



NEWTON BUTTON CLUB—Members of the Newton Button Club and a visitor view a horse bridle rosette. In the picture are, left to right, Mrs. Violet Doles, Mrs. May Harrison, Mrs. Carr Strueby, Mrs. Clifford Johnson, and the visitor, Mrs. Florence Anderson. (Kansan Staff Photo).

Newton Club Gathers Many Buttons in Score of Years

The Newton Button Club, an organization began in 1935, has accumulated thousands of buttons among the seven members. They have shown their extensive collection in various local store windows throughout the years and have mounted the miniature discs on cards according to type, subject, materials, size, and age in specific arrangements.

Mrs. Carr Strueby is president of the local club and treasurer for the state organization. Other members are Mrs. Violet Doles, Mrs. May Harrison, Mrs. Clifford Johnson, Mrs. J. O. Spencer, Mrs. Nora Gray, and Mrs. Grace Green.

Common as the Teutonic word "button" may seem, they were not known to be in use until the 13th or 14th Century in southern France. Yet, Mrs. Strueby has in her possession a rare metal button featuring the profile of Cleopatra believed to have been used during her reign.

Among the portrait collection of metal is a brass one of Princess Eugenie, wife of Napoleon III and a steel studded one of Henry of Navarre.

Mrs. Strueby has three horse bridle rosettes made of huge glass buttons on a leather strap featuring pictures of animals, flowers, and heraldic symbols.

Buttons have been made out of almost every material found. Some have been made from painted porcelain, ivory, ebony, stained wood, silver and gold, inlaid, colored glass, milkglass, rubber, gourd, alabaster, plastic, blown glass, Amrita Damascene from To-

a mask made in Africa, an old French coin has been converted into a button, and ivory has been hand carved into objects of elephants, India, African, and Chinese symbols.

Massive storybook buttons, usually made out of brass, depict children's classics such as Village Blacksmith, Pegasus, Pied Piper, Simple Simon, Dickens' characters, and Madonna and Child.

Rubber buttons date back to 1851 and bulleeyes which are 100 years old have contrasting colored centers. Calico, ringers, and stencils were used 100 years ago.

The pick back button, also 100 years old, gained its name from the process in which it was loosened from its mold. Hoofs of animals were ground into powder, made into liquid form, and hardened in a mold. When removed, a needle fine pick was stuck into the back to draw it from the frame.

Among the brass military buttons collected are Confederate, The Dorsetshire Regiment, and Great Britain 5th Royal Irish Lancers, brass state seals, and the U. S. Coat of Arms, and U. S. military buttons.

a little girl, I was always into mother's button box because she had so many pretty ones."

Mrs. Doles prefers story book buttons because, "they carry out a lot of history."

"My parents were pioneers," she continued. "And like everyone else, we saved everything. Most of all, I remember how interesting it was to sort out my mother's button box."

Democrat Women Hear Candidates

The Harvey County Chapter of Federation of Democratic Women's Club met Thursday evening at Gas Service Co., with 50 members present.

Mrs. Jenilee Miller, president, introduced guest speakers Duane Baird, Democratic candidate for nomination for state senator and Dr. Jerome Wilson, Democratic candidate for nomination for state representative.

A short business meeting was held to discuss plans for setting up a communication system for all members.

Mrs. Miller and her officers served at buffet table during the social hour.

The next meeting will be held late in September.

Birthday Party For Stephen Jordan

Stephen Jordan was honored this afternoon on his eighth birthday by a swimming and barbecue party given by his mother, Mrs. James Jordan.