You could say the wolf had a

'bit' part in this 1907 opera

ore odds and ends:
Wolf blitz: It happened in
Fayetteville, Ga., in December 1907 at a performance of "Daniel Boone" at the opera house.

There was one scene in which Daniel Boone rescued his sweetheart from a den of wolves into which the Indian "Blackfish" had thrown her.

The great wolf attacked the actress, Leona Leslie, tearing her arm and side. She screamed and her

stage boyfriend, Oscar O'Shea, rushed to pull the girl away from



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the wolf. The animal then turned on O'Shea and tore his leg.

At this point, "a real Catawba Indian" (who was cast as an Indian, perhaps Blackfish) by the name of Bob Harris, rushed forward and drove the wolf back into its den.

The audience then stampeded, barely escaping injuries to themselves in their haste to empty the hall. Leslie and O'Shea were hospitalized with severe injuries. Apparently Bob Harris was not hurt, and the company manager could only say, "The wolf has never been violent before."

Let's play cards: Rock Hill women have belonged to book clubs since the 1890s. Some, like Amelia Pride and Over the Teacups, are truly groups which read books and meet to discuss them or meet to hear a speaker review a book. Over the years new groups have formed; some succeed and some die away.

In 1920 a book club was formed and named Recreation Club. The members accumulated some books but soon abandoned them by donating the books to the Rock Hill Library and, instead of reading, they took up a card game called "42."

The cards could only be bought from an Augusta, Ga., printing establishment. The game somewhat resembled dominoes. It was a popular game and soon spread to Chester and York. We don't know how long the club or the game lasted.

Carroll tradition: The Winthrop Alumnae News once reported what they called a "Carroll monop-

oly." Five Carroll sisters, named Annie, Louise, Edith, Mary and Frances attended Winthrop between 1914 and 1928. It seems that the Bennettsville sisters, beginning with Annie in 1914 and ending with Frances in 1928, occupied the same room, No. 22 in Margaret Nance Dormitory, for the entire 14 years. Each of the first four sisters, when a junior, had a younger sister entering as a freshman. All graduated with A.B. degrees.

You may kiss the bride: South Carolina did not officially record any marriages prior to July 1, 1911. York County Probate Judge E. Gettys Nunn wrote a bill in 1933, which was adopted by the legislature, allowing counties to officially record marriages that took place prior to July 1, 1911. Judge Nunn said, "I am constantly receiving

inquiries about marriage records that do not exist, these inquiries coming from all parts of the United States."

On Nov. 30, 1947, The Charlotte Observer printed a picture of Judge Nunn performing his 50,000th wedding in his 17th year in office. The accompanying article, written by Harper Gault, stated that weddings were performed in York around the clock. Nunn's daughter, Mildred, worked the midnight shift and had performed more than 10,000 weddings.

By the end of 1963, York County had issued more than 175,000 marriage licenses. Judge Charles Nunn estimated that three-fourths of the licenses were secured by couples who lived out-of-state. York had become a Gretna Green, or a "marriage mill," depending on how one looked at it.

Power in a small town: In 1902, Rock Hill used more electric power than Charlotte. At that time, all residential use of electricity was for light; there were no electrical appliances other than incandescent light bulbs. The three major Rock Hill customers were Winthrop College, Roddey Mercantile Co. and A. Friedheim & Bro. The power was generated at India Hook dam (the first dam on the Catawba). Having India Hook nearby was Rock Hill's advantage over Charlotte.

Louise Pettus is a retired history professor from Winthrop University. Her column appears Saturdays.

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