, but I never would tell that cat tale again.

J. Russell Wright

CONVENTION AT ANTIOCH.

The Ninth Annual Convention of The Woman's Missionary Union Was Very Great Success.

The ninth session of the Woman's Missionary Union of Edgefield association convened in their annual session on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week August 26 and 27.

This meeting has been fully advertised for several months and more, as it was expected at this meeting to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the organization of the W. M. U. of the southern states. Although a large representation was expected, it was a marvel to see the throng of women from all over Edgefield county, hundreds of them, so that they could not find room in the church although it is large and spacious. The numbers on Wednesday exceeded by several hundred those of Tuesday.

The first session was called to order on Tuesday morning by the superintendent, Mrs. J. L. Mims, and an intercessory service was conducted by Mrs. M. D. Jeffries, president of the Edgefield society. The words of welcome were unusually hearty and beautifully expressed by Mrs. L. R. Brunson of the Antioch society. The response was made by Mrs. F. P. Rush of Bold Springs, one of the most faithful and devoted workers of the association. She expressed the views of those for whom she spoke exactly as they wished them to be spoken, and we all felt like one family of christian workers when these two had finished.

The roll of societies and reports were called, to which every society in the association responded. After this Mrs. J. L. Mims made her annual report.

Miss Josie Sheppard in a very attractive manner told "What is done with the money contributed to the Bible fund of the S. S. Board." "For what is our Home Mission contribution used" was splendidly explained by Mrs. W. E. Lott. "Our part in Foreign Missions for next year" was presented by Mrs. F. R. Fizer the corresponding secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union who had honored this jubilate celebration by her presence.

The raising of apportionments was discussed, and Mrs. B. N. Talbert of the Bethany society led a devotional service previous to adjournment for the lunch hour.

As the large throng of women poured out of the church, many of them said, "We do not see how this crowd can ever be served at dinner," but Mr. Littlejohn was there and all those wonderful helpers of his at Antioch. We would be afraid to mention one for some might be left out, and the whole community must certainly have done their best to serve such a bountiful dinner, and at the same time such a delightfully prepared meal. The pies were the climax, the best ever made. There were so many good friends to meet and talk to and they were all so kind and cordial that we would have been glad to linger longer around this regal board upon which a royal feast was spread, but promptly at the appointed hour, two-thirty the church began to fill again for the afternoon session.

Tuesday Afternoon.

This was especially intended for the profit of the Young Woman's Auxiliary, and Miss Mabelle Strom the superintendent called the meeting to order and Miss Ruth Tompkins conducted a short devotional service. Miss Strom then read the report of the Y. W. A. work for the year. This was followed by the Recommendations of the State Executive Board for Y. W. A. read by Miss Helen Tillman, and a well prepared report on the Training School by Miss Helen Siler.

Rev. J. D. Crain.

One of the most unique features of the programme was an address by Mr. J. Dean Crain one of the Mountain School Missionaries of the Home Board. This address was full of pathos and interspersed with humor and quaint expressions belonging to the mountains. Mr. Crain is an educated man and was president of the North Greenville

High School for two years. He evidently began his education late in life, and as he became inspired with his subject he would revert in speech and manner to the brogue and eccentricity of his mountaineer boyhood. The work specially committed to the Young Woman's Auxiliary is that of mountain schools, and this address was very appropriately chosen as an effective means of impressing the subject, and proved to be very successful.

Mrs. Fizer is an exceedingly attractive personality and good speaker. She presented the subject of "Personal Service, in a talk on Learning Loves Lesson."

Mrs. J. T. Griffin of the Red Oak Grove society made a splendid report on literature, and had done good service as chairman of this standing committee. She reported about sixty subscriptions to the Foreign Mission Journal, twenty-five to the Home Field and sixteen to the Mission Fields.

With the reading of the minutes by the efficient secretary, Mrs. Prescott Lyon, the afternoon session adjourned. When Miss Ellie Mims read the report of the hospitality committee which they had arranged so carefully and systematically, it seemed a marvel that all the guests were so comfortably and speedily provided for.

Wednesday Morning.

At 10 o'clock Wednesday morning the hour for opening, the church yard and grove across the road were already filled with people and vehicles of various kinds, wagons, buggies, carriages and automobiles which had come filled with women and children, and men as well to participate in the days enjoyment and work.

Mrs. P. R. Wates conducted the devotions "The Bible as our Guide," and Mrs. Fizer presented "The Standard of Excellence" to the societies.

The executive committee announced through Mrs. W. E. Lott that invitations had come from Bethany and Bethlehem societies. Bethany was selected as the next place of meeting, last week in August 1914, exact date to be announced later.

The nominating committee brought before the meeting the same names as officers, Mrs. J. L. Mims superintendent, Mrs. W. E. Lott vice-president, Mrs. Prescott Lyon, secretary, Mrs. Mary Wates, treasurer; Miss Mabelle Strom superintendent of Y. W. A.; Mrs. Mamie N. Tillman superintendent, Sunbeam bands, Mrs. W. B. Cogburn superintendent Royal Ambassadors.

Mrs. W. W. Lawton.

The convention was greatly inspired and touched by a most eloquent presentation of the mission work in interior China by Mrs. W. W. Lawton of Chengchow, now home on furlough, but very soon to set sail for the orient again. Mrs. Lawton told some very interesting and pathetic facts and incidents of their work in this interior province of old China, and greatly pleased the large audience. We were very sorry not to hear more from Mrs. Lawton and regret that her stay among us was so short. Mrs. Lawton was entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Lott while in Edgefield, Mr. Lawton and Mr. Lott having been students together at Furman University.

Young People's Societies.

At 11 o'clock the meeting was taken in charge by Mrs. Mamie N. Tillman who has charge of the Sunbeam work of the association. A number of societies, about twelve, were represented and made good reports. The society winning the banner for having first met their financial apportionment was the Red Hill sunbeam band. All the members present and their leader came up on the platform and were presented with this mark of distinction by Mrs. J. L. Mims. Our Royal Ambassador chapter under the leadership of Mrs. Cogburn of Edgefield was reported.

Mrs. Tillman made a very encouraging report of the years work, twelve Sunbeam bands organized and one hundred and twenty-five dollars raised. A very practical talk was made by Mrs. J. T. Littlejohn on "What should be the leader's aim in Sunbeam work?" Mrs. Littlejohn has been a very successful Sunbeam leader for a number of years, and her sugges-

tions were very much appreciated.

Mrs. Tillman said a few words on the topic instructive to leaders, "Missionary Memory Books" and Mrs. Thos. Lamb spoke of the development of Sunbeam officers. Miss Helen Dorn read a paper on "Where does the Sunbeam money go?" written by Miss Ruby Watson who was unable to be present, was read by Miss Helen Dorn. How Do South Carolina Sunbeams stand in the W. M. U. of the Southern Baptist convention, was explained and read from a large chart by Miss Ouida Pattison. Edwin Folk gave a splendid selection on African missions, distinguishing himself by his distinct interpretation of his subject.

Elizabeth Brunson, the pretty little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles O. Brunson of Antioch, gave a very appropriate selection in a clear and distinct voice.

A little play called "Mother Goose and Her Band as Mission Workers" in charge of Mrs. Prescott Lyon, Miss Leola Walker and Mrs. Donald Smith was interestingly given by the Antioch Sunbeam society. If we had all the names we would give them, but it was very good indeed, and showed that even the many children of Mother Goose are being transformed into mission workers. Miss May Roper read a well prepared paper on "Where Does the R. A. Money Go?" What was considered one of the best and most attractive numbers of the days programme was a paper by Mrs. W. S. Middleton of Clark's Hill on "Wearing the Helmet of Salvation." This was most appropriate to the Royal Ambassador work, and did good to all who heard it. The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Mrs. Mamie Walker of Modoc.

Wednesday Afternoon.

The lunch at the noon of the second day was fully as abundant and plentiful as on the first day, and was as much enjoyed. Ice tea on both days was very refreshing for the thirsty multitudes. The collection for expense fund was ten dollars. Immediately after partaking of the midday luncheon, all the societies began to gather under their respective banners in order to begin the processional. It was beautiful to see these long lines of christian women arrayed in white marching under the name of their society and so many of each society present to do honor to their name and to the name of Christ whom they serve. While it was beautiful, there were such crowds in the church and on the outside that it was impossible to carry out the program as originally intended. Another year we hope to use the banners in a very effective way at Bethany at the 10th anniversary of our associational organization.

As soon as all the Sunbeam societies Young Woman's Auxiliaries and Woman's societies had marched into the church and were seated, the one hundredth psalm was repeated in concert, and it was very inspiring to hear so many voices who had made this a part of themselves by memorizing it.

A sketch of Adoniram Judson was given by Miss Hortensia Woodson, very creditably spoken, and heard by the large audience. "How Firm a Foundation" was sung and an account of "Twenty-five years of Organized Missionary Work of Woman's Missionary Union" was very interestingly given by Mrs. F. R. Fizer.

Mrs. Shannonhouse and Miss Eliza Mims sang the beautiful duet specially arranged for these jubilate services, "Sing, ye women of the Southland." An original poem the composition of John Lake our missionary was read by Miss Florence Peak, and a few words of explanation in reference to the "History of Woman's mission societies in Edgefield association," were said by Mrs. J. L. Mims.

"The Jubilate Hymn" was sung as a solo by Mrs. Royal Shannonhouse. An exercise by the Y. W. A. called "Children of Light" in the costumes of different countries was much enjoyed.

The Jubilate collection amounting to \$5.50 was taken during the singing of "The Morning Light is Breaking." The meeting was closed by the singing of "Shall We Gather at the River" and a closing prayer

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