RVF 3 Rochester - Biography - Women

Farley, Mrs Ita P. Koeth, Mrs Christine Gleason, Kate

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Death of Mrs. Ita P. Farley Recalls Long, Active Career The late Dr. Farley's family had been among the founders of First Unitarian Church of this city, and after her marriage, Mrs. Farley was also active in the work of the church, serving for several years as director of its Sunday school.

Was Friend of Susan B. Anthony and Aided Numerous Worthy Causes for Years

Mrs. Ita P. Farley, who for more men active in the suffrage camthan half a century pioneered in paign, including Susan B. Anthony, club and civic welfare work in a close personal friend of Mrs. this city, died Saturday afternoon Farley, whose daughters still recall at the summer home of her daugh the tea for 500 guests given in the home of her son, William Peck ter, Mrs. Frederick C. Bonney, Miss Anthony's honor. But Mrs. Farley, Lake Road, Webster, this Lake Road, Webster.

Farley has been identified with self faithfully to the work of the tery. numerous progressive programs Union, continuing to attend the many of which had their begin-meetings of the Salvage Shop comnings in the Women's Educational mittee of the organization until a and Industrial Union, of which she few months ago, when ill health was a former president. In this compelled her to take a more pasorganization she was among the sive part in its doings. enthusiastic group who sponsored the first vacation school 30 years nember of the Protective Committion. ee which mothered the present With Mrs. William A. Montgomegal Aid Society.

Born at Pompey Hill

woman, Miss Ita Midler, to Roch-years. ester to teach in old No. 10 School. Mrs. Farley was also among the reet, at St. Paul Boulevard.

To the family home came wo-During the past fifty years, Mrs marily political. She devoted her-

Worked for Woman Nominee

ago at No. 9 School, to lay the She fought along with other foundation for the present Roches- women leaders when the school ter playground system. It was Mrs. board was re-organized and Mrs. Farley, also, who assisted in the William A. Montgomery was electestablishment and conduct of the ed to the board, the first woman open air school here, prior to its to hold such a position in this incorporation in the city school city. Mrs. Farley worked, too, to system. She served also on the introduce penny lunches in the committee of the Union which de-schools, a project fostered by the reloped eventually into the Chil-Union until the obligation was ren's Service Bureau, and was a assumed by the Board of Educa-

ery, Mrs. Edward F. Wellington Mrs. Charles Dodge and others she Mrs. Farley was born of Dutch served on the protective commitarentage, Feb. 20, 1851, at Pompey services for those unable to pay dill, southeast of Syracuse. The until in 1912 the Legal Aid Society amily home was on the site of was incorporated. Mrs. Farley has revolutionary grant made to her continued to serve on the board grandfather. She came as a young of the society for the past 18

here she developed the interest in little group of energetic women recation programs and policies who gave impetus to the movement who gave impetus to the movement for a Women's City Club, of which iroughout a busy life. In 1880 she was a foundation member, arried Dr. Porter Farley, Rochter physician and Civil War vetter physician and Civil War vetter, and for many years they are their home at 1 Carthage city manager form of government city manager form of government. for Rochester, Mrs. Farley, at that

time over 70 years of age, made a house to house canvas of several districts.

Sunday School Director

director of its Sunday school.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Bonney of Rochester, and Mrs. George H. Sickles of West Barrington, R. I.; two sons, Walter Lewis and William Peck Farley, both of Rochester; a brother, James Clinton Midler of Toledo; and a sister, Miss Kate Midler of Rochester. There are 11 grandchildren,

The funeral will take place from Farley's interests were never pri- afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Interment will be in Mt. Hope CemeCentral Library of Rochester and Monroe County · Historic Scrapbooks Collection

Witnessed Rochester's History, Tomorrow

Rochester loses a woman who lived through almost the entire period of its history, and in the city for more than 80 years. The funeral Mrs. Koeth's grandchildren was

Rochester she had just come from Street, then much higher. An ex-Germany with her parents, Mr. and tra horse was often added. Mrs. Mrs. Jacob Schroth, from Wurtem- Koeth saw three kinds of illuminaberg, Germany, in a sailing vessel, tion in common use, candles, which Her parents lived opposite to where her father's family made in their Andrews School, No. 9, now is in home; kerosene lamps and the elec-Joseph-Avenue, at Baden Street, tric bulbs. She knew the crude Their homestead, a brick house, bridge that once spanned the Genhas been merged into the blocks esee in front of the present buildnow numerous in that congested ing of the Democrat and Chronicle, section, but then a residential dis- She attended Salem Church before trict.

Studied Assiduously

in her husband's office in Main that did not ruffle with years. Street West, about where the Rochester Savings Bank now stands.

five children. Two died in in- lic affairs. A prominent Mason, fancy; one, George Koeth, in early he had much to do with the or-

living, Mrs. Joseph A. MacAllister, of 165 Berkeley street, and Mrs. H. C. Whittlesey, of Stone Road. She also leaves one brother, John U. Schroth; one sister, Mrs. Emma Bochart: 11 grandchildren and a number of great-grandchildren.

Rev. Charles J. Keppel, minister of religious education at Salem Church, will officiate at the funeral. Rev. Dr. Frederick Frankenfeld, minister, is out of town.

Mrs. Koeth had an unusual mem-Who ory, relating current events of general interest with marked accuracy One memory she had of early Rochester days was when her family had to get all the water for their home, in Main Street West, either from a pump about where In the passing of Mrs. Christine burgh Railroad station now is or Koeth, 90, who died yesterday at from another pump where the her home, 165 Berkeley Street Burke Building is in Main Street East. They got their water for household uses in barrels.

Saw Strange Changes

A recollection now humorous to will be conducted tomorrow after- one of when the early horse cars moon at 2 at her late home, followed were so heavy for the horses that by burial in Mount Hope cemetery, the men all got out and walked up When Mrc. Koeth first knew the hill from Front to St. Paul it bore this name, at a building in Allen Street.

Christine, oldest of her par- Mrs. Koeth was a remarkably ents' six daughters and two sons. preserved woman to the end. Unleft school early, and at 16 was til she took her bed about four married. While her school years weeks ago she cared for her own were cut short, her education was clothing, and, much against the continued. She read both German protests of her daughter in the and English. Hef husband, the late home with her tried to assist in August M. Koeth, had been educat- other household duties. She vised at college in Germany, and Ited a sister in the west end of through association with him and the city some six weeks before by her own efforts and reading she her death. She used glasses only acquired knowledge. She did what for reading and her skin bore was quite unusual for a woman to hardly a wrinkle. This elderly do in those days, kept the books woman had a lovable disposition

Mr. Koeth died 35 years ago. He was twice city assessor and Mrs. Koeth was the mother of took considerable interest in pubmanhood, and two daughters are ganization of Germania Lodge of Perfection

RVF Rochester - Biography Wome \$100,000 GLEASC BEQUEST TO AID POOR PATIENTS

Baltimore Specialist Announces Plan to Help Sufferers

FOR HIS OWN USE

Doctor Kelley Is Said To Have Sufficient Private Resources

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 14-(Special Dispatch)-The \$100,000 bequest left to Dr. Howard A. Kelley of this city by Miss Kate Gleason, famous woman industrialist of Rochester, N. Y., will be used for

Although his plans were indefinite at present, Doctor Kelley said the money would be used to help such needy persons with whom he came in contact personally. In no event, he explained, would it be distributed through organized charity. The surgeon is widely known here for his charity and explained that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to use the Gleason bequest in this manner. He is reputed to have ample private resources and his hospital in Eutaw Place here lists patients from all parts of the country.

In providing the \$100,000 gift to Doctor Kelley, Miss Gleason's will said "to whom I am grateful for his expert knowledge in the use of radium." It was explained here today that Doctor Kelley was a pioneer in the medical use of radium, particularly in treatment the noted surgeon and cancer speof cancer. His patients include cialist announced here today. out the United States.

A mistake in Doctor Kelley's name in the making of the will, which referred to him as "Dr. Lorenzo Kelley" was rectified today in a communication from the executors of the Gleason estate.



KATE GLEASON is the busiest "retired" woman in the land. She is now engaged in developing a sea island off the South Atlantic Coast, in building houses at East Rochester, New York, for families with small incomes, and in erecting war memorials in France. Between times she has other projects to occupy her mind. She is, according to her own definition,

"A lucky rover over the face of the earth"; but she earned tright to rove by years of brilliant salesmanship and manament when she was actively connected with the famous Gl son Works of Rochester. She was one of the first women to go the road as a traveling salesman, and the record she made still fresh in the memory of her friends and her competitors

Kate Gleason Dies; Made Name for Self In Business World

Miss Kate Gleason, 67, philan-father's bookkeeper and, in addithropist, business woman, patron tion, was keeping up her school of the arts and a woman widely known in the industrial world died University in the engineering at 11:06 o'clock this morning in course. This course she never com-Genesee Hospital.

hospital Jan. 3. Her illness was diagnosed as pneumonia. She responded to treatment and her condition did not become critical until first woman salesman of machinevesterday.

She maintained a residence, the Clones, East Avenue, Brighton, and another house in France. Her time was divided between these places and Beaufort, South Carolina. She came to Rochester from the South ently in excellent health.

Miss Gleason was born in this years old when her eldest brother. Thomas, who had been his father's assistant in the Gleason Tool gears and leasing the gear-planers. Works, died, and one year later she to assist with the clerical work in his office on Saturdays.

work so she finished high school at 16 and was ready to enter Cornell pleted. She was recalled before the end of the first year to help her Miss Gleason was taken to the father build up the business he had founded.

From her experience in the office, Miss Gleason branched out as the tools. The very unusualness of this work proved an asset to her, she

In 1893, when depression swept the United States, the Gleason Works found little demand for machine-tools and Miss Gleason urged for the Christmas holidays, appar- her father, who was a talented inventor, to perfect his gear-planing machine. Within five years after city, Nov. 25, 1865, the second child this machine had been patented of William Gleason and Ellen Mc- and placed on the market the Glea-Dermot Gleason. She was 11 son Machine Works discontinued the making of machine-tools and devoted itself exclusively to making

Miss Gleason never was able to persuaded her father to allow her scotch the story she had invented the gear-planer, for which her father was entirely responsible. Her At 14 she was acting as her love and admiration for her father was such that she resented anything that might take away from his rightful glory as an inventor and a business man.

Stories of Work Enlarged

But in the '90s the very idea of a woman having anything to do with a machine factory was so novel that it was inevitable that the stories of her achievements in the new field should be embroidered and, many times, wholly invented. And since it was true that her constant study of machinery and engineering problems had given her knowledge surpassing that of many men in the business and led to her being elected the first woman member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in recognition of her work in gear design, it is not surprising that these stories should have persisted.

Miss Gleason represented the Gleason Works on numerous trips abroad and remained actively associated with the firm until 1914, when she withdrew and undertook another unusual job, being appointer receiver in bankruptcy for a Rochester machine-tool shop that was in such condition it was expected to pay not more than 10 cents on the dollar.

By Aug. 1, 1915, under Miss Gleason's management, the company had paid its debts in full, had returned the stock to the stockholders and was once more a going concern for the former owners.

Financed Factories

The years that followed were busy ones for Miss Gleason. She engaged in building in East Rochester and assisted in financing eight factories in the town which did prosperous business during the war years.

In addition to the group of homes which Miss Gleason built at Concrest, East Rochester, she laid out a golf course, built a club house and laid out a small park. During the war years she was appointed president of the First National Bank of East Rochester. being the first woman to hold such a position in a National Bank.

A few years after the war Miss Gleason arranged her affairs so she need not be tied in any one place longer than she wished. She went to France and purchased the village of Septmont, near Soissons, with its historic tower dating back many centuries.

There she established a library as a memorial to the A. E. F. and, year by year, made improvements in the village, which provided work for her tenants in the village. In the same year, 1927, she undertook an extensive building project in California, and a year or two later became interested in the development of the little town of Beaufort, S. C., in the Sea Island country, where she not only purchased property in the town, on which she created a hotel, but also many acres on the outlying Lady Island, which faces Beaufort, and the entire island of Dataw.

Develops Island

In 1932 she carried forward her plans for development of Lady Island, erecting a club house, building a sea-pool and yacht wharf, laying out a golf course, and planning the erection of a group of homes to be known as Colony Gardens.

Although Miss Gleason maintained Clones, the beautiful Moorish house in East Avenue; and a home in Septmont; she had, in late years, called Beaufort her home town and had completely allied herself with the interests of its people, her building operations there giving work to hundreds during the depression years.

In 1929 Miss Gleason entered upon a deliberate plan to "unburden herself," as she put it, by which she meant to dispose of her holdings or plan their disposal so that she might feel free to devote herself to the work in Beaufort which so appealed to her.

To this end she gave to Mechanics Institute her holdings in East Rochester and arranged for the disposal of her property in California for philanthropic purposes. Her Septmont home, she once said, would ultimately be used as a home for French parish priests, forced to retire from active service because of age or illness.

Throughout her life Miss Gleason was actuated by a generous spirit of helpfulness which was not restricted to the giving of money but extended to her own effort, time and sympathy. Her gifts to the usual funds for charity were generous, but she gave far more in ways which were known to but few of her relatives and close friends.

Aided Orphans

She made provision for a number of orphan children in homes where they had family care. She provided annuities for a number of persons, some of them friends of her earlier days, some of them personally unknown to her but commended to her by some condition or some act of service of which she had heard.

Like all wealthy people she was beseiged by begging letter writers and she had little use for the professional beggar, but she found great happiness in helping persons who were worthy. She frequently said that she was grateful for early experience of comparative poverty, which had taught her the value of small things in making others happy.

Although she was never able to complete her course at Cornell University and thus was not a graduate alumnus, Miss Gleason was a loyal friend of the university and gave generously to its needs. She filled the place of the college training she was forced to forego with extensive reading and study and was excellently informed on world topics and on history. She was a brilliant conversationalist with a fine gift for story telling, in which her flashing Irish wit found play.

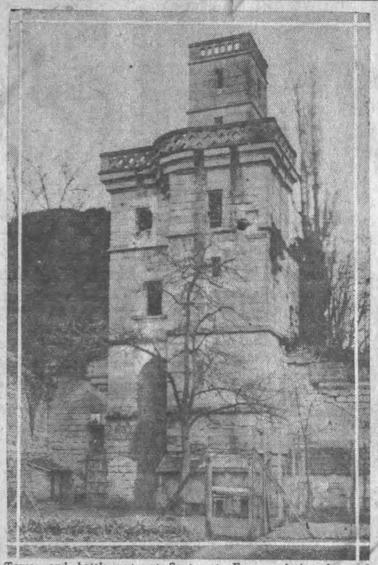
Throughout her life Miss Gleason had a talent for making friends. As a young woman she was a friend and warm admirer of Susan B. Anthony, Rochester's suffragist leader, who saw, in the girl forging her way in the field of mechanics, a shining example of her own theories that women needed but the opportunity to succeed in fields hitherto closed to them. Miss Gleason never forgot the encouragement and advice given by Miss Anthony and many times went out of her way to repay it through similar aid given to other women who were carving a niche for themselves in the business and industrial world.

Miss Gleason was several times chosen to represent the Society of American Engineers at world conferences. She was one of the group of American engineers which made a tour of inspection in England and the allied countries of Europe toward the close of the World War, and in 1930 she was appointed special representative of the Engineering Society to attend the World Conference on Power in

Germany. She was also a member of the American delegation which made an invited tour of the Far East several years ago.

Survivors are two brothers, James E. and Andrew C. Gleason, and a sister, Eleanor Gleason.

Built in 12th Century



Tower and battlements at Septmont, France, dating from the Twelth Century, which were purchased in 1925 by Miss Kate Gleason.

GIVES FUND AS TRIBUTE TO TEACHER

Many Rochesterians Are Remembered in Noted Woman's Will

A bequest of \$100,000 is made to the City of Rochester for the establishment of a memorial history alcove in the public library; \$100,4 000 is left to Dr. Lorenzo Kelley of Baltimore, Md., widely known physician; \$25,000 is bequeathed to the Rochester Engineering Society, and numerous bequests are made to personal friends, under the will of Miss Kate Gleason, of the Town of Pittsford.

The will was filed yesterday afternoon with Surrogate Joseph M. Feely by Leonard C. Bacon, member of the law firm of Harris, Beach, Folger, Bacon & Keating, attorneys of the Lincoln-Alliance Bank & Trust Company, as executor. John W. Remington, trust officer of the Lincoln-Alliance, is acting for the executor.

Miss Gleason, philanthropist and pioneer woman industrialist end engineer, died at Genesee Hospital

The total of specific bequests is \$348,000, exclusive of gifts of real estate and personal effects, and a very considerable residuary estate remains, it is reported. No estimate is available at this time. Miss Gleason is reported to have made gifts of more than \$1,000,000 in the last few years, in addition to the bequests under her will, and many of her gifts have not been made

The residuary estate is estab-lished in a trust fund, to be known as the Kate Gleason Fund, and Eleanor Gleason, sister of the testatrix; Henry T. Noyes and Carlton F. Bown, attorney, are named as trustees. Miss Gleason has left a memorandum concerning the use of the fund, and the trustees have broad discretionary powers.

Provides for Employes

It is understood that the sub-stantial portion of the residue of Miss Gleason's estate is represented by her large holdings in the Gleason Works and that her instructions in the memorandum to the trustees are to use these holdings for the welfare of the employes of the Gleason Works through their welfare fund and further to provide for increasing the number of employe-stockholders through the sale of stock to them on liberal and generous

Eleanor Gleason receives all the jewelry, automotive equipment, books and all personal effects, other than these specifically bequeathed in the will, and in addition, Miss Gleason receives all of the preferred stock owned by her sister in the Gleason Works.

The bequest of the \$100,000 to the City of Rochester is for the establishment, equipment and maintenance of a history alcove or history department in the public library of Continued on Page Two the city, "which shall be a memorial for Amelia Brettello, formerly a teacher of history in the Rochester high school to whom I am grateful for the inspiration given by her to me in the study of history; and I request that a memorial tablet or medallion be placed in such history alcove in commemoration of this said gift and of the said Amelia Brettelle."

Gift to Physician

In providing for the gift of \$100,-000 to Doctor Kelley, the will reads 'to whom I am grateful for his expert knowledge in the use of radium." The document provides that if Doctor Kelley does not survive that the bequest goes to the corporation then maintaining the hospital in Baltimore of which Doctor Kelley is the "owner at the present time."

The bequest of \$25,000 to the Rochester Engineering Society is in equal shares to the trustees or directors, at the time of Miss Gleason's death, with the proviso that the proceeds "be devoted by them to the use and for the benefit of the society."

Paragraph 13 of the will provides for the Kate Gleason Fund, which is believed to concern the larger part of the estate. This provides after the specific bequests that all the rest, residue and remainder of the estate, both real and personal, is bequeathed to "my said sister Eleanor Gleason, and my friends, Henry T. Noyes and Carlton F. Bown, both of Rochester, in trust, for the following purpose:

Trust Fund Purposes

"To hold, manage and dispose of the principal and to pay out all of the income of said residuary property and estate and to and for such public charitable uses as they shall deem best in their absolute discretion for the purpose of assisting in the establishment of or of aiding any public, educational, benevolent or scientific uses and purposes either in the United States or abroad, intending that any part of said funds may be paid to any charitable institution or institutions selected by my trustees and organized for any of such public charitable purposes or to any municipal corporation in trust for, or for the purpose of, any benevolent, recreational or educational uses, provided, however, that no such funds shall be so paid or distributed to any institution organized or operated for private gain; and I authorize and empower my said trustees of this residuary trust to incorporate or cause to be incorporated a charitable corporation with powers to carry out one or more of such charitable purposes and to pay over to such corporation part or all of said trust funds for the uses of such corporation; all the powers and duties of the be performed absolutely in their discretion and as they shall deem to be most in accordance with my wishes, for which purpose it is my intention to leave a memoraum with them."

Beyond indicating that the memorandum recited the interest of Miss Gleason in the employes of the Gleason Works and her desire that they benefit under the stock selling and welfare program, there was no announcement from the trustees as to the contents of the memorandum. It is pointed out that there is no prohibition on the part of the trustees to turn over portions of the trust fund to the city, if they so elect.

Provision is made in the will for the termination of the trust, measured on the life of the youngest child of Andrew C. Gleason, brother of Miss Gleason, or the youngest child of Rochester H. Rogers. Neither of these children have an interest in the trust, their names being mentioned to measure its tenure. At the termination of the trust the trustees, or their successors, are empowered to distribute absolutely the trust for such charitable, benevolent, educational and scientific corporations as they select, but having their principal places of operation or usefulness in Monroe County, or in Beaufort County, S. C.

Noves Left \$20,000

Mr. Noyes, who is one of the trustees, and who receives a specific bequest of \$20,000, has for many years been a friend of Miss Gleason. Mr. Noyes also receives the real property known as the River Farm, situated on the east side of the Genesee River in the town of Brighton, together with all the contents, including all house and farm furnishings, equipment and animals.

Archbishop Edward J. Hanna of San Francisco receives all the real property known as Roca Cuadrada, situated at Sausalite, Calif, together with all the contents, except books and articles of personal use.

Elizabeth G. Sanders, of Mont-

clair, N. J., a friend, receives all the lands and real property known as Dawtaw Island, South Carolina, together with the approaches and all real property adjoining the same, together with the contents, excepting books and articles of personal use.

Paris Post, No. 1, of the American Legion, receives all lands and real property known as Septmonts, situated in the Department of Aisne, France, and all lands and real property known as Bucy-le-Long, situated in the Department of Aisne, France, together with all furnishings, equipment and contents, with the exception of books, articles of the testatrix's personal use.

Employes Remembered

Among the many bequests to individuals is that of \$5,000 to Schuyler Earl, now or formerly employed by the Gleason Works, and \$1,000 each to John J. Bethune, William J. Hughey, Leon Slade, George Hunter and William Lewis, all connected with the Gleason Works, and \$1,000 to Mrs. Fox, the widow of Stanley Fox, formerly connected with the Gleason Works.

A trust fund of \$10,000 is set up, with the Lincoln-Alliance Bank & Trust Company as trustee, for the purpose of providing an income for Margaret Dobmaier, "formerly my housekeeper." It is to be paid quarterly or more often at the discretion of the trustee, and at the death of the beneficiary, the \$10,000 is to revert to the residuary estate.

Miss Gleason provides that neither the Lincoln-Alliance or any of the three trustees of the Kate Gleason Fund be required to furnish a bond for the proper performance of their duties. The will was witnessed by Leonard B. Bacon, B. J. Hutchinson and Leonard Lee Bacon.







Ellen Gleason

Lois Jameson

Eleanor Gleason has brought to realization the vision o fher sister, Kate, who died last January by completing the building of Colony Gardens (above) on Ladies Island, Beaufort, S. C., as a winter recreation colony for artists and writers.

Colony Gardens, with its 10 apartments and adjoining swimming pool, has been placed in charge of two Rochester girls, Ellen Gleason and Lois Jameson, Smith College alumnae of the Class of 1933.

Two Rochester Girls Direct S.'C. Projects Of Late Kate Gleason

Niece and Friend Manage Colony Gardens on Ladies' Island, Beaufort, S. C., Designed to Spur Community as Win-ter and Summer Resort

By AMY H. CROUGHTON

Two Rochester girls, Ellen Gleason, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew C. Gleason of Ramsey Park, and Lois Jameson, daughter of Mrs. Adelaide Burke Jameson, now living in Northampton, Mass., but until two years ago a resident of this city, are in charge of the Colony Gardens development on Lady's

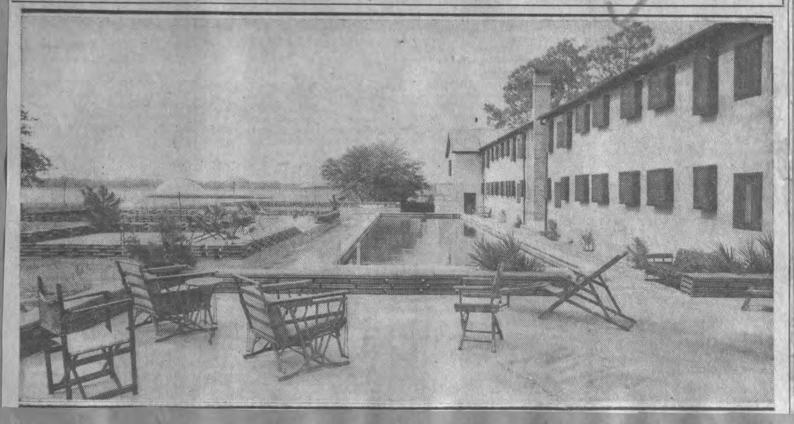
Island, Beaufort, S. C. Colony Gardens is one of the projects for Beaufort in which. Miss Kate Gleason was interested at the time of her death last January. Work on the three buildings, which provide 10 furnished apartments of bedroom, living room, kitchenette, and bath, had just been begun by Miss Gleason when she came North of 1933. Their work as managers last year to spend the Christmas

the famous Sea Island Cotton country, but its prosperity was shattered by the scourge of the boll weevil. Miss Kate Gleason believed the town could be rehabilitated as a recreational center and in planning Colony Gardens she had in mind, particularly, the provision of living and recreational facilities for artists, writers, and others, at a rental that would not be prohibitive. Her sister, Miss Eleanor Gleason, her niece, Ellen Gleason, and a young friend, Lois Jameson, are doing their best to bring her vision to realization.

Ellen Gleason and Miss Jameson are Smith College girls of the Class and hostesses of Colony Gardens is

their first venture in carving out a business career. Annar are good at their job, for Miss Eleanor Gleason says the aparements were nearly niw last summer and that five of them already are occupied, although the winter season for the South has not yet opened.

Rochester Project in the South



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