

Attic Antics

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A T T I C A N T I C S

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by

GEORGE MATTHIS CLASS
(The Class formerly in the Attic)

Concerning The Cover - Hildur Blake, EDITOR

The cover this month proclaims the triumphant message of the Resurrection. Not only do the lillies speak to us of beauth, purity, new life but from the most important of all books, God's Word, comes the testimony "You See Jesus of Nazareth. - He Is Risen!" This record which has come down to us for over 1900 years still brings joy and victory to all who with faith reply, "He Is Risen Indeed!"

George Matthis Class Attendance Report - Mayton Betts

March has been a good month for the George Matthis Class. As far as attendance is concerned; Since there is another Sunday to be considered at the time of this writing, we are unable to give a complete report on those with perfect attendance for the month. There are, however, several with such a record, and we are hoping that this select group will continue to grow.

George Matthis Class Welcomes New Members - Sara Harrison

The George Matthis Class has no new members to report for the month of March. However, we do want to clear up an error made in the March issue of this paper. We welcomed Gill Mayes and called him "Mayo"...Welcome Mr. Mayes.

George Matthis Class Elects Officers - Leonard Suitt

The annual election for all Class Officers of the George Matthis Class was held on March 13. The following were elected after a minimum of speech making and campaign promises:

President.....Frances Jarman
Vice President.....William McLeod
Secretary and Treasurer.....Maude Betts
Assistant Secretary and Treasurer.....Flora Woods

With such an able group of officers, it seems certain that the George Matthis Class will continue to grow and increase in service for the coming year.

George Matthis Class Has Party - Mayme Hampton

This party was such a success that it really should be written up by someone with much more writing ability than the writer can muster. Our party was held at the Church on Friday Night, March 13. The party was given mainly to honor Forrest - to tell him how much we have appreciated him in the past; how much we loathe to have him leave us now, and how happy we hope he'll be in the future.

The Class gave him a beautiful plaque; presented to him by Mr. Bennett, and let us not forget to give credit to our own Bob Blake for making it. To you people that weren't at the party and would like to know how much we do like Forrest, the plaque reads: (continued page two)

A Tribute to

Edwin Forrest Callahan, Jr.

In recognition of the illustrious progress that the George Matthis Class of the Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church has made under his leadership, the Officers, at the direction of the membership, presents this tribute of friendliness and appreciation to Edwin Forrest Callahan, Jr.

Wise teaching, loyalty and a seemingly endless store of energy were given generously by our teacher for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

The past accomplishments of the Class will stand forever as a living commemoration to this distinguished teacher.

George Matthis Class

Several of the class members were not present and we missed each one, especially Frances Jarman, who was in bed with "Flu" - too bad Frances, after you had been so much help with the party.

It was real nice to have Eloise in the crowd again and the corsage that was pinned on her was lovely and we are sure she liked it and enjoyed wearing it.

Flora Woods and Marian Kimes did a wonderful job arranging the tables and flowers, it all looked lovely, and the EATS were just as everyone wanted them, and plenty of everything for everyone, and each person seemed to enjoy himself just a little more than anyone else.

We were all real happy to have Mrs. Bennett enjoy the party with us, also Mr. Bennett and Mr. Phillips. Although, those two gentlemen with their beardless face did look odd amidst the "Brothers Of The Brush".... "Pete" Hampton got some real good pictures of his "Bearded Friends", whether he wanted to remember the party or is starting a "Rogues Gallery" we can't find out, but I do hope Tyree doesn't mind my laughing each time I look at his picture.

Sara and Ernie Harrison surprised us with the news of their leaving Durham. We hate to lose them, too, Sara has been so much help in our class, we hope they will be happy in their new home - our loss - Asheboro gain!

George Matthis Class Loses Valuable Members - Editor

It was with sincere regret that the George Matthis Class received the news of the departure of Sara and Ernest Harrison. Both have been valuable and hard working members. Sara served well as Class Secretary, and Ernie was always ready to help in any way possible. Neither made any great display of their good works, but both had that truly outstanding characteristic ... Dependability. We wish for them every success.

News from Hallie Pope Class - Editor

Unfortunately the Hallie Pope Class failed to give us a report on their activities for the month. It has been rumored that they, as a class, have not yet recovered from their gala party of last month.

News from George Watts Class - Fuller Walker

The George Watts Class continues to make progress. On March 22, we had 42 present, which is our best attendance for the month. We are still serving coffee and donuts, with an occasional switch to hot chocolate. (Editors Note...haven't these people heard of Lipton Tea?)

Our teaching staff has done a wonderful job, and since Spring is here, our activities should increase, along with an increase in attendance both at Sunday School and Church.

Officers have been elected for the new year and are as follows:

President.....Fuller Walker
Vice President.....Irwin Beavers
Secretary & Treasurer.....Jimmie Edgerton

The writer appreciates the confidence of the class in bestowing this honor on him, and we only hope that we can do as good a job as that done by the immediate Past President - Linwood Collins.

News From Young Adults Class - Betty Parks

This particular portion of Attic Antics has in the last three issues boiled down to nothing but birth announcements. Nevertheless, we are proud to announce the birth of two boys and a girl. Charlie and Helen Vail are the proud parents of Master Theodore Wakefield Vail. John and Sally McBryde being equally proud of their little John Malcolm McBryde. And Miss Mary Gwendolyn Robers is the two-weeks-old daughter of Betty and Elwood Roberts.

In the non-maternal portion of our class, James Lloyd has been elected Class President; Jack Wilson, Vice President; Betty Parks, Secretary; and Larry Noble, Treasurer.

From The Women Of The Church - Mrs. C. C. White, Jr.

The Women of Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church held their Annual Meeting March 9th., at 8:00 P.M. in the George Watts Bible Class Room, with 53 members present. Mrs. A. L. Foster, President called the meeting to order with the theme "We Continue To Knit Together In The Work Of Our Master."

Mrs. Robert Kirkland gave the devotion from the 13th Chapter of 1st Corinthians, followed by a solo by Mrs. H. L. Noell.

Rev. Wm. C. Bennett had charge of the installation service of the new officers and chairman.

The newly appointed Circle Chairman read the names of their circle members for the new year.

Mrs. Lee Kirkland closed the meeting with prayer.

Trained Leadership For God's Work - Charles R. Vail

God has given to each of us, on the average, more than one-half a million hours of life on this Earth. We can spend them as we will. I am inviting you to invest just 10 hours of your half-million in an enterprise that should yield untold returns to both God and you. I am inviting you to equip yourself to be a more capable and effective worker for Christ's Kingdom than you have ever been before -- or, perhaps, had ever though you could be. I am inviting you to attend the forthcoming Standard Leadership School which is described below.

If you already teach or hold office in the Church School, you realize the importance of improving your effectiveness. If you have held back from such activities because of a feeling of inadequacy you will welcome this opportunity to equip yourself for participation in this work. If you plan to attend, please notify the Registrar as soon as possible.

STANDARD LEADERSHIP SCHOOL
of the
Presbyterian Churches of Durham

DATES: April 20-24 (Monday through Friday), 1953.

PLACE: Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church

- COURSES:
1. The Purpose and Program Of The Church
Dr. Price H. Gwynn, Jr., Flora MacDonald College.
 2. Ways of Teaching - Mrs. Edward A. Schettler,
Knoxville, Tennessee.
 3. Selective Bible Study - Dr. Thomas A. Schafer,
Divinity School, Duke University.

CLASS PERIODS: Two 1-hour sessions each night, starting at 7:30 P.M.
Short worship service between sessions each night.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$1.50 per person. Paid by the Church school for those who are already teachers or officers.

REGISTRARS: Mrs. A. Bruce Umstead
J. C. Petrea

DEAN: Edward K. Kraybill

Each person who is enrolled selects and takes one of the three courses that are offered. A certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the course.

This School is being sponsored jointly by the six Presbyterian Churches of Durham through their Committees on Religious Education.

The opportunity is here: Will you use it?

News From The Departments - Grace Shaw

NURSERY - Elaine Ashe, Mayme K. Hampton, David Kirkland and Katherine Ann Mays joined the Nursery Department in March. We are so happy to have them as members of our Sunday School.

BEGINNERS - So many children have been absent with colds and chicken pox that our attendance has not been up to par. The subject of our March lessons was "The Kindness of Jesus." For our project we have made books for the children to keep the leaflets for this month. This book is called "My Own Book About Jesus."

PRIMARY - The Primary Department has been studying the unit "Jesus, Friend of All." The children have been taught stories of Jesus that help them to know that Jesus' way of living means happiness for them. Our purpose has been to show the children that, if we know about Jesus, we can grow more like Him. We have had many more absences than we like. We sincerely hope colds and flu will be a thing of the past, and all our members will be back every Sunday.

JUNIOR - During the month of March, the worship program each Sunday was under the leadership of one specific class. Hence, all five classes of Juniors took part on one of the five Sundays. The class study period has been centered around the theme "What It Means To Be A Christian." The roll remains at forty-six with an average attendance of thirty-five to forty per Sunday.

PIONEER - The attendance in the Pioneer Department has fallen off a little this month. We hope that it will increase now that Springtime Weather is here. This month we have been studying about the last days of Jesus on Earth...how He tried to prepare His disciples for the events that were to follow.

YOUNG PEOPLES' DEPARTMENT - We have been using material from the magazine Youth for a new series of lessons on a theme of "Everyday Living With Christ." We are planning an ice-skating party in the near future and we hope everyone in the class will join us to share the good fun.

NEWS ITEMS - Editor

On Wednesday afternoon, March 25, the home of Tyree and Tessie Woods and Tyree's mother, was severely damaged by smoke and fire. Fortunately, there was no extensive personal injury. Everyone escaping unscathed with the exception of Tyree, who was singed about the head and arms. An exploding oil circulator was believed to be the cause of the fire.

Mrs. Ellen Huffman, formerly Ellen Walker, was a recent visitor in Durham. Ellen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Walker and a sister of Jimmy Walker.

Maude and Mayton Betts have just returned to Durham after a visit to Wilmington and the Azalea Festival.

If you haven't as yet seen the enormous picture of Ed Higgins on Display at Five Points, it is worth a trip to town.

Mrs. B. C. Bennett is now able to be with us again after a seige of illness.

The Choir from Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church went to the State Hospital at Camp Butner on Sunday, March 8th. not for the purpose of being admitted, either in part, or as a whole, but to give the patients there a thirty-minute program of hymns and anthems. This is the second time that your Choir has made this trip on a Sunday afternoon.

It was a week of feverish activity. For every year at this time thousands poured into the Holy City of Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of Passover. Villagers, shopkeepers, priests, farmers, herdsmen, men and women of all walks and works, Galilean Jews, Grecian Jews, Roman Jews, Syrian Jews - Jews from every corner of Empire turned homeward at Passover, tears in their eyes as they passed through Zion's gates and strained to catch first sight of the Temple where dwelled the unseen presence of their God.

It was also a week of restless anticipation. For the feast of Passover celebrated their nation's deliverance from bondage in ancient Egypt. And now they were in bondage once again, a new slavery, under the galling heel of Rome. And so, at Passover each year, there was intense longing for another Moses, a new deliverer, a king of might, who in armed revolt could set his people free. They longed for a Messiah who could push these Romans back into the sea.

At Passover they yearned to hear the prophetic voice proclaim his arrival: "Behold, thy King cometh unto thee!" Yea, King of the Jews he would be, riding forth conquering and to conquer, cracking the bones of Imperial Rome!

He would be,...

Ah, he would be like King Saul, a giant in physical strength and a man of cunning. He would be like King David, handsome to look upon and a military genius. He would be like King Solomon, rich in this world's goods and wise in this world's wisdom. As in Byzantium, his throne would be richly jeweled. As in Mongolia, the feathers of the peacock would wave above his head. He would be like Caesar, wading through blood for conquest. Such a Messiah he must be! Such a Messiah he would be! So, Come Messias! Come! Deliver thy people from the tyrant!

Thus they waited, the people. And the Romans, as always at Passover, doubled their guard.

Nor did they have long to wait, for on the first day of that Holy Week there was fulfilled that which was spoken by the prophet saying: "Tell ye the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee." The King? He cometh? Yea, it is true! At last, he comes. Hozanna! Come and see for yourself!

But what the Roman's saw made them laugh - and they relaxed their guard. And when the people saw him for what he really was, this King, they did not laugh. Rather they ground their teeth in bitter disappointment, and they cried, "Crucify him!", for he was not the kind of king they expected him to be. He was not mighty; he was "...meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt, the foal of an ass."

Into Zion he rode on a quiet little donkey - sign of humility. Where was his war horse, his chariot? Palm branches - signs of peace - went before him. Where were his spears? his shield? Children - symbol of love - welcomed him. Where were his soldiers? A stick - symbol of the ordinary - became his septer. Where were the feathers of the proud peacock? Thorns - symbol of suffering service - became his crown.

Where were the jewels?

Ah, Exit, King of Might.

Enter, King of Meekness: What a disappointment to our hatred and our greed! As it is written, "...when he entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, Who is this? And the crowds said, This is Jesus the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee."

Yes, this is the prophet whose very life preached humility rather than pride, sought peace not war, love not hate. And so he was and he is "despised and rejected of men," by men of pride, and men of war, and men of hate. This is the prophet who found joy in the commonplace things of God's open world, and so he was and is despised by those who try to buy the world and wall it off for themselves. And this was the prophet who was willing to suffer for the rights of others, and so he was and is still rejected of those who are only willing that others should suffer for them.

Here then is a new type of king, one who says of himself, "I am meek and lowly in heart." The word 'king' means 'one who is able.' Here then is one who thinks he is able to reign in the earth by a new means, no longer reigning by pride and war and hate, but by humility and peace and love, by suffering and dying to redeem the common things in life and make them great.

So we still cry out, "Crucify him!" This prophet is insane. He is not able. He is no king. "Happy are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." What idiocy, we say. What lies! The earth belongs to those who are aggressive enough to take it. You have to be harsh in this life to get ahead. You must be self-assertive. You must use force!

But do we not see that such a one as this - and it may be you and it may be me - refusing to acknowledge his true indebtedness to God and others, denying his constant dependence upon this God and his fellows, soon runs to his own destruction, losing the joy of living the life he covets and tries to take by force? While the meek, subordinating their will to the will of God, seeing the worthwhileness and dignity of their fellow men, self-controlled, thinking more about their duties than about their rights, serving without the need of applause, doing their jobs quietly and well in the conviction that a Father God keeps watch over his own - these meek ones, though they will never seize the earth and may not buy it, nonetheless are they who will inherit it. They are the ones who will enjoy life the most, for they are the ones to whom life will mean the most!

And so he was right, this Jesus. "Happy are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Strange it sounds, strange to our western ears, but truly the love of Christ has brought more happiness and inherited more human hearts than all the legions of any Caesar. King he is, therefore, for he is able.

Exit, thus, our kings of might - "Exit, thou damned crew!"

Enter, King of Meekness!

Reign in lowly splendor in the hearts of common men.

From The Outgoing President - Paul Kimes

First let me say that I count it an honor and a privilege to be one of the Past Presidents of the George Matthis Class. I am indeed grateful to the Chairmen of Committees and all their members who have made this a most successful and pleasant year. Without those faithful and industrious workers all would have been in vain. I wish the same success for our new president. With the willingness and the co-operation that is in the hearts of all class members, the year of 1953 should be the most wonderful year that the class has had. Thank you Forrest Callahan for a wonderful "Attic Antic" year, the best ever. May it grow and grow and grow. Thank you Frances Jarman and your committee members for the lovely parties, game sessions and outings that we have enjoyed more than words can express. Thank you Sara Harrison for being a most industrious and ambitious Secretary. Thank you Mayton Betts and your staff for keeping the attendance boards in order. Thank you Joe and Kay Bell for your hard work and unyielding efforts on the Project Committee. To all class members who have been so eager and willing to do the many things that they have been asked to do, please accept my most sincere THANKS and my deepest appreciation. Again, it has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve in this way. Let us all strive a little harder to make 1953 the most successful year of all for Sunday School and Church, and for the furthering of God's Kingdom on this Earth.

FINIS - Editor

The time has come for us to write "30" to a one year career as Editor of this Publication. It is with mixed emotions that we now put the lid on the old ink well. The job is not an easy one, and in order that anyone succeed at it, all must cooperate to the fullest extent.

Space does not permit us to give full credit to all who have been most helpful. Without the all-out support of Paul Kimes, the outgoing class president, the monthly completion of the job would have been impossible. Ever faithful Tobe Shaw, Maude and Mayton Betts, Joe and Kay Bell and Marian Kines have made the burden lighter. In the typing department we are extremely grateful to Betty Blanchard, Ruby Claire Barnes, Helen Higgins and Kenneth Compton. We have no intention of leaving off a special acknowledgement to Helen Compton, who without a doubt, turned out some outstanding copy, and did it in such a willing manner. For all who contributed articles, and reporters representing other classes and departments of the Church -- MANY THANKS!

SUPPORT THE NEW EDITOR!!!

A Salute To A Loyal Member - Editor

There are numerous faithful members of our class, but none has a record of faithful service that can compare with that of L. R. (Tobe) Shaw. Tobe has been a mainstay of the staff of Attic Antics for many years, and it is certain that without his help the paper could not be published. This activity is only one of many for Tobe, and in any field of service to his Church. You will find him eager and willing to serve. Many thanks to a loyal worker, good friend, and Christian gentleman.

