

Bucklesberry, Back in the Day

Lillian Sutton Perry (Part 24)

The marriages of Lillian Sutton Perry's (1864-1946) three surviving children represented some of the greatest joys of her life. Bliss Byna Perry Carey (1888-1973) was the first to marry in 1911. A decade passed before younger daughter Susan L. Perry West (1891-1974) married. Like that of her sister, Susan's lavish wedding was of interest to locals:

1921, April 4: "A beautiful wedding was solemnized at Gordon Street Christian Church Saturday evening at 7 o'clock when Miss Susie Perry became the bride of Dr. Clifton F. West. The church was charmingly decorated, spirea, cathedral lillies, fern and other greenery being used in profusion. Flowers were artistically arranged in the choir loft to present a most fitting setting for Misses Muriel Hadley and Nina Mae Sugg, who sang, and Mrs. T. C. Ethridge, who rendered a violin solo. Rev. Bernard P. Smith performed the impressive ring ceremony. A great concourse of friends and admirers filled the spacious edifice."

"Mr. Muilburger at the organ played 'Elsa's Bridal Procession,' from Wagner's Lohengrin, after which Miss Sugg sang 'Calm as the Night,' by Bohn. Mrs. Ethridge then played 'Minuet in G' on the violin. Preceding 'O Promise Me,' expressively sung by Miss Muriel Hadley, the groomsmen made ready the way for the bridal party. Then Mr. Felix Harvey, Jr., and Dr. DeWitt Klutz, of Washington, came down opposite aisles, followed by Misses Frances Pollock and Kathleen Rhera of Dover, attractively attired in nile green gros de londre, carrying arm bouquets of rose snapdragons and orchid sweet peas. Messrs. Philip Hines and W. B. Umstead of Durham were followed by Miss Elizabeth Seipp of Baltimore and Miss Lois Pugh of Savannah, clad in rose gros de londre and carrying arm bouquets of yellow snapdragons and orchid sweet peas. Messrs. J. W. Carey and Dr. S. R. Taylor were next, followed by Miss Virginia Copeland, wearing yellow gros de londre with orchid hat and carrying a shower bouquet of Premier roses and orchid sweet peas."

"Preceding Miss Lottie Canady, maid of honor, who wore orchid gros de londre with silver trimmings and hat to match and carried a shower bouquet of orchids and Ophelia roses, was Mrs. J. W. Carey, sister of the bride, attired in a flesh lace dress and hat to match and carrying an arm bouquet of rose snapdragons and Premier roses. Then the flower girls, little Misses Lillian Carey, niece of the bride and Hazel Mitchell Ferrell, of Petersburg, cousin of the bride, daintily dressed in white chiffon and carrying baskets of roses, came down the aisle, scattering petals in the path of the bride. As the groom, accompanied by his brother, Mr. Ray West, as best man, came from a side entrance, the bride entered with her brother, Mr. Ely J. Perry, who gave her in marriage. She was dressed in a white bridal gown, with rose point lace and pearl trimmings, and carried a

bride's bouquet of orchids and lilies of the valley. During the ceremony, 'Nocturne from Midsummer Night's Dream,' by Mendelssohn was softly played by Mr. Muilburger. Mendelssohn's wedding march was used as a recessional."

"The marriage of Miss Perry and Dr. West joins two of Kinston's most popular young people. Mrs. West is the well-known and accomplished daughter of Mrs. Lillian Perry, and with her winning disposition and charming manner makes admiring friends wherever she goes. She is a graduate of Notre Dame, Baltimore. Dr. West is a promising young physician from Dover. He has been practicing medicine in Kinston the past few years. He studied at the University of North Carolina and the University of Pennsylvania. He has won for himself a host of friends in the city."

"They were the recipients of [a] handsome array of bridal presents. Immediately following the ceremony, an elaborate reception was given at the home of the bride by her mother, Mrs. Lillian Perry..." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)