

Bucklesberry, Back in the Day

Lillian Sutton Perry (Part 25)

The darkest moments of Lillian Sutton Perry's (1864-1946) life were the early, untimely deaths of her husband Daniel Elijah Perry (1857-1897) and two sons, Daniel Elijah Perry, Jr. (1887-1913) and Noah Strong Perry (1893-1918). Yet the greatest joys of her life may have been the marriages of her three surviving children.

The wedding ceremonies of Bliss Byna Perry Carey (1888-1973) in 1911 and Susan L. Perry West (1891-1974) in 1921 were beautifully lavish events. The wedding of Ely Jackson Perry (1896-1968) was equally elaborate. Held in Baltimore, MD, it was reported for folks back home:

1922, October 16: "A wedding of interest and significance to numerous Kinston friends was that of Mr. Ely Jackson Perry and Miss Elizabeth Ann Seipp, which took place at Baltimore in the First Methodist Episcopal Church Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Dr. William H. Morgan, pastor of the bride, assisted by Dr. Joseph H. Appel, president of Hood College, Frederick, MD officiated."

"The church was beautifully decorated with palms and white chrysanthemums, lighted cathedral candles shedding a soft glow about the altar, where the marriage vows were spoken. A chorus of eight sang 'O perfect love' and 'Believe me if all those endearing young charms' prior to the entrance of the bridal party. The 'Bridal Chorus' from Lohengrin was rendered as the bride went down the aisle."

"Mrs. Clifton F. West of this city [Kinston], as matron or honor, wore a dress of orchid and blue georgette with panne velvet hat of orchid, and silver slippers. She carried yellow chrysanthemums. Miss Miriam A. Coolentz of Frederick, MD, maid of honor, was dressed in blue and peach georgette with hat of blue. Her bouquet was orchid chrysanthemums. Bridesmaids were Misses Annsbolle Potter and Gladys Mattfeldt of Baltimore; Sarah Rawlins, Seaford, DE; Esther Emery, Monson, MA; Emily Leantum, Ingold, NC; and Elizabeth Lewis, Frederick, MD. Two of them wore dresses of orchid georgette, two were gowned in peach georgette and two wore blue georgette. All had hats of panne velvet in harmonizing shades and silver slippers. They carried Ohpelia roses."

"The bride entered with her father, wearing a handsome wedding dress of silver cloth and silver lace with court train of silver and veil trimmed in rose point late and orange blossoms. The groom was attended by Dr. C. F. West of Kinston as best man."

"Groomsmen were Dr. Shahane Taylor of New York, Messrs. John Bright Hill of Wilmington, William Umstead of Durham, Reynold Allen, Phil Hinea and Leo Harvey of this city [Kinston]."

"Following a beautiful and largely attended reception at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren S. Seipp, at 4119 Roland Avenue, Mr. and Mrs. Perry left for a bridal trip which will take them to Bermuda."

"Mrs. Perry graduated from Hood College, Frederick, MD in June, at which time she received a B.S. degree. She possesses numerous charms and accomplishments and enjoys a wide circle of friends throughout many states. Mr. Perry, widely and favorably known son of Mrs. Lillian Perry, is an A.B. graduate of the University of North Carolina and studied law at Harvard. He is now practicing in Kinston, where his friends are loyal and numerous." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)