

Green Family  
Greensport, Ala.  
St. Clair Co.

tinue to have "Open House" to family and friends. Mattie Lee was born and reared in Virginia and has added her "good old" Virginia culture and charm to the tradition of the Green family. You don't need WELCOME written on the mat to tell that this house is, and always has been, a happy home, occupied by people who love people, and are as interested in them as they are interesting. The doors always swing gaily from welcome hinges to their many friends. You always leave with a pang of regret, but with a firm resolve to return at an early date for the atmosphere is just right and the Greens lovable, charming, gay and most interesting.

## The Fabulous Greens

By Frankye Elizabeth Awrey

There is something vastly different with people who have lived for generations in the same home. They have a distinguished charm, radiate a feeling of security and well being and permanence that one cannot find in people who have no roots in any particular locale. And next to people there is nothing more interesting than the histories of houses, old, yet ever renewed country houses, the splendors they have seen, the births and deaths, the hard times and the good. The interesting people who have lived there and the mark each has left.

There is no home with more historical interest than the home of Pete and Mattie Lee Green at Greensport. This lovely old home set in a stretch of meadows on the banks of the placid Coosa River is about as romantic a house as one can imagine, and the vivid Green family, noted for their charming hospitality, have a family history as interesting and romantic as the house itself.

Soon after being mustered out of the Revolutionary Army (after serving under George Washington) Jacob R. Green settled at Greensport. At the time there was no one in the vicinity but Indians who learned to love and admire this rugged individual and it was they who carried water to the Green family from the springs some distance away. The first smoke house on the Green

property was built from a single poplar log estimated to be eight to ten feet thick. Later the Green family acquired vast lands and the home, built by Dick Crow long before the Civil War, now occupied by Pete and Mattie Lee Green. The entire house is built of heart lumber and was cut with a sash saw. The interior is ceiled with twelve and sixteen inch boards, all doors are hand made, the the flooring, wide heart pine boards, is still as good as new! There is something special about this house any time of day, but particularly at dusk when the mountains on one side cast purple shadows over the entire meadows and the little windows on either side of the front door glow softly and outline the path that leads from the highway.

Several generations of Greens have lived in this house. One of the most popular and beloved was Abraham B. Green, born Jan. 10, 1843, and his wife, Mary Katherine Phillips Green, daughter of Ross Phillips of Asheville. They are still remembered by many "Old Timers" for their hospitality. Quite often I hear these elders reminisce about the square dances, week end parties, and the bountiful food served in the Green home. But hospitality did not stop in this home with the passing of the Abraham Greens. Today their son, Pete Green and his charming wife, Mattie Lee Wright Green con-