MRS. DORA DEE WALKER

Photo by Courtesy "The State"
The Story Of
A Beautiful Life
Filled With Service

Mrs. Dora Dee Walker was born at Buena Vista, Ga., the daughter of James G. Calhoun, a famous educator of Columbus, Ga., and Alice J. Miller Calhoun, of Waverly Hall, Ga. Mrs. Walker, of Scotch-English extraction, is the descendant of a distinguished family; her father was an educator and her paternal grand-father, Archibald Calhoun was a politician, lawyer, and farmer of Cusseta, Ga. Her great grand-father, Malcolm Calhoun, was soldier, politician and chieftain, of Glasgow, Scotland, a prominent member of the clan Colquhoun, anglicised “Calhoun,” the present Baron of which is Lord Ian Colquhoun. It was this clan that Scott referred in his “Lady of the Lake.” Mrs. Walker’s maternal grand-father, John Miller, of Waverly Hall, Ga., was a farmer, a son of John Calhoun Miller, a member of the English Parliament.

She received her elementary education at Wilberville, Ga., and at Waverly Hall High School. Her A. B. degree was conferred by Le Verte College, Ta burton, Ga. (This College is now a hospital.) Dora Dee Calhoun (Mrs. Walker’s maiden name) really received a classical education at the knees of her father, who was a Greek and Latin scholar. Many times, before a blazing fire in the old fashioned fireplace, a little girl, Dora Dee, sat on a stool while listening to the stories of Greek gods and goddesses. Later she pulled her hair while learning Greek and Latin constructions. In her early life was developed that steadfastness of purpose and desire for service which have characterized her entire career.

Following her graduation she did post graduate work in agriculture, arts, landscape gardening and architecture. Mrs. Walker received special training in home Demonstration work at Beltsville, Md., and Washington, D. C. She also studied Libby’s methods at Sacramento Valley, California, and Fruit Preparation at Sante Clara, Cal., and did ob-

servation work at the University of California, and Leland Stanford University.

Miss Calhoun did her first teaching in the country at Cave school on the Southern railroad. Then after instructing in a school near Columbus, Georgia, she accepted a position in Appleton, South Carolina where she was principal for 18 years. During this time she prepared boys and girls for college. Some of her students won scholarships to Annapolis and West Point; others, to a number of the best southern colleges. She also did coach work in Latin, Greek science and mathematics.

Before taking up the home demonstration work she married a South Carolina man, W. A. Walker, and reared a family. Mr. Walker died several years ago. Their daughter, when 17 years old, was graduated at Brenau college. A year later she married, and not long afterwards died of typhoid fever. Mrs. Walker lost one son, a banker, during an early influenza epidemic, and another, diplomatic commissioner with prime minister to China, died in Washington. The oldest son was killed as a government officer on the Philippine Islands. The government of the Islands erected a costly monument to this young man’s memory. Each year on May 13 appropriate memorial exercises are held at his grave, and long before this time an engraved invitation is received by the mother. Officials have also sent a picture of the monument and bronze plate, which bears a record of this boy’s achievement.

Thus “Mother Walker” is without children of her own, but she has adopted thousands of Palmetto boys and girls who are devoted to her.

On March 10th, 1911 Mrs. Walker received an appointment from the U. S. Department of Agriculture under the title “County Collaborator of Barnwell County,” supervising Girl’s Tomato clubs. The first Tomato Club had been organized the previous year by Miss Marie Cromer in Aiken County. Miss Cromer was made state organizer and Mrs. Walker her collaborator, or county agent. The original tomato club, which began with forty-seven members rapidly increased to thousands.

From girls’ raising, gathering and canning tomatoes, the work has expanded to include, under the name home demonstration, the following:

Agriculture, which comprises dairying, raising poultry, gardening, and marketing; home economics, consisting of foods, nutrition, clothing, house furnishing, home management, canning, and exterior beautification; contributions to health in the home. Women’s clubs deal with these phases whereas girls’ clubs specialize in poultry raising, canning, making clothes, and improving their rooms. Health education is stressed in all departments.

Doing Great Work.

A few years ago the housekeeping edition of The Modern Priscilla wrote:

“The home demonstration agent working with boys’ and girls’ clubs is, to my earnest belief, doing more today to hold the American home on an even keel, and to lift it, inch by inch, to a higher standard, than any other one or dozen organizations or institutions in the world. So greatly appreciated, furthermore, is the work by on-looking countries that England, France Luxembourg, Holland, Denmark, Egypt and the Philippine Islands have sent girls to Washington to be trained in this work and bring it home to their own countries. And Washington sent these girls to Winthrop College to ‘Mother Walker.’ And now the work is spreading over there.”

Mrs. Dora Dee Walker, who has worked nearly twenty-four years in different capacities with home demonstration departments, is now state specialist in production and conservation. She directs cooking, canning, pickling, making relishes and co-
ffects, preserving, managing the home, sewing, raising poultry, gardening, beautifying grounds and buildings.

Her ambition is to make the Palmetto state a continuous park, which in spots will give attractive settings for improved farm homes. Already miles and miles of highway bedecked with crepe myrtle and other native plants bespeak Carolina's hospitality to visitors. Good roads that are easy on eyes and ears attract travelers far more than welcome signs.

**Back To The Farm.**

Since it is the farmer who makes a state's economical story, Mrs. Walker wishes to keep rural citizens so contented in their own community that distance will not lend temptation to them. Already this “Fairy Godmother” has touched with rosy tints, gray, gloomy pictures of country life. Above all she loves people and desires to make them happy.

"Mother Walker"—affectionate sobriquet, known in Carolina from mountains to sea—is directing aesthetic improvements on old homes, churches and school houses. Under her supervision 527 churches, 517 school grounds, 8,886 homes, 33 community centers and 712 miles of highway show the “Fairy Godmother’s” touch. Dilapidated school buildings have been converted into community clubhouses, where under proper direction people stage historical pageants, conduct public speakings, singing, and other interesting programs. "Mother Walker" has persuaded all ages from grandparents to wee children to take part in pageants.

In regard to beautification Mrs. Walker says:

"What can be done to crystallize, centralize, and unify community life? Nothing is more feasible for this purpose than the establishing of rural community parks for the purpose of bringing people together, making concrete their aims and purposes for the better development of community life. It is a true saying that every individual receives good to himself in proportion as he loves his community; a citizen then who seeks only his own development and training stops far short of its possible service to him. When any citizen comes to an appreciation of his responsibilities toward life, he has found an avenue to the best kind of rural life."

With an attractive community park as a community center, beautified by nature, rendered more fascinating in its development of beauty by citizens, it will prove a magnet of social attraction for hard working often times discouraged rural people.

The park will be an assembly ground for the entire community, a common meeting ground in which to stage farmer's meetings, school festivities, church society organizations, club meetings, club short courses, club camps, camp fire organizations, Boy Scout organizations, to celebrate all national holidays with appropriate programs, all of which will provide the right to every resident for looking forward to with eagerness, confident that these occasions will release the tension of everyday life and offer fresh courage to take up threads of the next day’s activities.

"The topographical beauty of South Carolina with its natural endowment will cope with almost any country of the Orient. Then why should not our people have community parks or centers available?"

"Mother Walker" believes that landlords will profit by beautifying their tenants' homes; for these people will prove better workmen in an atmosphere of beauty. “Destroy the wooden window shutters, which close out God's gracious and freely bestowed sunlight; and provide glass windows for these pilgrims; they are entitled to the sunlight,” she says.

Back of all success is a dreamer and a strong personality. "Mother Walker" is a wide-awake dreamer, who walks. One talks with her only a few minutes before feeling the strong vibrations of personality. "Age cannot wither her." Enthusiasm and contentment still beam in this woman's countenance; yet from have had more trouble and sorrow than she. Through all kinds of weather she has traveled thousands of miles in every kind of vehicle from a wagon to a Ford car over jolting roads, but nothing has jolted away her joyous nature. Still her sunny smile will break through the total eclipse of a grouch's frown.

To some, this Carolina Mother is Mrs. Santa Claus, who instead of emptying a load of presents has bestowed, by helping ruralists help themselves, the greatest gift possible. To others she is the "Fairy Godmother," who has brought to Palmetto ruralists a lasting rainbow that spans their once dismal skies.

**SHE LIVES IN DEEDS—NOT YEARS**

The Chesterfield Advertiser:

The birthday anniversary of the most universally loved woman in South Carolina occurs this month, November 18th.

The Advertiser feels that devoting a portion of its space this week to this noble woman is but a feeble effort to portray the love and esteem in which the subject, Mrs. Dora Dee Walker is held in this county.

We do not know how old she is. We only know she is not and never will be "old." Her spirit is ever young—as young as the eternal spirit of spring, as young as the flowers that bloom, the birds that sing. She is as young as the renewed hope she has inspired in the hearts of thousands of girls and women in South Carolina, as youthful as her buoyant spirit that knows no barriers and makes its impress on lives in far countries and in the islands of the seas.

No, we do not know how many years she has lived, neither does it matter, for, to paraphrase Philip Bailey,

"She lives in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths; in feelings, not in figures on a dial."

**WHO MAKES A GARDEN**

Whoever makes a garden
HIs, oh so many friends!—
The glory of the morning
The dew when daylight ends,
The wind, and rain, and sunshine.
And dew and fertile sod;
For he who makes a garden
Works hand-in-hand with God.

—Douglas Mallock

Among those to whom The Advertiser is indebted for material and assistance for this hurriedly arranged birthday tribute to Mrs. Dora Dee Walker are: Mrs. S. O. Plowden, Mrs. Harriet Johnson, Miss Kerby Tyler, Mrs. J. W. Hanna, Ida Bell Williams of the Charlotte Observer, and The State, for the picture on the first page.
That's
Mother Walker

By HARRIET F. JOHNSON

Published, in part, several years ago in the Press and Standard, Walterboro.

How many times a nod or a pointing finger has designated one of the most loved and best known women in South Carolina with "That's Mother Walker."

This name is affectionately given to Mrs. Dora Dee Walker by sixty members of the county and state Home Demonstration staff, by as many of the agricultural extension staff, all their families, perhaps nearly a hundred thousand club women and girls accruing from around twenty thousand members annually enrolled in Home Demonstration clubs.

New agents and many new friends of the department wonder why everyone calls her that, and silently decide, "Well, I guess I will not." Shortly, the first such address comes perhaps accidently, and thereafter the newcomer becomes one of the Walker brood, and one feels much less lonesome in the family of extension workers.

Mother Walker is one of the very few who have been engaged in extension work since she began July, 1910. She is said to be the first home agent in charge of one single county, being appointed as such by the U. S. Government March 1911. Her predecessor in South Carolina was Mrs. Marie Cromer Zeigler who is accredited the honor of having organized the first girls' club in extension work. Miss Cromer was at once made a state organizer.

Mrs. Walker was soon promoted to state specialist in production and conservation. She still holds this position with headquarters at Winthrop College, Rock Hill, South Carolina. She has been associated with three other state home demonstration agents. These were Mrs. Edith Parrot Savelly, and Mrs. Christine South Gee, both of whom resigned to be married. And for the past twelve years, Mrs. Walker's department, as well as all others working with home demonstration women and girls, has been directed by Miss Lonly I. Landrum as state agent.

At the Silver Anniversary of Extension Work in Texas, Mrs. Walker was honored by the Texas Extension Staff as one of the U. S. Extension department's pioneers.

It is most fitting that Mother Walker should be listed with those who have influenced the development of 4-H Club Work. Her first work in Barnwell County began with girls, and she is able now, occasionally, to see some of the first girls (women with their own homes) who ever "signed" on girls' club rolls. The first anywhere so far as is known in this department was Katye Owens, now Mrs. Edgar Hankinson, president of the Home Demonstration Club Market in Aiken County. Still engaged in club work she highly praises early training in Aiken County as a member of that first girls' club. Her son, Edgar Hankinson, has served as one of the Life Guards at Camp Long.

This club was organized for youth development and home enrichment as well as to make "pin money" by growing and canning tomatoes. This is shown by many quotations from Dr. Knapp, and by one important one from Miss Cromer — "Remember, girls, some day you will be proud to have even been a member of the Aiken County Tomato Club, for it will not be forgotten." She saw club work grow, but ill health has prevented her keeping in touch with 4-H development. Dr. Seaman Knapp, founder of Extension Work, predicted that "the tin can is only a key to the kitchen door." And Mother Walker has turned this key hundreds and hundreds of times in opening doors for greater rural health and happiness.

She contributed a part toward the training of two representatives from France and one from Denmark who returned to do home demonstration work, including 4-H work in their home land. In later years, she has made similar contact with extension agents from the Philippines.

Mother Walker has given many helpful recipes over the state, but the following has never been given out or known by many: (In revised form.)

For Making A 4-H Club Girl

One handful of common sense mixed with much knowledge from wholesome training and a "little bit of nonsense now and then."

One heart full of sympathy and understanding.

Two hands full of skill and usefulness.

One life of health, efficiency, service, mix in right proportions, watch with tender care, allow freedom to rise as often as necessary. Daily use of this recipe insures happiness from a successful product in the end.

Mrs. Walker has led a busy life. After graduating in young girlhood at Laverte College, Georgia, Mothering a family, teaching, she has received certificates for courses of study in her present line of work, and has been continually engaged in the Extension Department. She was once President for three years of the rural division of the State Teachers' Association.

There are some people who make us remember them by their personality or work. There are some about whom we like to express ourselves.

So it was when this little tribute came to mind:

That's Mother Walker

There is a soul in our state, One who never harbors hate; She who never says "I am tired" or "Blue."

She's energetic, through and through, And never doubts that you're true blue—

That's Mother Walker.

"We must beautify" she says today. "Use native shrubs along the way."

"Attractive homes," this is her plea, "Scenic beauty from hill to sea."

"It can be done if all agree,"

Says Mother Walker.
She's Called
Fairy Godmother of South Carolina

So few great women and men receive plaudits of the public for their contribution of fruitful service in the cause of better living. Any commendation usually comes too late for their pleasure. Such is not the case with Mrs. Dora Dee Walker, who has spent her life as a fairy godmother to young and old.

She was only thirty years old when her husband died and with four children to support, she chose teaching and canning fruits. During this time, she prepared 1004 girls and boys for college. Through competitive examination, she has had representatives at West Point and Annapolis.

Mrs. Walker was well fitted to be a teacher. She was born in Buena Vista, Ga., and receiving her high school education at Waverly Hall, Ga., was the daughter of Prof. James G. Calhoun, a prominent educator. She completed the entire course in Greek, Latin, Geometry, Trigonometry, Geology, Logic, Astronomy, Philosophy, and all phases of mathematics, single and double entry bookkeeping under his supervision and entered a full senior at LaVerne.

Mrs. Walker was in Extension work 24 years the 10th of March, 1934, being appointed by the United States Department of Agriculture on March 10th, 1911.

Under her direction and influence the past year 12,746 women and 10,000 girls have done much in the state to combat adverse economic conditions with year-round gardens, fruit trees, berry bushes and grape vines and with pantries filled with the surplus canned, after using the produce daily and selling quantities in order to buy other necessities for the home. She is lovingly called “Mother Walker” by them all.

Mrs. Walker's own words clearly show her love and vision of this work: "While I love teaching, thinking nothing could alienate me from the school room, but Extension work has radiated a fascination which is absolutely undescrivable. The privilege of leading thousands of women and girls to make happier and more efficient homes, to awaken a spark of Divinity in their souls by creating beauty everywhere through lovely flowers, shrubbery, trees, lawns, lily pools, pergolas, out door living rooms, formal flower gardens, rose gardens, rockeries, beautiful church grounds, school grounds, club houses, high- ways and community centers, parks and boulevards, all for the reclamation of community life, all leading to a better citizenship for South Carolina.

"Efforts in this line have resulted in beautifying more than 12,000 homes, 527 churches, 517 schools, 712 miles of highways, intermittently, and establishing 33 community centers, have furnished absolute joy and unalloyed happiness, realizing all the time that providence moves in a mysterious way, 'His Wonders to Perform,' for undoubtedly, He made this provision for diversion as I was tossed on the billows of doubt and wrecked on the rocks of despair, after losing all my family.

"Looking back through the 22 years, the development of leadership among farm women and girls furnishes one of the most satisfying comparisons between then and now," she states. "Then the farm women and girls were unused to and adverse to taking part in public meetings. They naturally and unobstrusively withdrew from public activities. Now even the casual observer notices the ability of hundreds of farm women and girls to lead with perfect ease and conduct their meetings with parliamentary distinction. This seemed especially noticeable in the work of 1932 partly because of the depression and cooperative plan which we have emphasized—definitely a plan of helping more people."

Gertrude Meeks, an eminent artist and musician of Ridgeland, South Carolina, in dedicating a poetic tribute to Mother Walker's life work in South Carolina spoke of her as "Our Carolina Queen."

Mrs. Walker was appointed to represent South Carolina in American Women's Association, Inc., of New York City with a life membership as were 47 others representing the other states in the Union and the District of Columbia, the Brooklyn Eagle in writing of this incident referred to Mother Walker as the "Fairy Godmother of Farm Women in South Carolina."

The inspiration for better living has been instilled in every girl and woman with whom she has come in contact, and their number is legion. Their efforts show the result and many a humble cottage brightened inside with a little paint, a few yards of cloth and better food; and using the home as a social center; outside with native shrubs brought from the hillsides nearby and flowers. These have brought relief from existing conditions, contentment and a joy in living.

A TRIBUTE TO MOTHER WALKER


Today, Mother Walker, we are celebrating with the entire nation Mother's Day, which is another name for service, and no one knows better than we—your daughters—of the service you are giving to South Carolina. A nation today is wearing and giving flowers in honor of Mothers, and so we—your daughters—have brought you flowers—yet no flower—beautiful as it may be—can express or typify "Our Mother"—for she is all of their sweetness, their vivid beauty, their enduring freshness, and more.

"God made a wonderful Mother A Mother who never grows old, He made her smile of the sunshine And He made her heart of pure gold. In her eyes He placed bright shining stars, In her cheeks fair roses you see— God made a wonderful Mother And He gave that dear Mother—to us."

And with these flowers we give you this toast, "To the dearest one in all the land, ever ready with helping hand, and never failing to understand—YOU, Mother Walker."
She Needs
Another Thirty Years

By MAIZIE C. FLANAGAN

In Charlotte Observer, July 31, 1932

What of life at 70? The psalmist says it is the natural end. George Eastman, philanthropist and phenomenally successful business man, precluded all possibility of such knowledge by taking his own life. What is there then about Mrs. Dora Dee Walker, known and loved through the south as Mother Walker, that makes her want to live to be 100?

Life has held for her many sorrows, ill nesses and labors. Yet when it seems that disease is about to take its toll the assurance comes to her.

“That’s all right. You cannot leave for you must get up and do some more work yet.”

Fernicious malarial fever left her with such weakness in her left eye that she often is forced to hospitalization.

This work? It started back when the 17 girls of the newly organized Tomato club in Aiken in 1910 learned to grow and can tomatoes.

Back in those days she used a horse and buggy to cover necessary ground and speaking of depreciation of automobiles, ask Mother Walker how many horses she wore out if you want to hear her chuckle. The same merriment always accompanies the story of the night she slept in the room with a flock of goslings.

At $75 A Year.

She is proud of the fact that she was the first agent ever to take oath of office as such when she was named county demonstration agent of Barnwell county. The first year she received $75 for her work the month of July. The second summer work was continued through July and August while the third summer saw the complete summer months of June, July and August draw government pay. She won the first prize ever offered tomato clubs at the State fair.

Now she is extension specialist in conservation and exterior beautification with headquarters at Winthrop college. And does she believe in conservation?

She has advised through these years a live-at-home program and the conservation of all foods and meats not selling at profitable market price. She is the first South Carolinian to can beef, tripe, liver and all except the horn and hoofs of the calf. Likewise with the pig she is said to save “all but the squeal.”

Hawaiian and French women have come to South Carolina for consultation with Mother Walker about home canning. In return for her courtesy she has received gifts from this island home.

Although old in point of years she still works out most of the extension recipes used.

Her success in canning the sweet peppers is an index to her indomitable way and will. Finding no suitable pimento seed, she sent to Spain and planted, grew and canned the pimentos from them. A sample can of these was sent to the government at Washington. Each year hundreds of women in their own kitchens can this delicious product with no thought and knowledge of whose efforts they are enjoying.

At present she is working on an improved tomato plant that will be ideal for canning and so sure is she of ultimate success that she has already selected a name. Cannery For Education.

In the early days of her canning experience she had a cannery in the summer in Appleton to help educate four children.

As “all but the squeal!” has become associated with Mother Walker’s conservation efforts, her own expression, “a panoramic scene of beauty from the mountains to the sea,” has become the keynote to her beautification program. Response to this plea for attractive surroundings shows 500 miles of highway, 400 church grounds, 427 school grounds, 36 community centers with church and school in group, beautified and planted. This last receives especial attention as it is a project for reclamation of community life.

At her own home she has plans from every county in the state. Also she boasts of the 20,000 gladioli, 45,000 daffodils and 500 Madonna lilies that grace her premises.

Now she really needs another 30 years of advice to give about outdoor living rooms, lily pools, drives and other landscaping devices in her outdoor beautification schedule.

During a recent interview she very genially took a seat at the piano and with light, bright touch, played through “Come, Haste to the Wedding,” “Ripples of Alabama,” and in all the old time variations. “Nearer, My God to Thee.”

A Call Her “Mother.”

Death took from her two sons and only daughter. In the bitterness of this last sorrow, she turned to herisel and as her conception of the Madonna grew under the deft strokes of her brush, the life, color and form that went onto the canvas from her oils, found their way into her heart.

Thus at age of 48, her humanitarian efforts became energized and all the maternal love within her dissipated to include the 10,000 women in the rural home demonstration clubs and the 12,766 girls in the 4-H clubs in the state of South Carolina.

They all call her “Mother” and rightly so.

She is mother of a glorious and ever broadening scope of work that has brought health and happiness to many a rural woman and under the inspiration of her efforts and search for further conquests devoted to the welfare of others, she keeps happy, cheery and genial. Of course, she has not yet upset the old saying, “You cannot make silk purses of sow’s ears” but she has threatened to effect some such miracle indirectly with her good sense of economics.

Her personality would be termed in Hollywood “box office,” for she is known and loved by every waitress and bell hop in the state.

With a sense of incompleteness so far as her work is concerned, working for further achievements and in the realization of past achievement, Mother Walker is living gloriously, happily and busily.
She Writes Of Her Work In Chesterfield

In response to a request by one of the Club members for information about "Mother Walker's" work in Chesterfield County she has given the following survey:

Appleton, S. C.

My Very Dear Friend:—

In response to your request about my work in Chesterfield I should like to say:

In July of 1915, I was called from Winthrop College by wire to attend a Farmer's Rally Day at the Court House at Chesterfield to make a talk on Club work and give some demonstration in canning, pickling, etc. The auditorium was packed. Miss Parrot and I both gave talks on the advantages of Club work, after which I demonstrated.

The people seemed thrilled and in less than three months the County Delegation had signed up for the work and Miss Mims (now Mrs. Tiller) was established as County Home Demonstration Agent. I was sent to the county to aid in organizing in the schools Girls' Tomato and Poultry Clubs.

In 1916 the women were organized into Home Demonstration Clubs and the name of the work was changed to this title with the organization of the women, so the name "Tomato Club" was eliminated and the girls' clubs became "4-H Clubs." I worked with the women and girls often during the year, particularly holding community meetings over the county, culminating in a splendid County Fair with marveling exhibits every fall. Of course all of this occurred during the administrations of Miss Mims (now Mrs. Tiller), Miss Haynie and Miss Tyler.

After getting Gardening, Canning, Canning, etc. to working, then we began beautification of home grounds under the administration of Miss Kerby Tyler.

The home grounds of Mrs. Joe Hanna, Mrs. Tom Gaskins, four homes in the town of Chesterfield, the Baptist church grounds, the foundation planting for school in Chesterfield, composed the first beautification work of its kind in the state.

A state-wide "Beautification Contest was held and the Sylvan Trophy Vase was awarded to Mrs. Joe Hanna for having done the greatest amount of beautification work on home grounds.

The School Park in Chesterfield extending from the school building to the main street was the first park planned in the state. This has been so creditably finished under supervision of Mr. Willis, local Agriculture teacher by using relief labor and with the loyal support of the Civic Club.

The spirit of improvement and love of beauty kept spreading and becoming more contagious until the general topography of rural home grounds has been metamorphosed and now instead of there being only a few home grounds beautified, the exception is the grounds that have not been beautified. I have cited this fact in my talks often times in other counties presenting Chesterfield as a leader in the work of Beautification.

When the season arrived four years ago, and I became so impressed that it was my duty to regain, re-claim, and recall community life through establishing Community Centers, old Chesterfield responded most splendidly and Jefferson made the grand advance and McBee caught the contagion. By invitation Miss Tyler and I held a meeting at McBee, appointed committees to set trees on every street, remained over next day, made plans for beautifying home grounds, delineated church grounds, cemeteries, worked on school grounds and planned two formal gardens.

This meeting was the beginning of a desire for a Community Park at McBee which is now under construction.

Jefferson's problem proved most interesting since it presented a real community center embracing the School, the Teacherage and the churches. These grounds were planned on this occasion, the plans being given to Mr. Davis, local agriculture teacher, who carried them out splendidly.

Pageland too caught the spirit of beautification. The churches and many homes show the interest felt in this work.

And thus the good work has gone on and on in loyal old Chesterfield through her magnanimous club workers, under the guidance of her noble County agent, until she stands paramount in my phase of work from incipient canning and gardening to all the higher more elaborate phases of my work. I exclaim with ascending emphasis, "Long live the spirit of Demonstration in Chesterfield, which has challenged universal admiration!" Craig Park made under the supervision of Mrs. Joe Hanna is the admirable climax.

Most devotedly yours,
MOTHER WALKER

CAROLINA HILLS

There's a lot of things worth seeing
And a lot of things to know
As we pass along life's highway
Over which we all must go;
And a scene that fills with rapture,
Full of beauty, joy and thrills,
Is a glorious, golden sunrise
O'er these Carolina Hills.

When the frost has touched the foliage
And the sweet gums' turned to red,
And the browns and greens and yellows
Form a giant flower bed,
There's a calm for all our troubles,
Cheer and warmth for all our chills
In the beauty of a sunset
O'er these Carolina Hills.

When the log fire's bright and glowing
And the hills are painted white
And the world is calm and peaceful
In the moon's soft, yellow light,
There's a joy that knows no limit
And a peace that soothes our ills
In the wonders of the moonlight
O'er these Carolina Hills.

J. W. CARROLL
Charlotte, N. C.

This world that we're a-livin' in
Is mighty hard to beat;
You git a thorn with every rose,
But ain't the roses sweet!

—Frank L. Stanton.
A Sample Case—
Gullies or Daffodils

By MRS. EMMA HANNA

Every time a community has the good fortune to have a visit from "Mother Walker" she leaves her mark for good on the community.

Thomas Carlyle once said: "Oh, it is great, and there is no other greatness, to make some nook of God's creation a little better, fairer, more fruitful, more worthy of God."

"Mother Walker" has reached the older folk on the farm as well as the younger ones thereby disproving the old and foolish saying "You can't teach an old dog new tricks."

Most of our farm men and women never had an opportunity to go to college but they are being educated by "Mother Walker". Some years ago when the announcement would be made that Mrs. Walker would give some kind of a demonstration in cooking and the fact would be made known by the mothers of the homes many of the husbands would say, "You've been cooking twenty years and you cook plenty good for me."

Sometimes the answer to the remonstration would be, "Maybe I do, but my cooking doesn't interest me like it ought to." So the mother would go for new ideas, to learn new ways of doing her work and reasons for following a given policy. She wanted to feel a new mastery of her job.

In America the idea was once prevalent that anyone could be a successful farmer but that day is happily passed by. The boy who stays on the farm today has as much need of brains and training as the youth who attempts any other profession.

If you are unhappy because you can't go to Europe to see the paintings of the old masters, you can get a marvelous substitute in rambling around the gardens in South Carolina many of which were made by the guiding hand of Mrs. Walker who never sees ugly things unless it is to figure out how to eliminate them and then she is really not looking at them but rather looking at that which is to replace them, seeing with the poet's inward eye, which after all is a very comforting way to see many things if the outside view is a bit grieveous.

She has told us so many times in talking to us about comfortable houses and giving us ideas for making them more comfortable "It is not a home till it is planted." Then she suggests plants for shady places, sunny places, damp places, dry places, how to get these plants at smallest cost or how to root cuttings or how to get native plants from our woods so that the poorest family may have beauty about the home. It was once thought to have the home grounds satisfactorily planted required the services of a landscape architect and only families of wealth could beautify their grounds, but with a guiding hand like Mrs. Walker's even the poorest family may have beautiful grounds about the home and nothing so ties a family together as together planning and planting the home grounds. There is a lot of difference between a garden made with one's own hands and another made with hired help. The first is a personal expression of mood thought, and imagination. The other is bought or hired or adopted—and shows it too.

Being a "Nature Lover" I realized I could be much happier in the country than in town so we bought a very small farm having no buildings, except a two room cabin, and no attractions whatever except six big trees around the cabin and back of it a wood land of thirty acres from which we had grand opera in the early hours of the morning.

To this cabin we added two rooms a front porch and back porch both of which were well screened. Then a well was dug, fences put up to enclose a garden, chicken-yard and pasture, fruit trees and pecan trees were planted, then berries and grapes. A barn was built, also houses for chickens, the breed selected being Rhode Island Red.

No walks or drives were planned until after we had watched for a while our regular daily trips from one point about the home to another. After deciding upon a circular driveway in front of the house and a drive to the barn we proceeded to make a lawn planting an evergreen lawn mixture which has proven quite satisfactory. The circular drive has two entrances, each marked by two entrance portals built of white rocks. Around these portals are plants of Pittosporum and Thunbergi Spirea.

This being done we were quite ready for a visit from Mother Walker who is always eager to help with any beautification work. Her first suggestion was a double row of Iris as a border for the driveway using purple next to the grass and white ones on the outer edge. All corners were planted with blooming shrubs, all out buildings hidden from public view with evergreen plants.

Soon we decided we would remodel the house; this being done we had six rooms, a ball, bath room and two screened porches. Under the kitchen is a basement ample enough for two storage closets for potatoes and canned goods also a Delco Light Plant and Water System.

While we were building the kitchen a Kitchen Contest was being held, open to all members of the Home Demonstration Clubs of the state. I entered this contest to make a model kitchen. At the close of the contest my kitchen scored 100% and I was presented with a beautiful Red Star Range.

This house being finished, Mother Walker planned a foundation planting and said there must be something beautiful from each window in the house and may I say I have never enjoyed anything more than I do these lovely spots planned from my windows.

On one occasion when Mother Walker came to my home I said "Mother Walker, I have, facing the public road, an old washed away hillside with a gully in the center washing deeper and deeper with every rain, I want to terrace it, but don't know where to start and stop the terraces, do you know anything about terracing?" Her answer was: "Do it! Just let me out there and I will show you how much I do know about terracing." So we went out on the hillside and made plans for saucer-shaped terraces. Then I had a man to come and measure and
To Mother Walker

I think that we shall never see
A Mother wonderful as Thee;
One who never stops for rest
But gives her state her noblest, best.
A Mother with a faith so strong,
Working, praying, her whole life long.
A woman counting, as no other,
Thousands of children who call her Mother.
With love for all from a heart of gold
She blesses each from her great soul.
Her life a demonstration true
Has set a goal achieved by few.

HARRIET JOHNSON.

Winthrop College, Rock Hill.
stake them, carrying out her instructions. This being done we were ready to start the real work which I accomplished with one negro and one nule in one summer, a job gigantic enough for a chain-gang. But O! The beauty when finished. Can you picture a long evergreen hedge as a background for five terraces ten feet wide covered with grass and having yellow Jonquils on the edge of each? This gorgeous display of color in February and March produces a big ‘Stop, Look, Listen!’ sign on the west side of our house. When I see the passerby pause to marvel at so much beauty I know they must be recalling:

“Ten thousand saw I at a glance
Tocking their heads in sprightly dance.”

But as I gaze upon them “My heart with pleasure fills, and dances
with the daffodils,” for there is not a prettier spot to be seen anywhere.

We are now extending the lowest terrace to include a spring over which we have built a beautiful cover of rocks. Along this terrace we have planted Crepe Mynxes and shall continue to plant other things until we make the grounds near the spring more attractive. Near this spring we have made a lily pool. Between the public road and these terraces is a wire fence which supports Chero- kee Roses and Yellow Jessamine.

When this piece of work was completed I was awarded a silver trophy vese given by Sylvan Brothers in Co- lumbia for having done the greatest amount of work in Home Beautification of any Club member in the state.

During the same year I won a prize of $25.00 in a vegetable garden contest. This state prize being given by the Chilean Ni.rate Co.

Having told of the changes wrought on the west side of the home we must come back to the house and scan the side on the east which for a number of years produced millions of weeds. This plot comprises a half acre, is rectangular in shape and is bordered with abelia plants. In the center of this plot, running east and west is a walk. Over this walk we have three sets of rose trellises, the base of which is built of white rocks to support the trellises made of fence wire and buggy tires which are paint-
ed green and covered with roses and Southern Smilax.

In the center of the front half of the rectang’e is a circular rose trellis supporting a Lady Bankshire Rose around which is planted Nudiflorum Jessamine with California Poppies for spring blooming and Red Spider lilies for fall blooming.

In each corner blooming shrubs are growing.

In the back half of the rectangle stands a flower-house 30 ft. long and 16 ft. wide. This house contains two show plants of the state, a red Geranium and a pink Geranium growing in the ground. In February it is not unusual to count from 200 to 250 blossoms at one time. Other plants seen in this house in winter are sweet peas, freesias, nasturtiums, primroses, ferns, etc.

The outside walls of the house have growing near them shrubbery, Iris and tulips. On the south side of the flower house several thousand bulbs are growing.

This work being completed I received a prize of $30.00 offered to a model farm home by the Harmon Foundation in New York.

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A Co-Worker Says
Her Work Is Priceless

By MISS KERBY TYLER
Home Demonstration Agent for Chesterfield County

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Chesterfield County have been changed from the neglected houses to homes surrounded by beauty; store rooms have been built and filled during the plenteous season with canned food for the wintry day, the home-gardens growing a variety of vegetables, flourished the year round; the family table has become more attractive to the eye with its vase of flowers as a center piece and more pleasing to the taste with food prepared by Mother Walker’s recipes.

In Chesterfield County, Mother Walker has started many of her new projects, because her work must progress and her mind visualizes the needs of her people. Along with the consolidated schools, rural communities were endangered. Mother Walker met this issue with her community centers, parks for community recreation. Chesterfield claims her first community park, a spot of beauty grew out of a gully filled with junk.

In her mind’s eye every place in our midst can become a spot of beauty.

Through Mother Walker’s projects, Chesterfield County has won cash prizes of distinction. Chesterfield was one of two counties that won the Harmon Foundation prize of two hundred and fifty dollars. This prize was offered to the county in South Carolina which had done outstanding work in both gardening and Beautifi- cation, by a New Yorker who became interested in Mother Walker’s projects. The prize money was used in a live-at-home County Contest. Chesterfield County won three times a special prize of $50.00 on conservation work, which was offered by the Ball Brothers Jar Company. This money was placed on a scholarship for a club girl.

This is not placing a price on Mother Walker’s work, for her work is priceless. It merely shows that the width and breadth are boundless.