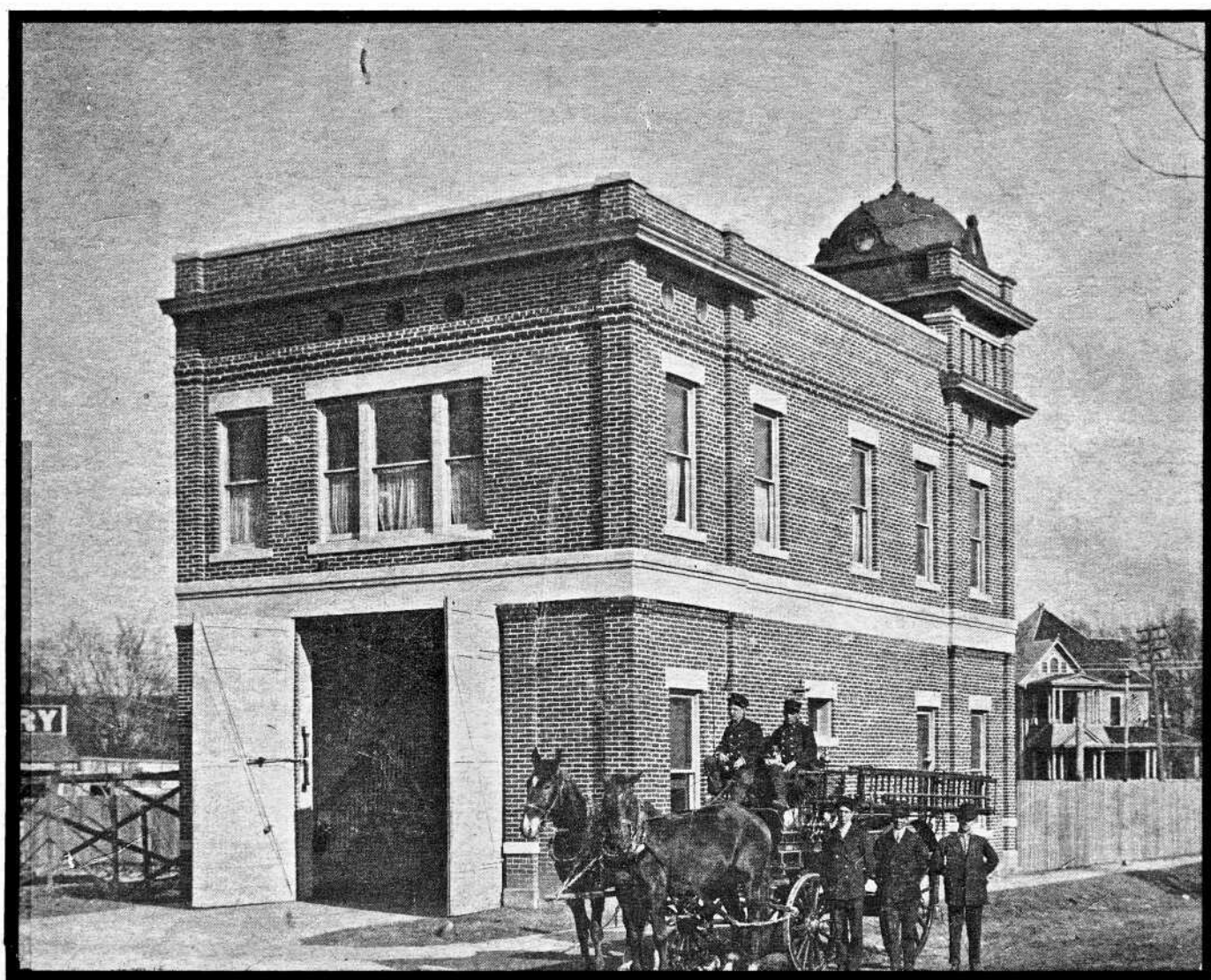


# The JOURNAL



VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1 • SEPTEMBER 1977



# The JOURNAL

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Membership in Fort Smith Historical Society entitles member to publications of the Society. There will be no more than 4 nor less than 2 publications yearly. Our year begins Jan. 1 and ends Dec. 31.

We welcome the loan of Fort Smith historical material and will return promptly.

The Fort Smith Historical Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization under Sec. 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Gifts and legacies are deductible.

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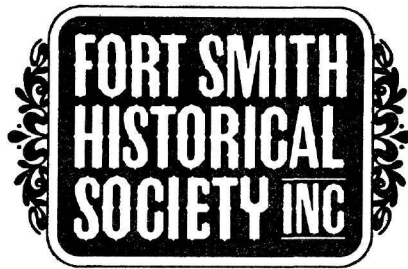
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**FRONT COVER:**

Design by Ed Hunter, Huntergraphics

Picture Fire Station #2, 1906, Rogers Avenue and 18th  
Courtesy of Jim Dew





Dear Reader:

With the printing of this issue, the Fort Smith Historical Society begins what we hope will be decades of preserving the written and spoken word about Fort Smith, Arkansas. This is the birth of THE JOURNAL!

In our Bicentennial year, October 29th, a group of 11 people met to discuss a historical society. We were concerned about the missing history link in a town that has been in the forefront in preserving museum pieces and buildings. A second meeting with more citizens was held November 19th, and still another meeting was held December 3rd. It was decided at this time to form a historical society for the city of Fort Smith in April, 1977. The organizational meeting took place April 15, 1977 at the Fort Smith Public Library and board members and officers were elected.

The oral history program started immediately. This issue of THE JOURNAL is the first for written history and will be the first of two issues for 1977. We then plan to have THE JOURNAL published quarterly each year.

We need the community backing for this project and encourage articles, pictures, and ideas from you. The Historical Society has an idea book in the Arkansas Room at the Fort Smith Library for you to leave material if you like. If you have family keepsakes that you would like to loan for the use of THE JOURNAL, we will be most careful of your heirlooms and return them as promptly as they have been copied.

We have carefully researched all articles. However, if a mistake has been made, we would like to correct it for the records and welcome you telling us about such mistakes.

We hope you enjoy THE JOURNAL.

Most Sincerely,

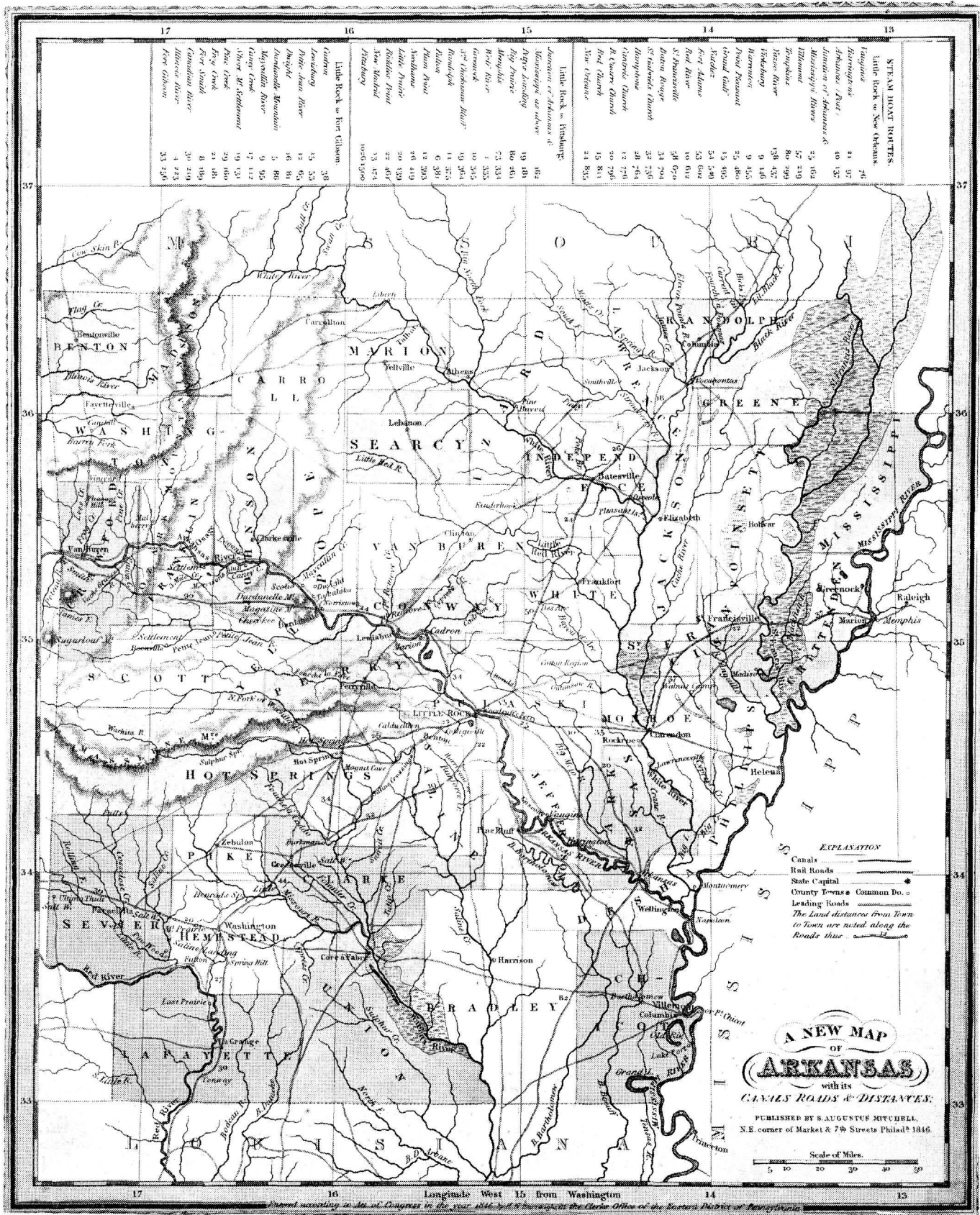
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Pollan".

Rep. Carolyn Pollan

P.S. After showing your friends THE JOURNAL.....save it..... historical journals always increase in value.

61 SOUTH 8th STREET • FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS 72901

# THE TOWN OF FORT SMITH, CRAWFORD COUNTY<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Fort Smith was a part of Crawford County until Sebastian County was formed in January 6, 1851.

# FORT SMITH ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION PAPERS 1842

An Act to incorporate the Town of Fort Smith.

## SECTION

1. Town of Fort Smith incorporated.
2. Trustees appointed for 1843.
3. Trustees to survey and lay off the town.
4. Provides for the annual election of 5 trustees.
5. Qualifications of trustees.
6. Form of oath to be taken by trustees.
7. Failure to hold election, how remedied.
8. Meeting of trustees, and appointment of officers.
9. Trustees to appoint assessor, and his duties.
10. General powers of trustees.
11. Limits of jurisdiction.
12. Powers of president of the board of trustees.
13. Penalties, forfeitures, or fines imposed by corporation, may be plead in

## SECTION

- bar to any action on the part of the State.
14. Trustees to appoint town sergeant, and his duties.
15. Trustees to fix amount of penalties, and to determine fees of president.
16. President of board to keep docket.
17. Town sergeant allowed same fees as township constables.
18. This act not to prevent justice of the peace or constable from being eligible to offices of president and town sergeant.
19. Manner of holding elections.
20. Vacancies, how filled.
21. Trustees not to contract singly.
22. Corporation not to issue any change tickets, and penalty for so doing.
23. When to take effect.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas, That the town of Fort Smith, in the county of Crawford, shall be, and the same is hereby incorporated.*

**SEC. 2.** *Be it further enacted, That John Rodgers, Charles A. Birnie, Joseph H. Heard, Joseph Bennett, and Samuel Edmonson, are hereby constituted and appointed trustees for said town, who shall continue in office for the term of twelve months from and after the first day of January next, (1843,) any three of whom may form a quorum to do business.*

**SEC. 3.** *Be it further enacted, That the said trustees may fix the metes and bounds of said town, and have the same surveyed and platted, if the same has not been previously done, and laid out in streets and alleys, and cross streets, as they may direct; which plats of the survey of said town shall be recorded in the clerk's office of the Crawford county court, within three months after the passage of this act.*

**SEC. 4.** *Be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the free male inhabitants of said town of Fort Smith, who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and who are entitled to vote for county representatives, and all other male persons who have attained the aforesaid age, (negroes, mulattoes, and Indians excepted,) who own a town lot or lots in said town, to meet at some convenient house in said town, on the first Monday of January, 1844, and every year thereafter, and elect five trustees for said town, to serve for one year thereafter, and until their successors are elected and qualified.*

**SEC. 5.** *Be it further enacted, That no person shall be elected a trustee, or qualified to act as such, unless he shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and reside within the limits of said town, and be owner of real property in the said town.*

**SEC. 6.** *Be it further enacted, That the trustees appointed by this act, and their successors hereafter to be elected, before they act as such, shall take the following oath, to be administered by any justice of the peace: "You do swear, (or affirm, as the case may be), that you will well and truly discharge the duties of a trustee of the town of Fort Smith, and that you will, as far as comes within your knowledge, cause all persons to be proceeded against who violate any of the by-laws or ordinances of said town of Fort Smith, without favor, partiality or affection."*

**SEC. 7.** *Be it further enacted, That if the citizens of the said town shall at any time hereafter fail to have an election on the day appointed in this act, that then and in that case, the clerk or any trustee may, by giving ten days previous notice, have an election held for trustees, which shall be as legal as though it had taken place on the day herein appointed.*

**SEC. 8.** *Be it further enacted, That the trustees shall, on the first Saturday after the election, meet at some convenient house in said town, and at such other times and places as they may think necessary for the internal policy of said town; and that they shall, at their first meeting, choose a president of the board, who shall hold his office until the next annual election: they shall also appoint one of their own body a treasurer, who shall, before he enters upon his duties, give bond and security, payable to the president and his successors, in the penalty of five hundred dollars, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties as treasurer; and the said treasurer shall receive from the collector of the tax, all moneys collected by him for town tax or fines, and shall pay over the same to the order of the board; and upon his failing or refusing to do so, the president may cause an application to be made to the Crawford county circuit court, to render judgment against said treasurer and securities, for the amount of money in his hands; and the said court is authorized, upon ten days notice having been given to the said treasurer, by the clerk of the board*

of trustees, to enter a judgment against him and his securities, for the amount of money which shall appear in the hands of said treasurer, with thirty per cent. thereon, damages, and costs of the motion; and execution shall issue on said judgment forthwith, endorsed that no security of any kind shall be taken.

The trustees shall, at their first meeting, appoint a clerk, who shall hold his office until the next annual election, but for good cause may be removed; and the clerk so appointed, before he enters upon the duties of his office, shall take an oath, to be administered by the president of the board, that he will, to the best of his skill and ability, make true entries, and [perform] such other duties as may devolve upon him by virtue of his office, and that he will safely keep the books and papers given him in charge.

**SEC. 9.** *Be it further enacted, That the trustees shall have power to appoint an assessor, who shall be sworn to discharge, in a faithful and impartial manner, his duty. It shall be the duty of the assessor to make out and furnish to the trustees, at such times as they may appoint, lists of the taxable property of each individual in said town, with the value attached thereto, and also a list of the lots, and the value thereof, which belong to individuals which do not reside in said town. The trustees shall also have power to appoint a collector, annually, to collect taxes assessed on taxable property and titles in said town, who shall give bond and security to the trustees of said town, for the faithful performance of his duty; and the said collector shall have power to make distress and sale, (if necessary), in the same manner as is now authorized by law in regard to sheriffs, in collecting the revenue and county tax in this State; and said trustees shall allow to said assessor and collector an adequate compensation for their services; they shall also allow their treasurer and clerk such compensation for their services as they may deem reasonable and just.*

**SEC. 10.** *Be it further enacted, That the said trustees may enact such by-laws and ordinances, not contrary to the constitution and laws of this commonwealth, as they in their discretion may deem most expedient for the government of said town; and to impose fines and forfeitures for all violations of the same: they shall have power annually to lay and levy a tax on the inhabitants and real property of said town; *Provided*, the same shall not exceed twenty-five cents on each hundred dollars worth of real property, with a poll tax not exceeding fifty cents for each titheable: and the said trustees shall have power to purchase, sell, and convey the titles to any lots in said town, in whom the same shall, upon their appointment be vested; and to contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, and to do all and singular the acts and things, in their corporate capacity, concerning the premises, which individuals might lawfully do.*

**SEC. 11.** *Be it further enacted, That the trustees of the town of Fort Smith shall have jurisdiction for one half mile, in all directions, from the town limits, within the jurisdiction of this State, over all shows and showmen of all descriptions, pedlars, and auctioneers, and all exhibitions and performances, where money is charged for admittance for a sight thereof, under such penalties as they may choose to impose, having a discretion, however, to exempt from penalty all exhibitions which in their judgment tend to promote the objects of science and popular information among the people. And it shall be the duty of the president of the board of trustees, to take jurisdiction of all offences against the provisions of this act, or against the laws or ordinances of the board of trustees, made by the authority thereof; and to render judgment and award execution thereon, in the same manner as judgment is rendered and execution ordered by justices of the peace; and all fines and penalties imposed by this act, or by the by-laws or ordinances of the board of trustees, shall be recoverable in the name of the trustees of the town of Fort Smith, and shall be applied by them in such manner as they may deem of the most importance to the general welfare of the citizens and the improvement of the town.*

**SEC. 12.** *Be it further enacted, That the president of the board of trustees shall have jurisdiction of all offences against the peace of this State, by affrays, assaults and batteries, riots and unlawful assemblages, in such manner as is made and prescribed by law, which may take place within the prescribed limits of the said town, or one half mile in any direction from the prescribed limits of the said town; that he shall issue process for that purpose in the same manner as writs and other process are now issued in civil cases by justices of the peace, for any violation of the above mentioned laws of the land, subject to appeal to the circuit court of the county of Crawford, as in other cases now specified by law.*

**SEC. 13.** *Be it further enacted, That all penalties, fines, or forfeitures, which may be imposed by the president of the board of trustees, authorized by this act, may be plead in bar to any action on the part of the State of Arkansas, which may be instituted for the same offence before the circuit court of Crawford county: *Provided*, That this act*



shall not be so construed as to deprive any person aggrieved from bringing a civil action for damages in the circuit court of Crawford county, or in any other county where the offender may reside.

SEC. 14. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the trustees to appoint a town sergeant, who, upon oath as a sworn officer, shall be required to give notice to the president of the board of trustees, or to some one member of the board, of any and all persons who commit a breach of the laws or by-laws of said town; and whose duty it shall be to see that the provisions of this act, and the regulations made in pursuance thereof, are carried into effect; and the said trustees shall allow him a compensation for his services.

SEC. 15. *Be it further enacted*, That the board of trustees shall determine upon the amount of penalties to be imposed for the violation of any law specified in this act, as well as against the by-laws and regulations made by the board. They shall furthermore have power to determine upon the amount to be given to the president of the board, as fees in discharge of his duties.

SEC. 16. *Be it further enacted*, That the president of the board of trustees shall keep a docket, and make entries of all his official acts, when in the discharge of his judicial duties given him by this act; and when an appeal is prayed for, a transcript from his docket shall be sent up to the circuit court of Crawford county, as in other cases of appeal from a justice's court, now defined by law.

SEC. 17. *Be it further enacted*, That the town sergeant shall be allowed the same fees that are allowed to township constables: *Provided*, That the trustees may have power to increase the same to twice the amount.

SEC. 18. *Be it further enacted*, That this act shall not be so construed as to prevent a justice of the peace or township constable, each living within the prescribed limits of the said town, from being eligible to the office of president of the board of trustees or town sergeant.

SEC. 19. *Be it further enacted*, That in all elections for trustees of the town of Fort Smith, persons entitled to vote for the same shall give their votes *viva voce*; the president of the board and some jus-

tice of the peace to be the presiding officers; and as soon as the election is held and over, the presiding officer shall return the polls to the clerk of the board, certifying to him who have received the highest number of votes polled at said election, and who is thereby duly elected; and the said clerk shall copy said polls into a book to be kept by him for that purpose, and give notice in writing to each person elected as trustee, of his election.

SEC. 20. *Be it further enacted*, That in case of death, resignation, or removal of any of the said trustees, or their successors, the remainder of the trustees shall have power to fill such vacancy, who shall hold their office until the next annual election.

SEC. 21. *Be it further enacted*, That no trustee of said town shall by himself contract for, or procure any other person to contract for him, for any public work let out or disposed of by the board, during his continuance in office.

SEC. 22. *Be it further enacted*, That if the said corporation shall, under any pretext whatsoever, issue any bills, notes, or tickets, or any other promise or obligation to pay, designed or intended to circulate and pass as a currency, such act shall be taken and held as a forfeiture of its charter: any person or persons whomsoever may, in any trial or action by said corporation, give the fact in evidence on such action or trial, and, when proven, shall be a good bar to any such action.

SEC. 23. *Be it further enacted*, That this act be in force from and after the first of January, 1843.

W. S. OLDHAM, *Speaker*  
of the House of Representatives.  
SAM'L. ADAMS, *President*  
of the Senate.

Approved, the 24th Dec., 1842.

A. YELL.



Courtesy Carolyn Pollan

Fort Smith Street Scene - date unknown



# NAMES OF FORT SMITH CITY STREETS CHANGED IN 1891

by Amelia Martin

In Fort Smith, numbered and lettered streets were unknown until a number of city ordinances, passed between 1891 and 1897, changed the names of all the streets now bearing numbers and letters.

Great Americans predominated in the old names of the streets which parallel the river, from Garrison Avenue North, running approximately north and south through the main section of the city, while men prominent in the early history of Fort Smith were represented in the original names of the southside streets, which are today known by the letters of the alphabet.

Lettered streets on the northside were formerly predominately named for trees and fruit.

Listed below are street name changes as made by the 1891 ordinance - showing first the new name, followed by the old name:

North First St. ....	Ozark
North Second St. ....	Washington
North Third St. ....	Wayne
North Fourth St. ....	Green
North Fifth St. ....	Howard
North Sixth St. ....	Knox
North Seventh St. ....	LaFayette
North Eighth St. ....	Franklin
North Ninth St. - Hancock	North Tenth St.
Adams North Eleventh St. ....	Jackson
North Twelfth St. ....	Madison
North Thirteenth St. ....	Monroe
North Fourteenth St. ....	Polk
North Fifteenth St. ....	Taylor
North Sixteenth St. ....	Jefferson
North Seventeenth St. ....	Van Buren
North A ....	Walnut
North B ....	Mulberry
North C ....	Sycamore
North D ....	Hickory
North E ....	Ash
North F ....	Pine

North G .....	Vine
North H .....	Oak
North I .....	Maple
North J .....	Chestnut
North K .....	Poplar
North L .....	Cherry
North M .....	Plum
North N .....	Grape
North O .....	Pear
North P .....	Mary
North Q .....	William
North R .....	Meade
North S .....	Fishback
North T .....	Lucy
South First .....	First
South Second .....	Second
South Third .....	Third
South Fourth .....	Stryker
South Fifth .....	Beckel
South Sixth .....	Atkinson
South Seventh .....	Mayers
North Eighth terminated at its junction with Wheeler, Garland and Carnall Avenues.	
South Ninth .....	Parker
South Tenth .....	Bennet
South Eleventh .....	Kannady
South Twelfth .....	Byrne
South Thirteenth .....	Fitzgerald
There was no Fourteenth or Fifteenth	
South Sixteenth .....	Smythe
South Seventeenth .....	Shanahan
South Eighteenth .....	Welch
South Nineteenth .....	Reiley
South Twentieth .....	Monaghan
South Twenty-first .....	Lucy
(Which was the city limit)	
South A .....	Powell
South B .....	Sullivan

Under this ordinance, all other street names remained the same.



Garrison Avenue  
Looking East  
1871

Courtesy Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce

# EARLY SETTLEMENT

1876-

Billingsley P. O. June the 26  
Sir in reply to your noat of  
June 21. I have this to say  
My fathour with 2 outhr  
famleys mooved from  
Middle Tennessee Charles  
Addams and Samuel  
Williams 6 in each famaley  
made eighteen persons that was  
in eighteen and 14 we came  
to the poast of arkansas in  
a flat boat thare we found  
a french and croal villi-  
age the paupaw indians  
lived on the south side of  
the river thar we exchanged  
our flat boat for a ceale  
boat with a oald <sup>indian</sup> trader  
Thare was nothing like Stame  
Boats on the Mississippi -

Officer then we made our  
Way the best we could  
untell we got to the  
Cadron thar we found one  
of my fathers brothers that  
had mooved from Kentue  
ky in a early day we  
staged thare one year then  
thare was a trety made  
with the cherrockees thar  
they lived on the illinois  
and point remove creeks  
on the north side of the riv  
er some of them lived on  
the ~~near~~ south side of the  
<sup>river</sup> croal creek say Boates  
Village thar mooved to  
Tees and lived in wh-  
at is cald cherrocee  
country then we moved to  
Big mulberry in 1816 we  
made up a bout 30  
famleys and lived thare  
2 years in all of the -

Described by John Billingsley

The authentic date of the first settlement of the territory now composing Sebastian County is that of the establishment of the military post at Fort Smith, in October or November, 1817. That there were white settlers, farmers and traders here before that time there is no doubt, but if so, their names and history, except that of Capt. John Rogers, the first white settler on the site of Fort Smith, have not been preserved. He came soon after the battle of New Orleans terminated the War of 1812, and was afterward appointed first sutler to this post. Some of the soldiers who first came to garrison the post became permanent settlers. Among them was Aaron Barling, the father of Mrs. Jerry Kannady. After leaving the garrison, about the year 1828, he settled on the military road nine miles east of Fort Smith, and there for many years kept a house for the entertainment of travelers. The following letter, addressed to the committee appointed to collect historical matter for the centennial celebration held at Fort Smith in 1876, and embraced in Col. Ben T. Duval's address on that occasion, is of much interest pertaining to the settlement of this part of the country.<sup>1</sup> The original of this letter is the property of the University of Arkansas, Special Collections Library, and is being printed here by special permission of that Library. The original letter is shown in John Billingsley's handwriting, together with a typed version of the letter which preserves Mr. Billingsley's spelling, but has punctuation added to facilitate reading. To hear the sound of John Billingsley's dialect, sound out the words as he spelled them.

Billingsley P. O., June the 26, 1876

Sir, in reply to your noat of June 21, I have this to say. My fathour with 2 outhr famleys mooved from Middle Tennessee - Charles Addams and Samuel Williams, 6 in each famaley, made eighteen persons. That was in eighteen and 14 we came to the Poast of Arkansas in a flat boat. Thare we found a French and Croal village. The Paupaw Indians lived on the South Side of the river. Thar we exchanged our flat boat for a ceale boat with a oald indian trader. Thare was nothing like Stame Boats on the Mississippi River. Then we made our way the best we could untell we got to the Cadron. There we found one of my fathers brothers that had mooved from Kentucky in a early day. We stayed thare one year, then thare was a trety made with the Cherrockees thare. They lived on the Illinois and Point Remove creeks on the North

<sup>1</sup> Goodspeed History of Sebastian County, page 688-689.

4.  
Those happy days The first  
Legislator that was held in  
the Perry town was held  
at the post of Arkansas  
See my further was a  
Member we had no tax  
to pay then but a coun-  
try tax the General gave  
Piment paydall the calla-  
nee about that time  
Magaur Bradfawd came  
to Lawt Smyth and set  
up that post and we fur-  
nished him in buffalo  
Meat for the soldiers  
And then we got some  
Flower from him which  
Was a great treat to us  
All the way that magaur  
Bradfawd got the male  
then was by sending a  
Solider to the post of  
Arkansas in a canoe

Yours in Hast  
John Billingsley

8

15 Which took him a bout  
 8 weeks to make the  
 Trip then the governor must  
 Made a mother treaty with  
 The indians and we moved  
 on the south side of the  
 River and commenced  
 settling all along the riv-  
 er from Fort Smith to  
 The present seat of gover-  
 nment's now first some  
 in the clanes Bottom  
 some at Hardenville some  
 on shoal creek and so  
 on and we soon got thick  
 a nuff to hold camp meeting  
 and every body would  
 go and leave there houses  
 for a week at a time  
 and when they came home  
 every thing was all  
 right we then generally bu-  
 ilt our chimneys up to  
 the mantell places and  
 hung our meat out side  
 on the ribs of the house  
 if any man had had a  
 look on any of his doors  
 in those days he would  
 have been lookin with  
 suspicion we about this  
 time began to git some  
 Male contracts and soon  
 After that some law suits  
 mixt in it must close  
 By saying that there is  
 But 4 persons living now  
 that live on big millberry  
 or 1866 that I can think  
 of now. The reverent  
 John Buchannon  
 The widdow wagmon 75  
 years old and widdow  
 Maxwell and my self  
 you must excuse bad  
 ting and spelling yours in  
 Hast John Billingsley

Apparently this is a second letter or a postscript. The  
 original of this part is not available, but the following  
 typed copy is from the University of Arkansas  
 Special Manuscripts Library:

Sir, in further answer to your kinde noat of the 21  
 instant, I inform you that other time that we first lived  
 on big creek, my father settled at the present Ar-  
 buckle Place; that was in 1818 and the Governor of  
 the then Territory was Fulton, I think, and all the of-  
 fices was filld by appointment. Our first clerk was  
 George Picet and our first Sheriff was James Wilson  
 and they were appointed during good behavior. And  
 the first attorneys was Qualls - I forgot his given  
 name - and Lucas and Dickson - he was a sun-  
 ninglaw of Oald Notrebe of the Poast of Arkansas. At  
 that time, all the new territore of Washington and  
 Sebaston belong to Crawford Countey, and the  
 Coarts was held on the riber below big creed at the  
 oald Jay place. Well, the way that we cloathed  
 ourselves - that is the men and boys - was by drsing  
 Bucksines and wear full sutes of the same. The  
 French came up the riber with large canooes and  
 supplied us with Domestick and checks and  
 Earthing ware and callico. We paid them 37/sents for  
 Domestic and 50 sents per yard for callico and 75  
 sents per yard for checks. I paid \$4, for the first set of  
 tecups and sausers I ever oand, and \$2 for a green  
 edge dish worth now about 5 sents. We paid 50 sents  
 for all the coffee that we got. This was all paid in bare  
 skines and deer skines and coon skines and bares  
 oiel, some bever and orter skines and beas wax and  
 that in abundance, for we had honey in any amount.  
 The first sutler at Fourt Smith was Rodgers and he  
 got very rich he had so large a custom among the  
 citisnons and the soalders. He soald every thing vastly  
 high. He had no opposition onley a small trade on  
 the river. Among the first preachers was the reverent  
 Jacob Sexton of McClanes bottom and the reverent  
 Andrew Buchannon of big creek and Jesse Blare of  
 Big creek and the reverent John Carnihan of the  
 Cadron and the reverent Gill Foard Piland of  
 McClanes bottoms & McLane of McClanes Bottom  
 was the first Squire that was appointed; and him and  
 the preachers done all the marring - and we had  
 some oald back down dances on the dirt floor and if  
 any off us lost aney toe nales, thare never was any  
 thing said about it. So you must excuse bad righting  
 and spelling and wording.

Yours in hast  
 John Billingsley



# VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OF EARLY FORT SMITH

by Bernice Cole

While there is no complete record of those brave men that served with the different companies throughout those early years, some names have been preserved. Too much homage cannot be paid to those men who left their places of business, their homes, etc. to rush out in any kind of weather when the dreaded word "Fire" rang out. Fire was a constant hazard then as it is now, and without these men and their neighbors who were always willing to lend a helping hand . . . Well, there is no doubt that the entire town would have gone up in smoke at one time or another . . . their tools were primitive by today's standards but they worked well with what they had . . . no more can be asked of any man!

Daniel Harrington, William Taylor, William Rutherford, James McBride, Charles Haggarty, Patrick O'Shea, J. L. Yates, J. W. Meek, E. F. Thurman, W. J. Echols, J. Henry Carnall, O. L. Drake, William Breen, M. E. Futral, R. B. Neville, W. O. Christopher, Frank Vogel, Frank Dunlap, Alonzo Buckley, John McCaully, Garrett Hendricks, W. Meek, John A. Meek, Henry Reutzell, Henry Surratt,

Charles Eberle, Walder Paul, Jeff Paul, W. K. Stalcup, Wharton Carnall, W. W. Jackson, F. F. Reynolds, P. A. Vance, S. M. Vivian, A. M. Buckley, H. S. Junk, J. Maledon, J. M. Gannaway, W. E. Page, J. A. Rogers, J. L. Henderson, Will Carter, Frank Horn, Hugh Mattison, O. L. King, G. G. McMillian, John Ayers, George Deutcher, John Archer, James Sparks, C. M. Barnes, George Hayer, William Es-  
kridge, S. E. Burba, Frank Hubbard, Lawson Thrust, Sam Caldwell, W. B. Rutherford, John A. Meek, Robert Wyatt, Frank Morgan, Charles Aydlott, O. L. Drake, W. J. Echols, W. McKinnley, J. J. Little, John Smith, P. C. Barnes, W. W. Wheeler, Joseph Miller, William Whitsett, Ed McKenna, Don Hogan, P. J. Delavney, James Kelly, Charles Lunsford, Mat Klink, Benj. Pennington, George Fink, Ray Eschelman, D. B. Trowbirdge, J. H. Krone, B. Terbietan, Frank Heinrich, D. M. Freed, H. Geheb, James Brizzolara.

Many of these men later joined the regular fire department and gave long and faithful service to that organization also.

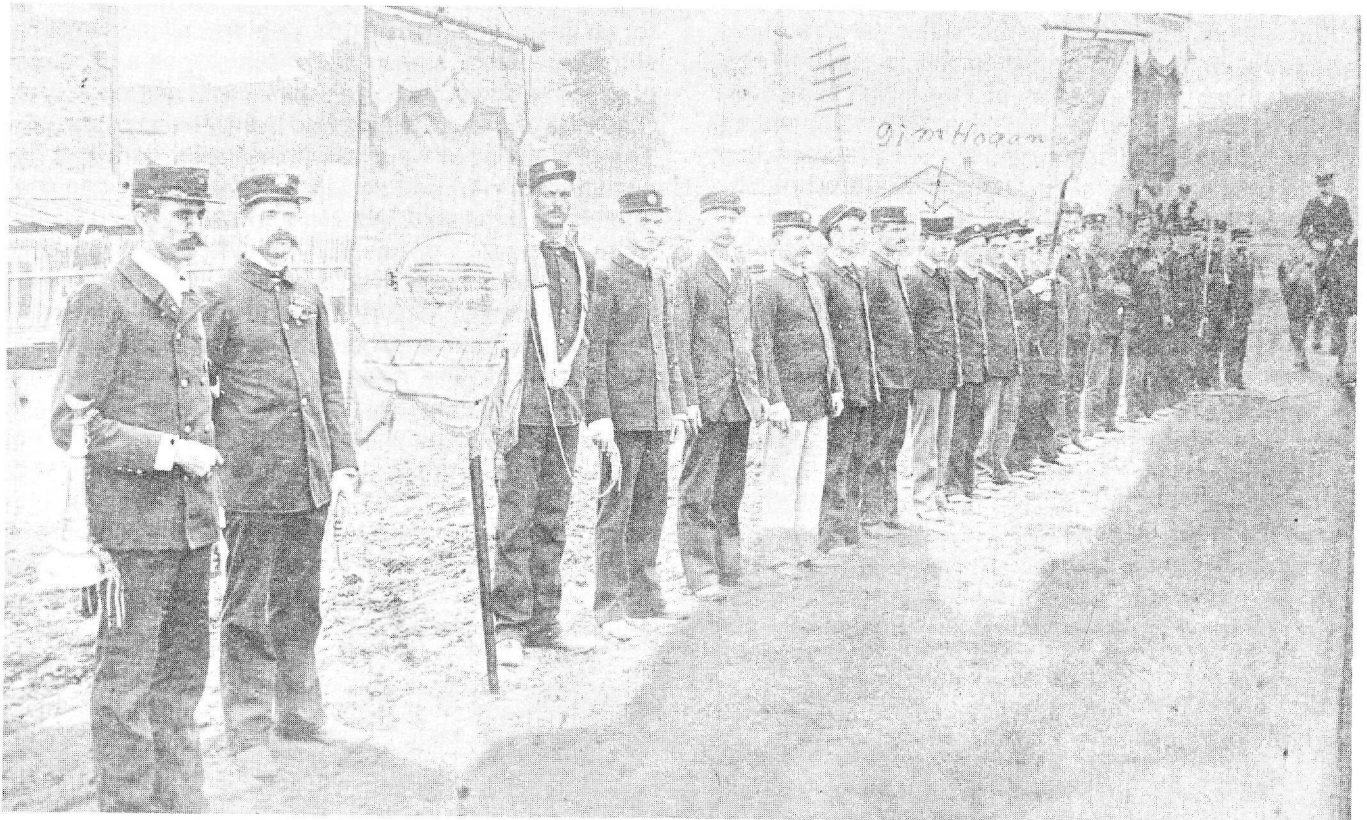


Photo Courtesy Bill Hogan and Jim Dew

Fort Smith Volunteer Fire Dept. 1893. In alley off 6th Street and "A". Third from left, "Doggie" Maynor; ninth from left, Jim Hogan; other members unknown. Jim Hogan was later the tillerman and driver of the first paid firemen. He had been an alternate but became a member when the original

fifth man became inebriated from celebrating and was unable to be sworn in. The two alternates rolled dice and Jim Hogan won the right to be in the department.

# FORT SMITH FIRE DEPARTMENT 1855 TO 1977

by Bernice Cole

When fire destroyed the east side of Ozark (now known as First Street) from what is now known as First and "A" Streets to Garrison, the wooden frame buildings burning like so many tinder boxes, the townspeople became aroused enough to organize a volunteer fire company. The year was 1855 and the Washington Hook and Ladder Company was the forerunner of our modern fire department.

Composed of the most active and public-spirited young men of the community, officers and uniforms were quickly chosen. Officers were: James H. Sparks, Foreman; Shanghai Smith, 1st. Assist. Foreman; and Marshall Stoddard, 2nd. Assist. Foreman. Unfortunately, names of the rest of the members of the company have evidently been lost. Uniforms, which were paid for by each man, consisted of glazed caps, red shirts and black pants. Equipment was paid for by donations from citizens.

There was no hope, of course, for a fire engine at that time. However, a truck was built by Jeremiah R. Kannady's blacksmith shop. Painted bright red, the truck was so well constructed that it lasted for many years. Drawn to the site of a fire by the firefighters, it was equipped with axes, buckets and long beam (approximately 10') with large iron hooks attached to one end and a long rope tied to the hook.

The hooks were used to pull down burning walls. The buckets were made of leather and had a three-gallon capacity, however, as the buckets were passed from the wells to the fire, hand by hand, often so much of the water was spilled that there was little left to pour on the flames. Each man, incidently, had a designated job whether it be as axe man, hook man or bucket man.

The first fatality among the firefighters was in 1857 and it was a young man that was not a regular member of the company. A visitor in the city, Moses Crosley, was returning to his home in Cincinnati, Ohio from California. When fire broke out on North Sixth Street, Crosley joined in to fight the blaze. Climbing a ladder to place a blanket over a portion of the smoldering roof, the young man fell from the ladder, breaking his ankle, driving the bone into the ground. In spite of loving care by the Fort Smithians, he died of lockjaw a few days later.

Funeral arrangements were in charge of the Washington Hook and Ladder Company. A band from the Fort and the Company marched to the City Hotel, six members of the fire company acting as pallbearers carried out the coffin, and at the tap of the drum, carried it to the Presbyterian Church where the pastor, Dr. Stewart, conducted the ser-

vices. Fifteen carriages followed the procession to burial in the Racetrack Cemetery. A handsome marble headstone was furnished by citizens and stood there for many years after the Civil War.

Fires continued to plague the town and in 1860, a fire broke out in the City Hotel. John Rogers, owner of the hotel and founder of Fort Smith, lay ill upstairs. Carried from the burning hotel on his mattress, he was taken to the home of his nephew, Jeremiah Kannady on North Fourth Street, where he died a few months later.

The conflict between the states caused the breakup of the Washington Hook and Ladder Company. After peace was restored, the company was reorganized as the "Belle Point Hook and Ladder Company". There appears to be no record of the members of this company in 1865. However, in the Fort Smith Herald on December 14, 1867, mention was made of a meeting held by the company in Bailey and Bledelman's Drug Store and there was a large attendance.

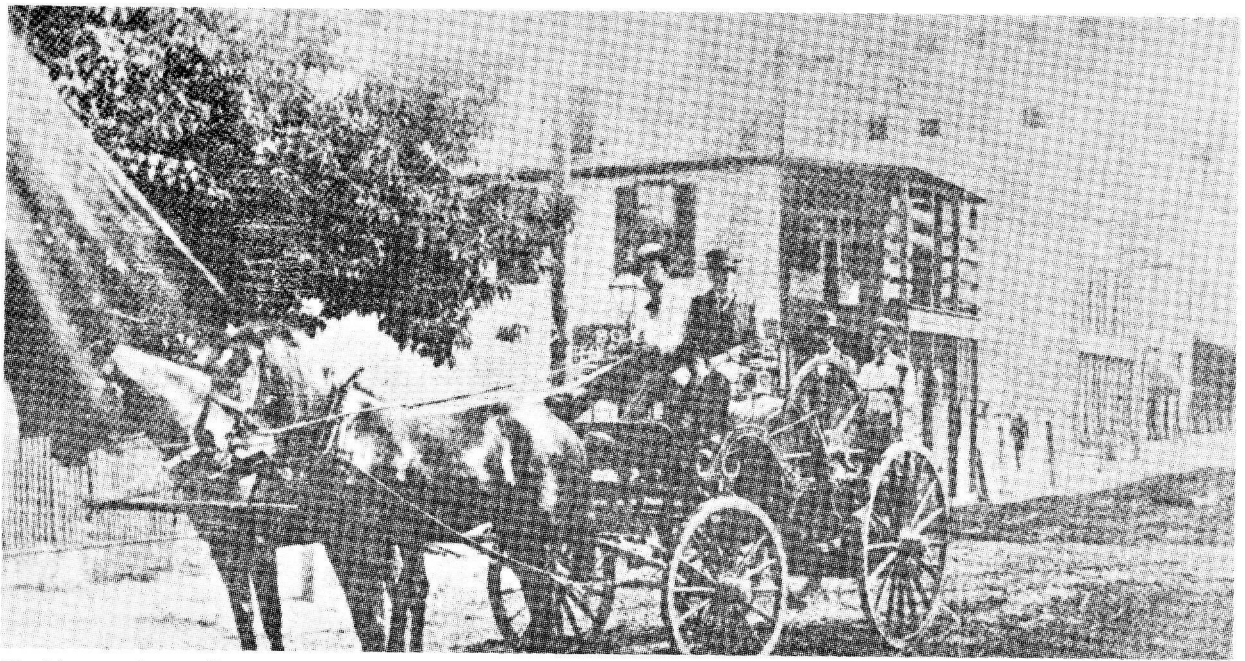
Chairman of the meeting was C. M. Barnes with Henry Reutzel acting as secretary. A committee composed of John Smith, Henry Reutzel, P.C.M. Barnes (appointed at a previous meeting) submitted a report suggesting the uniform they deemed proper. The uniform was chosen without dissent.

Frank Weaver described the uniform in an article written for the Southwest Times Record in December, 1921. "Hook and Ladder hat with name of company painted on, red shirt with blue collar, cuffs silvered, with name of company in pink letters on shield; black patent leather belts, brass buckles with name of company on belt; black pants."

At the same meeting, W. W. Wheeler, Henry Reutzel and Joseph Miller submitted a report on purchasing new equipment and stated that Jeremiah Kannady (now referred to as Col. Kannady) had given them a list of all things needed prices, etc. They were told to go ahead with purchases, including a new fire wagon. A new constitution was adopted and by-laws revised: The name Belle Point Hook and Ladder was changed to Alert Hook and Ladder Company.

Election resulted in the following officers: Dan Hogan, Foreman; William Whitsett, First Assist. Foreman; Ed McKenna, Second Assist. Foreman; C. M. Barnes, Secretary; Henry Reutzel, Treasurer. In a few months, all the men were outfitted and gave a lengthy parade, after which they were treated to refreshments by F. W. Brooks and W. M. Hightower. In 1870, Henry Reutzel became foreman and held

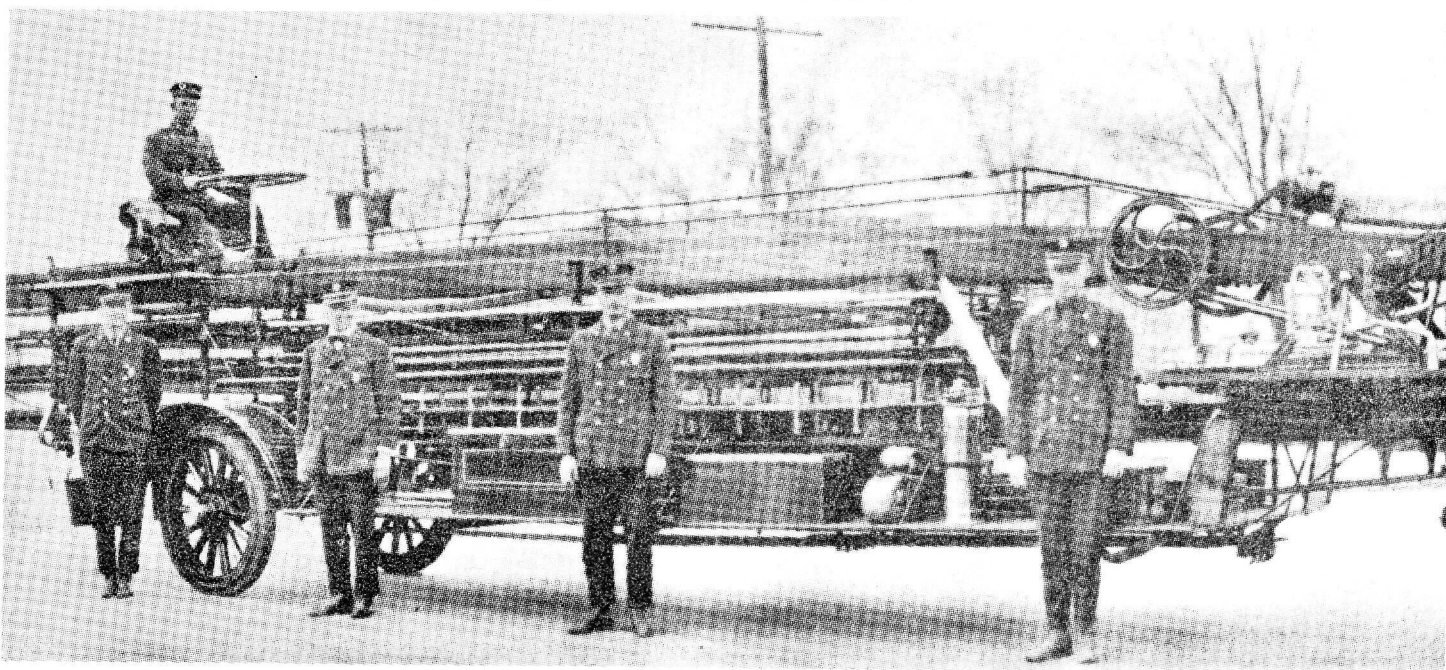




First horse drawn fire wagon in Fort Smith. This picture was taken at the corner of North 6th and A Streets in 1897.



First fire chief's car shown with steam pumps, it was a 1912 E.M.F. Studebaker. The lantern on the fire equipment was kept burning each night to save time in case of a fire.



the position for some time.

By 1871, the town had a population of over 2,000 and was growing rapidly, with many large brick buildings being built. Townspeople now wanted a fire engine that could throw water. P. J. Dalveney and Henry Reutzel solicited funds from business men to build three huge cisterns and to buy a pump truck. These cisterns were built at Washington (2nd) and Garrison, one at Green (4th) and Garrison and one at Knox (6th) and Garrison. One of these cisterns (between Fifth and Sixth on Garrison is still in existence although it has been filled in.

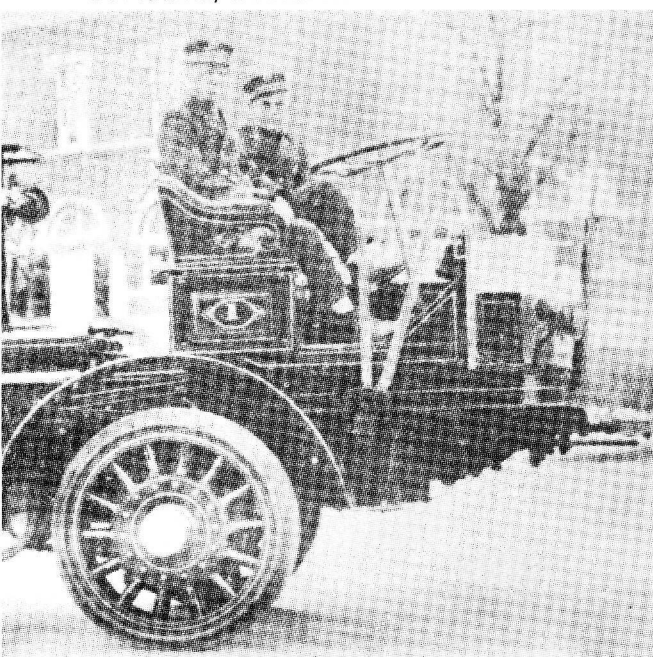
A second fire company, the Excelsior, was formed and a used fire engine ordered. The engine proved to be a disappointment, however, as it never worked properly and it was finally discarded.

James Brizzolara, a well-known lawyer, became fire chief in 1871. He proved extremely popular and on November 28, 1873, a beautifully engraved speaking trumpet was presented to him by the Fort Smith Firemen. The trumpet is now on display at the old Fort Museum.

In 1879, a handsome fire station, known as Station No. 1 for many years, was built at 110 North Sixth Street. A bell tower was built on top of the station and remained in use until after the turn of the century.

By September, 1884, the city with a population over 6,000, now had three fire companies. R. J. Neville Hose Co. 1. James Kelly, foreman; Charles W. Lunsford, assist. foreman; Mat Klink, 2nd assist. foreman; Benj. Pennington, secretary; George Fink, treasurer.

Reynolds Hose Co. No. 3... Charles Jewell, president; John Gannaway, foreman; Ray Eschelman, first assist. foreman; D. B. Trowbridge, secretary; P. D. Adams, treasurer.



Deiser Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1... J. H. Krone, president; B. Terbietan, foreman; Frank Heinrich, first assist. foreman; D. M. Freed, secretary; H. Geheb, treasurer.

One company met at City Hall, one at the fire station, and the third at Garratt and Cravens stables.

It was not until 1888 that horses instead of men were used to pull the fire wagons. One reason for this was economic. Horses had to be fed and stabled, firemen did not.

The 1890's found the city with a paid fire chief, foreman and 4 paid firemen. This small force was augmented by volunteers. City fathers, however, kept a tight rein on expenses and it was only after some bitter wrangling that the fire chief was provided with his own horse and buggy.

Controversy grew in 1897 when the city aldermen and the incoming mayor, Garrett clashed over an ordinance that had been passed after his election but before he was allowed to be sworn into office. This ordinance reduced the pay of most city employees, including the mayor. The fire dept. was affected thusly: Fire chief... \$600.00 to \$480.00 per year, to be paid monthly - Foreman... \$540.00 to \$480.00 per year, 4 firemen... \$1,920 to \$1,680 per year, paid monthly.

In arguing against the cut in the pay of the firechief, Garrett stated,

"This is one of the offices that the people and possible many of the members of this honorable body, do not fully appreciate the risk and responsibility of. When the alarm goes off, the state of the weather, the condition of streets, the feeling of the firemen nor anything else is considered. The time is of the utmost importance."

Garrett lost the battle and pay was reduced for most city officials and employees with the notable exception of the ten aldermen!

The cyclone that struck Fort Smith on January 11, 1898 was the cause of many fires that added to the deadly destruction. So many electric and telephone wires were down that the main power switch was turned off, leaving the city in total darkness to rescue the injured and uncover the dead. Fires breaking out in various parts of the city added to the nightmare scene.

The new high school, now known as Darby, had been built only three months earlier and was considered one of the finest in the southwest. Although heavily damaged, the main part of the building was saved.

By 1900, the city fathers had now raised the Chief's pay to the princely sum of \$500.00 per year, they also added new firefighting equipment. The

Seagrave Aerial purchased in 1920. It was equipped with a 75' coal spring lift ladder and several hand ladders from 12' to 50' in length. Fort Smith's first aerial was also equipped with a life net that was used several times.



first steamer was purchased.

As the city continued to grow, so did the need for more fire protection. Through the years, stations were added in order to offer protection to every part of the city. Fire Station No. 1 . . . first established at 111 North 6th Street, was remodeled in 1932 and continued in use until 1973 when a new station was built at 200 North Fifth Street. This modern, air-conditioned facility offers a comfortable lounge for firemen, as well as conference or study room, private office for Chief Bevel and a reception room, which serves as office for secretary- receptionist.

Fire Station No. 2 . . . built in 1906 at South 18th and Rogers, now located at 323 South 18th.

Fire Station No. 3 . . . built in 1908 at 1222 North 13th, now located at 2020 North Sixth.

Fire Station No. 4 . . . built in 1909 at 923 Towson, now at 2128 Towson.

Fire Station No. 5 . . . built in 1918 at 2601 Midland, now located at 4123 Spralding.

Fire Station No. 6 . . . built 1949, at Grand and 38th.

Fire Station No. 7 . . . built 1949 at South Greenwood and "O" Streets, now located at 5411 Euper Lane.

Fire Station No. 8 . . . built 1950, located at 2318 Phoenix.

Fire Station No. 9 . . . located at Cavanaugh.

Stations 1-2-3-4 all used horses until complete motorization of fire department in 1917. First motor vehicle was the purchase of a Studebaker car for the fire chief in 1912.

First steamer was bought in 1899. Second in 1909. In 1917, the pumper bought in 1909 was mounted on a tractor as the city moved to completely motorize the fire department. The little steamer purchased in 1899 was fixed with a trailer hitch so that it could be pulled to fires if and when it was needed. A 1917 American LaFrance pumper was also purchased at that time. In 1920, a 75 ft. spring lift aerial ladder was added to the fire department. It took the firemen some time to get used to this new truck as the front part of the truck was guided by the driver, the back wheels by the tillerman!

Through the years there have been many spectacular fires. To mention only a few: 1912 - Fort Smith High School; 1914 - Fort Smith Opera House; 1918 - Fort Smith Commission House and Fort Smith Coffee Co. There was a loss of four lives, all employees of the companies. 1918 - Fort Smith-Van Buren Free Bridge . . . saved after 5 hours. 1933 - Dykes Brothers Lumber Co.; 1941 - Stein Co. . . 27 hours. 1946 - Wortz Biscuit Co. Four employees died. 1952 - Edison-Hix Furniture Co., two adjoining buildings damaged . . . \$290,000.00 damage. 1953 - Joie Theatre . . . \$200,000.00 damage.

Although there have been numerous firemen injured, sometimes seriously, in the line of duty, the Fort Smith Fire Department has been fortunate in

losing very few men. 1930 - Allan Etter, 31 years of service; fell from back of old pumper when wheels caught in streetcar tracks and slung engineer Etter to ground. False alarm. 1916 - Bob Khun . . . touched live wire while battling blaze at Crabtree's Barn, 607 North Tenth Street. 1955 - Lotis Sively . . . not in fire but lost in rescue attempt at excavation. Carnegie Medal awarded posthumous. Rogert Hudgen and Silas Hoyle also awarded Carnegie Medal, quit fire department soon after.

Other milestones through the years have been better wages and better working conditions. These changes came slowly and often after bitter confrontations with city officials. The community, as a whole, have always supported the firemen in their demands, realizing how important these men are to the community and appreciating their years of courage and service.

1899 - Fire Chief . . . \$500.00 per year, paid monthly. 1 Engineer - \$840.00 per year, paid monthly. 4 firemen - \$45.00 each per month.

Hours - one day off in seven, one hour off each day for dinner. In addition to fighting fires, required to feed and groom horses, repair equipment, keep firehouse clean.

1917 - A raise for the fire department was approved by city council as follows:

Pipemen - Raised from \$65.00 per month to \$80.00.  
Drivers - Raised from \$75.00 per month to \$85.00.  
Captains - Raised from \$85.00 per month to \$95.00  
Engineers - Raised from \$90.00 per month to \$100.00  
Assistants - Raised from \$85.00 per month to \$90.00  
Master Mechanics - Raised from \$90.00 per month to \$100.00. Extra men are promised \$40.00 per month.

1918 found city fathers willing to pay higher wages. Captains and engineers received a raise to \$105.00 per month. Drivers - \$95.00 and Pipemen - \$90.00 and men were now allowed one day off every five days!

1920 - month of June was a red-letter time for firemen. Two platoon systems went into effect. One platoon for day, one for night.

1923 - two new positions created . . . assist fire chiefs . . . one for day, one for night. First men to fill these posts were John Dixon and Pink Dean. Until this time, Fire Chief M. Brun had to attend all fires, day and night.

Today . . . 1977

Pay scale for firefighters start at \$613.00 per month first year and by sixth year goes up to \$783.81 per month.

1. When cost of living goes up, pay is adjusted accordingly.
2. 15 days vacation after one year.
3. 20 days sick leave after one year and can accumulate up to sixty days sick leave.
4. Work schedule . . . 3 platoon systems. 24 hours on, 48 off.

5. Longevity increases at 5 years - 10 years - 15 years - 20 years - 25 years.
6. Eligible for retirement after 20 years service at ½ pay.
7. Uniforms are furnished, with exception of underclothes, belt and shoes.
8. City pays one half of family health plan or all of individual health plan.
9. City pays death and dismemberment insurance.  
Natural death \$2,000.00 - Accidental \$12,000.00.  
State pays on the job death (or job related) - \$10,000.  
Federal government also pays for (or job related) - \$50,000. Total of \$60,000.

Fort Smith now has nine fire stations, a yearly budget for the fire department of \$1,147,560.00. It answers between 2 and 3 thousand alarms a year. The fire department has 119 employees, including one secretary. Four of the firemen are also paramedics, ten firemen have EMT training. It has the finest in equipment. Fires have changed over the years; buildings are taller, therefore making longer ladders necessary, often chemicals are involved in a fire. Foam, dry chemicals, fog nozzles . . . there have indeed been many changes through the years in uniforms, firewagons and equipment, but the courage, the dedication of the firefighters remain the same.

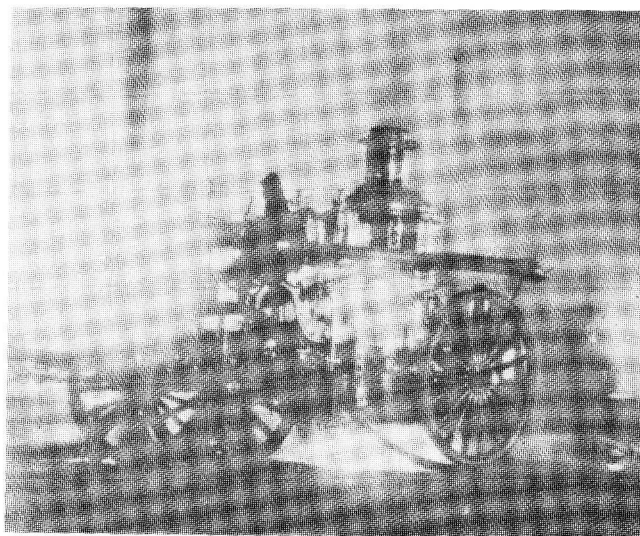
#### CHIEFS OF FORT SMITH FIRE DEPARTMENT

James Brizzolara . . . Volunteers . . . 1870  
 J. J. Little . . . 1884 . . . served both as volunteer and as paid chief . . . 1906.  
 Dempsey Trowbridge . . . 1907 - 1909.  
 Henry Surratt . . . 1909 - 1913  
 M. J. Brun . . . 1913 - 1946  
 William (Pink) Dean . . . 1946 - 1948  
 L. C. Shaw . . . 1948 - 1950  
 R. L. Rudd . . . 1950 - 1963  
 Hubert Neff . . . 1963 - 1964 . . . Retired  
 L. Sanders . . . 1964 - 1969  
 Luther Bevel . . . 1969 . . . Still Chief in 1977

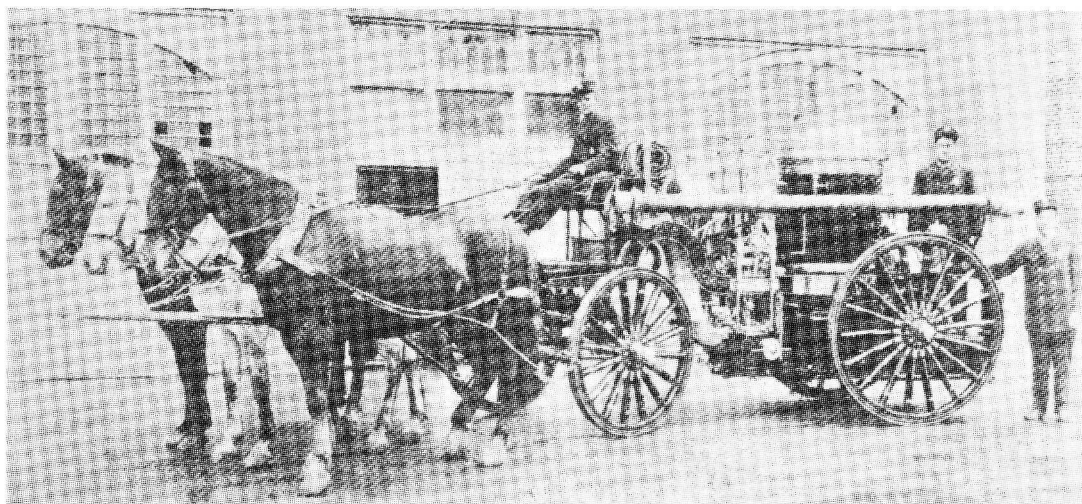
#### HUBERT NEFF

A debt of gratitude is owed to Mr. Hubert Neff who served with the Fort Smith Fire Department for over 44 years. Without the interest and concern of Mr. Neff, it would have been impossible to have written such a complete history of the fire department. Mr. Neff perserved many records that might have otherwise been lost. Mr. Neff pursued his study of not only the fire department but also of the city and had planned to write a book using many of the fine old photographs he had acquired. However his untimely death prevented him from doing so.

We thank the Neff Family for so generously sharing Mr. Neffs scrapbooks with us.



Steam pumper at the scene of a fire at 1108 Garrison in 1914. These pumpers were kept heated at all times so steam pressure could be built up by the time the pumper reached the scene of the fire. This pumper is now on display at the old Fort Commissary.



This steam fire pump was purchased in 1909 and was capable of pumping 750 gallons per minute. The horses were replaced by a motor driven unit in 1917.



Jefferson D. Southard, M.D.



Corrine Sherlock Southard

The diary of Corrine Sherlock Southard is a combination of intimate family happenings; delightful descriptions of community happenings in Fort Smith; and stories of Dr. Southard's Medical Practice.

Her husband, Dr. Jefferson D. Southard<sup>1</sup>, a practicing physician in Fort Smith for forty-eight years, was a native of Arkansas, born in Franklin County in 1861, the son of the Rev. Micajah Southard, Jr., and Sarah Murrel Southard, and a direct descendent of Samuel Lewis Southard, former governor of New Jersey, United States Senator and Secretary of War in the National Cabinet. The father, a minister of the Methodist Church and one of the early circuit riders of Arkansas, was born in Buncombe County, North Carolina, and moved to Arkansas in 1858, after stopping in Tennessee for ten years, where he married.

Dr. Southard graduated from the Louisville Kentucky School of Medicine in 1886, did post-graduate

work at the New York Polyclinic, then began his medical practice in Fort Smith. He was a pioneer in the use of the Roentgen-ray in the treatment of Tuberculosis of the lungs and bones. Very active in the Sebastian County Medical Society, he served that organization as secretary for five terms, and was twice president, 1892 and 1919, as well as vice president of the Arkansas State Medical Society in 1895.

Dr. Southard delivered a speech at the Arkansas Medical Society on May 21, 1919, "The Prevention, Control and Cure of Tuberculosis". Senator Robert L. Owens of Oklahoma, who had a bill pending in Congress for an appropriation for the control of Tuberculosis, was so impressed with Dr. Southard's plan, he had it published by the Government printing office and had it distributed on broadcast. Dr. Southard proposed Federal jurisdiction of the Tuberculosis question, and his recommendations and suggestions were highly complimented by

1976, which is reviewed in this Journal. Biography of Dr. J. D. Southard also appears on page 1365 of "Goodspeed's History of Sebastian County, Arkansas", also reviewed in this issue of the Journal.

<sup>1</sup> A complete biography of Dr. Southard; his son, Dr. Jefferson S. Southard; and his brother, Dr. R. M. Southard, is included in the Bicentennial History, "PHYSICIANS AND MEDICINE, Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas 1817-



medical authorities.

On November 12, 1890, Dr. Southard was married to Miss Florence Corrine Sherlock, daughter of Samuel H. and Margaret (Power) Sherlock.<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Southard's diary, now owned by Helen Southard, widow of Dr. Jefferson Sherlock Southard, has been loaned for use in the Journal by Mrs. Southard. Too long to be used in its entirety, only parts of more general interest have been included here:

*Corrine Southard  
Jan'y 1891-*

*This my first diary since. I left school was suggested & is written for my husband. We are so each keep our diaries, I'm afraid mine will be a very uninteresting one. But it is the most of my sweetheart, and for another six months that and for all the future his wishes will be first.*

I have the dearest and best sweetheart & husband in the whole world. He is not perfect, who is? But he is as near it as anyone I ever knew, even Papa . . .

July 7, 1891

Dr. Southard has gone across the street to Lodge, and by some means or other I came across our diaries started shortly after we were married and now it has been neglected six months. What happy months they have been. God has answered my nightly prayer to bless and be with us, and I know there could never be another happier wife than I.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. S. H. Sherlock, mother of Mrs. J. D. Southard and grandmother of Dr. J. S. Southard, Corrine (Mrs. William Hall Hutsell), and Ruth (Mrs. Gerald Lee), was born Margaret Foster Power in 1844 and died 1942 at the age of 98. She was named for an aunt, Margaret Foster, who was said to be the first white child born west of the Allegheny Mountains. Her grandfather, James Alexander Power, fought in the Revolutionary War, and the town of Powers Town, Pennsylvania was named for him. Her father, James Alexander Power II, and her husband, S. H. Sherlock were both with the Union Army in the war between the states; her son, Will Sherlock, enlisted for the Spanish War; and her grandson, Dr. J. S. Southard, spent 18 months in France with the American Expeditionary force in World War I.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherlock came to Fort Smith the

Stopping so soon after starting this, I wrote none of my past life. We came here from Salem, Missouri in 1884, settling here in Fort Smith. I was just fourteen. My former beautiful large home I remember distinctly and my childhood friends. Moving here I was looked upon as almost a young lady - at home only a child, and I could scarcely realize the great change it made among entire strangers, for we knew no one when we came, and I having never had but my brothers, romped with them as I had always done. I attended Belle Grove High School here until '86 and '87, when I attended Lindenwood College at St. Charles, Mo. I did not return the last year and graduate as Mamma thought a year at traveling the best. So in '88, about March, I left here for Washington D. C.. After six weeks with Mrs. John Rogers, Misses Chandlers & others, I left for the different northern cities visiting many, returning here after six months. In January I started with Miss Susie Gallin and a party from here for New Orleans and the south. My remaining time here was given up to society, gaiety, but in '89 at the leap year party I wrote and asked Dr. Southard to accompany me. He accepted. We became firm friends. I had known him during all my stay in Fort Smith, but as a child looked at him, as he officed across the hall from Papa . . . These four years made quite a difference. I was 18, quite a young lady. Then in '89, the Spring, I took a trip to Kansas visiting several friends, Dr. S. and I corresponding as friends, as did several other gentlemen - but, I did then, as I do now, take more interest in Dr. S. After that, just when I do not remember, we became sweethearts. The spring of 1890 we became really engaged, although Dr. S. had consulted Papa some time before - April it was he gave me a beautiful diamond ring. On November 14 we were married.

I had just returned from an "At Home" before writing the above. It was a delightful affair given by Bertha Fishback Wheelless<sup>3</sup> in honor of Mrs. Wisdom's sister. Friday eve we attended a six hand-

latter half of the last century. Mr. Sherlock (b. 1839 d. 1905) was an attorney and a member of the firm of Lyman and Sherlock. Mrs. Sherlock was one of the founders of the Fortnightly Club, the oldest club in the city, organized in 1888. She was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church; a charter member of the Woman's Board of Belle Point Hospital (Now Sparks Regional Medical Center); and organized the Woman's Columbian Club to assist in making an Arkansas display at the first World's Fair in Chicago in 1893.

<sup>3</sup> Dau. of William Meade Fishback, Gov. of Ark. 1895. Biography of Col. William Mead Fishback, page 1312, Goodspeed History Sebastian Co., Ark.



ed progressive Euchre<sup>4</sup> party given for Nannie Atkinson, who with her father<sup>5</sup> and Mrs. Bonneville and Katie Emrich<sup>6</sup> sail Wednesday for Europe.

I go with Dr. Southard almost every day - hold the horse while he goes in.

Jan. 8, 1895 - Feb. 8

Four years later. Have attended all the Medical Societies with my husband. In March '93, the 15th, we left for New York City - Dr. S. having taken Bruton Tabor for curvature of the spine, and lectures - & of course I went with him. Remained there one month. Such a grand time . . . On way home Dr. S. left me at New Castle, Pa. to visit Anna and Lorena. I remained there some time, going to Ohio and Indiana and visiting until June, when with Pappa, Mama and Will<sup>7</sup> I attended the World's Fair in Chicago - Dr. S. attending later, having several cases "oversize tumor operations at that time" . . . We own one of the most desirable lots on Sixth St. & this spring will erect a home<sup>8</sup> there, but the most important event in our home was the arrival, All Saints Day, Halloween Eve, Oct. 30th, 1895 of a big bouncing boy, Jefferson Sherlock Southard - The loveliest, finest, fattest, smartest babe in the world, & to him I dedicate this diary and leave the remaining pages for his remarks.

Feb. 9, 1895

Feeling the want of a memory book for our dear baby boy, his father and I decided to begin one for him. There has never been a day that the little man has not done something new and worth remembering. I was very, very ill for a month after the arrival of our little man, in fact, my life hung on a thread, and his dear father was the only one who welcomed and loved him from the very first . . . His presents were so numerous from friends and relatives upon his arrival and again at Xmas. Admiring friends showered things on him. He certainly is a lucky darling. His presents first were: Mrs. Gen. Bonneville, magnificent bouquet of white flowers; Dr. Breedlove, lovely little bouquet of lavender violets & ribbons; Mrs. Judge Rogers & Mrs. Arthur L. Smith, flowers; Mrs. J. E. W. (name illegible) beautiful little cap; Misses Madie & Lizzie Johnson, white silk cap & sacque; Mrs. Dunlap, World's Fair souvenir spoon; Aunt Sophia Kennedy a most beautiful handmade white dress; Mrs. George Lyman, dozen pair of handmade panties; Mrs. Alex Walker, white kid little shoes; Mrs. Farris, nee Anne Clayton, same; Mrs. Foster, white

cloak; white silk dress beautiful drawn work, Mama & Aunt Anna sent gold ring; \$20 Grandpa & Grandma. His Christmas presents consisted of a high chair from Mrs. Bomford and Emily - beautiful cute stockings from Grandpa; carriage robe, Mrs. Rogers; rattle, Grace Morrison, Salem, Mo., set of pins with fine gold chains. I gave him a set of Aunt Sophia Brownie spoons - Aunt Annie two dollars & Papa one to place in the toe of his first Christmas stocking; mittens, Cammie Clarkson; and a beautiful little blue dressed, golden hair doll to put nursery pins in from Ethel Walker.

Sabbath Morn., Feb. 10

Did not have time to finish yesterday. Took Sherlock at noon and went with Dear<sup>9</sup> to Mama's and spent the afternoon. His cute short dresses are now in progress . . .

Feb. 13, '95

Little man had company today. Mrs. Bills brought Margarite & spent the day . . .

Feb. 16

Yesterday I attended two receptions, one in the aft. from two 'till four at Mrs. Henry Reads & the other in the eve, leaving our darling both times with his nurse Eliza. I did so want to take Babe in the afternoon. Ordered hack & could have taken him, but knew Mrs. R. would have been thunderstruck had I done so. It certainly would have been fun and a good time to have to shown him off. There were three hundred ladies . . .

Feb. 22, 1895

. . . "Codger"<sup>10</sup> has had another present. Annie Clarkson Boyd sent me a beautiful short shirt for him, handmade and hem-stitched. Aunt Minnie sent him a short dress. Grandma is making him a real lace cap. This will be magnificent.

Feb. 25, 1895

Ft. Smith, Ark., 717 North 5th St., the place of Codger's birth. In three months we move to our future home. This place belongs to D. Y. Berry, Dears Bro-in-law . . . Aunt Joe & Uncle Dick have gone into the drygoods business at Charleston, Ark.

Feb. 26, 1895

. . . I leave him again this aft. to attend a reception

<sup>4</sup> Card Game

<sup>5</sup> B. F. Atkinson, home at corner of North 7th and C Streets.

<sup>6</sup> Niece raised by Mrs. Bonneville (later married Charles Jewett)

<sup>7</sup> Mrs. Southard's Brother, Will

<sup>8</sup> 214 No. 6th Street - Home has been town down - Lot now occupied by Law offices of Warner & Smith

<sup>9</sup> Throughout this diary Dr. Southard is referred to as "Dear".

<sup>10</sup> A nick-name the family had given Jefferson Sherlock Southard.

at Mrs. Clendennings, given for a college mate of mine, Miss Anna Brown . . . she attended Lindenwood, St. Charles, Mo. the year before I did, '84 or 5 . . .

Feb. 27

Am dressed for calling and "If I do say so myself" I look mighty nice in a new black dress with a bunch of big red roses. I invited Mama and Mrs. John Rogers to accompany me and expect to pay thirty-two calls from three until six . . .

March 19, '95

Sunday aft. took Babe & called on Jere Cravens' wife & babe. They are on a visit to his parents, Col. Cravens, corner of Mulberry & B St. . . I left my darling this afternoon & attended two teas, one at Mrs. J. G. Miller's & the other at Mrs. Col. Cravens. Upon returning, found Sherlock had cried. I felt just like sitting down and doing likewise. . . I place him on my knee facing me, take hold of both hands, then sing: "Hush-a-bye baby, don't you cry, Hush-a-bye baby, don't say a word. Your Papa will buy a mocking bird, The birds will sing and the band will play, Ta ra, ra, ra, Boom de-ay!! I put this down because it is the same thing I have always sang to him. Also this one:

"Poor little baby so cozy and mild,  
Dear little baby, our own sweet child.  
Mother will guard you from every care  
Then rock-a-by baby, Mother is near.  
Rock-a-by on the tree top,  
When the wind blows the cradle will rock,  
When the bough bends, the cradle will fall,  
Down will come Rock-a-by, cradle & all."

It is night. As I write this, Baby is in bed asleep. Dear cut a woman's leg off & is at the hospital dressing it now . . .

March 24, '95

Had such a terrible fright today. Left Babe home with Dear while I went to church & immediately after dinner went down to Mama's & left Babe, & on to Dr. Bailey's. Mrs. Main, Mrs. Bailey's mother, had died. On the way out, Dear made three calls & delayed us some time. Upon reaching there, a boy on horseback rode up and said, "an accident at Mrs. Sherlock's". My first thought of course was "The Baby". I commenced to cry & kept up off and on nearly all the way back. Dear was not frightened at all until I was so badly frightened. Then he whipped up Dollie to a lope & away we went & found a man hurt from a runaway. The tension was so great I almost had one of my fainting spells. "Codger" was snugly sleeping in his little buggy . . .

March 27, '95

Early morn. Our darling sits on his little chair (with

the hole in it). Dear is over at St. John's Hospital performing an amputation of limb - a woman shot - didn't know it was loaded!! During the night, a drunken man fell from the trestle at the edge of town - fifty feet - terribly hurt. Dear amputated an arm - then, so worn out this morn. & this is pension day. Always a busy one. Work is progressing nicely on our new home . . .

April 9, '95

Dear has boils. Has had one bad one & deliberately cut the second one out & although I hated to acknowledge it (for I didn't want him to cut it), it has done remarkably well. Our darling started out early this morn., with Dear & I paying Dear's calls. It has been such a beautiful Spring day - at one patients, he took Baby in the house with him. As usual, I held the horse.

Easter Sunday, April 14, '95

This morn our "Babe" is BAPTIZED and I "join the church" with Dr. Southard & be a Methodist. Have been raised in the Presbyterian Church. Joined while at college, never placed my letter in our church however. We all have fixed up dreadfully for the occasion. Babe has a new white silk dress, a real lace bonnet presented by his Grandma. Dear an entire new suit, hat, shirt, & tie included & I a dark blue silk with white trimming. And -- all for this precious baby boy. He sleeps as I write this. Dear has been called away. A man hurt, some operation I suspect. Probably will not see him again until the very last min. 4 p.m., Sherlock baptized & his father held him up. There were six babies baptized, five besides Sherlock - Bro. Johnson's Howard, Tom Grubbs' Lillian, Mr. Harbeck's Leo, Mrs. Haskitt's (widow) Blair, Jim Sparks' Jim. The baptism was before church. Roxie, a good faithful black nurse, took Sherlock, superintended by Mama, and went to the French Hotel & remained until we joined them after church where we all had dinner. A Mrs. Haskill, a brilliant Elocutionist, dined with us by Mama's invitation . . . Four joined the church, Annie and I the ladies, both of us by letter. Mrs. Haskill is a very great friend of our friends the Clarks. She recites at the county courthouse tomorrow night for the benefit of the church - Methodist.

April 16, '95

Papa's birthday & Sherlock was put in short dresses, shoes & stockings. Mother never loved her baby more than I did then. He looked so sweet, but much larger. Dear was wild for the change, but I wanted to wait until later. All his little fifteen dresses with all the work & trimming I put on them - they are now being washed without starch, then packed away. Papa was 57. Dear Papa - his health is not good at all - nervousness principally. Am very uneasy about him at times.

April 18, '95

Every day Dear takes us down to see our new house. It will be the best one in the Ft. Three layers - boxing, paper tarred, then weather boarding. The foundation solid wall between the rooms as well as all around outside. The paper and weather boarding was being placed today.

April 23, '95

Dollie has a colt. The nicest, blackest little horse. Dear gave him to Codger. We are so proud of it. Our house is progressing so rapidly.

April 27, '95

Have again hired a nurse - Babe weighs twenty-one pounds and is too much for me. Today Dear had a call up in the big I. T.<sup>11</sup> and took us with him, driving thirty-five miles in all.

Sunday, April 28, '95

Again crossed the river with Dear, but this time we only went five miles . . . Dear is greatly interested (& I to the extent of fifty dollars I have saved) in potatoes. The furnishings of our new home depends largely upon the "potato crop" in I. T. . . . An awful case Dear has now -- a boy with Hydrophobia -- was bitten by a mad dog about a month ago --  
Later --

Boy died.

May 7, '95

Dear has been in Little Rock attending State Medical Society. He was first vice president & the last day, the regular president being absent, was pres. & presided over the head of the table at the banquet. There were one hundred doctors present besides their wives. Codger and I remained with Papa & Mama at the Sherlock residence. Dear returned on Sat., but I was not at all well - in fact, had Dr. Breedlove during his absence, and upon his return remained over Sunday with them. In the meantime, Dear had a call to Muldrow, some fifteen or twenty miles in the big I. T. Babe & I went along - enjoyed it so very much. The roads couldn't have been nicer - nor the day. Dear went again the next day, but on the cars<sup>12</sup> & brought the patient down to be treated.

May 11, '95

Yesterday aft. took our baby and with Mama & Mrs. Chas. H. Brown went calling. Had the finest turn-out in Ft. S. White horses, liveried driver, etc. etc. Babe seems to enjoy going.

May 17, '95

Mrs. Brown invited me to finish up her calls today & of course I accepted. We again went in style - same rig, but there was no way I could arrange to take Babe this time . . .

May 18, '95

Took Sherlock to the Matinee, his first. Took a box, and the little man behaved beautifully. Only once did Girtie (nurse) take him out of theatre. He goes so much, he is afraid of nothing. The play was a home production & they, seeing us occupying a box, mentioned "Sherlock" in one of the jokes.

May 26, 1895

This has been a week of dissipation with me from the 26, so the thirty-first, Sunday, we're invited to Hotel Main for dinner. Monday I helped the ladies clerk all day in one of the large stores - for charity. Tuesday, Dock, Dear's brother, Annie and I attended commencement exercises at the opera house. Wednesday afternoon, a card party at Mrs. Lyons Saunders. Thursday aft. another at the W. R. Martins, and Friday eve Dear was called to Harrison, Ark., Sherlock & I with good nurse Gertie went to dear Grandpa Sherlock's and stayed until Dear's return Tuesday morn. He did not perform a big operation this time, but got one hundred and thirty-five dollars (\$135.00) in cash besides expenses for trip.

June 12, 1895

Annie and Artie returned from a week's visit to Charleston today. Yell<sup>13</sup> has been awfully lonesome. I could tell. Our precious babe has never been allowed on the floor but a few times, but I took him down home (Grandpa S's) and we put him on the carpet & he crawled clear across the floor, and not only crawled fast & forward, but pulled himself UP by a chair ALONE and stood up, at seven months. Mama is in the north. Her Great Grandfather Power was among the first white people to settle at Connersville, Pa. & he got a farm from the government there. All these hundred of years this deed has been handed down to some son of the same name and now for the first time this property is to exchange hands and the second deed made. It is too bad and seems a shame, but our side of the family certainly does not need it, not having the same name. A Power, one of Mama's brother ought to buy it in.

July 4, '95

An eventful day & mildly exciting. Grandma Southard came up on Monday, leaving today for Colorado. Mama left for New York, Boston, the lakes and her old home in Pa. Will travel for a month. But the most interesting of all was brother riding in a bicycle race at a picnic at the fair grounds and winning a hundred dollars. Mama promised him the

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<sup>11</sup> Indian Territory

<sup>12</sup> Railroad

<sup>13</sup> D. Y. Berry, Founder of Berry-Beall Dry Goods Co. - Brother-in-law of Dr. Southard.



money sure if he would not ride, but he did & what's more - won. My, but I was excited . . . our home is nearing completion. Next week we expect to take possession. I can scarcely wait. It is such a beautiful place & we are furnishing it so handsomely. Our carpets are elegant heavy velvet.

July 12, '95

Dear Grandma is now on the briny ocean, bound for New York. This morning Babe received a letter from her from Baltimore, enclosing a pair of white socks to wear with his white kid boots. From Washington, she sent a frock & cap. I never saw so much rain for mid-summer. It is awful. Floods will inevitably follow. Dear went into the potato business this year for the first time and made money out of the first crop & we anticipated of course much more from the second as expenses are paid & seed saved, but this awful rain & our farm is on the river bank & is likely to be flooded. We are however fortunate in not having planted yet.

Moved July 16, '95.

July 19, '95

Have moved in new home!! . . . everything is so nicely fixed, despite the extreme heat I am enjoying it to the utmost. I am so proud of possessing one of the most beautiful homes in the Ft.

July 20, '95

SHERLOCK WALKED ALONE for the first time - eight months & twenty days, walked from one chair to another.

July 24, '95

Mama seems to be going everywhere on this trip. From Boston she sent Babe a bib & has now sailed for New York. Stopped a few days at Newport, Buzzard's Bay (did not see Grover Cleveland's third girl), Old Orchard and will go to Niagara before returning. She is on her way now to Pa., her old home in Connersville, Pa. and Papa's in Ohio, Millersburg.

Aug. 16, '95

. . . Dear's practice is wonderfully good. He is making three & four hundred a month.

Aug. 23, '95

Dear's wonderfully busy summer is nearly ended but he is just as busy as ever - performed an operation yesterday, one the day before and has one set for this morn at ten. This last lady (these last have all been ladies) has a tumor and seems to be wealthy - wears such beautiful diamonds - is related to Ross, the big Indian. Yesterday afternoon Dear took Sherlock and I and went over in the territory. Returning to the bridge,<sup>14</sup> found it full of cars,<sup>15</sup> and no prospect of our crossing for an hour in the buggy, so dear walked over, leaving me to drive over when I

could, and I waited an hour and a half before I could cross. Dear was in front of his office looking long before my return. Was uneasy of course . . .

Sept. 20, '95

. . . Last week the Epsworth league met in the city for the entire state. We entertained four Methodist ministers - Mr. Johnson of Little Rock being an especially pleasant gentleman. Mr. Anderson, a former pastor and a friend of Dear's . . .

Oct. 6, '95

This afternoon Dick, Ella & Cecil came up for Ringling Bro.'s show here tomorrow . . .

Oct. 11, 1895

Sherlock and I accompanied Dear over in the big I. T. today to Muldrow. Drove over and had a pleasant drive but had to wait in the buggy four hours. The patient was a child with Membranous Croup. Dear operated and was afraid for Sherlock to go into the home. It was five in the aft. before we returned without a bite to eat & in the meantime, the minister we were expecting arrived - Rev. Dr. Leftwich of Nashville, Tenn . . . He holds meetings daily at M. E. Church South (ours).

Oct. 18, '95

Just one week since the last written here. Dr. Leftwich has spent this time with us & we have not only enjoyed his visit but the services as well. He is an able man. He will remain another week. Today Sherlock got his first spanking - I turned him over my knee. He has a strong will of his own, but I am not sorry. Think we shall only have to be firm in governing him. The darling grows so fast mentally as well as physically . . .

Oct. 22, '95

Mama, Papa, Will & Mrs. Bomford and little Emily spent today with us. Dr. Leftwich dined out . . .

Oct. 31, 1895

Our darling is ONE YEAR OLD today. To think of it. Early in the morning over came Grandpa, Grandma & Will, with presents - Grandpa, five dollars. Dear gave him five dollars - making his account in all now forty-two dollars (\$42.00) Grandma gave a cap, cloak & underwear; Mrs. Bomford a little dress. Uncle Will such a nice hobby horse and ball. He has been such a happy boy today, but I am very uneasy - Diphtheria is next door to us! Not for worlds would we have Sherlock take it. An earthquake occurred after four this morning. Papa said in honor of Sherlock. The worse shock was in South Carolina. Here, it was very slight - I knew nothing of it at all.

<sup>14</sup> Gould Bridge

<sup>15</sup> Railroad Cars

Nov. 1, 1895

Tonight I am nearly tired to death. We are giving a big reception - seven hundred invitations - for the twelfth, our anniversary Wooden Wedding. Annie sent a little stool for our darling and he does enjoy it. He looks so cute going over & sitting down himself on it & eating a cracker. Annie made the stool & embroidered the top. Good Aunt Annie.

Nov. 12, 1895

The fifth anniversary of our marriage, and as a gentleman remarked during the reception, we did not look like wooden folk either. Seven hundred invitations were sent here. About half came - such a jolly crush!! Everything passed off so nicely. Mrs. John H. Rogers, Susie (Mrs. J. E. Cooley) & Mrs. Chas. Browne assisted. They invited to dining room. Belle Bailey, Mae Wheeler, Marie Gatlin, Daisy Cravens, Sarah Martin, Kate Emrich, Grace Powe, Agnes Oblesby assisted in dining room & certainly we could not have selected prettier girlies! The first crush was from 7 to 8:30 - four girls in dining room. Then, from 8:30 to 10 the other four. Sherlock was banished to the home of his Grandpa. Mrs. Bomford kindly looked after both him and nurse Albert, colored boy to whom Sherlock is much attached. That it was our anniversary was not generally known, but we received several pretty presents however.

Nov. 15, 1895

... Yesterday aft. I left Sherlock all eve with Albert. Attended the matinee "Carmen" from two until four. After that, a reception at Hotel Main given by Madam Hunton. Both Splendid ...

Nov. 21, '95

Tomorrow morn, before day, Sherlock, Grandpa, Grandma and I leave for Hot Springs, Ark. I have not been well - for weeks now down & continue having the fainting spells begun just five months before the birth of Babe. Hope to gain greatly. The baths will be beneficial anyway. Papa goes for his health ... Dear will take his meals up at Alex Walker's ...

Dec. 10, '95

Just home from Hot Springs - a three weeks stay ... I enjoyed the whole trip & improved, I think, under Dr. Jelks treatment with the baths. Mama had her fiftieth birthday the third of Dec. A funny thing occurred during my absence. Dr. Southard had a leg to amputate, and a quack was suggested to the boy's mother as one to assist. The next day a man approached Dr. S. as he was starting to Kansas City and said, "Dr. S. I believe". Upon his answer "Yes" - "You don't know me I guess." - "No" he did not. Well, the ans. was "I am Dr. Rockwell; and I thought you knew nothing of me, for I heard you whistled the

other day when my name was mentioned in connection of a case." Dr. S. immediately said - placing his grip on the ground, "Well! I didn't say didn't first, and I certainly didn't say I did - and if I did, now what are you going to do about it?" As he got no answer immediately, he repeated the last, "What are you going to do, you dirty cur, if you came expecting an explanation of any kind, you have found the wrong man & the fellow with "Well I don't think you ought", sneaked off down Garr. Ave., He belongs to the brand new Medical Society of which there are six members. One week during our stay away, there was more excitement than the Ft. had ever known in some length of time. One man, Joe Wright, disappeared - has never been found, either any trace of him, & suicides & murders - fours ...

Dec. 14, 1895

My twenty-sixth birthday ... Dear gave me money to buy a nice chair and I got a new carpet for our dining room floor. This aft. we went out in the country ten miles. Dear performed operation - was night getting home.

Christmas Day, 1895

Our darling has had a fine day with lots of presents. Mrs. Bomford & Emily gave him a beautiful pin, an alligator wagon with bell & me a large center piece. Grandpa a climbing monkey. Grandma a cloak & mitts, legging, cap, all white ... Ethel Foster gave him shoes, Grandma Southard stockings & doll ... Took dinner with Mrs. & Mrs. F. S. H. Johnson and Howard.

Jan. 24, '96

... Dear has new desk and chair, rugs & stove in his office. Looks so nice. Sherlock received his first invitation to a party - Emily Bomford. I ans. it for him & sent by Albert who thinks so much of our little man, and laughed heartily at taking "his first note to the girls". Albert is the very best nigger we ever had.

March 17, '96

Weaning Sherlock. Have Miss Beasley here from St. Johns Hospital,<sup>16</sup> and next week Dr. Southard performs an operation on me ...

March 22, '96

Dear and I have returned from church. Sherlock was at the front gate to meet us & had a stick from running chickens & saying "So-So" for "Shoo". Yesterday Dear cut his hair during my absence & it certainly has changed him. He looks so much more boyish & cute too, although I hate to acknowledge it as I did not want it done - I had been curling it with hot irons.

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<sup>16</sup> Now Sparks Regional Medical Center - Complete history of Sparks included in "Physicians and Medicine" - See book reviews.

April 12, 1896

Up yesterday for the first time. I stood the operation pretty well I guess, but am quite weak & have fallen off considerably . . . I have been sick again, having spells from my head & lasting a week this time. Two spells in three weeks has been the shortest time till now. Last Sunday Sherlock got Dear's pistol and, with it loaded, ran down the hall to the nurse's room. I saw him pass my room door on his way down the hall and called to her. It was funny (after I had the pistol) to see her run. He pointed it directly at her. I have the same nurse, a trained one from the hospital, Miss Beasley<sup>17</sup>, who weaned our boy and nursed me after the operation. Grandma Southard is visiting us. She is 69 & has 7 children, 7 great-grandchildren. Her father and mother both died at the age of 94. Father Southard's father died in '59, Father Southard 1893 - age 81 - He married twice - one child by the first marriage.

June 29, '96

. . . Made our boy a nice little white duck suit, pants & blouse & he certainly does look sweet in his FIRST PANTS . . . Grandma Sherlock's brother is trying to get an estate in Ireland left by Lord Antruns . . .

July 18th, 1896

Tonight there was held at the courthouse a tremendous Democratic Convention to ratify the nomination of Wm. J. Bryan and Arthur Sewell, nominated at Chicago as the Democratic Candidates for Pres. & Vice Pres. We all three went and sat in the buggy in front of courthouse. Judge John H. Rogers presided. Sherlock gave abundant evidence of his patriotism of his loyalty to the nominees and of the fact that he is a thorough and enthusiastic Free Silver Democrat by clapping his little hands and shouting at the top of his voice . . . He also stood up in the buggy while Judge J. S. Little was speaking and made a speech himself imitating Judge Little's gestures with remarkable precision. His father thinks he will someday be an orator himself.

Aug. 29, 1896

. . . The past week Dr. S.'s cousin, a Whig Southard of Chanute, Kansas has been with us. Such a gentleman - has a second wife and one child. - a daughter twenty years old - Dear shaved his mustache. I certainly did not blame Sherlock for not knowing him . . .

Oct. 31, '97

Sherlock is three and quite a little man.

November 5, '97

Little sister arrived.

"End of Diary"

7TH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

Fort Smith High School,

THURSDAY EVE.,  
May Twenty-fifth, at Eight o'clock.

Grand Opera House.

The Class of Ninety-three Requests Your Presence.



Mary K. Gatlin, Kate Bruder,

Ed. Hunt, Vesta Putman, Irene Alexander,

Jessie McCorkle, Maggie Tobler,

Susie Aydlett, Jo Berman, Dinsmore McManus,

Homer Buckley, Mabel Margaret Thompson.



## Program.

Chorus . . . "Blue are the Heavens." . . . J. L. Frank  
Prayer . . . Rev. W. T. Allen  
Vocal Solo . . . "Alone At Last," . . . Ina May Boles  
Salutatory and Essay . . . "Minstrelsy" . . . Mary K. Gatlin  
Oration . . . "Our Daily Press." . . . Ed Hunt  
Essay . . . "A Man's a Man for a' That," . . . Irene Alexander  
Essay . . . "The White Flower of our Nation." . . . Maggie Tobler  
Vocal Duet . . . "Till We Meet Again" . . . Alice Botefuhr and Jennie May Aydlett  
Essay . . . "Ideals." . . . Jo Berman  
Oration . . . "Progress the Watchword of the Age." . . . Homer Buckley  
Essay . . . "A Plea for Individuality" . . . Kate Bruder  
Essay . . . "The Fool in the Drama." . . . Vesta Putman  
Chorus . . . "The Crystal Hunters." . . . Veazle  
Essay . . . "Mother Hubbards and Old Shoes." . . . Jessie McCorkle  
Essay . . . "Cross Lots." . . . Susie Aydlett  
Oration . . . "The Grand Old Man," . . . Dinsmore McManus  
Valedictory and Essay . . . "Talk is Cheap." . . . Mabel Margaret Thompson  
Vocal Solo . . . "Thou Art An Angel," . . . Anna Williams  
Presentation of Diplomas by President of Board, Hon. Jno. H. Rogers.  
Chorus . . . "Fairlyland Waltz," . . . Veazle







**Miss Agnes  
Oglesby  
at  
Graduation**

Photo Courtesy of Heritage Foundation, now in Clayton House.

Miss Agnes Oglesby is 103 years old. She was born Jan. 2, 1874 in Senatobia, Miss. The Oglesby family moved to Fort Smith from Miss. in December, 1893. Miss Oglesby's father, Ira Dancy Oglesby, was an attorney and he was born

August 13, 1851 in Georgia and died Dec. 11, 1919 in Fort Smith. Miss Oglesby's mother, Louise Isabell Miller was born March 6, 1851 at Hernando, Miss. and died May 23, 1943 in Fort Smith.

# ORAL HISTORY

## A TAPED INTERVIEW WITH MISS AGNES OGLESBY

Missy Cole Carroll

This work is a result of a tape recorded interview. The reader should bear in mind therefore that you are reading a transcript of the spoken word rather than the written word.

This is an interview with Miss Agnes Oglesby of Fort Smith, Arkansas. The interview was conducted July 13, 1977 at the Methodist Nursing Home. The interviewer is Missy Carroll, representing the Fort Smith Historical Society. (The following are excerpts from the oral history tape - editors)

C: What is your name?

O: Agnes Oglesby

C: Where were you born?

O: Senatobia, Mississippi.

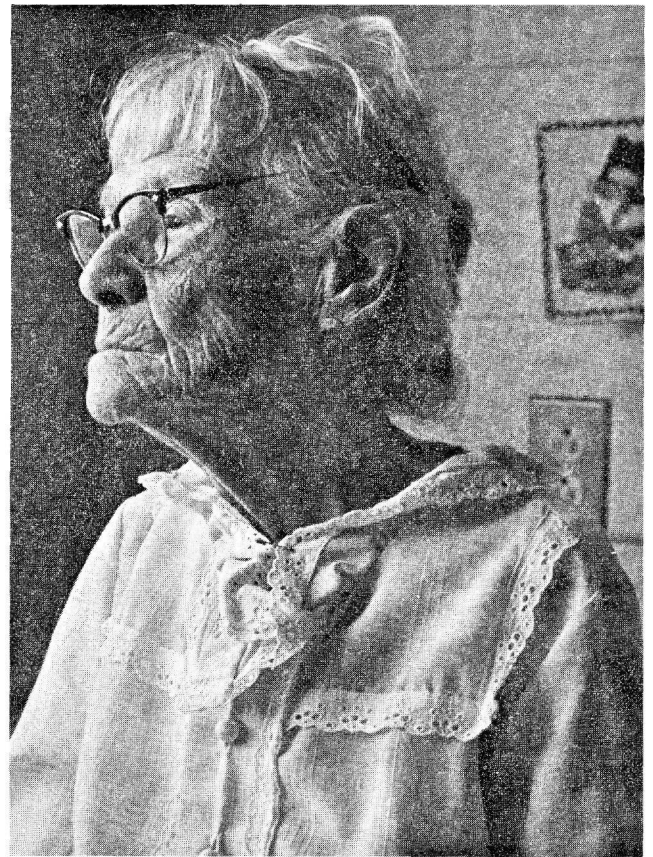
In remembrances of Fort Smith, she tells how and why they came to live in Fort Smith:

O: I thought that Fort Smith was the most terrible place on earth and I never wanted to live here. I lived in Mississippi and I thought that this was the end of the world. Mr. Echols<sup>1</sup> and my father were very close friends. . . . They came because of the Indian Territory. Another thing in those days they depended on the river. We had lived where we depended a great deal on the Mississippi River. (Here) we had the Arkansas River and the Poteau. In those days there was quite a lot of traffic on the Poteau, of the crops. They thought because of the opening of the river it would be a good place. But there was hardly anything here.

Miss Agnes speaks of the houses and buildings of Fort Smith:

O: . . . and there is down there up to about Sixth Street, there's some of those old houses with curved windows. That's the way they all were. Oh, that Opera House was something beautiful. They had a great big huge rotunda. It was a huge tower. And the walls were covered. Hand painted, hand painted, the whole thing with scenes from Shakespeare. The scenes were beautiful. Destroyed it. Just awful. Shoe shop I think now. That part of Garrison Avenue was beautiful. Every building down there, there are about three of them left, with the round windows. From Garrison Avenue, that first block on Garrison Avenue, was the loveliest building that you ever saw. I was just so proud of Fort Smith!

<sup>1</sup> William Joseph Echols, Founder of Merchants National Bank.



Miss Agnes Oglesby  
Age 103

## ORAL HISTORY

Missy Cole Carroll

Oral History is recognized for what it is . . . a method of gathering a body of historical information in oral form on tape. It is an obligation on the part of all concerned to make this type of historical source as authentic and as useful as possible.

We the Fort Smith Historical Society are trying to select people for interviews who understand our project and who are willing to give us useful information. In order to obtain a tape of maximum worth as a historical document, it is incumbent upon the interviewer to be thoroughly grounded in the background and experiences of the person being interviewed, and, where appropriate and if at all feasible, to view the papers of the interviewee to assist his recall.

Facts are interesting but we are also trying to capture attitudes, feelings, or mood about incidents that happened not only in the past but also in the present. Our present is going to be past history in the future. Our Oral History tapes will be valuable for research as well as for trips down memory lane.

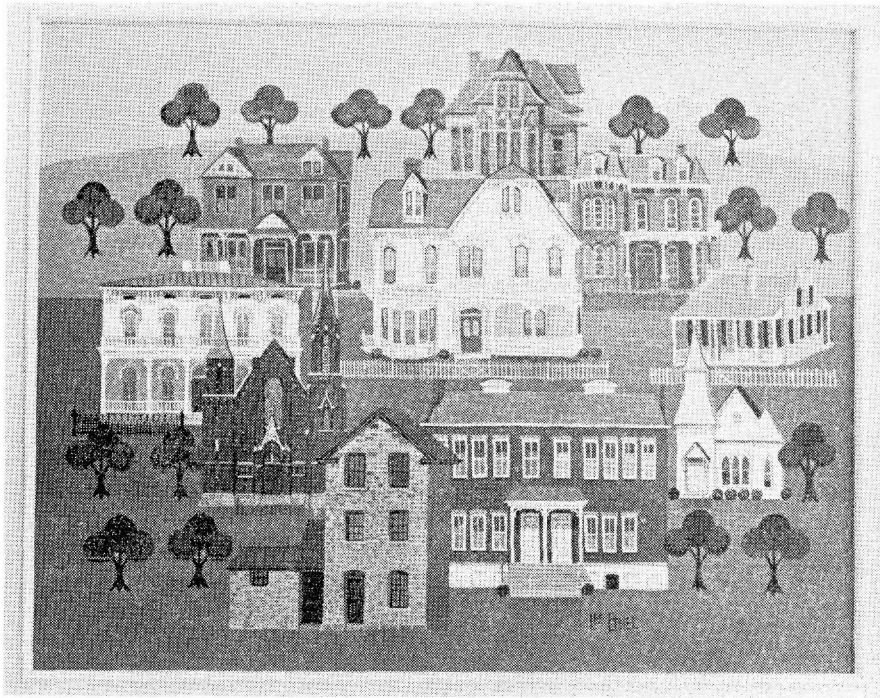
Our project is slow due to making typescripts of the tapes. As time and our efforts proceed we plan to have numerous tapes available for the public. Tapes are being kept at the Fort Smith Public Library.



# FORT SMITH ARCHITECTURE

## AMERICAN VICTORIAN ARCHITECTURE 1830 to 1910

by John Vincent Robinson\*



ORIGINAL PICTURE HANGS IN OFFICE OF FADJO CRAVENS JR.

Clockwise from top:

1. Abigale Sparks Home, 412 May Avenue, owned by Frank & Lin Kelly
2. Vaughn-Schaap Home, 423 North 6th, Art Center
3. Rogers-Tilles Home, 400 North 8th, owned by Carolyn Pollan
4. First Christian Church, 222 North 7th, preserved by the Greek Orthodox Church and now used by the Unitarian Fellowship
5. Enlisted Men's Barracks, 3rd and Rogers, Judge Parker's Court, Fort Smith National Historic Site
6. Joseph Knoble Brewery, North 3rd and E, owned by C. H. Wortz Jr.
7. Immaculate Conception Church, Garrison Avenue at 13th
8. McKibben-Bonneville Home, 318 North 7th, restored by Mrs. Ralph Speer Jr.
9. Lucas Nance Home, 601 North 6th, owned by Mrs. A. S. Koenig Jr.
10. (Center) W. H. H. Clayton Home, 514 North 6th, restored by the Fort Smith Heritage Foundation.

Fort Smith, Arkansas, not unlike many cities in America in the 19th century, enjoyed at least a sampling of almost all of the styles of American Victorian Architecture. In future articles we can go into detail about some of Fort Smith's better known architectural landmarks - both those that are still standing as well as those that have been demolished. But first let's discuss the *styles* of Victorian Architecture.

The history of architecture is usually told in terms of a succession of styles because this is a convenient way to present the complex record. Until very recent years Victorian Architecture was considered just

one eclectic style. We are finally coming to appreciate the *numerous styles* that existed during the Victorian Era. Eclecticism in architecture is essentially design by means of picking and choosing from here or there, details of past styles which appeal and recombining them as the essential elements of a new building. Also at least six major *periods* can be identified during the 80 year span of American Victorian Architecture. Within each of these periods, are several style names. It would take more than this brief article to explain thoroughly the multitude of style names associated with the Era. But in the following paragraphs I will briefly outline the periods and most of the style names associated with each.

It is surprising to most people that the *first period* in American Victorian Architecture is CLASSIC, characterized by GREEK and ROMAN REVIVAL Styles. This period includes JEFFERSONIAN, GEORGIA, FEDERAL, and REGENCY Style also.

\*Mr. Robinson was Historic Preservation Administrator with the Little Rock Housing Authority 1961-1971; Architectural Historian for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 1971-1973. At present he is Architectural Historian/Restoration specialist with the City of Fort Smith and has been in this position since 1974. He is an instructor in American Victorian design at Westark Community College and guest lecturer, Dept. of Architecture, University of Arkansas.



Most people are familiar with pillared Greek Revival Mansions of the Old South, but most do not realize they are Victorian buildings. Federal Style is well represented in Fort Smith by the 1839 Barracks of the Second Fort and its architectural sister, the Rogers-Tilles House, 400 North 8th. The William Rogers House, 904 North 11th, is one of Fort Smith's few partly Greek Revival houses (it is also partly Italianate).

So, once the idea of picking and choosing from here and there became acceptable as the correct thing, why should one stop with a copying of Classic Architecture?. Thus the age of American Victorian Architecture began.

If the first period was dominated by Greek and Roman ideas - then the *second* period was dominated by ENGLISH ideas in design and architecture. GOTHIC REVIVAL followed the Greek and Roman Revival. With it, came the idea of romanticism in architecture - such things as Knights in shining armor, Ladies Fair, Sir Walter Scott and all that sort of thing! ELIZABETHAN and JACOBEOAN Styles were revived. Along the Hudson River in New York State, so many homes were built in these styles that they are often called HUDSON RIVER GOTHIC Style. Not that we have any Hudson River Gothic mansions in Fort Smith, but we do have (or had) houses with Gothic, Elizabethan, or Jacobean design details on them.

The *third* period is the ITALIAN influence. Here is where we begin to see lots of activity in homes built in Fort Smith. the symmetrical ITALIANATE Style of the McKibben - Bonneville House, 318 North 7th, and the Nathan-Cravens House, 1405 B, are exceptional. The Symmetrical examples (partly Classic) came earlier and are scarce in Fort Smith compared to the slightly later Asymmetrical Style. A good many asymmetrical examples in both brick and frame exist in Fort Smith today. RENAISSANCE Style is also of Italian period and relates to commercial and public buildings. For example the Belle Grove School, 600 North 6th, is basically Renaissance Revival Style. The VILLA Style is also Italian, although Fort Smith does not have any surviving examples. Many details of design on Italianate Styles are confused with those of the next period because they are very similar, except for the one main feature that separate them - the design of roof!

The *fourth* period belongs to the FRENCH. SECOND EMPIRE Style or MANSARD Style dominated this period. Napoleon III and his Empress Eugenie called their Reign the Second Empire and this style is characterized by the mansard roof. Second Empire Style in America comes later than the reign of Napoleon III, but was copied from his style. We have several excellent Second Empire houses in Fort Smith. The Vaughn-Schaap House, 423 North 6th, and the Randolph Sengel House, 423 North 5th,

are especially noteworthy.

Now we come to the *fifth* period I believe can only be called the AMERICAN period. The style names here are numerous compared to the other periods and are confusing until you become accustomed to them. The best known styles are QUEEN ANNE and EASTLAKE. They are actually two *separate* styles, but they were popular during the same years and many individual houses use design details from both styles and therefore became a composite. There are literally dozens of Queen Anne - Eastlake Style houses surviving in Fort Smith. The Charles Smart House, 319 North 8th, and the Abigail Sparks House, 412 May Avenue are Eastlake Styles and the Klingensmith Cottage, 611 North 5th is Queen Anne. These styles are numerous all over the State of Arkansas and most of the United States.

Other style names associated with the American period are RICHARDSONIAN-ROMANESQUE, CHATEAUESQUE, and one simply called the SHINGLE Style. We also see during this period that beginning of a style called COLONIAL REVIVAL Style, because during the 1890's, the American Colonial Styles of the 18th century were 100 years old and therefore officially antique, and worth copying! During this period exotic detail also began to appear on Victorian houses. Names such as TURKISH, JAPANESE, MOORISH and BYZANTINE are typical.

The *sixth* period is CLASSIC (AGAIN)! But this is where we came in, it is not? Not quite - because the 20th Century has dawned and the style is altered but it *is* Classic. We hear of BEAUX-ARTS Style and one of Fort Smith's most architecturally significant and historically colorful buildings, Miss Laura Ziegler's House at 123 Front Street is an unusual example of the style. Then there was GEORGIAN REVIVAL and NEO-CLASSIC REVIVAL Style. The scale and proportion has grown more monumental from what we saw first in the Victorian Era. Fort Smith has a whole street with good examples of early 20th Century Classic Revival Victorian Architecture. That street is Free Ferry Road from Rogers Avenue to Albert Pike.

It has been said that all of the different styles of the Victorian Era were revived primarily because of their association with certain given ideas. The choice in any given case being determined, by what sort of symbolic imagery social circumstances seemed to call for.

Architecture, by definition, means *Building with Art*. As stated by a Wilhelm Pinder in 1911, "We must never regard buildings as materials shaped one way or another; they are the crystalizations of great dreams of a nation, of a time." Fort Smith has a wealth of Victorian Architecture and architecture *is* the most impressive tangible remnant of our history.

# UNION CHURCH 1842 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1846

by Amelia Martin



Union Church, Courtesy Fadgo Cravens, Jr., Copied for Printing by Ramey Elliott.



First Presbyterian Church

The first church in Fort Smith, a frame building, on a stone basement, was erected in 1842 as a Union Church, on the corner of Second and Mulberry Street (now North Second and B Streets). There were no organized church congregations, and public aid was solicited. As in all border towns, there were many horse races and sporting men with money in Fort Smith. They contributed ten or twenty dollar gold pieces, and with contributions added from the more staid and sober people, sufficient funds were collected to build the church. The pulpit was occupied on alternate Sundays by Presbyterian and Methodist ministers.

When a Methodist congregation was organized and moved to another church building, the Union Church Building became the property of the First Presbyterian Church, which was organized in 1846 by the Rev. William Kirkpatrick Marshall.

History says there were four charter members of this church, three by letters from older churches, and one on profession of faith. Three of the original members were John F. Wheeler, Joseph Bennett, and Mrs. Margaret F. Baird. Mrs. H. B. Sparks, wife of Mitchell Sparks, joined this church in 1847.

Today, the First Presbyterian Church has a congregation of 950 members which worships in a magnificent stone Scotch Gothic sanctuary at the corner of North Twelfth and B Streets.

In 1850 the Rev. Cephas Washburn became the pastor and served the church until 1857. Cephas Washburn was one of the early missionaries to the

Indians, and in 1820 he preached the first sermon known to be delivered in Arkansas.

In 1876 ground was broken on the corner of eighth and B Streets. The church completed the same year cost \$6,000. The congregation outgrew these facilities, and in 1898 the present location was purchased and the cornerstone laid in July, 1900.

The Educational Building was added in 1920. Fourteen years later, the wing connecting the sanctuary and Educational Building was built, on acts of faith, as the depression was at its worst.

In the early church, there was one lone pastorate, that of the Rev. W. A. Sample (1858-1863). Then the church was without a pastor until 1868 when Mr. Sample returned and served until 1888. Two very brief pastorates followed, and in 1890 Dr. Malcolm M. McKay accepted a call and remained as pastor until 1917. He was followed by Dr. W. W. Harrison (1917-1925); Dr. Frank P. Anderson (1925-1932); Dr. J. W. Hickman (1923-1952); the Rev. James E. Fogartie (1935-1955); Dr. Thomas B. Gallaher (1956-1970).

The present pastor, Rev. H. Shepherd Russell, Jr., began his ministry in July, 1971, and the Associate Pastor, Dr. Steven R. Fleming, in June, 1976.

In recent years, First Church has helped with the organization of Westminster Church in the northeast section of Fort Smith. It has purchased a lot for parking across B Street from the sanctuary building. Erection of the Orr Children's Building took place in 1962, The Wenderoth Chapel was add-

# The Witness.

*Published by the Presbyterian Church.*

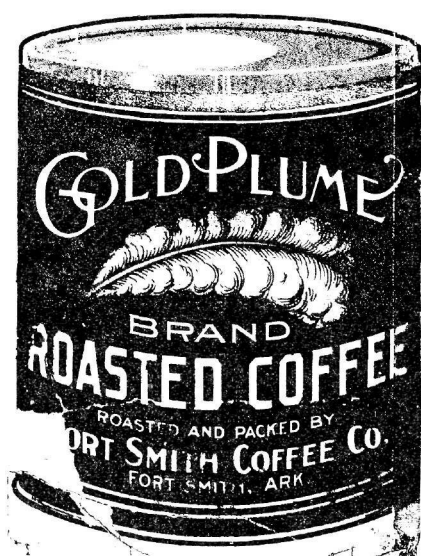
VOL. I FORT SMITH, ARK., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1899. NO. XV

The Editor was invited last week to be the guest of a fishing party bound for the Illinois river and consisting of Col. Winches ter, Commandant, Lieut. Col. Torreyson, second in command, Dr. Eberle Post Surgeon and Andrew Harris (colored) Culinary Curator, and the privates, Masters Walter and Gilbert Eberle and Malcolm McKay and this editor. To say that we had a good time would be a poor way of expressing it. We caught many fine fish. Of course the largest one got away from us. It nearly always does. This melancholy reflection made us drop into poetry, which we have not space to give our readers. Indeed the whole environment was poetical. Seated on the bank of the limped stream, shaded by rock and deep wild-wood it would not have been difficult to imagine that we heard Pan playing on his pipes, or to expect the appearance of fauns and nymphs. But the wonder to us was the exploits of Messrs Winchester and Torreyson. They forsook in large measure their native soil, and became aquatic creatures. They were in the water and out with entire impartiality: nor did they appear to be hurt by their amphibious existence. We are in debted to these two gentlemen and to Dr. Eberle for one of the most pleasant experiences of our life.

**SEE BOTEFUHR BROS.**  
Before you buy a Piano or Organ. Best goods at reasonable prices.  
Pianos or Organs sold on small monthly payments.  
Call or write,  
**Botefuhr Bros.**

**BROWN'S**  
Gratefully acknowledge past favors, and cordially invite you to examine their Choice Line of Fall Goods to arrive from now on till Sept. 15th.  
Our pleasure will be to serve you faithfully,  
Truly, F. H. BROWN & SON.

Page from "The Witness", a regular publication of the Presbyterian Church in 1899. It is not known when publication of this paper began and ended.



Back cover of the 1920 Edition of the Dixie Cook Book.

ed in the spring of 1967 and was dedicated on June 11. Renovation of the sanctuary and installation of a new three-manual, forty-rank Wicks organ containing 2,391 pipes was completed 1974. A total renovation of the educational building was completed in early 1977.

Women of the First Presbyterian Church have compiled their "tried and trusted" recipes into five editions of their now famous "Dixie Bookbook". Publication dates were: 1920, 1929, 1939, 1958, and 1972. Because of demand for the older editions of the cookbook, recipes from the 1920, 1929, and 1939 editions are incorporated into the 1972 edition, which also includes a new "Quick and Easy" section. Both the 1958 and 1972 editions are for sale at the church office.

The following hints, recipes, and advertising, are selected from the 1920 edition, a copy of which was loaned to the editors by Mrs. Dorothy Williams Chitwood, a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

## GRAPE MARMALADE

Mrs. A. Y. Berry

Put grapes in kettle with just enough water to prevent their burning. Cook slowly until they are well broken and mashed, then press through a sieve. For each pint of pulp allow half a pound of sugar. Boil the grape pulp until thick; for 1 gallon of grape pulp use 1 pint black walnut meats, put in just as you take off stove. When cold stir and put in small jars.

## ORANGE MARMALADE

Mrs. James A. Yantis

1 grapefruit 1 large orange  
1 lemon 1 red carrot

Put all through grinder after removing seeds. Measure 3 times as much water as fruit and boil 10 minutes. Let stand 24 hours. Add equal quantity of sugar. Boil until thick.

## SOUTHERN BISCUIT

Mrs. Charles B. Eads

1 pint flour 1 tablespoon butter  
1 teaspoon salt 2 teaspoons baking powder  
One rounding tablespoon shortening

Sift dry ingredients. Work in shortening. Add enough milk to make soft dough. Handle lightly. Roll ½ inch thick.

Cut in small rounds. Bake immediately in hot oven. Serve hot.

## SWEET POTATO PUDDING

Mrs. R. A. Drum

1 pint of grated raw sweet potatoes  
3 eggs 1 cup sugar  
2 tablespoons flour ½ teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon cloves 2 teaspoons cinnamon  
1 tablespoon butter 1 pint sweet milk

Mix well and pour pudding in buttered pan and bake in slow oven 45 minutes.



### VIRGINIA LYE HOMINY

Mrs. A. W. Irving

6 quart pails of hardwood ashes  
6 quarts shelled white corn  
2 tablespoons salt  
3 gallons water

Put ashes in kettle with water (3 gallons). Boil 5 minutes. Set off from fire. Turn in 1 pint cold water to settle it. The water will then feel a little slippery. Turn off lye. Strain. Place in iron kettle. Add corn. Put over brisk fire. Boil ½ hours - skimming and stirring frequently. (The outside skin of kernels will then slip off.) Strain off lye. Rinse thoroughly with hands till black chits come off. Continue to rinse and strain, till water looks clear. Put back in clean kettle with water to cover; let boil, turn off water. Put on again, parboil 3 or 4 times (it will swell to about double the first quantity). The last time, boil till quite soft. It may be necessary to add water off and on. Stir often, that it will not burn. When quite soft, put in the salt. Stir well. Serve with Virginia homemade sausage.

### VIRGINIA SAUSAGE

Mrs. A. W. Irving

7 pounds lean fresh pork  
3 pounds fat fresh pork  
5 tablespoons ground sage  
4 tablespoons salt  
2 tablespoons black pepper  
1 tablespoon ginger  
1 small teaspoon red pepper (or 2 or 3 pimentos)

Pick sausage meat to get out all strings and bones. Wash in lukewarm water. Lay on table to drain - and let it stand all night. Take off some of fat from backbone to mix with the lean. The fat must be taken off before the chins are salted. Wash, skin and put to drain with the lean. Grind meat in food chopper or sausage mill. Mix seasoning with hands; taste, to be sure all is right. Have some nicely cleaned chitterlings, kept in salt water two weeks. Stuff, hang on sticks and dry, or make long, narrow bags of strong muslin. Fill with meat, dip in melted lard and hang from beams of ceiling. Another and still simpler way is to pack in stone or Mason jars. Pour melted lard on top. Cover.

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## HINTS AND HELPS

Mrs. O. J. Hawkins

Ink stains can be removed with juice of ripe tomato.

Iodine stains can be removed by soaking fabric in sour milk several hours and washing in water.

Iron rust can be removed by soaking fabric in kerosene several hours and washing.

Mildew can be removed with a mixture of soft soap, powdered starch, half as much salt and the juice of a lemon. Apply on both sides of the fabric with a paint brush and let lie in the dew and sunshine.

Stains in bath tubs, sinks, etc., can be easily removed by rubbing with cloth wet with kerosene or gasoline. Soot stains on cooking vessels can be removed same way.

Piano keys can be cleaned by rubbing with cloth saturated with wood alcohol.

Tea and coffee stains can be removed by dampening cloth with water and covering with glycerine for 2 or 3 hours and washing out with soap and water.

Grease and oil spots can be removed with gasoline. Small spots can be cleaned by laying fabric on a blotter and rubbing with cloth saturated with gasoline, then placing over spot another blotter and ironing with hot iron. Use chloroform on finer fabrics.

To prevent fading of cloth, soak it 30 minutes in mixture of 1 teaspoonful of turpentine to a quart of water before washing.

Keep moths from books by laying on each shelf a cloth with carbolic acid or benzine.

Use chloroform to remove small grease or oil spots by saturating cloth with the chloroform and rubbing fabric between the folds of a cloth, or lay fabric on blotter and rub it with a cloth wet with chloroform.

A few drops of lemon juice or a pinch of cream of tartar makes the cake icing very white. A pinch of baking powder will make the icing stand.

Sprinkle a little soda or vinegar over the roast before putting it into the oven and the meat will be more tender.

Put a teaspoonful of vinegar into the water in which meat is to be boiled.

When cooking extremely acid fruits add a little soda and it will take less sugar.

When stirring cooking foods in a aluminum vessel use a wooden paddle. Use a wooden paddle to scrape aluminum vessels when cleaning.

Always lower the sash at the top when cooking foods that give off odor.

## TABLE OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

1 pint of liquid, 1 pound, 2 gills of liquid, 1 cup; 2 round tablespoons of flour, 1 ounce, 4 cups of flour, 1 pound; 1 cup of butter, ½ pound; 1 pint of butter, 1 pound; 1 tablespoon of butter, 1 ounce; butter size of an egg, 1 ounce; 10 eggs, 1 pound; 2 cups of granulated sugar, 1 pound; 2½ cups of powdered sugar, 1 pound.

# **POETRY AND POETS**

## **OLD FORT SMITH**

by Eloise Barksdale  
Fort Smith, Arkansas

Surely unmarked trails down long-ago years  
Led roving Indians to this valley's favored site;  
Western Cherokees, preceding their kin's "Trail of  
Tears,"  
Fought with Osages over claims of land and might.  
Arrowheads and tomahawks from tribal mounds and  
graves  
Tell tales of crossed paths, of bold warriors and  
knaves.

Sandstone bluffs beckoned white men who oared  
Up the Arkansas' capricious, winding way.  
A Frenchman named the place Belle Point when he  
explored  
The pretty landing with its sparkling spring's ballet.  
All traders and trappers and hunters knew  
The route to this storied rendezvous.

Major William Bradford's sixty-four riflemen  
Blazed far-reaching trails in eighteen-seventeen;  
They mustered brawn and will that rugged winter,  
when  
A palisaded fort was built on the scene.  
The road which led to order on this lawless frontier  
Started from the new Fort Smith in that long-ago  
year.

*Eloise Evans Barksdale is current president and co-founder, 1962, the Roundtable Poets of Fort Smith, a branch of the Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas; charter member and first president of the Fort Smith Branch of the National League of American Pen Women, 1974; named Poet of the Present in Arkansas at the annual national Poetry Day observance in Little Rock, Arkansas, 1968; published in numerous anthologies, newspapers and magazines since 1939. Listed in International Who's Who in Poetry in 1970 and included in its anthology of prize winning poems in 1972. Mrs. Barksdale is also President of the Sebastian County Chapter of the Arkansas State Pioneer Association.*

## **TALKING LEAVES - IN THE BEGINNING**

by Virginia Louise Foster

They rose and fell and rose again  
These Ozark heights before the time of man  
The seas rushed in and out again  
To make the valleys of this mighty land.

The secrets of the past appear  
When fossil life is found up here;  
The verdant plants and trees came up  
to shade the past.

Ages later man arrived  
To live and hunt and make his way,  
On paths through forests  
Of float like leaves on waterways.

"Belle Point" was a place he named,  
It's beauty was its claim to fame.  
The Future met the Past right here  
Clashed - then blended making History come alive,  
And civilization arrived.

Major William Bradford paved the way  
The year of 1817 and it was Christmas Day.  
A stockade fort the first foundation stone  
Fort Smith had become a home.

*Virginia Louise Foster, historian and poet, is a lifelong resident of Fort Smith, and co-author, with Sydney Yantis Warner of "The History of the First Presbyterian Church, 1846-1906, including Fort Smith and the Early Churches." The Foster family moved into Crawford County in 1834, and Virginia's grandfather moved to Fort Smith in the early 1880's. Family stories of the development of Crawford and Sebastian Counties, and stories of the family's experiences in the Mexican War and the War Between the States, whetted Virginia's interest in the history of the area. Through this interest, she and her mother, the former Inez Dozier, who moved to Fort Smith from St. Louis, Mo., as a bride about 1907, and lived here until her death about a year ago, have both been active in the preservation of the history of Fort Smith through their work with the Old Fort Museum.*

# FORT SMITH 1877

## Articles Taken from the FORT SMITH WEEKLY NEW ERA

Carolyn Pollan

The year is 1877 in Fort Smith, Ark. According to the Fort Smith New Era, Wednesday, January 17, 1877<sup>1</sup>, the Presidential election of November 7, 1876 has still not been decided between Democrat Samuel J. Tilden and Republican Rutherford B. Hayes. The February 21, 1877 issue finally gives the verdict from the electoral college, of the election of Hayes as President and William A. Wheeler, Vice-President. J. E. Cravens was elected Congressman from this district. State Senator elected was R. T. Kerr and State House members were Wm. Fishback<sup>2</sup> and C. Milor. Sebastian County officials elected were C. Perkins, Judge; J. H. McClure, Clerk; Henry Falconer, Sheriff; R. B. Morrow, Treasurer; F. Luce, Coroner; R. W. Gordon, Surveyor; and J. P. Durden, Assessor.

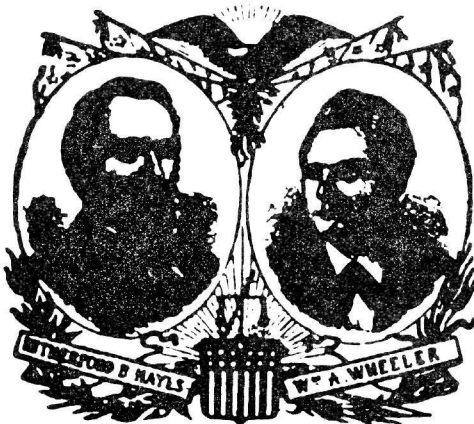
## Weekly New Era.

Oldest Republican Paper in the Defunct  
Confederacy.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1876.

FOR PRESIDENT.

**RUTHERFORD B. HAYES,**  
OF OHIO.



FOR VICE PRESIDENT.

**WILLIAM A. WHEELER,**  
OF NEW YORK.

Courtesy of Fort Smith Public Library

<sup>1</sup> The Fort Smith Weekly New Era, Valentine Dell, Editor, began publishing in Fort Smith in 1863. The Fort Smith Public Library has micro-film copies of most issues from 1869 to 1884. On June 23, 1875 the paper proclaimed itself "oldest Republican Paper in the Defunct Confederacy" and used that slogan under its masthead on page 2 every week. Valentine Dell ran for Congress in 1876 and was defeated. He served in the State Senate from 1867 to 1872. (We have attempted to leave punctuation and spelling as it was in the paper ie Muskogee.

<sup>2</sup> Later was elected Governor of Arkansas in 1892 and served as Governor for 2 years. His Legislative terms were 1876 - 1880 and 1884 - 1886.

In writing on actions of the Arkansas Legislature, which had convened on January 9, it was reported:

HOUSE - The House spent a considerable time in discussing the presprietty of allowing the Judiciary and some other committees clerical aid. The expense of these discussions invariably is greater than the amount to be appropriated and it is also generally pigheaded members, unable to write three consecutive words correctly, that make all the trouble.



January 17, 1877

Mr. Ed. F. Stowell has been appointed Superintendent of the U. S. jail here in place of Major Pierce deceased.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT. - Col. H. A. Rogers, a conspicuous member of the bar of this place, left last Monday week for Topeka, Kansas, on some legal business, via, the Muscogee stage line. Some 12 miles from here the team ran away, and the wagon passing over the Colonel's breast and arm, very severely injuring him. The only shelter found was in a miserable Indian hut where Col. R. was compelled to pass the night, and when brought back next day, it was found that pneumonia had set in also in consequence of the exposure, the weather being very severe. Besides, the injuries inflicted were in a part of his body where the Colonel had been severely wounded during the late "unpleasantness", which wound had never been quite well.

We are glad to learn, however, that the Colonel is slowly improving.

In an article from the Wednesday, February 14, 1877 Weekly New Era, the Editor chides the Arkansas Gazette about an article concerning Arkansas Politics. The Editor gives the following interesting statistics about Arkansas:

In 1850, Arkansas had a population of .....	209,897
a white school population of .....	23,350
a colored school population of .....	11
In 1860, Arkansas had a population of .....	435,450
a white school population of .....	42,721
a colored school population of .....	5
In 1870, Arkansas had a population of .....	484,471
a white school population of .....	125,865
a colored school population of .....	39,600

Feb. 14, 1877

Some thirty feet of plank road on each side of the bar in front of the city, was carried away during the rise last week.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> According to the December 13, 1876 Weekly New Era, "For the last twenty years, there has been forming and gradually increasing in size in front of this city a sand-bar, which at the present time has attained a length of about a mile in its widest parts. . . This bar has been for many years a serious obstacle to the navigation of the Arkansas River, and a great injury to the commercial facilities of Western Arkansas and the adjoining Indian Territory . . . Steamboats are compelled to land upwards of a



Capt. Evins' R. R. ferry-boat, the T. N. Miller, after being tied up for six months owing to low water, during which time she has been thoroughly overhauled, painted and made as good as new, got up steam on Friday and tried to cross over the chute above, but finding hardly enough water, tied up in Poteau, waiting for a little more rain.

— — • — —  
**Almost a Fatal Plunge** - Last Sunday afternoon, Frank McClure, a little son of Capt. McClure, the County Clerk, in trying to step from the steamer Fannie Moore on to the ferry boat lying outside, fell in the river, which at that point is very deep and rapid. An older brother of the boy, seeing the latter's peril, was on the point of getting overboard to attempt his brother's rescue, though not much of a swimmer himself, when he was pulled back by a colored man, employed on the ferry, who, plunging into the rapid stream himself, soon snatched the little fellow from a watery grave, and most likely saved the life of the older brother too by preventing him from executing his generous but dangerous attempt at rescue. But for the brave act of the ferryman, Capt. McClure would most probably have had to mourn the loss of two promising sons. The name of the colored man is simply Joe Smith, but he is a noble fellow for all that.

— — • — —  
**River News.** - Last Sunday, the 11th inst. was seen again, for the first time since August 7th last, a steamer at our wharf. The Maumelle was the last boat up, arriving and leaving again on the day mentioned, closing a good boating season of eight continuous months.

The Fanny Moore, a fine new boat built and commanded by that old veteran, Capt. Woodburn, (old Red) arrived about noon on Sunday from New Orleans. She was light, having not come direct from New Orleans, but in obedience to a telegram that there was a big rise in the river. In this she was somewhat disappointed, as there is not now water enough to go out with a big load. But all appearances are for more rain and it don't take long to bring old Arkansas up booming at this time. The Fanny Moore was built two years ago expressly for this trade. Capt. Aleck Young is her accommodating clerk, and she will have no trouble to get all the cotton she can carry.

— — • — —  
**Look Here, Boys!** - If you don't want your Valentines to go to the Dead Letter office at Washington, put a two cent stamp upon the envelope, if you send them sealed or write anything upon them. Don't throw away your love, affection, highfalutin and all that, for one cent - though some boys are mean enough to do even that.

— — • — —  
**COUNCIL MATTERS**

At the last meeting of the city council the following new ordinances were reported, but not acted on yet:

1. An ordinance fixing the salary of chief of police at \$2 per day, town warrants.
2. An ordinance fixing the salary of recorder at \$25 per month, town warrants.
3. An ordinance fixing license of public auctioneer at \$25 per annum, or fifteen for 6 months.
4. An ordinance providing that in no case shall police fees be paid by the town for arrests, &c.
5. An ordinance repealing the ordinance in reference to dray license.

mile below the wharf at a point accessible only by a route some two and a half miles in length while navigation above this point is rendered impossible . . . That the terminus of the Little Rock-Fort Smith Railroad is on the opposite bank of the Arkansas River, access to which is only to be had across this bar or rather series of bars which is of such peculiar shape as to make it necessary that we use two ferries divided by a bar of about one fourth of a mile in width . . . Many of the passengers on the R. R.

6. An ordinance repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances, fixing, granting or establishing a salary for the Mayor.

A resolution was also adopted that the committee on ordinances be instructed to draft an ordinance making the office of chief of police elective by the voters of the town.

— — • — —  
**Domino!** - The Domino party on Monday night, at Adelaide Hall,<sup>4</sup> was a success, in spite of the dreadful weather. The night was pitch dark, the rain unceasing, and the mud prodigious - yet the spacious hall was well filled with a gay and festive crowd. There were comparatively few masks.

Supper was served in the Courtroom near by, between twelve and one o'clock, by Madame Nelson and her myrmidons, and in point of quality and quantity was unsurpassed by anything ever offered on a similar occasion. Dancing was kept up till day-light.

— — • — —  
Feb. 21, 1877

**River News.** - Contrary to all expectation the river continues falling slowly and an early spring navigation is out of the question. The Fanny Moore is still at our wharf waiting for a rise to load and depart.

The Pine Bluff sunk last Wednesday three miles below the mouth of Cadron Creek and was a total loss. She had 490 bales of cotton which was taken off by the Maumelle. Loss \$9000. Insurance \$5000.

**The Fort Smith Weekly New Era, Wednesday, February 28, 1877** had two articles on happenings of the area and state. The first is reporting proceedings in Parker's Court and the second a scathing letter to the editor on the 1877 State Legislative Session.

— — • — —  
THRILLING INCIDENT!

— — • — —  
THREE MEN DOOMED TO THE GALLOWS!

— — • — —  
A LEAP FOR LIBERTY OR DEATH!

— — • — —  
A JUDGE FOR A BREAST WORK!

On Monday morning last, February 26th, Hon. I. C. Parker, Judge of the U. S. District Court here, pronounced sentence on three men found guilty of murder at the present session of the court. They were sentenced to be hung on April 27th next. Below we find the names of the doomed men and the circumstances connected with the deeds they committed, and for which they will suffer the extreme penalty of the law.

EDWIN PERKINS

\*\*\*\*\*

The next man called up was

CHARLES THOMAS,

also a colored man from the Indian country, about 27 years old, well formed, tall, lithe, intelligent looking. He is accused, and was found guilty of having killed another colored man, the trouble originating about the latter's wife. Thomas, after killing the man, gave himself up, claiming that he had acted only in self defense. When told to stand up and say, why sentence should not be pronounced upon him, he said, he did not think, that anything he

prefer to get off the cars at Van Buren . . . and take some private conveyance to or from Fort Smith." Congress had appropriated \$10,000 at its last session and a committee was appointed to make sure the work was done. The committee was Col. W. M. Fishback, Chmn.; J. R. Kannady; Valentine Dell, W. W. Bailey, and H. L. Rogers.

<sup>4</sup> Adelaide Hall is at 320 Garrison. The name is still on the East wall of 4th Street.

had to say would do him any good; that if he had not killed the man in self defense, and expected to have been cleared, he would not have voluntarily gone and given himself up. He was very indignant at what he considered the injustice done to him and appeared extremely nervous. After getting through with his version of how he came to kill the man, Judge Parker commenced reading the usual formula in passing sentence, when all at once the prisoner, who was entirely unshackled, gathered himself and made a

#### SPRING LIKE A PANTHER

directly at the Judge.

It was a tremendous spring, and for a moment, but only a moment, paralyzed court, officers and spectators. The prisoner evidently, aimed for a window directly in rear of the Judge's chair, opening on the West side of the courtroom, within 400 yards of Poteau River, with only a low wall intervening, and beyond - Oklahoma and liberty. Due to his rapid flight, the prisoner had overlooked a railing directly in the rear of the Judge's seat and between the latter and the coveted window, against the railing he struck violently in the momentum of his leap, and the next instant Judge Parker had him by the collar of his shirt, he having on no coat. He did not offer any resistance to the Judge, but when almost immediately afterwards some half-a-dozen deputy marshals took a hold of him, he struggled to get free, but in vain, of course. Even after he had been brought back to the spot he leaped from, in order to receive the remainder of his sentence, he continued to exert his great strength to free himself, saying he would rather be shot than treated like a dog, that he acted like a man in giving himself up, having killed the man in self-defense, and it was a shame to be treated thus. He was in a

#### PERFECT FRENZY OF RAGE

and certainly was sincere in believing himself a very much abused man.

#### SOME ONE SUGGESTED TO THROW

him down and tie him hand and foot. But Judge Parker ordered him to

#### REMAIN UNSHACKLED

while the sentence was being read.

Order being once more restored, the Judge finished reading the sentence, after he ordered the prisoner to be remanded to confinement at once.

The third and last prisoner was a

#### ARAPAHOE BRAVE

\*\*\*\*\*

When told to try and meet his inevitable fate on the gallows, Mr. Crow Man laughed outright, and told his interpreter he did not believe it; but if he had to die, why he would die, that was all, but didn't want to be hung. The sentence was translated by the interpreter piecemeal. There was not the slightest emotion visible in the Indian, except when moved to laughter once or twice, as above stated.

#### OUR LEGISLATURE

#### WHAT HAVE THEY DONE!

Fort Smith, Ark. Feb. 26.

*Editor New Era:*

Now, as the time is drawing near for the close of the session of the Legislature, may not the people of the State, irrespective of party, ask, what have we gained in the way of legislation for the benefit of the state? What return for the six dollars a day and mileage paid the members? Scan the proceedings from day to day and what do we see. Johnson, of Bungtown introduces a bill to repeal section 9900 of Gantt's Digest; Jones, of Hog Hollow, a bill to repeal, amend and declare what Section 2700 of Gantt's Digest should have been; Smith of Onion Creek, a bill to repeal Section 2701, 1320, *ad infinitum*, of Gantt's Digest; until, if all the

bills introduced for the amendment of the Digest were passed, there would be no laws left, and we would be remanded back to a state of primitive lawlessness. It only remains now for some member to introduce a bill to provide that, after the entrails are knocked out of the digest, the covers left on the copies unsold by the State, be used as drum heads for drums of the militia.

Feb. 28, 1877

We learn that Messrs. Bocquin and Ruetzel, the Central Block merchants have commenced the manufacture of brick on a large scale of land on Race track prairie near town and also propose to contract for putting up buildings entire.

A considerable number of buildings are expected to be erected this season all solid brick business houses.

Among those that fastened on to the prisoner under sentence of death by the U. S. District Court last Monday, in his efforts to escape, was John Williams, an old deputy. John had a hold of the condemned man by his necktie, which the latter had neglected to remove. Giving the necktie a twist or two and holding his hand in a peculiar but very uncomfortable way, the prisoner soon quieted down.

#### CLIPPINGS

From July 1 to December 31, 1876, eighty-nine millions of postal cards were sold in the post offices of the United States, or fifteen millions more than for the same period of 1875. Postal cards were introduced about four years ago.

*The March 7, 1877 issue of the Weekly New Era concerned itself with President Hays' inauguration and as usual the column Local Intelligence goes into daily happenings in Fort Smith:*

Mar. 7, 1877

The city council paid fifty dollars last week for the repair of a crossing of a little alley running into Garrison Avenue. The crossing at the gutter of that alley ought to have been repaired; but FIFTY dollars for the job seems to be fearfully extravagant. At the same rate it would take no less than fifty thousand dollars to put our streets in good order, and the crossing at the alley is by no means a good job.

RIVER NEWS - Contrary to all expectation the weather continues dry and the river correspondingly low.

The Fanny Moore is loaded at our wharf with cotton, ready to leave, but there is not water enough. We regret the detention of so fine a boat as that of Capt. Woodburn's. A rise would enable an immense quantity of cotton to leave this region at low prices and benefit merchants and others alike.

#### ONE HUNDRED GUNS FOR HAYES

Last Saturday morning at day break our slumbering citizens were aroused from their dreams by the cannon's roar, a salute being fired in honor of the conclusion of the electoral count, declaring Gov. Hayes President and W. A. Wheeler Vice President of the United States. The gun was a twelve pounder, and the firing was done under the charge of Mr. Robert Thompson, Late Lieut. U. S. Arkansas Battery U. S. Vol. Those firing the piece were Geo. Heckler, Bernard Preussner, R. C. Dorse and Edward Burns assisted by Mr. Charles Sengel, an ex-confederate, who made an agreement with Mr. Thompson that each would assist the other in firing a salute, no matter who was elected. This spirit is to be commended. The firing was done in fine style, without any accident whatever. The report of the shots was heard within a radius of thirty miles, and created considerable excitement in the country. One hundred and two guns were fired.

## CIRCUIT COURT

The present session of the Circuit Court of this county, Ft. Smith Dist. met here yesterday, Judge Mansfield presiding; Jos. P. Byers, Esq., prosecuting attorney. The following is a list of

### GRAND JURORS

John Vaughan, Foreman; Phillip Baum, John Hendry, Jr.; John Harrington, Joe Robinson, Thos. Wilson, Michael Callahan, J. W. Ferguson, Chas. Sengel, Henry Reutzel, Conrad Triesch, August Harder, Simon Baer, John Dodson, E. C. Brogan.

### PETIT JURY

Robert Green, Thos. H. Scott, Chas. Kayserm, Wm. Frizzell, W. H. Rogers, R. F. Dickens, Julius Reichart, Peter Bruder, E. B. Bright, Ed. Fleming, S. M. Hamilton, Ed. Devanny, John Maledon, B. O'Keefe, Wm. Geiger, James H. Johnson, Francis Donohoe, S. J. Scott, Stacy Petit, W. L. Berry, Wm. Falconer, Auton Neis, John Reutzel, Henry Haney.

— • —

THE LIBRARY RE-UNION, on Monday night, was very well attended and a pleasant affair. There was some disappointment in the musical part of the entertainment, several ladies and gentlemen being prevented by sickness or absence from town to assume their allotted parts in the programme. But this unavoidable circumstance did not interfere much with the general enjoyment.

Col. Kannady led off with a little piece he must have composed himself on purpose to plague "Aunt Sophy," to judge from his wicked grin.

There were quite a number of ladies and gentlemen, who, with reading and music, filled out the conversational interludes most admirably: but having failed to take notes we are unable to particularize. The company present was large and the elite of the city.

A week from next Monday the next re-union takes place, and more than usual preparations are being made for it.

— • —

*The Weekly New Era, March 14, 1877 carried reports from the School Board: (Obviously there was still a lot of Confederate currency being used)*

### SCHOOL MATTERS

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Office Board School Directors  
Ft. Smith, Ark. March 1st '77

To the citizens of Fort Smith:

I beg leave to submit my report from July 1st, 1875 to December 13st, 1876, showing the financial condition of the board on the 1st of January 1877, which report had been fully examined and approved by the finance committee of the board, showing the sum of \$617.85 U. S. currency on hand at the time. Since then I have commenced collecting the private subscriptions of our citizens, the largest number of whom have paid, but unless the balance of them pay up, the board will be seriously embarrassed in carrying out the contracts with the teachers for the full term of ten months. Our hopes of getting one thousand dollars from the Peabody fund have been disappointed by the allotment of only four hundred dollars to our school district.

Joseph Eberle,  
Secretary School Board

### REPORT

DOLLARS

Jan. 26, 1876 -

Rent of rooms in Belle Grove (USC)	\$ 40.00
April 27 from Co. Treasurer (SC)	106.00
May 31 Rent of rooms in Belle Grove (USC)	35.00
July 10 from Co. Treasurer	2,918.09
State Script sold at 60 cts USC	1,768.85
July 19 from sale	143.45
Oct. 3 -	
Tuition from non-residents & subscription	80.00

Nov. 6 - Same	30.50
Dec. 16 - Same	46.75
Dec. 30 - Same	104.00
	2,414.55
Dec. 31 Bal. in hand of Treasurer	\$ 617.85

— • —

Cr. U.S.C.

Dec. 25, 1875 Contingent expenses	31.20
May 27, 1876 Insurance on Belle Grove	87.50
May 27, 1876 Contingent expenses	31.00
Sept. 30, 1876 Salary of 6 teachers, 1 mo.	305.00
Sept. 30, 1876 Contingent expenses	131.65
Oct. 28, 1876 Salary of 6 teachers, 1 mo.	330.00
Nov. 25, 1876 Contingent expenses	35.35
Nov. 25, 1876 Salary of 6 teachers, 1 mo.	330.00
Nov. 25, 1876 Contingent expenses	27.60
Dec. 30, 1876 Salary of 6 teachers, 1 mo.	330.00
Dec. 30, 1876 Contingent Expenses	84.75
Dec. 30, 1876 -	
Loss on sale of \$166 State Script	66.40
Dec. 31 Balance	617.85
	\$2,414.55

— • —

Mar. 14, 1877

— • —

State scrip is going down owing to the reduction of the state tax from five to one mill.

— • —

The members of the General Assembly from this end of the state came up on the train last Friday night.

— • —

NEW BELL - Catholic Church received a new bell Monday which is now sounding the time o'day as usual. Its tone is a deep and rich one.

— • —

### SOLD

Quite an amusing circumstance occurred on Monday at Squire Grey's office. Capt. Berry Stevens of Sugar Loaf township, who is spending some days here in town as witness in the Circuit Court, was arrested on Monday morning in his perambulations about town by a deputy constable for carrying deadly weapons. And, indeed, as the Captain wore a belt, and on the belt was a pistol scabbard, and from that scabbard loomed up the stock of a big six-shooter, the charge seemed to be correct. The officer was about to jerk the pistol from the scabbard when he arrested Capt. S., but the latter quietly took off the belt and handed to it the officer, scabbard and all, and off the party went to the justice's office, the officer carrying the belt, etc., on his arm.

Arriving at the Squire's, the officer preferred the charge and was ready to swear to it, when the Captain interposed, denying the charge and declaring himself reluctant to have the officer swear to a falsehood. At this the latter fired up and, in order to prove the correctness of the charge took hold of the pistol with a hearty, good will and pulled out a pistol minus barrel and cylinder. Tableau: a crestfallen official; a room full of people going into fits almost with Homeric laughter.

However, the constable, like a little man, soon came to and asked Capt. Stevens' pardon, to which the latter replied by asking the other's pardon for having practiced the little joke on him, and invited him to stay all night whenever he should chance to be at Sugar Loaf. All hands separated in the best of humor.

It should be added, that, in order to give the scabbard the proper weight, Capt. Stevens had crammed two bars of lead into it below the handle of the pistol, thus making the deception more complete.



**HUMOR CLUB** - At a meeting of the Humor Club, Saturday evening, March 10th, it was agreed to give a grand Calico Ball on Easter Monday Eve., April 2, at Adelaide Hall, and the following committees were appointed for the occasion:

*Committee of Arrangements.*-Jas. Brizzolara, Simon Baer, Chas. Fleming, Henry Hinch, Frank Freer, Jos. Coane and Geo. Tilles.

*Committee of Invitation* - J. Deiser, G. W. Schulte, W. C. Pearson and W. L. Euper.

*Floor Managers* - Frank Eberle, John Slosson, J. G. Eberle, Daniel Harrington and Cons. Wilson.

## FUN, PROFIT AND PLEASURE

*The celebrated artist, Major Addison, the Original Soap man and versatile genius, will appear on*

**THURSDAY AND FRIDAY NIGHTS**

*next, at Adelaide Hall, in*

**VENTRILOQUISM,**

**FACIAL CHARACTERS,**

**VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC, etc., etc.**

### ADMISSION FREE,

provided you have the ticket given at the purchase of a cake of my soap.

Performance to commence at early candle light.

**MAJOR ADDISON.**

— — — — —

**SEVEN NEW BUSINESS HOUSES TO GO UP** — Quite a number of our business men are making preparations to build this season solid substantial business blocks. Col. J. R. Kannady sold recently seventy feet front by one hundred deep adjoining his residence on Garrison Avenue for \$5600. On this ground is the two story frame, recently occupied by Trieach & Bro.'s. This brought \$3,-000. The two adjoining lots, 45 feet front, were purchased by Guler and Brunoldi, Confectioners, and Haglin and Pape, general merchandise. Both firms will erect substantial brick buildings this summer.

Then, the space between Birnie's furniture factory and Gardner's livery stable, on Garrison Avenue 120 feet front by 140 deep, has recently been sold and a splendid block of business houses is to be erected thereon as follows:

B. F. Atkinson, hardware; Triesch Bro.'s tinware, stoves, etc.; S. M. Hamilton, saddlery; R. F. Dickens, general merchandise. Miss Ellen Gookin, the original owner of the ground, is going in as the owner of the fifth store, which will be for rent. This will give some idea of the business prosperity of this place.

— — — — —

**THE CITY HOTEL** - Zach Moody of this well known hostelry on Garrison Avenue, continues to keep an A No. 1 house. The table and rooms under the management of Mrs. Dodson, are all that can be desired, while the best of refreshments are kept on hand in Zack's own department.

He has just added a fine new pigeonhole table to the attractions of his parlor, where guests can amuse themselves and while away the tedious hours "between meals."

— — — — —

H. H. Penninger, of this county, has been commissioned Justice of the Peace.

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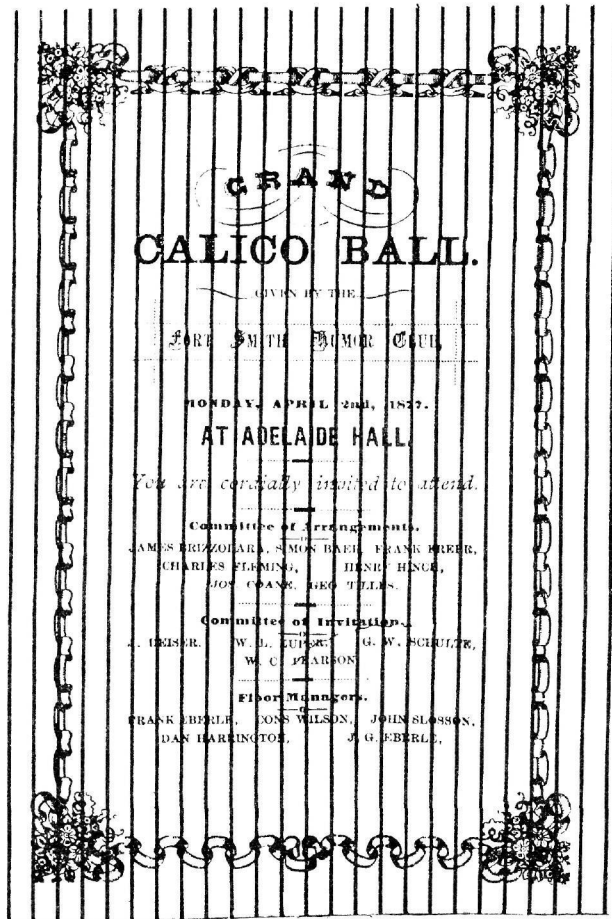
*Because Fort Smith joined the Indian Territory, what happened in Indian Territory was very close to Fort Smith citizens and usually affected them in some way. Wednesday, March 21, 1877, the Weekly New Era reported going-ons in I. T.:*

### FROM OKLAHOMA

**Murder by Mistake - Violence  
Rampant - U. S. Authority  
Suspended - Hell  
Abiaze**

For more than two months the office of the Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas has been entirely inactive, as far as maintaining law and order in the adjoining Indian Territory is concerned, owing to want of funds, it is alleged, to carry on operations. As a natural result, the Territory, had as it is at best and well deserving the cognomen of "Pandemonium," is doing a little worse than usual.

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Invitation to Calico Ball, printed on red and white striped Calico, courtesy of the University of Arkansas Library of Special Collections.

— — — — —

**Fort Smith Views** - Mr. W. J. Christlar, with Mr. B. Z. Gannaway, have been taking lately excellent views of different portions of this city, such as the Fishback and Kannady blocks, Belle Grove School, with pupils, etc. These pictures are finely executed and finished and should adorn the offices and private residences of our citizens. Call and get one.

— — — — —

Capt. Hugh L. Rogers, of the committee on streets and alleys, rises to explain that the repairs at the crossing of Czarniknow's alley cost but ten dollars and that the remainder of the fifty dollars appropriated at the last council meeting is for other street repairs. Of which explanation we give him the benefit.

— — — — —

A perfect reign of terror exists all along the M. K. & T. R.R. and numerous murders and outrages are hourly committed. At Muscogee, Gibson Station, Eufala, McAlister, Caddo, and other places, drunken, murderous mobs hold undisputed sway. All the good inhabitants are praying for protection and annexation to the United States.

There was another baptizing on Sunday in the Arkansas River by the pastor of the colored Baptist Church, attracting as usual, a great crowd.

**TWO MORE BOATS GONE.** — The steamer Florence Meyer sunk at Galley Rock, in the Arkansas River, last Wednesday, with 900 bales of cotton. On Friday the new fine steamer Gov. Garland took fire at Red Fork, twelve miles above the mouth of the Arkansas and burned to the water's edge. Four lives were lost, besides the entire cargo of cotton, books, etc. etc.

Apr. 4, 1877

Last Wednesday night two valuable horses were stolen from the stable of Mr. John Colbert and a fine large mule from Mr. Paden. The thieves are supposed to be some bad characters that have been lounging and loafing about here for sometime. Pursuit was made within twelve hours, and at last advice the pursuers were close up to the thieves in the Indian Territory.

"Mamma, how do wabbits cook their eggs?" We heard our Gussie, four years old, ask last Sunday morning, after finding his "wabbit's nest" with colored eggs among the flowers in the garden. He had managed to drop one to get at the inside. Gussie is yet waiting for an answer, for, beside an uncontrollable burst of laughter at his speculative thought, he got none.

**VICTORIOUS AGAIN!**  
**IMMENSE SUCCESS!**

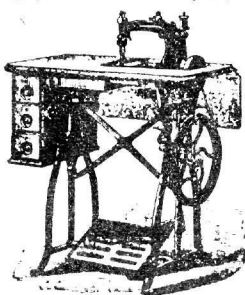
**WHEELER & WILSON'S**

**NEW NO. 8.**

Straight Needle.

NO SHUTTLE  
TO THREAD!

WORK  
RUNS BACK  
FROM OPERATOR.



**AWARDED**  
3 MEDALS and  
3 DIPLOMAS  
OVER

All Competitors  
AT  
**CENTENNIAL,**  
PHILADELPHIA.  
1876.

**ARKANSAS STATE FAIR, 1877,**

FROM OFFICIAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE:

"Best Sewing Machine, Leather and Family Work, and Best Display Sew-Machines Awarded to Wheeler & Wilson."

SOLD UPON AS FAVORABLE TERMS AS ANY IN THE MARKET,  
AT 109 MARKHAM STREET, LITTLE ROCK.

H. M. WAGNER, Special Agent. Fort Smith, Ark.

**SPECIAL NOTICES.**

LITTLE ROCK & FORT SMITH  
RAILWAY

**TIME TABLE.**

**FRESH**  
**OYSTERS,**  
ALWAYS ON HAND AT  
**BETTO'S,**  
118 Garrison Avenue.

## THE CITY ELECTION

Everything passed off quietly yesterday at the municipal election and the result is generally satisfactory. Of course, there is some disappointment and, if we had our own way, there might have been some changes, but we cheerfully accept the result. There are some right good men on the new town administration and our friend Mont will doubtless wear his new honors with becoming modesty. Dr. DuVal deservedly got the highest vote as Alderman in fact a unanimous vote while Joe Robinson, a well known, steady and respectable colored man got the smallest vote: but he got in, fully half of his votes being white. He is the first colored man ever elected and few white men will object to him.

John Kemp, better known as Jack O'Lane, won the race of Chief of Police and will make an active energetic officer. But here are the "figgers:"

### FOR MAYOR

M. H. Sandela .....	197
F. W. Boas .....	177
Sandel's majority .....	20

### FOR CITY RECORDER

C. P. Swift .....	255
J.R.A. Heudry, Jr. ....	104
Swift's majority .....	151

### FOR ALDERMEN

E. R. DuVal .....	359
W. W. Bailey .....	308
H. L. Rogers .....	293
S. A. Williams .....	186
Joe Robinson .....	177
W. H. Rogers .....	155
B. Baer .....	154
Alex. Hoffman .....	87
Casper Reutzel .....	62

### FOR CHIEF OF POLICE

John Kemp .....	153
Anton Euper .....	109
James Brogan .....	64
James Mitchell .....	41
Kemp's majority .....	44

**PASS HIM AROUND.** — A fellow named Shiver, a big, burly, red-faced, glib tongued fellow, traveling agent for one Major Addison, the "original" soap man, ventriloquist, etc., etc., engaged Adelaide Hall recently for a series of performances for his principal and got a lot of advertising done here, without meeting his engagement, or paying for what he ordered. As he will most likely try to impose on others elsewhere, we hope our brethren of the quill in this State will beware of the concern and give it the notice it deserves.

**DR. W. A. MATHES,**  
**DENTIST.**



**I** am prepared to execute all work in his line in the most approved style and most professional manner. Rates to suit the

times.  
Office Corner Knox and Walnut streets, over Ferrari's Confectionery, Fort Smith, Ark.  
Nov. 17. '75-ly.

Arkansas was beginning to come out from under the dark cloud of the Civil War as evidenced by this article in the Weekly New Era, April 11, 1877, which sounds as if it could have been written by a chamber of commerce:

#### ARKANSAS

The assessed value of real estate \$61,960,452.37  
 Personal property ..... 32,692,425.68  
 Total ..... \$94,652,878.05

There are 127,819 polls, which at the usual proportion to the whole population, counting persons above poll tax age, will give a total of at least 800,000 or an increase since 1870 of fully 60 per cent. At the taking of the next census in 1880 Arkansas will show up a million of inhabitants at the very lowest, for the stream of population is just settling in and our State becoming appreciated.

We have no grasshoppers; our winters are mild and short; our climate is healthy, and we have the finest of farm lands.

— • —  
 Apr. 11, 1877

We regret to learn of the continued and serious illness of Dr. E. R. DuVal, it having assumed a typhoid character. We sincerely trust the Doctor will pull through, as he is one of the few men here that could not be spared without being greatly missed.

#### REMOVAL

Messrs. Robertson & Loving have removed their

#### NEW DRUG STORE

To No. 120 Garrison Avenue, next door to Vaughan's tinshop where they will be glad to see their friends, old and new.

April 4, 1877, tf.

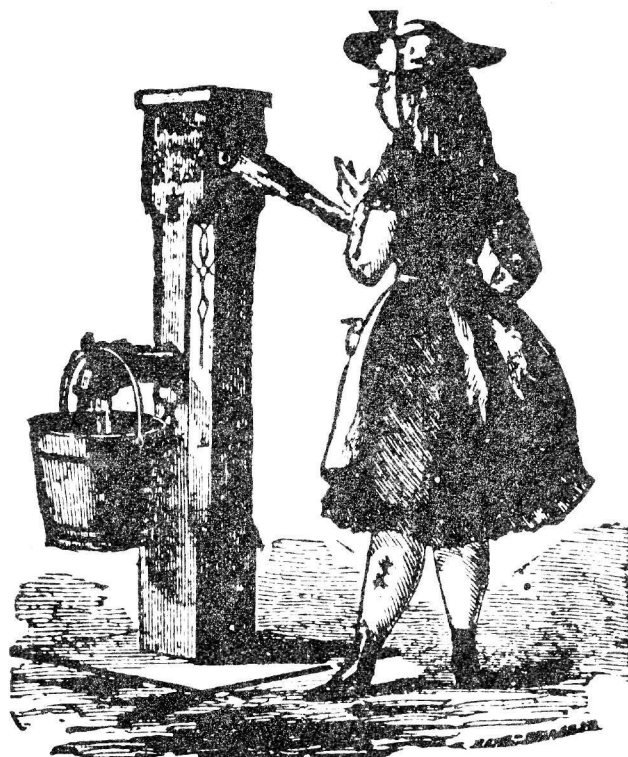
#### RIVER NEWS

The Arkansas River commenced rising on Saturday and on Monday had covered the huge bar in front of the city and is still

rising. The channel of the river is gradually coming back to this side and the head of the bar as well as Choctaw point above is being rapidly washed away. Had anything been done by the government last Fall or Winter and even a part only of the 10,000 dollars appropriation expended while the river was low, the Spring rise this year would have permanently changed the channel to where it was twenty-five years ago. Nothing can be done now till next fall.

The Fanny Moore with a full load of cotton left Saturday for New Orleans, after an involuntary stay of two months. This is the first departure of a boat since August last.

The City of Augusta, Elliot master, came up yesterday morning from New Orleans. She leaves again this evening with a fair cargo for the Crescent City.



## POWELL'S STAR WOOD PUMPS, Waukegan Farm Pumps, WOOD EAVE THROUGH, TUBING, ETC.

IF YOU WANT THE BEST OF THESE ARTICLES go to your Hardware or Agricultural Implement Stores.

If they do not keep them, or will not get them for you, send direct to the Factory.

Catalogues and Price Lists mailed upon application to

**J. E. POWELL, & Co.,**

Waukegan, Ill.  
 Pump logs bored for Water and Gas Works,  
 from 1 1/2 to 6 inch bore.  
 x113

## SPECIAL NOTICES. LITTLE ROCK & FORT SMITH RAILWAY TIME TABLE.



Trains going East leave Fort Smith at 7:30 A. M. Arrive at Argenta at 8 P. M.

Trains going West leave Argenta at 7:30 A. M. and arrive at Cherokee opposite Fort Smith at 8:30 P. M.



--- • ---  
**THE STORM**

On Saturday evening last, at half past five o'clock, after a beautiful, bright warm day, the sky suddenly clouded up darkly in the west and north and a roaring sound was heard in that direction up the broad valley of the Arkansas. Ere long the clouds burst and a storm of hail set in such as had not been seen for twenty years. It was on the 8th of April, 1854, when a hailstorm smashed every window in town and did great damage. On Saturday, the 7th last, the catastrophe was repeated, but with much greater damage, though the storm was not as severe, perhaps, as that of '54. The hail commenced falling slowly at first, but gradually it increased in quantity and size, until in about ten minutes it rattled down at an awful rate, the stones varying in size from that of a small marble to a hen's egg and some even larger. At first the storm came from the Northwest, but in about fifteen minutes it veered around and came from the South-east. In about twenty minutes the ground was covered to the depth of several inches, when the hail changed gradually into violent rain. At half past six all was over and people showed themselves again in the streets. We took a stroll up Garrison Avenue to see what damage was done.

Among those who suffered the most from defective roofs were John Goss, general merchandise, Bonneville block, loss \$1000. S. G. Corrington, adjoining, boots and shoes, \$200, J. W. Scott, R. F. Dickens, general merchandise, loss not known. The sky lights of B. Z. Gannaway's Art Gallery and that of R. G. Bulgin were completely destroyed and the interior damaged. The hot houses of Mrs. J. R. Kannady and Mrs. Reutzel were demolished by the heavy icicles and dire havoc made among the fragrant flowers and shrubs. In the establishments of Walter Miley, E. C. Brogan and M. Brogan the rain flooded everything. But very few and only the best constructed buildings withstood the flood. Luckily the hail came in a slanting direction so that the loss in window lights was but trifling.

--- • ---  
 Further mentioning of the problem of lawlessness occurred twice in the April 18, 1877 issue:

**NO. U. S. COURT here in May for Want of Funds**

The following notice has been extensively promulgated all through the Indian Territory and that part of Arkansas belonging to the Western District:

OFFICE U. S. MARSHAL  
 WEST, DIST. ARK.  
 FT. SMITH, ARK., APRIL 12, 1877

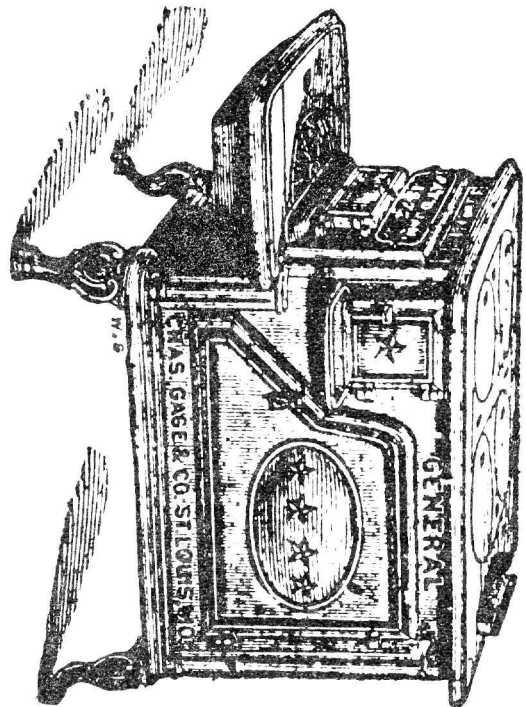
There will be no May term of the United States Court at Fort Smith. Witnesses and others will not be required to attend until the first Monday in August next.

D. P. UPHAM  
 U. S. Marshal

The cause of this postponement is, we learn, the lack of funds to carry on the court.

--- • ---  
**PANDEMONIUM IS HAPPY.** - The appropriation having run out and no money in office, the U. S. Marshal of the Western District of Arkansas can't send deputies and must let things, therefore, take their own course in the Indian Territory, swarming with outlaws and malefactors of every description. Perhaps this is all the better, for it will then give expression perhaps to the desire of the better portion of the people there, to have the land divided up and be admitted as a U. S. Territory.

**TINWARE,  
 STOVES,**



**CROCKERY AND QUEENSWARE!**

AND EVERYTHING IN THAT LINE AT THE  
 OLD RELIABLE HOUSE OF  
**JNO. VAUGHAN,**  
*No. 118, Garrison Av.*  
 Fort Smith Ark.

**B. BAER**

**J. B. SPRADLING,**

(Successor to Spradling & Hook.)

**U. S. CLAIM AGENT.**

**Greenwood, Ark.**

**M. H. SANDELS,**

**ATTORNEY AT LAW.**

**FORT SMITH, ARK.**

Office with **WALKER & ROGERS.**

**HORACE S. CUMMINGS.**

**F**ORT SMITH HOTEL, Cor. Walnut & Ozark  
Prop'r Mrs. Mary Coors, Prop'r.

**F**ORT SMITH NEW ERA, WEEKLY. Cen-  
tral Block

**G**ANNAWAY Z. PHOTOGRAPHER GARRI-  
son Avenue.

**G**ILMOR & HAMILTON, Carpenters and  
Builders, corner Walnut and Howard st.

**H**ARE JOHN, TRAVELLERS' HOME TEXAS  
Road.

**H**ODGENS J. E. & Co., Saddles, etc., Garr.  
Ave. opposite Knox Str.

**H**UNTED. GROCERIES, DRY GOODS ETC.  
Bonnerville Block Garrison Avenue.

**K**ELLEY TOB., BUTCHER, NO. —, GARRI-  
son Avenue.

**L**ABURN, W. J., Commercial Agent : office  
330 Broadway, New York.

**M**EYER FRED. FURNITURE, UPHOLSTER-  
ing etc. Knox St. near Garrison Avenue

**M**ATHES. W. A., DENTIST, corner Walnut  
and Knox streets.

**P**ROBST & HILB. Wholesale Liquor Deal-  
ers, Little Rock, Ark.

**P**ATTERSON & KAYSER, MEAT MARKET  
near cor. Garrison Ave. and Knox st

**P**AYNE, DR. S. H., FAIRVIEW HOTEL.  
Terminus B. R. opposite Fort Smith.

**P**EARSON, W. C. GUNSMITH, COR., WAYNE  
street and Garrison Avenue.

**R**OGERS J. H. ATTORNEY AT LAW  
Garrison Ave.,

**R**OBINSON HOUSE, CORNER MARKHAM  
and Rock, Jos. T. Robinson, Prop'r.

**S.** J. MCOTT, DRY GOODS, GROCERIES,  
etc., Garrison Avenue.

**S.** L. GRIFFITH & CO., DRY GOODS, No-  
tions, etc., Garrison Avenue.

**S**ANDELS, M. H. ATTORNEY-AT-LAW and  
J. P. Office with Walker & Rogers, Central  
Block.

**S**UTTON, W. B. DEALER IN MERCHANT-  
also, Mill Machinery, Forwarding, etc.,  
Garrison Avenue.



**T**HE UNDERSIGNED BEGS LEAVE TO AN-  
nounce to the ladies and gentlemen of Fort  
Smith and neighborhood, that he has opened a

## BOOT AND SHOE SHOP

in the Wegman building, on Garrison Avenue,  
and is prepared to do all work in his line  
promptly. a

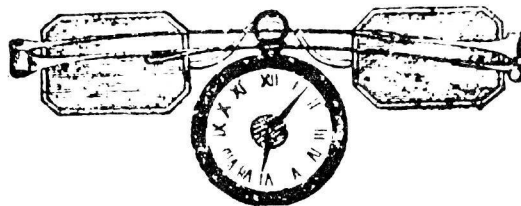
### PERFECT FIT AND SATISFACTION

guaranteed. Prices to suit the times.

Special attention given to repairing.

JOSEPH HEINRICH.

Fort Smith, Ark., Dec. 13, 1876. XIV-5-ly



## Anton Schuster,

DEALER IN

# Watches, Clocks, Jewelry,

93 GARRISON AVENUE,  
**FT. SMITH, ARK.**

Keeps on hand a full and select stock of  
**EVERYTHING IN HIS LINE,**  
including the latest and most elegant patterns.  
Also a full assortment of

**SPECTACLES, JEWELRY,  
Watches, Clocks, etc.**

repaired in the most workmanlike manner,  
and at reasonable rates.

Call and examine stock.

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# UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY

## FORT SMITH APPLICATIONS, PRIOR TO 1908

Chris Elmore Allen Registrar of UDC

**The following is a list of petition applications for membership in the Varina Jefferson DAVIS Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. These are incomplete petitions and therefore have no numbers. All are prior to 1908.**

SOPHIE ALEXANDER, of Ft. Smith, born 12 December 1863, Flint District, Indian Territory, USA, the wife of Joseph Hall Alexander, who served in Co. K, of Terry's Texas Rangers or 8th Texas Cav., paroled under Forrest.

ELLA McBRIDE BOONE, (Mrs. T. W.), of Ft. Smith, born 29 June 1862 Monroe Co., Missouri, the niece of R. T. Kerr, who served in Rick Johnson's Company, the J. L. Cravens Regiment, serving until end of the war, and died 12 July 1893, in Ft. Smith, Ark.

SUE BONNEVILLE, of Ft. Smith, born 24 May 1846, Fort Washington, Indian Territory, USA, the daughter of Anton Neis. "Anton Neis being too old to serve in the army was detailed to serve in the Home Guards of Fort Smith, Ark. I, myself, assisted in giving aid to the sick and wounded. Signed Sue Bonneville, with date of admission, January 1899.

AUBIN FRY CLARKSON (Mrs. Ed), of Ft. Smith, born 12 August 1877, Chicot County, Ark., the daughter of Reuben M. Fry, of Company A, First VA. Battalion, who was discharged 3rd day of April 1865. "By 1st Virginia Battalion is meant - The corp of cadets of the Virginia Military Institute", signed Aubin Fry Clarkson, date of admission 1899.

MRS. ZENO DAVIS, of Ft. Smith, born in Griffin, Spalding, Co., Georgia, a descendant of J. J. Little, who served in the CSA Army entering service on the 19 Sept. 1863 Co. H. - Regt. as a Private, promoted to rank Cm. Sgt. fought until close of War. Application dated 4 Mar. 1899.

MARY EARLY, of Ft. Smith, born in Ft. Smith, Seb. Co. Ark. wife of W. W. Early, who served in CSA Army, Co. A First Volunteers, entering service April 1865, 1st Virginia - Private.

MISS LONA EUPER, of Ft. Smith, born in Ft. Smith, Ark. daughter of William Euper, Confederate Army, Co. - Arkansas. Clarkston's Regt. as a Private, serving until close of War. Entered service in Arkansas 1862.

MRS. MARGARET EUPER, of Ft. Smith, born in Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. Wife of WILLIAM EUPER, who served in Co. (?), Clarkston Regt., serving until close of War. Private . . . Arkansas. Entered service 1822.

HELEN E. GOOKIN, of Ft. Smith, born Ft. Smith,

Seb. Co., Ark. sister of JERRY R. KANNADY, who served in the CSA Army. Remarks: "Would say here that as you had no record of the above - That J. R. Kannady was Col. in charge of all the CSA Shops - and personally supervised all things pertaining thereto." Petition dated 16 Nov. 1898.

ELISE L. GRIFFING, of 503 Seventh St. Ft. Smith, born March 6, 1862 Shelby Co. Tenn., the daughter of J. B. Griffing, who gave personal aid and loyal service to the Southern Cause though physically incapacitated to belong to the Army.

ELIZABETH L. HAMMONS, of Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. born 8 April 1866, in Brown County, Ill., the daughter of Sam'l H. Hammons, who belonged to Co. B. Price's command - Hughes Regt. discharged April 1865, died Cass Co. Missouri 15 Jan. 1873.

MISS JENA V. HEIRONIMUS, of Ft. Smith, Ark. born 20 March 1875, Garland Co., Ark., daughter of Jacob Benton Heironimus, who belonged to Capt. George Steele's Co. F., paroled 19 April 1865. Prisoner at Camp Chase. Date of Admission of Petition Application 1 June 1899.

KATE REYNOLDS HILL, of Ft. Smith, Ark. born in Lake Village, Chicot Co., Ark., the daughter of Daniel H. Reynolds who served in Co. A, 7th Regt. Ark., promoted to Major 14 April 1862, rank of Lt. Col. 1 May 1862, and Brig. General, 12 Day of March 1864.

MRS. R. R. HOOK, of Ft. Smith, born Seb. Co., Ark. the daughter of William Euper, who served with Ark. Clarkston's Company, discharged at close of the war.

VIVIAN S. HUNT of Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark., born 12 January 1868 Clark Co., Ark., the daughter of Richmond D. Seals, who belonged to Phillips . . . Cobbs Division, - "Busted up and went home, every fellow for himself". "After my father served in Georgia, my father came west and served three years in Gov. Flanigan State guards, under Col. W. Trader. In several engagements the command was attached to Gen. Cabell, Brig. Gen. Fagan's Division of Cavalry." Signed: Vivian Hunt.

EMILY M. JOHNSON, of Ft. Smith, Ark., born in the City of Fort Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. the daughter of CHARLES B. JOHNSON, who served "Civil Service", Major of commissary dept.

EMMA BEEKS JOHNSON, of Griffin, Spalding Co., Ga., born 24 Feb. 1862, Spalding, Co., Ga., sister of Wm. and Walter C. Beeks, who served 2nd Georgia Cavalry and First Georgia Bat., paroled at the close of the War. "By reason of age my father was not in the Army, but gave largely to its maintenance. I had a number of uncles in the service, two of them being killed in battle", signed Emma Beeks Johnson.



SOPHIE B. KANNADY of Ft. Smith, born 1826, Ft. Gibson, Indian Territory, Cherokee Nation, the widow of Col. J. R. Kannady, served - "Col. J. R. Kannady, was commissioned a Col. at the commencement of the War, and was in charge of all the shops, viz - Blacksmith, paint, saddle and harness, etc. and remained in charge in Ft. Smith, until the Federals took charge here. He held the same office in Texas and at the close of the war, returned to Ft. Smith, Ark. where he remained until his death". Signed Sophie B. Kannady.

MRS. A. E. KIMMONS, of Sebastian Co., Ark. was born 24 May 1859 in Shelby, Cleveland Co. North Carolina, the daughter of T. B. Bordley, who belonged to Co. C, 5th Regiment. "I entered May 1862, upon duty June 1862 in Co. C. Sgt. marched to Yorktown. Our Col. McKinley was killed in the first battle, then we returned to camp and Col. McRay was elected. Transferred to 15th Regt. and remained until the close of the War". Signed T. B. Bordley (or Bondley)

W. F. LATHAM, (Mrs.) of Ft. Smith, born in Platte Co. Missouri, the daughter of Marcus N. Blakemore, who served in the Confederate Army, entering service in the state of Kentucky in Co. E. 2nd Regt. Ky. Cav. as a private, 1861; promoted to First Lt. and then to Capt.

ANGELA LATHAM, of Ft. Smith, born in Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. the grand-daughter of Marcus N. Blakemore. Service record the same as for W. F. Latham, above. Date of application, Oct. 1898.

HATTIE McMATH, of Charleston, Franklin Co., Ark. the daughter of W. P. McMATH, who belonged to Co. G. the Sixteenth Confederate Regt. discharged 20 May 1865. Date of admission of petition to UDC - 16 June 1900.

MRS. SALLIE H. McNUTT, born 3 May 1831, Williamson County, Tennessee, the widow of JAMES A. McNUTT. "My husband was Principal of the "Franklin Female Institute" and for that reason as well as delicate health, was excused from active service in the Army. He was influential in the community and his loyalty and devotion to the Confederate cause and his refusal to take the oath of allegiance to the Union, incensed the Federals and after destroying all of our property, banished us from home." - Signed Mrs. McNutt.

MRS. FANNIE LOU NANCE, born 25 November 1860, Williamson County, Tenn. the daughter of JAMES A. McNUTT. Military service as stated above.

MRS. J. W. PATRICK, of Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. was born February 18, Henry Co., Ga., the wife of J. W. Patrick, who belonged to Co. C. 13th Georgia Inf., paroled May 1865.

CATHARINE DOUGLAS PERKINS of Murfreesboro, Rutherford Co. Tenn., was born City of Fort Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. the niece of D. P. Perkins, entered service fall of 1861, Co. I 55th Tenn. Regt., Private, discharged from Fort Delaware Federal Prison in May 1865.

ELIZABETH C. PERKINS, of Murfreesboro, Rutherford, Co. Tenn., born City of Fort Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. niece of D. P. Perkins. Service as above.

MRS. LOU ROBINSON, of Ft. Smith, Ark. born 22 Feb. 1849 Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the widow of C. F. Robinson, serving in Capt. Lewis of Carroll Regt. Churchill's Brigade State Troops of Ark., discharged in 1865.

ALICE ROGERS, born 22 August 1857 Sebastian Co., Ark. the step-daughter of John Kennedy, who belonged to Co. E. Capt. Miers Co., Fagan's Brigade, surrendered in Ft. Smith, June 5, 1865. Dated Oct. 1897, Seb. Co., Ark.

HELEN KANNADY RUTHERFORD, of Muskogee, I. T., born Fort Smith, Sebastian Co., Ark. the grand-daughter of Major J. J. Dillard, who served in Confederate Army Co. D., King's Regt. as Captain, promoted to rank of Maj. served until the close of the War. Application dated 16 Nov. 1898.

SALLIE D. RUTHERFORD, of Muskogee, I. T., born Bonham, Fannin Co., Texas, the daughter of Maj. J. J. Dillard, who served in the Confederate Army, Co. D. Ark. 22nd Ark. King's Regt. as Captain, promoted to Major, and served until the close of the War. Application dated 16 Nov. 1898.

MRS. LAWSON THRASH, of Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. born in the City of Griffin, Spalding Co., Georgia, descendant of J. J. Little, who entered service 19 Sept. 1863 and served in the Confederate Army, Co. H. 31 Regt. Private, Com. Sgt., fought until the close of war. Does not mention a state. Application dated 3 March 1899.

MISS MARY W. VAULX of Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. born City of Memphis, Shelby Co. Tenn. the great niece of Dr. E. C. Fenner, who served in the Confederate Army of Louisiana as a Surgeon. Application dated 22 Dec. 1898.

MRS. MAUDE GRAY WEST, of Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark. Born in LaGrange, Lee Co., Ark., the daughter of George D. Gray, M. D. who served in the Confederate Army, of Co. A, 2nd Cav. as a private, entering service April 11, 1861. Service Ark.

BEAUFORD ARMISTEAD WHEELER, of Ft. Smith, Seb. Co. Ark. Born 24 March 1877, Fort Smith, Ark. daughter of Capt. John C. Wheeler, of Co. A. Fort Smith Rifles 3rd Regt. Ark. Vol., paroled 10 July 1865 at Millican, Texas.

KATE HINES WHEELER, of Ft. Smith, Seb. Co., Ark., born 8 April 1875, Fort Smith, Ark. a daughter of Captain John C. Wheeler. Service same as above.

CORINNA SUSAN WOOD, born 16 March 18\_\_, Logan County, Ark., the grand-daughter of S. H. Chism and his wife Corinna Chism. The grand-daughter of Dr. S. H. Chism who belonged to Capt. J. R. Titworth, 5th Ark. Inf., being discharged in August 1861. Also, Co. B. 17th Ark. Inf.

January

1899

To the Officers and Members of the Daughters of the Confederacy, of

Located at Fort Smith- County of Sebastian State of Arkansas:

I, the undersigned, would respectfully petition to become a member of the

**Daughters of the Confederacy, of Marina Jefferson Davis Chapter**  
and if accepted, do hereby promise a strict compliance with the laws and usages of this organization.

I was born in the Fort Gibson of

in the County of and State of Cherokee Nation,

I am the Widow of Col. J. R. Hannady

who served in the Confederate State who entered the Service of the State

of on the day of A. D. 1861

in Co. Regt. as

who entered Confederate Service on the day of A. D. 186

in Co. Regt. as

Was promoted to the rank of

and Served untill the close of the War on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of

June A. D. 1865. My present address is Fort Smith

County of Sebastian State of Arkansas

Remarks:

Col. J. R. Hannady was com'd a Col at the  
Commencement of the War, and was in ch'ge of all the  
Shops by (Black Smith, Paint, Saddle & Harness &c)  
and remained in ch'ge in Fort Smith untill the Federals  
took ch'ge here, he held the same Office in Texas &  
at the close of the War, returned to Fort Smith Ark. where  
he remained untill his death.

Signed Joseph R. Hannady

Recommended by

# BOOK TALK

by Amelia Martin

The Fort Smith Historical Society Journal will review books on the Fort Smith area and history in general as a special feature each issue. Authors who would like to have their publications reviewed should send a copy of their book, or books, to the secretary of the Historical Society, 61 South Eighth Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901. The book will remain in the Arkansas Room of the Fort Smith Public Library as a gift from the author and the Historical Society for use by the public.

*WHEN THE OLD BELL RANG* - A Visit to Yesteryear. Carlton Press, 84 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. 10011. By William David Redwine, \$7.75. Copies available in Fort Smith at Hunt's and The Boston Store, Central Mall; Judge Parker's Court Room; and Little Professor Book Store, Phoenix Mall; and in Greenwood at the City Library, Stewart Drugs and Kappa Kappa Iota Sorority.

Beginning in North Carolina, the first chapter of this hardcover book deals with the final days and one of the last battles of the Civil War, fought near the home of the late L. M. Redwine, then a small, pre-school boy. After the war, he started to school, and after a few short terms he became a dropout, but something happened to inspire him to dream big dreams of becoming a school teacher.

After teaching several terms in North Carolina, on the advice of a circuit-riding Methodist minister, he migrated to Missouri. There he found the girl of his heart and became entangled in an amazing love story. After an exciting and unusual courtship and marriage, in 1891 the couple caught a night train to arrive in Cavanaugh (now a part of Fort Smith) for a short honeymoon on the Indian Territory frontier. Instead of a few days' stay as planned, they remained for a lifetime of adventure and excitement along the border, as pioneer teachers in Indian villages, coal-mining camps and rural communities. The book takes them right out of one exciting adventure into another, relating tales, anecdotes and historical stories of places where the Redwines lived, taught and worked, including: Fort Smith, White Bluff, Cavanaugh, Cedar Switch, Enterprise, Hackett, Rock Island, Cameron, Pocola, Spiro, Bald Knob (Carnall), Jenny Lind, Greenwood, Joyce and Washburn. It also contains many pictures from the past of the Fort Smith area.

Professor Redwine took time out from his teaching to serve a few years as night clerk in the U. S. Post Office at Fort Smith, then moved to Greenwood, where they served their last fifteen years of their chosen profession as Superintendent and Assistant-Superintendent of Sebastian County Schools. They were buried on the former school ground of the last school they taught, Fidelity, two miles northeast of Greenwood.

*WHEN THE OLD BELL RANG* is a major inspirational diversion for devotees of romance, adventure, local history, biography or the nostalgic.

The author, William David Redwine, son of L. M. Redwine, subject of the book, was born in Cavanaugh, Arkansas, on the Indian Territory Frontier in 1898, and served with the U. S. Navy during World War I. After receiving his B. A. degree from college, he became editor and publisher of "The Greenwood Democrat", Greenwood, Arkansas, and served as Mayor of that town. His other writings consist of newspaper and magazine articles and published plays. Mr. Redwine and his wife, the former Frances Isabelle Joyce, taught school at Ratcliff, Arkansas, where Mr. Redwine became superintendent of the school system. He has also been an instructor of the Dale Carnegie Course in human relations and public speaking; and has one child, a daughter, Mrs. Delma Joyce Woolsey.

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*THE GOODSPEED HISTORY OF SEBASTIAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS* - published in 1889 as part of Goodspeed's Histories of Northwest Arkansas. Reprinted in 1976 by "Friends of the Fort Smith Public Library, Fort Smith, Arkansas. Price \$12.50. Available from:

Friends of the Fort Smith Public Library  
61 South 8th Street  
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901

To readers familiar with Goodspeed Histories, to say the name tells the quality of this history. For readers not familiar with "Goodspeed", this is the best early history of Sebastian County ever written, covering: Natural History; Original Occupancy; Settlement; County Organization; Post Offices and Postmasters; County Officers to 1889; elections; agriculture and horticulture; courts (including unusual cases); transportation; military; cities, towns, and villages; newspapers; education and churches, plus biographies of residents of Sebastian County.

This book, gorged with interesting readable history, is a must for all readers interested in the history of Sebastian County. The biographical section will also be of interest to genealogists.

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## BICENTENNIAL HISTORY:

*PHYSICIANS AND MEDICINE*, Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas 1817-1976 - by Amelia Whitaker Martin, Historian of Auxiliary to the Sebastian County Medical Society.

Anticipated release date: Spring, 1978

Pre-publication price: \$16.00 postpaid

Price after release: \$21.00 postpaid

Fully documented and indexed (contains both Biographical Index and Surname Index), this history was written as part of the Bicentennial Plan for Fort Smith. Three years in the writing, from materials collected over a fourteen-year period, *PHYSICIANS AND MEDICINE* was compiled by the Auxiliary to the Sebastian County Medical Society, and published by the Sebastian County Medical Society. Profits from sales go to Medical and Paramedical Student Loan Funds.

Contents of this history include:

Documented Biographical Data on over 1,500 physicians who had some connection with medical practice in Crawford and Sebastian Counties - includes military men if records were available.

Medical Legislation:

Development of Medical Practice and Organized Medicine written against Historical Background of Crawford and Sebastian Counties from 1817, date of building of first frontier Fort Smith and the coming of the first Military Physician, to the present.

Early Medicines and Treatments:

History of Medical Services: Hospitals (including Fort Chaffee), Clinics, Public Health, etc.

History of Crawford and Sebastian County Medical Societies, and the Auxiliary to the Sebastian County Medical Society.

To order, mail order and payment, made to "Sebastian Medical Publications", to:

Mrs. Art B. Martin  
2121 Wolfe Lane  
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901

Limited printing - number of copies to depend primarily on pre-publication sale.

\*\*\*\*\*

## FODOR'S SOUTHWEST 1977-78 -

Available at bookstores: \$9.95 hard cover - \$4.95 paperback.

Everything you need to know for travel in Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas - separately indexed; symbols for rapid identification; drawings; city plans;



and regional maps. Constantly revised and up to the minute, this book is packed with facts - information, advice, shortcuts that take the toil out of travel, and travel economy tips that will make the book more than pay for itself. Aside from its practical side, Fodor's Southwest is fun to read, with an accent on the people of the region and their ways - interesting to tourist and armchair voyager alike. It has a brief sketch of each state's history and culture; and a section which takes you on a tour of its highlights, and frequently, down its off-beat byways.

Published by David McKay Company, Inc., New York. Edited by Eugene Fodor and Robert C. Fisher, the guide is a compilation of writings by a number of writers and area editors who are in the know. Eric Allen, a well known writer of the Fort Smith area, is area editor for Arkansas.

The author of 22 novels and non-fiction books, many of them set in the Arkansas Ozarks, Mr. Allen also writes for national travel magazines. He is past-president of Western Writers of America. Three of his screen plays, "Smoke In the Wind", "Crossfires in the Cooksons" and "Land of the Racing Water" have been produced, and his work has included Gothic and espionage thrillers.

Bruce Allen, a former Arkansas journalist, wrote the practical information section for this chapter.

#### **FODOR'S OLD WEST -**

Available at bookstores: \$12.95 hardback. \$9.95 paperback.

Everything said of "Fodor's Southwest" can be said of this book. The How, When, Where, and, especially, How Much? details of traveling the Old West (Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Wyoming, Idaho, Arizona, Montana, Nevada, California, Washington, and Oregon) are spelled out. There are Roughing It, Camping Out, Trailer Tips and Motoring Hints; Hotels, Motels and Restaurants - by price range; plus special interest travel, from Rodeo's to Back-packing, from Wagon Trains to Old Railroad Excursions, and more.

Special features of this travel guide published by David McKay Company, Inc. are an introduction by Jack Schaefer, author of "Shane"; Old West Chronology, a tabular history of important events, by Robert H. Lee; Men and Women of the Old West, depicting mostly the ordinary people who travel the frontier, by Eric Allen; Law Comes to the Old West, a look at the most important problems faced by frontier folk, by Benjamin Capps; and Folklore, Music and Tall Tales, which is mostly the latter, and author Tony Hillerman tells you why.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DIXIE COOK BOOK** - Compiled by Women of the First Presbyterian Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Fourth Edition \$3.00 Fifth Edition \$5.00

Both editions available from:

First Presbyterian Church  
116 North 12th Street  
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901

Fourth edition, printed in 1958, is chockful of tempting "tried and trusted" recipes of some of the best cooks in Fort Smith. Two special features of this edition are the chapter entitled, "Odds With Delicious Ends", and the delightful line drawings of Angels at work in the kitchen.

Fifth edition, printed in 1972, is mostly old, but a bit new, and was created by demand for the First, Second and Third Editions of Dixie Cook Book. To meet the demand for these books, long out of print, the Women of the Church combined the household tips, nostalgic advertising, and much sought after recipes from the 1920, 1929, and 1939 editions into one book, adding a new "Quick and Easy" section, tailored to meet the needs of the busy modern cook who finds little time to prepare meals.

If you are not one of the few cooks lucky enough to own the three early editions of this outstanding cookbook, your luck has changed, and now, for the price of Edition Four and Edition Five, the treasurers of all five editions of Dixie Cook Book can be yours.

## **INQUIRIES:**

By Violet Burton

Inquiries by members of the Fort Smith Historical Society will be run as space permits:

**EUPER** — Would like to know the parents and siblings of Anton EUPER I, born 13 Oct. 1800, Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany. Settled Fort Smith, Ark. 1849. Mary Nell EUPER, 1415 North Waldron Rd., Fort Smith, Ark. 72904.

**LEE** — Would appreciate hearing from anyone interested in the LEE family, especially those in this area (Johnson, Logan and Sebastian Counties) that were descendants of William, John and Jerry LEE, who came to Arkansas from North Carolina, coming through Tennessee, Mississippi to Arkansas. Would like to complete this record, and will be happy to exchange data. Chris ALLEN, 2700 So. Dallas, Ft. Smith, AR. 72901.

**SIBLEY - WILSON** — Rife Collins SIBLEY died Free Ferry Road, Fort Smith, AR. 1887 - m. Martha WILSON. Need info SIBLEY family and where Martha WILSON's grandfather, Dr. John A. WILSON, d. 1852, is buried. Mrs. Carl BURTON, P. O. Box 3035, Ft. Smith, AR.

**JENNINGS - VAN ORDER - MACK** — Need mother of Sarah J. Mack JENNINGS and Eliza Mack VAN ORDER of Ithaca, New York about 1800. Father is Charles MACK. Anna Marie LaCHANCE (Mrs. L. A.), 901 North 34th Street, Fort Smith, AR. 72903.

**BARRY - BERRY** — Am interested in BERRY's from Tennessee and Alabama who settled in Northwest Arkansas. Contact Mrs. Birnie BARRY, 1117 South 22, Fort Smith, AR. 72901.

**THOMPSON - MILLSPAUGH** — Desire info on family of Dr. O. B. THOMPSON, examined and licensed by Sebastian County Medical Board 17 January 1888. Also, any information on MILLSPAUGH family. Jasper N. MILLSPAUGH died in Fort Smith, 11 February 1920. John MILLSPAUGH m. Mary Frances (Mollie) MARTIN McKELVY ca 1901. Mrs. Art B. Martin, 2121 Wolfe Lane, Fort Smith, Ark. 72901.

# FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

## ORGANIZATION

Although Fort Smith, Arkansas, has a number of organizations which are in some way involved with the history of Fort Smith, until April 15, 1977, there was no organization for the specific purpose of collecting and preserving historical information of the Fort Smith Area.

On October 29, 1976, a group of eleven persons, all concerned with the need for preservation of the Fort Smith historical information, met in the Community Room at the Fort Smith Public Library to discuss establishing an organization for this purpose.

Carolyn Pollan, acting moderator, called the meeting to order with the following in attendance: Fado Cravens, Jr., Amelia Martin, Chris Allen, Thelma Wray, Gladys Krone, Doris West, Taylor A. Joyce, Edwin P. Hicks, Eloise Barksdale, Violet Burton, and Carolyn Pollan.

A discussion of the need for protecting written and oral history, and for a Fort Smith historical publication, followed. Means of financing and organizational procedure were also discussed, and a constitution committee, composed of Taylor Joyce, Chairman; Gladys Krone, Amelia Martin and Fado Cravens, Jr., was chosen.

This initial group laid the ground-work, and on April 15, 1977, the group, together with other interested persons, met to adopt a Constitution and Bylaws; elect officers, and establish purpose.

Officers elected at this meeting were:

President ..... Carolyn Pollan  
Vice President ..... Chris Allen  
Secretary and Treasurer ..... Thelma Wray  
Corresponding Secretary ..... Amelia Martin  
Fort Smith Historical Society Board:

Taylor Joyce ..... 1 year  
Carolyn Pollan ..... 1 year  
Robert Taylor ..... 1 year  
Bernice Cole ..... 2 years  
Fado Cravens, Jr. .... 2 years  
Amelia Martin ..... 2 years  
Christine Allen ..... 3 years  
Violet Burton ..... 3 years  
Thelma Wray ..... 3 years

Purpose of the organization is stated in the Constitution and By-laws which follows:

## CONSTITUTION

### Article I - Name of the organization

The name of the organization shall be The Fort Smith Historical Society, Inc.

### Article II - Object

The object of this organization shall be to locate, identify and collect historical data; to publish source materials and historical articles; all pertaining to the City of Fort Smith and immediate surrounding area.

### Article III - Membership

Payment of dues in accordance with the following schedule shall entitle any interested person to membership in Fort Smith Historical Society.

Annual membership .....	\$ 5.00
Annual contributing membership .....	10.00
Annual sustaining membership .....	50.00
Life membership .....	100.00

The payment of any category of membership dues will entitle both the person making payment and that person's spouse to membership. Each category of membership dues will include the cost of an annual subscription to the organization's official periodical.

### Article IV - Governing body

An Executive Board composed of nine members shall be the official governing body and shall have full authority to transact business for and in the name of The Fort Smith Historical Society. Each member of the board shall be elected by the general membership and shall serve for a term of three years. A person who has served on the board shall not be eligible for re-election until he has been off the board for at least one year.

### Article V - Officers

The officers shall consist of a president, a vice-president, a secretary/treasurer and a corresponding secretary, or a secretary and a treasurer. The Board shall elect the officers from its membership.

### Article VI - Meetings

There shall be quarterly meetings of the board in the months of January, April, July and October at such times and places as the board may decide. Other regular and called meetings may be set at the board's discretion. There shall also be an annual general membership meeting in April at which time the newly elected board members shall be inducted.

### Article VII - Amendments

These articles may be amended at any meeting of the board by a two-thirds majority (six affirmative votes) provided that notice of the proposed amendment and the time and place at which the vote is to be taken have been published in the official publication.

## BY-LAWS

1. This Constitution shall become effective at the first annual meeting of this organization in April, 1977.
2. The first election of the nine-member Executive Board shall take place at the first annual general membership meeting. Those elected will draw lots to determine their tenure. Three will serve three-year terms; three will serve two-year terms and three will serve one-year terms.

Thereafter, the election procedure shall be as follows:

- The president shall appoint a nominating committee to submit nominations for board membership. The committee shall submit a slate of candidates whose names shall be printed on a ballot and mailed with the first issue each year of the organization's official publication. The ballot shall have a place for write-in candidates. Voting may be done in person or by mail. The three candidates getting the highest vote total shall be considered elected to the board.
3. Officers shall be elected at the April meeting of the board.
4. The board shall elect an editor who shall supervise the publication and contract for the printing (subject to the board's approval) of the organization's official publications. A publications committee, appointed by the president, shall assist the editor and shall screen manuscripts for historical accuracy prior to their publication.
5. The president shall appoint a librarian to receive, catalogue and index all historical data. The president may also appoint such other officers as may be required to carry out the objectives of this organization.
6. These By-Laws may be amended in the same way as the Constitution.

Adopted: April 15, 1977

## CHARTER MEMBERSHIP

### FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Charter Membership in the Fort Smith Historical Society, Inc. has been extended to December 31, 1977. All new members before that time will have full 1977 membership privileges.

Membership includes not more than four (4) nor less than two (2) publications from the society annually.

To obtain membership, please send dues, with your name and mailing address to:

The Fort Smith Historical Society, Inc.  
61 South 8th Street  
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901

#### Types of memberships:

Annual .....	\$ 5.00
Annual Contributing .....	10.00
Annual Sustaining .....	50.00
Life .....	100.00

#### LIFE MEMBERS:

Baker, Alice Mayberry, P. O. Box 3444, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901  
Burton, Mrs. Carl (Violet), P. O. Box 3035, Fort Smith, Arkansas  
Caruthers, Mr. Elmo, Jr., 285 Booth Ave., Englewood, New Jersey 07631  
City National Bank, 1222 Rogers Ave., Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
Cravens, Elizabeth E., 4200 Sunnyside Dr., Ft. Smith, AR. 72903  
Cravens, Fadjo, Jr., 2100 S. W., Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
Cuddy's Sandwich Shops, R. L. Davis, 4164 E. 43rd, Tulsa, OK. 74135  
Hawkins, Mr. & Mrs. Franklin, 4701 Free Ferry Road, Ft. Smith, AR. 72903  
Kelly, Miss Gordon (Gordon Realty Co.), P. O. Box 1551, Ft. Smith, AR. 72902  
Koenig, Mrs. A. S., 2122 S. W., Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
Martin, Dr. & Mrs. Art B., 2121 Wolfe Lane, Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
Merchants National Bank, 723 Garrison Ave., Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
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Thomas B. Pryor & Ben T. Barry, P. O. Box 285, Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
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Tennant, Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence S., 1523 Hendricks Blvd., Ft. Smith, AR. 72903  
Tisdale, Martin, 7815 Euper Lane, Apt. J-83, Ft. Smith, AR. 72903

#### ANNUAL SUSTAINING MEMBERS:

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Whirlpool Corporation, 6400 Jenny Lind Blvd., Ft. Smith, AR. 72901

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 Perry, Richard V., 1125 N. S., Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
 Phillips, Mrs. Robert C., 1013 Peerman Place, Corpus Christi, Texas 78411  
 Pine Bluff & Jefferson County Public Library, 200 E. 8th, Pine Bluff, AR. 71601  
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 Tatum, Evangel, 1924 So. "M", Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
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 Wright, Mellie, 311 S. 16th, Ft. Smith, AR. 72901  
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