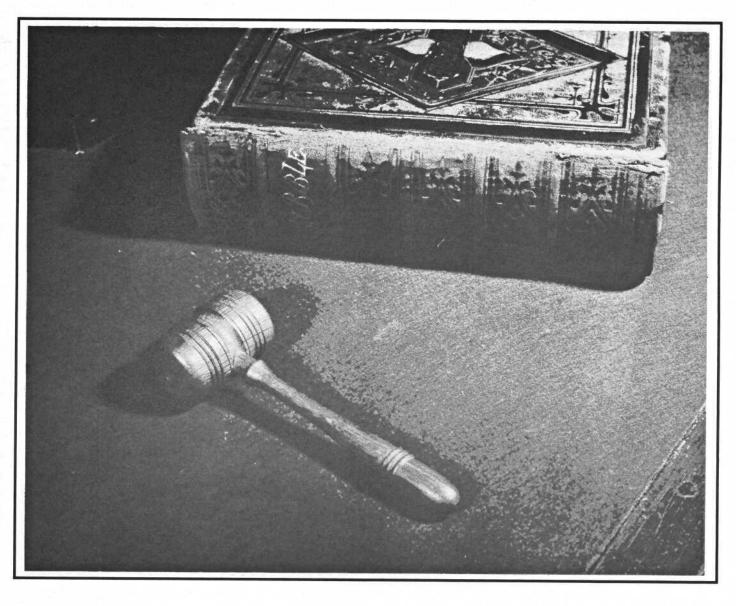
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Dear Readers:

At last, THE CUMULATIVE INDEX TO VOLUMES I THRU IX OF THE JOURNAL OF THE FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. is ready for printing — expected date from printers is September 15, 1987. 230 pages, perfect bound.

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This index greatly enhances the use of *The Journal* and will be a valuable help to student, historical and genealogical researchers and casual readers alike.

In this issue, we introduce four writers who have not written for *The Journal* before. They are: U.S. District Judge Morris S. Arnold, Western District of Arkansas; Dr. Nudie Eugene Williams, Professor of Black History at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville; Mary Lou Jacobsen, President of the Fort Smith Historical Society; and Joyce Page, member of the well known Reynolds family of Fort Smith.

While we are welcoming these writers, we encourage each of you to share with us any story on Fort Smith history you may have, or wish to research and write. If you need assistance with writing the story, contact me — help is available.

We call your attention to a new feature — the list of Annual Business Sponsor Members. The new Annual Business Sponsor Membership, with a membership fee of \$50.00, was added to types of memberships in April of this year, and we appreciate the support of these businesses which have responded so promptly.

Our next issue (April, 1988) will feature the exciting story of Charles Burns and his family. Burns joined the U.S. Army in New York, traveled just about all over the country with his wife and family, and settled in Fort Smith in 1865, where, among other things, he served under Judge Parker as Jailer for the federal jail. He was the grandfather of Francis Burns, who, along with his wife, Sue, own and operate Burns Flower Shop in Fort Smith. Francis recently made his grandfather's papers and other memorabilia available to the Fort Smith National Historic Site where they are on display through September.

We will also carry more biographies of persons associated with the federal court of the Western District of Arkansas, judges, attorneys, clerks, etc., and other bits of our heritage.

Thank you all for your letters and expressions of support and your continuing interest in Fort Smith history.

Amelia Martin, Editor

Hnited States Court for the Mestern District of Arkansas

United States Distsrict Judge Morris S. Arnold

When, in 1804, Arkansas became part of the United States by virtue of Jefferson's Louisiana Purchase, it became for the first time subject to the legislative jurisdiction of Congress. All of Louisiana was at first attached to the Indian Territory as, believe it or not, a kind of county, but thereafter Arkansas was, successively, part of the Territories of Louisiana (1804-1812), Missouri (1812-1819), and, finally, Arkansas (1819-1886). During this time, various court systems were erected to serve the people of our state, and since these were created by Congress, or by territorial legislatures set up by Congress, the people who served on them were, in a sense, federal judges. The first judge of the United States to sit in Arkansas was probably Captain George Armistead, the American officer in charge of the Garrison at Arkansas Post. He was acting as a Justice of the Peace there as early as 1808 and perhaps before. The first lawyer to sit on a bench in Arkansas was George C. Bullitt who came to Arkansas Post from Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, in 1814, to fill a position that Congress had created especially for Arkansas the same year.2

Of course, a very large number of people occupied judicial positions in Arkansas prior to Arkansas becoming a state in 1836.3 In that year, the district of Arkansas was also created, and Benjamin Johnson became the first incumbent United States District Judge in the state. He is therefore usually thought of as Arkansas' first federal judge, and certainly he was the first judge in Arkansas appointed by the president pursuant to the powers conferred on him by Article I of the United States Constitution. He served until his death in 1849.

On March 3, 1851, the District of Arkansas was split into two districts, Eastern and Western, but there was only one federal judge in the state, who had to serve both districts, until March 3, 1871, when William Story became the first judge to be commissioned in the Western District of Arkansas alone. Story was a carpetbagger and his tenure was hardly distinguished. He was accused of accepting bribes and was forced to resign in 1874 to escape impeachment.⁴

The jurisdiction exercised by the United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas in its early days was somewhat complex. It had, of course, the same jurisdiction as any federal district court in the country: It was authorized to entertain admiralty cases, minor criminal cases, and some

other limited classes of cases.5 But the judge for the Western District of Arkansas was also given the power to exercise the original jurisdiction of a United States Circuit Court. This type of court, not to be confused with present-day Circuit Courts of Appeal, was given the so-called diversity jurisdiction of the federal courts, that is, jurisdiction to decide civil suits between citizens of different states, and also the power to try important criminal cases. Appeals from the Western District in civil cases went directly to the Supreme Court; there was no appeal in criminal cases at all until 1889,6 except for convictions conferring the death penalty. Appeal of these convictions was made directly to the President of the United States.7 Interestingly, the so-called federal-question jurisdiction, the power to adjudicate any and all claims arising under federal law, was not conferred on the lower federal courts until 1875. Those kinds of cases could, until that time, be brought only in the state courts.8

Though these were rather extensive powers, it was not the ordinary federal jurisdiction that was to give the Western District of Arkansas its fame. It was the extraordinary jurisdiction over Indian Country and Indian Territory that has attracted the most attention to this court. As early as 1834, Congress had annexed part of the Indian Country to the Territory of Arkansas for certain limited judicial jurisdiction purposes (mostly the regulation and prohibition of the liquor trade), and in 1837 the United States Court for the District of Arkansas was given this jurisdiction. Judicial jurisdiction over Indian Territory remained with the Western District of Arkansas until it was finally transferred to three federal courts sitting in present-day Oklahoma in 1896, though in the intervening period it had been reduced by Congress, especially as to civil matters.9 It was the criminal cases, of course, that generated the most publicity for the court, and this jurisdiction grew as Congress created new crimes for the Indian Territory. In this respect, especially during the tenure of Judge Parker, the court at Fort Smith acquired national importance. Indeed, one commentator has ventured that in the late nineteenth century the Supreme Court developed the federal law of murder and rape based "almost entirely on appeals from the Western District of Arkansas."10 An important exception to this power over criminal cases was that it did not extend to crimes committed by Indians against Indians: These were reserved to the tribal courts.11

The Western District originally comprised only Benton, Washington, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Madison, Carroll, Scott, and Polk Counties, but in 1854 Sebastian and Sevier Counties were added to it. The court sat only in Van Buren until 1871 when Congress enacted a bill directing the court to be held in Fort Smith and, unbelievably, in Helena as well. The counties of Phillips, Crittenden, Mississippi, Craighead, Green, Randolph, Marion, Fulton, Boone, Jackson, Independence, and Izard had been added to the Western District by the same bill. This gerrymandering was being done, it was said, to

create "a soft place" for William Story, prospective son-in-law of Senator Aleck McDonald of Arkansas who had been elected during the carpetbagger regime in 1868.¹² The Helena Division remained in the Western District until 1877 when it was given to the Eastern District where it really belonged.¹³ Over the years, more and more counties in Western Arkansas have been added to the district. In 1897, the Texarkana Division was created, and the court now sits in El Dorado, Fayetteville, Fort Smith, Harrison, Hot Springs, and Texarkana.

Footnotes

1. See M. Arnold, Unequal Laws Unto a Savage Race: European Legal Traditions in Arkansas, 1686-1836, 155, 166 (1985).

2. Id. at 174-75.

The most important court in Arkansas Territory was the Superior Court of the Territory of Arkansas. Some of the opinions of this court were published in 1856 and are called Hempstead's Reports.

4. See S. Harman, Hell on the Border, 42 (1898), (C.P. Sterns Edition)

 For the jurisdiction of nineteenth-century federal courts, see C. Wright, Federal Practice and Procedure \$\$ 3503 and 3504 (1984).

6. See Dobbs, "Murder in the Supreme Court: Appeals from the Hanging Judge," 29 Ark. L. Rev., 47 (1975)

- See Glenn Shirley, The Law West of Fort Smith, A History of Frontier Justice in Indian Territory, 1834-1896 (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1968, at 233-239, Appendix B, Commutations and Pardons.
- 8. For some discussion of this interesting point, see C. Wright, supra note 5, § 3503.
- 9. The various jurisdictional statutes are discussed in S. Harmon, supra note 4 at 33-63.

10. Dobbs, supra note 6 at 47.

11. *Id*.

12. S. Harman, supra note 4 at 40, (C.P. Sterns Edition).

13. Id. at 45.

Federal Judges, Mestern District of Arkansas

JUDGE	DATE	APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT
Benjamin Johnson	1836-1849	Andrew Jackson
Daniel Ringo	1849-1861 (Resigned)	Zachary Taylor
(Arkansas not in Federal Jurisdiction)		CONTRACTOR AND
Henry C. Caldwell ¹	1865-1871	Andrew Johnson
William Story	1872-1874	Ulysses S. Grant
Isaac Parker ²	1875-1896	Ulysses S. Grant
John H. Rogers ³	1896-1911	Stephen Grover Cleveland
Frank A. Youmans4	1911-1932	William Howard Taft
Heartsill Ragon	1933-1940	Franklin D. Roosevelt
John E. Miller ⁵	1941-1967	Franklin D. Roosevelt
Paul X. Williams	1967-1982	Lyndon B. Johnson
Harry J. Lemley	1939-1958	Franklin D. Roosevelt
J. Smith Lemley	1958-1975	Dwight D. Eisenhower
Terry L. Shell	1975-1978	Gerald Ford
Oren Harris	1965-1976	Lyndon B. Johnson
Richard S. Arnold	1978-1980	Jimmy Carter
H. Franklin Waters	1981-present	Ronald Reagan
Morris S.Arnold	1985-present	Ronald Reagan
Elisijane Trimble Roy	1977-present	Jimmy Carter
George Howard	1980-present	Jimmy Carter

Footnotes

- 1. At the end of the Civil War, President Andrew Johnson appointed Henry C. Caldwell judge for the courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas. During the period from 1865 to 1871, most of the cases filed in the Court for the Western District were for treason or confiscation of known Confederates property. The majority of these cases were "Nolle prosequi," because of the general amnesty issued by the President. (Edwin C. Bearss, Law Enforcement at Fort Smith, 1871-1896.)
- Biography of Judge Isaac Parker, see Volume 3, Number 1, April 1979, The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society, page 7.
 Biography of Judge John H. Rogers, see Volume 3, Number 1, April 1979, The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society, pages 36-37.

4. Biography of Frank A. Youmans in this issue of The Journal.

5. Biography of Judge John E. Miller in this issue of *The Journal*.

(As biographical information is available on the remaining judges on this list, their biographies will be published in future issues of *The Journal*. Help with this from readers will be appreciated.)

Black Political Patronage In The Mestern District of Arkansas, 1871-1892

Nudie Eugene Williams, Ph.D, Professor of Black History University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

"Oyez[!], Oyez[!]" filled the cramped courtroom in Fort Smith on May 10, 1875, as the Court Crier opened another term of the Federal Western District Court for legal proceedings. Assigned to keep order in the court, to take custody of court property, to escort the impaneled juries, and to assist the presiding judge was one George S. Winston. As a bailiff, he was the lone black court officer serving in the Western District. Such political appointees were becoming increasingly rare.

Political patronage, the practice of rewarding party supporters for their loyalty with political appointments, has long been an integral part of the American political system. The tradition of parceling out such appointments for party loyalty began with the first transfer of national political power when the Federalists were defeated by Thomas Jefferson's Democratic-Republican Party in 1800. The excesses of such a "spoil system" are generally associated with Andrew Jackson's presidency when in fact Jefferson dismissed a larger percentage of the members of the opposition party office holders. The tradition was of course continued by the newly organized Republican Party when Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 1860.²

However, it was only after the Civil War that blacks generally became eligible to participate in the political system. Their eligibility was legalized by the passage of the 14th Amendment which conferred citizenship; it was confirmed by the 15th Amendment and the need for the Republicans to build a southern wing of the party based on the black vote; and of course, the Congressional Reconstruction in the South depended in a large measure on the Union Army and black political support.3 Although blacks could not be so easily excluded now, far too many blacks were dependent on the enlistment in the Army for "the chance for some basic schooling, and elevation of status . . . because their economic opportunities outside the service were few, substantial numbers of . . . black[s] . . . enlisted" or re-enlisted.4 While for others, as loyal Republican supporters, they sought positions or appointments at every level of government service and such patronage seeking included the federal court system.

In northwest Arkansas, a Republican stronghold, the Federal Western District Court was the primary source of federal political patronage.⁵ The federal

court at Fort Smith, Arkansas, owed much of its fame to Isaac Charles Parker, the presiding judge from 1875 to 1896, who sentenced 160 men and women to the gallows. It was the court, and not Fort Smith on the Arkansas River, a second class town of 2,500 with "no paved streets, no sidewalks, no street lights, no factories, no decent hotels or public schools" which attracted office seekers in the early 1870's. Thus it was not the court's site that was one of its most unique or distinguishing features before the reign of Judge Parker but rather its early integrated federal court staff.

The color precedent had been set with the hiring of Albert Hamilton with the approval of Judge Henry J. Caldwell, the first regular jurist for the court since the Civil War. Hamilton's appointment as bailiff began with the first session of the newly moved court from Van Buren, Arkansas, to Fort Smith in 1871.8

A bailiff was a regular officer of the federal court. Each bailiff was paid six dollars a day for each day he attended court while it was in session or while the judge or jury was present. The responsibility of a bailiff included the following duties: (1) to attend court while in session; (2) to maintain order in the court room; (3) to wait on the grand and petit juries; and (4) to perform such other necessary duties as the federal judge or United States Marshal may direct or assign.⁹

Hamilton's service in this capacity was without distinction and his tenure was marred. In fact, he and his two sons were discovered in an attempted theft scheme of court seized property. Their arrest did not end in prosecution for theft because they were released and were never brought to trial. Nevertheless, Hamilton was not retained by the court after the incident; he either resigned or was fired. Although the court was already developing a notable reputation for greed and graft, outright theft was evidently another matter. There is no record of his services after 1871.¹⁰

George S. Winston, a former slave and Union Army veteran, was the second black appointed as an officer of the Western District Court. The army veteran was born a slave near Westpoint, Georgia, February 5, 1846, and was the property of one George Winston until freed by a detachment of federal troops in 1864 who had captured his fleeing master.¹¹



George S. Winston. Photo courtesy National Park Service.

The former slave worked for the Union Army for a time but became "home sick" and returned to Westpoint to work for a relative of his former master, exchanging his labor for room and board for a year. In 1865, he moved to Atlanta and earned his first "real wages" as a hotel waiter. The military uniform must have intrigued him because he enlisted in the regular army on May 15, 1867.¹²

After basic training in Missouri and Kansas, the young private was assigned garrison duty at Fort Hanker, near the Mexican frontier, and later, he was stationed at both Fort Griffin and Fort Concho in Texas. He was originally assigned to Company B, thirty-eighth infantry, in 1867, which was reorganized and became a part of the newly formed twenty-fourth infantry in 1869.¹³

He, like many of his fellow former slaves, learned to read and write while in the service. Winston became especially proficient in mathematics. On the eve of his discharge, May 15, 1870, the twenty-four year old Georgian had saved more than \$1,000 in cash and had another \$250 to collect from the government paymaster. The soldier desired to visit his relatives in Georgia and this was his intentions when he traveled to Fort Smith to collect his army severance pay.¹⁴

After a long stage ride, Winston drew his final army pay on June 5, 1870, in Fort Smith, Arkansas. He did not continue on to Georgia but instead sought employment in town. From 1870 to 1871, he worked at the Flemming Hotel, the local brick yard, and later, signed on the "Importer", a steamboat, as a second cook making the run from Fort Smith to New Orleans, Louisiana, and back. Upon his return in 1871, he was determined to find more suitable

work or a job where he could use his military experience. 15

Toward the end, he applied for work at the Western District Court, which had been authorized by Congress on March 3, 1871, to be moved to Fort Smith, and was hired by United States Marshal Logan H. Root as a security guard. Winston was assigned to guard the entire inventory of a local bankrupt dry good store until its merchandise was sold by court order in the spring of 1872.¹⁶

During the winter of 1871, it was Winston who had discovered and arrested Hamilton, the black bailiff, and his two sons in their attempt to steal court property. The Union veteran was hired the very next year as a regular bailiff for the Western District Court.¹⁷

There were several reasons why Winston was employed by the court. First, the majority of the staff members of the court were northern Republicans and former Union soldiers. And second, he had proven himself as a security guard for a year as a person whose "diligence and close attention to details" had made a favorable impression on the members of the court. Preference was given to those who had prior military service and were honorably discharged. Winston's performance as a hard working bailiff was well rewarded. Thus judge William Story, who succeeded Caldwell in 1872, reappointed the young Georgian as his private bailiff in 1873.21

The court under Judge Story's reign was plagued with bribery and corruption. No one who was associated with the pre-Parker court escaped completely unscathed. In 1874, Winston was given a personal assignment by United States Marshal John N. Sarber which caused Arkansas Republicans great political embarrassment. The bailiff was suspended for six months. An affidavit had been filed accusing Winston of performing some personal chores for the Marshal while getting paid as bailiff from the government payroll.²² Despite the political furor, race was never the issue in the incident. It was just another reason why the court was losing favor with Congress.

However, such sordid leadership and improper use of authority was not uncommon. Such behavior forced Judge Story to resign in the midst of charges filed against him in June of the same year.²³ There was a strong Congressional sentiment to abolish the Western District Court. Fortunately for the court, the increased lawlessness in the Indian Territory which had transformed it into a "rendezvous for the vile and wicked from everywhere, an inviting field for murder and robbery because it is the highway between Texas, Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas..." probably saved the court.²⁴

Henry J. Caldwell, presiding judge of the Federal Eastern District Court at Little Rock and the first judge for the Western District Court after the war, was reassigned to the teetering court on a temporary basis until a new appointment could be made.

Isaac Charles Parker, an Ohioan and a friend of the Native American, proved to be one of the few worthy men appointed by President Ulysses S. Grant. Dissension among Arkansas Republicans made an outsider like Parker an ideal appointee because he had no committed loyalties to either of the competing factions in the state. Furthermore, his ability to handle such an assortment of cases under his jurisdiction so expeditiously impressed the local citizenry.25 Under Parker, supported by a capable judicial staff and courageous deputy marshals, "one term of federal court simply merged into another with no apparent break in the process of continual trials."26 In fact, the "court was never recessed"27 on a regular basis; however, on occasion for lack of money or the absence of the judge, the court was forced to recess.

This kind of dedication to duty prompted Congress, at least in part, to authorize United States Marshals in circuit and district courts to appoint bailiffs and criers in "such number of persons as the judge may determine for [his] court." Winston, who had served under both Judges Henry J. Caldwell and William Story, 1871-1875, was reappointed as baliff. He also became Parker's private bailiff. The judge's non-stop terms kept law officers, juries, bailiffs, and the hangman busy.

When one considers the voluminous case load of Parker's court from 1875 to 1896, and the bailiff's devotion to duty and personal integrity, then it is not surprising that Winston was continuously reappointed by the various marshals and approved by Parker. His work as bailiff contributed to the efficiency of the Federal Western District Court and to Judge Parker's reputation as a tireless defender of justice.31 The Parker court's decree "to give justice to the frontier people . . . teach the bad and vicious among them, that as sure as they violate the law, so will punishment overtake them" was a grim reminder for the criminal element.32 Besides doing an excellent job, the black bailiff was a good Republican. And with the Republican Party controlling politics in Washington, the party used patronage to reward honest, hardworking office holders who were, of course, preferably loyal Republicans.

The Republican Congressional Reconstruction in Arkansas had lost much of its impact because of the Brooks-Baxter War, a violent confrontation between feuding Republican factions in the state for power in 1874. It took longer at the local levels to counteract Republican influence. For example, the general black population in Fort Smith had actually increased after 1875, despite the ebbing of Republican political power, from 3,000 to 6,000 between 1880 and 1885.³³ A local citizen expressed the prevailing racial sentiment as early as 1886 when he observed that "... [N]egroes or ... citizens of color" were not a part of the "cosmopolitan mass ... [who] ... mix and mingle with each other, rub off their grosser moral and

immoral peculiarities, lay aside their provincialisms, learn from each other the modes and habits of life of each, and make thus a higher scale of intelligence and moral life to each nationality, and become in a generation Americans in character."³⁴ Blacks who were considered to be without character by many whites were now being denied their political rights.

Arkansas Democrats effectively broke the last black-white political coalition and ended blacks' active participation in the political process in the election of 1892. A constitutional amendment was passed requiring a poll tax and proof of payment, a statement which identified the race of the voter, before an individual could get a ballot. The year had produced a national Democratic victory which represented an organized backlash movement against black voting and office holding.³⁵

There were only 1,200 blacks residing in Fort Smith when President Grover Cleveland, a Democrat, appointed George J. Crump as United States Marshal for the Federal Western District Court. The new marshal, a Democrat, insisted that Judge Parker, a Republican, appoint a Democrat as his private bailiff. John Blooburg, a white Democrat, replaced Winston. Perhaps Parker replaced the black bailiff to keep political peace and to please the Democratic administration and the new federal marshal.³⁶

The Union Army veteran was removed from office on May 29, 1893, but his removal was more than just a matter of a party's political patronage.³⁷ He had served under three federal judges and seven different United States Marshals from 1871 to 1893, one of whom was a Democrat, John Carrol, 1886-1889.³⁸ The temper of the times suggests that the black bailiff was more than a casualty of a political sweep; moreover, the racial activities of the era would also suggest that he was the twin victim of party politics and racism. Blacks like Winston were being forced out of political office, both elective and appointive, at an alarming rate "by artifice, violence, and intimidation ... [to] minimize the impact of black power" across the South.³⁹

When Winston retired from court service, he had already saved and invested his monies wisely, and could look forward to a reasonably comfortable life. Not one to miss an opportunity, the former bailiff soon became a successful real estate agent while residing at 701 North 11th Street in Fort Smith from 1893 to 1918.⁴⁰

George S. Winston died at the age of 78 from injuries received in an automobile accident on March 26, 1919, on the streets of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and is buried in the Oak Cemetery of that city. ⁴¹ The former slave had survived the Civil War, the Native Americans' conflicts, political scandal and patronage, and racism only to finally succumb to the scourge of mankind — his own "civilizing progress".

Footnotes

- 1. Glenn Shirley, The Law West of Fort Smith, A History of Frontier Justice in Indian Territory, 1834-1896 (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1968), p. 69; also see Fred H. Harrington, Hanging Judge (Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printer, 1951), p. 192; and Homer Croy, He Hanged Them High (New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1952), p.33.
- 2. Julian Hawthorne, *The History of the United States, 1492-1912,* (New York: P.R. Collier & Son, 1912), Volume II, p. 670; Nathaniel W. Stephenson, *An American History* (Boston: Ginn and Company, 1913), p. 268; John M. Blum, et al, *The National Experience* (New York: Harcourt, Brace and World, 1963), p. 219; and G.G. Van Deusen, *The Jacksonian Era,* 1828-1848 (New York: Harper and Row Publishers, 1959), pp. 35-37. Also see Edward Pessen, *Jacksonian America: Society, Personality, and Politics* (Homewood, Illinois: The Dorsey Press, 1969), pp. 337-339.
- 3. William MacDonald, ed., *Documentary Source Book of American History*, 1606-1898, (New York: The MacMillan Company, 1914), pp. 536-538; Woodrow Wilson, "The Reconstruction of the Southern States," pp. 1-10; and J.G. Randall, "Reconstruction Debacle," in Edwin C. Rozwenc, ed., *Reconstruction in the South* (Boston: D.C. Heath and Company, 1965).
- Lerone Bennett, Black Power U.S.A., The Human Side of Reconstruction, 1867-1877 (Baltimore: Pelican Books, 1969), pp. 94-153.
- 5. Glenn Shirley, Law West of Fort Smith, A History of Frontier Justice in Indian Territory, 1834-1896 (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1968), pp. 23-24.
- 6. Judge Isaac C. Parker sentenced four (4) women and 156 men to be hanged but only 79 of these ever reached the gallows, Harrington, *Hanging Judge*, p. 58.
- 7. Shirley, Law West of Fort Smith, p. 30.
- 8. S.W. Harman, Hell on the Border: He Hanged Eighty-Eight Men (Fort Smith: The Phoenix Publishing Company, 1898), p. 139.
- 9. United States Code Service-Lawyers Edition, 28 USCS, par. 755, p. 468.
- 10. Harman, Hell on the Border, p. 139.
- 11. Ibid., p. 136.
- 12. Ibid., pp. 137-138.
- 13. Ibid., p. 138.
- 14. Ibid.
- 15. Ibid., p. 139.
- 16. Ibid.
- 17. Ibid.
- 18. J. Gladston Emery, Court of the Damned (New York: Comet Press Books, 1959), p. 36.
- 19. Harman, Hell on the Border, p. 139.
- 20. United States Code Service, 28 USCS, par. 755, p. 468.
- 21. Harman, Hell on the Border, p. 139.
- 22. United States Marshal Report, No 54857, United States Federal Western District Court, Fort Smith, Arkansas, 1884, item number 45.
- 23. Emery, Court of the Damned, p. 29.
- 24. Shirley, Law West of Fort Smith, p. 23.
- 25. Croy, He Hanged Them High, p. 23; and Emery, Court of the Damned, p. 35.
- 26. Emery, p. 41.
- 27. Ibid.
- 28. United States Code Service, 28 USCS, par. 755, p. 468.
- 29. Emery, Court of the Damned, p. 36.
- 30. Shirley, Law West of Fort Smith, p. 33; and J. Fred Patton, "History of Fort Smith," (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas, unpublished master thesis, 1936), p. 174.
- 31. Winston appointed bailiff, Fort Smith *Elevator*, November 8, 1878, and August 6, 1880; and Ted Bryon Hall, *Oklahoma Indian Territory* (Fort Worth: American Reference Publishers, 1971), p. 688, Winston's appointment, October 22, 1885. Also see Harrington, *Hanging Judge*, p. 55.
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Frank A. Youmans United States District Judge Federal Court of the Mestern District of Arkansas 1911 - 1932

Amelia Martin

Frank Abijah Youmans, judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas and resident of Fort Smith for forty-six years, was a native of Missouri. He was born on May 23, 1860, the first of three sons born to Dr. John Powers Youmans, a New Yorker, and his wife, Mary Elizabeth Faust Youmans, a native of Germany. His birthplace was Hannibal, Missouri, because Dr. Youmans had taken his wife to Hannibal to stay with his relatives while he volunteered his services to the Medical Corps of the Union Army. Some time after the birth of their second son, Frederick William, the family moved to Forest City, Missouri. A third son, George Faust, was born in Forest City on July 27, 1867. Biographical information on Dr. Youmans is included later in this article.

Frank Youmans received his first education in a small country school and graduated from the University of Missouri in 1884, later doing graduate study at the University of Arkansas.

He began his law practice with Judge Burril B. Battles in Little Rock, Arkansas, and was admitted to the Arkansas Bar in 1885. In 1886 he moved to Fort Smith to join the law firm of Clendening, Read and Youmans. The firm name was later changed to Clendening, Mechem and Youmans. He remained with this firm until he joined his younger brother, George F. Youmans, in the practice of law under the firm name of Youmans and Youmans.

In 1897 he retired from private law practice and was appointed assistant United States District Attorney under United States District Attorney Thomas H. Barnes. He served in this capacity for eight years under Thomas H. Barnes and James K. Barnes, who succeeded Thomas H. Barnes. It was during this tenure that he established himself as an outstanding lawyer.

He was a member of the Fort Smith school board, later becoming its attorney.

Active in the Republican Party, as were his father and brother, he served as chairman of the Republican County Central Committee for years and was a leading speaker for his party in political campaigns. He twice represented his party as a candidate for



U.S. District Judge Frank A. Youmans
Photo courtesy Catherine McCartney Sandahl

congress and was a candidate for Attorney General of Arkansas. Friends urged him to run for governor, but he declined, preferring instead to devote his time and energy to his law practice, his family and his community.

He was a member of the First Methodist Church where he was a Sunday School teacher.

On December 27, 1888, Frank A. Youmans and Delia Enroughty, a native of Richmond, Virginia, were married in Springfield, Missouri. Frank and Delia's first home in Fort Smith was on Seventh Street. Mary Enroughty Youmans (Mrs. William Richardson Humphrey), the first of six children, and Frank William Youmans, their third child, were born in this home. Their second child, a son, John Powers Youmans, was born at Lewisville, Arkansas, while his mother was visiting there.

Shortly after the birth of Frank William, the family moved to 403 May Avenue, where the three younger children were born: Gretchen, Catherine Rebecca (Mrs. Paul McCartney) and Paul Edwin.

At the death of Judge John Henry Rogers in 1911, Frank A. Youmans was appointed Federal Judge of the Western District of Arkansas by President William H. Taft, at the age of 51. When he became seventy years old and eligible for retirement, he refused retirement. Even the ravages of a long illness in 1930 failed to cause him to quit the work he loved, and which was a part of his life. Returning to Fort Smith from St. Louis, Missouri, where he underwent a serious operation, Judge Youmans was soon back on the bench and making his regular circuit in Texarkana, El Dorado, Harrison and Fort Smith. He remained on the bench until April 11, 1932, when he suffered a fatal stroke while holding court at Harrison, Arkansas.

Front page newspaper coverage of his death reported that "Judge Youmans was one of the most widely known and prominent jurists in the state" and "due to his tireless efforts and the soundness of his interpretations of the law, Judge Youmans was one of the most popular jurists ever to sit on a bench in Arkansas."

He was listed in Who's Who in America in 1930 and 1931.

His widow, Delia Enroughty Youmans, died at Fort Smith on December 25, 1949, and was buried beside Judge Youmans in the Forest Park Cemetery.

Dr. John Powers Youmans, Frank Youmans' father, was born in Steuben County, New York, March 7, 1832, where he lived until he was twenty-three years old. His parents, Elijah and Edna (Stone) Youmans, had a family of ten children — eight sons and two daughters — and he was the seventh child in order of birth.

Both his paternal and maternal grandfathers served in the Revolutionary War. They were both natives of Delaware, but moved from that state to New York.

Dr. Youmans received his education in New York, which included three years study of medicine. At the age of twenty-three he went west, going first to Bureau County, Illinois, then to Wisconsin and to Minnesota.

While living In Minnesota, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Faust, a native of Hocastle, Germany. To this union were born three sons, who in 1890 were: Frank Abijah (a lawyer in Fort Smith, Arkansas), Frederick William (a student at Rush Medical College, Chicago, Illinois), and George

Faust (a graduate of the Missouri State University). As stated earlier, George F. joined his brother, Frank A., in the practice of law in Fort Smith. Frederick William, Dr. Will, as he was affectionately called, practiced medicine in Lewisville also, and was widely known for his medical skills and loved by everyone.

In 1859 the family had moved to Missouri, where they were living when Dr. Youmans enlisted as a private in the Federal Army. He soon rose to the rank of hospital steward, and later to assistant surgeon, in which capacity he was serving at the close of the war. During his term of service, he was stationed in Missouri.

After the surrender he entered the practice of his profession as a traveling physician, making a specialty of chronic diseases, and as such he went to Lewisville, Hempstead County, Arkansas, in 1872. In 1878 he returned to Lewisville to live and practice medicine. Through his skill as a physician and surgeon, Dr. Youmans had a large medical practice, but also conducted a merchandise business, carrying a general line of drugs and groceries, and owned a farm in the area, which is still owned by his descendents.

Dr. Youmans was an enterprising and influential citizen and held a number of local offices of trust. He served as school director and was once elected county treasurer, but refused to qualify. He also served on the Hempstead County Medical Examining Board.

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John E. Miller United States District Judge Western District of Arkansas 1941-1967

Manuscript and photograph used by permission of Ethel (Skinner) Miller.

John Elvis Miller was born May 15, 1888, on a farm located seven miles west of Bloomfield and twelve miles northwest of Dexter in Stoddard County, Missouri, the son of John A. Miller and Mary K. Harper Miller. He was one of eight children, five boys and three girls. When he was ten years old he was making a full hand in the operation of the farm. The farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of very fertile land and produced corn, wheat, oats, timothy, red top and red clover along with cattle, hogs, sheep, horses and mules. During his youth the State of Missouri was the leading state in the nation in the production of mules. The farm produced an abundance of feed for growing livestock, the sale of which was an important source of income.

His father was largely self educated because of the Civil War and his service during his youth as a private in the Confederate Army. His grandfather was a slave owner and as a result of the Civil War the family suffered severe financial losses. Upon the marriage of his father and mother they purchased land which was developed into the farm where the children were reared. The Judge was the fifth of the children born and from his early youth showed a marked desire to obtain an education. He was undecided as to whether he should become a farmer, a politician, a lawyer, a doctor or a minister. His mother favored the ministry. His father preferred that he engage in the general farming business.

He attended the rural school and later a consolidated school that was constructed at the small village of Aid, Missouri. The school was located two miles from the home. Children in those days were not transported to or from school. They had no free lunches and each child carried his or her lunch. Upon finishing the ninth grade in the consolidated school he began teaching and continued his pursuit of an education at the Bloomfield High School, the Southeast Missouri Teachers College at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, Valparaiso University at Valparaiso, Indiana, and the University of Kentucky at Lexington, Kentucky. He was sixteen years of age when he taught his first school and taught regularly for the next five years. One of the schools was located in southwestern Oklahoma, where he had gone on a home seekers ticket and while looking



Judge John E. Miller. Photo courtesy Mrs. John E. Miller.

over the country came in contact with a school director who stated that his community had no school because no teachers were available. The school was located twenty-eight miles northwest of Sayre, Oklahoma. After talking to the director he left Sayre with the director and was employed by the board. He proceeded to Cheyenne, Oklahoma, and obtained a second grade certificate. During his stay in Oklahoma he decided that he would remain and applied to purchase a section of school land. The day that he received notice from the land office that his application for purchase had been approved he also received an offer of a contract as principal of the three room consolidated school at Aid, Missouri, at a salary of \$90 per month. He could not resist accepting the offer from his home school and accordingly returned to his home and for two years was principal of the consolidated school.

All the time he was becoming more interested in studying law. Probably his decision to become a lawyer was induced by acquaintance with lawyer friends of his father and visits to the courts. During the summer of 1909 while employed as a deputy collector of revenue at the county seat in Bloomfield, Missouri, the desire crystalized into resolution. During the school year of 1909-10 he taught at Acron Ridge, Missouri, a community about three miles from the farm. He began teaching his second year at Acron Ridge, but resigned after teaching three weeks on his second term and entered Valparaiso University where he carried the full law course and the subjects of Latin, Political Economy, Constitutional History of England, French Revolution, English Literature and other incidental subjects. He compiled an excellent record at Valparaiso University, as he had while attending the Southeast Missouri Teachers College at Cape Girardeau. In June 1911, he left Valparaiso University and was admitted to the University of Kentucky Law Department at Lexington, Kentucky, as a senior with the requirement that certain other junior subjects be completed. He successfully completed his studies there and graduated from the University on June 6, 1912, with the degree of LL.B.

His father was a successful and prosperous farmer and had offered him financial assistance, but early in life he acquired a spirit of independence and became an individualist. He realized that his father had other obligations and three other children to educate and stated to his father that he could by working and teaching school manage to complete his education. During the time prior to his graduation from the University of Kentucky in addition to teaching, he worked on the farm, sawmills, as a railroad section hand, and as deputy collector of taxes for Stoddard County, Missouri. Thus from the age of ten until his graduation from the University of Kentucky at the age of twenty-four he was a busy young fellow.

Upon obtaining his degree in law he decided to locate in Arkansas, although he knew no one in the state. He had started to Hope, Arkansas, for no particular reason except that he had corresponded with Hon. O.A. Graves and Mr. Graves seemed to be interested in interviewing him with an end in view of offering him employment in his law office, but while on a Missouri Pacific train on a journey to Hope he became acquainted with the Hon. James C. Coffin of Batesville, who suggested that he investigate the situation in Searcy, Arkansas. Accordingly he left the train at Kensett and drove to Searcy a distance of four miles. The first day was spent merely looking the place over and conferring with the Clerk of the Courts. The next morning on June 14th he walked into the office of Hon. J.N. Rachel, who was the Democratic Nominee for Prosecuting Attorney of the First Judicial Circuit. Mr. Rachel was looking for some young man, and after talking to him for ten

minutes Mr. Rachel told him that he would pay him \$50 per month from that date until he assumed the office of Prosecuting Attorney on October 30th. At that time the state officers were elected in September and began their term on the following October 30th. The offer also provided that on November 1st, if he was able to take over complete charge of the civil work, that they would become partners on a fiftyfifty basis in the civil work. The proposition was accepted and he began work on that day, June 14th. The next Morning, June 15, 1912, Mr. Rachel suddenly advised him that he represented a client in the Justice of the Peace court and that the trial was set for that day. He requested his new and inexperienced associate to represent the client. which he did with much trepidation. Much to his surprise the court decided the case in favor of the plaintiff represented by him. Thus, the date of June 15. 1912, represents the date of his first court trial. After a few years of practice, the young lawyer stated that he did not know on June 15, 1912, the letters "J.P." following the name of the Justice of the Peace meant "just pay" insofar as the defendant was concerned. At that time he had not been admitted to the State Bar but upon an examination he was admitted and continued to practice law under the firm name of Rachel and Miller until 1914, when because of his selection to represent the Missouri-North Arkansas Railroad and other corporate clients he withdrew from the partnership and opened his own office which he operated alone for two years until C.E. Yingling, now deceased, joined him.

Judge Miller's home was in Searcy, Arkansas, from June 13, 1912, until April 1, 1941, when he moved to Fort Smith, Arkansas.

During his residency in Searcy he was active in church work and was a member of the First Methodist Church and of the Board of Stewards for many years. He organized the Men's Bible Class and taught it regularly for fifteen years. In addition to his church work, he was interested in all civic affairs and was a member of all civic clubs in Searcy. He was active in the Searcy Lodge No. 49 Free and Accepted Masons and filled all the chairs, and was granted a life membership. Likewise, he was active in the Royal Arch Chapter; a member of the Scottish Rite; a member of the Western Arkansas Consistory at Fort Smith; and of Scimitar Temple A.A.O.N.M.S. of Little Rock.

As a young lawyer he became intersted in politics. At the beginning of 1913 he was chosen as City Attorney for the City of Searcy. His next office was that of delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1918 from White County. He was one of the youngest members of the Convention. Finally the Convention completed its draft of the new constitution which was submitted to the voters for ratification but the voters refused to ratify the document, and therefore we have continued since that time with the Constitution of 1874 and the numerous amendments

thereto. The proposed Constitution was not satisfactory to the young delegate and he voted against its ratification. Among other provisions of the proposal was one for a unicameral legislative body. The young delegate was very much opposed to that provision as well as other provisions in the Constitution. Evidently a basic law should never be drafted during a national emergency. The nation was emerging from World War I, and the proposed Constitution evidenced, in many respects, the pressure of the time.

In 1914 he married Miss Ethel Lucille Lindsey of Searcy, and two children were born to that union: Mary Louise, now Mrs. B.C. Goodloe of Staunton, Virginia, and Judge John E. Miller Jr., of Little Rock, Arkansas.

He became a candidate for the Democratic Nomination for Prosecuting Attorney of the First Judicial Circuit and was nominated in 1918 and elected in the following State election. He entered upon his duties as Prosecuting Attorney on January 1, 1919, and served two terms or until December 31, 1922. The First Judicial Circuit comprised five counties: White, Woodruff, St. Francis, Lee and Phillips. There were many excellent lawyers practicing criminal law at that time, and most persons charged with an offense felt it their duty and obligation to employ their own lawyers and to arrange for the payment of their fees. Thus, most of the convictions were the result of a trial and not from pleas of guilty. It has been said that Mr. Miller was an excellent but fair prosecutor, and he prosecuted many important criminal cases during his two terms. The first tremendous task that faced the new prosecutor was the offenses growing out of the Elaine race riots in Phillips County in 1919. During the fall term of the Phillips Circuit Court more than a hundred persons were convicted of illegal participation in the riots. Twelve were convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to death, but because of the omission of the words "as charged in the indictment" from the verdict, the convictions were reversed and those particular cases were later disposed of by pleas of guilty to lesser offenses.

There was guite a difference in the attitude of good citizens in the various counties in regard to certain types of offenses. In some of the counties, and particularly in White County, crap-shooting, poker playing, and betting on sporting events were considered offenses that should be prosecuted. The young prosecutor zealously began to institute prosecutions for these offenses in the plantation counties, particularly with reference to cock fighting and horse racing. In the April 1920 session of the Grand Jury in Phillips County, he asked the grand Jury to investigate those two subjects, and when the Grand Jury appeared to be reluctant, the prosecutor became so insistent that he was requested to appear before the Grand Jury for discussion of the subjects. The discussion consisted of a statement by the

Foreman of the Grand Jury, as follows: "Mr. Miller, we appreciate the efforts that you, as Prosecuting Attorney, are making to enforce the law. We believe that you are a good fellow, and we want to cooperate with you, but the situation is different in our county than it is in White County. We are all citizens of Phillips County and we realize that it is our duty to enforce the laws and to render justice to all as far as possible, but there are some offenses that we do not think call for the rigid enforcement of the law pertaining thereto. In other words, because of our interest and in the interest of a continuation of our way of life, we feel that we should determine what offenses should be prosecuted and we ask your cooperation to that end." With that pronouncement the young prosecutor withdrew his request for subpoenaes in aid of prosecution for such alleged offenses. In all other respects the citizens were very cooperative and interested in the administration of the criminal law. Even at that time the young prosecutor was a firm believer in the right of local citizens to control affairs peculiar to their own community.

During that time C.E. Yingling was Grand Jury Reporter and Mr. Miller decided that he would like to have Mr. Yingling as his successor. Accordingly Mr. Yingling was elected and became Prosecuting Attorney on January 1, 1923. Upon that date the firm of Miller and Yingling was dissolved in order that the young lawyer might engage in the practice of criminal law, since he thought it would be unethical to represent a client that was being prosecuted by Mr. Yingling as long as the relationship of partners in the practice of law existed. Upon the completion of Mr. Yingling's service as Prosecuting Attorney they renewed their partnership and continued as partners until Mr. Miller's election in 1930 as Representative in Congress from the 2nd Congressional District, which at that time comprised twelve counties. During the service of his 4th term as Congressman, Hon. Joe T. Robinson, Senator from Arkansas and Democratic Floor Leader of the Senate, died on July 14, 1937. The Congressman became a candidate in a special election to succeed Senator Robinson, and after a rather strenuous campaign was elected Senator at the Special Election in October 1937. The Congressman was forced to run as an independent because the Democratic State Committee had nominated the Governor, Hon. Carl E. Bailey, instead of providing for a primary election to select a nominee. The Congressman challenged the legality of the nomination and carried the fight to the people and succeeded in carrying 63 of the 75 counties. On November 15, 1937, the Congressman took the oath of office as United States Senator from Arkansas and resigned his seat in the House of Representatives on the same date. He served in the Senate from that date until April 1, 1941, when he resigned to become United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas.

Thus, his political career ended after serving as City Attorney of the City of Searcy, Delegate to the Arkansas Constitutional Convention of 1918, Prosecuting Attorney of the First Judicial Circuit, Representative in Congress from 1930 until November 15, 1937, and United States Senator until the date of resignation on April 1, 1941. He is one of the few men in our nation who has resigned from both the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate. He has often stated that he was never quite able to understand why the people of Arkansas so graciusly adopted him. He was never defeated in a political race, and was grateful for the trust that the people imposed in him.

At the time he was elected Senator he was fully determined to spend the remainder of his working life in the Senate, provided, of course, the people approved of his service, but because of an extended illness of his wife he felt that it was his obligation to retire as United States Senator and devote more time to the welfare of his family. Mrs. Miller died April 7, 1955. At that time both children were married and living in their homes. The judge married Miss Ethel Skinner of Fort Smith, Arkansas, on December 26, 1956.

During all of his service in Congress Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt was President of the United States with the exception of the first two years when Hon. Herbert Hoover was President. During his service in the House the country was faced with a serious and devastating depression. Upon the first inauguration of President Roosevelt he made the famous statement that the people of this country "had nothing to fear except fear itself." That statement was the keynote in the operation of Congress and the Government, particularly during the first two terms of President Roosevelt's service as President. Much was done to meet the situation that the administration had inherited. The situation demanded the enactment of drastic legislation, much of which was supported by Mr. Miller in his capacity as Representative and as Senator.

When he became a member of the House of Representatives he was assigned for a few months to the committees on Banking and Currency, Claims and Insular Affairs. Soon his ability as a lawyer was recognized and he was selected as a member of the major and exclusive Committee on Judiciary of the House of Representatives and served on that committee during the remainder of his tenure as Representative. He became Chairman of Sub-Committee Three of the House Judiciary Committee that was charged with the responsibility of handling practically all proposals pertaining to procedure in the United States Courts, and it is said by those associated with him that he became very efficient in the work. He first opposed the adoption of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure but later decided that in the interest of justice the rules should be adopted, and accordingly machinery was set in

operation which lead to the formation and promulgation of the rules.

He was the author of several important bills, many of which were enacted. Among them was what is known as the "Miller Act" with which all attorneys are familiar. A study of the Congressional Record will disclose the extent of his activities, and in his campaigns for reelection no official act of his was ever challenged by his opponents. Among other bills which he authored was a bill that was passed by the House of Representatives in 1936, providing for the erection of dams and reservoirs on the Arkansas and White rivers and tributaries. A total of 26 were provided for. Senator Robinson did not support the bill when it reached the Senate and it was defeated.

While he was a member of the House of Representatives the President proposed that the members of the Supreme Court be increased, which effort was commonly referred to as the "Court Packing Bill." The bill was referred to the Sub-Committee of the House Judiciary Committee of which the Congressman was Chairman. His opposition to the bill was such that he immediately pigeonholed the bill and the Sub-Committee supported him in such action. It was decided by the entire Judiciary Committee of the House that no action should be taken on the bill until the Senate had acted thereon. The Senate never passed the bill and that ended one of the most unwarranted suggestions ever made by a President of the United States.

When the Congressman became Senator, he was immediately assigned to the Committees on Judiciary, Banking and Currency and Rules. He soon became Chairman of Sub-Committee Three of the Committee on the Judiciary and again had charge of all proposed legislation dealing with procedure in the United States Courts as well as many other important subjects.

During his service in the Senate, Hon. Hattie W. Caraway was senior senator and at that time seniority, as it does at this time, was important, and great weight was given to the recommendations of the senior senator on all appointments affecting the state. Unfortunately, Senator Caraway and Senator Miller did not agree on many matters, but that disagreement was not personal and their friendship was not marred by their disagreements on matters of policy and on the qualifications of persons proposed for appointment to various positions.

Senator Caraway was a member of the Committee on Flood Control in the Senate. During the time the Committee had under consideration comprehensive basic flood control bills. The leadership of the Senate for some reason asked Senator Miller to sit with the committee in the place of Senator Caraway. Accordingly Senator Miller began work with that committee and assisted in the drafting of all Acts enacted during his service in the Senate, under which the various dams and reservoirs have been constructed. Senator Miller left the Senate prior to

the implementation of many of the Acts. The work done by him in setting up the program is not generally known or recognized, but the fact remains that Senator Miller was one of the moving forces behind the enactment of a great portion of the basic legislation.

During the last two years of his service as Senator he was often in disagreement with President Roosevelt and with the apparent policy of the administration of encroachment by the Federal Government on matters which should be controlled and regulated by the various states. This disagreement extended to various other subjects in which the President appeared to be deeply interested. The disagreements were not personal, in fact they were personal friends, and Senator Miller was often a guest at the White House and on occasions was consulted by the President concerning pending legislation. The subjects of disagreement continued to mount and shortly prior to January 31, 1941, the date the Preident sent Senator Miller's nomination to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas to the Senate, the Senator who was Chairman of Sub-Committee Three of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, had refused to support a bill to provide for the appointment of two additional United States District Judges in the State of New Jersey. The Senator's objection was that the need for such appointments was not apparent for the reason that there were two existing vacancies in the state, one of which had existed for eighteen months and the other for a longer period of time. The Senator took the position that the bill should not be considered until the vacancies were filled by the President. The Department of Justice advised the President of the situation in reference to the creation of the new judgeships and soon thereafter the President contacted Hon. Alvin W. Barkley, the Democratic Floor Leader of the Senate, and requested that he "feel" Senator Miller out as to whether he would accept the nomination as United States District Judge of the Western District of Arkansas to succeed the late Hon. Heartsill Ragon. Senator Miller advised Senator Barkley that he would appreciate the nomination and accept the appointment if it were tendered to him. Senator Barkley conveyed the information to the President but the President never contacted Senator Miller about the subject. The first information that Senator Miller knew of his nomination by the President was at ten minutes to 12 o'clock on January 31, 1941, when he was called by the Secretary to the President and advised that the nomination was being sent to the Senate. When the nomination arrived and was announced by the presiding officer of the Senate, a motion was made immediately that the nomination be confirmed without referring it to the Committee on the Judiciary for consideration. Speeches in support of the motion and commending the Senator were made by several colleagues. The motion was unanimously adopted and the nomination confirmed.

Judge Miller never regretted his decision to resign from the Senate and to assume the duties of United States District Judge of the Western District of Arkansas. For him it was a return to work in the administration of law, and it has been said that although he possessed the necessary qualifications of a legislator, his most outstanding qualification was for judicial service.

In recent years there has been a decided increase in the number of cases filed in or removed to each of the Districts in Arkansas. The increase in the number of cases does not tell the story of the tremendous increase in the work of the Judges, but in the opinion of Judge Miller the number of cases is a factor to be considered in determining the load of the Judges of the courts. The complexities arising from the unprecedented developments in the commercial activities of our Nation and particularly in Arkansas have greatly contributed to the increase in the work in the Federal Courts and has tended to cause a congestion of the calendars.

The Western District of Arkansas has for years borne a reputation of disposing of cases more quickly than many other Districts in the Nation, and Judge Miller was justly proud of his contribution to that reputation.

On January 29, 1959, Judge Miller was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws by the University of Arkansas "in recognition of his exalted character, his attainments in arts and letters, his devotion to truth, duty, and the welfare of society." On June 2, 1960, the same degree was awarded by Harding College of Searcy, Arkansas, "in recognition of distinguished attainment."

On March 24, 1961, the Sebastian County Bar Association, on behalf of the lawyers of the State, honored Judge Miller with a banquet and presented him with a certificate in recognition of his distinguished judicial service for two decades demonstrated by "the highest integrity, love for the law and a genuine concern for justice."

In December 1963 Judge Miller was selected by a special committee of the Alumni Association of the University of Kentucky as one of a select group of seventy chosen for admission to the "Hall of Distinguished Alumni," and his picture, together with a brief biography, was placed in the Hall of Fame.

On February 22, 1965, at the Centennial Founders Day Convocation, the University of Kentucky conferred upon Judge Miller the Distinguished Alumni Centennial Award "in recognition of meritorious achievements." The exercises were presided over by Hon. John W. Oswald, President of the University, and the chief address was made by the President of the United States.

During his long public service he acquired a wealth of information on many subjects. He was not unmindful that upon the demise of any individual, the recollection of him and his work soon pass from the memory of the people. He related an occurrence that happened soon after he became Senator as the

successor to the renowned Senator Robinson. The story goes that on a certain day Senator Miller and other Senators were in the Democratic cloak room of the Senate discussing various and sundry matters, when one Senator who had served for several years asked Senator Miller whom he succeeded, to which Senator Miller replied, "Senator Joe T. Robinson with whom you served for many years." The Senator had forgotten Senator Robinson and the great service rendered by him, not only as leader of the majority in the Senate but his individual work as well. That is the common fate of men and their temporal activities.

A nation cannot survive by idealizing the accomplishments of the past. The citizenship must ever be on the alert to protect and perpetuate the fundamental principles of a just government and apply such principles to the changes brought about by time, without diminution of the great principles set forth in the Constitution of the United States as construed and applied by courts free of any influence or teachings of beliefs foreign to such principles.

Although Judge Miller became eligible for full retirement from the office of United States District Judge on April 1, 1956, he declined to resign, and often stated that as long as he retained his physical strength and mental capacity he hoped and expected to continue to render satisfactory service in the administration of the law. He attributed whatever success he had enjoyed as Judge to the cooperation and assistance of the bar, and a friendly personal relation existed between the members of the Bar and Judge Miller.

References have been made heretofore of various honors conferred upon the Judge, and in addition to the ones already listed, it is felt that the action of the Arkansas Bar Association at its session in Hot Springs, Arkansas, on June 10, 1966, rcognized the work done by the Judge. The Bar Association said:

"AWARD GIVEN BY ARKANSAS BAR ASSOCIATION The bench and bar of the State of Arkansas gratefully recognize JOHN E. MILLER, UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE, for twenty-five years of service on the United States District Court, Western District of Arkansas, of unequaled excellence in the administration of justice.

Done in Annual Convention at Hot Springs, Arkansas this Tenth day of June, 1966.

/s/ Courtney C. Crouch, President Arkansas Bar Association."

Judge Miller retired as United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas on February 28, 1967, after serving 25 years, 8 months and 27 days, and assumed the status of Senior U.S. District Judge. The statute under which he retired authorized him to continue working as a Judge with the privilege of selecting only such cases as he desired to try or otherwise handle. He had heretofore made it a practice of selecting the older and time-consuming cases so as to relieve the regular Judges of as much work as was possible and expedite the

disposition of cases on the calendar. He continued in that capacity as long as his health permitted.

Several years ago the Southwestern Legal Foundation was organized by the membership of prominent and leading attorneys and judges in the States of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas. Yearly a committee of the Foundatin selects a member of the bar or a judge from the membership in the Foundation for special commendation and honor. Judge Miller was so selected by the Committee, and on May 3, 1973, at Dallas, Texas, they awarded the following:

"THE SOUTHWESTERN LEGAL FOUNDATION HATTON W. SUMNERS AWARD

is conferred upon JUDGE JOHN E. MILLER

in recognition of the most outstanding contribution to the preservation of democracy and the improvement of the administration of justice within the Southwestern states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas.

Given at Dallas, Texas, this third day of May, nineteen hundred and seventy three.

/s/ Leon Jawarski Chairman, Board of Trustees /s/ Andrew R. Cecil President"

It is interesting to know that while Judge Miller was a member of the House of Representatives he was a member of the Committee on the Judiciary which was presided over by Hon. Hatton W. Sumners of Dallas, Texas, who later was instrumental in organizing the Foundation above referred to.

Judge Miller received hundreds of letters and telegrams from people who had known him since he first became a citizen of Arkansas in 1912. He was grateful for the many commendations and hoped that his actions in the work would continue to meet the approval of all good citizens of Arkansas.

On August 27, 1977, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers presented him a scroll "In recognition of his unsurpassed 65 year career as trial lawyer, Congressman, United States Senator and peerless United States District Judge and in appreciation of his dedicated service to his state, nation, the legal profession and the cause of justice."

The Judge John E. Miller Scholarship Fund was established with the Arkansas Bar Foundation by lawyers and friends to be used for merit and/or financial need scholarships at the University of Arkansas Law School, recipients to be residents of the Western District of Arkansas.

Judge Miller resigned from his position as U.S. District Judge in May 1979 after thirteen years of Senior Status. He died on January 30, 1981, at the age of ninety-two and on Monday, February 2, was laid to rest in Forest Park Cemetery in Fort Smith amid words of praise from all who knew him.

He was survived by his wife, Ethel (Skinner) Miller; a daughter, Mrs. B.C. Goodloe of Staunton, Virginia; a son, Judge John Miller, Jr. of Little Rock, Arkansas; five grandchildren; and one greatgrandchild.

City of Fort Smith - Citta Di Cisterna Di Catina Seal Twinship

Mary Lou Jacobsen
President, Fort Smith Historical Society

The bond began between Fort Smith, Arkansas and Cisterna, Italy during World War II, shortly after the American landing at Anzio in January, 1944. Cisterna became a battleground and many lives were lost in freeing that city from German occupation. Cisterna selected Fort Smith for a "sister city" because it was the birthplace of General William O. Darby, leader of the Rangers who fought so valiantly to free their city.

The concept of a sister city began in 1982, and in 1984 a delegation from Cisterna visited Fort Smith to help formalize the plan. In February, 1985, a resolution was passed by the Fort Smith Board of Directors declaring Fort Smith sister city to Cisterna.

On May 21, 1987, an excited group of Fort Smith residents, along with friends from neighboring communities, embarked on a history making expedition to Cisterna Di Latina to seal this twinship. It was my privilege, as president of the Fort Smith Historical Society, to represent the Society and the city of Fort Smith as an official delegate.

Members of the group traveling to Cisterna were: Official Delegates:

William Vines, Mayor of Fort Smith Chad Colley, President of Disabled American Veterans

Betty Colley

William "Bud" Harper, Sebastian County Judge Dr. Jo Harper

James W. Moore, Chief, Fort Smith Fire Department Laura Moore

Richard L. Mulloy, Principal, Darby Junior High Jackie M. Farrar, Counselor, Darby Junior High Gretchen M. Romo, Teacher, Darby Junior High Josephine Romo (12 year old student)

Ruth I. Matthews, Treasurer, Darby Foundation Mary Lou Jacobsen, President,

Fort Smith Historical Society

Raymond E. Marty, Ranger (Injured at Anzio) from Wyoming

Marge Marty

Harry Thompson, Honorary Ranger, Baltimore, MD Mrs. Harry Thompson and son Frank Thompson Bill Fox, a Ranger, presently living in Naples, Italy John Figari, Official Interpreter

(The Thompsons joined the party in Rome on May 22, 1987. The Thompsons and Mr. Fox left the delegation on the morning of May 26, 1987.)

Media Representatives:

Allen Martin Elvin, Channel 40/29 Marla Elvin, Channel 40/29

Area Residents:

Frances M. Robinson, Hackett, Arkansas Rita Bustin, Bonanza, Arkansas Faye Andrews, Prescott, Arkansas Lorene May, Waldron, Arkansas Nettie Lemons, Waldron, Arkansas

Travel Agents and Tour Conductors: Vernon E. Wilcox Orean Wilcox

The delegation arrived in Rome at 9:00 a.m. on May 22, 1987. We were met by a group of dignitaries from Cisterna, led by Mayor Giullo Porcelli. After formal greetings we met our English speaking guide, Lucia Santori. (We had with us our own interpreter, John Figari.) Transportation to the hotel in Rome and throughout the visit was by special bus. Allen Martin Elvin and his wife, Marla, representatives of Fort Smith TV Channel 40/29, provided a visual record for the people at home and were a wonderful example of a young American couple working as a team.



Allen Martin Elvin, Fort Smith TV Channel 40/29, recording events at Mayor's palace in Rome, Italy. Courtesy Betty Colley.

The official functions began early on Saturday, May 23, at the Mayor's palace in Rome. We were formally received by that city's Mayor Campidoglio. In his welcoming address the Mayor emphasized the importance of the joining of Fort Smith and Cisterna, and presented medals to former Rangers Raymond Marty and Harry Thompson, as well as to Chad

Colley, Judge William R. "Bud" Harper, Fire Chief Jim Moore and Mayor William Vines. During the tour of the Mayor's palace, we saw the famous statue of the Wolf Mother and the Twins, Romulus and Remus, legendary sons of Mars and founders of Rome.

Since we had just celebrated our 150th birthday, our sesquicentennial, in Arkansas, the excavations near the capitol in Rome, giving evidence of buildings there dating back to 3000 B.C., made us acutely aware of the extreme youth of our State.

There was another statue of great importance to the citizens of Rome, that of a young boy removing a thorn from his foot. The importance of this statue stems from the fact that this is the first piece of art work given by a pope to the city. Previously, the people had always given to the pope. And this was the beginning of public museums in Rome.

The early evening gave us an opportunity to visit Trevi Fountain and toss in our coins as we made our wishes. Later we had a walking tour of Rome at night as we returned to our hotel via the Spanish Steps, having been warned to hold on to our purses. In the square were fortune tellers using Tarot cards, street artists and vendors, as well as crowds of people. The area was well protected by many policemen armed with submachine guns.

On Sunday, May 24, we boarded the bus for Cisterna, a city of approximately 20,000 inhabitants, located thirty-two miles southwest of Rome. The road had been cleared for us by a police escort (which we had throughout our visit). The fields of grapes, kiwi and sugar beets were green and lush. The meadows had been cut and there were both round and square bales of hay. Poppies growing wild in the fields and along the highway, together with yellow and white wild flowers, greatly enhanced the beauty of the landscape. Roses of every color surrounded all of the houses.

As we entered Cisterna, driving slowly down the main street, American and Italian flags were everywhere, and a large banner across the street was imprinted with the twinship theme in both Italian and English — UNITED IN ACTIONS OF PEACE, FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE HUMAN VALUES AND THE FREEDOM OF NATIONS.

The Fort Smith delegation was greeted by the Mayor of Cisterna who escorted us to a special meeting of the City Council where the official delegates were recognized. A brief address by Mayor Porcelli of Cisterna was responded to by Mayor Vines of Fort Smith.

Just outside the City Hall, a plaque commemorating the twinship of the cities was unveiled.



Plaque commemorating the twinship of Fort Smith, Arkansas and Cisterna, Italy. Courtesy Richard Mulloy.

From City Hall the group moved to Palazzo Caetani for an outdoor Holy Mass, a brief speech regarding the twinship of the cities by the two mayors, delivery of Key of Cisterna to the Mayor of Fort Smith, and an address by the Italian Minister of Finance.

During this ceremony, Mayor Vines released a white dove as a symbol of peace.

Later, a wreath was placed on the memorial which stands in the town square, honoring all the war dead. This was followed by a short parade.

The parade included the Carabinieri, with plumed hats, who ran down the street in formation. This group is the elite of the military who run, not march, everywhere. There was also a brass band, flag throwers and banner bearers.

We checked into our motel at Saubaudia on the Mediterranean Sea, and after a long lunch, returned to Cisterna for another parade with folk dances, another unit of Carabinieri, and horsemen. After the parade we were able to mix and mingle with the citizens of Cisterna, many of whom speak English. Former Mayor Comparini of Cisterna, who visited Fort Smith in 1984, entertained the group at a buffet dinner at his home. This gave us another opportunity to visit with the people of Cisterna. At each gathering, discussions were being held as to how the people of Fort Smith and Cisterna can further our twinship.

Memorial Day, May 25, 1987, was a very special day. We left early in the morning for Nettuno, the American Cemetery and Memorial. As we drove along the highway we saw herds of dairy cattle, sheep, goats and water buffalo. Cheese making is a big industry, and the Mozzarella cheese made from water buffalo milk is excellent. There was a large attendance of both Americans and Italians at the memorial ceremony. Wreaths displayed at the memorial building were very large and beautiful. The band played the American and Italian National Anthems; American Military stood in formation; there were speeches, a twenty-one gun salute and echo taps. At this point, the real importance of our



Left to right: Mayor Giullo Porcelli of Cisterna and Mayor William Vines of Fort Smith shake hands in front of the Cisterna-Fort Smith wreath at Nettuno. Courtesy Richard Mulloy.

visit became apparent — our actions and response to this union of two cities is an affirmation of real peace for all mankind so that there will never be another Nettuno for our children and grandchildren, nor theirs.

From the cemetery we returned to Cisterna and visited a cooperative winery, a cooperative cheese making company, I.C.A.I. (Industria Cermiche Artistiche Italiane) where ceramic tile is made, and then a fruit packing company that is completely computerized. In addition to these industries, there are plants in nearby communities that make bicycles, a Goodyear plant, and one that makes aluminum bottle caps.

In the evening we were guests of the city of Latina for a string concert of classical music. After the concert we again had an opportunity to meet and talk with citizens of the area.

Tuesday, May 26, was a casual day; we visited the Garden at Ninfa. Our host was Count Luigi Galanini De Recanti. Within this beautifully maintained garden are plants from all over the world. Ruins of the walled city that once stood on this spot are still standing; a vague outline of a fresco can be seen on one of the grotto walls. There was too much beauty and too little time to enjoy it.

Our next stop was Sermoneta, which is reached by a very winding road to the top of a mountain. We left the bus and walked up the cobblestone streets, always climbing upward, to the City Hall to meet with the Mayor. At the entrance to the City Hall, we were met by young girls in native costume who gave each of the ladies a long stemmed cellophane encased rose. There were greetings, formal speeches, and introductions.

Our party then left to continue the upward climb across the drawbridge to Caetani Castle. As we entered the courtyard, we were greeted by a blast of trumpets and a marvelous demonstration by the flag throwers. This was a very stirring and dramatic greeting for each of us.

Menus at all functions were varied, but all included several different pastas, hard rolls, and delicious desserts

The downhill walk to the bus was much easier, and we journeyed to an open field, transferring to fourwheel-drive vehicles to tour Subardella Farm. This 5,000 acre farm is not open to the public and the gates are all guarded. It is a very diversified operation. We noted American made machinery and equipment in some of the fields. They raise thoroughbred horses (jumpers), grapes, wheat, sheep and Maremmana cattle. In addition, there are cork trees. The cork is harvested every seven years. When we stopped at the picnic area, one of the men used an ax to cut out a section of bark from a cork tree — and yes, it was cork. The center of the long picnic table was decorated with the words "Fort Smith - Cisterna," baked in bread. A generator provided power for lights and for the musicians. At this informal gathering, we again had an opportunity to visit with the people from Cisterna who had joined in the festivities.

Our visit to the Vatican was on Wednesday, May 27. There were two buses escorted by police. We entered through a rear entrance (security was very tight) and we stood until the Pope had been seated n an outdoor platform. We then took our seats. The Pope had known of our visit to Cisterna, and when he stopped to talk with Chad Colley he commented favorably on it.

After lunch we returned to Cisterna where we walked through the downtown area. The people were again very friendly, even though there were some communication problems at times; but a smile and a handshake are the universal keys to friendship. Our walk took us past the town square to Fort Smith Park and from there up the hill for a ribbon cutting ceremony and tour of the new William O. Darby School. There were displays of art work, songs by the children, and speeches. Mr. Richard Mulloy, Principal of Darby Junior High School in Fort Smith, presented to the new school a rug from the students of Darby Junior High, along with art work from the students, and a complete set of *The Journal* from



Presentation of rug to new William O. Darby School in Cisterna from the students of William O. Darby Junior High School in Fort Smith. Courtesy Richard Mulloy.

the Fort Smith Historical Society for the school library. Assisting Mr. Mulloy were Jackie Farrar, Counselor at Darby Junior High, and Gretchen Romo, a teacher at Darby. Mrs. Romo's twelve-year-old daughter, Josephine, represented all the students of Fort Smith.

After the school dedication ceremonies, the businessmen of Cisterna entertained not only our delegation but a large number of Cisterna citizens at a dinner at one of the local clubs. It was at this dinner that we were again reminded of our reason for being in Cisterna. Ray Marty (of Wyoming), a Ranger who had been wounded at Anzio, was given special recognition. After expressing appreciation for the honor, his simple from-the-heart statement reached everyone present: "It gives me pleasure to see you enjoying your freedom; don't ever let anyone take it away."

On our last day in Italy, Thursday, May 28, we packed our bags and drove down the tree-lined highway to Naples where we boarded a hydrofoil en route to Capri for a visit to the Blue Grotto. After a

quick lunch, we again boarded a hydrofoil for a very long trip to Anzio. A farewell dinner was held at Anzio. Chad Colley presented a medal from the Disabled Veterans of America to the Mayor and People of Cisterna. The last time this medal was presented was in 1984 to Vice President Bush.

A very tired delegation checked into their hotel in Rome at 3:30 a.m., knowing we had to be up and at breakfast by 7:00 a.m. to get to the airport. We made it

At the airport, we were met by the Cisterna delegation to bid us good-bye. We boarded our plane, made all connections, and wonder of wonders, arrived in Tulsa on time with all of our baggage.

The citizens of Cisterna and those of Fort Smith hope to set up a student exchange program, giving our young people the opportunity for carrying the torch of understanding and affection which has been lighted between us.

It can only lead to a richer and fuller cultural life for us all.

In Loving Memory



RICHARD L. MULLOY PRINCIPAL OF DARBY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DIES

Richard L. Mulloy, 53, died of a heart attack Monday, July 6, at his home. He was the principal of Darby Junior High School in Fort Smith, past president of Ark-La Exchange Club and the Arkansas Secondary School Principals. He was part of the Fort Smith delegation that on May 21-29, 1987, visited Fort Smith's sister city, Cisterna, Italy, for the sealing of the twinship of the two cities. While there, he made a presentation about William O. Darby to junior high school students of the new William O. Darby School in Cisterna. (Darby, a Fort Smithian, founded the Darby Rangers.) During the presentation, he also presented the school art work and a rug, which were gifts from the students of William O. Darby Junior High School in Fort Smith, and a complete set of The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society, a gift of the Society.

Mr. Mulloy was a member of the board of the William O. Darby Memorial Foundation, Phi Delta Kappa, American Numismatic Association, National Association of Secondary School Principals, United Commercial Travelers and Calvary Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held at Calvary Baptist Church with burial at Woodlawn Memorial Park. A military tribute was held at the cemetery which included a colorguard American and Italian flag ceremony, taps, and a flyover by Navy jet planes.

He is survived by his father, C.C. Mulloy, Sr., of Fort Smith; and a brother, C.C. Mulloy, Jr., of Van Buren. Memorial contributions may be made to the William O. Darby Ranger Memorial Foundation, P.O. Box 1059, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902, or Calvary Baptist Church, 2301 Midland Boulevard, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72904.



Photo courtesy Southwest Times Record.

JAMES COX, JR.

FORT SMITH EDUCATOR AND CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER DIES

James Cox, Jr., a Fort Smith educator and one of Fort Smith's most prominent civil rights leaders, is dead at 93. He died Thursday, February 5, 1987, in a Fort Smith hospital.

In the early 1920's, Mr. Cox and his late wife, Minnie, founded the Fort Smith chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In the years following, he and his wife struggled to upgrade the standard of living for the general community and surrounding area.

He was an educator for 40 years, teaching in the public school systems at Fort Smith (Lincoln High School), Hot Springs, Helena and Little Rock, Arkansas, and Spiro and Poteau, Oklahoma.

In March, 1984, Cox, along with other local civil rights activists, were acknowledged and recognized by a gathering of more than 200 people as well as Governor Bill Clinton and the Arkansas House of Representatives.

He was a member of Mallalieu United Methodist Church in Fort Smith, where he lived since 1923.

A memorial service was held Monday, February 10, in the Mallalieu United Methodist Church, with burial in the Harrison Chapel Cemetery at Antione, Arkansas, on Saturday, under the direction of Rowell-Parish Mortuary. The body was cremated.

He is survived by two sons, James Cox III of Fort Smith and Cortez Cox of Landover, MD; four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

HATTIE TURNER DENNARD FORT SMITH EDUCATOR DIES AT 100

Fort Smith educator and businesswoman, Hattie Turner Dennard, died July 10, 1987, in a Chicago, Illinois, hospital. She was 100 years old.

Mrs. Dennard, born in Van Buren on January 17, 1887, taught in the Fort Smith public school system for 48 years.

A member of the Mallalieu United Methodist Church, she was active in church and civic affairs and was well known in the black community for offering lodging and inspiration to hundreds of black students attending Fort Smith's old Lincoln School.

She also taught in Vian, Cedar and Moffett, Oklahoma, public schools and started a school for children of black miners in Calhoun, Texas.

Mrs. Dennard was honored in 1984 for her contributions to the black community in Fort Smith, was a member of the Anna T. Strickland Federated Club, and was the widow of Dr. Ernest Adolphus Dennard, who was for many years the only black doctor in Fort Smith. Dr. Dennard was born in 1886, graduated from the Meharry Medical College, Nashville,



Photo courtesy Southwest Times Record.

Tennessee, in 1914, was licensed to practice medicine in Arkansas in 1922 and recorded his license in Sebastian County, Arkansas, on June 26, 1922. Dr. Dennard died on April 1, 1948, of a coronary occlusion suffered while he was presiding over a meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He is buried in Oak Cemetery in Fort Smith.

Mrs. Dennard is survived by two daughters, Edith D. Willis of Memphis, Tennessee, and Agnes Carter of Chicago, Illinois; and two sons, Dr. Turner Dennard of Greensboro, South Carolina, and Kenneth Dennard of Oxford, Maryland. She is buried in Chicago, Illinois.

Sources

- 1. Southwest American, Saturday, April 2, 1948, "Negro Physician Dies Suddenly."
- 2. Southwest Times Record, July 11, 1987, "Fort Smith Educator Dies at 100."
- 3. Physicians and Medicine, Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas, 1817-1976, page 303. By Amelia Martin. Published 1978.
- 4. Fort Smith City Death Records, Fort Smith Public Library.

LORINE LAY

FORT SMITH SCHOOL TEACHER FOR 32 YEARS

Lorine B. Lay, 73, of Pasadena, Texas, died Wednesday, April 1, 1987, in Houston, Texas. She was a retired school teacher, who taught in the Fort Smith School District for 32 years, and a member of Evangel Temple Assembly of God Church.

Funeral was held on Friday, April 3, in Evangel Temple Assembly of God Church with burial at the Roselawn Cemetery under the direction of Fentress Mortuary.

She is survived by two sons, Jerry W. "Bill" of Kansas City, Kansas, and Robert F. of Pasadena, Texas; and four grandchildren.

In tribute to Mrs. Lay, David Tidwell of Little Rock, Arkansas, wrote the following letter to the editor of the Fort Smith *Southwest Times Record*, which was published on April 11, 1987:

"Mrs. Lorine Lay, who taught many years in the Fort Smith school system, was as popular with her students as any English teacher could be. She knew her stuff and was determined that the students would learn it. A cheerful, petite lady, she wasn't physically big enough to make eighth graders do anything, but she cared for her students and they learned almost in spite of themselves. At least one young lad did.

He was quiet, self-conscious and felt overwhelmed by the sheer size of the building and the 2,000 students who jammed the halls. It was the beginning of his second year in junior high when he eased into a seat near the rear of Mrs. Lay's class for the first time. As he nodded in recognition of the few familiar faces in the room he had no idea that something big in his life was beginning.

The eighth grader loved to read, but hated giving book reports, especially oral reports. After refusing to speak before the class, or even to give an oral report privately to the teacher, he got an 'F' the first quarter. He wanted to sit in the back of the class reading a library book while the other students worked on the textbook. Mrs. Lay wasn't

willing to allow it. She moved him to the front row, began involving him in the class discussion, and cultivated his friendship.

The lad's grade came up to a 'C+' the next quarter, and to an 'A' the last two quarters. Mrs. Lay encouraged him in writing assignments, introduced him to the wonders of the dictionary, and in a very real sense got him back on the road to academic respectability.

Mrs. Lay was the faculty sponsor of the Cub, the student paper of what later became Darby Junior High, and she encouraged the boy to take journalism in his ninth grade.

She became a major influence in his life and their families became friends. The teenager became friends with her two young sons, Bill and Bob, and assisted with mowing, painting and other tasks around her house.

Mrs. Lay's interest in his education continued through his high school years and into college. She gave him books for birthdays and Christmases. During his sophomore year in high school, the teenager dedicated his life to the Christian ministry and she bought him his first 'preaching' Bible. Later when financial problems were about to force him to drop out of Central Baptist College in Conway, she sent a series of monthly checks that enabled him to continue in school.

Mrs. Lay, who retired several years ago after 32 years as a teacher in the Fort Smith School District, died April 1. Thousands of youngsters were influenced in a positive way in her classes.

As you may have guessed, I am that eighth grade student of years ago. I have never understood why she took a special interest in me, but I am thankful the Lord allowed our paths to cross. She has been a special friend and a blessing to my life, and I loved her for it. Our lives are not in vain when we influence others for good.

David Tidwell, Little Rock."

EULA WRIGHT

RETIRED FORT SMITH SCHOOL TEACHER

Eula Wright, aged 85, of Fort Smith, Arkansas, died May 7, 1987, in Fort Smith.

She was born November 11, 1901, at Grandview, the daughter of Jesse Winston and Lovie Warren Wright. She was a retired school teacher and taught at Grandview, Urbanette, Omaha, Elm Springs, Fayetteville, DeQueen and Fort Smith. She was a member of the Arkansas Retired Teachers

Association and was a member of the Grandview Baptist Church.

Survivors include a brother, Jesse W. Wright, Jr., Fresno, California; a nephew, Dr. H.D. Wright, Jr., Rantoul, Illinois; a niece, Kaye Miller, Vacaville, California; and three great-nephews.

Graveside services were Saturday, May 9, at Grandview Cemetery. Burial was under the direction of Nelson Funeral Home of Berryville.

A Hundred Years of Service

Two well known Fort Smith establishments celebrated their centennial anniversaries this year.

Sparks Regional Medical Center began as a small modest hospital founded by St. John's Episcopal Church. Through the years it evolved into the largest and best equipped hospital in Western Arkansas and surrounding area. The hospital was named in honor of Ann Eliza Dibrell Sparks, wife of George T. Sparks and daughter of Dr. James Dibrell of Van Buren.

Armbruster/Stageway began when three men — A.K. "Tommy" Armbruster, Charles Kayser and Walker Walkord — went into business to repair and build horse-drawn wagons. Then, of course, came automobiles and the necessity to extend ordinary sedans to make them large enough for small buses, limousines or funeral coaches.

The small Fort Smith business has become the largest of its kind in the country, cornering almost a third of the nation's business and a goodly share of the overseas market.

Among its customers who drive Armbruster/Stageway limos are King Olaf V of Norway, Sylvester Stallone of movie fame, and William F. Buckley, noted writer.

A Hundred Years of Living

Centenarians in our area were listed recently in the Fort Smith *Southwest Times Record* (1 July 1987). They all reside within an eighty mile radius of Fort Smith, and while we realize people are living longer nationwide, we think their number constitutes a record. Our congratulations to them all! They are:

Lura Stewart, 100, February 4, 1887, Pocola, OK

Delphia Robinson, 101, June 26, 1886, Pocola, OK

Sister Cunigunda Rzodeczko, 100, November 8, 1886, Fort Smith, AR

Grover Roach, 101, March 15, 1886, Mena, AR

Minnie Hale, 101, November 11, 1885, Mena, AR

Martha Chandler, 100, November 30, 1886, Fort Smith, AR

Rosalie Jones, 107, June 19, 1880, Fort Smith, AR

Clarence Herndon, 101, August 7, 1885, Sallisaw, OK

Ola Masterson, 102, March 28, 1885, Sallisaw, OK

Neelie Buel, 100, May 5, 1887, Paris, AR

Marguerite Durkee, 99, October 18, 1887, Booneville, AR

Bertie Sanford, 99, September 26, 1887, Booneville, AR

Lucinda White, 100, February 14, 1887, Spiro, OK

Lillie Darneal, 99, August 4, 1887, Spiro, OK

Maude Overstreet, 99, November 26, 1887, Spiro, OK

William Thornbrugh, 99, July 26, 1887, Rudy, AR

Bailey McCurry, 100, January 25, 1887, Alma, AR

Iva Hixson, 99, October 5, 1887, Paris, AR

Juanetta Butterworth, 105, November 25, 1881, Mena, AR

Alma Rinehart, 101, August 8, 1885, Mena, AR

Roy Lee Lancaster, 101, October 17, 1885, Van Buren, AR

Ed Drash, 99, November 6, 1887, Van Buren, AR

Nina Wherry, 100, September 11, 1886, Fort Smith, AR

Ola Horton, 100, August 9, 1886, Fort Smith, AR

Emma Schilling, 99, July 13, 1887, Fort Smith, AR

Jess Waters, 99, August 13, 1887, Fort Smith, AR

Laura Watkins, 102, December 21, 1884, Van Buren, AR

Lillie Furlong, 102, October 31, 1884, Van Buren, AR

Nora Wescott, 100, July 7, 1887, Figure Five (Van Buren), AR (Tom Blake's column, July 7, 1987)

Southwest Times Record, July 1, 1987

We think it noteworthy to mention that the same issue of the newspaper carried the obituary notice of Nancye J. Adams, 100, of Alma, Arkansas.

Young Momen's Christian Association YMCA

Amelia Martin



YWCA, 401 Lexington, Fort Smith, Arkansas

The Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) is the oldest and largest multiracial women's organization in the world. Its aims are to advance the physical, social, intellectual, moral and spiritual interests of young women. The recreational, educational and spiritual aspects of its program are symbolized in its insignia, a blue triangle, the three sides of which stand for body, mind and spirit.

This organization, based on the teachings of Christianity, is open to women and girls of all faiths and backgrounds. It tries to meet the needs of its members with a program that combines services and social action.

The first YWCA was established in London, England, in 1855, when two groups of women met to aid women. One group formed a Prayer Union to pray for women, and the other was founded primarily to find housing for nurses returned from the Crimean War. The two groups united in 1877 as the Young Women's Christian Association. The organization spread and today the YWCA has more than 2½ million members. This total includes about 320,000 men and boys, who may become YWCA associates. The YWCA cooperates with, but is not related to, the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA).

In the United States, The Ladies' Christian Association, similar to the London groups, was founded in New York City in 1858. The first group in the United States known as the Young Women's Christian Association was organized in Boston in 1866. The movement grew rapidly, especially in industrial cities, where the YWCA provided housing for young single women. Later the YWCA became active on college campuses. By 1900, hundreds of YWCA's were in existence in the United States. The national organization was formed in 1906 and from its beginning has worked with women of other

nations. In 1912 a YWCA was organized in Fort Smith. Articles of Incorporation for the Fort Smith unit were filed May 13, 1948.

For unknown reasons, early records of the Fort Smith YWCA are not now available, but we are indebted to Miss Jean Montague, an early Executive Director, for writing a brief history of the local unit. it is not dated and only a portion of it survives, but that small part is valuable and we are fortunate to have it.

In the early 1900's the Clifton R. Breckinridge family moved to Fort Smith. Major Breckinridge had been an ambassador to Russia (his father, John C. Breckinridge, was vice-president of the United States, 1857-1861). The whole family was public spirited and dedicated to helping others. One daughter, Mary, founded the famous Pioneer Nursing Service in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky.

Soon after the Breckinridge family came to Fort Smith, at the request of Mrs. Breckinridge and some of her friends, a representative of the National YWCA came to Fort Smith to discuss the possibility of starting a YWCA. A meeting was called of the leaders in town, where it was explained what a YWCA could do for the community and what staff and equipment would be needed. Miss Montague's report said Mr. Clifford Speer led the meeting. Did the men help organize the Fort Smith unit, or was this possibly a typographical error? Also, could this have been the representative from the National YWCA, since the certification paper was signed by Mrs. Emma Bailey Speer, Executive Director? We find no Clifford or Emma Bailey Speer listed in the Fort Smith City Directory, and there is no record that a Mrs. Speer was ever president of the Fort Smith unit. Pledges were made to finance the project and plans were made for electing a Board of Directors, of which Mrs. Breckinridge was to be president.

Miss Montague further reported, "I was there that day, fresh out of college, where I had been active in the college YWCA... The Certification paper shows that the YWCA of Fort Smith, Arkansas, was approved by the National Board in New York, December 4, 1912. It is signed by Mrs. Emma Bailey Speer, President, and Miss Katherine Lambert, Executive Director."

Jean Montague served as both a volunteer and a professional in the YWCA. At this point in her historical report, she continued telling something about herself. We quote:

"For ten years after that, I was busy teaching away from Fort Smith. Only during vacation could I serve as a volunteer, occasionally as a cashier in the YWCA cafeteria or helping Girl Reserves (later called Y-Teens) with a candy sale or a picnic. When I taught two years in the Fort Smith high school, I served on the board, and when Miss Hart, the Executive Director, resigned to be married, the board asked me to take her place. I arranged to attend a Training Conference in Colorado that summer and began my duties in September 1923. The next summer I spent in New York studying at the National YWCA training school. I served thirty years in YWCA's including New Orleans; Rochester, New York; Kansas City, Missouri; Evansville, Indiana; and Detroit, Michigan."

She continued with a general statement about YWCA: "The work of the YWCA has meant far more in the development of this country than most people realize. The work has been done quietly, too quietly perhaps. Individual girls and their problems have never been exploited to win approval, 'building character' cannot be measured and advertised. The work has been creative, helping girls live up to their best. Such work does not get into the headlines.

"Such work does, however, require dedication, irregular hours whenever the need arises. It involves knowing individuals, and above all it requires CARING. It is not an easy job for professionals or volunteers. Hundreds of girls in Fort Smith, as in every city where there has been a YWCA, could testify to the influence of YWCA on their lives. That is the reward for the work of the volunteer as well as for the employed workers. The volunteers would themselves testify to the intangible rewards they have, of lasting friendships and of the inner satisfaction of having done a needed job unselfishly and well."

The surviving portion of Miss Montague's report ends here, except to list names of presidents of the Fort Smith unit before 1934. These will be included in a list of the presidents of the Fort Smith YWCA board which has been compiled from available records and the memory of persons who have been closely related to the Fort Smith unit.

Since the founding of the Fort Smith YWCA, it has had at least four homes: a location on Sixth Street, over Woolworth Five and Ten Cents Store on Garrison Avneue, over the New Theater at 923½ Garrison (later known as the Malco Theater), and the present location at 401 Lexington, where it has been since June 1953.

Jimmie Delle Caldwell joined the YWCA in 1944, when it was located over the New Theater. One of her fondest memories is going there for lunch on Saturdays and dinner on Thursday nights. At that time, she was working at the Arcade department store after school and on Saturdays. The Thursday night was because all downtown stores in Fort Smith stayed open on Thursday nights. Money was scarce, so she and other young working girls bought groceries, and Lucille Speakman, a Fort Smith school teacher who was a YWCA volunteer serving as leader of the Business Girls Club, cooked the meals. Memory is that because it was "cheap", those

meals included lots of ground beef, and Miss Speakman was famous for her spaghetti dinners. (Lucille Speakman has been honored by being selected as one of the first two members of the Westark Community College Hall of Honor. The story of this honor, more about Miss Speakman and her picture appear in this issue of *The Journal* in "News and Opportunities".)

The house at 401 Lexington was built by the Dick Reynolds family in 1906 and purchased by the YWCA from John and Helen Narisi for \$22,500. The original deed to the property was in the name of Andrew Byrne, Roman Catholic Bishop of Arkansas.

There are three full lots with 152 foot frontage on Lexington Avenue, and 140 feet on C Street. The property included a garage, and a garage apartment which rented for \$55 per month.

At the time of purchase, the house was described by Mrs. O.A. Fentress of the building committee as "an exaggerated Queen Ann type cottage (Editor's note: which may or may not be accurate — this is still in dispute.), with porch across the entire front and down the south side. The building, facing west, is located in one of the older residential areas of the city, on the fringe of the downtown business district.

"It is a two-story frame, with basement and attic. There are 3,360 square feet in the basement, 3,360 in the main floor and 3,240 in the second floor. The rooms are large, the ceilings high, and there is an outside and inside entrance to the basement. There are 840 square feet in the porches."

Dr. Nora Lindquist, at a meeting of the YWCA on January 25, 1954, told those present:

"Not many of us dreamed a year ago that in January, 1954, we would be in such a lovely building and would have accomplished so much. When the knowledge came that we must move, that we would be unable to pay the increase in rent, that it would be foolish to renew our lease under such circumstances, the quick thinking and cautious action of our board has led us to where we are today. The good in people, men and women, of Fort Smith rallied to our cause. Today we have our permanent home!

"To create activity for our young people, to make them feel that they have a home where they are wanted and loved, to meet the needs of adult groups — the men and women of our community, including Camp Chaffee — should be our goal.

"Never to forget the three-fold purpose and program of the YWCA which is spiritual, mental and physical, all to be used to build a Christian fellowship among us is our goal ahead for the YWCA." Then she quoted the words of Thoreau, "Be not simply good, be good for something" and Mohammed, "A man's true wealth is the good he does in this world."

The beautiful beveled mirrors, tile fireplaces and light fixtures are intact today. The original coal burning boiler was converted to gas and was the main source of heat for the building until a few years ago when central heat was installed.

Sue Blagg, who is now Executive Director, reported at the time of the installation of the new heating system, "At this writing, we are in the process of having central heat installed. It will not interfere with the inside decor of the building as the duct work will go around outside of the building and be vented inside in different rooms. The YWCA staff and board members will be working hard to pay off the loan of \$9,600. We feel it is worthwhile to keep this building preserved as close as possible to the original."

The original beauty of the house has been preserved through the years and in May 1983 the house was included in the Belle Fort Smith Tour of Historic Homes.

In the YWCA files, there is a list of 58 individuals and organizations who donated furnishings, materials and equipment from paint, paper, refinishing furniture, to furniture and accessories, land-scaping and books for the library.

On January 1, 1954, the building was dedicated and in that year a prayer room at the Margie K. Harrison Branch YWCA was dedicated to Mrs. Walter Jackson, who was president of the Fort Smith YWCA at that time.

During the summer of 1955, the dirt-floored basement was made into a recreation room, with excavation being done by husbands of board members.

When the YWCA moved from 923½ Garrison to the Reynolds house, Helen Shaw was Executive Director and Dr. Nora Lindquist was president of the board.

Miss Shaw announced an expanding program to include clubs for business girls and Y-Teens, crafts, classes of various interests, activities for young service men's wives, and entertainment for groups of all age levels, and that during her first eight months here, the Fort Smith YWCA had worked with 6,780 individuals, and of this number, 942 were men and hove

Upstairs, two of the bedrooms were remodeled for an apartment for the Executive Director, who also served as housemother. The other bedrooms and the carriage house were available for rent to transient women, wives whose husbands were in the hospital, or young women away from home in their first jobs. The carriage porch was remodeled to make room for a car. The residence program hasbeen discontinued because it proved to be impractical.

The YWCA is funded by membership fees, donations, and by the United Fund (formerly called Community Chest). In 1952 the allotment was only for eleven months, and in December 1958 the service of Helen Shaw, Executive Director, was terminated due to lack of funds. (Miss Shaw was recruited in 1953 from Little Rock where she had been employed by the Little Rock YWCA for eight years.) At the time Miss Shaw left, there were 132 members of the local unit. The present membership is 650. Miss Shaw's Teen Director, whose name we do not find in available records, assumed the duties of Director

and continued on with the work until her illness in November 1968. There was not another permanent Executive Director until December 1969.

In 1970 the coach house on the rear of the property was torn down because it had become a fire hazard, and the carriage porch remodeled to make room for an automobile. The antique furniture, donated by members of the board, was refinished by the Jackson Furniture Company. In late 1971, with the assistance of County Judge Glenn Thames, the parking lot was completed.

In 1934 a branch YWCA was organized in the home of Margie K. Harrison and was named for her. The Margie K. Harrison Branch was first called a branch, then a center, and back to branch at the request of the National Board of the YWCA.

The first home of the branch was the basement of the Ninth Street Baptist Church. In 1950 it was moved to 715 North H Street into property rented from the Fort Smith School District for \$1.00 per year, with all repairs, improvements, etc., the responsibility of the local YWCA. On May 23, 1974, another move was made, this time to 804 North Eighth Street with a lease purchase agreement.

Humphrey Batson became manager of the branch in January 1953 and resigned in 1980. The Margie K. Harrison Branch YWCA was closed in 1982 and the building sold.

There are no records available to show who the managers of the branch were, but Mrs. Batson remembers them as being: Miss Cecil Lusk, Mrs. C.J. Jamison, Mrs. Humphrey Batson and Errly McDowell.

An unsigned and undated report in the YWCA file said, "Duplicate Bridge has come and gone, classes have been added and cancelled, waiting wives enjoyed the friendship of the facility at 401, and the Young Women Committed to Action have made great strides at the Branch, Summer Day Camp is an established activity at the Branch and in the growth process in the 1950's the dues were raised from \$2.50 to \$3.00. The Branch and Central Y operate as one association, with similar activities at both branches."

The Crisis Center for Battered Women was adopted into the YWCA in 1979. At that time Pal Moomey and Carol Chitwood were the Crisis Center workers. The clients were housed in private homes until 1983, then at the Community Rescue Mission on Third Street. In 1984, the YWCA started renting four apartments to house the clients and their children. The shelter has always strived to keep the addresses of these places secret from public knowledge to maintain a safe place for the battered women and their children.

The YWCA Crisis Center works closely with S.C.A.N. (Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect), which rents office space upstairs in the YWCA building. Often the Crisis Center houses S.C.A.N.'s abused children and their mothers for a short while.

Pal Moomey retired from the Crisis Center. Also, Carol Chitwood is the housemother of the YWCA Building since 1983.

At this writing, the YWCA is in the process of purchasing a house to be used as the shelter for battered women and their children, for the reason that it will be safer, and with a housemother to supervise the meals and caring of the women (instead of separate apartments and kitchens etc.), the group support and family atmosphere of a home life will be better for the ladies and children.

The YWCA and the YWCA Crisis Center, United Way agencies, are not government supported. Operations are carried out with private donations from local support.

The YWCA and the YWCA Crisis Center feel great pride in their city and feel that Fort Smith is one of the "most caring" cities in the state.

The YWCA still offers many classes to the public and strives to keep up with the current activities. Classes include Exercise, Yoga, Dancing and many physical classes. The building, which has maintained its historical charm, is open to the public, Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Many people come to just look. One of the office staff is always happy to show the building to visitors.

Many weddings, receptions, birthday parties, church groups and reunion meetings are held in the YWCA building. The Senior Singles (65 and over) meet every Friday evening in the basement of the YWCA, sometimes playing Bingo, sometimes having a dance — always something interesting. Rooms for different size groups are for rent at a nominal fee. A group meets twice a week for Bridge in the library. Women's *Noon Aglow* meets for luncheon every Wednesday. *Nitetime Aglow* meets the fourth Tuesday of every month in the evening. Reverend Beebee has a church service in the grand room every Sunday.

Special classes are held: i.e., Drug Prevention for the whole family to attend, helping parents and children to be and stay drug free. These classes are free to the public. The YWCA is happy to host such classes. Many other classes are free with membership, which is \$15.00 per year. Other classes are available at low cost.

The following lists of Executive Directors and Presidents of the YWCA Board, who have served the Fort Smith YWCA, have been compiled from existing records and memories of those who have been closely associated with the organization. Any error is unavoidable and unintentional.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF THE YWCA BOARD

Miss Hart (given name unknown)
Jean Montague
Stella Harrington
Helen Shaw
Nancy Skinner
Margaret Ann Fitch
Katherine O'Brien, Acting Director
Joy Mullins
Sue A. Blagg

Dorothy Reedey, who served as Assistant Director for sixteen years, retired in March 1986. The position

was filled by Anna Ruth Lovett. Joy Mullins retired that same year after eleven years as Executive Director of the YWCA and the YWCA Crisis Center. The position was filled by Sue Blagg, who had done volunteer work in the YWCA for seventeen years.

PRESIDENTS OF THE YWCA BOARD (All dates of tenure are not known, so the list is probably not in exact chronological order and possibly not complete.)

Mrs. Clifton R. Breckinridge Dr. Minnie Armstrong Mrs. George Youmans Mrs. J. Seab Holt Mrs. J. Fount McGehee Mrs. Tom Harper Mrs. W.B. Hendrix Mrs. C.R. Batte Mrs. L.J. Noble Mrs. Walter Jackson Mrs. James T. Pearson Mrs. W.E. Smith Mrs. O.R. Cornett Mrs. J. Aubrey Yates Mrs. W.B. Hillery Mrs. S.E. Apple Dr. Nora Lindquist Mrs. Leland Hunt Mrs. Curtis Wright Mrs. H.N. Hall Mrs. George Packard Sr. Mrs. T.C. Scott Mrs. Jon Gallagher Mrs. Ellis Yoes Mrs. Arch Glenn Mrs. Franklin Trusdell Miss Jimmie Delle Caldwell Mrs. Louis Weinberger Mrs. James A. O'Brien Mrs. S.B. Scott, Jr. Mrs. C.V. Kehelev Mrs. Anna E. Walker Mrs. Donald Beck Mrs. Fannie B. Tirey Mrs. W.E. Jacobs Mrs. Helen Wells Graham Mrs. B.M. Anduss Mrs. Allen Cooper Mrs. S.R. Blagg

Sources:

Files, YWCA

Interviews with: Sue Blagg, Irene Hunt, Joy Mullins, Jimmie Delle Caldwell, Lucille Speakman, and Humphrey Batson.

Mrs. C.A. Latz

Mrs. Allen Cooper

Books

The World Book Encyclopedia, 1984. Volume 21, page 477.

The New Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1977. Volume X, page 837.

Dick Reynolds - His Family and His House The Home of the Fort Smith YMCA

Joyce Page*

During the Civil War, in Indianapolis, Indiana, two young men, John Lewis Reynolds and Samuel Nixon Hubbard, enlisted in the Union Army. Both survived the rigors of the war and in the 1870's migrated with their families southward in the hope of a better life. Both died in the 1880's - one in 1883 and the other in 1888. So far as is known, they never met, but their lives crossed when the oldest son of one married the youngest daughter of the other on 17 October 1887 in Fort Smith. The young couple, Cyrus Franklin (Dick) Reynolds and Sabina Clare (Bina) Hubbard, lived the rest of their lives in Fort Smith. This is the story of their lives - their forebears, their descendants, and their home at 401 Lexington Avenue, Fort Smith, now the home of the Fort Smith YWCA.

Dick Reynolds' family heritage has been traced back to Christopher Reynolds who was born about 1530 in County Kent, England.¹ Richard, one of Christopher's sons, became the head of a great shipping business with branches in Virginia, New England and Bermuda.² It is not clear whether Richard ever came to America, but there are records indicating that his son, Nicholas, did migrate to the New World and settled in Surry County, Virginia.³ From the immigrant, Nicholas, to Dick Reynolds' father, John Lewis, eight generations of this family have lived in America:4

Have Hved I	ii / tillollou.	
Nicholas	circa 1623	Surry County, Virginia
Robert	1642-1702	Surry County, Virginia
Nathaniel	1700-	Norfolk County, Virginia
Benjamin	1725-1776	Orange County, Virginia
William	1746-1816	Montgomery County, Virginia
William	1779-1857	Montgomery County Virginia Clark County, Ohio
James	1807-1888	Montgomery County Virginia Clark County, Ohio Delaware County, Indiana
John Lewis	1839-1888	Clark County, Ohio Delaware County, Indiana Washington County, Arkansas

John Lewis Reynolds, the father of Dick Reynolds, was born on 2 January 1839 in Clark County, Ohio, the son of James and Catharine (Albin) Reynolds. In the early 1840's, James and Catharine Reynolds moved to a farm near Yorktown, Indiana, where John Lewis and his six brothers and sisters grew to adulthood. John Lewis received a fair education, commensurate with the times, and received a certificate to teach school.

On 12 December 1861, in Yorktown, John Lewis Reynolds married Mary (Polly) Dragoo, the daughter of Belteshazzer and Sarah (Barrett) Dragoo.6 Polly was descended from a French Huguenot family named Dragaud. The progenitor of this family was Pierre Dragaud, born circa 1639 at St. Nazaire, France.7 Pierre either deserted or was dismissed from King Louis XIV's navy because of his religious beliefs and, about 1685, upon the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, he fled to England with his family.8 Records of the old French Church in Bristol, England, note the marriages in 1699 of Pierre's two sons, Jean and Pierre, Jr., Polly Reynolds' ancestor, and his wife Elizabeth Tavaude emigrated to Staten Island, New York, where there was a sizeable colony of Huguenots.10

Several generations later, Polly's great grandfather, Belteshazzer Dragoo, and three of his brothers served in the Revolutionary War. After the war, this Belteshazzer lived for a while in Mason County. Kentucky, until in 1794 he moved his family across the Ohio River to what is now Brown County, Ohio, where he built a log cabin near Logan's Gap. 11 This cabin is considered to have been the first permanent home in that part of Ohio, and in 1914 the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a monument on the site to commemorate this homestead. Today this monument can be seen a mile or so up a mountain road near the town of Ripley, Ohio. Around 1805, Belteshazzer and his wife, Martha Hannah Butler, became interested in the Shaker movement. By this time Belteshazzer's eight oldest children, including Polly's grandfather, Andrew, had married and established homes of their own, but Belteshazzer and his wife took their four youngest children and joined the Union Village Shaker Colony in Warren County, Ohio, near the town of Lebanon. 12 Belteshazzer, Martha Hannah, and their three daughters remained with the Shakers the rest of their lives, but their youngest child, Benjamin, left the Colony¹³ as soon as he reached the age of 21, married, and moved to Kentucky.

Polly Reynolds' parents, and later her grandfather, left Ohio and moved to Indiana, near Yorktown, where Polly was born in 1840 and where the paths of the Reynolds and Dragoo families crossed.

Two years after his marriage, John Lewis Reynolds, on 2 December 1863, enlisted in the Union Army for a period of three years, and was assigned to Company L, 8th Indiana Cavalry. His enlistment

The writer wishes to express her appreciation to her aunt, Joyce Reynolds Oglesby (Mrs. Ira D., Sr.) for so generously sharing her memories of life in Fort Smith in the early years of the twentieth century.

papers describe him as 24 years old, farmer, with blue eyes, auburn hair, light complexion, 5 feet 10 inches tall. Polly was left at home with their first child. California M. (Callie), to await the birth of Cyrus Franklin (Dick) on 20 May 1864.14 In July 1865. John Lewis Reynolds was discharged from the Army at Lexington, North Carolina. During the next five years, John Lewis and Polly added three more children to their family. Then, on 22 July 1871, tragedy struck the young family when Polly died. For the next two years, the Reynolds children were cared for by their grandmother, Sarah Dragoo, and their aunt, Mary Ann Dragoo, the wife of Polly's brother Cyrus, for whom Dick had been named. Dick was left-handed and, as was the custom in those days, his left hand was tied behind his back and he was forced to write with his right hand. He developed a beautiful handwriting, but it always looked as if it had been drawn rather than written. At times, he had a most impressive signature. On a power of attorney, dated 1894, his signature measures a half inch in height.

On 26 September 1873, John Lewis married Lucinda Reed. 15 Only one of their five children, Julia Ann, born 13 June 1877, survived for more than a few weeks. 16 Shortly after the birth of Julia Ann, in the fall of 1877, John Lewis and Lucinda, with the children, started toward Arkansas, via covered wagon. According to a letter written by Julia Ann in 1932, the trip took seven weeks. They first stopped for a while "across the river" but later moved "to the Boston Mountains of Arkansas." They settled on a farm 22 miles south of Fayetteville, Washington County, at a place called Strickler. The Reynolds family had apparently traveled with a group of people from Delaware County, Indiana. In 1891, when Lucinda applied for a widow's pension based on John Lewis' Civil War service, Thomas M. and Jane Hardwick, residents of Strickler, made affidavits that they had known John's first wife, Polly, in Delaware County, and attested to the fact of her death.

John Lewis Reynolds died of "bilious colic" on 3 July 1888, aged 49.¹⁷ The attending physician stated in an affidavit that the fatal attack had been brought on by "drinking to (sic) much water while very warm from laboring." John Lewis was buried in the Falls Creek Cemetery in Strickler, in the same area as his son Schuyler Lafayette and his first grandchild, Bessie Hendrickson, both of whom had died as infants.

Samuel Nixon Hubbard, the father of Sabina Hubbard (Mrs. Dick Reynolds), was born on 9 August 1829 in Guilford County, North Carolina, to Joseph and Achsah (Coffin) Hubbard. Samuel's great grandfather, Richard Hubbard, had patented 800 acres of land in Goochland County, Virginia, in 1736 and 1746. Richard's son, John, was a tobacco planter and slave owner in Mecklenburg County, Virginia. Around 1788, possibly because continual

planting of tobacco had depleted necessary nutrients in the Virginia soil, John moved to Georgia where he died in 1800.²¹

Joseph Hubbard, John's oldest son, was born 18 October 1751.22 Sometime in the 1770's, Joseph married Ann Crews, whose father was Irish and her mother a full-blooded Cherokee. Joseph and Ann moved to North Carolina in 1778 to raise their eight children. At some point this family became members of the Society of Friends (Quakers). One son and one daughter became Quaker ministers, 23 and six of the eight children are known to have been active in the Friends Society. After Ann died, about 1810 or 1812. Joseph followed several of his children who had moved to Guilford County, North Carolina, the site of the New Garden Monthly Meeting of Quakers. There, on 31 January 1827, when he was 76 and she 36, he married Achsah Coffin and before he died in 1832, he had fathered two more sons, John Russell and Samuel Nixon.24 When Samuel was born, one of his half-brothers was 55 years old.

Achsah Coffin was a birthright Quaker. She was sixth in descent from Tristram Coffin who came to America in 1642 with his wife, mother, several children, and two young sisters, settling first in Newburyport, Massachusetts.²⁵ In 1659, a group of nine men, including Tristram Coffin, bought most of Nantucket Island²⁶ and Tristram moved his family to the island where he died in 1681.²⁷

In 1773, William Coffin, Tristram's great grandson, and Achsah's grandfather, moved his family from Nantucket Island to New Garden, North Carolina.28 There in 1790 his son, William, Jr., married as his second wife Elizabeth Vestal,29 also from a well known Quaker family. Achsah was their first child and only daughter. Their oldest son, Vestal, was instrumental in establishing the Underground Railroad, 30 the purpose of which was to assist slaves in safely fleeing to non-slavery states or to Canada. Vestal recruited a younger cousin, Levi Coffin, who later moved to Indiana and directed the operations of the Underground Railroad at that end.31 Vestal died at age 32 in 1824,32 but Levi continued the work and is now known as the Father of the Underground Railroad.33 In Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, Uncle Tom's Cabin, which is based on the true life story of Eliza Harris, a runaway slave, the characters of Simeon and Rachael Holliday, who sheltered Eliza, were patterned after Levi Coffin and his wife Catharine.34 Hundreds of slaves were hidden in a small "secret" room in the Coffin house until they could be sent on to Canada in safety. The Levi Coffin house in Fountain City, Indiana, is now a National Historic Landmark. Coincidentally, Eliza crossed the ice on the Ohio River near the town of Ripley which is the same area in which Belteshazzer Dragoo built his cabin in 1794. She was hidden in the home of abolitionist Rev. John Rankin in Ripley³⁵ until the Underground Railroad was able to get her safely to Levi Coffin's home.

When Joseph Hubbard died in 1832,36 Achsah was left with their two young sons, aged three and five. Both the boys attended school at the "Little Brick School House" at New Garden, where one of their half brothers, Jeremiah Hubbard, and their uncle. Vestal Coffin, had taught.37 John Russell Hubbard was evidently a scholar. After learning all the New Garden school could provide, he matriculated at Haverford College, a Quaker college in Pennsylvania, where he received a bachelor's degree in 1855 and a master's degree in 1859.38 Samuel, on the other hand, was apparently not interested in furthering his education. Three extant letters which he wrote to his wife, Amanda, in 1865 while in the Union Army show that he had developed a style of spelling all his own. His empathy and caring, however, not only for his own family, but also for his comrades in arms, are very evident in his letters.

At age 20, in 1849, Samuel Hubbard married Elizabeth Edwards in Guilford County, North Carolina.39 Two sons, Joseph I. and Richard Woodson, were born before Elizabeth died in 1852.40 The older son, Joseph I., apparently did not survive infancy. During this period, many Quakers, who were strongly opposed to slavery, migrated to Indiana, a non-slave holding state. As many of his relatives had done previously, Samuel removed to Indiana after the death of Elizabeth. On 18 May 1854, in Indiana, he married Hannah Murphy, also a Quaker, and had four more children.41 Only two, Alfred Franklin (Frank) and Lillie Achsah, survived to maturity. Hannah died in 1861, and in 1863 Samuel married for the third time, Amanda (Cord) Lane, a young widow.42 Amanda was born in Elizaville (Fleming) Kentucky,43 but her parents, John W. and Christina (Caywood) Cord, moved their family to Hendricks County, Indiana, when Amanda was a small child.44 Samuel and Amanda had two children, Charles, born 18 January 1864, and Sabina Clare (Mrs. Dick Reynolds) born 10 February 1868, in Amo (Hendricks) Indiana.45

Just prior to the Civil War, Samuel Hubbard's mother, Achsah, left North Carolina and settled in Amo to be near her younger son. 46 Her older son, John Russell, had previously moved to Westfield, Indiana, where he taught "Latin, Greek, and higher mathematics," as well as "morality and religion" at Union High School, a Quaker academy.47 Achsah Hubbard died in Amo in 1870.48 In the 1870 federal census of Hendricks County, she is listed as 79, living alone and "keeping house." The only picture of Achsah shows her as a very old lady, still wearing the Quaker bonnet and style of dress she had worn all her life. A 3-cent U.S. Revenue stamp on the back of the photograph indicates that it was made in 1865 or 1866, the only years in which the federal government taxed photography as a source of funds to fight the Civil War.

Samuel Hubbard enlisted in the Union Army on 10 February 1865, at age 35. His enlistment papers describe him as 5 feet 10 inches tall, with blue eyes, light hair, and a fair complexion. He was a carpenter.



Achsah Coffin Hubbard, widow of Joseph Hubbard, 1791-1870. Picture taken 1864-1865 in Indiana.

By enlisting in the army, Samuel indicated that he had come a long way from his Quaker upbringing. After his marriage to Amanda, he left the Quakers entirely and became one of the early members of the Baptist Church in Amo.⁴⁹ It is quite possible that the Quakers dismissed him for "marrying out of unity," i.e., marrying a non-Quaker, but this has not been proved.

In 1878, Samuel moved with Amanda and their children, and his sons Frank and Richard Woodson, to the town of PawPaw in Indian Territory, across the Arkansas River from Fort Smith. Lillie, Samuel's older daughter, married William Vannice in Hendricks County, Indiana, and she and her husband lived and died in Danville, Indiana.

On 29 September 1882, Samuel's wife, Amanda, died of now unknown causes and was buried in PawPaw. Samuel had now outlived three wives. On 22 June 1883, he was killed in a sawmill explosion near PawPaw. The Fort Smith newspaper, The New Era ("Oldest Republican Paper in the Defunct Confederacy"), reported the accident and described Samuel as "an old man".50 He was 54 years old. Samuel was buried in Oak Cemetery, Fort Smith. Some years later, the Arkansas River began expanding its boundaries at the town of PawPaw and threatened to engulf the cemetery where Amanda was buried. Frank Hubbard and Dick Reynolds, by then the husband of Sabina Hubbard, with a wagon and team, and accompanied by a member of the Birnie Bros. Funeral Home, drove to PawPaw to exhume Amanda's coffin for burial in Oak Cemetery in the same grave as Samuel. Dick Reynolds, many years later, told his son-in law, Chann Koons, that Amanda's coffin broke open during the operation and he noticed a tortoise shell comb in her still luxuriant hair. In the only known picture of Amanda, she is wearing a tortoise shell comb in her dark hair.

Young Dick Reynolds apparently had no desire to follow in his father's footsteps and become a farmer. He left his father's farm in Washington County and went to Fort Smith to seek his fortune. He was hired as a hand on the "Jennie May," under the command of Captain Thomas C. Blakely (See Journal Vol. VI. No. 2 of September 1982). Another employee on the boat was Frank Hubbard. Soon Dick was boarding at the home of Frank and Sarah (Clark) Hubbard, One of Frank's daughters, the late Minnie Hubbard. recalled being told that a certain china dish had been set aside for Dick to put his wages in, and Sarah kept his money safe for him. Also living at the Hubbards was Sabina Clare Hubbard, Frank's young halfsister, who had been orphaned in 1882 and 1883 when she was about 14. Sabina disliked her name and was always known as Bina. Dick was obviously attracted to the pretty, vivacious young woman, and on 17 October 1887, when she was 19 and he 23, they were married by A.J. Kincaid, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fort Smith.51





Cyrus Franklin (Dick) Reynolds and Sabina Clare (Hubbard) Reynolds on their first wedding anniversary, 17 October 1888.

For the first few years of their married life, Dick and Bina lived at 12 North 10th Street, Fort Smith, where their first two children, Joyce Dragoo and Hazle, were born in 1888 and 1890, respectively. On 21 October 1890, when Hazle was about five months old, Dick bought for \$2,050 Lot #11 on North 8th Street from Bleecker and Elizabeth S. Luce.⁵² Later, in 1902, he bought the adjoining Lot #10 from Robert and Bridget Thompson.⁵³ The house that Dick then built for his family was located at 615 North 8th Street. In recent years, the house has been converted to a duplex and moved to 315-317 North 8th where it is now part of the Belle Grove Historical District.

A third daughter, Grace Lois, was born 14 February 1892, and their only son, Hubbard, was born 13 August 1894. Hubbard died less than two years later, on 14 June 1896. His death certificate in the Fort Smith City Hall gives the cause of death as congestion. A few days after the death of her child, Bina Reynolds incurred the disapproval of friends when she took her small daughters on a picnic. When she was confronted with being unfeeling, she explained that she had done everything she could for

the baby during his illness, and that before his death she had promised the three little girls a picnic. Now she could do nothing further for the baby, but her little girls were alive and she had to think of their welfare and happiness.

Hazle's name was originally spelled Hazel. After her first day at school, she came home crying because the children had called her "hazel nut." Her mother told her to change the spelling to "Hazle" and the taunt wouldn't apply. This was apparently a successful solution and she remained "Hazle" for the rest of her life.



Reynolds family circa 1912. Left to right: Hazle Reynolds Page, Sabina Hubbard Reynolds, Grace Reynolds Koons, Dick Reynolds, Joyce Reynolds Oglesby.

After their father's death, Dick Reynolds became the guardian of his half-sister, Julia Ann. During the winter, she lived with the Reynolds and attended Fort Smith High School from which she graduated in 1894 second in her class. Her record was exceeded only by that of Lillie Hubbard, the daughter of Frank and Sarah Hubbard. During these years, Lucinda. John Lewis Reynolds' widow, spent much of her time in Indiana with her Reed relatives, and in the summer Julia joined her there. The attachment between Dick and Julia was very close, and remained so for all of their lives. Lucinda was also a favorite of the Reynolds girls. All of their grandparents had died before they were born, and Lucinda, their grandfather's second wife, was, as Joyce Reynolds Oglesby says, the nearest thing they had to a grandmother. Lucinda's pictures show her as an attractive, rather plump lady - the adjective that comes first to mind in describing her is "round." She died in 1903 but lived to see her only surviving child married. The Reynolds girls also knew Samuel Hubbard's oldest son, Richard Woodson, whom they called Uncle Woody. For many years they kept in touch with Vernie, one of his daughters. They visited this family in Memphis and also with their aunt, Lillie Hubbard Vannice, in Danville, Indiana.

In 1899 Dick's sister, Kate Reynolds Hendrickson, died in Washington County, Arkansas, leaving six children, the youngest, Hugh Francis, only ten months old. Arrangements were made for Hugh to

live with Dick and Bina. He was treated as a member of the Reynolds family and when he started school was known as Hugh Reynolds. He was not told that he was the nephew, rather than the son, of Dick Reynolds. When Hugh was about 14, his father and siblings came to visit and one of the chidren told Hugh the real facts of his parentage. The shock was profound and he was unable to deal with it. He ran away, leaving both his real and his foster families. He was not heard from until sometime in the 1940's or 1950's when he came back to Fort Smith and contacted Joyce Oglesby. She says that he was nicely dressed, very pleasant, but volunteered no information about his life. That was the last anyone heard from him.

Dick Reynolds' business affiliations can be traced through the Fort Smith City Directories. In the 1894-1895 directory he was listed as a salesman for M.C. Wallace. From 1897 through 1900, he was a partner in the firm of Reynolds and Danner. Their ad read: "Wholesale and Retail dealers in Liquors, Fine Wines, Cigars and Tobacco. Agents for the celebrated Manitou mineral water. Jug trade given special attention." The firm was located at 511 Garrison Avenue. Sometime prior to 1904, he and Samuel Harper formed a partnership, the Harper and Reynolds Liquor Company, located at 500-502 Garrison Avenue. By 1918 the partnership had been dissolved and Dick was listed as a traveling salesman for the J.W. and Robert Meek Candy Company, of which he was a stockholder. From 1918 through 1926, he was listed as secretary of the candy company.

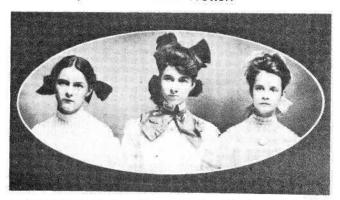
As his daughters became teenagers, the little house on 8th Street was becoming crowded. So, on 1 April 1905, Dick bought Lots 1, 2 and 3 in Block Q of the Fitzgerald addition in Fort Smith. 54 His partner, Samuel Harper, bought the remaining three lots in that block. Each paid \$3,500 for his three lots. The grantors of the deeds were Alfred H. and Mary F. Raymond of Kansas City, Missouri.

A month after he received the deed to the land. Dick and Bina borrowed \$5,000 from Sig. S. Stemen of St. Louis, a friend of long standing. The Mortgage with Power of Sale was a promissory note due in three years, with six percent interest, payable annually at the Merchants National Bank.55 In the event of default, Stemen had the right to sell the land at public sale to the highest bidder at the 6th Street entrance to the County Court House. 56 The stated purpose of the borrowed money was to erect a building on the three lots. Joyce Oglesby remembers that when the mortgage was paid off, the Stemens were invited to dinner and the mortgage burned. On 20 June 1905 a contract was let to Leo Bercher to build the stone foundation for a "frame cottage" on Lexington Avenue. The work was to be completed within a month, at a cost of \$1,012.50, and the architect was John P. Sullinger.57

The house was to be a showplace, to provide the setting which Dick, a dedicated family man, felt his wife and daughters deserved. Mrs. Sam Harper once

said that if Dick Reynolds had his way, he would build a wall around his wife and daughters to keep the world out. The house was not quite finished when the family moved in; the beautifully shaped front stairway had not yet been installed. Hazle was a sleepwalker, so every night until the stairs were in place, her mother locked her in her upstairs bedroom.

Life in Fort Smith during the early years of the twentieth century seems to have been idyllic, at least as far as the Reynolds girls and their friends were concerned. There are many snapshots of groups of young people on outings and at costume parties. The Reynolds girls always stayed together and had the same friends. And many of those were friends for life — Irma Davis Blakely, Urie Carnall, Nettie Fuhrmann, Lillie Fuhrmann Trotter.



Left to right: Hazle Reynolds, Joyce Reynolds, Grace Reyonds.

Snapshots of Bina and her daughters always show them in very fashionable clothes. Stylish "coat suits," shirtwaists trimmed with tiny tucks and lace, and large, feather trimmed hats. Bina was not a seamstress, so periodically a woman moved into the house for a week and created new wardrobes for all of them.

Dick had excellent taste and apparently had the means to gratify it. He ordered furnishings for the house from St. Louis and New York. The furnishings reflected the era. The style was late Victorian, but without the fringe and excessive clutter of an earlier time. When I, the oldest grandchild, became aware of the house some 20 years later, very little had been changed.

One entered the front door into a center hall running the entire length of the house. Immediately to the left was a large, highly glazed Chinese ceramic urn in a brilliant green color. It was prosaically used as an umbrella stand. A little farther down the hall on the left was a grandfather's clock. At 11:00 a.m. every Sunday for many decades, Dick Reynolds would wind the clock and make any minute adjustment required. During the summer, assorted grandchildren gathered around to watch this fascinating ceremony. The people who bought the house after the death of Dick removed the clock when they sold the house to the YWCA. Recently,

granddaughter Janice Day lamented the loss of the clock and said she had wanted it. She was advised that each of the other six grandchildren would also have liked to have it, and that its removal had probably averted a family quarrel. It is hoped, however, that some day the present owners will return the clock to its rightful place in the house.

Across the hall from the clock was the stairway, constructed of oiled walnut which never required refinishing. Unfortunately, the stairway and the wood paneling around it have in recent years been painted white, thus destroying much of the beauty of the front entrance.

Continuing down the hall, on the left was a large floor to ceiling mirror. It is still there. How wonderful it would be if the past images it has reflected could be recovered! A few feet beyond the mirror was a large oak library table. As I remember it, nothing ever had a permanent place on its top. I do vividly recall one hot day when Mother had me stand on the table so she could mark the hem in a new dress. Mother, like her Mother, was not adept at sewing, but she did make several dresses for me. This particular day she had me standing so long with my head up near the ceiling that I fainted for the first and only time in my life. I don't think she ever really believed that I wasn't faking so I could get back to my own interests.

The back hall contained a wall telephone and the back stairway. It also contained two back doors to the ice box. These were for the use of the iceman. He could put 100 lb. blocks of ice in the box without going through the kitchen. The ice box was built into the wall and was entered through other doors opening into the butler's pantry. It must have measured at least six feet wide and five feet high. with a depth of about three feet. It has now been removed and a new wall constructed. To the left of the hall is the entrance to a large kitchen, with plenty of room for a table and six chairs. Between the kitchen and the dining room was a butler's pantry with ceiling high cabinets for dishes and drawer storage space below. Between the two was a serving shelf wide enough for me to stand on and admire the glassware and china inside. Of particular interest to me was a fruit bowl and six salad-sized plates of opaque white china, made in Austria, each piece handpainted with various sized bluebirds in flight. When the house was dismantled and its contents divided. Mother obtained the bowl and two of the plates and gave them to me; no one knows what happend to the other four plates. Today I have collected some 70 pieces of this Bluebird china.

Back to the front of the house, to the left of the door, was the parlor, used only for weddings and other formal occasions. It was furnished with a sofa and chairs upholstered in horsehair. The horsehair was so uncomfortable on the bare legs of grand-children that the parlor was safe from their play. Next, the music room, which, in my memory, contained only three items of furniture. There may have been more but I remember only these: a player

piano, with rolls of music of the early years of the century, such as "Nola," a small music cabinet which is now in Joyce Oglesby's apartment, and a large overstuffed armchair upholstered in black leather. It was located by a window and was a favorite place for reading, first by the Reynolds daughters, and then by the grandchildren. One summer I spent most of my waking hours in that chair, with legs thrown over one overstuffed arm, reading the complete works of Alexandre Dumas from my grandfather's library. The *Count of Monte Cristo* books remain favorites to this day.

Adjoining the music room was the dining room. The furniture was heavy mahogany, with each piece appearing to have been made for the particular spot it occupied. Two small oval windows high in the outside wall brought in the sunshine. These windows are clear glass, but in my memory the glass was amber, and reflected golden spears of light into the room. The dining room furniture is now back in the house, thanks to grandchildren Dick Koons and Janice Koons Day, the children of Grace Reynolds Koons.

The ceilings in the parlor, music room and dining room had been hand decorated by a French artist with gracefully arranged garlands of ribbons. Unfortunately, the ceilings have been repainted and his handiwork remains only in the center of the dining room ceiling.

To the right of the central hall in the rear of the house was my grandparents' bedroom, now the YWCA library. The furniture was oak and heavy. The most interesting piece in the room to me was my grandfather's oak desk. The right side was the desk itself, and the left was a small glass-doored bookcase. Over the double bed was a large oval picture of my grandfather, taken in mid-life, wearing a large felt hat and a luxuriant handlebar moustache. A door led to the clothes closet and in the closet another door led to a watercloset. This was the only part of the house that I didn't like. There was another door from the side hall into the watercloset, but there was no way for air to circulate within it, and only a high window to let in light from the bathroom next door. Although the room was kept scrupulously clean, there was always a musty air about it, and I always preferred to run upstairs to the other bathroom. The bathroom adjacent to the watercloset was furnished only with a tub and basin. The one upstairs had only a commode and basin. So one was compelled to make use of both of them.

Across the side hall downstairs, opposite the bathroom, was another large bedroom. I have no recollection of its use during my early years, but I understand it was the room in which my grandmother died. Later it was used as a bedroom by Joyce Oglesby. From this bedroom a door led to the library, now the YWCA office. There was a Victrola in this room and the grandchildren drove the grownups wild by playing over and over again such immortal classics as "Little Brown Jug," "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain," and "Go Tell Aunt Rhody."

The door from the library led then, as now, into the front hall where we started this memory tour.

Upstairs there was a large square center hall which never seemed to have a use except to get to the four bedrooms which opened off it. When the house was built, each of the girls had a bedroom, with another for guests. By the time of my childhood, rooms were rented during the school year to teachers Miss Mary K. Settle and Miss Lou Yates. When we arrived for the summer they were just taking off for parts unknown to us. Not having been exposed to a situation of this kind, I couldn't understand why they lived part of the year in Fort Smith and the balance elsewhere. I am sure, though that when they saw the five Page children arriving, they were happy to be leaving.

There was a table set against the back wall of the hall, directly opposite the top of the stairway. On it was a porcelain humidor of an almost life-sized head of a Moor wearing a very colorful turban. Each night as we walked up the stairs, at some point, depending on one's height, the head loomed up out of the semi-darkness. To an over-imaginative child, it seemed very menacing. It frightened my brother, Lewis, so much that he dreaded going upstairs to bed. When the family possessions were removed from the house, that fierce looking head was the only thing he asked for.

The barn, which has now been torn down, was fascinating to the grandchildren, particularly since we were forbidden to climb the ladder to the second floor where there were open windows. It had originally been built to house the carriage and Mamie, the family horse. When Mamie grew too old to work, Dick put her out to pasture on a farm near Springdale. When the horseless buggy came in, Dick bought a Model A Ford Coupe for \$700. It was used mainly on his selling trips and at the first sign of winter was put on blocks in the barn. When the car was sold a number of years later, it had been driven only about 700 miles.

At one point in time there was a small fenced area next to the barn where a few chickens were kept to provide both fresh eggs and chicken for frying. Along the outside of the fence were Concord grape vines. It was not very often that the Pages stayed late enough in the summer to see the grapes ripen, but when we did, the taste of the sun-kissed fruit was memorable.

For years in front of the house was a large carriage block which was a necessity for ladies alighting from high buggies. When restoration of old Fort Smith was begun, it was discovered that this block had been a part of the wall around the fort. Dick Reynolds, like many other residents of Fort Smith, returned the carriage block to its original home.

The Reynolds girls called their parents "Mama" and "Papa" and all the grandchildren did the same. The house was always known as "Papa's" house, never "Mama's" house. When asked why this was so, Joyce Oglesby explains that Mama was always busy

with church and charitable pursuits, and Papa took care of the house, which in reality was his own creation.

Papa had very definite ideas about how to keep the house cool, or at least comfortable, during Fort Smith's extremely hot summers. Of course, the large rooms and high ceilings helped, but he also insisted that all windows be kept closed and the shades drawn. This worked beautifully for the downstairs, but since the house is only one and a half stories high, the lower ceilings in the upstairs bedrooms were not conducive to moderating the temperature.

During the last years of her life, Bina was in very poor health with a heart condition. On the afternoon of 31 January 1926, she was in bed, but feeling better, and talking to her husband and her daughter, Joyce. Almost in the middle of a word, she died, the result of an embolism. She was 58. The whole family was devastated, particularly Dick, and although he lived another 22 years, until 30 December 1948, he never really got over her death.

* * *

The foregoing information about the Reynolds family has been gleaned from personal research and from conversations with my mother, Hazle Reynolds Page, and her two sisters. Regrettably, I did not become interested in family history in time to record the valuable information my grandparents could have provided. The balance of this article contains my personal recollections of the summers I spent as a child in my grandparents' home.

My parents, Hazle Reynolds and George Robert Page, were married at 401 Lexington on 11 November 1913. My mother kept a scrapbook with newspaper clippings of the wedding and of the parties leading to it. The wedding was solemnized in the parlor under an arch of ferns and white flowers, by the Rev. F.F. Gibson, pastor of the First Baptist Church. Later there was a wedding supper for 75 family members and close friends. Hazle's gown was described as "an exquisite wedding gown of white crepe meteor with lace elaborations." Years later, in a window seat in the dining room, I found her wedding gown and white satin slippers; both the gown and the slippers were far too small for me at age 13.

The young couple went immediately to their first home at 2424 Grand Avenue where I arrived on 27 August 1915 and my oldest brother on 4 May 1917. The house on Lexington Avenue was a second home to us during our early years. About 1918, however, my father took a job as a government auditor and we moved to Tulsa. In 1919 we moved to Houston where my three youngest brothers were born. At that time Houston had such a bad reputation that my grandmother was sure we'd all die of malaria or yellow fever. Mother, having lived all her life in Fort Smith and being very attached to her parents and sisters, was reluctant to go off into the unknown. As an inducement, my father promised that she could come back for a visit each year. This is why I spent so much time with my grandparents.

After my grandfather's partnership with Sam Harper was dissolved, he invested in the Meek Candy Company. Since he was not yet ready to retire completely, he became a traveling candy salesman to nearby towns. Every Sunday, on the driveway under the porte cochere, he reorganized his sample case, replacing stale candy with fresh. Needless to say, when we were visiting, my brother Bob and I were always on hand to eat the stale candy. It didn't matter how unappetizing it looked, we always ate it. Even today, I can almost taste the flavorless bits of candy we consumed.

Early in the summer in which I turned seven, my parents sent me alone to spend the summer with my grandparents. I traveled by train from Houston to Fort Smith, an overnight trip. I was put in charge of the Pullman porter and remember waking during the night to find him pulling the blanket over me. Daddy also gave me a handful of quarters, nickels and dimes, more money than I had ever possessed. Every time the train stopped, a train butcher got on with his wares of cookies and candy. I felt it was my duty to buy from each of them. When we arrived in Dallas where I was to change trains, the porter kept me in tow until I saw my great aunt (Julia Ann Reynolds) and uncle who put me on the train to Fort Smith where my grandparents met me. That trip to Fort Smith is still very clear in my mind, but I have no memory whatever of my trip back to Houston.

My grandmother cooked the best fried chicken I have ever eaten. I informed her that I had never been permitted any part of the chicken but the drumstick, undoubtedly a complete fabrication. During that summer she made sure I could never again truthfully make that statement. As my birthday approached, my mother wrote that my birthday present was a piano and I would take lessons. This seemed like a delightful prospect and I could hardly wait to get home. Needless to say, I soon found that practicing was a chore and a bore.

Spending the summer in Fort Smith was always interesting, with new friends and new experiences. Mother's old friends always entertained her, and when the hostess had a daughter close to my age, I was usually invited too. I was, however, much more interested in listening to the ladies' conversation about the "old days" and the gossip about friends than I was in conversing with my peers. There were a number of children of Mother's friends: Sidney and Sarah Jane Blakely; John, George and Urie Ann Carnall; Janie Fink; Hazel and Helen Richardson; Fred, Milton and Mary Mock. Hazel Richardson was named for my mother.

There also were our first cousins. They lived across the street from our grandparents. Their father, Chann Koons, made the best ice cream in the world, usually peach. Early in the day, he would mix all the fresh ingredients and put the custard in the old-fashioned hand freezer. All the children gathered around and each of us took a turn at the freezer. When it was frozen and the dasher removed, there was always an argument as to who got to lick the dasher. The hardest part, after Uncle Chann had packed the freezer, was waiting until the sun went down and it was cool enough to sit on the lawn to eat the ice cream. My grandfather was always served his

portion in a soup bowl, the rest of us in smaller dessert dishes, which always seemed somewhat unfair to me. Generally a few of the neighborhood youngsters drifted over for a taste. Needless to say, there was never enough for seconds.

As we became teenagers, the miniature golf craze hit Fort Smith and many an afternoon was spent trying to avoid the hazards. A few years later, boys became important. George Carnall took a liking to me and several times took me to the movies where we sat in the cheaper balcony. George also gave me an "emerald" bracelet from Woolworth's. It was far too large for my skinny wrist, but it certainly did impress me.

When I was 11 or 12, I was "into" stamp collecting and frequently ordered stamps "on approval" from mail order dealers. I would spend hours trying to decide which stamps to buy with the few pennies I had to spend. That summer I decided to explore the trunk room on the second floor of my grandfather's house. I found a box full of old letters, mostly still in their envelopes, and confiscated the stamps. I wasn't really interested in the letters but did read enough to discover that many had been written during the Civil War. My sins were discovered by my mother and I was spanked, not for tearing off the stamps but for reading other people's mail! Years later, when the three Reynolds girls closed their parents' home, they burned all the letters. I wonder how much family history I could have learned if those letters had been preserved.

In those pre-air conditioning days, Fort Smith summers were miserably hot. One day a thermometer on the back porch (in full sun, of course) read 110°. The basement still had a dirt floor and was easily the coolest place in the house. One summer we brought our dog, a long-haired mixed breed. She discovered the basement, dug out a dog-sized hole in the hard packed floor and refused to budge for as long as we were there.

Before the house between the Harper and Reynolds houses was built, there was a wide expanse of green lawn for games of tag or hide and seek, or for rolling on the grass, or turning cartwheels. While the rest of us remember this as a wonderful playground, my oldest brother's memory was how long it took him to mow the grass in the hot Arkansas sun.

In 1936 my father was transferred to New York City. On our way east from Houston, my mother, four brothers and I visited in Fort Smith for a large part of the summer. I had just graduated from Rice University and my oldest brother had finished two years at Texas A & M. I don't think any of us realized then that this would be our last visit to our grandfather's house as a family. A new environment and new interests turned our loyalties elsewhere. Our memories, though, have obviously been passed on to the next generation who, although they have never been to Fort Smith, avidly listen to the tales we tell of their great grandfather's house.

Very few families today need or can afford a house of the size of 401 Lexington Avenue, and so many beautiful homes of the 1890's and early 1900's have been torn down or have become rundown boarding houses. I, for one, am profoundly grateful that the YWCA saved Papa's house from this fate and that they are as proud of it as the family is.

Footnotes

- *Joyce Page, 7501 Long Pine Drive, Springfield, Virginia 22151.
- 1. S(tephen) F(rederick) Tillman, Reynolds Family 1530-1959 (Washington: The Goetz Company, 1959), p. 1.
- 2. Ibid.
- 3. Ibid., p. 62.
- 4. Ibid., pp. 62, 70-72.
- 5. Ibid., p. 72.
- 6. Delaware County, Indiana, Marriage Records, Book C4, p. 158, located at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana.
- 7. Alice Young Duncan, History of Dragoo, Speer, Duncan, Woodside Families (Manhattan, Kansas, n.p., 1972), p. 1.
- 8 Ibio
- Photocopy of French Church, Bristol, England, marriage records made from Microfilm #266246 at LDS Library, Salt Lake City. Record believed to be copy of photostat sent to Mr. Arthur Hamilton by Society of Genealogists, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, England.
- 10. Duncan, ibid
- Elsie Johnson Ayres, Highland Pioneer Sketches and Family Genealogies (Springfield, Ohio: H.K. Skinner & Son, 1964), p. 791.
- 12. Shaker Records at the Library of the Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio.
- 13. Microfilm of Union Village Journal at Warren County Historical Society, Lebanon, Ohio. Under date of 20 March 1820: "Benjamin Draggoo receives his Estate, and leaves the Society."
- 14. Photocopy of Reynolds family Bible in possession of writer.
- 15. Delaware County, Indiana, Marriage Records, Book C6, p. 155, located at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana.
- Lucinda Reynolds' claim for Civil War widow's pension, now at National Archives, Washington, D.C. Application #440974, Certificate #301129.
- 17. Ibid.
- 18. Ibid.
- 19. Original New Garden, North Carolina, Monthly Meeting Records, Vol. II, p. 66, in Quaker Collection, Guilford College, Greensboro, North Carolina.
- 20. Two land patents for 400 acres each, one dated 17 March 1736, Patent Book 17, 1735-1738, p. 248; the other dated 12 January 1746, Patent Book 25, 1745-1747, pp. 490-492. On microfilm at Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia (Reels 15 and 23).
- 21. Will of John Hubbard recorded in Will Book 1791-1803, Section B, pp. 73-74, Office of Judge of Probate Court, Elbert County, Georgia.
- 22. Family record kept by Achsah Coffin Hubbard on end papers of book: The Journals of the Lives and Travels of Samuel Bownas and John Richardson (London Printed: Philadelphia, Reprinted and Sold by William Dunlap at the Newest Printing Office, in Market Street, 1759).
- 23. Memorials of Deceased Friends who were Members of Indiana Yearly Meeting (Cincinnati: E. Morgan & Sons, 1857), pp. 147-154, 161-165.
- 24. See Note 19.
- 25. Lydia S. Hinchman, Early Settlers of Nantucket, Their Associates and Descendants (Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott Company, 1896), p. 24.
- 26. Ibid., p. 10.
- 27. Ibid., p. 25.
- 28. William Wade Hinshaw, Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy, Vol. I (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1978), p. 532. Reprint Edition.
- 29. Ibid., p. 426.
- 30. Errol T. Elliott, Quakers on the American Frontier (Richmond, Indiana: The Friends United Press, 1969), p. 85.
- 31. Ibid., p. 86
- 32. Hinshaw, ibid., p. 494.
- 33. Henry Howe, LLD, Historical Collections of Ohio, Vol. I (Cincinnati: State of Ohio, 1902), p. 826.
- 34. Ibid., p. 827.
- 35. Ibid., p. 338.
- 36. See Note 19.
- 37. Inscription on monument marking site of schoolhouse in New Garden, Guilford County, North Carolina.
- 38. Biographical Catalog of the Matriculates of Haverford College, 1833-1922 (Philadelphia: Haverford Alumni Assn., 1922), p. 66.
- 39. Guilford County, North Carolina, Marriage Bond dated 17 January 1849. Original in North Carolina Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 40. Hubbard family Bible in possession of Dick M. Koons, 219 Gessner, Houston, Texas 77024.
- 41. Ibid.
- 42. Hendricks County, Indiana, Marriage Record 6, September 1860-September 1867, p. 194.
- 43. Hubbard family Bible, ibid.
- 44. 1840 U.S. Census, Hendricks County, Indiana, p. 640. National Archives Microfilm M-704, Roll 87.
- 45. Hubbard family Bible, ibid.
- 46. Deed of Sale of "one square acre" in Hendricks County, Indiana, from Samuel and Hannah Hubbard to Achsah Hubbard, 10 June 1861. Hendricks Co. Deed Book 24, p. 320.
- 47. John J. Baldwin, "Union High School," in unidentified publication at Earlham College Quaker Collection, Richmond, Indiana.
- 48. Willard Heiss, Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genalogy (Vol. VII) Abstracts of the Records of the Society of Friends in Indiana, Part 6 (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1962-1975), p. 161.
- 49. History of Hendricks County, Indiana (Chicago: Inter-State Publishing Co., 1885), p. 549.
- 50. The New Era, June 28, 1883, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Microfilm at Fort Smith Library.
- 51. Sebastian County, Arkansas, Marriage Book C, p. 449.
- 52. Warranty Deed, Sebastian County, Arkansas, Book HH, p. 65. Microfilm Roll #86.
- 53. Warranty Deed, Sebastian County, Arkansas, Book MM, p. 475. Microfilm Roll #87.
- 54. Warranty Deed, Sebastian County, Arkansas, Book UU, p. 26. Microfilm Roll #89.
- 55. Sebastian County, Arkansas, Mortgage Book 26, p. 241, of 8 May 1905.
- 56. Ibid.
- 57. Original contract in possession of writer.

News and Opportunities

FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY



Left to right: Joel Stubblefield, President, FSHS; Waddy Moore, Director, Ozark Heritage Institute (speaker).

Dr. Waddy Moore, Director of the Ozark Heritage Institute and professor of history at the University of Central Arkansas, was the featured speaker for the Fort Smith Historical Society's tenth anniversary celebration; and Michelle Copeland, 1987 Miss Westark, entertained with her competition talent, a



Miss Michelle Copeland, Miss Westark 1987.

vocal solo. The celebration, held April 21 in the Fullerton Union Building at Westark Community College, jointly sponsored by FSHS and Westark, included a reception, annual meeting and board meeting.

A change in the constitution added a new Annual Business Sponsor membership to the types of memberships available. Price for this membership is \$50.00 per year and the membership will be listed in *The Journal*.



Anniversary Cake

1987-88 OFFICERS ELECTED ARE:
President, Mary Lou Jacobsen
Vice President, Donald Peer
Treasurer, Thelma Wray
Recording Secretary, Pat Birkett
Corresponding Secretary, Leonna Belle Cotner
Membership Secretary, Jo Tillery

New Board members elected for three year terms were: Stewart M. Condren, Franklin L. Wilder and Dr. Donald J. McMinimy. Former members returning to the Board for new three year terms are: Leonna Belle Cotner and Del Conger. Much appreciated retiring Board members are: Joel R. Stubblefield, Velma Barber, Phil White, Thelma Cousins and Jo Tillery.

FORT SMITH CELEBRATION OF BICENTENNIAL OF U.S. CONSTITUTION

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Fort Smith has been recognized as a Designated Bicentennial Community by the National Bicentennial of the United States Constitution Commission and September has been proclaimed Bicentennial celebration month in Fort Smith.

American Legion Post 31 has purchased posters and paid for installation of two billboards which were furnished by Donrey. The Post will also provide Bicentennial coloring books for children.

The Fort Smith Public Library has special Bicentennial displays, is giving bookmarks and has a shelf of new books about the Constitution which were bought with a \$500 federal grant which was matched with \$500 from local contributions.

Westark Community College has arranged through the Adult Learning Service of the Public Broadcasting System for the acquisition of thirteen one-hour programs on the U.S. Constitution entitled "The Delicate Balance" which will be shown during September on the Westark TV Channel.

The Continental Army Band will perform a free concert at the Civic Center on September 8. Tickets are available at the Fort Smith Public Library.

September 16 will be celebration of nationally designated Citizenship Day at Noon, when the entire community, including city, state and federal leaders, civic clubs and all area residents and visitors are invited to participate in a ceremony at the National Historic Site. The Pledge of Allegiance will coincide with the leading of the Pledge by President Reagan for all school children in the United States, and everyone is encouraged to fly the national flag at this time.

On September 17, the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution in Philadelphia, a celebration will be held at the National Historic Site which will include signing of the Constitution by the public, an outstanding speaker, planting of a tree, tours of

Judge Parker's Court House, the Avenue of Flags, high school bands, performers and the ringing of church bells.

The Bicentennial flag was carried in the Rodeo Parade and the grand entry of the Rodeo. It is kept at the Chamber of Commerce.

The Fort Smith Commission for the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution was appointed by the Fort Smith Board of Directors and authorized by the National Commission for the celebration.

MEMBERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Wesley Moreland, retired military officer, chairman Edward Bedwell, attorney, vice chairman and coordinator for schools

Larry Larson, director of the Fort Smith Public Library, chairman, Individual Education Committee

Bill Shaffer, history teacher, coordinator of church activities

Sam Wang, executive at Hiram Walker & Sons, Inc., coordinator of civic clubs and speakers bureau

Becky Kremers, elementary school teacher, drama group

John Piles, Veterans of Foreign Wars, coordinator for all veterans groups.

Tom Curtis, president of Southern Steel and Wire Co., liaison between the Commission and the Chamber of Commerce

Jim Spears, attorney, writer for the Commission and chairman of September 16-17 activities

Louisa McGrew, American Legion Women's Auxiliary, coordinator of veteran auxiliary groups Amelia Martin, Fort Smith Historical Society and Daughters of the American Revolution, Commission historian

Dick Geren, Geren Cash Register & Typewriter Co., coordinator of active duty military personnel (National Guard, Reserve and Fort Chaffee)

JoAnn Kyral, Superintendent, Fort Smith National Historic Site, coordinator of youth groups and activities at the Historic Site

Violet Isaacs, Fort Smith Chapter DAR, publicity chairman

FORT SMITH TROLLEY MUSEUM

New acquisitions of the Fort Smith Trolley Museum include a 40 foot Frisco boxcar donated by the Burlington Northern Railroad; a collection of railroad artifacts contributed by Mrs. Margaret Ann Barber; two five-tone steam train whistles donated by J.T. Richardson; and a Schultz Watchmans Clock patented in 1876 which has been restored by Father Time Clock Shop. An interesting item in the Barber collection is a Pittsburg & Gulf Railroad water can. This railroad was reorganized as the Kansas City Southern Railroad in 1900.

The Fort Smith city bus was rented to Universal City Studios, Inc. for use in the movie "Biloxi Blues," which is based on Neil Simon's World War II military experience. Driving the bus in the movie is "Corporal" Bradley Martin, the Trolley Museum's general manager.

The Trolley Museum, 100 South 4th Street, is open during work hours, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For special arrangements or information, call Art Martin at 783-1237 or Bradley Martin, 783-0145. Telephone at museum is 783-0205.



"Corporal" Bradley Martin and bus in Biloxi Blues



An exciting new program in Fort Smith, called "Art Downtown", has been provided through the cosponsorship of the Coalition For Downtown Development and W.A.E.D.A. (Western Arkansas Employment Development Agency).

The project will include painting of murals on the exterior walls of the historic old buildings downtown, depicting the eras of Fort Smith's development since the Fort was built in 1817; and re-vitalizing old and fading commercial signs already on the buildings, which will also accent some of the city's historical heritage. Official announcement of the project was made on July 10 as project sponsors and directors, art students, advisory committee members, interested citizens and media gathered to watch work actually begin on the north wall of "Old Town" at the corner of Fifth and Garrison.

John Bell, well known local artist, is director of the "Art Downtown" project, and Jeff Mitchell, art student at Westark Community College, is assistant director. Workers are area art students.

While salaries will be funded by W.A.E.D.A., contributions from private citizens will be necessary for supplies. What began as a summer program is now expected to continue as long as two years. Brochures are planned to explain the murals, further enhancing the pleasure of those who will be taking walking tours of downtown Fort Smith.

Fort Smith Junior League's 1987-'88 calendar features Downtown Fort Smith with artwork done by Art Downtown artists.

Assisting in the project are Dee Carroll, Coalition for Downtown Development; Dorothy Comer and Martha Pearcy, W.A.E.D.A.; John Bell; Jeff Mitchell and an advisory committee consisting of Amelia Martin and Sarah Fitzjarrald McCullough, Fort Smith Historical Society; Danny Sessums, Old Fort Museum; Bradley Martin, Trolley Restoration; Polly Crews, director of Fort Smith Art Center; Ed Bedwell, attorney; Fadjo Cravens, historian; Guy Nichols, National Historic Site; Julia Yadon, historical restoration; and interested citizens, Fred Kirkpatrick, Peggy Weidman, Patty Carroll, Phil White, and Gene and Lou Johnston.

The Coca Cola Company has furnished tee shirts and caps for workers on the project.

WESTARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE NEW LIBARARY

Westark Community College's new \$2.1 million library was officially opened on Monday, June 22. The red-brick, two-story building is located just south of the Gardner Building on the Westark campus located at Grand Avenue and Waldron Road. It has 28,000 square feet of floor space and about three times the number of student stations as the old library, providing space for more than 400 students to read and study. The new library has space for 60,000 volumes and has joined the On-Line Computer Library Center, a network of 4,000 libraries across the country that allows for interlibrary loans and cataloging. In addition, the library will be part of Dialogue, an on-line computer data base that helps locate journals or monographs on a particular topic.

WESTARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE HALL OF HONOR





Lucille Speakman T.L. Hunt Courtesy Southwest Times Record

Lucille Speakman and the late T.L. Hunt have been named the first two honorees for the newly established Westark Community College Hall of Honor. A listing of their contributions and a likeness of the honorees in solid bronze, 16 by 24 inch plaques, will be displayed in the lighted hall of honor on the second floor of the new library building. The plaques will be unveiled at the dedication of the library on October 9.

Miss Speakman taught at Westark for 32 years after instructing 20 years in public schools. She moved with the college from the Fort Smith High School campus to the present campus in 1952. She and other faculty members worked extensively after classes painting the aging "poor farm" buildings into which the college was moved. Before the college had a student union, Miss Speakman's living room served that purpose. She is said to have touched more students' lives than any other faculty member before or since.

She is currently living with relatives at 606 South 8th Street, Duncan, Oklahoma 73533.

T.L. Hunt was named an honorary trustee of the college in March 1951. He and two other honorary trustees accepted the challenge of raising \$75,000 to renovate the old "poor farm" buildings.

In February 1952, Mr. Hunt was appointed to the new board of trustees for the private college and was named chairman of the board. He continued to serve the college as a member of the trustee, advisory and foundation boards through 1965, when the college went public and the first board of the public college took office. He was very generous with his monetary support and bailed the college out on many occasions as it was struggling as a private college.

Mr. Hunt died in 1976.

FORT CHAFFEE

Fort Chaffee has been selected as the site of the Fifth Army Consolidated Training Activity, or 5A CTA for short. CTA is a pilot program and brings together in one place training courses which before were scattered over several Fifth Army installations. The Center carries a substantial permanent staff and will bring year-round activity to the "semi-active" Fort Chaffee.

DOUGLAS C. COLEMAN MEMORIAL OBSERVATORY

The Douglas C. Coleman Memorial Observatory, atop Sugarloaf Mountain, about 30 miles south of Fort Smith, was dedicated Saturday, June 6, 1987. Named for the Arkansas Air National Guard pilot who was killed when his F-4 Phantom jet crashed into Waldron Mountain on June 5, 1985, the observatory and 29-inch reflector telescope are the product of months of work and an excess of \$25,000 donated by members of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Astronomical Society, of which Coleman was a founding member. Bob Moody of Sallisaw, Oklahoma, is president of the club.

Fort Smith residents are special people, and many received awards or appointments in the past few months. Your editors congratulate them and share the good news about the ones of whom we have a record. Any omission is unintentional.

MARTHA "MARTY" McQUAIN of Fort Smith, a member of American Legion Ellig-Stoufer Post 31 and Auxiliary Unit 31, has been elected Commander of the Arkansas American Legionnaires. A veteran of World War II, decorated in service and discharged in 1946 with the rank of Captain, she has filled many offices on the local and district level in the American Legion, including Commander of Post 31, and has been the recipient of many awards. She was the only female in World War II to receive the French Signal Corps Decoration.

Fort Smith native FRED W. SMITH has been named president and chief operating officer of the Donrey Media Group by founder and chief executive officer Donald W. Reynolds. The operating head-quarters of Donrey Media's national communications group is in Fort Smith, and the *Southwest Times Record* is a Donrey publication.

SUE CROSS of Fort Smith has been named new director of Fort Smith Pride, a non-profit organization affiliated with the Keep America Beautiful program. It is made up of 25 board members and funded by donations from business, industry and local citizens.

Cross, a lifelong resident of Fort Smith, coauthored with Julia Yadon and Randall Viguet Reflections of Fort Smith, a book about historical Fort Smith homes.

JOANN KYRAL, superintendent of Fort Smith National Historic Site, has been presented the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award. In 1981 she received the year's Distinguished Service Award from the Fort Smith Jaycees; in 1982, the Outstanding Young Women of America program recognized her as an outstanding young woman of America for the Fort Smith area; and in 1983 she was presented the Downtown Sertoma Club's "Service to Mankind Award" for her contribution to the improvement of Fort Smith.

FRONTIER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



Left to right: Ed Dell Wortz, Bradley Martin, Jackie Farrar and Wayne Bledsoe, immediate past president of Belle Fort Smith Tours Inc., who received the award for Belle Fort Smith Tours.

1987 recipients of the frontier Achievement Awards by the Secondary Social Studies Educators are JACKIE FARRAR, former social studies educator and president of the Belle Fort Smith Tours, Inc; BRADLEY MARTIN, general manager of the Fort Smith Trolley Museum; ED DELL WORTZ for preservation of Knoble Brewery and work with Old Fort Museum; and BELLE FORT SMITH TOURS, INC., a volunteer organization which holds the annual Belle Fort Smith Tour of Restored Homes, has published brochures for walking tours through the historic district of Fort Smith and helped fund restoration of the Art Center and the Clayton House. All individuals honored have been active in historical organizations and restorations in Fort Smith for many years.

The prestigious awards have been presented annually for six years to individuals, businesses and organizations that have helped preserve the historical heritage of Fort Smith.

Local church musician TIM HESS has been honored as the Arkansas Church Musician of the Year by the Arkansas Federation of Music Clubs. He was nominated for the honor by the Fort Smith Musical Coterie, local affiliate of the AFMC and the National Federation of Music Clubs.



Post Commander Charles Pigg (left) and Marty McQuain give plaque to Ray Baker (center). Photo by Allen Hensley, courtesy of Southwest Times Record.

RAY BAKER, Fort Smith City Director and American History teacher, is the recipient of the American Legion Ellig-Stoufer Post 31's highest award, the Humanitarian Award. The award has been made only once before in the 68-year history of the Post. That was on March 14, 1983, to Southwest Times Record editor Jack Moseley. Adjutant Marty McQuain, who presented the award, described Baker as "A citizen filled with idealism for his community, his state and his nation" and added "His high moral integrity, lofty ideals, broad sympathies

and unselfish devotion to democratic principals has won for him the esteem and admiration of all who know him. He stands as a shining example of the American way of life."

STATE REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN POLLAN, Consulting Editor of *The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*, has been selected to co-chair the Legislative Joint Committee on Children and Youth.

AUDRA COWAN, who served as band director at Ramsey Junior High School until his retirement three years ago, has been inducted into the Arkansas Bandmaster's Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is located at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

BILL BARDRICK has been chosen as principal of Northside High School to replace Frank Jones who has retired after 44 years in education and 14 years at Northside. Bardrick, a graduate of Northside and former assistant principal there, returns to Northside from Kimmons Junior High School where he is principal.

Chaffin Junior High School teacher BECKY SHOPFNER has been named the 1987 Arkansas Art Educator of the year. The award, made at the NAEA convention in Boston, Massachusetts, recognizes

national merit and achievement for those art educators who have provided leadership in making art education a significant and worthwhile contribution to the education of this nation's youth.

MILTON DAILY, principal at Albert Pike Elementary School, has retired after 33 years in education. He has been a member of several educational organizations and is past president of the Arkansas Association of Elementary School Principals and the South Central Association of Elementary School Principals.

He was a resource consultant for the Elementary Council in Outdoor Education, was a member of the Economic Advisory Committee for the Arkansas Department of Education and was coordinator of the Outdoor Education Program for the local school district.

He was named Principal of the Year in Arkansas in 1979, and was the 1972 recipient of a Golden Apple award from the Fort Smith Classroom Teachers Association and the 1970 recipient of a PTA Lifetime Membership.

SUE MORGAN, principal of the Ballman Elementary School, has been chosen by the Arkansas PTA as administrator of the year. She is president of the Fort Smith PTA City Council.

DONNA FINE of Fort Smith was named the outstanding PTA district director.

Inquiries

Inquiries which are about the Fort Smith area are published free as space allows, with preference being given to those from members of the Fort Smith Historical Society.

BERRY-TOBEY

Need information on Pleasant G. Berry, who died 21 December 1899 in Witcherville, Sebastian Co., AR. Pleasant was married to Amy L. Tobey in Linn Creek, Camden County, MO, 22 December 1867. Amy was the daughter of Franklin Tobey who lived in Sebastian County. She died 25 April 1888. Pleasant remarried in Ozark, Franklin County, AR, and was divorced from this woman in September 1894. Children of Pleasant and Amy: Nancy (b. 1869), Subrina (b. 1871), Mary Ann and Smitha Ann, twins (b. 1877), Lucy (b. 1879), Peter Pleasant (b. 1882) and Sarah Virginia (b. 1885). Barbara Berry, R.R. 3, Princeton, MO 64673.

* * * * * * WELLS-CAULLY-McFARLAND

Research family Millie Ann Wells, born in Fort Smith ca 1847, daughter of Charles Wells and Virginia Caully, married James William McFarland circa 1867. Some of the McFarland names: James William.

John Benton, Welden Hampton. Mrs. Mary Lambert, 2234 Brentwood, Abilene, TX 79605.

ATKINSON-SEARS

My grandfather, Wm. S. Atkinson, born England 1851, immigrated to U.S.A. ca 1869, possibly naturalized in Fort Smith, married Margaret Ellen Sears in Greenwood District, Sebastian County, AR 20 September 1874. Tom Atkinson, 414 East Lilly Lane, Arlington, TX 76010.

CRAWFORD

John Crawford, born 1762 in Augusta County, VA, died in 1841 in Tennessee, a Revolutionary soldier. His descendents are numerous in Arkansas. Persons who know themselves to be descendents of John Crawford, please write me: Mrs. Thos. E. Crawford, 10548 Stone Canyon Road #228, Dallas, TX 75230.

* * * * * * * BROWN

Trying to locate burial place of John Marion Brown, b. 7 May 1843. Family papers show he died on 9 May 1895 with burial in "The Old Soldier's Cemetery" in Fort Smith. Barbara Jo Reniker, 36 Swayne Drive, RD 4, Box 276B, Paris, TN 38242.

Genealogy News

FRONTIER RESEARCHERS

Fort Smith Frontier Researchers have copied, indexed and bound the Agent Funeral Home Records from Sallisaw, Oklahoma, and have placed them in the Fort Smith Public Library Genealogy Room.

Included in a late issue of their publication, Frontier Research, are several items about Dwight Mission; Jesse Turner's "Historical Sketch of Crawford County," first published in the Van Buren Press Supplement, July 11, 1876; J. Frank Weaver's "Sebastian County in the Mexican War;" and other items of interest about the border area around Fort Smith. For more information about this organization and its publications, contact: Frontier Researchers, P.O. Box 2123, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902.

FALL WORKSHOP

The Ozarks Genealogical Society invites your participation in its Seventh Annual Fall Workshop, October 16 and 17, 1987, in Findlay Student Center, Drury College, 900 North Benton, Springfield, Missouri. Registration fee \$16 if postmarked by October 3; \$20 thereafter. Includes Friday night session, Saturday session, 40-page source book and packet. Cancellations received by October 10 will receive refund, less \$1.00 handling fee.

Make check payable to Ozarks Genealogical Society, Inc. Mail to same, c/o Workshop Registrar, P.O. Box 3494, G.S., Springfield, Missouri 65808.

* * * * * * GOINGSNAKE DISTRICT HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

The Goingsnake District Heritage Association publishes 26 to 32 pages of articles about Eastern Oklahoma's Cherokee and white history in each issue of its publication, *The Goingsnake Messenger*. Dues are \$5 individual, \$7.50 family, and \$10 per contributing member. For more information or to join, contact the Goingsnake District Heritage Association, Box 180, Westville, Oklahoma 74965.

CRITTENDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mrs. Gladys Wright is the new president of the Crittenden County Historical Society. For information about this organization, write to: Mrs. Gladys Wright, 709 Fifth Street, Earle, Arkansas 72331.

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GARLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Garland County Historical Society publishes an annual publication, *The Record*. For more information or to purchase copies of *The Record* for \$10 each, write: Garland County Historical Society, 914 Summer, Hot Springs, Arkansas 71913.

***** FAULKNER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Faulkner County Historical Society announces the publication of Faulkner County — Its Land and People, a Sesquicentennial publication. The book has about 500 pages and 150 pictures. It includes about 200 family sketches, as well as information about early settlements, industries, churches, customs, post offices, cemeteries and a number of other topics. Price \$38.20. Send orders to: Faulkner County Historical Society, P.O. Box 731, Conway, Arkansas 72032.

***** ASHLEY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Ashley County Genealogical Society has announced its formation and plans to publish a quarterly. For more information, write: Ashley County Genealogical Society, P.O. Drawer R, Crossett, Arkansas 71635.

* * * * * * STEAMSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Steamship Historical Society, University of Baltimore Library, 1420 Maryland Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 or Mariner's Museum, Newport News, Virginia 23606 have announced the availability of black and white photo and mini-history of the ship your ancestor came on. Write them and be sure to include the name of the ship and the date of its arrival.

BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM HARP & THISTLE, LTD. (Georgia residents add 4% sales tax.)

The Bourlands in America by Carl and May Read (1970), 450 pages indexed. \$22.00 postpaid.

The Loving Family In America by Carl and May Read (1981), 807 pages indexed. Supply limited. Will not be reprinted. \$38.00 postpaid.

Family Group Sheets (type used for permanent records), 100 sheets for \$7.00 postpaid.

Some back issues of Bourland Bulletin/Loving Letters. \$3.00 each. Make checks payable to Harp & Thistle, Ltd., P.O. Box 2072, Warner Robins, Georgia 31099. Telephone: 912-922-6671.

1887 Newspapers

FORT SMITH ELEVATOR

May 5, 1887 - October 14, 1887

Abstracted by Pat Birkett and Milton Birkett

This newsaper is on microfilm at the Fort Smith Public Library.

Mrs. Mary Lakey died in this city Saturday from the effects of a fall she received from a wagon while on her way from Winding Stair Mountain to this city. She was buried Sunday evening in the Catholic Cemetery.

Dr. J.H.T. Main, the public spirited founder and builder of the elegant Hotel Main, and the first physician to settle in Fort Smith, is a strong man in the profession. Dr. Main came here with Gen. Chas. E. Thomas as physician and surgeon to the government employees who built the Fort and has ever since remained here in the practice of his profession.

Dr. Main is a veteran councilman, has been president of the County Medical Association, is a member of the State Medical Association, is High Priest of Belle Vue Royal Arch; thrice Illustrious Grand Master of the Council of Royal and Secret Masters; Prelate of the Jacques d'Molay Commandry of Knights Templar of Fort Smith and Grand King of the Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Arkansas.

THE FORT SMITH STREETCAR LINE

The new summer cars for this line were received from St. Louis on Monday last and will be put on immediately. Several more cars will be received in a few days and Capt. Sam McLoud, President of the line, informs us that as soon as the rails reach here work will commence on the different extensions of this line as follows:

Towson Avenue line — white cars — commencing at the Frisco Depot on Walnut Street up Walnut to Wayne, up Wayne to Garrison Avenue, up Garrison Avenue to Towson Avenue, thence on said avenue to city limits.

The Little Rock Avenue line — blue cars — commencing on Garrison Avenue at Washington Street, running on said avenue to the Catholic Church, then out Little Rock Avenue to the city limits.

Catholic Avenue and Monroe Street lines — green cars — commencing on Garrison Avenue at

Washington Street, thence to Catholic Church on Monroe Street, thence down Monroe Street to Catholic Avenue and out said avenue to city limits.

Knox Street line — yellow cars — commencing on Garrison Avenue at Washington Street, thence out said avenue to city limits.

Jackson Street line (already in operation) — red cars — run from Ozark Street up Mulberry to Wayne, up Wayne to Garrison, up Garrison Avenue to Jackson Street, thence on Jackson to the park.

When the new lines are completed this company will have in operation six and one-half miles of well equipped road.

— • — MARRIAGE DOCUMENTS

Since our last issue, Clerk McClure has issued the following matrimonial documents:

Harmon Degen and Miss Allice J. McKenzie of Mazzard Prairie issued on the 19th.

Wm. Webster and Mrs. Lizzie Wrighter both of Newport, Jackson County, issued on the 20th. They are now residents of Hackett City.

Melvin E. Pinewell and Miss Clara Sykes, both of ths city, issued on the 21st.

Francis O. Baker and Miss Race Woods of this city, issued on the 23rd.

Little Rock has begun paving her principal streets.

Drs. Eberle and Hatchett are in Little Rock attending the meeting of the State Medical Society.

We regret that we are called upon to chronicle the death of Mrs. Henry Boles, wife of Mr. Seth Boles at Larned City, Kansas last Friday morning. Mrs. Boles was the daughter of Col. Cambell Leflore of this city

was the daughter of Col. Cambell Leflore of this city and until her marriage a month or so ago, resided here.

The Fort Smith Baseball Club has decided to charge ladies but half price for admission to their games hereafter.

The German Catholics of this city last week purchased a fine organ for their church. It was secured through the music house of R. Bollinger.

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

Washington estimates the surplus revenue for the current fiscal year, now nearly completed, place it at about one hundred million dollars. This, with the addition of what was on hand when Congress began its labors last fall, makes about one-hundred twenty-five million dollars in the Treasury for which there is no particular need, and which is just so much that has been drawn needlessly from the pockets of the people. This drain must be stopped, or the surplus must be applied to some useful purpose.

SCHOOL MATTERS

The members of the old school board met last Saturday evening at the office of Dr. J.G. Eberle, and a certificate from the Mayor showing the election of Messrs. D. Baker and J.L. Henderson was presented. After some business in reference to loans and a statement from ex-Mayor Gray showing the amount of the recent sale of reserve lots, the board adjourned sine die.

The new board immediately organized. R.T. Kerr was elected President, Jno. L. Henderson, Secretary. The chair announced the following committees: Finance - W.J. Echols, Stephen Wheeler, Daniel Baker Teachers - Stephen Wheeler, J.L. Henderson School Houses & Grounds - Alex Hoffman, R.T. Kerr Supplies - Daniel Baker, J.L. Henderson.

The board met again on Tuesday evening. J.L. Hendrix was elected attorney for the board and S.N. Dwight, Cashier of the American National Bank, was elected Treasurer of the Board. Mr. Jno. Vaile offered to act as Treasurer of the Board and discharge the duties of the office without salary and pay the board 4% interest per annum on daily cash balances. Mr. Dwight offered to serve without compensation and pay interest on daily cash balances at the rate of 4.1% per annum.

The amount of expenses of school election amounting to \$33.00 was allowed as also other incidental expenses.

June 10, 1887

Mr. Arthur Phillips died at the residence of his brother in this city Wednesday morning after an illness of three weeks duration, at the age of 21 years. Mr. Phillips was an excellent young gentleman, and had made a host of friends during his sojourn in Fort Smith.

Judge I.C. Parker and Hon. Jno. H. Rogers were elected honorary members of the Irish League at the meeting Sunday evening.

A strike of the drivers on the Fort Smith Streetcar Line was one of the novelties of the week. The boys say they did not quit on account of long hours, but because they were compelled to do work that was not part of their duties.

June 17, 1887

County Clerk McClure issued a license during the week for the marriage of Mr. Charles Colbert and Miss Maggie Mason, both of this city.

Advertisements are out for bids for material to be used in the erection of the Federal Court House in this city. Bids will be received until the 25th day of July.

Mr. W.W. Gill, Editor of the DARDANELLE REFLECTOR, died last Monday night about eight o'clock. He was the father of J.H. and Guss Gill of this city, two of our most prominent citizens.

Died — yesterday morning June 16, 1887 at the residence of her son J.C. Stalcup near this city, Mrs. Nancy Stalcup, in the 76th year of her age. Her funeral took place at five o'clock yesterday evening, her remains being laid to rest in the City Cemetery.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Prof. Gates was reelected Principal of the Public Schools of the city at the last meeting. The name of Prof. J.F. Howell of Fayetteville was also presented to the Board at the time of making the selection for Superintendent. It received two votes, those of D. Baker and J.L. Henderson. Messrs. Echols, Kerr, Hoffman and Wheeler voted for Prof. Gates. The salary of the Superintendent has been fixed at \$1,800 per year.

July 8, 1887

Died: Mrs. Clara Guler, wife of Mr. John Guler, died in this city on the 1st inst. at the age of 33 years. Her illness was occasioned by yellow jaundice but the immediate cause of her death was a conjestive chill. Mrs. Guler was a native of Fort Smith and a daughter of the late A. Reichart.

During the past year the increase in the receipts of the Fort Smith Post Office was \$3,063. This will raise the salary of its Postmaster to \$2,300.

WHAT 5 CENTS WILL BUY AT THE BOSTON STORE

- 5 Palmleaf fans
- 5 Papers of pins
- 5 Handkerchiefs
- 12 yds of everlasting lace
- 5 yds of embroidery
- 2 towels
- 1 pr of ladies hose
- 1 pr of gent's half hose
- 12 collar buttons
 - 1 pr of cuff buttons

July 15, 1887

BUCKNER COLLEGE MOVED

Buckner College of Witcherville, has passed into the hands of the Protestant Episcopal Church... The trustees, at their annual meeting last week, accepted a proposal from the authorities of the Episcopal Church to pay off the encumberances on the property, fit it up with such an equipment as is needed and assume control of its affairs. The property was therefore transferred and a new Board of Trustees elected, with the Rev. Geo. F. Degan of Fort Smith as President.

HOSPITAL ESTABLISHED

The need of a hospital in the City of Fort Smith has been felt for years, and from time to time the question of establishing one has been discussed, and some efforts made to get the necessary funds. The Rector of St. Johns Church has at last given a practical settlement to the question by leasing a building for the purpose and opening a hospital.

Only a sum of money needed to buy the necessary furniture and to pay the running expenses for six months was asked for at the start, but this was literally and promptly subscribed, and the institution goes into active operation this week.

Competent physicians and trained nurses will be placed in charge. While the hospital will be under the immediate direction of a committee from the St. Johns Parish, it will be open to patients without regard to creed or nationality and all the clergy of the city will be welcome to minister to any who may desire their respective services.

Died: Mr. Albert Dress died in this city Wednesday morning after an illness of several weeks duration from typhoid malarial fever. He was a printer by occupation and was 32 years of age.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * July 29, 1887

Married: Mr. Henry J. Muller and Miss Olivia Eltes, both of this city, were licensed to marry on Wednesday.

_ • _

Died: Andress Sicgrist, age 78 years, died at the residence of William Sicgrist in this city on Wednesday. His funeral took place yesterday.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * August 5, 1887 FEDERAL COURT BUILDING

The contract for the erection of the Federal Court House Building in this city was secured by Harris & Co. of Newport, Ky. Their bid for the work was \$70,770, the lowest bid made. The contract calls for the completion of the building within twenty months.

August 12, 1887

John McDaniel is now on the police force in place of Charles Jones whose health will not permit his performing the duties of the office.



Married: August 4, 1887 at the residence of J.A. Powell, Scullyville County, Choctaw Nation, by Rev. J.K. Howell, Mr. Mitchell Harrison of Sans Bois County, Choctaw Nation to Miss S.E. Higginbotham of Greenwood, Arkansas.

Died: Mrs. Ida Jordan died at the residence of her son-in-law, Capt. J.E. Reynolds, near this city last Saturday night at the age of 75 years.

Married: On last Thursday R.E. Templeton and Miss Sallie Bourland were united in the bonds of matrimony. Rev. J.G. Mathews officiated.

The Fort Smith Streetcar Company are pushing their work and have about completed their double track along the Avenue. The ties and iron are scattered along Franklin Street, Catholic Avenue and Texas Road.

FORT SMITH HAS

Gas Ice factory Water works Three banks Electric lights Street railways Canning factory Fruit evaporator Incandescent lights 2 iron foundries Several lumber mills One carriage factory 4 wagon factories Numerous brick yards Galvanized iron works Steam sausage factory 2 steam brick machines 2 large furniture factories Largest cotton seed oil mill in the south Largest cotton compress in the south 2 large cotton yards and warehouses 3 extensive lumber yards and several smaller ones 3 railroads and 2 more to be completed at once The U.S. Court, the largest criminal court in the

4 fine public school buildings and the largest school found in the south

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Various and sundry other enterprises and establishments too numerous to mention

Died: A telegram was received by Dr. D.T. Johnson Wednesday evening announcing the death at Winslow of Mr. Samuel M. Richards of this city. Mr. Richards had been held for several months and had been staying at Winslow in hopes of recruiting his health.

Work on the Opera House is progressing rapidly. The roof is now about completed.

The contractors are now at work on the third story of the U.S. Jail and it is thought it will be ready for occupancy during the first of October.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * September 16, 1887

Last week the Little Rock Avenue extension of the streetcar line was opened for travel as far as 17th Street. The cars did a good business all day.

The Pan Electric Telephone System of this city has passed into the control of Dr. Harrison and the Rhodes Bros. who propose to put it in good talking shape.

— ● — MARRIAGE

Mr. P.H. Bolton and Miss Minnie Beck of this city, together with a few friends, went to Greenwood on Sunday last, and on arriving at our county capital secured the services of Judge Gaines and through his efforts were invested with the silken cord of matrimony. We extend the heartiest congratulations to both parties.

George Hampton and Sarah Wood were married on Gretna Green last Saturday night. Rev. R.W. Hammett of the Methodist Episcopal Church performing the ceremony. This is the young couple who were made the victims of a sham marriage on the night of the 5th by a party of practical jokers.

On the Frisco line from September 24 to 28 inclusive, we will sell excursion tickets from Fort Smith to St. Louis and return for \$12.45 each. Return tickets go until October 5 or can be extended until October 31.

Fort Smith Can Boast of the Finest One in the State

The size of the building is 67x140 feet, is three stories high and has five store rooms on the first floor, and the theatre occupies all of the upper floors, except a few offices on the front; the auditorium is reached by wide flights of stairs from the main entrance. The seating capacity is about

eleven hundred. There are eight private boxes. The stage is very large and not exceeded by any in the southwest, and ample for the production of any play. The stage is reached by a wide stairway to the rear. The dressing rooms, thirteen in number, are situated on the stage and under the stage. There will be two fire balconies on the side of the building with iron ladders to the ground. The entire building is to be heated with steam. The frescoing of the interior is very beautiful and reflects great credit on the architects. The scenery, which was furnished by same parties, is very complete. The seating will be of fine opera chairs. The boxes will be furnished with drapery, curtains, etc., and there will be two painted drop curtains.

The building and grounds cost about \$80,000 and will be entirely completed and occupied inside of seven months from the time of breaking ground. Mr. N.L. Wickwire had the contract for the entire building, except the foundation, which was done by Mr. Sam Berry. The scenery and frescoing was done by Messrs. Noxen, Albert & Looney of St. Louis. Wm. H. Byram, architect of this place, had entire supervision of the building. Great credit is due the owners for giving the people of Fort Smith such a fine place of amusement and it should be appreciated by all.

The remains of Mr. J.K. Burnham who died on Wednesday night of last week were brought to the city and embalmed by Birnie Bros. in whose establishment they remained until Tuesday when they were taken to Kingsland, Ohio under charge of a brother of the deceased. Mr. Burnham, though in many ways eccentric, was possessed of good traits and not a few regrets were expressed over the death of the odd though kindly disposed old man.

THE NEW OPERA HOUSE

The newly completed Opera House was dedicated last Monday evening. Despite inclement weather the house was packed to overflowing. A few minutes before the curtain rose the officers of the city government, accompanied by Mr. Byram, the architect of the building, Col. Ben T. DuVal, Judge Jno. H. Roger, Col. Wm. M. Cravens and Mr. Jno. S. Park appeared on the stage when in a few well chosen words Mr. Byram announced the building completed and turned it over to its founders... At the close of the opening ceremonies, the curtain was rung up on "Our Angel." Miss Evans, as usual, carried her part to perfection and her support by the company was equally good. Music was furnished by Botefuhr's Orchestra under the direction of Prof. W.D.C. Botefuhr.

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