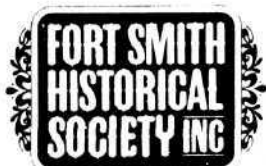




VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 1, APRIL, 1984



The JOURNAL

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COVER: Some of Fort Smith's "Big Band Era" Bands and Orchestras

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LETTER FROM YOUR EDITORS

Dear Reader,

It is with much pleasure that we bring you more stories of bands, orchestras, and the musicians who played in them. There was, and still is, so much talent in the people of our town, not only in music but also in many other fields as well, that it is difficult, if not impossible, to resist the urge at least a half dozen times when working on the Journal to sit back, rub our eyes and say, "Wow!"

The "Big Band Era" beginning in the early 1920's was not a spectator sport for Fort Smithians. They were part of it. There were so many different groups of musicians during that time that one is tempted to wonder if music and dancing were all anyone ever accomplished. Not so. Many of the musicians who donned uniforms and tuxedos did so after the store was closed or their daily jobs were finished. There was no "union scale" in Fort Smith, and musicians worked for the going fee.

There was a certain camaraderie among them, and it was not unusual for a musician to play for one or more groups who needed his service. The practice guaranteed a high level of entertainment.

It was an age of innocence. A dance was an event when one put on his dancing shoes and had a good time. The music was its own stimulation. And probably the most "racy" act in town was Hunter Wright's putting on a woman's corset (over his clothes, of course) and singing, "Oh, Johnny!" John (Gene) Bessent relates that it stopped the show every time.

We are indebted to all who shared pictures and memories with us. Hunter Wright recalls when Count Basie came to Fort Smith and played in the Josenberg Hall on North Ninth Street. He also remembers when Harry James played at the Goldman Hotel. The local musicians were quite naturally very impressed and predicted great things for the (then) budding entertainers.

We would like to thank Mrs. Alphonso Trent, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil O. Goff, C. H. (Doc) Miller, Ella Folk, Mrs. Irene Corrotto, Clint Fisher, William (Bill) Hammer, Mrs. Jimmie Grace, Bill Greenlee of the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce, Wayne Redden, Fred Rose, Eric Allen, Calvin Carter, Paul Lewis, Mrs. Joe Fleming, the aforementioned Hunter Wright and Gene Bessent, Foster Merk and others too numerous to mention who helped us. Incidentally, Foster Merk is still playing with the orchestra heard regularly at the Hardscrabble Country Club. Clint Fisher, Wayne Redden, Joe Hibbs and Bill Stroud play with "Heart Throbs", volunteering their talent for entertainment at nursing homes and senior citizen groups.

In our next issue, we shall introduce a new writer to the Journal and play a few innings of baseball. It should be fun!

We will look for you at our Annual Meeting, 7:00 p.m., April 26, at the Fort Smith Public Library Community Room — interesting program planned.

Ballot for election of directors is on insert. To vote, complete ballot and mail or bring with you to Annual Meeting.

The Editors

ALPHONSO TRENT - ONE OF THE BEST

by
Sarah Fitzjarrald

Alphonso Trent, internationally known jazz musician whose band broke all previous records for an extended engagement in a top U. S. hotel and received the first contract for a regular performing basis on radio station WFAA in Dallas, Texas, was born in Fort Smith on October 24, 1905, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Trent.

It was a happy home. Trent's father was principal of Lincoln High School for 44 years, serving two tenures there. And while they were not wealthy, they were comfortable. His parents began giving him piano lessons while he was still very young, barely able to reach the keyboard. His instructor was Professor W. O. Wiley, a dedicated teacher who was known for his charity to gifted students. He gave freely of his instruction whether the 25¢ per lesson was forthcoming or not. Alphonso, of course, was a paying student.

He was highly gifted in music, and by the time he reached high school, he was already a professional, working with the local Quinn Band and later with Sterling Todd and his Rose City Band, also of Fort Smith.

He formed a small combo with his cousin, Harry Jones. The band included Henry Smith, Homer Griffin, and Brooks Mitchell. This small group first appeared at the Basin Park Hotel in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

While still in high school, he also met trumpeter Edwin Swayze, trombonist Leo (Snub) Mosley, and saxophonist James Jeter. Combining their talents with those of A. G. Godley, Eugene Crooke and John Fielding, the group began their initial engagement, a summer-long run at Stem Beach in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

After high school, Trent attended Shorter College in Little Rock and continued his association with the aforementioned musicians.

His entry into the music field landed him right in the middle of the healthy burgeoning jazz era.

Jazz music is difficult, if not impossible, to define. Technically, it is rooted in the native African music brought to America by slaves. African music is more complex in its rhythms and is based on a pentatonic (five-note) scale, whereas European, or conventional, music is based on a diatonic (eight-note) scale. In the attempt to blend these two scales there arise the "blue" notes, notes which are slightly higher or lower than certain true tones of the diatonic scale. Tones most often changed are those of the third and seventh notes of the eight-note scale.

The complex beats of the rhythm give the listener a feeling that the beats are only half a heartbeat ahead or



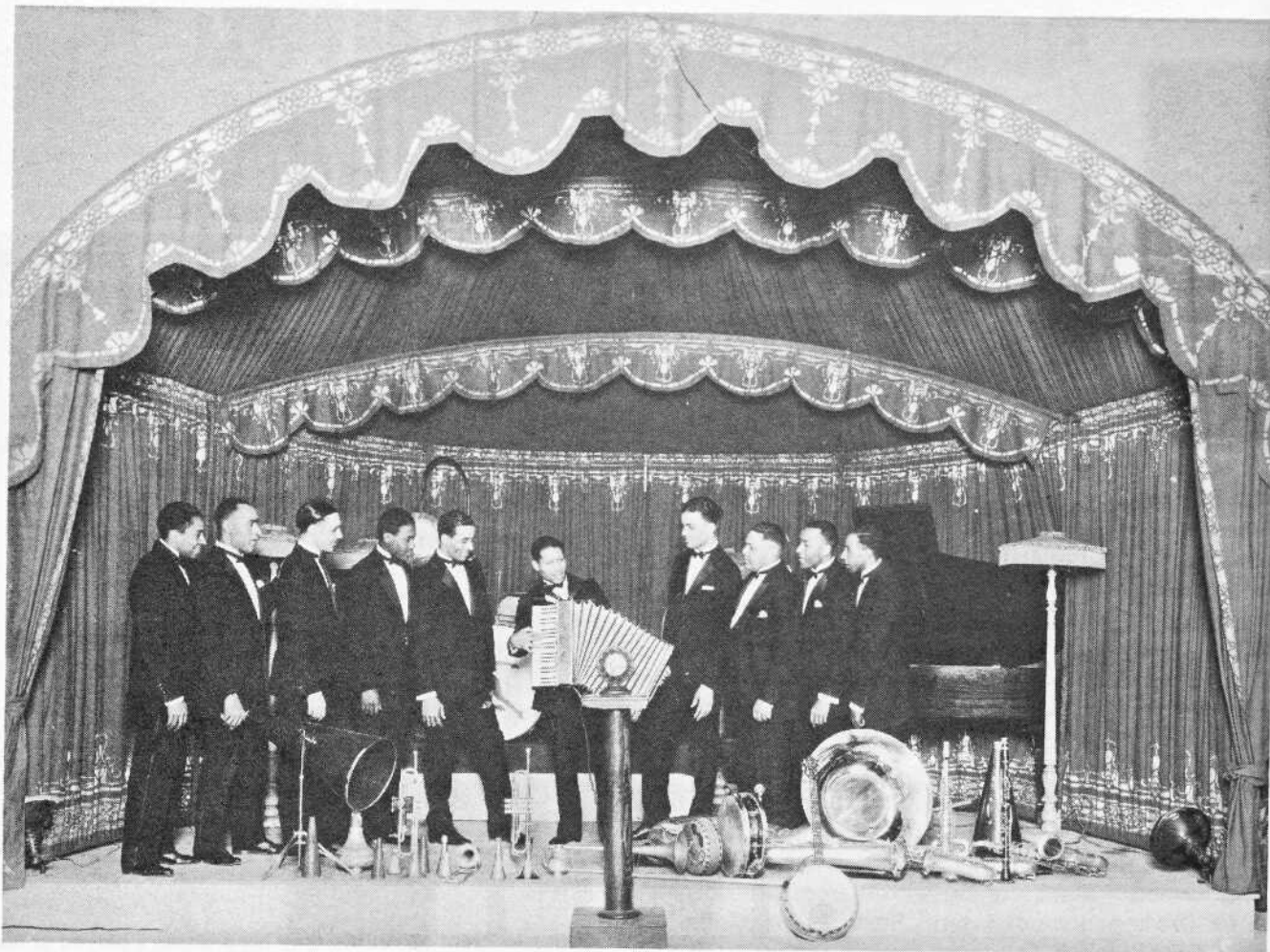
Alphonso Trent about the time his orchestra played at the Adolphus Hotel, Dallas. Photo courtesy Mrs. Alphonso Trent.

behind the normal beat. It lends a peculiar vibrancy, an aliveness, to the music which elicits a powerful emotional response from the hearer.

Improvisation was basic to early jazz. Before the music was actually written with all its complex notes and rhythms, it was only natural that musicians who had no formal training and could not read music would pick up the melody "by ear" and improvise. Improvisation, however, became an on-going and integral part of jazz, because all forms of music were touched by it and converted to jazz — popular songs, folk songs, spirituals, conventional music, and even hymns.

Jazz began almost simultaneously in places like New Orleans, Chicago, New York, and St. Louis. By the turn of the century, W. C. Handy was already leading his brass band in places from Louisiana to Missouri. He wrote "St. Louis Blues" in 1915. Eubie Blake was also playing piano by that time.

Jazz, however, did not remain static. It rather flowed into the progressive expressions of the form such as be-bop, boogie-woogie, and swing. And though blacks were the early pioneers in the rich culture of



Alphonso Trent's Adolphus Hotel orchestra. Photo courtesy Mrs. Alphonso Trent.

jazz, they were soon to be joined by white band leaders such as Paul Whiteman and Benny Goodman, along with myriads of individual white artists.

Alphonso Trent was one of the pioneers in the field.

In 1925, Trent's band included Terrence Holder and Chester Clarke (trombones), James Jeter (alto saxophone), William Holloway (C melody saxophone), Wendell Hayman (tenor saxophone and violin), Eugene Crooke (banjo), Brent Sparks (tuba), A. G. Godley (drums), John Fielding (vocalist), and Trent (piano and accordion). They received a booking at the nearly defunct Oakcliff Dance Pavilion in Dallas, Texas.

The band brought in crowds of new customers and attracted the attention of the management of the famous Adolphus Hotel in Dallas. What began as a two-week trial became a record-breaking run of a year and a half.

It was unique in that it was the first black band to receive an extended engagement in a top U. S. hospitality, and it had the longest run of any previous band, black or white.

It was also unique because radio station WFAA in Dallas broadcast the programs from the Adolphus Hotel, thereby making Trent's band the first to receive a contract on a regular performing basis. Radio was as much a novelty in those days as color television was to become in our era, and it was quite an accomplishment for Alphonso Trent.

After their successful stay at the Adolphus Hotel, the group began touring. Trent fell in love and married the former Essie Mae Grissom of Dallas. She was able to accompany the band and remain at her husband's side throughout his career.

In 1927, Trent began a spectacular summer season by playing a "battle of the bands" against Floyd Campbell's band (fronted by Louis Armstrong) aboard one of the famous Streckfus Line's excursion river boats at St. Louis. The steamer *St. Paul* was, like the rest of the line's excursion steamers, a sternwheeler alight with hundreds of carbon-filament bulbs, and as richly decorated as any posh hotel of the times.

The play-out attracted a crowd of 5000 people, and while the consequence of the contest is lost to history,

the engagement boosted not only Alphonso Trent and his band, but also Floyd Campbell and his group as well.

The year 1928 saw Trent and his orchestra at the Ritz Ballroom in Oklahoma City, and there they cut some records for the Brunswick label, but to date none of the recordings have been found, probably lost in the shuffle as often happens. Later he cut some records for the Genet Company in Indiana, two of which became highly popular — "After You've Gone" and "St. James Infirmary".

It was in Oklahoma City where Trent found young Charlie Christian, a highly talented guitarist who later became prominent in swing music. He kept Christian in mind and later organized a septet and hired him to work in it. They toured North Dakota and Wyoming, and it was while Christian was with Trent that Benny Goodman hired him for his band.

Mrs. Trent recalls that at one time Trent had two bands going in South Dakota. "I used to be responsible for taking the payroll to the second band to pay

them off each week," she remembers.

While Trent's band was the most famous and popular one in the Southwest, their theater of action, so to speak, was not limited to that area. Besides bookings in North and South Dakota and other points west, there were also bookings in places like Memphis, Tennessee, where Jimmie Lunceford first heard them play.

In Cleveland, Ohio, they were booked into the most luxurious club in the city and drew great crowds. Not far away was another night club owned and operated by some gangsters. They approached Trent and tried to hire him away from the original club.

Trent flatly refused, but they kept after him. When they finally realized that their efforts were to no avail, they set fire to the supper club. They started the fire at the bandstand, and the beautiful golden horns were destroyed.

Many people believed the fallacy that Trent came from a "wealthy" family, but it was Mrs. Trent's sister who lent them the money to pay down on the purchase of new instruments.



1932, the final year for Alphonso Trent as leader of his big band before he returned to Fort Smith where he worked with a small combo. The big band carried on under his name with Anderson Lacy, violinist-vocalist, listed as director. Alexander Hill, the pianist and chief arranger, was one of the finest arrangers of the swing era and also did arrangements for Claude Hopkins, Benny Carter, Andy Kirk and others. Personnel of the band, left to right: Front row: John Fielding, Brent Sparks, George Hudson, Leo "Snub" Mosley, Herbert "Peanuts" Holland, Alphonso E. Trent. Back row: Chester Clarke, Appie Jackson, Hayes Pillars, A. G. Godley, James Jeter, Eugene Cook. Photo courtesy Mrs. Alphonso Trent.



Home of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Trent on North Ninth Street in Fort Smith. It is now occupied by Gloria Trent Rainey, her husband Charles Rainey, and their son. Mrs. Rainey is the granddaughter of Alphonso Trent.

It was in Cleveland where Trent found a violinist by the name of Stuff Smith and hired him. Mrs. Trent liked Stuff Smith. He was young and had his own way of holding the violin. Trent tried to show him the correct way, but Stuff had his own style.

Trent didn't use him in the band until a booking in Lexington, Kentucky, where young Smith's genius first became known as part of the Trent band.

Some critics have speculated that because Trent came from a well-to-do family, he did not have that "hunger" which motivates some musicians to move on and perform in places like New York or Chicago. "Nothing could be further from the truth," relates Mrs. Trent.

They worked in places such as Buffalo, New York, where Stuff Smith decided to settle down for a while. Stuff had also worked as a vocalist, a "front" man, and part of a trio in Trent's orchestra — it was among the first in jazz.

There was also a booking in the Savoy Ballroom in New York City.

Trent had booked a tour of Europe for the band when his father became ill and died. He returned to Fort Smith to take charge of things at home but sent the band on to Europe with James Jeter and Hayes Pillars in charge.

There followed more successful bookings in different parts of the country, but finally Trent's mother became elderly and was not able to live alone.

They returned to Fort Smith and went into retirement as far as the band was concerned, except for a quintet Trent put together and worked with for a time.

Both Alphonso and Mrs. Trent were happy to be

able to stay in one place and call it home. Alphonso had never given it much thought, but he, too, was grateful to be off the road and to rest and enjoy himself.

They not only managed the family's affairs but set up a successful liquor store, and Alphonso dealt in real estate.

He died on October 14, 1959, at the youthful age of 54.

Alphonso Trent was a man among men. He was one of those rare individuals who seem to have goodness and humility ingrained in their very bones. While he was responsible for his band and saw to the innumerable details of bookings and travel plans, he shared equally in the money earned by the group, never taking one cent more than he paid each individual member of the band.

It is little wonder that the remaining members of his group keep in touch with Mrs. Trent. The group has been like one family, a family consisting of bright and upstanding and moral young men who were a credit to themselves and to their families.

Whether we like all jazz music or not, there have been few of us who have not been touched by the music and compositions of the "great" ones — Duke Ellington, Scott Joplin, W. E. Handy, Buddy Bolden, Gene Krupa, Paul Whiteman, Benny Goodman, Bessie Smith, Louis Armstrong, Pearl Bailey, Ethel Waters, Ella Fitzgerald, Count Basie, and many more too numerous to mention. They reaffirmed that music is the universal language — and that it is color blind as well.

Americans may stand taller because of the unique heritage of our vibrant music called "jazz" and recall those who bequeathed it to us. And Fort Smithians may be just as equally proud that one of our native sons was among the best of them — Alphonso Trent, musician, and truly an artist.

SOURCES

CONVERSATIONS WITH:

Mrs. Alphonso Trent
Gene Bessent

BOOKS:

Jazz — edited by Nat Hentoff & Albert J. McCarthy, Rinehart & Co., Inc. and Cassell & Co., Ltd., 1959
Going To Kansas City — Mary Lee Hester, Early Bird Press, Sherman, Texas, 1980
Swing Out — Gene Fernett, Pendell Publishing Co., Midland, Michigan, 1970

HAMMER'S BAND(S)

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hammer left their native home in Germany and arrived in the United States in 1880. They had six children, but, sadly, three of them died on the arduous trip. They settled first at Morrilton, but later moved to Fort Smith.

Among their children who grew up here were Clemens, Frank, Joe and Lee. They were all musically talented, but it was Clemens who formed the first band shortly after the turn of the century and would later organize three more bands. There was a marching band, dance band, small orchestra, and a band made up of the coal miners who worked in the Hartford, Arkansas, area. Clemens, Joe and Frank all played in the Fort Smith Citizens Concert Band, an early band in Fort Smith.

Clemens' marching band followed the hearse in the funeral procession when Yanko Yurich, the Gypsy King, was buried in February, 1923.

One of his bands rode horseback and played for out-of-town performances when "booster" trips were popular.

Joe Hammer, who owned Hammer's Machine Works, played in the small orchestra which had a long run at the Goldman Hotel playing for dances. There he met and fell in love with Elva Schultze. They were married and raised twelve children.

Lee Hammer owned and operated Patrick's Shoe Store for many years. He married Clara Edelman, and, while they had no children of their own, he endeared himself to many children of the area by carrying chewing gum and candy in his pockets and sharing the goodies with youngsters whom he met on Garrison Avenue.

Frank and his wife had no children, but Clemens and his wife, Gertrude Hatcher, had four, among whom is William (Bill) Hammer of San Antonio, Texas.

Bill remembers when John Phillip Sousa came to Fort Smith in 1921 or 1922. He had a concert at Van Buren, and Bill shared in his father's pride and enjoyment when Sousa handed Clemens his baton, and he directed the band in a number.



Taken at the 13th Street entrance of the old Goldman Hotel.

1. Frank Hammer, 2. W. Long, 3. ? Campbell, 4. ? Scarbrough, 5. ?, 6. ?, 7. ?, 8. Fred Swift, 9. ?, 10. ?, 11. Shorty McClain, 12. ?, 13. Robert Bender, 14. Albert Bender, 15. ?, 16. ?, 17. ?, 18. ?, 19. Harry Culpepper, 20. Little Joe Limberg, 21. Clemens Hammer. Picture courtesy William Hammer, San Antonio, Texas.



Fort Smith Citizens Concert Band. Standing, third from right, Joe Hammer. Seated, fifth from left, Clemens Hammer. Seated, second from right, Frank Hammer. Other members unidentified. Courtesy William Hammer, San Antonio, Texas.



One of Clemens Hammer's bands, performing for a Lot Sale in Featherstone, Oklahoma. Picture courtesy William Hammer, San Antonio, Texas.

Hunter Wright also recalls when John Phillip Sousa and his band visited Fort Smith. The band played two performances in the orchestra pit at the Joie Theater.

In the days of "silent pictures" most of the larger theaters had orchestra pits. There would always be an orchestra, or at least a pianist, in the pit to play background music for the movie. Clemens Hammer's band played often in the pit at the Joie.

The present generation cannot know what a thrill there was to hear the "William Tell Overture" when the good guys were chasing the bad guys across the silver screen, nor what heart throbs were experienced while the slower music accompanied the heavy stuff when the hero finally won the girl or a long-lost child was returned to its mother.

Hammer's Band had the musical program for the Arkansas-Oklahoma Interstate Fair at Fort Smith in 1911, and of the twelve numbers listed, only one is familiar to this writer — "Alexander's Ragtime Band". And it was played as a march.

But whether it was march, dance, or background for a movie, the music was outstanding and a memory to be cherished.

Program played by Clemens Hammer's band at Arkansas-Oklahoma Interstate Fair, Fort Smith, Arkansas, October 19, 1911. Courtesy William Hammer, San Antonio, Texas.



HAMMER'S BAND

CLEMENS HAMMER, DIRECTOR
FORT SMITH, ARK.

PROGRAM

ARKANSAS-OKLAHOMA INTERSTATE FAIR
FORT SMITH, OCTOBER 19, 1911

1. "The Victor," March K. L. King
2. "Silver Star," Two-Step Chas. L. Johnson
3. "Prince of Tonight" Jos. E. Howard
4. "Luella Waltz" A. J. Weidt
5. "Hearts of Gold" L. Albert
6. Ted Snyder's Medley Overture, No. 2. Intro. "Dreams, Just Dreams," and "Kiss Me" and "Stop, Stop, Stop, Etc."
7. "Slavery Days," March R. A. Zita
8. "Songs of The Nation" J. B. Lampe
9. "Martha," Overture Floton
10. "Kiss Me," March and Two-Step Ted Snyder
11. "Alexander's Ragtime Band," March E. Berlin
12. "Daddy's Delight," Char. F. H. Losey

AMRITA GROTTO BAND

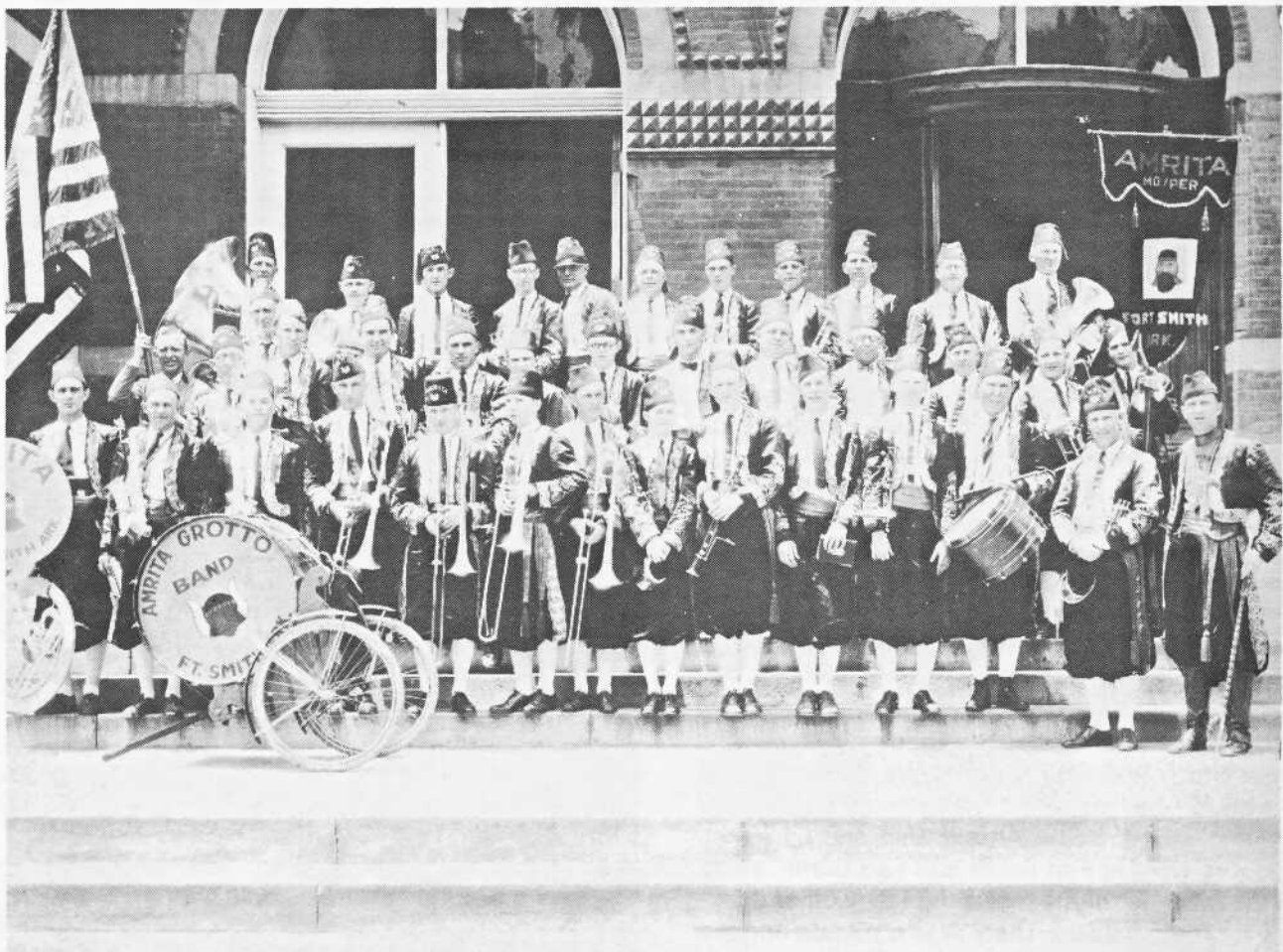
Edgar A. Robinson was one of the finest directors in this, or any other, area. He put together a fine organization, and the accompanying picture showing the group in front of the Kansas City Southern Station in 1926 was probably the time when they were leaving for St. Louis, Missouri. They entered competition there and won a very coveted award, an award earned only one year previously by John Philip Sousa and his band.

There were two father-and-son teams in his band. Robinson's son Fulton T. (Putt) Robinson was in the band. He now resides in Little Rock.

Percy Darby and his son, William O. Darby, were

also in the band. William O. Darby is well known to the area for the acclaim he won during World War II. He lies buried at the National Cemetery and was posthumously promoted to the rank of Brigadier General, a quite rare honor.

The Amrita Grotto Band was always present for the "big" events. And there were many of them during the early 1920's and through the 1930's. The young members of the band received a good education in music and learned the craft which was to stand them in good stead. Many of them stayed in the music field for many years.



AMRITA GROTTO BAND

1926, in front of the Kansas City Southern Railway Station on Rogers Avenue

Top row: First four unidentified, Herbert Turner, ?, Percy Darby (father of Bill), ?, ?, Denver Brashier, Dr. Morehead, Dr. E. Dudley Spurrier.

Second row: Flag bearer, Gene Bly, Arthur R. Hansard, ? Vanarsdale, ?, Fred Bach, Jack Everett, Hunter Wright, Burns Wakefield, Waverly Beltrand, ?, ?, Fulton (Putt) Robinson, ?.

Bottom row: Gene Wheeler, Arlie Holman, Geren Vesey, Marshall Bach, Elzo Elkins, Johnny Jeryo, ?, ?, ? Terry, Carl Long, Bill Darby (Brig. Gen.), Gerald Meed, Gillie Trisch, Edgar A. Robinson, Walter Jackson, Drum Major.

Picture courtesy of Hunter Wright.

JIMMIE GRACE AND HIS OZARKIANS

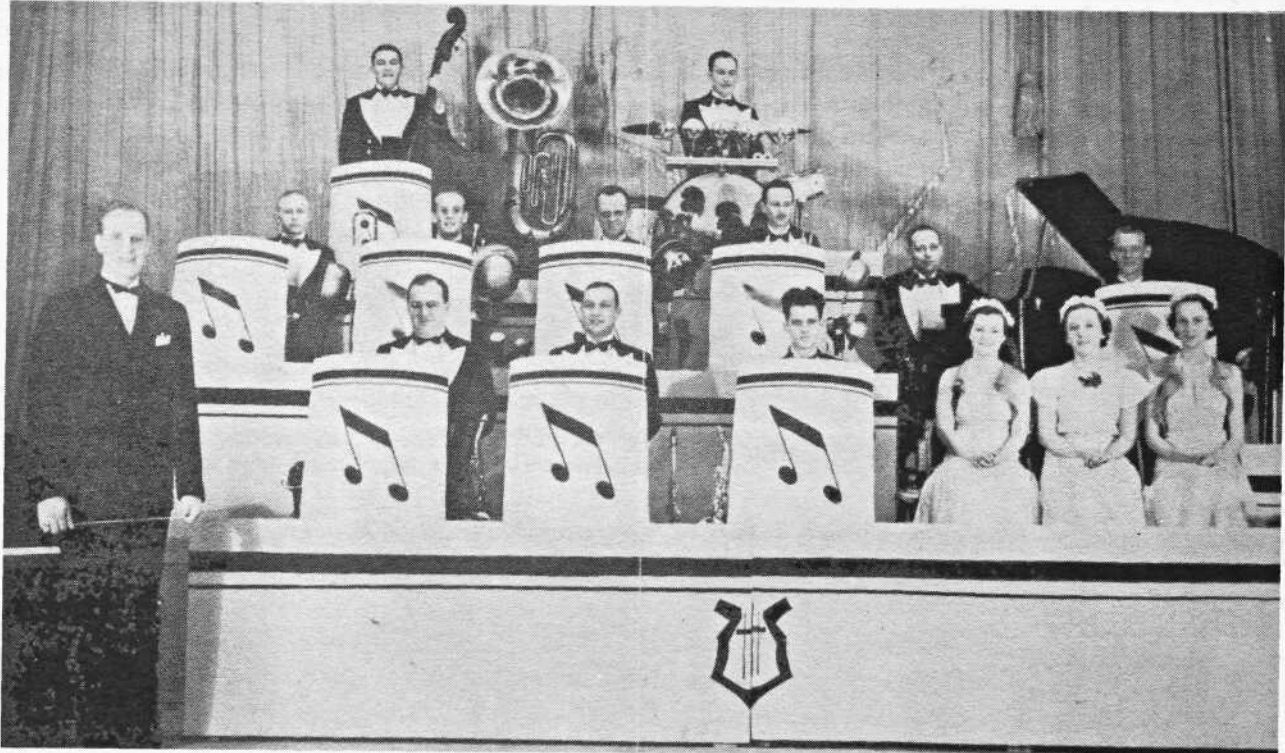


Photo courtesy of Mrs. Jimmie Grace

Jimmie Grace and His Ozarkians were in full swing during the 1930's and played together more than ten years. They played their last time together as a group on New Year's Eve, 1939, then Jimmie laid down his baton to devote full time to his new business, the Grace Paper Company.

Jimmie and His Ozarkians enjoyed the popularity shared by other fine bands and orchestras in the area at that time. They broadcast over radio station KFPW in a regular spot, and in 1934 their music was featured on the Community Chest broadcast which had a Hollywood premiere touch and originated from the Joie Theater.

Bob Burns, native Arkansawyer (Van Buren) turned actor, starred in the movie "Our Leading Citizen", and Jimmie Grace and His Ozarkians played at the premiere showing of the movie. The actress Susan Hayward and singer Eddie Arnold also starred in the movie and were in Fort Smith and Van Buren, along with the governor of Arkansas and many other dignitaries for the occasion. There was a parade and the usual fanfare which accompanied the showing of the movie.

The Ozarkians turned out a brilliant performance, and on each side of the stage was a large microphone bearing the call letters of radio station WBBM, the CBS station in Chicago. It was quite an accomplishment to be heard on national radio, and 1939 was a year to be remembered, not only by the musicians in the band but also by the listening public as well.



Actress Susan Hayward in the parade in 1939 when she appeared in Fort Smith and Van Buren for the premiere showing of the movie "Our Leading Citizen". Picture courtesy Gene Bessent.



Harold Phelps
Guitar - Violin
Composer - Arranger



D. G. Lane
Saxophone - Clarinet
Composer - Arranger



Allen Hall
Trumpet



Arthur Rosenbaum
Trombone



Jimmy Pierce
Saxophone - Clarinet



Jimmie Grace
Director and Manager

FORWARD

Ten years ago a group of six musicians joined together with the intent of furnishing an outstanding dance band for Fort Smith and the surrounding territory. It has been the policy of our organization, as it has increased in numbers, to present to our public the very best local talent available.

It is with sincere appreciation that we, at this time, through the hearty cooperation of our many friends and patrons, can present for your approval our first Cabaret Ball commemorating our Tenth Anniversary.

Our sincere hope is that we will continue in the future to warrant that same spirit of interest and respect that the public has so kindly displayed in the past.

JIMMIE GRACES' OZARKANS



Foster Merk
Drums - Vibraphone
Vocalist



"Benny" Gordon
Trumpet - Composer
Arranger - Vocalist



Hunter Wright
Trumpet



Ted Hoffman
Saxophone - Clarinet
Vocalist



"Putt" Robinson
Bass Fiddle - Tuba

Vocalists



Monte Jean Wisdom



Mary Jane Reynolds



Ola Mae Canady



Kathryn Moody



Lowell Hoffman
Piano - Accordion

Jimmie Grace and His Ozarkans who played for the Cabaret Ball commemorating the Tenth Anniversary of the group. Other musicians and vocalists known to have been with the group at some time, but who are not picture here, are: Carl Adams, saxophone and clarinet; Bob Gilchrist, saxophone and clarinet; Elizabeth Rothgerber, piano; Pete Hammock, bass horn; Denny Crofton, saxophone and clarinet; and Gene Apple, trumpet.

THE SOUTHERNERS

EDGAR A. ROBINSON, DIRECTOR

As early as 1926, Edgar A. Robinson was director of the Amrita Grotto Band. He also put together the smaller orchestra known as the Southerners.

The Southerners opened the Masonic Temple, playing for the first dance ever held there. They also performed for radio station KFPW in Fort Smith, and their excellent music was enjoyed by all the listening public. They were in demand for dances and special programs all over the area.

Among the musicians playing at one time or another with the Southerners were: Lucien Sabin, E. F. (Putt) Robinson (son of director Edgar A. Robinson), Bedford (Benny) Gordon, Morgan Gallagher, Hunter Wright, Foster Merk, Arlie Holman, Miles Hershey, Louise Clark, Gene Reynolds, Fred Williams, Dorothy Gibson, Edgar A. Robinson, Lawrence Richardson, and vocalist Paul Comstock.



The Southerners, radio station KFPW. (Left to right) Front row: Dorothy Gibson and Foster Merk. Back row: E. F. (Putt) Robinson, Gene Reynolds, Fred Williams, Lucien Sabin, Edgar A. Robinson, Paul Comstock, Hunter Wright, Lawrence Richardson, Bedford (Benny) Gordon, and Morgan Gallagher. Picture courtesy Hunter Wright.



The Southerners on the stage of the Temple Theater, 1929. Left to right: Lucien Sabin, E. F. (Putt) Robinson, Bedford (Benny) Gordon, Morgan Gallagher, Hunter Wright, Foster Merk, Arlie Holman, Miles Hershey, Louise Clark, Gene Reynolds. Picture courtesy Hunter Wright.

RADIO STATION KFPW PROGRAM²

OCTOBER 4, 1930

A.M.

- 7:00 Ozarkan Orchestra
- 8:00 Charles McGill and Quartet
- 8:15 Nick George, pianist
- 8:45 Fred O'Baugh, marimba
- 9:00 Billy Beard, soloist
- 9:15 Joe Leming, Jr., pianist
- 9:30 Mrs. Ward Muris
- 9:45 Laura Schmuck, soloist
- 10:00 Bob McDowell, guitar
- 10:15 Louise Clark, pianist
- 10:30 Ralph B. Jones, soloist
- 10:45 Leo Maestri, violinist

P.M.

- 12:35 Southerners Orchestra
- 1:30 World Series between St. Louis Cardinals and Philadelphia Athletics
- 3:30 Ridge Runners, string band orchestra
- 3:50 Charles Harrison and Wilson Castleberry, pianist and soloist

(Editor's note: The program the week before also listed Southwest Times Record Newscasting at 12:05 and 6:00 P.M., as well as Opening Cotton, Grain and Stock Exchange Reports at 9:00 A.M. and Closing Markets at 5:30 P.M.)

2. Source: *Arkansas Airwaves*. Used by permission of Ray Poindexter, Author.

DOC MILLER'S ORCHESTRAS

By C. H. "Doc" Miller

Until 1925, I had never heard of Fort Smith, Arkansas, but I had paid my entire way through the University of Missouri playing in dance orchestras, managing them, traveling with them, etc. Actually I began playing banjo in orchestras about 1917, at the age of fifteen, while living in St. Louis, Missouri, and it was because of my playing in bands that I eventually learned about Fort Smith.

In 1925, I had a contract with the Linebarger Brothers to play their summer resort at Bella Vista with my Missouri University Quadrangle Orchestra. I met a lot of fine people who hailed from Fort Smith, Tulsa and such places, among the most prominent ones being the Bourland family starred by the daughter, Capola Bourland. The members of my ten-piece orchestra got

acquainted REAL QUICK with Capola and other young folks and, even way back then, they were braggin' about Fort Smith....."the only real good town in Arkansas", as Capola expressed it.

Early in 1926, during my year of graduate work at Columbia, I met a Stephens College student from Fort Smith by the name of Virginia Laws. Phew!!!! That was it, with a capitol "IT".....I fell in love with her and her soft "suthin drawlll", and, after the conclusion of a European trip with my orchestra (the same group I had the summer of 1925 at Bella Vista), I arrived back in the United States on October 4, 1926, and married this Virginia two days later in a town adjacent to St. Louis.

My first job after college was with a big advertising agency in Kansas City, so Virginia and I set up house-



Photograph of "Doc" Miller's Orchestra made at the reception honoring Mrs. Franklin D. (Eleanor) Roosevelt in Fort Smith at the Goldman Hotel on April 12, 1940. Left to right, front row: Bill Freeman (?), D. G. Lane, Carl Long, Ted Hoffman, Joe Ropollo, "Doc" Miller, standing. Second row: Norman Hall, Raymond Marre, Johnnie Anderson, Arthur Moran. Back row: London Culpepper, Marion Narisi, Gene Hambric.

keeping in Kansas City where we lived until October 1, 1930, when we moved to Fort Smith to go into sales management of a company manufacturing school buses and distributing them all over the Southwest.

About two days after moving to Fort Smith, I met James P. Dibrell, who was fresh out of the University of Arkansas and played a "mean" saxophone. Jim got hold of Gene Hambric, an able pianist, and a few days later the Miller-Dibrell Orchestra was born. Jim, Gene and I all worked at full-time day jobs but played together for small dances at night. We made some real fine music (for a three-piece combo, that is).

Radio Station KFPW was in swaddling clothes about that time, and we got to "show our wares" frequently over the air.

The trend in music, starting about 1925-26, was for larger bands, and our "rooters" urged us to expand our band. This could not be done overnight, but after several weeks of trying out instrumentalists, we organized a ten-piece orchestra — three saxophones, two trumpets, a trombone, piano, drums, bass and banjo. With a band this size, it took lots of practice, and most of our rehearsing was done in my home on North 17th Street, where our neighbors were ultra-considerate and never reported us to the cops for disturbing the peace.

The 1930's was a time for big bands.....called the Big Band Era.....and the music was full and round, very melodious. I was wholly familiar with the "big band" type of music. Prior to arriving in Fort Smith, I had played with some major "big bands" in and around Kansas City: Gene Goldkette's Orchestra, Ted Weems Orchestra, the Koon-Sanders Band, etc. In 1926 I took my own "big band" from the University of Missouri to Europe for seven weeks, and our reception by folks in Europe and England was more than satisfying.

Some of the places our Fort Smith band played were the UCT Country Club (located where part of Forest Park Cemetery is now), the Winter Garden on Garrison Avenue, the I. C. Ballroom, high school gymnasium (Fort Smith High School in those days), outdoor picnics, etc. The high school groups, sororities and fraternities, various clubs, etc. would vie for our gang to play their dances, and I want to say this for those groups — there was no such thing as "pot" around these dances and a very minimum of insobriety. Instead, there were well dressed young ladies in evening gowns, and gentlemen in coats and ties and the like, good deportment.....parties on the highest cultural plateau.

One of the most outstanding "bookings" we had was on April 12, 1940, at the Goldman Hotel Ballroom for the reception and dance honoring Mrs. Franklin D. (Eleanor) Roosevelt.³ It was a huge affair, a premium-

price function, which raised quite a bit of money for the Woman's Board of the Sparks Hospital to be spent on their projects for the hospital and the nursing school.

We of the orchestra were totally unanimous in praise of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who with her consummate grace and charm came over to the orchestra and greeted each one of us and complimented our music.

Mrs. Roosevelt's visit was a big day in Fort Smith. She was met at the train by city officials, members of the Woman's Board of Sparks Hospital and others, where she received a large bouquet of white roses from the Fort Smith Rose Society and many other gifts which included a set of scissors manufactured in Fort Smith, gifts made by the Indian children of the Dwight Mission Training School, a woven linen wall hanging made by the girls of the NYA Camp near Lake Fort Smith, etc. Ten thousand people (a conservative estimate) lined thirteen blocks on Rogers and Garrison Avenues to see the First Lady, a famous person in her own right, ride in a procession from the Union Station to the Goldman Hotel and on to the Ward Hotel where she stayed overnight. She rode in a closed car driven by R. J. Ross, and the procession was led by the high school band, followed by members of the junior high school band in full uniform. She gave a lecture that night in the junior high school auditorium to which the Woman's Board sold tickets. Subject of the lecture was "A Typical Day at the White House". Following the lecture, the reception was held at the Goldman Hotel.

Jimmie Grace, a Fort Smith businessman, squired a very good group of about the same instrumentalism as we had, and on occasion I would "borrow" one or more of his musicians or loan him one when the necessity arose. Though we had no musicians' union operative here, we somehow charged about the same tariff for our services, which, incidentally, was ridiculously small — some \$4.00 or \$5.00 per man for a three-hour engagement. So, you see, we didn't get rich by any means, but we will have to add that in the early '30s it was hard to carry the load that five dollars worth of groceries weighed.

Needless to say, our orchestra was mighty different from most bands today which are composed mostly of guitars, stringed bass, keyboard, drums, etc., all amplified to the "nth" degree and played with FULL VOLUME ON.

Musicians who played with my orchestra at some time were: Miles Hershey, Hunter Wright, Benny Gordon, Foster Merk, Arch Sullivan, Jim Dibrell, Lowell Hoffman, E. F. (Putt) Robinson, Adie Dobbins, Elmer Hayden, Dorothy Gibson, Gene Reynolds, Marshall Bach, Lucien Sabin, Bill Freeman, D. G. Lane, Carl Long, Ted Hoffman, Joe Ropollo, Norman Hall, Raymond Marre, Johnnie Anderson, Arthur Moran, London Culpepper, Marion Narisi and Gene Hambric.

3. Details of Mrs. Roosevelt's visit verified by interview with Ella Falk, a member of the group who met her at the train, and *Southwest American*, Fort Smith, April 3, 9, 12 and 13, 1940.

CLINT FISHER AND HIS MUSICAL BUDDIES

By: Amelia Martin

At the end of World War II, Clint Fisher was traveling with Tex Hall and His Cowboys to Army bases, Air Force bases, Navy depots, theaters, etc. all over the United States. Then in 1945, after the war was over, he organized the Clint Fisher and His Musical Buddies band in Fort Smith, who played together for almost ten years.

They played on radio station KFPW, did stage shows, played for dances, anywhere they could make a dollar.

KFPW was the only radio station in Fort Smith at the time. Some of the early staff members of that station were Jimmie Barry, Pat Garner, James Dibrell, Harvey Marsh, Jim Hendricks and Dorothy Hendricks. Eddie Hicks performed the duties of news gathering and advertising salesman. KFPW joined the Mutual Broadcasting System December 2, 1944.

In 1946, KFPW organized and sponsored the Arkansas Valley Jamboree, a stage show and broadcast which was held every Saturday afternoon for about two years at the Knights of Columbus building. In addition to the Musical Buddies, some of the other groups playing in the Jamboree were: Wayne Redden and His Arkansas Valley Boys; J. D. and Bill Cox and the Ridge Runners; Payton Brothers Trio from Moun-

tainburg; Bill Cason, Dorothy Bull and Freddie Rose, soloists; Becky Barfield, comedian; and other special singers and acts as available. Jimmy Hendricks was Master of Ceremonies for the production.

The Musical Buddies also made goodwill tours with the Chamber of Commerce, played for the last rodeo at Andrews Field and the first rodeo held at Harper Stadium. The newspaper reported, "This is the first hill-billy band, outside of Bob Wills' Orchestra, which has been honored to furnish music for the occasion."

About this time, the Musical Buddies began a "live" broadcast at 6:00 A.M. — "early in the morning", according to Clint Fisher. There was no such thing as a tape at that time.

A new radio station, KFSA, came to Fort Smith in March, 1947, and shortly thereafter the Musical Buddies switched stations. After the switch, they began a thirty minute remote broadcast at 12:00 Noon from Danceland, a place they had originally started playing at when it was Burt's Downtown Club. Pat Porta was announcer on this program, and it was sponsored by Alber Mills Company.

1950 brought the Korean War, and Fort Chaffee filled with soldiers from all over the United States. To please the expanded audience, the Musical Buddies



Clint Fisher and His Musical Buddies. Left to right: Buddy Covert, Ray Gann, Amos Hedrick, J. D. Cox, Jim Hendricks (announcer), Clint Fisher, Marvin Shaw and Glenn Mann. Photo courtesy Clint Fisher.

expanded their instrumentation and repertoire. They added a trumpet, saxophone and clarinet, and included in their programming Pop and Country Western as well as the old standards. To quote Clint Fisher, "We stayed on top of the new stuff and tried to play something that would please each of our listeners."

From the very beginning, the Musical Buddies featured twin fiddles played by Clint Fisher and Amos Hedrick. Amos was a comedian and was featured on all stage shows as "Silly Willy". All of the band members were close friends, but Clint and Amos were especially close, working side by side every day playing harmony.

Amos was a fine musician and when Clint saw it was inevitable the group would disband, he placed Amos with the Hank Thompson band. Eventually many of the Musical Buddies went to work with other bands.

Another musician who was with the band from its beginning to end was Ray Gann, who lives in Van Buren now. Clint remembers him as one of his most valuable musicians because of his loyalty, faithfulness and dependability.

Eventually most of the big bands dissolved, but the "Big Band Era" left many contributions to the musical world, and Clint Fisher is glad he was a part of it.

Clint Fisher and His Musical Buddies will always be remembered by the people who knew them. They sent out thousands of postcard pictures that could be obtained for a request and ten cents each. Without doubt, there are still many people who have one of these pictures tucked away in keepsakes somewhere.

Musicians playing with Clint Fisher and His Musical Buddies at one time or another were: Buddy Covert, Ray Gann, William Coffman, Jr., Amos Hedrick, Lyman Fisher, Glenn Mann, J. D. Cox, Marvin Shaw, Peewee Clark, Marion Mondier, Dubert Dobson, a guitar player called Clem (but whose last name does not come to mind), Peewee Calhoun, Bobby Lee, Marvin McCullough, Frankie Kirby, Bill Hayes, Walter Schleif, Bob Revell (who played clarinet and was also arranger), Roy Hunnicutt, Ralph Gann (booking agent), Gene Crownover, Wally McDougal, Kenneth Holliway, C. B. White, Dempsey Wright, and Henry (Hank) Eshelman.



Left to right: Ray Gann, Clint Fisher, Lyman Fisher, Amos Hedrick and Buddy Covert. Photo courtesy Clint Fisher.



Clint Fisher and His Musical Buddies standing by the bus which they traveled in. Left to right: Ralph Gann (agent and manager), Buddy Covert, Ray Gann, Wally McDougal, Clint Fisher, Roy Hunnicutt, Peewee Calhoun, Lyman Fisher (brother of Clint), and Marvin Shaw. Photo courtesy Clint Fisher.

FRED ROSE

Fred Rose, popular guitarist, singer and band leader, began his professional musical career in Fort Smith in 1946 playing with Wayne Redden's Arkansas Valley Boys. Later he played with Calvin Carter's Border City Ramblers and still later formed bands of his own, one of which was called The Rose Buds. The Border City Ramblers played regularly in the Arkansas Valley Jamboree, which was broadcast every Saturday over KFPW.

In the late 1940's and early 1950's, Fred was heard regularly at 11:30 A.M. Mondays through Saturdays over KFSA Radio, sponsored by the Morris Furniture Company; and, "Are you ready for Freddie?" announced to the thousands of listeners in western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma that Fred Rose was on the air. Always ready to sing requests, many of the songs he sang were his own compositions. He wrote many songs, some of which were cut into records. Three of his better known songs were "I Need you My Darling, Body, Mind and Soul" (which he wrote with Louise Artrip), "All My Love", and "Still Water".

From Fort Smith, Fred branched out to Tulsa, Oklahoma; California; Nashville, Tennessee; and other places where he played or appeared with many of the big stars of Nashville and Hollywood. In Tulsa he played with Johnnie Lee Wills and Leon McAlliff bands, and

in Oklahoma City with Hank Thompson, as well as directing his own bands in these areas.

About 1956, Weldon Stamps, station manager of KFSA (radio and TV by that time), asked Freddie to return to Fort Smith. He had wanted to leave the road and stay at home with his wife and two children, so when his friend Spade Cooley urged him to take the job, Fred accepted it and returned to Fort Smith. In August, 1956, he was broadcasting daily 12:15 to 12:30 P.M., again with his band from 3:00 - 3:30 P.M. on radio and 4:00 - 4:30 P.M. on TV. Saturdays, his only non-broadcasting day, he devoted to personal appearances.

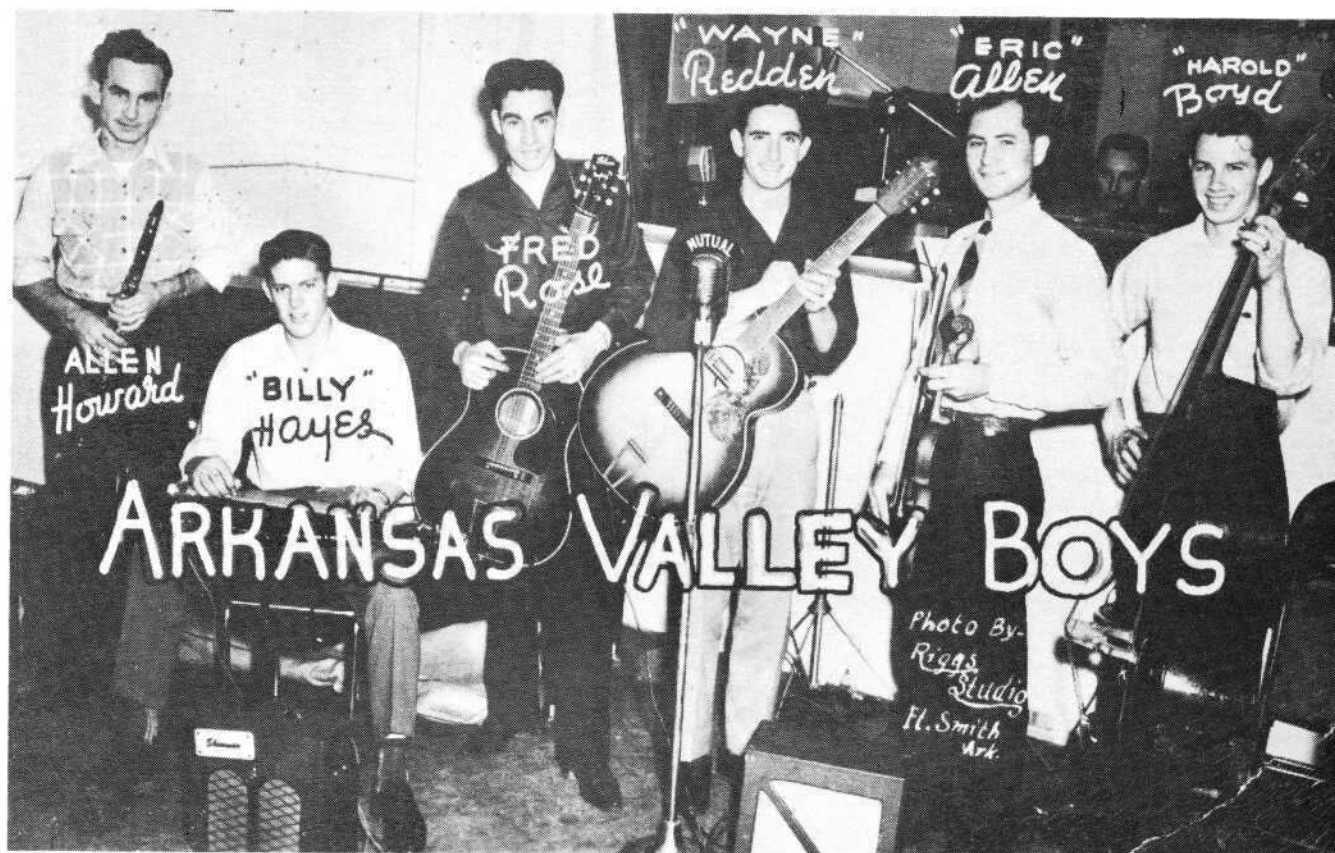
In addition to his music, Fred had a disc jockey program in Fayetteville for twelve years and was voted "Mr. Dee Jay USA" by the Writers and Artists Association in 1963.

Fred gave up his radio, TV and personal appearances and retired from professional music in 1970. He has returned to Fort Smith, where he is employed at Sparks Regional Medical Center. He spends much time singing in the choir at his church, singing Gospel music, and enjoying his three grandchildren. After complete retirement, he plans to devote more time to writing and composing.



Fred Rose and His Band at KFSA-TV studio. Left to right: Pete Graves who wrote "Bumming Around", Cowboy Copas (died in plane crash with Patsy Cline and Hawkshaw Hawkins in the late 1960's), Ben Jack (owner of Ben Jack Guitar Center in Fort Smith now), Fred Rose, Alonzo ?, Lyman Fisher, Oscar ? (Alonzo and Oscar were a comedy team), Doug Duggar, ?, and Jerry Byrd.

WAYNE REDDEN AND HIS ARKANSAS VALLEY BOYS



Names are on picture. Photo courtesy Eric Allen.

Although they played for a few dances, Wayne Redden and His Arkansas Valley Boys did not consider themselves a dance band. Most of the time they played variety shows and fund raisers.

They had a 6:15 A.M. broadcast on KFPW weekdays and played regularly in the Arkansas Valley Jamboree, which was broadcast every Saturday afternoon over KFPW, originating at the Knights of Columbus building. Another member of the group, not shown in the above picture, was Dayton Allen.

Wayde Redden is better known today as a square dancing caller and teacher than a band leader, but he does play with the Heart Throbs.



Wayne Redden calling for Swinging Eight Square Dance group as they dance for residents of Gorman Towers.

FROEBEL E. LEE

In answer to a number of inquiries regarding Froebel E. Lee, author and publisher of the song, "In Old Fort Smith", which was published in the September, 1983, issue of *The Journal*, we are happy to be able to tell you the following about him:

Froebel Elmore Lee was born December 16, 1890, the son of Arthur Elmore Lee, a native of New York, and the former Jennie Fuller, a native of Logan County, Arkansas. (For biography of Arthur Elmore Lee, see

page 955-956 of the Centennial History of Arkansas, Volume III).

Froebel E. Lee, an accomplished musician, graduated from high school in Fort Smith and from college in Syracuse, New York. He married Catherine Jenkins. They had three sons and two daughters and were divorced about 1940. After graduation from college, he lived in Little Rock, Arkansas, where he was connected with the Equitable Life Insurance Company, as was his father.

HEART THROBS

The Heart Throb group came about one night when Clint Fisher, Wayne Redden, Bill Stroud and Joe Hibbs got together for a jam session. They decided to form a group, and when they discovered each of them had heart problems and had had arterial by-pass surgery, they named themselves the Heart Throbs. Other regular members of the group are Edith Fisher, Sue Fisher McGrew, Carolyn Fisher Muck and Joan Bryan. Guest members are Louise Nall, Walt Levings, Jerry Murrill and Willie Fisher.

This group has been playing together for about three years, volunteering their talents and time to entertain senior citizen groups and residents of retirement homes and nursing homes, their only pay the pleasure of their listeners and maybe refreshments.

This group plays at Gorman Towers (a retirement home), Beckman Center, Methodist Nursing Home, Medi-Homes Nursing Home, Oak Lodge Nursing Home, Parkview Nursing Home, and for senior citizen groups at Arkoma, Mulberry, Van Buren, Dyer, Roland and Muldrow.



Heart Throbs, left to right: Carolyn Fisher Muck, Edith Fisher, Clint Fisher, Joe Hibbs, Sue Fisher McGrew and Bill Stroud.

PAUL LEWIS



Paul Lewis and his dance band played eighteen years at the Billy Garner Supper Club and still plays regularly for the UCT Club, Dervish Club and Century Club. This picture was taken about 1969, and the members were from left to right: Paul Lewis, Dorothy Gibson, Paul Flippen, James Shoffey, Herbie Echols (who played in the band Dean Martin was singing with about 1939; Herbie is now a resident of Oak Lodge Nursing Home in Fort Smith.), and Foster Merk. Through the years, a number of transient musicians

whose names cannot be recalled played with the band, but three regulars who also played with the band were Marion Mondier, George Hunt and Bob Land.

Paul Lewis says that back when this picture was made they were playing "hillbilly" music because that was the only thing that would sell. Through the years, Paul has played with other bands, including Johnnie Lee Wills.

CALVIN CARTER AND HIS BORDER CITY RAMBLERS

RHONDA "KYE" FLEMING

By: Amelia Martin



Border City Ramblers on stage at Radio Station KRKN, circa 1949. Left to right: Leroy Prine (now owns Prine Sign Painting Company), Fred Rose, Lloyd Price, drummer not identified, J. W. Melton (who later had his own band called J. W. Melton and the All Stars; he now lives at Altus and still has a small band there.), Vern "Pod" Mizell, Calvin Carter, Jack Crofts. Other members of this band who are not pictured are Eric Allen, fiddler; Jim Sparks, soloist; Ralph Gillenwater; and several transient musicians whose names have been forgotten. Photo courtesy Fred Rose and Wayne Redden.

Calvin Carter and His Border City Ramblers played together from approximately 1944 to 1956, mostly within a radius of 125 miles of Fort Smith. They played at the Eagles Hall for four years, 71 Corral and The Fair Grounds, Fort Smith; Silver Moon Club, Booneville; Paris; Poteau; and other places.

Calvin recalls that the largest and most important dance they played for was the National Square Dance Convention and Competition, which was held in Fort Smith, circa 1950. More than 4,000 people, some from as far away as Canada and Alaska, attended the convention and danced in the competition which took place in the building on North 32nd Street between Midland and North Sixth Streets known as the old glider plant because troop transport gliders had been built there for use in World War II. Later, the building was used for the manufacture of Trailmobile Trailers and currently is the site of the Universal Packaging Corporation.

The story of Calvin Carter and his music would not be complete without also telling the story of his niece, Rhonda Fleming. He is proud of her and gave her her first Martin guitar.

Rhonda, a native of Fort Smith, is the daughter of Joe and Verda Carter Fleming. She is a 1969 graduate of Fort Smith Northside High School, attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, and together with her songwriting partner, Dennis Morgan, was awarded the 1981 Nashville Songwriter of the Year Award for "I Was Country When Country Wasn't Cool", Barbara Mandrell's big hit.

After attending the University of Arkansas, Rhonda did a solo act on the coffee house circuit, living in Los Angeles, Boston and New York. During this time, she took her grandfather's name, Kye Fleming, and when she landed a job as staff writer with Pi-Gem Music in Nashville in 1977, it was under this name that she wrote. Kye teamed up with Dennis W. Morgan, and



Rhonda Fleming. Photo courtesy Mrs. Joe Fleming.

they have been writing songs for Barbara Mandrell, Charley Pride, Ronnie Milsap, Jim Ed Brown, Sylvia, Helen Cornelius, Steve Wariner, R. C. Bannon and Louise Mandrell.

Fleming and Morgan soon became the hottest songwriters in Nashville, penning eighteen hits, including nine No. 1 singles in three years.

Some of the Fleming-Morgan hits are: "Best of Strangers", "Fooled by a Feeling", "Smoky Mountain Rain", "I Wouldn't Have Missed It for the World", "All Songs Lead to You", "Tumbleweed", "I Wish You Were Here" and "Roll on Mississippi".

Fleming enjoys writing too much to concentrate on performing, but she and Morgan did sing "I Was Country When Country Wasn't Cool" at the Music City Award Show. Barbara Mandrell personally presented the best song award to the writers.

Rhonda borrowed a guitar from her aunt and wrote a song for the ninth grade talent show at Ramsey Junior High School, and by the time she was in high school knew that songwriting was what she wanted to do with her life.

Fort Smith is proud of Rhonda "Kye" Fleming, and she says this of Fort Smith, "The people are really nice. It's still home.....it will always be home."

Some very special Fort Smith people she remembers are her uncle, Calvin Carter, her piano teacher, Bill Nichols, and her chorus teachers, Edna Earle Massey at Northside and Barbara Medrick at Ramsey.

Rhonda has recently married and is now Mrs. Richard Gill.

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

by Mary Lou Jacobsen

FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 26 7:00 P.M.

Community Room, Fort Smith Public Library

Business Meeting and Program

Program: Restoration and Architecture In
Fort Smith (Includes Slide Presentation)

All Members Are Urged To Attend

A membership in the Fort Smith Historical Society
makes a lasting gift for any occasion.

FORT SMITH CIVIC BALLET PRESENTS

An Evening of Dance

April 28, 1984 Fort Smith Civic Auditorium

Please watch your newspaper for the artists who
will be featured.

ARKANSAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

March 29-31, 1984, Conway, Arkansas

Program based on theme "Yesterday's Influence On
Today" promises to be both exciting and informative,
and includes a debate, work shops, panel discussion
on "Politics In the 1950's" and much more.

For information regarding Arkansas Historical
Association or the annual meeting, write: Arkansas
Historical Association, Department of History, Room
12, Ozark Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR
72701.

OLD TIMERS DAY VAN BUREN, ARKANSAS

May 5, 1984

The restored main street area of Van Buren is a true
beehive of activity on this date.

May 12-13, 1984 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Anyone wishing to assist in this community project should contact Wayne Bledsoe at 783-7903. Your ideas and assistance will help make this the biggest and best tour ever.

Dates of 1984 Arkansas Heritage Week are May 5-13. For more information, contact: Arkansas Heritage Week, c/o DANCH, The Heritage Center, Suite 200, 225 East Markham, Little Rock, AR 72201.

The festival has been extended from a three day to a four day event. The Fort Smith Junior League is the sponsor of the event that has something for everyone - food, fun and fellowship.

The Rodeo will be held May 28th through June 2nd.

In May there will be an exhibit of quilts featuring prize winning quilts. In June, Gene Inman's collection of bits and spurs will be on display.

Special tours for groups can be arranged for times other than those listed above.

Matinee	\$12.50
Regular	15.00 (8:15 p.m.)
Champagne	30.00 (7:30 p.m. Thursday)

A musical Potpourri.

The regularly scheduled meetings of organizations utilizing the library are listed in the Sunday Edition of the Newspaper.

Dues \$6.00



Work is continuing on the restoration of the streetcars. 1984 should be the year the streetcar will be operational in Fort Smith. For information on how you can become a part of this project contact Art Martin at 783-1237 or Bradley Martin at 783-0145.

April 1-22	9th through 12th grade competition Multi-Media
May 6-27	Olga Duschl-Sculpture and painting
June 3-24	Annabelle Meacham- Surrealistic Collages
July 1-22	Jim Whitby-Drawings
August 5-26	Roxanne Rockerby-Hand Tinted Photographs

GALLERY 1

April 1-22 Don Peach-Photographs
May 6-27 Rene Berolund-Oils
June 3-24 Gail Woodley-Oils
July 1-22 Gerald Keith Smith-Wood Sculpture
August 5-26 Don Marvin-Pen and Ink Prints

BAY WINDOW GALLERY

April 1-22 Mary Jane Porter-Batik
May 6-27 Steve and Cliff Carson-Multi Media
June 3-24 Gregory Steinsieck-Sculpture
July 1-22 Cheryl Hutchens Perry-Pen and Ink Wild Life
August 5-26 Chou Nguyen Woel-Water Colors

FRONTIER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Frontier Achievement Awards Dinner, sponsored by the Social Studies Educators of the Fort Smith School District will be held on Friday, April 27, 1984 at the Sheraton Inn.

Awards will be presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the preservation of our historical or cultural heritage.

For information concerning nominations for the award and/or tickets to the dinner contact Ray Baker, c/o Southside High School, 4100 Gary, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903.

GOLDEN DEEDS AWARD

On December 16, 1983, Mrs. Rose Weinberger was honored by the Noon Exchange Club. At the 42nd Annual Book of Golden Deeds Banquet Mrs. Weinberger was presented the Book of Golden Deeds. Mrs. Weinberger's continuing contribution of her time and talent through all the years she has been a resident of Fort Smith was the basis for this long overdue recognition.

ARKANSAS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ray Baker, Social Studies Department Head, Southside High School, received the 1983 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Award. Mr. Baker is one of four candidates for the National Teacher of the Year Award. In addition to his duties as Department Head, Mr. Baker teaches American History and is also a City Director and Vice Mayor of Fort Smith.

Through his innovative teaching methods and personal enthusiasm, Mr. Baker involves his students in American History as though it is all in the here and now.

AWARD OF HONOR

Mrs. Laurabel B. Brocchus and G.W. "Woody" Weathers were honored by the Greater Fort Smith Chapter for Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. Mrs. Brocchus and Mr. Weathers each received the Award of Honor. This award is presented to people who have given of themselves to others without expecting recognition.

JAYCEES NAME AWARD RECIPIENTS January 21, 1984

Carolyn Wagner, president of Fulfill A Dream, Inc. of Fort Smith, an organization which helps grant the dreams of terminally ill children, was named the 43rd recipient of the Fort Smith Jaycees' Carnall "Tiny" Gardner Award for distinguished community service.

Also honored were: George Jackson, Jr., "Outstanding Young Fireman for 1983; Martha Oldham, "Outstanding Young Educator"; Mike V. Miller, "Boss of the Year"; and David Caldwell of Pocola, "Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer of the Year."

AREA LADIES CHOSEN AS OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMEN

Southwest Times Record, Sunday, February 12, 1984

The Board of Advisors for Outstanding Young Women of America awards program announced recently that the women named below have been selected for inclusion in the 1983 edition of "Outstanding Young Women in America".

Honorees from Fort Smith are: Lugene McNeill Armstrong, Teri Barber, Elizabeth Lee Batchelor, Becky McVay Birch, Elaine Brown, Tracy Denise Charles, Mary Dale Colvett, Lady Martin Eady, Ann Elizabeth Goswick, Gwendolyn Cheryl Mace, Linda King Peugh, Myra Cosgrove Smith, Valerie Kathleen Spilman, and Judy Oswalt Swift.

Other recipients are Norma Turner and Lisa Robinson of Van Buren; Susan Elizabeth Brown of Charleston; Enola Gay London of Muldrow; Barbara Lynn Freeman of Sallisaw; and Trina Dea Howard of Tahlequah.

The Outstanding Young Women of America program is designed to honor and encourage exceptional young women between the ages of 21 and 36 who have distinguished themselves in their homes, professions, and communities.

The women listed, along with approximately 23,000 fellow Outstanding Young Women of America from across the United States, will be presented in the prestigious annual awards volume.

BOOK NOTES

All review copies of books are placed in the Fort Smith Public Library and designated a gift from the author and the Fort Smith Historical Society.

FORT SMITH, AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY by Odie Faulk and Billy Mac Jones; sponsored by Old Fort Museum, Fort Smith, Arkansas. Hardbound, 231 pages, indexed. Price: \$25.00 to Museum members (available at museum); \$27.50 to non-members, available at Old Fort Museum, Clayton House, Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce, Book Nook, Boston Store Bookstore, Vivian's Book Shop, Hunt's Department Store at Central Mall, Butterfield Trail News Stand, Chestnut Books and local financial institutions. \$100 limited edition also available at Old Fort Smith Museum, 320 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

A handsome volume. The many pictures, amazingly well produced are fascinating in themselves and in print is clear and well-spaced. The history of the city takes up about 130 pages. "Builders of Fort Smith section" in about 65 pages tells about many of the families and businesses which have contributed so much to the city. Several dozen pages of color photographs show some of the artifacts and exhibits from Fort Smith's past which are housed in the Old Fort Museum.

If you are an oldtimer you will enjoy remembering these people and places. If you are not, you will enjoy learning about your present hometown...how some of the street names originated and the history of some of the city's institutions. In short, the book will tell you what older Fort Smithians already know: Fort Smith has always been a melting pot and a crossroads, and that is what makes it an interesting place in which to live.

Reviewed by Ann Sims,
Fort Smith Public Library.

SILAM SHORTS by Maggie Aldridge Smith. The Simon Sager Press, 160 pages, 14 illustrations. Hard cover, \$20; paperback, \$15.00 Available from publisher, P.O. Box 411, Siloam Springs, AR 72761.

In *Silam Shorts* Maggie Aldridge Smith shows clearly how to observe two of the major rules for effective

writing; Know your subject and present it in such a manner that the reader feels as one with the writer. The book is made up of a varied collection of prose articles, fiction stories, poetry and a section for children. Each item is separate and brief, but all are bound together by one theme, Benton County -- specifically Siloam Springs. An accomplished poet, Maggie incorporates more than 75 original poems into these tales.

Maggie is a prolific writer and has published a number of books which are available from the Simon Sager Press. She has been appointed to represent Benton County in promoting Arkansas Sesquicentennial celebration plans in Benton County and also to chair celebration of Benton County's 150th birthday, which also occurs in 1986.

FIRE IN THE HOLE, THE STORY OF COAL MINING IN SEBASTIAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS by Dr. H. G. Alvarez. Soft cover, 194 pages, name indexed. Available from South Sebastian County Historical Society, Greenwood, Arkansas and the Greenwood Public Library. Price, \$11.00 postpaid.

Fire In The Hole by Dr. H. G. Alvarez is a true story about mine workers and mine operators working during the time when coal mining was the biggest business in Sebastian County.

The story is written as it was told to the author by the miners themselves and by relatives of those killed in the mines.

Fire In The Hole is also the story of greed, struggle and devastation. It focuses on two Americans born years apart but with similar backgrounds -- Abraham Lincoln and John Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers of America.

In the 1950's, all of the mines in Sebastian County had been shut down except for three mines in the Excelsior field. The owners of these three mines made a serious effort to keep the coal industry alive.

However, the demand for coal had diminished and they, too, shut down, ending the county's coal industry.

Proceeds of the book sales will benefit the South Sebastian Historical Society.

MARRIAGE BOOK 'B'

FORT SMITH DISTRICT, SEBASTIAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS

1870-1891

Copied by Members of Frontier Researchers

Page 1

CAMPBELL, Allen, age 61, md. Sarah J. BOBBITT, age 44, both of Sebastian County. / 20 February 1870, Jeremiah Bell, J.P.

BOWERMAN, William T., age 21, md. Martha J. AVERY, age 16, both of Sebastian County. / 06 February 1870, S.C. Deschamps, Minister.

MURRAY, Jeremiah, age 20, md. Annie WALKER, age 18, both of Sulphur Township, Sebastian County. / 10 April 1870, Wm. J. Campbell, Deacon/M.E. Church.

Page 2

HAWKINS, Martin M., age 31, md. Philadelphia A. BLAYLOCK, age 16, at the residence of William Blaylock, Esq. both are from Sebastian County. / 22 May 1870, S.D. Deschamps, Minister.

KEELY, John, md. Katie HUNINGTON, Groomsman: Billy Breen. Bridesmaid: Ellie Clifford. / 19 June 1870, Lawrence Smythe, Priest.

DURRAM, B.F., age 26, of Sebastian County, md. Oney WEAVER, age 20, of Sebastian County. / 20 June 1870, M.J. Watts, J.P.

Page 3

(name illegible to clerk, W. Patterson), age 18 yrs., md. Tinsey CHRONISTER, age 17, Sebastian County. / 17 June 1870, M.J. Watts, J.P.

HACHET, James, age 25, Sebastian County, md. Celia AKE, age 17, Sebastian County. / 26 June 1870, Peter Connaway, Minister.

SPRINGMAN, John, age 40, Sebastian County, md. Margaret PADEN, age 30, Sebastian County. / 01 July 1871, James S. HUKILL, J.P.

Page 4

KNOX, Myrin, age 30, of Fort Sill (Okla.?), md. Rachel CRAGE, age 33, of Sebastain County. / 25 May 1870, George T. Rutherford, Minister/A.M.E. Church.

SCALLS, Henry, age 36, Sebastian County, md. Hannah CRAFFER E, age 30, Sebastian County. / 16 June 1870, George T. Rutherford, Minister/A.M.E. Church.

MASON, James, age 24, Sebastian County, md. Abraham LIONS/LEWIS, age 16, Sebastian County. / 11 July 1870, Granville Ryels, Minister.

Page 5

HALL, Robert, age 20, Sebastian County, md. Mary GUARGUM, age 17, Sebastian County. / 26 June 1870, J.C. Hulsey, J.P.

DUCKETT, Allen F., age 23, Sebastian County, md. Sarah E. BELL, age 17, Sebastian County. / 27 January 1870, J.E. Carnett, Minister, Methodist.

SHAVER, Benjamin F., age 20, md. Lucy Emaline BOAL, age 23. / 03 February 1870, J.C. Autry, Elder.

HAYNES, W.R., age 22, Sebastian County, md. Miss Sarah J. ROBESON, age 18, Sebastian County. / 05 June 1870, Francis A. Taff, M.E. Church South.

Page 6

MATHIS, Jessey B., age 23, Sebastian County, md. Elesey B. ERLY, age 21, Sebastian County. / 21 July 1870, J.M. Stetzel, J.P.

STUMPDOM, James, age 26, Sebastian County, md. Nancy Jane VUSE/VERSE, age 24, Sebastain County, married in residence of James Collins of Sebastian County. / 30 July 1870, Peter Conaway, Minister.

Page 7

BOOKOUT, George B., age 18, Sebastian County, md. Sintetha WILLIAMS, age 16, Sebastian County. / 14 August 1870, M. Stetzill, J.P.

POWELL, Isaac M., lawful age, Sebastian County, md. Missouri C. HEFLEY, lawful age, Sebastian County, with consent in person of M. Hefley / 26 July 1870, B.H. Peirson, V.D.M./Minister/Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

LINDSAY, James, age 23, Sebastian County, md. Anna WILLIAMS, age 26, Sebastian County. / 19 August 1870, Edward J. Brooks, J.P.

Page 8

CERNELL, Darrel, age 23, Sebastian County, md. Elizabeth UHLIGE, age 19, Sebastian County. / 15 August 1870, J.C. Babb, Minister.

RIGGS, Henry A., age 31, Sebastian County, md. Milleg WILLIAMS, age 33, Sebastian County. / 15 June 1870, J.C. Babb, Minister

EASLEY, Bengman, age 52, Sebastian County, md. July MANZOR, age 50 of Scott County. / 04 August 1870, J.C. Babb, Minister.

Page 9

CAVINS, Lois, age 22, Sebastian County, md. Matilda CORBETT, age 16, Sebastian County. / Third Sunday of July 1870 W.J. Watts, J.P.

HUGHES, Samuel, age 18, Sebastian County, md. Ann BRIDGES, age 19, Sebastian County. / 21 June 1868/filed 24 August 1870, W.K. Spangler, J.P.

SMITH, Fayett, age 19, Sebastian County, md. M. WILSIE, age 23, Sebastian County / filed-recorded 26 August 1870, W.H. Paxten, M.G.

MARTIN, William M., age 20, Sebastian County, md. Mandy OSBORN, age 20, Sebastian County./ 21 August 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

Page 10

SWITZER, E.M., age 15, Sebastian County, md., Lucinda MARTINDALE, age 15, Sebastian County. / 30 July 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

BROWN, Rheuben, age 20, Sebastian County, md. Hanel BELL, age 20, Sebastian County. / 20 June 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

FIGHTMASTER, William, Sebastian County, md. Permica CALVIN, Sebastian County. No ages given. / 19 July 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

Page 11

CLARK, William, Sebastian County, age 20, md. Laura B. BUCHANAN, Sebastian County, age 20. / 20 July 1870, H.M. Grande, Minister/Methodist Church South.

GALTING, William, Sebastian County, age 27, md. July McCALESTER, Sebastian County, age 17. / 10 August 1870, M.D. Frazier, J.P.

CONTLEY, James, Sebastian County, age 37, md. Malsey Jane SPRAKS, Sebastian County, age 19. / 27 July, M.D. Frazier, J.P.

FOX, Eason, Sebastian County, age 56, md. Alice A. HOLMES, Sebastian County, age 23. / 05 July 1870, C.L. Ward, J.P.

Page 12

AKIN, A.J., Sebastian County, age 34, md. Levina E. AKIN, Sebastian County, age 27. / 06 September 1870, C.P. Swift, J.P.

TYSE, Wesley, Sebastian County, age 25, md. Lucy PATRICK, Sebastian County, age 30. / 05 September 1870, Granville Ryles, Minister/Africa M.E. Church.

SEEWALD, William H., Fort Smith, age not given, md. Kate FINAME, Fort Smith, age not given. / 14 September 1870, Laurence Smythe, Priest of Catholic Church / Groomsman _____ Bridesmaid: Milo Sue Miss.

Page 13

CROUCH, Pleasant B., Sebastian County, age 18, md. Rebecca PARKS, Sebastian County, age 15. / 22 July 1870, Geo. S. Statham, J.P.

PECIL, Obediah, Hamblen/Hamilton Co., Tennessee, age 22, md. Sarah A. NEWMAN, Sebastian Co., Ark., age 28. / 22 August 1870, George S. Statham, J.P.

DUNCAN, Daniel, Chicksaw Nation, age 46, md. Leonia HAYES, of Chicksaw Nation, age 37. / 19 September 1870, C.P. Swift, J.P.

Page 14

McKIBBEN, Frank R., Crawford Co., age 25, md. Minnie POPE, of Sebastian County, age 23. / 07 September 1870, W.A. Samples, J.P.

GRAHAM, Newton J., Sebastian County, age 21, md. Deitha HOOKER, Sebastian County, age 19. / 13 August 1870, James G. Ullery, J.P.

RING, John, Franklin County, age 27, md. Lucinda CORSEY, Sebastian County, age 23. / 20 September 1870, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist Church South.

Page 15

Ordination record of Benjamin CLARK to the ministry. Written by R.B. WHITE, Pastor, 1st Baptist Church of Col., Little Rock, Arkansas / 29 September 1870.

CRABTREE, Lewis, Sebastian County, age not given, md. Elizabeth KERSH, Sebastian County, age not given. / 15 September 1870, William L. Brewer, Deacon M.E. South.

WILSIE, Jacob J., Sebastian County, age 25, md. Sarah A. SMITH, Sebastian County, age 15. / 26 September 1870, William H. Partin, Minister of Gospel.

Page 16

SEAY, Charles, Sebastian County, age 25, md. Francis HILL, Sebastian County, age 23. / 11 September 1870, J.W. Riggs, J.P.

LOCKHART, Cal. J.N., Sebastian County, age 25, md. Lizzie COORS, Sebastian County, age 21. / 29 September 1870, W.C. Samples, Presbyterian Minister.

Page 17

LEON, William L., Sebastian County, age 24, md. Mary LEVAN, Sebastian County, age 22. / 15 October 1870, C.P. Swift, J.P.

LONERGAN, Edward, md. Christina BONNEFOUS (widow), both of Sebastian County and of age. Witness: William Breen: 17 October 1870, Lawrence Smythe, Priest.

HANNAH, S.W., Sebastian County, age 20, md. Nancy C. MILLER, Sebastian County, age 16. / 25 August 1870, Samuel Dunn, J.P.

Page 18

DOUGLAS, Thomas B., md. Charloth BUZAN, all of legal age. / 26 August 1870, W.B. McNabb, Presbyterian Minister.

COWAN, Robert L., age 36, md. Mahalah E. BAKER,

age 19. / 04 October 1870, W.B. McNabb, Presbyterian Minister.

MARKHAM, Carter, Sebastian County, age 46, and Balsary COGBURN, Sebastian County, age 24. / 14 October 1870, George Statham, J.P.

Page 19

PARKS, Andrew J., age 24, md. Frances B. THOMAS, age 20. / 22 September 1870, George B. Statham, J.P.

PINNELL, Peater, md. Eliza HINTON, both of legal age. / 30 May 1870, J.C. Autry, Elder, (recorded 25 October 1870).

CHAMPNN(?), Acle Laughley, md. Amanda BEERY, both of lawful age. / 12 October 1870, Elder Autry.

OLMSTEAD, George Tyler, U.S. Army, age 27, md. Fannie Mastin JOHNSON, Fort Smith, Sebastian County, age 20, married in residence of Mrs. C.B. Johnson of Fort Smith. / 22 October 1870, J. Sandles, Minister, Presbyterian Episcopal Church.

Page 20

BOARD, Thomas Hanes, Fort Smith, age 47 md. Augusta LEVI, Fort Smith, age 42, married at home of Mrs. VanCant, of Fort Smith. / 23 October 1870, J. Sandles, Episcopal Minister.

WITCHER, Abraham, Sebastian County, age 19 md. Martha STEINBAUGH, Sebastian County, age 15. / 31 October 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

Page 21

CRASSEN, Stephen, Sebastian County, age 23, md. Sarah Frances STEINBAUGH, Sebastian County, age 15. / 31 October 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

BEATY, James, Sebastian County, age 43, md. Elizabeth AUBRY, Sebastian County, age 29. / Witnesses: C. Duff and W. Paterson / 30 October 1870, C.P. Swift, J.P.

HARPER, Thomas B., Sebastian County, age 28, md. Margaret VEST, Sebastian County, age 21. / 04 October 1870, J.W. Riggs, J.P.

GAMMEN, H.C., Sebastian County, age 23, md. Paralee MARTINDALE, Sebastian County, age 23. / 29 September 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

Page 22

BROWN, William, Sebastian County, age 37, md. Sally KNOX, of Sebastian County, age 20. / 06 November 1870, Granville Ryles, Minister, A.M.E.

THIBAUT, Major Frederick T.W., md. Kate RECTOR according to the usual ceremony of the Catholic Church. / Groomsman: James Rector, Bridesmaid: Miss Lizzie Ropley, married at the bride's residence (Major Rector) today. / 09 November 1870 (filed and recorded).

WINDEL, Jacob, age 22, md. Rose WHITMAN, age 20. / Witnesses: Augustine Windel and Margaret Grape. / 10 November 1870, Lawrence Smythe, Catholic Priest.

Page 23

JESSE, Isaac, of Sebastian County, age 20, md. ----- (bride's name was left out by the minister). / 10 November 1870, Peter Conway, Minister.

GAGE, R.B. Sebastian County, age 20, md. Maranda GUMAW, of Sebastian County, age 15. / 25 September 1870, J.M. Ledbetter, Minister.

BROWN, J.M., Sebastian County, age 25, md. Mary Ann SORRELS, Sebastian County, age 20. / 25 September 1870, L.M. Ledbetter, Minister.

Page 24

BECK, James, age 23, md. C.F. OWENLY, age 18, both of Sebastian County. / 02 November 1870, William Greenlee, Minister, Baptist Church.

PITTS, W.P., age 22, md. Georgia Ann CALVARD, age 18, both of Sebastian County. / 10 November 1870, William

Greenlee, Minister, Baptist Church, Credentials filed in Franklin Co., Ark.

Arkansas, Sebastian County, 14 August 1870. Credentials of John W. Ledbetter, Minister in the Baptist Church. Page 25

HOGAN, Green, Sebastian County, age 25, md. Miss Liley KIRKWOOD, Sebastian County, age 22. / 16 November 1870, Elder, Peter Conway.

IRVIN, Simeon T., of Sebastian County, age 42, md. Elizabeth J. GUINN, of Sebastian County, age 30. / 23 October 1870, M. Stetzel, J.P.

Page 26

MOBERLY, James B., age 23, md. Rebecca Ann BARLING, age 16, by consent of her parents, both of Sebastian County, at the home of J.R. Kanady in Fort Smith. / 16 November 1870, J. Sandels, Minister.

GREVE, Herman, of Fort Smith and of proper age, md. Teresa TURBILLOW of Fort Smith and of proper age. / Witnesses: Joseph Hendrix and Mary Kuper. / 24 November 1870, Edward Fitzgerald, B S of Little Rock.

AEVITT, John W., Sebastian County, age 23, md. Winnie SHANNON, Sebastian County, age 22. / 27 November 1870, C.P. Swift, J.P.

Page 27

HAYS, John, age 33, md. Annie WILSON, age 25, Sebastian County. / 27 November 1870, C.P. Swift J.P.

BLOOMBURG, John P., Sebastian County, age 31, md. Mrs. Lucy E. HENDRIX, Sebastian County, age 32. / 01 December 1870, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist Church.

BIGGS, Lee G., Jersey County, Illinois, age 21, md. Fanny V. MOORE, Washington County, Ark., age 22. / 02 December 1870, Ed. J. Brooks, J.P.

Page 28

WALLS, A.J., Sebastian County, age 27, md. Mollie F. REEDS, Sebastian County, age 18. / 08 September 1870, M.J. Watts, J.P.

CAVER, P.T., lawful age, Sebastian County, md. Mary EDWARDS, lawful age, Sebastian County. 28 August 1870, Thomas Yeaden, J.P.

WASHINGTON, George, Sebastian County, age 33, md. Sally BROWN, Sebastian County, age 21. / 24 November 1870, Granville Ryles, Minister, A.M.E. Church. Page 29

ROLLINS, Green, age 24, Sebastian County, md. Adeline MILLER, age 20, Sebastian County. / 25 November 1870, Granville Ryles, Minister, A.M.E. Church.

COUICY, Robert L. age 36, Sebastian County, md. Mary J. PASCAL, age 21, Sebastian County. / 13 December 1870, C.P. Swift, J.P.

MURPH, Green, age 26, Sebastian County, Upper Township, at residence of First Colored Baptist Church, md. Margaret JONES, age 21. / 14 December 1870, Peter Conway, Baptist Minister.

Page 30

NEELY, Joshua A., age 19, Sebastian County, md. Jinnie PRUIT, age 20, Sebastian County. / 10 September, 1870 / Edward J. Brooks, J.P.

NORTON, William H., age 20, Sebastian County, md. Ahnita SWAN, age 26, Sebastian County. / 14 December 1870, J.M. Stetzel, J.P.

RUSE, Fred W., age 27, Sebastian County, md. Miss Josephine WOODUL, age 22, Sebastian County. / 21 November 1870, Martin L. Wyneken, Pastor, 1st German Evangel Lutheran Ch.

Page 31

RABORN, William Caul, age 22, Sebastian County, md.

Mary Elizabeth BEEN, age 14, Sebastian County. / 18 December 1870, Mathew Horn, Minister, Episcopal Methodist Church.

SHICKFOR/STRAUFOR (name blurred), age 27, Sebastian County, md. Jennie COLEMAN, age 23, Sebastian County. / 26 November 1870, M.J. Watts, J.P.

BLACKERD, J.R., age 24, Sebastian County, md. Mary S. NELSON, age 21, Sebastian County. / 28 November 1870, M.J. Watts, J.P.

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DODD, James, Sebastian County, age 24, md. Julia PILES, age 26, Sebastian County. Married at the residence of James M. Colins. / 26 December 1870, Peter Conway, Minister.

JOHNSON, George, age 39, Sebastian County, md. Mary Jane BLACKMAN, age 24, Sebastian County. / 27 December 1870, Granville Ryles, Minister A.M.E.

SIMMS?, John, age 22, Sebastian County, md. Susan GRIFFITH, age 30, Sebastian County. / 22 October 1870, Geo. S. Statham, J.P.

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Records of the ordination of Thomas Wainright as an Elder in the A.M.E. Church.

LAUDERBACK, John H. of Fort Smith, md. Sarah G. KEUMS of Fort Smith on the night of 02 January 1871 at the request of their mothers. / Witnesses: Charles Vogel and June Oshid, Lawrence Smythe, Priest, Catholic Church.

Page 34

BURNETT, Henry, age 34, Sebastian County, md. Matilda BELT, age 30, Sebastian County. / 18 December 1870, L.M. Turner, J.P.

HIBBS, Joseph C., age 19, Sebastian County, md. Almida FERGUSON, age 20, Sebastian County. / 06 December 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

HARP, James, age 18, Sebastian County, md. Jenny ALLISON, age 17, Sebastian County. / 20 December 1870, S.M. Turner, J.P.

Page 35

REED, J.M., age 19, Sebastian County, md. ? (name, age and location of bride not given!) / 02 November 1870, S.M. Turner.

DAMERON, W.T., age 20, Sebastian County, md. Mary J. FERGUSON, age 22, Sebastian County. / 16 November 1870, Samuel Dunn, J.P.

McMURTEY, John, age 19, Sebastian County, md. Nancy McBRIDE, age 15, Sebastian County. / 18 December 1870, M. Stetzel, J.P.

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STOKES, P.W., age 28, Sebastian County, md. Mary J. FOSTER, age 19, Sebastian County. / 11 December 1870, J.W. Riggs, J.P.

BYRUM, James H., age 20, Sebastian County, md. Jane BAINARD, age 18, Sebastian County. / 25 December 1870, J.W. Riggs, J.P.

SANDERS, R.S., age 23, Sebastian County, md. Mrs. M.J. DECKER, age 23, Sebastian County. / 08 January 1871, John Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

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KEFFER, Levi, age 22, Sebastian County, md. Elizabeth KIRK, age 18, Sebastian County. / 11 December 1870, John Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

BROCK, George, age 28, Sebastian County, md. Laura COX, age 22, Sebastian County. / 01 January 1871, John Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

TAYLOR, James L., age 22, Sebastian County, md. Susan WASDLE, age 24, Sebastian County. / 25 December 1870, John Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

OREGAU (ORGAN?), Fauis, age 19, Sebastian County, md. Margaret E. JACKSON, age 20, Sebastian County. / 27 November 1870, John Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

HUSTIN, Captain M., Pulaski County, age 35, md. Miss Julia DAMRELL, age 19, Sebastian County. / 31 December 1870, W.A. Sample, Minister, Presbyterian Church.

BELL, Dr. James K., age 25, Sebastian County, md. Miss Tella A. CALDWELL, age 17, Sebastian County. / 11 January 1870 (1871?), W.A. Sample, Minister, Presbyterian Church.

WILLIAMS, W.T., age 22, Pulaski County, Ark., md. Miss Kate DAMRELL, age 17, Sebastian County. / 15 December 1870, W.A. Sample, Minister, Presbyterian Church.

CLAYTON, Reuben, age 26, Sebastian County, md. Emma WEST, age 18, Sebastian County. / 04 January 1871, Geo. S. Statham, J.P.

BARNES, William, age 18, Sebastian County, md. Caty BENSON, age 18, Sebastian County. / 22 December 1870, Geo. S. Statham, J.P.

MARSHALL, George, Sebastian County, age 40, md. Martha BEAL?, Sebastian County, age 23, at the home of Peter Conoway. / 28 January 1871, Peter Conoway, Minister, Col. Baptist Church.

PETY, William, Sebastian County, age 35, md. Marthey SHARLOW, Sebastian County, age 18. / 11 January 1871, A.S. Smith, Minister, Episcopal Church.

AYDELOTT, John J., Scott County, age 21, md. Mahala C. CAMPBELL, Sebastian County, age 17. / 20 October 1870, Jeremiah Bell, J.P.

SMITH, Cary, age 19, md. Emely P. CHAPEL, age 16, both of Sebastian County. / 27 October 1870, Jeremiah Bell, J.P.

DAMAS, Larkin, age 40, md. Morsleet, McCARTY, age 30, both of Sebastian County. / 24 July 1870, S.C. Deschamp, Minister.

BUSH, Philip, age 28, md. Mary KEFFER, age 22, both of Sebastian County. / 32 December 1870, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist Church.

McCALL, Pleasant, md. Maria MAYER, both of Sebastian County. / 01 January 1871, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist Church.

GATTIS, Wm. S., age 23, md. Hannah T. McNAUGHTIN, age 20, both of Sebastian County. / 04 January 1871, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist Church.

WILSON, Henry S., age 25, md. Ellen VEUNEY, age 29, both of Sebastian County. / 07 February 1871, H.M. Granade, Methodist Church.

BOBO, James S., age 24, md. Delilah BOWMAN, age 20, both of Sebastian County. / 15 February 1871, Hervey M. Granade, Methodist Church.

HOOVER, Thomas, age 30, md. Hulda BUNCH, age 14, both of Sebastian County. / 04 February 1871, Thomas Yaden, J.P.

GLASS, William (no age, address given), md. Sue RECTOR, (no age or address given). Married at the house of General W.D. CABEL. / Witnesses: William Breen and Mrs. Gen Cabel. / 21 February 1871, Lawrence Smythe, Catholic Priest.

Certificate of licensing to the Ministry of P.B. Pipkins.

MORRIS, Thomas Jefferson, age 19, md. Sarah Mariah DOKE, age 17, at Lee Martindales of Sebastian County. / 25 December 1870, William G. Ramsay, Minister.

CRENSHAW, John William, age 22, md. Miss Rebecca Ruella COGBILL, age 16, married at the bride's mother's house. / 05 January 1871, William G. Ramsay, Minister.

RICHARD, Gustof Adolf, age 21, md. Miss Ada Samantha MARTINDALE, age 20. Married at the bride's father's house in Sebastian County. / 5 February 1871, William G. Ramsay, Minister.

DILL, James W., age 25, Scott County, md. Sarah FORD, age 16, Sebastian County. / 27 January 1871, S.M. Turner, J.P.

AVERY, James, age 21, Sebastian County, md. Martha L. McCLURE, age 16, Sebastian County. / 21 January 1871, S.M. Turner, J.P.

REASE, John, age 35, Sebastian County, md. Sarah KERSEY, age 28, Sebastian County. / 05 February 1871, S.M. Turner, J.P.

Record by the State of Georgia, Cherokee County, of the ordination of A.J. Rippey of the Baptist Church of Christ at Mount Carmel, to the Gospel Ministry.

HURIN, Eugene Edwin, age 27, of Hamsie County, Missouri, md. Willis Jane HUGHS, age 23, Carroll County, Missouri. / Witness: Wm. H. Rogers. / 16 February 1871, C.P. Swift, Judge of Sebastian County.

HAYNES, John W., age 23, Sebastian County, md. Quincie A. WOFFORD, age 18, Sebastian County. / 28 February 1871, A.J. Rippey, Baptist Minister.

LERELS, G.W., age 43, Sebastian County, md. Mary F. FRIZZELL, age 21, Sebastian County. / 21 February 1871, M.J. Watts, J.P.

THOMAS, James, age 23, Sebastian County, md. Mary MADDEN/MADDEW, age 23, Sebastian County. / 07 February 1871, J.W. Riggs, J.P.

SHAYER, Aron, age 19, Sebastian County, md. Elizabeth McCANAHAN, age 15, Sebastian County. / 29 December 1870, Jeremiah Bell, J.P.

ANDERSON, Thomas, age 23, Sebastian County, md. Josephine L. MILOR, age 18, Sebastian County. / 15 September 1870, C.L. Ward, J.P.

SKINNER, Thomas H., age 23, Sebastian County, md. Kizey L.C. OLIVER, age 16, Sebastian County. / 12 January 1871, John M. Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

COWLING, Bery, (ages not given), Sebastian County, md. Mrs. Bettie BURNETT, age —, Sebastian County. / 07 January 1871, Thomas Wainwright, Minister.

McBRIDE, Wm. A., age 24, Sebastian County, md. Miss Julia MOONEYHAM, age 22, Sebastian County. / 29 January 1871, J.M. Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

WEAVER, A.J., age 25, Sebastian County, md. Miss Arminda BULLARD, age 20, Sebastian County. / 12 February 1871, J.M. Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

WILEY, Wesley, age 26, Sebastian County, md. Mary DILLARD, age 21, Sebastian County. / 18 February 1871, Granville Ryles, A.M.E. Minister.

DUGAN, J.W., age —, Sebastian County, md. Sarah DUGAN, age 19, Sebastian County. / Witnesses: Manohan

and Thomas Murphy. / 16 February 1871, W.L. Brewer, Ordained Deacon, M.E. Church South

MULLINS, J.W., age 28, Sebastian County, md. Crisey HARLOW, age 20, Sebastian County. / 12 March 1871, Edward Bowman, Minister.

MILLER, S.S., age 28, Sebastian County, md. Catherine JENKINS, age 24, Sebastian County. / 16 March 1871, Edward Bowman, Minister.

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PARKER, Sam'l, age 23, Sebastian County, Amanda HICKMAN, age 18, Sebastian County. / 05 February 1871, A.B.S. Smith, Minister, M.E. Church South.

HOUSE, Andrew J., age 21, Iron County, Missouri, md. Martha Elizabeth HILL, age 28, Searcy County, Arkansas. / 06 March 1871, Eli Leflar, J.P.

PUETT, James C., age 24, Sebastian County, md. Sophronia CAMEL, age 18, Sebastian County. / 02 April 1871, M. Stetzel, J.P.

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Ordination record of 1st Baptist Church, Wayne County, Ohio, of Elijah S. Freeman as Minister of the Regular Baptist Church, 20 November 1838.

JONES, Crafford, age 34, Sebastian County, md. Janes JONES, age 39, Sebastian County. / 18 April 1871, Granville Ryles, Minister, A.M.E. Church.

ROBINSON, James S., age —, Crawford County, Ark., md. Miss Eliza S. GASS, age —, Sebastian County. / 11 April 1871, Elijah S. Freeman, Minister, Baptist Church of Christ.

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STAR, Wm., age —, Sebastian County, md. Mary MUSHOYERS, age —, Sebastian County. / 12 March 1871, Elijah Freeman, Minister, Baptist Church of Christ.

HENDRICKSON, Doctor William T., U.S. Army, age 28, Sebastian County, md. Sophie T. BRYANT, age 24, Sebastian County. / 21 January 1871, Daniel McManus, Minister.

GARDINER, John, age 50, Sebastian County, md. Nellie WALKER, age 17, Sebastian County. / 08 February 1871, Daniel McManus, Minister.

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BLAYLOCK, David, age 22, Sebastian County, md. Margaret TAYLOR, age 17, Sebastian County. / 05 March 1871, J.M. Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

HUCKABY, William, age 48, Sebastian County, md. Nancy Ann CACY, age 35, Sebastian County. / 14 February 1871, George S. Statham, J.P.

SCRIBNER, Lewis, age 25, md. Juley S. SORRELLS, age 20. / 10 March 1871, George S. Statham, J.P.

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KEEFER, Thomas, age 23, md. Nancy COLLINS, age 19. / 02 April 1871, George S. Statham, J.P.

McGUN, James, age —, md. Sary BROWN--- / 13 April 1871, M. Pelley, ---.

BROWN, W.J., md. Almada THOMSON. / 09 April 1871, M. Pelley---

TUCKER, James, age 21, md. Elizabeth F. HORTEN, age 17, with consent of the parents in person. / 10 April 1871, A.B. McNabb, Minister, Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

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HARISS, William, age 25, Sebastian County, md. Manta JAMES, age 20, Sebastian County. / 15 April 1871, M. Stetzel, J.P.

DEBOUIN, Col. James, age 48, Pulaski County, md. Mrs. E.C. HALLOWILL, age 35, Sebastian County. / 01 March 1871, W.A. Samples, Minister, Presbyterian Church. Election of Trustees for the Presbyterian Church.

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CAHILL, Alfred (colored), age 21, Sebastian County, md. Clarice DEGRAFFENREID (colored), age 17, Sebastian County. / 31 March 1871, Thomas Yaden, J.P.

NEELEY, Thomas G. Sebastian County, age 20, md. Lucinda PRUIT, age 20, Sebastian County. / 10 April 1871, Thomas Yaden, J.P.

HUNTLEY, Edward, md. Catherine BURK. Both of age and belong to the town. / Witnesses: William Brent and Alice Rounds. / 07 May 1871 night of, Lawrence Smythe, Priest.

ALLROD(?)/ALLRED/ALLRAD, Joseph R., age 32, Sebastian County, md. Ann HARDWICK, age 33, Sebastian County. / 17 March 1871, Jeremiah Bell, J.P.

THOMAS, R.H., age 37, Choctaw Nation, md. M.C. THOMAS, age 36, Little Rock, Pulaski County. / 17 April 1871, James Ullery, J.P.

CRASSERT/CROSSERT, John Jessie, md. Mary E. KNOPP (?) both of this county and of legal age. / Groomsman: Henry KNOTT/KNOPP(?). Bridesmaid: Emily Knott-/Knopp. / 21 May 1871 Sunday, Lawrence Smythe, Trustee of Catholic Church.

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BROWN, Robert, age 21, Sebastian County, md. Fanny BROWN, age 17, Sebastian County, at the residence of Dr. Duval. / 25 May 1871, Rev. Peter Conoway.

BROWN, James, age 21, Sebastian County, md. Mary THURMAN, age 19, Sebastian County. / 31 May 1871, C.P. Swift, Judge.

BREWER, Thomas, age 18, Sebastian County, md. Margaret WILLIS, age 17, Sebastian County. / 21 May 1871, S.M. Turner, J.P.

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KEITH, Wm. F., age 21, md. Mary McALISTER, age 16. / 05 April 1871, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist Episcopal Church.

BLACKBRUN, Samuel, age 23, of the U.S. Army of the Indian Territory, md. Sylvia THURMAN, age 16, Sebastian County. / 09 June 1871, Edward G. Brooks, J.P.

LUNS, Henry, age 22, Sebastian County, md. Ellen WATKINS, age 21, Sebastian County. / 30 May 1871, Granville Ryles, Minister, A.M.E. Church.

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Appointment of Rev. Michael Smythe as Trustee of our Diocese. / 19 June 1871, by Edward Fitzgerald.

DILLS, Elijah, age 20, Sebastian County, md. Eliza Jane FORD, age 18, Sebastian County. / 05 March 1871, S.M. Turner, J.P.

COOPER, William, age 39, Sebastian County, md. Mary REED, age 35, Sebastian County. / 26 March 1871, James G. Ullery, J.P.

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PEERS, Joseph M., age 45, md. Mrs. Electa SMITH, age 27. / 03 May 1871, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist E. Church.

BOYLE, Ed, age 22, md. Josephine NUNLEY, age 16. / 04 May 1871, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist E. Church. WHEELER, Jeremiah, M., age 34, Sebastian County, md. Katherine Susannah DEES, age 22, Sebastian County. / 29 June 1871, B.H. Peerson, Minister, Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

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SPICHER, Tobius, age 62, Sebastian County, md. Elizabeth H. TAYLOR, age 45, Sebastian County. / 29 April 1871, J.M. Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

SIMONTIN/SUMERTON, Wm. J., age 32, md. Margaret E. ATKINS, age 25, both of Fort Gibson, Indian Territory. /

21 July 1871, H.M. Granade, Elder, Methodist E. Church.
SCOTT, Wm., age 22, Sebastian County, md. Hannah
PEOPLES, age 23, Sebastian County. / 13 May 1871, Eli
Leflar, J.P.

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CATS, Mr. W.T., _____ md. Miss B.E. EMMERT. / 25
June 1871, A.B. Pipkin, Minister.

EDWIN, John, age 21, Sebastian County, md. Mary
CARROLL/CARRALL, age 18. / Franklin County. / Wit-
nesses: Henry Vinney and Eugene Berneux. / 20 July 1871,
Lawrence Smythe, Priest.

Record of the formation of the First German Evangelical
Lutheran Church in Fort Smith, called Evangelical
Lutheran.

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Contains laws and regulations of the church. / 27 July
1871. / Rev. Michael Smythe, Ordained Minister of the
Roman Catholic Church.

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Ministers credentials of Bro. C.T. Kagle, 22 July 1871,
Mt. Nebo Baptist Church. Fort Smith. / Presbyterian John
M. Ledbetter, J.J. Holland.

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OLLIVER, Charlie, age 23, md. Hariett BAKER, age 24,
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Minister, A.M.E. Church.

McCLAIN, Joseph, age 48, md. Martha SMART, age
35, both of Sebastian County. / 28 June 1871, Thomas
Yaden, J.P.

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BULLARD, Erin, age 23, md. Rebecca Jane DODSON,
age 14 years and four months, both of Sebastian County. /
27 July 1871, S. Stantin, J.P.

WREN, James, age 30, md. Melvina GRIFFITH, age 18,
both of Sebastian County. / 27 July 1871, S. Stantin, J.P.

COLE, John, age 29, md. Katie FREM, age 16, both of
Sebastian County. / 03 August 1871, Edward Bowman,
Elder.

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ISAACS, Alfred J., age 23, md. Martha S. BRATTEN,
age 25, both of Sebastian County. / 04 July 1871, Edward
Bowman, Elder.

HARAL, William, age 23, md. Miss Mary R. CARROL-
L/CARRALL, age 16. / 30 July 1871, Rev. Richmond Cole,
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Minister.

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TER, age 17, both of Sebastian County. / 06 August 1871, S.
Stantin, J.P.

EVANS, John, age 33, md. Mary SPRING, age 34, both
of Sebastian County. / 10 August 1871, Granville Ryles,
Minister, A.M.E. Church.

BISK, Daniel W., age 18, md. Precila M. LEWIS, age 19,
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RIDER, William H., age 30, md. Delpha J. FRASIER, age
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ABERNATHY, C.A., age 18, md. Delia E. RIDDLE, age
18, both of Sebastian County. / 30 July 1871 / Charles T.
Cagle, Minister.

Ordination of T.A. Ross to an Elder in the Methodist

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Ordination of W.W. Oglesby to the Bishop of Bush-
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con in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. / 18
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Ep'l Church.

McCANTS, Wm., age 26, md. Mary J. KIRK, age 18,
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STANDIPI, Jesse, age 50, md. Eudocio Ann HICKS,
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BUZAN, John M., md. Jane McNABB, both of Sebastian
County, and of legal age. / 02 August 1871, N.B. McNabb,
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beth REUTZEL, age 20, both of Sebastian County. / 25 July
1871, Martin L. Wyneken, Pastor, German E. Lutheran
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line GEIGER, age 18, both of Sebastian County. / 12 Sep-
tember 1871, Martin L. Wyneken, Pastor, German E.
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tember 1871, J.M. Ledbetter, Baptist Minister.

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beth CELABOM, age 20, Sebastian County. / 22 June 1871,
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SAMPSON, Wm. R., age 24, Sebastian County, md.
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Ordination record of C.T. Tupper as Minister in the Baptist Church of Christ. / 12 October 1871.

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WARD, Lafayette, age 31, md. Emma DeHART, age 24. / 11 July 1871, George S. Statham, J.P.

ALLBERTY, Henry, age 26, Sebastian County, md. Anney RASBERRY, age 19, of Seab?, Sebastian County. / 26 September 1871, Granville Ryles, Minister.

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McCRAGE, Jorge, age 21, Sebastian County, md. Emmer JOHNSON, age 16, Sebastian County. / 04 October 1871, Granville Ryles, Minister.

BAER, Seligman, (no other information) md. Miss Bertha JOEL, (no other information). / 18 October 1871, Rev. Levi Rosenblatt, Israel Minister of St. Louis, MO. (In the third day of the month, Hishwin in the year of the world 5632 corresponding with the 18th day of October 1871.)

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FLEMING, Wm. J., (no other information), md. Sarah CARTER (no other information). / 12 October 1871, C.P. Tupper, Minister.

WILKINSON, L.M., age 27, Sebastian County, md. M.R. DURHAM, age 23. / 17 September 1871, Charles T. Cagle, Elder, Missionary Baptist Church.

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GWINN, James, age 37, Franklin County, md. Mary E. SLOAN, age 33, Franklin County. / 27 August 1871, Jeremiah Bell, J.P.

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COOK, Joseph T., age 20, Sebastian County, md. Mary E. PATTEN, age 20, Sebastian County. / 21 September 1871, S.M. Turner, J.P.

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Ordination of Robert Blassingam as Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church. / 4 December 1870.

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CALLES/CALLER, Z., age 46, md. Nancy HENDRICK, age 39. / 03 October 1871, Robert Blassingan, Minister.

PACE, Marcus, age 20, Sebastian County, md. Elizabeth ADAMS, age 22, Sebastian County. / 30 October 1871, Simon Stanton, J.P.

GLUM, William Sacramento, California, age 41, md. Catherine SMEDLEY, age 21, Sebastian County. / 02 October 1871, M.D. Frazier, J.P.

(To Be Continued in September Issue)

CORRECTIONS, MARRIAGE BOOK "A"

FORT SMITH DISTRICT, SEBASTIAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS

Enough errors were found in Marriage Book A records copied from microfilm and printed in the September 1983 issue of *The Journal* that your editors and the Frontier Researchers felt it mandatory to compare the entire list with the original records and print the following corrections.

Corrections will be given by line number, *The Journal* page number and column number.

Line No. *The Journal* Page 18, Column 1

2 RANDOLPH, John T.

8 WEBSTER, Benjamin F.

12 M. date 22 January 1866.

24 M. date 22 February 1865.

29 POPE, Henry H.

35 DEARMORE, Nathaniel B.

40 M. date 28 August 1864.

44-45 WILLMUTH, Corp. Albert B.,
1st Ark. Btry., former resident
of Monroe County, Ark., md. Mary
Ann HARPER, of Fort Smith, both
of legal age. 02 May 1865.

Line No. *The Journal* Page 18, Column 2

6 WILLIAMS, George W., age 20

11-12 McNEILY, William V., Co. C.,
2nd Ark. Inf., md. Lucenda B.M.
LAND, of Fort Smith. 28 May 1865.

15 M. date 15 June 1865.

30 COPLAND, John N., 1st Ark. Inf.

43-45 Record omitted. Follows Crane.

MATHEWS, Andrew J., Co. D., 1st Ark.
Inf. md. Levira E. BARNETT, 10 May,
1865. Francis Springer, Post Chaplain.
Book A, Page 7.

Line No. *The Journal* Page 19, Column 1

8 ERMANN, Everhard md. Mary WITMAN.

19 DOSIER, Hamson.

25 PEOPLES, Wm. H.

43 Adeline Elib. NEWMAN.

62-63 Christiana Henrietta WAGNER.

Line No. *The Journal* Page 19, Column 2

7 Sarah J. ADOLETT.

22 Harriet B. WHEELER.

25 Rosana EUPER.

28 Mary NEVILLE.

39-41 Mary E. LUCY with ages varying
from 18 to 25 years. M. date 02 May 1866

49-50 M. date 18 October 1866.

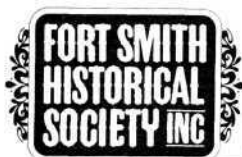
Line No. *The Journal* Page 20, Column 1

16 M. date 21 February 1867.

18-20 BRUCE, Isaiah, age 27, of Fort Smith,
md. Mrs. Melvina E. GREENLEE, age 27,
of Fort Smith. 16 December 1866.

24 M. date 18 August 1864.

- 43-44 Fannie JONES (MANNING).
64-66 THOMAS, Austin, credentials dated 20 February 1867, with the Baptist Colored Church of Fort Smith.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 20, Column 2
9 FABER, William L.
14 Walters cert. date 13 April 1866.
24-25 Appt. date Laurence S. Smyth, 19 February 1857 by Bishop Andrew Byrne.
27 HOPKINS, Jupiter.
45-46 PARADAL, Lewis H. and Mrs. Mary F. LANE.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 21, Column 1
10-12 Lizzie HOOD, M. date 03 February 1868.
18 Charlotte BRAGDON
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 21, Column 1
25 HURSEY, James
30 CHOLLAR, John J.
35-36 Nancy Jane TURPIN, M. date, 25 May 1868
48 LOUDON, George N/W
70 PERKINS, Edwin also reads Edward
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 21, Column 2
9-10 M. date, 01 April 1867
13-14 Nancy Jane GARDNER, M. date, 30 June 1868
20 Margaret Tault
53-54 Kate TOWERS, M. date 22 August 1868
58 Susan HORNE
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 22, Column 1
6 SAX, Alford
64-65 SELIG, Julius, M. date 29 November 1868
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 22, Column 2
2-3 Martha G. MILER
9-10 FALCONER, William Charles and Julia HAWKINS
18 Jane LEE, age 35
21-22 Margaret CAIN, M. date 13 December 1868
34 BRYANT, London.
38 BAILEY, William Worth
42-43 HYMON, Johnson md. Elizabeth JARRET.
45-46 Sylphico Josephine BURCHFIELD.
49-50 Miss Lucetta A. McKIBBEN.
52 COMSTOCK, Cumberland.
66 LANE, Horace
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 23, Column 1
3-4 M. date 17 December 1868
28-29 BIDGET, Otho, res. of J.B. Luce
33 HOLLINS, Jerry
46-47 CLARK, age 50, M. date 05 April 1869
50 Mary GARRISON, age 19.
54-55 FALCONER, Septimas and Emma Louisa WARREN.
59 Caroline SMITH, age 30
62-63 Harriet BEEN, M. date 07 May 1869
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 23, Column 2
7 Mariah STEMLER.
17 MITCHELL, Junius
34-35 RIGGS, Presley B., M. date 18 October 1865.
38 HOLLINS, William.
53 M. date 08 July 1869.
56 Paulina JACKSON
58 Mrs. Sarah L. BROWN (widow).
70 Mary Vance DEAN.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 24, Column 1
3 HORTION, and Mary HULSEY, age 18.
15-16 Margaret PEIRROD, M. date 06 August 1869.
17 FRENCH, James T.
21 Ann KELLY.
35-36 VANDERGRIPP, William and Hasey Ann COGHILL
52 LINDE, Theodore F.
56 DEALK, Elija.
61 RYLES, credentials date, 24 November 1868.
66-67 Miss D.A. SEFORCE.
69 LITTLE, John and Jane FERGUSON.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 24, Column 2
6 BLACKBURN, George.
16 Mary Jane BAURHYTE.
23 BROGAN, Janus md. Margaret DONOHOE.
57 Alice Tola McDONALD.
64 LOYED, Edward, age 23.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 25, Column 1
3 GARDNER, Wm. H.
5 H.J. OVERSTREET
11-12 VAUGHN, Joseph, age 23, Mahala WARD, age 17.
15 CARNELL, J.H. md. Fannie A. DAVIS.
18 WENDELL, Lucius L.
22 HARLON, E.B. md. Miss Mary M. TYLER
69-70 Marriage date 27 December 1869.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 25, Column 2
SCHLUELTER, Henry Wm., M. date 28 January 1870.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 25, Column 2
23 Sarah Catherine HUTSON
28 Elmire TRUS.
32-33 M. date 17 February 1870.
38-39 VITEHENS, James M. and Rebecca J. RYNE.
59 VICK, Louis F., age 21, Hunt County, Texas.
63 LOSSON, A.B.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 26, Column 1
12-13 HUNSACKER, Wm. Sylvester and Villilta Lee ALEXANDER.
20 M. date 14 February 1870.
23 BAILEY, Benjamin H.
39 REED, John W.
44 Isaphenia DYER.
55 Milly J. GREESY.
- Line No. *The Journal* Page 26, Column 2
4 WEBB, B.F.
32 BAILS, E.L.
36 COLY, William A.
43 ROGERS, James
66-67 Thenia E. TRAMEL.
- Records missed
- Book A, Page 168
OHLHOUSEN, S.A., age 28, md.
Sarah E. TEAGUE, age 18, 13 February 1870, C.L. Ward, J.P.
- Book A, Page 176
McCOLISTER, James, md.
Martha Junee HOOD,
27 January 1870, J.C. Williams, Minister.



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January 3, 1884 - May 1, 1884

By: Dorothy Williams

Excerpts printed here are only a small part of local news from *The New Era*. For the full news of this time period, researchers should check the microfilm of this newspaper, as well as the *Fort Smith Elevator* (1878 - 1907) at the Fort Smith Public Library. A row of dots appearing in an excerpt means a part of that article is deleted at that point.

The New Era is a four page paper which contains two pages of national and state news, one page of local news, many advertisements and humorous fillers.

International news which created a great deal of interest in 1884 was the building of the Panama Canal, and editor Dell carried several stories on its progress. Among other state news, there was the discussion of the need for paved streets in Little Rock, as well as in Fort Smith, and railroad bridges were being built across the rivers as railroad lines were expanded. The March 6 issue published a complete list of appointments (pastor and church he was appointed to) made at the conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church held in Little Rock.

Almost every week a list was published of people who had letters at the post office in Fort Smith. Even visitors in the city, for whatever reason, were newsworthy, and river and steamboat news were regular features. When court convened, full accounts are given, including members of the jury.

Many hours of interesting reading awaits the reader who is willing to wade through the microfilm of these newspapers.

January 3, 1884

The Fort Smith Furniture and Lumbering Manufacturing Co. has purchased ground near the cotton compress for building purposes. And still the building boom continues.

Mr. John Gamble of New York is here in the interest of a New York company contemplating the construction of water works here. There is nothing Fort Smith needs worse than water works, and we trust Mr. G's visit will result favorably.

The high liquor license went into effect on Tuesday last, and with it went under a great many saloons, most of them selling out their stock to those who are to

continue in the business. The names of those who have sold out are as follows: Fred Truschel, Benedict Stebler, Charles Mueller, Kennedy & Lane, Riverside, Brown & Co., and Keating & McCauley. The saloon keepers held a meeting at the Senate Club rooms to decide whether the price of drinks should be raised or not, and after a lengthy debate it was decided to let the prices continue the same as before.

Capt. S. J. Scott, while returning from a collecting tour in the Cherokee Nation, last Sunday evening, about 6 o'clock, was halted at the ferry landing, just after reaching this side, by Deputy Marshal Andrews and posse, who were out after a whiskey peddler, they mistaking Capt. Scott for the man they were looking for. Mr. Scott was struck on the head by one of the men, receiving a bad cut. He was then taken to the U.S. Courthouse, the mistake discovered and he was released. The men were placed under \$500 bond each to await their trial.

The Border Rifles' Ball came off as advertised, on Thursday night last at the opera house. The young folks were out in force and finery. Dancing commenced at nine o'clock and was kept up till near twelve, when all repaired to the dining room in the Wiersing Hall, where a splendid supper awaited them, prepared by the ladies of the Christian Church. After supper, the dancers returned to the ballroom and indulged in tripping the light fantastic until four o'clock a.m., when the young folks returned to their homes, after having had, as some expressed it, "a hog killing time." Music was furnished by the Bollinger string band, the best in the city.

MARRIED

At the residence of Mr. John Carnall in this city on Tuesday, January 1, 1884, at 8 a.m., Mr. C.C. Mathies, of the Choctaw Nation, to Miss Annie L. Carnall, niece of Mr. John Carnall, Rev. Mr. Shepard officiating.....

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In Chickasaw Valley, Scullyville County, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, by Elder James F.A. Sisson, according to the Ritual of the African M.E. Church, Mr. George H.W. Cutchlow, of Brazille, Scullyville County, Choctaw Nation, and Miss Emily J. August, of Chickasaw Valley, Scullyville County, Choctaw Nation, on Christmas day, 1883.

The Amity Lodge No. 555, American Legion of Honor, at a recent meeting elected the following officers: R.M. Frye, Commander; Henry Reutzel, Vice-Commander; J.H. McClure, Post Commander; T.P. Winchester, Orator; T.W.M. Boone, Secretary; P.R. Davis, Treasurer; J.W. Morton, Collector; S.J. Scott, Guide; E.F. Stevenson, Warden; J.F. Ford, Sentinel.

Car load potatoes 75¢ a bushel at
BOAS

When you want candy call on August G. Hach, who will give a nice box with every pound, without extra charge.

January 10, 1884

The ice blockade has interfered materially with the railway transfer at Van Buren, and Monday only passengers, mail and express matter were transferred.

This Arctic weather has been rather hard on the street car drivers.

At a recent meeting of the school board, Miss Emma Wheatley was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss McFarland, at an increase in salary of ten dollars per month.

The Emma Abbot Opera Company appears in Little Rock on the 16th. Why cannot we have the same treat? Hearing Abbot once is preferable to going two consecutive weeks to see a third rate theatre.

Misses Maggie Walker, Macha Wilson and Nettie Bostick have returned from a visit to our lovely little sister city, Van Buren.

After some fearfully cold weather last week, came the "beautiful snow" on Sunday night. With alternate freezing and thawing, and no sidewalks, pedestrianism is a difficult matter, and the street cars and hacks are well patronized.

The Arkansas and Poteau rivers have been frozen over in some places during the cold snap we have had the past few days. The steamers Fort Smith, Webb City, and the Jenny May have been unable to leave the wharf on account of the floating ice, and the little steam ferry has also been laid up on that account.

A case of scarlet fever reported in the neighborhood of the Peabody school caused a considerable falling off in the attendance at the school. The board of health has announced, however, that there is no possible danger of infection by school children in passing the house containing the patient.

Sleighb has been the principal amusement since Monday. Gay parties have been out day and night, the silvery moonlight adding to the beauty of the scene, as the sleighs with their merry occupants glided gaily over the beautiful snow. There were several breakdowns and occasional collisions, the screams of the fair occupants being smothered as they were pitched headlong into the snow.

The Fort Smith Building and Loan Association No. 2 was organized by a number of our citizens last Saturday. The capital stock was placed at \$50,000, about \$26,000 of which was subscribed on Saturday. The board organized and elected the following officers: President, S.A. Williams; Secretary, J.S. Williamson; Treasurer, John S. Park; Attorney, T.P. Winchester. The board of directors consists of Messrs. S.A. Williams, W.J. Echols, Geo. Sengel, R.T. Kerr and J.H. Clendenning, H. Reutzel and Wm. Cravens.

Mr. J.B. Williams, the senior member, both in business and good looks, of the firm of Williams Bros., of this city, left on Saturday for Waverly, Tennessee. His object in going was to commit matrimony. He was married on Tuesday, the 8th inst., to Miss Annie Edwards, a charming and accomplished young lady of that city. Mr. Williams and wife are expected here this week, and they will receive a warm welcome home from the innumerable friends of the bridegroom. We wish them a prosperous and happy journey through life, and hope that their "joys may be as deep as the ocean and their sorrows as light as its foam."

THE RAILROAD BRIDGE

The City Council resolved at their last meeting to present Congress with a memorial, asking that the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad be allowed to locate their bridge cross the Arkansas River at whatever point their engineers may select. Work on the much needed bridge would have been commenced ere this, had it not been for the opposition of the Government engineers, who object to having the bridge built where the railroad engineers located it.

The members of the old Garrick Club are preparing an entertainment for our theatre-going citizens, which they will present in a few days. As soon as this takes place, our "Home Dramatic Company," of which Mr. Jno. Park is manager, will present the well known and popular drama, "The Hunchback," one of Kate Claxton's plays. We predict for them a brilliant success, as the members are favorites in social circles, and of well known talent, having displayed their abilities last June in playing "The Lady of Lyons."

The Leap Year Ball given by the young ladies of this city came off Tuesday night last at the opera house. It

was a brilliant affair, and the ladies, young and old, were out in force. Owing to the majority of the young men in this city, each lady escorted two gentlemen, and carried the programme out by calling for them in carriages. The gentlemen seemed to fully enjoy being carefully taken care of, as much as the ladies enjoyed the unusual responsibility. The costumes were lovely, each young lady appearing at her best, in honor of the momentous occasion. The refreshments provided by the ladies were elegant. The floor managers were Misses Lillie Marchum, Agnes Hamilton and Rachel Newman, and most efficient ones they were. The reception committee and the managing committee were also on the alert, and attentive, to the wants of all. The ladies may congratulate themselves that their ball was a success in every way. The music was entrancing, and the dancers enjoyed themselves to their heart's content until early Wednesday morn.

January 17, 1884

Mr. J.H. Hansell, of the Horse Shoe Drug Store, is now connected with the firm of Echols & Johnson; while his interest in the firm of Pruitt and Hansell remains unchanged.

Miss Annie Duval is visiting friends at the capital.

The stores have been filled with wild game of every variety for the past week or so, from a nice, fat buck, down to the plump, juicy quail. The hunting season has been remarkably good of late because of the heavy snow that visited this section.

The steamer Fort Smith was sunk last Friday night while laying at the wharf. The cause of her sinking was the ice rushing against her with such force as to crush in one whole side. The saw mill boat, laying just below the wharf, was also sunk by the ice, and the damage to both boats will be very heavy. A force of men were at work Saturday and Sunday raising them. The steamers Webb City and Jennie May were run up the Poteau River and escaped injury. The ice gorge broke up Saturday afternoon, and the river is now open again.

The ordinance prohibiting animals from running at large on the streets went into effect last Tuesday.

Our business men have been complaining a good deal of late of the bad quality of gas furnished. What's the matter, gas?

At a meeting of the Fort Smith Medical Society last Saturday night, officers for the ensuing year were elected by acclamation, as follows: President, Dr. W.W. Bailey; Vice-President, Dr. J.M. Kelleam; Secretary, Dr. J.E. Bennett; Treasurer, Dr. R.B. King.

Articles of association of the Fort Smith Printing Company were filed with the Secretary of State last week. The company consists of E.C. Johnson, President; J.F. Weaver, Vice-President; Geo. Tilles; Secretary, and Ella Tilles, Director. The capital stock is \$10,000, of which \$1,800 is paid in, and the objects of the company are to print a daily and weekly paper and do job work.

Fort Smith came very near having another disastrous fire on Wednesday night of last week. While policeman McDaniels was walking up the north side of Garrison Avenue about 1:30 a.m., he noticed smoke issuing from one of the windows in the Circuit Court Room, which is situated in the second story of the Kannady block. He immediately crossed the street, ran up the steps leading to the court room, broke open the doors, and found the room filled with smoke. He groped his way along to where he thought the fire to be burning, and found that a small wooden spittoon filled with saw dust, cigar stumps, etc. had caught fire—probably from a lighted cigar stump—and burned up, and the fire had spread to the floor, burning a large hole in it. The policeman ran out and procured water and help and quickly extinguished the fire. Had the flames once gained headway, the whole block would have been consumed. This should prove a warning to careless persons, and is also another call for an efficient fire department.

January 24, 1884

The Arkansas Senators voted for the ratification of the treaty with Mexico, be it said to their honor.

On motion of our Representative in Congress, Hon. John H. Rogers, a few days ago a resolution was adopted calling on the Secretary of the Interior for a copy of the original contract and all subsequent modifications thereof touching the work of improvement on Hot Springs Creek, Hot Springs, Ark.

THE ARKANSAS DELEGATION IN CONGRESS

As a whole, the men representing Arkansas in the Congress of the United States today are without doubt the best lot that has been sent there by the sovereign people since the late unpleasantness. They are workers and progressive men, though some of them may be and doubtless are somewhat inexperienced yet in parliamentary usage. Their appreciation is shown in the places they hold on the committees. Each of our Senators is on three committees, two of each very important ones, viz:

Senator Garland heads the Democratic side of the Judiciary Committee, the most important in the Senate, and is a member of the Committee on Territories and of a select committee to investigate the introduction and spread of epidemic diseases.

Senator Walker is on the committees of Public Land (very important), Indian Affairs, Civil Service and Retrenchment.

In the other House, our five members share eight places on committees, a little above the average, which is 1½ for each member—no small distinction when it is considered that three of the five members are new men.

Hon. Jas. K. Jones is a member of the committee on Ways and Means, the most important of all House committees, a place on which is equal to a chairmanship of any other committee. This is Mr. J.'s second term.

Hon. Poindexter Dunn is on committee on Commerce and on Levees and improvements of the Mississippi, of which latter committees he should have been chairman, instead of second on the list. This is his third term.

Major C. R. Breckenridge is on the important committee of Rivers and Harbors. He is a son of the late Vice-President of the United States, J.R. Breckenridge, and nephew of the famous Presbyterian divine, "Uncle Bob" Breckenridge, a staunch Republican and Chairman Pro Tem of the National Republican Convention at Baltimore in 1864, of which the editor of the *New Era* was a member.

Col. Samuel W. Peel is on the important committee of Indian Affairs and that of Militia. Col. P. is the only native Arkansan on the delegation.

And last, but not least, we have Judge John H. Rogers, of our own city. He seems to be a particular favorite with Speaker Carlisle, for we find him on the committees of Post Office and Post Roads, and of Payment of Pensions, Bounty and Back Pay. He will doubtless make his mark in these positions.

One thing more should be said of the delegation. Though every mother's son of them "fought, bled, and died" once to keep the South everlastingly poor and the hewers of wood and drawers of water for other people, just for the pleasure of holding on to the gentlemen from Africa, they are not Bourbons; or, if any of them ever were, they know better now. They are progressive men, proud of our common country and believe, in all sincerity with their fellow citizens of whatever political faith, that the South is now on the high road to prosperity and power and, with all her infinite resources fully developed, will, ere another generation has passed away, take her proper place, so long deferred, among the great sections of this Union.

Hon. Jordan E. Cravens is in the city visiting his brother, Wm. M. Cravens, Esq.

Mr. Geo. Tilles of the telephone exchange, is preparing to have Fort Smith and Van Buren connected by telephone.

Passenger trains on the Little Rock & Fort Smith Railway will be provided shortly with air brakes, and trains will be enabled to make faster time.

Another of these much to be deplored Gretna Green marriages took place last Saturday, just across the line. It is to be regretted that a minister of the Gospel will sanction these runaway couples, and there should be some means of preventing these so-called weddings by runaway children.

The Little Rock & Fort Smith Railway will run a train on Sunday hereafter, beginning on the 27th inst. This step is taken by the management to meet the necessities of the growing business of the road, and to accommodate the traveling public.

The much talked of new comet has at last made its appearance in the heavens, and can be seen on clear nights, between seven and ten o'clock in the southwest.

MARRIED

EDMONDSON-O'CONNOR—In this city on Monday, Mr. Samuel Edmondson to Miss Annie O'Connor, Rev. Father Smythe, officiating.

Sam's many friends in this city unite in wishing him and his bride much future happiness and prosperity.

January 31, 1884

J.J. Wade, of Paris, Logan County, left that place some three weeks ago for Fort Smith, since which time nothing has been heard of him. As he had some \$2,000 on his person, it is supposed that he has been murdered and robbed.

The Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway Company is taking active steps to develop the coal fields along its line. As soon as the present supply of wood can be worked off, the company will derive all its fuel from the mines. Recent experiments prove that this coal is most desirable for locomotive and other uses.

Messrs. C.M. Cooke and C.H. Eberle, two of our rising young lawyers, have formed a partnership and will go into the real estate business.

We are enjoying beautiful spring-like weather, overcoats are dispensed with and fires are hardly necessary. The sun's rays are rapidly drying up the mud.

The bill donating part of the military reservation at this place to the city of Fort Smith, for the benefit of public schools, passed the Senate last Friday.

At the meeting of our City Council next Monday, several proposals will be presented by capitalists to

provide our city with water works, which are badly needed. It is to be hoped that matters will be facilitated so much that ere many months we may have the desired water system.

The new buildings on the site of those burned a few months since are rapidly approaching completion, but still not the slightest move is made in regard to organizing a fire department. Perhaps after the next extensive conflagration, the City Council and our merchants will bestir themselves. It is rather expensive, though, to replace such large buildings so often.

FEDERAL BUILDINGS AT FORT SMITH

The following is the bill introduced in the House of Representatives by Hon. John H. Rogers for the erection of the much needed Federal buildings in this city. The same bill was, if we mistake not, introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Walker. The buildings the bill makes provision to erect are very much needed and can be put up at a comparatively small cost, as the ground already belongs to the United States, and the wall surrounding the old garrison will more than supply the building stone needed.

A bill to provide for a building for the use of the Federal court, post office, internal revenue and other civil offices, and a United States jail in the city of Fort Smith, Arkansas.....

The Indian Mission Annual Conference of the A.M.E. Church which convened at Brazille, Indian Territory, adjourned Oct. 19, 1883. James F.A. Sisson was appointed Gen. Sup't. of Missions and elected a delegate to the next general conference of this church. The Bishops of the said church have elected Mr. Sisson a delegate to the M.E. General Conference to meet in Philadelphia, Pa., May 1st, 1884. The A.M.E. General Conference is to convene in Baltimore, Md., first Monday in May, 1884.

OUR SCHOOL BOARD

There seems to have been some new blood infused in the school board at the late election. It was time, and a few more of the old members might be retired without very serious consequences to the public interest. When public offices have been held so long by the same men that the management becomes a kind of family affair and their meetings are held at private rooms to which the public cannot demand access, it is time to make a change. Rotation in office, like rotation of crops, has generally a wholesome effect. Nor are we seriously distressed at the election of our quondam pupil, Dr. Eberle, because he is a Catholic. He is not going to turn things up side down, and if he does, why, blame the majority. The *New Era* is and always has been an uncompromising advocate of our American Common School System, and if the system needs a little infusion of vitality here by the introduction of a

Catholic or two, so much the better. It prevents stagnation and nepotism. And if the Catholics attempt to get a share of the public school money for their own denominational Catholic school, why, hit them on the head and say "nary a time," as did the editor of this paper, when he was asked to do so as president of the school board of this city, years ago.

Bye the bye, the proceedings of the last meeting of the school board developed the fact that the Treasurer of the concern had in his possession for the last six years \$1369.50 of Peabody and other funds. Of course, he is an honest man and will promptly pay up. But why hold back this money and draw on the new appropriation for this year? The interest at the per cent of the retained money amounts to \$821.70 for the six years and at the usual bank rate \$1972.08, not counting compound interest. Quite a snug little salary for a school board Treasurer.

Mr. John Guler is the proud possessor of a brand new daughter.

An old lady, Mrs. Hutsett, residing in the eastern part of the city, died last Friday night of an epileptic fit.

February 7, 1884

The gas reservoir is now full and the gas light furnished is excellent.

The city is overstocked with boarding and lodging houses.

Some needed repairs on Knox (No. 6th) Street have been made this week by the chain gang.

Three hundred bales per day is the rate at which the compress is handling cotton.

Rain, rain, rain. Our streets are almost impassable from the incessant rains.

Marriage licenses have been issued this week by County Clerk McClure to Wm. Eubanks and Lora Dabbs, A. Reichart and Mary Reiser, Aaron Brasuel and Mary McClarity.

On Tuesday the 5th, Grandma Euper celebrated the eighty-fourth anniversary of her birthday. We wish the venerable lady many more happy returns.

The 'Frisco train has been detained an hour later than its usual time for arriving, for several days past. The delay was occasioned because of the long bridge above Rudy station having been destroyed by fire.

The thermometer stood at 73 degrees on Monday. Toward nightfall it began raining and continued all day

Tuesday. The weather is still mild, and the mud renders walking almost impossible.

At a meeting of the officers of the Fair Association last Saturday afternoon, the number of directors was increased to eighteen, and the following officers selected: President, I.C. Parker; Vice-President, R.T. Kerr; General Superintendent, W.M. Fishback; Assistant Superintendents, J.H.T. Main and T.F. Moore; Secretary, S.A. Williams; Treasurer, H. Stone.

Oh, for that railroad bridge! What a bonanza it would be for Fort Smith. New residences and business houses would go up more rapidly than they are now doing. We would soon have a boulevard between this city and Van Buren. We would also have a street car extension in that direction, also a line of lamp posts out that way, and many other valuable improvements. Then passengers could keep their seats and be brought into this city without any change, instead of having to leave a comfortable car on the Van Buren side and get into a shabby, third class coach to be brought here. A bridge is a pressing necessity and should be built at once.

The City Council held its regular meeting on Monday night last at the city hall. An ordinance was passed extending the city fire limits from the river to Madison (No. 12th) Street. The salary of city policemen was increased to \$40 per month. An ordinance was read twice and laid over under the rules, which "granted to Charles W. Hill, his associates and assignees, the right to construct, maintain and operate, water works in the city of Fort Smith, also contracting for a supply of water for extinguishing fires and for other purposes."

February 14, 1884

Stop your cough with Grubbs Wild Cherry and Silkweed Balsam, the best cough syrup in the market, at Preuit & Hansell's.

DIED

Mrs. Sarah Bunch, at her home near this city on Tuesday last, aged 87 years. Also, yesterday, of consumption, the wife of J.R. Rutherford, late U.S. Deputy Marshal.

Mr. G.L. Booth, a young man well known in this city, died on Sunday morning last at his home on the Texas road, of consumption, and was buried on Monday in the Catholic cemetery.

Charley Reutzell is happy over his first born, a bouncing boy. We congratulate him.

O.P. Caruth, a prominent citizen of Hackett City, died on Tuesday of last week at his home in that place.

The gambling houses in this town are carried on with the most shameless publicity. Who is to blame?

At six o'clock Tuesday evening the Arkansas River had reached a point within five feet of the big rise of 1877 and was still rising slowly.

There are only two cars running on the street car lines at present. Bad weather and few passengers being the reason.

The river has overflowed on the Cherokee side at a point opposite the compress, and the low lands on that side are now entirely submerged.

Mr. W.J. Johnston has disposed of his interest in the livery and transfer business to Messrs. McLoud & Moore, who will carry on the business at the stand vacated by Mr. Johnston.

The U.S. Court has practically suspended its criminal business, owing to the inability of the witnesses from the Indian Territory to reach this place on account of the floods.

There are several very bad mud holes in the Avenue - in fact, Garrison Avenue is nothing less than a large mud hole itself - that cause a great deal of trouble to teamsters, and many break downs. They should be filled up.

The continued rains have caused the west wall of Guler & Brunoldi's building to sink, and some fears were entertained of its tumbling into Berman's cellar, but the wall was braced by means of iron rods, and it is now thought to be safe, provided it rains no more.

U.S. COURT

The following cases have been disposed of since our last report:

A.C. Stratton pled guilty to cutting timber on government land, and was sentenced to two days in jail and fined \$15. Thomas Bryant pled guilty to the same offense, and was given ten days and fined \$20.

At the last meeting of the school board, it was brought to light that the Treasurer of the Board, H. Stone, had withheld from the funds of the school district of this city for many years the amount of \$1369.50. This money was received from the Peabody fund and individual contributions at a time, when by the rascalities of former county and state officials, all Republicans we are sorry to acknowledge, our public schools were crippled to such an extent that they ceased to exist throughout the state, except in a very few localities, where, by the most strenuous exertions of public spirited men, they maintained a precarious existence.

Even in this city too the public schools were for a long time suspended for want of funds, while every year the people were taxed enormously for the maintenance of public schools which did not exist. This was under Democratic rule, the Democrats needing the money to pay up what they owed to get into power.

Well, here is what Mr. Stone has to say for himself. We take it from the last *Elevator*, which paper, like the *New Era* before it, called attention to the fact:

Fort Smith, Ark., Feb. 5, 1884

Editor's Elevator: Having noticed an article in your paper of February 1st, headed "School Board," in reference to its finances, would say in reply to the same, while this amount appears to be on hand from the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board, it is not at all times in the Treasurer's possession, for the following reason: when the Board makes an appropriation on the Treasury of the Board it also draws for the same amount in each respective amount on the county Treasury, and when the Treasurer of the Board wants this replaced he has to get the like amount from the county Treasury: so at times he has but little on hand, and sometimes this is in state scrip, which has to be sold at the best figures we can get. So on January 19th, 1884, after converting all our state scrip and warrants on the county Treasury into currency funds, we had on hand the sum of \$1369.50. Our books and papers are at all times open for investigation, and we think we have had a good corps of officers at all times—such citizens as the following names: Presidents, J.W. Cunningham, E.R. DuVal, E.J. Brooks, B.F. Atkinson; Secretaries, W.N. Ayers, J.E. Eberle, P.K. Roots, S.A. Williams and Stephen Wheeler; H. Stone, Treasurer.

Well, this is a singular document to come from a school director in a city. But let this pass. Still it is a queer piece of composition in a sense aside from its grammatical aspect. Mr. H. Stone, merchant, cotton buyer, Treasurer of school board, etc., does not acknowledge to have kept for six, seven or eight years a large amount of money due the school board and placed in his hands for disbursement, but says "it appears" to be on hand. Why thus prevaricate? Why don't he say: "Yes, I did have it and used it".

Mr. Morrow, county Treasurer, called on us Monday to make some explanations. He says that the people in the country don't understand this matter and confound him with the treasure of the school board.

He says that when called upon by some members of the Board to explain how the amount of \$1369.50 was never accounted for by him, he very properly said, that that amount was contributed outside of the taxes and hence he had nothing to do with it, but it passed directly into the hands of the board. Mr. Morrow says that he was always very accommodating to the school board and often advanced money before he could by law be made to pay over; notably last year when he

advanced Mr. Stone over \$800, when the latter had in his position the recently discovered \$1369.50. Of course, Mr. Morrow's friends will see that no blame can be attached to him in this matter.

H. Stone's reply in the *Elevator* speaks for itself. If anybody can make anything out of it, he can do more than we can. He leaves the fact of having withheld a large amount of public money as dark as ever. Nor can he hide himself over his own certificate that H. Stone, Treasurer, and others made such excellent officers. We well remember that when Dr. DuVal, J.W. Cunningham, W.N. Ayers and others were on the school board, some one of the name of Stone said that H. Stone was the only gentleman on the school board. It then made the town laugh, as H. Stone's article in the *Elevator* now does. But that little matter of the Peabody and other funds retained will have to be explained all the same, else somebody gets hurt.

U.S. PATENTS

John S. Duffie, a well known lawyer of this State, but now in the patent business at Washington, will furnish the *New Era* every week a list of patents granted to citizens of this State. Maj. Duffie's card will be found in this paper.

For the week ending Jan 22, 1884, Charles C. Montague of Augusta, for a "Bail Band Tightner".

For the week ending Jan 22, Larkin F. Johnson of Springdale, "House Cleaning Implement".

The Chautauqua Circle will celebrate Longfellow's birthday next Wednesday the 27th, at the residence of Mr. J.H. Hamilton. The exercise will be very interesting.

Some time ago, a colored boy known here as Horace Greeley was convicted of larceny and sent to the state penitentiary for one year for stealing a mocking bird from Miss Nellie Lane. His attorney appealed the case on the ground that a mocking bird was not personal property, hence the theft of one was not a felony. The jury thought it was, however, and the Supreme Court has just confirmed their decision. Just think of the amount one young rascal has cost the taxpayers for stealing a bird! Which is cheapest, education and virtue or ignorance and vice? This is a good theme for the Teachers' Convention now in session here, to discant on.

A petition has been circulated among the Fort Smith bar asking the President to appoint Judge Parker to fill the void made vacant by the resignation of Judge McCrary. When Fort Smith wants to get rid of anyone, she usually carries her point.

Yes, yes, boys. But, smart as our lawyers are, they are nonplussed at your suggestion "to fill a void made vacant." Please tell them what that means.

February 21, 1884

The U.S. Grand Jury was discharged Tuesday, after having found sixty true bills, seven of which were for murder.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Garrett died suddenly last Sunday of croup, and was buried the following day in the city cemetery.

All sessions of the Teachers Institute, both day and night, are open to visitors free of charge, also the children's entertainment Friday evening. Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

The proceedings of the Teachers Convention, which met in the Music Hall in this city yesterday, are very interesting. The exercises will be continued today and tomorrow also. The music is very good, Miss Griffing having supervision of it during the day and Prof. Botefuhr at night.

At the opening of the Teachers Institute yesterday, Mr. Atkinson in his address said: "Do we correctly estimate the life of patient toil and almost paternal anxiety of our faithful teachers?" The corps of teachers in the public schools at Fort Smith, all females, can't endorse that. We feel like suggesting "maternal" instead of "paternal", but, on second thought, conclude that it would be too previous. Mr. Atkinson's address contained some very pertinent points, and he seems to understand fully the importance of public schools.

We received a visit yesterday from Mr. G.C. Atchison, traveling correspondent of the *American Manufacturer and Iron World*, published at Pittsburg, Pa. Mr. Atchison spent a week in our city, writing it up. He says that very little is known abroad of the wonderful resources of our country, and he was very much surprised to find what a wealth of coal and iron this state possessed. His object is to present Arkansas in a true light to capitalists and manufacturers. His letter, which will appear next week in the *Manufacturer*, will be a five-column one, and no doubt ultimately result in much benefit to Arkansas, and Fort Smith especially.

Mr. John Gardner has been lying dangerously ill for some weeks past, with softening of the brain, but is now improving.

February 28, 1884

FOR SHERIFF

We are authorized to announce J. Henry Carnall as a candidate for Sheriff of Sebastian County, subject to the action of the Democratic County Convention.

THE U.S. PENSIONERS

At our request, the Secretary of the Interior has forwarded to this office a list of persons drawing pensions from the government in this county, and we publish it with pleasure, knowing it to be of interest to our readers. Much has been said in the press of frauds having been committed upon the Government by persons not entitled to the benefits conferred by law upon soldiers and their relatives. If there are any such, let them be pointed out.....The cause of disability is given, amount of monthly allowance, and date of first payment.....

Fort Smith

James H. Cook, injury to abdomen; \$18 since March, 1869.

Thomas Williams, amputation right leg; \$18 since March, 1869.

Daniel M. Sykes, wound right hand, loss 3rd finger; \$3 since July, 1869.

Samuel Peters, gunshot wound in right leg; \$14 since October, 1870.

James Water, disease of eyes; \$8 since July, 1877.

William Boon, injury of spine; \$18 since July, 1877.

Williams J. Cleaveland, disease of heart; \$18 since July, 1877.

Linderman Barney, gunshot wound right hand; \$4 since September, 1873.

Wm. Fisher, wound right leg; \$8 since February, 1874.

Alexander F. Burns, three minors; \$14 since June, 1881.

Tabitha Ann Sehorn, widow 1812; \$8 since May, 1880.

James H. Clendenning, gunshot wound right thigh and wrist; \$17 since May, 1874.

Thomas Guner, injury to left side; \$18 since August, 1880.

Mathew Grey, chronic rheumatism; \$18 since June, 1880.

Andrew Gist, disease of eyes; \$12 since August, 1880.

Eleanor McGuinniss, widow; \$8 since October, 1867.

Philomena Hook, widow; \$19 since August, 1882.

Mary Preston, widow; \$8 since May, 1866.

Cornelius Eagan, shattered right leg; \$14 since February, 1867.

Williams Dillon, gunshot wound left leg; \$14 since November, 1866.

Joshua D. Downing, gunshot wound right leg; \$8 since January, 1864.

Isham W. Daniel, disease of heart; \$12 since March, 1871.

Francis T. Freer, arrow wound left side hip and thigh; \$8 since February, 1881.

Darris G. Foster, injury to abdomen; \$8 since April, 1875.

Williams S. Sharp, loss one eye and lower jaw; \$18 since April, 1875.

Thomas H. Scott, impure vaccination; \$24 since April, 1875.

Martin Stedzel, injury to abdomen; \$8 since October, 1874.

John H. Sims, gunshot wound right side of abdomen; \$4 since November, 1868.

Benjamin Simmons, gunshot wound and fracture of right arm; \$6 since March, 1881.

William Ward, gunshot wound both thighs; \$8 since March, 1882.

Hiram L. Wyndham, loss of part of index finger; \$2 since May, 1879.

John H. Parrish, total blindness; \$72 since November, 1874.

John Bupp, gunshot wound right hand; \$4 since April, 1866.

Charles Bracht, gunshot wound of left thigh; \$10 since January, 1866.

Richard G. Bulgin, gunshot wound of left thigh; \$18 since January, 1866.

William Roller, disease of lungs; \$8 since June, 1880.

Samuel Richards, gunshot wound right ankle; \$4 since July, 1882.

Peter H. Rice, gunshot wound left forearm; \$6 since September, 1861.

William Vanderpool, injury to abdomen and var. veins; \$16 since February, 1868.

John Vaughn, gunshot wound left side; \$10 since November, 1877.

(Editor's Note: The complete list published also included pensioners from Bloomer, Chocoville, Dayton, Enterprise, Greenwood, Hackett City, Hartford, Iparo, Lavaca, Massard, Montrose and Witcherville.)

ARKANSAS PATENTS

Issued to February 19, 1884, and reported to the *New Era* by J.S. Duffie, Patent Attorney:

Anderson D. Holland, Newport, Ark., "Combined Lock and Latch."

Melchesendeck Y. Thompson, Arkadelphia, Ark., "Press for Wheat Bran, etc."

Frederick C. Morrow, Wallaceburg, Ark., "Device for Hiving Bees."

March 6, 1884

Mr. Max Heyman died at his residence in this city on Saturday, and his remains were interred Sunday in the Hebrew cemetery.

Hon. John H. Rogers, our young Representative in Congress from this city, is making his mark already. He can make himself heard, and what he says is to the point. He has introduced a number of bills and resolutions and is pressing them with a vigor. He will doubtless have no difficulty, with the aid of his colleagues, to put through the Fort Smith Reservation Bill and that for

erecting public building here. His speeches on the Hot Springs Reservation and the Chalmer-Manning contest were listened to with great attention by the House. He is on good terms with the Speaker and generally manages "to catch his eye." And then, to divide the honors, he has what helped to make George Washington, a good wife that fires his ambition and helps him not a little, and we don't care if he gets mad for saying so.

The Chautauqua Circle held a very interesting meeting at Mr. J.S. Williamson's on Monday night. Officers were elected for the ensuing three months, by ballot. Mr. Morton Rutherford was chosen President, Miss Josie Hamilton, Mrs. J.M. Tenney and Miss Wickersham were candidates for the vice presidency, and the contest was a spirited one. On the sixth ballot, Mrs. Tenney obtained a majority of votes and was declared elected. Miss Dell was elected Secretary and Miss McClure Critic. The next meeting will be at the residence of Mr. G.G. Perkins, when in addition to the usual lesson Miss Wickersham will read an essay on French history.

ARKANSAS PATENTS

Issued to February 26, 1884, and reported to the *New Era* by J.S. Duffie, Patent Attorney:

Williams F. Evans and J.B. Fielding of Prescott, "Churn Motor."

Daniel A. Gounds and J.R. Gibson of Hope, "Car-Coupling."

Frank Haynes of Monticello, "Back Band Hook."

The first two mentioned patents were procured by John S. Duffie of Washington, D.C.

\$100,000 FOR FORT SMITH

The U.S. Senate on Monday passed the bill making appropriations for public building, which includes one hundred thousand dollars for this city for the erection of a U.S. Courthouse, post office and other public offices. This is good news indeed, for, aside from the money spent on these buildings, the necessity of erecting them proves Fort Smith to be a rising city, and this will increase its boom. The railroad bridge over the Arkansas River about to be built will be another great advantage to us.

Three car loads of machinery for the ice and rope factory were brought in Sunday evening over the 'Frisco. Work on the building is rapidly progressing.

The city will have six miles of pipe when the water works are constructed, thus a very large portion of the city will have efficient protection from fire.

Mr. Hill has obtained the contract to construct water works in this city. Work will be commenced next month, and when completed, the cost will be about

\$125,000. To have this amount expended here will make business brisk and give employment to some 200 people.

March 13, 1884

A fire broke out last Sunday morning about 11:30 o'clock at the residence of Mr. Henry Parker on Sycamore (No. C) Street, originating from a stove in the bedroom. The contents of the building were mostly all saved by the timely arrival of help, but the house was entirely consumed. Mrs. Parker was severely burned about the hands and face while trying to extinguish the flames. Loss of house about \$600. The hook and ladder company did good work pulling down the adjoining outhouses and parts of the burned building.

John Guler is having the second story of his business house partitioned off into rooms to be fitted up for offices. The first floor is to be occupied by his confectionery establishment, and he is having it fitted up first class in every respect. The back part of the store is to be divided into two rooms with a hall between, to be used, one as an ice cream parlor and the other as the candy shop, while the front part of the building is to be occupied by his confectionery, fruit and cigar stands. The building is amply provided with gas fixtures throughout, and when completed will be the finest establishment of the kind in the city.

ARKANSAS PATENTS

Issued to March 4, 1884, and reported to the *New Era* by J.S. Duffie, Patent Attorney:

Williams A. Sorelis, Blugen, patent for "Lubricator."

Sanford C. Bolling, Fort Smith, Trade Mark: "Buster" to be applied to ague medicines.

James M. Sparks and Ada Leonora Bolling of Fort Smith, Trade Mark: "Bullets" to be applied to pills.

John Gorde and John M. Kelso, Label: "Dr. John Gorde's Celebrated Chills and Fever Tonic" to be applied to chill and fever tonic.

A NEW RAILROAD FOR FORT SMITH

Articles of association of the Fort Smith & Sabine Pass Air Line Railway were filed with the Secretary of State Saturday. The road will begin here and run by the way of Greenwood, in this county, through Scott, Polk, Sevier, Little River and Miller counties to Texarkana. The capital stock is \$4,000,000. One thousand dollars for each mile of proposed road is reported to have been paid up, upon which the company will begin work.

At a meeting of the stockholders, John Carnall, C.B. Neal, W.B. Turman, L.N. Byrnes and C.H. Wheeler were elected directors.

James Kempner Tiller, son of Mr. E.F. Tiller, died last Sunday in this city, in his eleventh year.

March 20, 1884

FORT SMITH AND HER FUTURE

We find the following in a recent number of the *American Manufacturer and Iron World*, published at Pittsburg, Pa.:

This burg, with her 9,500 people, comes pretty near being the magnetic centre of this country. In every direction, towns and cities are exerting themselves to get connection with Fort Smith. No man coming to this place, and becoming familiar with her undeveloped resources, but will admit that some day—and that not far distant—there will be concentrated here millions of wealth in manufacturing, banking and other pursuits of commerce, and the development of the coal and iron districts adjacent to the city will also necessitate an expenditure of large amounts of capital..... The iron and manganese, if no other mineral is ever found, is sufficient to make this one of the richest counties in the state. A large force of men.....have been at work the past three months cutting those monster veins, thoroughly testing the quantity of them, and report that the supply is certainly inexhaustible. On Manganese Mountain, a cut forty feet wide, two hundred feet long, and from four to ten feet deep, has been made, showing a grade of manganese ore that is pronounced by experts to be the finest for Bessemer steel in the world. If this is true.....when taken into consideration that large veins of hematite ore are found close by, with coal less than forty miles away, an estimate of the value of this property can hardly be made, and when opened by the railroads, which will be done this year, no section will have a greater voice in the iron and steel markets of the land than this.....

Fort Smith's building boom still continues in full blast, and now buildings are going up all over the city.

The new furniture in the Western Bank of Arkansas has been put in and is solid as well as elegant.

The members of the Fort Smith Junior Brass Band decided at their last meeting to disband and accordingly did so.

Building in every direction is going on in spite of weather or high water. The "Forks in the Road" are building out into a good-sized town, with stone buildings, iron front, etc., etc.

Judge Thompson, Treasurer of the Choctaw Nation, died last week and was buried at Skullyville with Masonic honors, a number of Masons from this city attending. The deceased was the husband of a niece of our townsman, Mr. J.R.A. Hendry.

Those of our citizens interested in the organizing of

a jockey club here met at the City Hall last Friday night and perfected such an organization under the name of The Jockey Club of Northwestern Arkansas and the Indian Territory. Officers were elected and committees appointed to solicit subscriptions, fix date and place of holding races, etc., after which the meeting adjourned to meet again at the City Hall tomorrow night.

The ladies of the Baptist Church have a social tomorrow night at the residence of Dr. R.D. Seals on Vine (No. G) Street.

Orders from the surrounding country for good liquors at very low figures, whether by the jug or keg, will be promptly attended to. We guarantee our liquors to be pure and of the obtainable quality. M. Gans & Co., wholesale and retail liquor dealers, 109 Garrison Avenue.

Rev. Lawrence Smythe, for a quarter of a century the pastor of the Catholic Church, has associated with him now the Rev. Father Mureil, the flock having become too large under his faithful administration for one shepherd to manage. His brother, Rev. M. Smythe, is retiring for the present on account of poor health.

MARRIED

The social event of this week was the wedding yesterday of Mr. W.L. Reeves and Miss Ida B. Williams at the Methodist Church. The church was prettily decorated for the occasion with evergreens and hyacinths. There were three arches of cedar. The one through which the bridal couple entered had an immense "W" suspended in it likewise. As the contracting parties entered the church, the organ pealed forth a wedding march, while a beautiful chorus by a special choir was sung with much spirit. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. Boswell, pastor of the M.E. Church.

After the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Reeves were driven at once to the residence of Mr. Stephens on Vine Street, where they will board for the present, until their residence is completed. Our young friends begin life under most auspicious circumstances. Their future is bright, and they have the earnest good wishes of hosts of friends and acquaintances for their prosperity and happiness.

SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY

Capt. W.H. Rogers on Monday sold to Mr. John A. Gallagher the property in antebellum days known as the hole in the wall, which burned down in November, 1872, while occupied as post office, U.S. Court, etc. The amount paid was \$1500. At one time, it could hardly have been bought for \$10,000.

A petition signed by all business men and property owners in the city has been forwarded to our Representatives in Congress, asking Government aid to stop

the washing away of the river bank near the gas works, compress, oil mills, ice factory and other works of great public importance. We trust the petition will be favorably acted upon.

Everybody, even strangers, remark that the quality of gas furnished by the gas company is the very best. The light in front of the *New Era* office is so bright that some of the younger V.D.'s can read a newspaper in their office without any additional light, though the old man can't, not even with specs.

Messrs. Boas and Woodson are about to inaugurate a new branch of business, viz: running refrigerator cars from Arkansas City to Fort Smith, containing fruits, vegetables, oysters, and all perishable groceries, and deliver them fresh to their customers. The business is doubtless a paying one and under the lead of the gentlemen engaged in it will be a success.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Last Monday, the Irish Catholics of this city celebrated St. Patrick's Day by an entertainment at Catholic Hall with music and a speech by Mr. Taliaferro on the subject of the day. The attendance was very good, and all went off satisfactorily. We are indebted to Mr. P.T. Devaney for some tickets for admission.

ARKANSAS PATENTS

Issued to March 11, 1884, and reported to the *New Era* by J.S. Duffie, Patent Attorney:

Andrew J. Madra of Fort Smith, patent for "Seed Planter."

Stephen A. Nolan of Searcy, patent for "Saddle-Stirrup."

Edward H. Tanuchill of Malvern Junction, patent for "Tag-Holder."

March 27, 1884

Keep a file of your newspapers, especially the local ones. It is but little trouble or expense; and the satisfaction, years hence, of reading a continuous history drawn from everyday life of the country or your own neighborhood is far greater than reading your paper of today. Just come to the *New Era* office and see some of the volumes of papers, neatly bound, published twenty or thirty years ago. The *New Era* keeps the best and most extensive file of newspapers in the state. One reason of it is, it has never changed in politics or publisher for almost a quarter of a century.

Mr. Eugene Marchant, a well known colored man of this city, died last night of heart disease. He had been on a fishing tour on Poteau during the day.

Miss Laura Mathes and Mr. John Burks were married last evening at the residence of the bride's par-

ents, Rev. W.A. Sample officiating. The happy couple were the recipients of many valuable presents from their friends. We wish them a pleasant journey through life.

The new bell on the yard engine of the L.R.&F.S. depot is a sweet improvement on the old cracked thing that for months past sounded its horrible shrieks at all hours of the night to the disgust of everybody and the terror of all babies within six blocks.

Mr. John Gardner, one of our oldest citizens, died last night. Mr. Gardner had been ill for some time, but his many friends hoped for his ultimate recovery. He was 73 years old and a native of Maine. The funeral takes place today from his residence on Mulberry (North B) Street.

Mrs. General Bonneville, accompanied by her brother Albert Neis, is contemplating a trip to Europe this season at the advice of her physicians. We trust the trip will benefit her. And that puts us in mind that we also have been longing for years to take a trip across the ocean to visit our kindred there and the graves of our ancestors. But there is no such good fortune in store for the editor of the oldest Republican paper in the South. He can sacrifice his whole life for the success of the Republican party, but when it comes to the "reward", some ring man gets away with it.

We are glad to see our young friend Henry Pape getting stout again and overcoming a serious illness. Now get away from business, Henry, and travel awhile. You can afford it.

Mrs. E. Baird, wife of Mr. John Baird, formerly a resident of Fort Smith and proprietor of the Baird House here, died on the 18th inst. in Muskogee, I.T., of pneumonia.

T.C. Spicer, a cattle dealer, died suddenly Monday evening of heart disease at the residence of Mr. Gabe Payne, just opposite the city.

DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN

Mr. J.P. Clark died last Sunday morning at 2 o'clock a.m. at his residence in the eastern part of this city. Mr. Clark had been ill and quite feeble for several months past, and his death was not unexpected. He has been a resident of this city for many years and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. He was chief clerk of the post office when the editor of the *New Era* was Postmaster, and in that position was conspicuous for his competency and integrity. At the time of his death, he was bailiff of the U.S. Court, which position he has held for several years. He was also organist at the Presbyterian Church and a member of the Jacques de Commandery. He leaves quite a large family to mourn

his decease. The funeral occurred on Sunday afternoon.

ARKANSAS PATENTS

Issued to March 11, 1884, and reported to the *New Era* by J.S. Duffie, Patent Attorney:

George W. Todd, Fort Smith, patent for "Cotton Harvester."

Helen M. Snyder, Pine Bluff, patent for "Shoelace Fastener."

April 3, 1884

Dr. Smith performed the very delicate and dangerous operation last week of removing a cataract from the eyes of Mr. Joseph Dunlap, the aged father of Dr. A. Dunlap of this city. Hopes are entertained that his sight will be entirely restored, in spite of his advanced age.

Ben Cisker, an old and industrious colored citizen, died last Monday of consumption, and was buried on Wednesday morning.

Julian, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Meek of this city, died on Monday last of cerebro spinal meningitis, and was buried the same evening in the city cemetery.

Lelia, the four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Bomford, died last Saturday at Oak Bower. The parents have our sympathy in their sad affliction.

DIED

At Oxford, Miss., on Saturday, March 15, 1884, Francis Devereux, wife of Peyton H. Skipwith and eldest daughter of the late Rev. Leonida Polk.

The deceased was the mother of Mr. J.A. Skipwith of this city.

April 10, 1884

Bertie, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell Leflore, died last Tuesday night very suddenly. They have the sympathy of a host of friends in their bereavement.

Hurry up the sprinkler. Every business on Garrison Avenue ought to subscribe liberally. It is an absolute necessity, all the more so because our chief street is still being periodically paved with dirt.

The Episcopal Church has received an elegant new organ.

The Phoenix block is now finished and has risen from its ashes more imposing than ever. Berman's building on the corner of Howard Street, the last to go up, was finished this week in just 17 working days, exclusive of foundation, which is very deep and solid. And here we ought to mention that the elegant corni-

ces of galvanized iron on the latter building were made here in this city by Mr. August Reichert, the tinner and hardware man, this being the first attempt of this kind. Hereafter, that kind of work won't be ordered from abroad.

Japanese Socials are the latest. There will be one at the residence of Mr. B.F. Atkinson on the 18th for the benefit of the Presbyterian Church. A nice supper will be served, and the waiters, composed of a number of our young ladies and gentlemen, will be attired in Japanese costumes, in full. All the table decorations will also be in Japanese style. One young gentleman will impersonate a Chinaman and armed with chopsticks will demolish a bowl of rice for the amusement of the spectators. The vocal and instrumental music will also be very good. The admission is only 25 cents, and much amusement is promised as the ladies will spare no pains to make the affair a success.

The superintendent of the 'Frisco, Col. C.W. Rogers, has gone to New York to see about pushing the road south from here.

Professor Pharazyn, illusionist and ventriloquist, will hold forth at the Opera House April 28th, 29th, and 30th.

ARKANSAS PATENTS

Issued to March 25, 1884, and reported to the *New Era* by J.S. Duffie, Patent Attorney:

Louis Andrews, Arkansas City, patent for "Division Plate for Oil Presses."

Andrew J. Marberry, Cabot, patent for "Cultivator."

April 17, 1884

The Ladies Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church proposes giving a Japanese Tea at the residence of Mr. B.F. Atkinson, Tuesday evening, April 22nd. Admission 25 cents. They will be glad to meet as many of their friends as desire to enjoy the delights of rice and chopsticks, with some delightful modern improvements.

The sudden death of Bertie Leflore, youngest son of Col. and Mrs. Leflore, of which brief mention was made in our last, was a sad affair. The Col. and his wife had just returned from Washington, whither Bertie had accompanied them, and was taken ill in a few hours and was no more. The many friends of the bereaved parents and the friends that little Bertie made at Washington in that quiet, refined, Christian home, where the writer of these lines has spent so many pleasant days, will be shocked to hear of it. But such are the vicissitudes of life. In the midst of life, we are in death.

ACT 1

Eight p.m. Her mother keeps a hashery. She was eighteen, very pretty, and wanted to get married badly. The young man had his horse tied behind the house, saddled and ready to elope to Texas. He kept a Blind Tiger at Alma and the Grand Jury was after him. He had just stepped out to get a nag and side saddle. Her trousseau was all ready, tied in a bundle, ready to be tied behind her on the gallant steed. Mother praying to let her daughter die before she should go to Texas with that man.

Enter Officer Cox. Talks to the girl. Knows of a better match. Points with sorrow to the head of the hashery and the grief of the young ones. "Will he marry me right off?" says she. "He will," says the gallant Cox. "Then on with the dance before he comes back with the side saddle," quoth she. Clerk McClure got up out of bed in a jiffy to grant the license, and Squire Edmondson was summoned to inflict the extreme penalty of the law.

ACT 2

Place: the hashery. Time: nine p.m. Young man with side saddle at back door. Officer Cox, Squire Edmondson, bride, new lover, mother-in-law, etc., etc. in front room. Sam does his duty and makes the twain one. Mother-in-law is happy. So is the bride. So is the groom. So is Cox, who is the first to kiss the bride, and then goes and engages the bridal chamber, room No. 14 at the Grand Central, for the happy couple. Young man from Alma slopes for Texas.

All this happened night before last. For further particulars, apply to Dep. Constable Cox, who is the boss hand to make the course of true love run smooth. We almost forgot to give the names of the happy couple, Mr. John Hendrix and Miss Lucy Orr.

A GOOD SHOWING

The taxes of this city and district, very heavy as they are on property of nearly or quite two millions, have been paid all but \$202.39. The delinquent property was sold last Monday. This is an excellent showing for our rising town, proving the solidity of business circles and permanency of improvements of the rise of property.

DIED

Reutzel - At midnight on Sunday last, April 13th, of congestion of the brain, after a short illness, Willie, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reutzel, aged two months.

Brietz - On Saturday night near midnight, at the residence of Mr. Thos. Vernon, of congestion of the bowels, after but few days illness, J.E. Brietz, for many years a resident of this city.

He was buried Sunday afternoon, the funeral being one of the largest ever witnessed here and attended by many of our best citizens. The floral offerings by the ladies were both numerous and rich, showing the regard the deceased was generally held in.

Mr. Brietz was a printer well known in western Arkansas for many years. We first met him in 1869, when he came here from Tahlequah, I.T.....The deceased was a native of North Carolina.....He was about forty years old and of a pleasant, cheerful disposition, which gained him many friends. He had been in robust health up to his last illness and his death was the first intimation many of our citizens had of his mortal illness. He suffered severely, but was conscious to within a couple of hours of his dissolution. Rev. W.A. Sample of the Presbyterian Church impressively conducted the obsequies.

Peace to his ashes.

April 24, 1884

Mr. Henry Fishback, brother of Mr. W.M. Fishback, died at his home in Carrollton, Ill., last Monday.

It is stated on good authority that Huntington of the Chesapeake and Ohio, California Southern and California Central railroads, has obtained control of the San Francisco road and has ordered work to be commenced at once to extend the line from Fort Smith to Dennison, Texas. This, in connection with the orders to build the bridge at Van Buren across the Arkansas, will create a boom and will be good news to all the country south of this city.

May 1, 1884

ARKANSAS

"As it is and as people abroad think it is," a fine, large photo-lithograph executed in New York from a pen and ink sketch by Mrs. A. A. Dell. Get a copy and send another to friends abroad. Samples ready for mailing at this office or Botefuhr's new depot. Also, photograph copies, album size. By circulating these graphic sketches, you help Arkansas boom along.

Royal, five-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J.G. Miller, died last Monday of diphtheria, and was buried on Tuesday. The bereaved parents have our sympathy in this affliction.

Charles Reuff, a young man formerly employed on Baxter & Powell's hack line, died last Tuesday morning at his home in this city, of consumption.

The steamer Peerless sank in the Poteau River Tuesday morning about three o'clock at the coal mines a few miles up the river. All the crew were asleep at the time, and several narrowly escaped drowning.

Mrs. Grober, wife of an old German citizen, died last Friday morning of pneumonia, after a short illness, and was buried on the afternoon of the same day in the city cemetery.

As a sample of the value of property in this city, we

quote a sale made on Monday by Mrs. Emma Johnson, in which she sold five acres of land just within the city limits to Mr. J.K. Foltz for \$3,000.

The Sebastian County Medical Society held its regular monthly meeting on Monday night at the office of Drs. Smith and Eberle. Several visiting members were present, and the discussions were quite interesting.

The Chautauqua Society celebrated the anniversary of Shakespeare's birthday on Tuesday evening at the residence of Col. Wm. M. Cravens. The evening's exercises were extremely entertaining and very much enjoyed by all present.

At a recent meeting of the City Council, the ordinance entitled "an ordinance fixing and establishing fire limits guarding against danger and accidents by fire," was amended by adding the words, "nor shall any cotton gin or steam mill of any kind be permitted within the fire limits, except such as are now within said limits." Violation of this ordinance is punishable by a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars.

The Fort Scott and Gulf Road is being quietly but speedily extended toward this city. If the right of way through the Indian Territory is granted, as it should be at once, the road will most probably be finished this year.

"Compliments of the Ice Factory," were the words on a card which, together with a beautiful bouquet of choice flowers, was frozen in the center of a block of ice weighing 125 pounds, presented to this office last Thursday by the genial proprietors of the ice factory. It was really a pretty sight to see the delicate, brilliantly colored flowers frozen in the clear, pure ice, and they were heartily admired by many.....Our thanks are tendered Mr. Cherry for his icy remembrance, which was thoroughly appreciated. The factory is now turning out the pure ice, in large blocks of a uniform size, and can supply all demand.

A MARKET HOUSE

One of the things needed here even more than street railways, gas, water works and other necessary conveniences is a market, or public market house, such as exists in every town and ought to have existed here fifteen or twenty years ago. Of course, some people will object. There is always a "dog in the manger" in every good, wholesome, necessary reform. It would be folly to attempt to demonstrate that Fort Smith, a city of 10,000 people with an upward boom that will make it the Kansas City of the Southwest before many years, should have a public market, just like every other town on the face of the globe, where people can buy and sell at their convenience.

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NOTES:

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