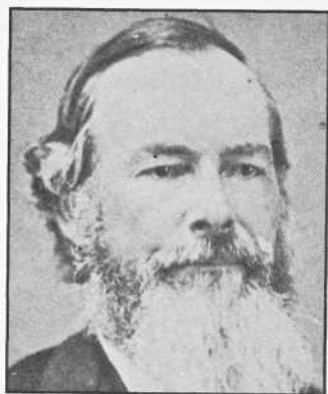
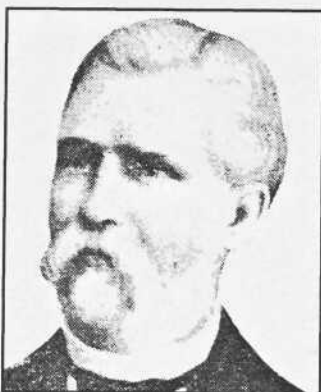


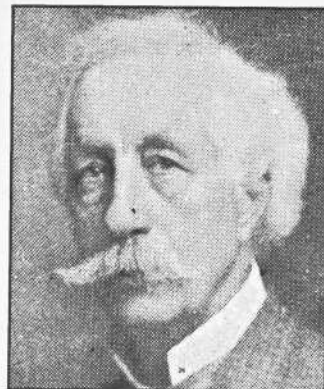
The JOURNAL



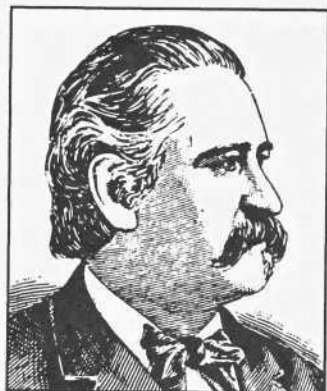
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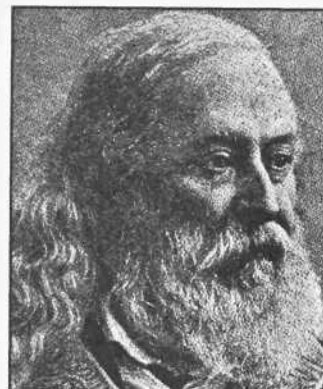
J. Frank Weaver



Elias C. Boudinot



Wooden Hand Printing Press



Albert Pike



Clarence F. Byrns



W.D. Barksdale



Jack Moseley

Vol. 13, No. 2, September, 1989

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The JOURNAL

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COVER: Top row, left to right: John Foster Wheeler, Major J.H. Sparks, and J. Frank Weaver. Second row: Elias C. Boudinot, Wooden Hand Printing Press of the kind used in printing early newspapers, and Albert Pike. Bottom row: Clarence F. Byrns, W.D. Barksdale, and Jack Moseley.

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Editors' Notes

REMINDER — TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIPS FOR 1990!
MAKE SOMEONE ELSE HAPPY TOO — GIVE THEM A GIFT MEMBERSHIP TO
THE FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

John Foster Wheeler, mayor of Fort Smith in 1854, printer of the Cherokee Alphabet invented by Sequoyah, printer of the first newspaper printed using the Cherokee alphabet, brother-in-law of Cherokee General Stand Watie, and publisher of the first newspaper in Fort Smith, is featured in this issue of *The Journal*.

Related articles are a biography of Sequoyah, history of the Fort Smith Press, biography of Col. W.E. Decker, and a listing of Fort Smith newspapers that are available on microfilm in Arkansas libraries. Brief biographical information on many Fort Smith editors is included in body and footnotes of "Fort Smith Press" and in "News and Opportunities".

Microfilming of Arkansas newspapers by Arkansas Newspaper Project continues, and the search is on for copies of Arkansas newspapers that individuals may have. The following is a list of newspapers needed from our area. If you have even a single copy of one of these papers that you would lend to be microfilmed, please contact the Arkansas Newspaper Project, Mullins Library, Room 107, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

BARLING — *Barling Booster* (1941-?); *Constitution Review* (1973-1974)

BONANZA — *News* (1900-1910)

FORT SMITH —

Appreciator (1898-1900)
Appreciator-Union (1912-1922)
Arkansas Appreciator (1900-1921)
Arkansas Baptist Flashlight (1934-1940)
Arkansas Volksblatt (1886-1890)
Arkansawyer (1905-1908)
Back to the Land (1911-?)
Banner (1896-1897)
Border City Sun (1885-?)
Catholic Herald (1892-1894)
Citizen (1912-?)
Daily Argus (1860-1861)
Daily Sun (1897)
Eye (1920-?)
Fort Smith Booster (1909-1912)
Fort Smith Daily News (1919-1921)
Fort Smith Developer (1885-?)
Fort Smith Journal (1926-1928)
Fort Smith News (1959-1969)

Fort Smith News Examiner (1969-1971)
Fort Smith Standard (1867)
Fort Smith Star (1915-1917)
Fort Smith Times Democrat (1895-?)
Fort Smith Tribune (1930-1943)
Fort Smith Union News (1941-1959)
Fraternal Union (1907-1914)
Golden Epoch (1888-1890)
Index (1914)
Informer (1912-?)
Laborer (1906)
Our Eastern Star (1906-?)
People's Protector (1889-1892)
Pythian Herald (1904-1908)
Sebastian County Bulletin (1911-1912)
Southwest Farmer (1909)
True American (1885-?)
Union Journal (1908-?)
Union Sentinel (1903-1919)
Volksblatt (1885-?)

GREENWOOD —

Argus (1872-1873)
Gazette (1890-?)
Greenwood Standard (1873-1874)
Leader 1891-?)

Plain Dealer (1882-?)
Sebastian County News (1939-1941)
South Sebastian News (1970)
Western World (1881-1882)

HACKETT — *Hackett City Horseshoe* (1886-1889)

HARTFORD — *Hartford Herald* (1924-1933); *Hartford Observer* (1913-1924); *Southwest Exponent* (1905-?)

HUNTINGTON — *Enterprise* (1920-1930); *Huntington* (1912-?); *Journal* (1892-?); *Southern Worker* (1901-?)

MANSFIELD — *Mansfield Horseshoe* (1908-?); *Progress* (1890-?)

MIDLAND — *Post* (1909-?)

John Foster Wheeler

Mayor of Fort Smith in 1854

Sarah Fitzjarrald

John Foster Wheeler, mayor of Fort Smith in 1854, was a man of courage and distinction. Not only did he leave a treasured imprint on local history but he also left his mark on the history of the Cherokee Indians and the State of Oklahoma as well.

A man of "firsts", he established the first newspaper in Fort Smith. Prior to that he had helped establish the first Indian periodical (newspaper) in the United States.¹ And he was Oklahoma's first printer.²

John F. Wheeler was born July 10, 1808, near Danville, Kentucky. His parents were Henry J. and Jane Foster Wheeler. He had three sisters: Susan Jane, Martha and a Mrs. Pooler, whose home was in Ohio and with whom the family lost touch. He also had a half-sister, Sally Wheeler, and a half-brother, Jim Wheeler.³

In February, 1822, at age fourteen, he began apprenticeship as a printer in Huntsville, Alabama. He learned the art of printing from Dandridge Farris, printer for the newspaper, the *Southern Advocate*. Two years later Farris became the paper's owner.⁴ Wheeler also worked with another printer there, Isaac Heylin Harris.⁵

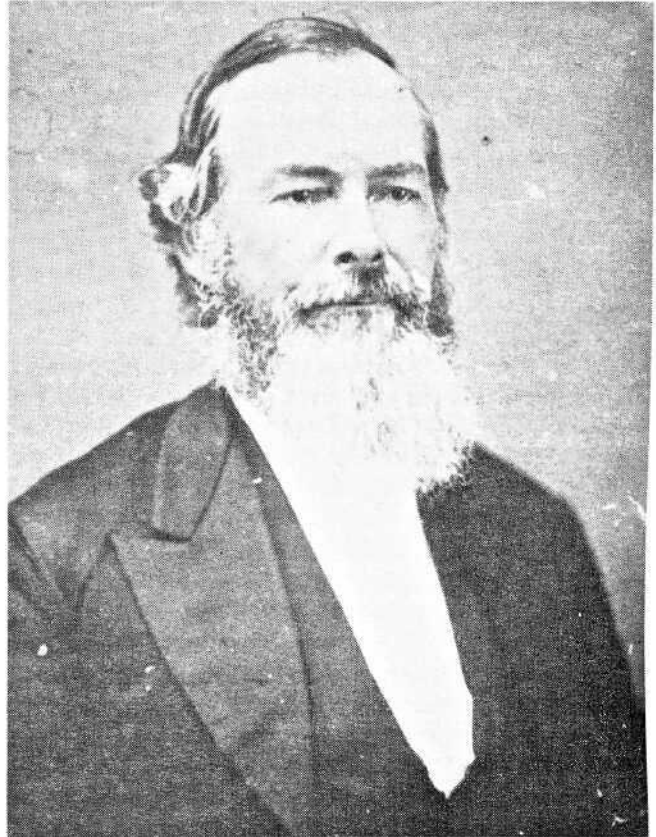
Meanwhile, the Cherokee Indians, with whom Wheeler's life would become personally and closely entwined by virtue of his later marrying a Cherokee maiden, were making great advancements, culturally and politically.

As early as 1820 they had established a representative form of government patterned after that of the United States, consisting of an elective principal chief, a Senate and a House of Representatives. They had also established a public school system; and at that time their tribal territory consisted of seven million acres in Northwest Georgia, southwest North Carolina and east Tennessee. In 1825 they adopted a syllabic alphabet of 85 characters, invented by Sequoyah (George Guess), a Cherokee.⁶

Also in 1825, the Reverend Samuel Worcester, a missionary sent out by the American Board of Missions in Boston, settled in New Echota, Georgia, the Capital of the Cherokee Nation. He was acclaimed as the Cherokees' most noted missionary, and among his many qualifications were his enthusiasm and a knowledge of printing.⁷

Worcester composed poems, stories and other material for the mission work; and a young man, David Brown, served as translator and interpreter.⁸

In 1826, the Cherokee council voted to establish a newspaper to be called the *Cherokee Phoenix*, and a printing office was established at New Echota. The paper was to be printed partly in Cherokee and partly in English.⁹



John Foster Wheeler
Courtesy Dr. Homer C. Wheeler

David Brown had gone north to attend school and when he returned home, other young men, realizing the advantages of a good education, followed his example. Among them was Galagi'na (Galaga) "Buck" Watie. A prominent philanthropist in the north, Elias Boudinot, had a great influence on young Watie so the Cherokee lad adopted the name of Elias Boudinot as his own.¹⁰

In May of 1826 Elias Boudinot went on a speaking tour in the east to raise money for the newspaper project. Later, while arrangements for the press and type were being made in Boston, Boudinot undertook the task of finding a printer who would go to the Cherokee Nation.¹¹

He sought the aforementioned Isaac Harris, whose father lived at Jasper, Tennessee. Harris agreed to go to New Echota and take the job. From there he went to Huntsville, Alabama, where John Wheeler was still working for the *Southern Advocate*. The two men agreed to go to New Echota and begin work on the newspaper by January 1, 1828.¹²

Wheeler and Harris arrived in New Echota on December 23, 1827. The press and type had been sent out from Boston in November but had not been delivered. The Reverend Worcester gave them both handwritten copies of the Cherokee alphabet to study while waiting for the equipment. It is not clear whether Harris could not learn it, or refused to, but Wheeler had more success.¹³ But even he declared that it was, "More incomprehensible than Greek."¹⁴

The equipment arrived on February 1, 1828. Wheeler devised the cases for the type but never received a patent on his invention.¹⁵

The first issue of the *Cherokee Phoenix* came off the press on February 21st.¹⁶ In the beginning the paper contained only three columns. Wheeler said, "There was much fatiguing work in the first efforts in setting the Cherokee type as we did not know or understand the language. After a few weeks I became expert in setting the type but translating from English to Cherokee was slow indeed."¹⁷

Elias Boudinot was editor and Isaac Harris was listed as printer. However, the two men could not get along so Harris left (at the invitation of Boudinot and other Indian authorities). Wheeler became the printer and the first issue to bear his name was January 14, 1829.¹⁸

He also trained Indian apprentices, among whom was John Walker Candy, his future brother-in-law, who married Mary Ann Watie.¹⁹

John Wheeler had not spent all his time setting type. He had fallen in love with Nancy Paschal Watie and they were married on April 23, 1829. She was the daughter of David and Susan Watie of the Cherokee Nation in Georgia, and the sister of Elias Boudinot, the aforementioned Mary Ann Watie, and Stand Watie, who would later become the noted General Stand Watie.²⁰

Reverend Worcester had to order all needs of the mission from Boston and the following is a list of the young couple's necessities:²¹

- 14-pail brass kettle (bailed)
- 2 rose blankets
- 1 piece good American gingham, dark
- 7 yds. calico, good
- 2# black tea
- 1 tea pot
- 1 pr. candlesticks
- Garden seeds same as for the mission
- 1 pr. steel snuffers
- 1 pr. cassimere pantaloons
(same size as for Mr. Boudinot)
- 1 piece common table linen
- 1 teakettle, malleable iron, cast and trimmed

Such a list tends to dispel any preconceived notions of the early Indians living in tepees, sitting cross-legged on the ground in front and greeting palefaces with "Ugh!"

John Wheeler had been earning \$300 per year, working for the newspaper but asked for a \$100 raise when he wished to get married.²²

Meanwhile, valuable gold deposits had been discovered in tribal territory and the State of Georgia set about to outlaw the Cherokee government, deprive the Indians of their citizenship rights and confiscate their territory. In 1828, the Georgia State Legislature enacted legislation to that effect. Appeals to President Jackson were unsuccessful despite the fact that he had promised to be the Cherokees' friend "as long as grass is green."²³

The Supreme Court of the United States had already ruled on two decisions in favor of the Cherokees, the *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, and *Worcester v. Georgia*, declaring the unconstitutionality of any state extending its laws over Indian nations. But President Andrew Jackson was already contending with the nullification crisis in South Carolina and he feared that Georgia would join her neighbor in the battle with the Federal authority. Consequently, he was reluctant to enforce the Supreme Court's decision and believed that he lacked authority to coerce Georgia to abide by the ruling. Congress and even Indian sympathizers agreed that preservation of the Union was more important than the rights of the Cherokees.²⁴

The *Cherokee Phoenix* was thriving, as well as other projects, and Worcester had translated hymns and more sophisticated literature into the Cherokee language. By July 29th he had completed the translation of the Gospel of Matthew, and referred to John Wheeler as "my printer."²⁵

Also in the year of 1828, the United States Government negotiated a treaty with the Cherokee Indians, allowing for the removal of Cherokees living in Arkansas to the northeast part of the territory now known as Oklahoma. The treaty also applied to all Cherokees living east of the Mississippi River.²⁵

In the beginning, the Cherokee Indians owned vast areas of land in what is now Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. Before 1776 the British Government negotiated (and re-negotiated) treaties with them. After that date, of course, the U.S. Government took over. By 1819, 28 treaties had been signed and the Cherokees had lost over 90 per cent of their property.²⁶

On January 16, 1831, Theodore Frelinghuysen Wheeler was born, the first child of John and Nancy Wheeler.²⁷

Less than two months later, on March 1, the Georgia law requiring an oath of allegiance from all Cherokees except women and children became effective.²⁸

On March 12, John Foster Wheeler, along with eight other men and the two missionaries, Rev. Worcester and Dr. Butler, was arrested by the Georgia State Guard.²⁹

(Dr. Elizur Butler later came to the Fort Smith area to remain for the rest of his life. His short biography can be found in *Physicians and Medicine*.)³⁰

However, only the two missionaries were important enough to the governor's plan to have them give up their mission work and leave the State so on July 23rd the nine other men were freed.³¹

Wheeler returned to New Echota and resumed work in the printing office where Elias Boudinot had been working as editor of the *Cherokee Phoenix*. Rev. Worcester and Dr. Butler were released from prison on January 14, 1833.³²

Then on October 21, 1833, Susan Jane Wheeler, John and Nancy's second child, was born.³³

John F. Wheeler, with an uncanny sense of timing and foresight (traits which would stand him in good stead for the rest of his life), gathered up Nancy and their two children and left the State of Georgia sometime in 1834. Family legend has it that they came on horseback, with young Theodore riding behind his father.³⁴ If that was the case we can safely assume that their infant daughter was most likely strapped to her mother's back, papoose style.

They moved from Georgia to the northeast part of the Indian Territory (Oklahoma) under the Treaty of 1828, thereby pre-dating the ill-fated and infamous "Trail of Tears" by four years.

In 1835 two significant events occurred. A small group of leading Cherokees agreed to cede their territory in exchange for \$5,700,000 and land grants in the Indian Territory. But their action was repudiated by more than nine tenths of the tribe and a number of the group members were later put to death as traitors.³⁵

Among the signers of the agreement were Elias Boudinot; Major Ridge, Nancy Wheeler's uncle; and his son, John.³⁶ It was called the Ridge Treaty.

Also in that year of 1835, Samuel Worcester, who had already moved his family from Georgia to Tennessee, migrated to the Indian Territory. He arranged to set up a printing shop at Union Mission, north of Fort Gibson, and hired John Wheeler as printer. It was to be a temporary location; and a new press and type had to be ordered, since the Georgia authorities had destroyed the equipment at New Echota.³⁷

Again Wheeler was faced with the challenge of a new kind of press.³⁸ It was the first press ever used in the Indian Territory and it was there that Wheeler earned the distinction of being Oklahoma's first printer.³⁹

An itinerant printer by the name of Hunt arrived soon after and was of great help since he was familiar with the new type of press and knew a little about bookbinding. But he was not happy in the missionary atmosphere and the isolation of the territory and left in late 1835. By that time John Candy, Wheeler's brother-in-law, arrived and they were soon working together again.

In June of 1836, the printing establishment was moved to a new and permanent location at Park Hill,

approximately five miles south of Tahlequah, on the Illinois River, where it remained in operation until the beginning of the Civil War.⁴⁰

During the brief period of time when the press was at Union Mission a remarkable amount of work was accomplished. There were children's books, hymns, passages from the Bible, other books and almanacs. Not only were there Cherokee books but also works in Creek and Choctaw as well, using the Pickering alphabet, devised by John Pickering. Elias Boudinot arrived later that year and joined Wheeler and Candy.⁴¹

Mary Ann Wheeler, third child of John and Nancy, was born on September 18, 1836, at Union Mission⁴² which suggests that Nancy remained there with the children after John had moved to Park Hill. Harriet Boudinot Wheeler was born March 1, 1838, at Park Hill, I.T., their fourth child.

The next year and a half proved even more productive than the time spent at Union Mission. Printed were a treatise on marriage, a Cherokee almanac for the year 1839 and many other works, some in the Choctaw and Creek languages.⁴³

But all was not tranquil. The animosity from Cherokee Chief John Ross and his Anti-Treaty Party (those who had been opposed to ceding their Georgia lands) was not only not lessening but growing even more pronounced daily.

Worcester was requested not to employ Boudinot by the Cherokee National Council but he managed to get permission to allow him to work until the next year.^{43a}

So one night in June, 1839, the leaders of the Ross Party met and decided that the leaders of the Ridge (Treaty) Party were to be assassinated. Among those to be slain were Elias Boudinot, Stand Watie, Major Ridge, John Ridge, Jack Bell and Wage Adair. The executioners were appointed and instructed that they should all act simultaneously on the night chosen, and at the same hour if possible.⁴⁴

However, the account given several years later by John Wheeler to J.F. Weaver⁴⁵ relates that the day Boudinot was murdered Nancy Wheeler was at her brother's home. When the executioners came they were told that Boudinot had gone to get some wood. (The women at the house apparently had no reason to suspect the murderers.) The men found him about a mile from the house and told him they needed some medicine. Boudinot said he would have to go back to the house for it.

When the group of men were nearing the house Boudinot was attacked. He ran from the woods, after being hacked in the forehead and face with a tomahawk, and with blood streaming down his face, he fell on the doorsteps of his house and died with his head in his sister's (Nancy Wheeler's) lap. He had also been shot and stabbed in the back.

Stand Watie escaped the executioners by being away from home. When he returned he received the message brought by a young Cherokee girl whom he and his wife had befriended, warning him of his intended assassination. The girl was the daughter of one of the most blood-thirsty of the Ross Party, and she was later killed because of her father's rage on learning that she had warned Watie.

When the executioners arrived at his house, Watie, an avid sportsman, met them with several rifles loaded and holding a double-barreled shotgun on them. He invited them to come and get him, promising that if he died he would take as many of them as he could with him. They retreated. Afterwards, at Evansville, Arkansas, Watie killed the men who had boasted of having slain Boudinot.⁴⁶

Major Ridge and his son, John, were slain in the massacre.

John Wheeler, quite naturally alarmed for the safety of his family, left the Indian Territory. Many members of the Treaty Party fled to Arkansas but he chose to go with his wife's relatives to Newton County, Missouri.⁴⁷ It was there, at Norton Mission, where Sarah Paschal Wheeler, their fifth child, was born on March 1, 1841.⁴⁸

Wheeler then moved his family to Van Buren, Arkansas, where he became owner and editor, with Thomas Sterne, of the *Arkansas Intelligencer*.⁴⁹

He was still there in 1843 but he and his family returned to Park Hill, I.T., where he again worked with John Candy from 1844 to 1846.⁵⁰ John Caldwell Wheeler, their sixth child, was born December 18, 1845 at Fairfield, I.T.

Then in 1846, John Wheeler moved his family to Fort Smith. During that year the First Presbyterian Church was organized and John Wheeler was listed as one of the three charter members. The other two were Mrs. Margaret F. Baird and Joseph Bennett (another mayor of Fort Smith).⁵¹

In 1847, John F. Wheeler established the first newspaper in Fort Smith, the *Fort Smith Herald*. And from the *Arkansas Intelligencer* we find the following:

"June 26, 1847. The *Fort Smith Herald*. The first number of the paper made its appearance on last Wednesday. It is a double medium sheet of handsome appearance, and is neatly executed; will be devoted to news, the mechanical and agricultural interests of the country, and particularly to that of Fort Smith. It is published immediately on the Indian border and will always give the latest news from the Indian country. We extend the hand of good fellowship to friend Wheeler and wish him every success."

Twenty years later in 1867, Wheeler began another newspaper, this time it was called the *Fort Smith Weekly Herald* and in the first issue he wrote the following account:

"On the 23rd day of June, 1847, twenty years ago, we issued the first number of the *Fort Smith Herald*, the first newspaper printed in this place. At that time it was an uphill undertaking, as there were not more than 460 inhabitants in this place and all the business, or nearly so, was done on Water Street, now completely deserted, and in the most dilapidated and uninviting portion of town. Garrison Avenue had but a few buildings on it and they were poor, mere shanties, the upper end being then in the woods. It is now the principal street in the town, where most of the business is done.

"When we commenced our paper, we had to work at the case and at the press because of our inability to pay *jeurs*, owing to the small income from the paper and advertising. We had to work hard day and night, and often our leaders were *set up* at the case, without being written, and we believe they were the best composition of our editorial career. Contrasting Fort Smith of 1867, with Fort Smith of 1847, twenty years, everyone having any knowledge of it in the latter named year 1847, can see that great improvements have been made although 5 years of that time it has been subject to the devastation of war. Like the fabled Phoenix, it now begins in earnest too, to arise from its ashes, regenerated and vigorous. The prospects for the future of Fort Smith appears to be encouraging, as it is the key to the vast and fertile region of country now owned and occupied by the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, Cherokees and Seminoles, lying immediately to the west of Arkansas.

"In looking back to the time of starting the *Fort Smith Herald*, while there are many things to encourage us, still, since that day, many sad things have transpired. Many of the old settlers have gone to their long homes, and now 'sleep that sleep that knows no waking.' Among that number is that of the body of Captain John Rogers, the founder, and the then proprietor of Fort Smith. He was our principal supporter, and with a liberal hand, enabled us through many months of trial and discouragement to sustain the *Herald*. He was a gentleman of the old style, and liberal to a fault. The name of Capt. John Rogers is so interwoven with the history of Fort Smith that so long as it is known, he will be remembered as the founder of the city.

"Another old settler, also, lies buried not far from town, who was here at a very early day, and whose descendants now occupy prominent positions in this city, and most of whom were born on this soil — we speak of Capt. Wm. Duval, who we found a leading merchant here in 1834 before the town of Ft. Smith was laid off. Besides there are others, old settlers also, who deserve a notice at our hands, but time and space will not permit at present. In 1856, we sold the *Herald*, and in 1858, commenced the

publication in connection with Maj. (James H.) Sparks of the *Fort Smith Times*, which was a paying office, but in September, 1860, our office burned down, being in the third story of the brick block which is now mostly in ruins, on the corner of Washington Street (North Second) and Garrison Avenue. We lost there four printing presses and our entire office — worth at least \$5,000, no insurance. We repurchased the *Herald*, Maj. Sparks being our partner, in the spring of 1861, and issued a small daily until the spring of 1862, which was suspended in consequence of the war, during which time we were absent.

"In October, 1865, we returned home, and commenced the publication of the *Herald*, tri-weekly, which we hope may prove acceptable to all."

By all accounts Wheeler had been committed to his fellow citizens and the communities in which he lived from the very beginning of his adult life. And his opportunity to serve would be further enhanced by the growth and prospects of the small town on the Arkansas River, growth which would be stimulated in a great part by his own far-seeing efforts.

As he wrote, there were only about 460 inhabitants in Fort Smith when he moved his family here in 1847. It seems incredible that anyone would even consider establishing a newspaper in such a small place. Newspaper subscriptions were only \$1.00 per year. But in addition to the paper and its advertisers Wheeler also did a sizeable amount of job printing such as books, pamphlets, business forms and broadsides (handbills and fliers).⁵²

Fort Smith was a rural community in which the accepted norm was the family garden, a few chickens, a cow and perhaps some pigs. Fruit and nut trees, blackberries and strawberries were in abundance. It seems unusual to contemplate that the founders of our city, "elite" citizens, fed the chickens, milked the cow, picked berries and gathered the garden produce.

The John Wheeler family was no exception. They enjoyed ample sustenance and a very acceptable life style.

In 1848, Wheeler successfully petitioned the postmaster general to change the mail schedules from Fort Smith to Tomlinville (a small town in the Petit Jean Valley).⁵³

On September 6th of that year, Wheeler's paper, the *Herald*, carried the announcement, "Ho! For California!" It was the beginning of the formation of "The Fort Smith and California Emigrating Company," one of the wagon train companies which went in search for gold. Wheeler was in the middle of the venture, along with other prominent members of the community, although he did not go himself. The wagon train left in April, 1849.⁵⁴

Also, on December 14, 1848, Will Watie Wheeler, John and Nancy's seventh child, was born.

Along with Wheeler's interest in the gold rush, he was also involved with getting a railroad through Fort Smith. In July, 1849, he, Elias Rector and Ben T. Duval attended a convention in Memphis to make their impact felt.⁵⁵

In 1850, after a town meeting, Wheeler and two others made up a committee asking Arkansas representatives in Congress to name a military post in honor of General Matthew Arbuckle.⁵⁶ (It was so done.)

On May 12, 1850, Nancy, eighth and last child of John and Nancy, was born.

While John Wheeler was a highly respected leader of the community he could also be abrasive in his editorial comments on those occasions when he felt that it was justified. The town had almost doubled in size and had then a population of 964! Feelings sometimes ran high in the border town and people "spoke their piece." In the spring of that year of 1850, an incident occurred that could have cost Wheeler his life.

The Reverend Charles E. Pleasants, a Philadelphian, had made his home in Fort Smith and was a correspondent for the *New York Sun* newspaper. A group of Seminole Indians came through on their way to their new homes in the Indian Territory. In one of Pleasants' communications to the New York paper he intimated rather broadly that the local merchants had charged them exorbitant prices and that some of the horse traders had swindled them. Wheeler then took him to task quite severely in his editorial comments and Pleasants retorted in his own way. Wheeler wrote some more.

When the two men met on the street one day they exchanged fiery words. Wheeler struck Pleasants with his cane. Pleasants retaliated by shooting Wheeler with his Derringer pistol. It so happened that Wheeler had just come from the post office and was carrying a large bundle of mail in his left arm and also had a large pocketbook in the breast pocket of his coat.⁵⁷

In February, 1852, Nancy Wheeler died after a brief illness. In the *Fort Smith Herald* Wheeler wrote the following:

February 21st: "Two very important events in our life we are called to record in the day's paper. One of a pecuniary and business nature — the sale of half of the interest of the *Fort Smith Herald*, etc. which will soon be forgotten in the transactions of life. The other, the loss of a dearly beloved wife — the wife of our youth, with whom we have lived twenty-two years and 10 months and reared children to the age of maturity and have others whose ages can vary to less than two years. Her place can never again be filled in our affections, and her loss is irreparable. We this day record her death with our own hands, and place it in the paper of the *Fort Smith Herald*. Words fail us to express our deep feelings of anguish, and some may feel disposed to censure us for the weakness that we manifest on the occasion,

but if it is a weakness to love the wife of our bosom, who has been identified, like ours with so many years of our life — we cannot avoid such weakness — tears alone can afford us a temporary relief and seems to soothe our grief. To look at her offspring, especially those who need a mother's care, fills our heart with sorrow, and we mourn her loss, and look in vain at the empty place which she has long filled, for her lovely form, placid countenance and her motherly smile. But she has gone. God, in his over ruling providence has taken her and we submit to his divine will and leave the events with him."

Nancy was gone, the wife who had borne him eight children and who had accompanied him faithfully wherever his work took them. Each of their first six children were born in a different place. Before moving to Fort Smith, they had never lived more than two or three years in the same locality. She tended the house, the children and most likely a garden, and was frequently uprooting everything to move on. She was John Wheeler's quiet, abiding strength.

It seems a rare twist of irony that he felt called upon to report her death in the same story in which he apprised his readers of selling half interest in his paper. She was his very vibrant counterpart, the other half interest in his marriage.

John Wheeler was left with six minor children: Mary Ann, 16; Harriet, 14; Sarah, 11; John Caldwell, 7; Will Watie, 4; and Nancy, 2.

In 1854, only two years after Nancy's death, tragedy struck the Wheeler family again. Theodore, their 21-year-old son and oldest child, had gone west by wagon train to seek gold in the California rush. They had chosen a northern route and reached what is now Denver, Colorado, on July 1st. Theodore and a young man from Cincinnati, Ohio, by the name of Brown, got into a quarrel and Brown shot him. Tuge Rector, of Fort Smith and son of Col. Wharton Rector II, and nephew of Elias Rector, then shot Brown. The two young men were buried side by side in the same grave and Rector never returned to Fort Smith.

In the meantime a young woman by the name of Mary Folger Chase had come with General Gaines to Fort Smith to be governess and teacher of the Wheeler children. She and John Wheeler were later married. There are conflicting dates given in the family records, one as 1855 but the more reliable record shows that they were married on July 5, 1853, at Newport, R.I.⁵³

The family story is told that when Wheeler brought his bride in the front door his children went out the back door in indignant protest.⁵⁹

In 1856, Wheeler sold the remaining half-interest of the *Herald* to Cephas H. Wheeler and his brother, Jeremiah. The two young men were not related to him but were reared in the Wheeler home and trained by him in the printing office.⁶⁰



Mary Folger Chase Wheeler
Courtesy Dr. Homer C. Wheeler

In 1858, two significant events occurred. Wheeler, not to be without printer's ink on his hands for long, joined in a partnership with James H. Sparks, a local merchant, and established the *Fort Smith Times*.⁶¹

Also in 1858, John Wheeler and his wife, Mary, and two of the children (probably Will and Nancy), rode the first west-bound Butterfield Mail Stage made up in Tipton, Missouri, on Thursday, September 16th. The correspondent of the *New York Herald* wrote the account, "... It was decided to take no passenger (except himself) but Mr. Butterfield agreed to make an exception for Judge Wheeler, his lady and two children, agreeing to take them to Fort Smith where he himself intended to go."⁶²

The route led south through Springfield, Missouri, and past four stations before reaching the Arkansas line, then through the rugged Ozark hills to Fayetteville and on to Fort Smith, where the passengers and coach were rafted across the Arkansas River at Van Buren. Exactly at 2:05 a.m. on Sunday morning, September 19th, the coach drove up to the City Hotel in Fort Smith. Despite the early hour, houses lit up, horns began to blow and people rushed to the hotel to have a look at the stage's mail bags, talking with high excitement. The mail from Memphis had arrived only fifteen minutes earlier and it took an hour and fifteen minutes to combine the

mails, examining and arranging way bills, etc. The first 468 miles of the journey had been completed and exactly at 3:30 on that memorable Sunday morning the first west-bound stage left Fort Smith.⁶³

Later, there was a large celebration with "a barbecue, a big procession, speeches 'galore' and libations of that beverage dear to the American heart to a degree that it would horrify prohibitionists of the present day."⁶⁴

As mentioned before, the year of 1860 saw another misfortune when the printing office housing the *Fort Smith Times* burned down. Wheeler's young son, John C. (only 16 at the time), was publishing a paper, the *Picayune*, with his partner, Claude C. Coleman, in the *Times* office.⁶⁵ John C. Wheeler had helped his father in the printing business from a very early age.⁶⁵

The small town of Fort Smith was growing phenomenally and in 1860 the population was 1,532.⁶⁶ During that year and the year following, John F. Wheeler served as city treasurer. Receipts signed by him show that the town was doing business by using city scrip. Also, on December 14th a city auctioneer's license, good for one year, at a cost of \$25.00, was issued to Wheeler. The license was signed by Joseph Bennett, mayor.⁶⁷

After the devastating fire of 1860, Wheeler and Sparks built a new building and were back in business by the spring of 1861, publishing the *Fort Smith Times and Herald*.⁶⁸

In 1862, after the Battle of Pea Ridge, Wheeler suspended his business and moved his family to Waco, Texas. Seventeen-year-old John C. remained behind.⁶⁹ He joined the Fort Smith Rifles, with Major J.H. Sparks (his father's former partner), commanding. He served at least part of his time with his uncle, General Stand Watie, in the Indian Territory.⁷⁰ He was paroled from Co. A., Third Reg't., Arkansas, on July 10, 1865, at Millican, Texas.⁷¹ (Millican is about 100 miles southeast of Waco as the crow flies. Ed.)

Family records also show that Will Watie Wheeler served during the Civil War.⁷²

Mary Ann, Wheeler's second oldest daughter, and her two children accompanied the family to Texas. She was married to Ethelbert B. Bright, the Fort Smith merchant who built "Marble Hall."⁷³ She died while in Texas, from the childbirth of their third child. Later Bright married Sally Wheeler, John's half-sister, and they had a daughter and son. It was somewhat confusing since Bright's first two children were John's grand-children and his last two were a niece and nephew.⁷⁴

When the Wheeler family returned to Fort Smith in the fall of 1865, John immediately resumed his business and community activities. Typically, one of the first things that happened was that he was made chairman of a committee to provide for orphans.⁷⁵

During his absence the U.S. Army had turned over his office, press and equipment to Valentine Dell, who was publishing a pro-Union newspaper, the *New Era*. However, Wheeler had little difficulty in recovering his property since he enjoyed friendly relations with government officials. He and his son, John C., revived the *Herald* which appeared weekly. The editor of the paper was C.M. Waugh, attorney in partnership with E.D. Ham, District Attorney for the Western District of Arkansas. The first issue appeared October 18, 1865.⁷⁶

In the meantime he managed to find time to establish Wheeler's Auction and Commission House on Garrison Avenue near the steamboat landing. He dealt in such things as furniture, household goods, livestock and even real estate. (It must have been a busy month. Ed.) Later, he took a man by the name of Miller as partner.⁷⁷

In 1867, James H. Sparks was home from the War and again joined Wheeler. They began a weekly edition of the *Herald*. The weekly and tri-weekly editions of the *Herald* were not published continuously but the two men remained partners until 1870.⁷⁸

Wheeler, his son, John C., and John Carnall entered partnership in December, 1871, and began publishing the *Western Independent*. The paper was slanted toward family, household hints, agriculture and information on family medicine. Carnall withdrew in December, 1872, and the paper continued as *Wheeler's Western Independent*. Later, in 1879, the paper was published for a brief time as *Wheeler's Daily Independent*. By that time Wheeler's health was beginning to fail. He had made a will on May 1, 1878, leaving half the newspaper office to his son, John C., and the other half to his wife, Mary. Stipulation of the will was that the paper was to be maintained as *Wheeler's Independent*.⁷⁹

John Foster Wheeler died on March 10, 1880.

Eulogies from newspapers over the State were well deserved expressions of praise and admiration. The Little Rock *Democrat* referred to his serving as county judge, and also in the Arkansas State Senate for five terms. Another Little Rock paper (not the *Gazette*) repeated the same. The Van Buren paper referred to him as Judge Wheeler.

And herein lies a mystery. The State Secretary's Report does not show him as ever having served as a county judge. There are a few possible reasons why he was called "Judge." He might have been a justice of the peace or a municipal judge. Or perhaps it was a title of courtesy and respect given to him because of his knowledge, experience and standing in the community. That is highly probably because here again the reports of his serving five years in the State Senate cannot be borne out. Actually, he served once in an "extraordinary session" in the Arkansas House of Representatives in the spring of 1874, representing Sebastian, Franklin and Logan

Counties. That fall he returned to Little Rock and served as senator in the regular session, representing Sebastian and Scott Counties.⁸⁰ (1874 was the year Arkansas adopted its Constitution.) It is highly interesting that Wheeler's peers were anxious to give him that kind of credit even without his having served.

An especially interesting sidelight of the Wheeler family is the connection between them and the Carnalls, another prominent Fort Smith family. Will Watie Wheeler, John's son, married Emma Carnall, John Carnall's daughter; and Cephas H. Wheeler, who was reared in the Wheeler home, married Mary Carnall, John Carnall's sister.⁸¹

Printer's ink flowed in the veins of members of both families. Wheeler Mayo, grandson of Will and Emma, became the noted editor of the *Sequoyah County Times*, published at Sallisaw, Oklahoma.

Cephas H. Wheeler, who worked as editor with John Carnall, and his brother, Jeremiah, were from Tennessee. They may have been the sons of Jeremiah Wheeler, who died at Fort Smith in 1848 while on his way to Texas, leaving four orphan sons.⁸² It is significant, but typical, that when John and Nancy Wheeler opened their home to them they already had seven children or were expecting their seventh child.

The anecdotes in the family records are a delight to read. One time when the family was at the dinner table, spinach was served. It was one of John's favorite foods. Since there was only a small dish of it the children had been instructed by their mother not to take any. When the third child refused it he was asked why. "Because she said not to," was the reply. Wheeler was so angry that he threw the bowl of spinach out the window.⁸²

John C. Wheeler died in 1881, only a year and three months after his father's death. He was 37 years old. E.B. Bright took over to continue publication of the paper.⁸³

Mary F. Wheeler died on January 21, 1890, at the age of 78 years. John and Mary and other family members are buried in Oak Cemetery, Fort Smith.⁸⁴

John F. Wheeler never ceased looking forward or trying new things. He had been the first man in many things, even the first man to burn coal in a grate in Fort Smith. And in 1875 the Van Buren newspaper wrote, "*Wheeler's Independent* is still harping on the Dutch Mills road to Fayetteville and a free ferry at Fort Smith."⁸⁵ (See the September, 1988, issue of the *Journal* for a discussion of the free ferry. Now we know. Ed.)

Mary Ann Littlefield, who wrote an excellent story about John Foster Wheeler in the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*,⁸⁶ the article from which many references have been drawn, said this, "Ironically, in history the work has overshadowed the man." How true it is!

History, of course, is essentially a chronicle of events; it is not a diary. For that reason there are many gaps from one event to the next, gaps that bring up tantalizing, and sometimes even maddening, questions.

John Wheeler served as mayor less than one year, from April 15, 1854, until January, 1855. This was not unusual. From the time the first mayor was elected in 1841 until 1861 there were 17 mayors, fourteen of whom served only one year or less. The small town was not just a frontier town. It was a bustling, raucous border town, situated on the Arkansas River, an important artery of commerce where steamboats plied their wares daily, or weekly, as the water level permitted. From 1847 until 1860 the population more than tripled. The small city was a living entity all its own, "busting out all over," and the glue that held it together and let it progress in the right direction was the necessity for order and the intimacy of its people. Government, haphazard as it might appear in retrospect, ensued quite naturally. Wheeler was only one actor on the stage of his day and time, but one of the most colorful.

John Wheeler, who had such deep love for his family, received the news of his son's death in Colorado only two years after the death of his first wife, Nancy. He had to have suffered great loss and pain. And two dates are given for his second marriage — 1853 and 1855. Was the earlier date correct? It is somewhat satisfying to think so and that Mary was at his side.

When he, Mary and the two children rode the first west-bound Butterfield Stage, had he perhaps said to her one bright September day, "Why don't we take Will and Nancy up to Tipton, Missouri, and ride that new stage back home?"

Had the Butterfield Stage been another of his civic projects he worked for in his enthusiastic way? If so, it was never mentioned. It is clear that Mr. Butterfield had not specially invited him to participate in that memorable event. So had he and the family been visiting friends and relatives (Mary was from Rhode Island) and just happened to be there when the opportunity arose?

Wheeler, with his foresight and prudence, removed his family to Waco, Texas, during the Civil War, which is reminiscent of the time he moved his family out of Georgia before the Trail of Tears. Why Waco? Friends or relatives there? We know that he could not live three years without getting into printer's ink and perhaps one or more community projects. What could Waco add to his large store of credits?

Even the questions add to the dimension of the man. And it is a great pleasure to retrieve even bits and pieces of the history of one who contributed so much to our community and our history.

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Special thanks to Dr. Homer C. Wheeler, Sallisaw, Oklahoma, for family records, etc.; Wanda Karrant, Fort Smith Public Library; and Guy Nichols, National Park Service, Fort Smith.

Sequoyah and the Cherokee Alphabet

Amelia Martin

Sequoyah, a half breed Cheokee, who was also known as George Guess or George Gist, is best known as the inventor of a syllabary for the Cherokee language through which the Cherokees, for the first time, could communicate in their language by writing, but he was also a skillful and well known blacksmith, silversmith, artist, statesman, soldier and educator. He has been called the *Cadmus of America* and he was honored after his death by having the giant Sequoia trees and Sequoia National Park in California named for him.

He was with the allied army of Cherokees, Creeks and Shawnees that defeated General St. Clair in Indiana in 1791. There Sequoyah saw for the first time a printed page, which he called a "talking leaf."

The unschooled man had no knowledge of any written language, but after recognizing the value of the "talking leaf" and the need for written communication, he devoted twelve years (1809-1821) to study and creating a syllabary of eighty-five characters based upon a character for each sound. In some manner he obtained an English spelling book and used the letters A, B, C, D, G, H, J, K, L, M, P, R, S, T, U, V, W and Z, but gave them different meanings. The rest of the characters came from his fertile imagination.

It is said he became so absorbed in his work on the alphabet he neglected his farm, blacksmith shop, salt kettles, etc. to the point his wife was so incensed with his neglect of chores of livelihood that she burned his manuscripts, but that he promptly did them over. The burning of his manuscripts has also been attributed to his superstitious tribesmen who were convinced Sequoyah was a sorcerer and wanted to put him to death. He was given a trial in the tribal court in which he demonstrated the value of his invention, and the warriors who were trying him became so interested they learned to write the language themselves. Convinced of its worth, the Cherokees were quick to adopt the new invention.

Sequoyah was born sometime between 1760 and 1770, probably in or near the town of Taskigi near Fort Loudon, Tennessee. His mother was said to be a full blood Cherokee princess. The identity of his father is somewhat in doubt. Some say he was a Dutch trader named Geist; or Nathaniel Gist,

a soldier and a friend of George Washington; or that he was a Scotch trader named Gist. W.J. Weaver, a Fort Smith newspaper man and merchant who said he knew Sequoyah personally, said, "George never knew his father, but learned from his mother that he was a white man who spoke the English language."

This same writer also wrote, "The writer of this sketch knew him and his family well. When they lived on Skin Bayou, in Sequoyah District, Cherokee Nation, for a period of three or four years from 1839 to 1843, he often enjoyed the hospitality of their cabin home in his rides in the vicinity, and traded with them in his store in Fort Smith for their products, such as honey, butter, eggs, chickens, deer and coon skins, which they exchanged for family supplies.

"George would have been taken for a fullblood. He was quiet and morose in manner and would not talk English, but he understood it, and in this respect he was like many other Indians at the time, who would speak to you in their language and understand your answer in English.

"His wife, Polly, was different. She was affable, pleasant, talkative, and spoke the English language fluently, and it was from her that I learned much of George's history. Polly was a good housekeeper; she was always dressed in homespun wear, and had a loom. In fact, at that time many of the Cherokees were expert in spinning, weaving and coloring, and seldom bought any clothing but 'ontnowo yunago' (white cloth) for underwear.

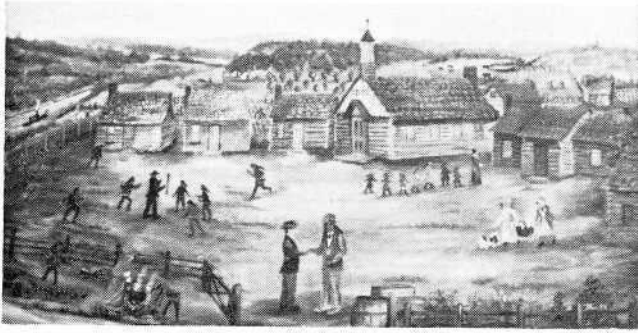
"George always wore the conventional homespun hunting shirt trimmed with red fringe, with a red shawl twisted round his head as a turban. Teesee, his son, was grown to manhood, and his daughter was about seventeen, both unmarried at the time. They lived comfortably on their farm and had ponies, cattle and hogs on the range."

Sequoyah was among the approximately 400 Cherokees who moved to western Arkansas between

1818 and 1822, settling in what is now Pope County near Dwight Mission, which was the first Protestant school and mission for the Indians in the Arkansas-Oklahoma area. This area is about eight miles from the present campus of Arkansas Tech University in Russellville. In 1828, interested in

CHEROKEE ALPHABET.						
CHARACTERS SYSTEMATICALLY ARRANGED WITH THE SOUNDS.						
D a	R e	T i	ᄁ o	ᄃ u	i v	
ᄆ ga ᄇ ka	ᄎ ge	ᄏ gi	A go	J gu	E gv	
ᄒ ha	ᄐ he	ᄑ hi	F ho	F hu	ᄔ hv	
W lu	ᄒ le	ᄒ li	G lo	M lu	ᄔ lv	
ᄔ ma	ᄔ me	H mi	ᄔ mo	ᄔ mu		
ᄔ na ᄔ hna ᄔ nah	ᄔ ne	h ni	Z no	ᄔ nu	ᄔ nv	
ᄔ qua	ᄔ que	ᄔ qui	ᄔ quo	ᄔ quu	ᄔ quv	
ᄔ s ᄔ sa	ᄔ se	ᄔ si	ᄔ so	ᄔ su	ᄔ sv	
ᄔ da ᄔ ta	ᄔ de ᄔ te	ᄔ di ᄔ ti	V to	S du	ᄔ dv	
ᄔ dla ᄔ tla	L tle	C tli	ᄔ tlo	ᄔ tlu	P tl v	
ᄔ tsa	ᄔ tse	ᄔ tsi	K tso	J tsu	ᄔ ts v	
ᄔ wa	ᄔ we	ᄔ wi	ᄔ wo	ᄔ wu	ᄔ wv	
ᄔ va	ᄔ ye	ᄔ yi	ᄔ yo	ᄔ vu	B vv	

Cherokee Alphabet, characters systematically arranged with the sounds.
Courtesy *Oklahoma Almanac, Golden Anniversary Edition, 1957-58.*



Cephas Washburn Welcomes Sequoyah to Dwight Mission about 1825, a site on Illinois Creek near where Russellville, Ark. now stands. Painting by Dorris Curtis is acrylic on Belgian Linen, 20" x 36" and was taken from a small pen and ink sketch (the only picture ever made of it) plus descriptions from Cephas Washburn's journal. Photo courtesy of Marcus A. Hollabaugh.

the general advancement of Indians, he went to Washington, D.C. as a representative of the western tribes.

In 1829, as the Cherokees were forced to move farther west, he and other Western Cherokees moved to an area that is now known as Sequoyah County in eastern Oklahoma, about twelve miles northeast of Sallisaw. His home there has been preserved as a museum.

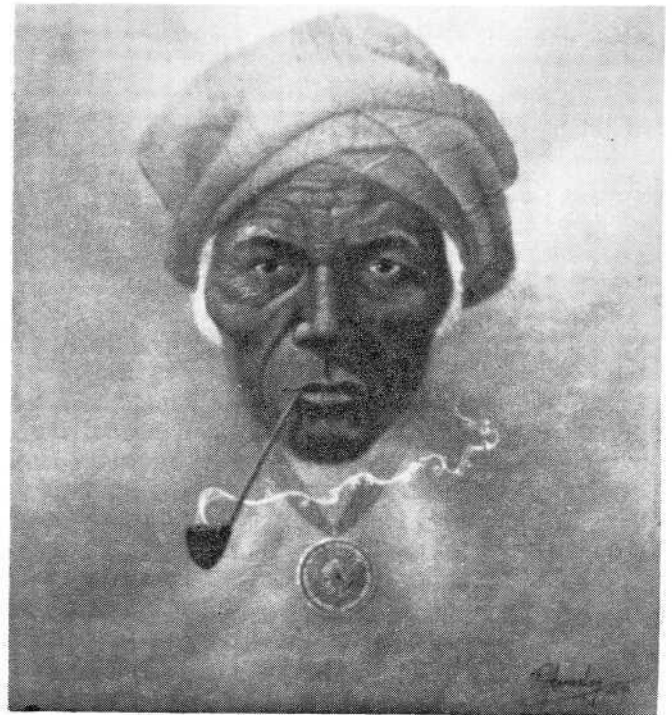
The first Indian newspaper in America, the *Cherokee Phoenix*, was first printed on the Cherokee Nation at New Echota, Georgia, on February 21, 1828, its columns printed both in English and in Cherokee using the Sequoyah syllabary. The constitution and laws of the Cherokee Nation were also printed on this national press in both English and the Cherokee language. It was edited by Elias Boudinot and Isaach Harris, printer.

In 1835 Samuel Austin Worcester, the first author and printer in the Indian Territory, was sent to this foreign field as a missionary among the Cherokees by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (Presbyterian, Congregational, and Dutch Reform). He set up his press at old Union Mission for printing whatever books might be needed in the various Indian languages. John Foster Wheeler, a printer who later established the first newspaper in Fort Smith, worked with Mr. Worcester. Wheeler printed a small book called *Istutsi in Naktsoku or The Child's Book* in the Creek or Muskogee language, Choctaw and Cherokee almanacs, volumes of hymns, and the Cherokee alphabet.

In 1842 Sequoyah left eastern Oklahoma for Mexico to try to establish contact with a group of Cherokees he heard were living there. It was while on this trip that Sequoyah died in 1843.

Today, two statues stand in the National Statuary Hall in honor of Oklahoma's most famous sons, one of Will Rogers and the other of Sequoyah.

By 1820, one fourth to one third of the Cherokee Nation resided in the Arkansas River Valley, now Pope County, Arkansas. The original site of Dwight Mission, which was established to educate the Indians, is now under the waters of Lake Dardanelle. Because the Arkansas Tech University campus forms the shoreline on the eastern side of the lake,



Sequoyah by Robert H. Annesley.
Courtesy of Marcus A. Hollabaugh.

an effort is in progress to establish a Dwight Mission and Cherokee museum on the Tech campus, as well as an interpretive center for the Trail of Tears project.

In 1882, the University launched a program to collect appropriate paintings, prints, maps, books, etc. to become the Center of the Visual History of Arkansas. This collection, known as the Hollabaugh Collection, includes a bust of Sequoyah and a new painting of Sequoyah painted by artist Robert H. Annesley who is part Cherokee. The painting shows Sequoyah in his native dress and turban, with the familiar pipe and the medal around his neck which was presented to him for being the author of the Cherokee alphabet. The new portrait was commissioned, paid for and given to the collection by Sidney Scisson, a native of Yell County, Arkansas, a graduate of Tech and formerly Chairman of the Board of Fenix & Scisson, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Annesley, a sculptor, graphic artist, poet, painter and Indian historian has achieved international acclaim for his work in a wide range of media and has won many major awards in national competitions.

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Fort Smith Press

Amelia Martin

Fort Smith's journalistic activities have been numerous. Through the years, excluding school newspapers, at least seventy newspapers and other types of publications including: religious, literary, political, agricultural, labor, trade and professional journals; high school and college publications; Negro and foreign language newspapers; free circulation "shopper's guides," etc. have been published in Fort Smith. All of these recorded history as it was made. What a great source of information and inspiration for historians today would be complete files of these many publications — but only a few of the files have escaped destruction.

Much of the history of Fort Smith newspapers was recorded by J. Frank Weaver¹ who for 53 years was connected in some way to Fort Smith newspapers — first as a compositor and then as editor of several of them, at different times. In 1922, at age 73, he continued to be a contributor to the *Times Record* and other newspapers.

For additional Fort Smith publications' history we are indebted to F.W. Allsopp who authored *History of the Arkansas Press for a Hundred Years and More, Published in 1922*; Robert W. Meriwether, compiler of *A Chronicle of Arkansas Newspapers Published Since 1922 and of the Arkansas Press Association 1930-1972*² published in 1974 by the Arkansas Press Association; Mrs. Wm. D. Barksdale for her manuscript, *A History of Fort Smith Newspapers*; and the Centennial Edition of the *Southwest Times Record*, Sunday, September 16, 1982.

This history of the Fort Smith press is as complete and accurate as has been possible to make it with existing records — but, unfortunately, existing records leave much to be desired. For this reason, no doubt there are unavoidable omissions and possible errors.

Even the Meriwether compilation made no attempt to include publications other than general circulation newspapers, and the preface to the Meriwether compilation states, "Unfortunately, the compiler of this Chronicle cannot state that the names, dates and newspapers contained herein are wholly accurate or complete. Quite frequently there is conflicting or incomplete information; at times one can do no more than estimate or speculate. It is hoped that this chronicle will assist those who wish to do more thorough research on specific Arkansas newspapers."

The following quote from Allsopp's history of the Arkansas press indicates some of the reasons for the short life of some of the publications:

"The path of journalism, in the early days of Fort Smith, was strewn with all kinds of troubles. The population of the town consisted of but a few hundred souls. The country was sparsely settled and

the people, as a rule, were not given to newspaper literature.

"There were no telegraphs to flash daily news from the uttermost parts of the earth. Mails were irregular, and money, the sinew of newspaperdom, as it is of war — was a scarce commodity. The publication of even a weekly paper in those days was confronted with more obstacles than are encountered now in the publication of a moderate sized daily.

"The labor attending publication at that time was as exacting as at present, while the awards were far less.

"Now and then the river would fall and remain for months at so low a stage as to make steamboating impossible. Then would come trouble to get the white paper to print editions on. In such instances the publisher, who happened to be short on stock, would borrow paper from his more fortunate neighbor — if more than one paper was published in the town — or was forced to have his paper brought overland from Booneville, Missouri, or DeVall's Bluff on White River, Arkansas, a very unreliable and expensive process of transportation. The following from the *Fort Smith Herald* of February 28, 1857, is given as an evidence of the inconvenience publishers were subjected to from this source:

"With feelings of the greatest gratification and pleasure we are able to announce to our friends and our enemies, too, that we have received per steamer S.H. Tucker a supply of paper, etc., sufficient for over one year, and it came in good time, for we had our last sheet on the board, and had we not received our paper by the middle of next week we would have been compelled to stop, for we had borrowed (and thanks to the friends who had kindly lent to us) for the last month, and we could not borrow again. However, there is now no need of borrowing. We will pay what we owe, and our friends may expect the *Herald* in due season. The receipt of our paper, ordered some four or five months ago, at a time when we were almost out, makes us acknowledge the truth of the expression, 'They that put their trust in the right place shall never be disappointed.'"

Throughout the state of Arkansas many newspaper editors, publishers and contributors were among the state's most famous men. The same was true of Fort Smith and some such men were Judge John Foster Wheeler;³ Albert Pike;⁴ Major James H. Sparks;⁵ Valentine Dell;⁶ Major Charles Gordon Newman;⁷ Col. Ben T. Duvall;⁸ O.D. Weldon;⁹ John Carnall;¹⁰ G. Rainey Williams;¹¹ Colonel E.C. Boudinot,¹² the noted Cherokee; J.M. Lucey,¹³ soldier, teacher and newspaper editor who became a beloved and noted priest in the Roman Catholic church; and C.F. Byrnes who was instrumental in the Arkansas River development.

The Herald, the first newspaper published at the "Border City," was issued June 23, 1847, by Judge John F. Wheeler.

In February, 1851, a half interest in the *Herald* was sold to the "Democratic Association of Fort Smith," Judge Wheeler retaining the editorship of the paper. In 1855, S.H. Montgomery became associate editor. In the presidential campaign of the following year the *Herald* supported Buchanan and Breckinridge. Then in a short time the affairs of the paper underwent another change, Cephas H. and Jere M. Wheeler, two young men who had learned to set type in the *Herald* office, buying Judge Wheeler's interest. These young men were in no way related to Judge Wheeler, though of the same name. Montgomery retired, and for a time, under the new management, Col. B.T. DuVal was editor of the paper.

Under the guidance of C.H. and Jere M. Wheeler the paper did not flourish, and a half interest was sold to J.H. Sparks, who, in turn, sold to John Carnall, and he in a short time sold to John King, by whom, with the assistance of William B. and S. Howard Calhoun, practical printers, it was conducted until disposed of to Judge Wheeler and James H. Sparks, who in the meantime had started the *Fort Smith Times*.

The *Fort Smith Times* was launched in 1858 by Judge John F. Wheeler and James H. Sparks. A portion of the material from which this paper was issued had formerly been used by William Quesenbury ("Bill Cush") in printing the *Northwestern Independent* at Fayetteville, and was brought to Fort Smith in wagons. *The Times* was one of the largest papers then published in the state. It was printed on a large cylinder Hoe press, the first of the kind ever brought to Arkansas. The office was well equipped with job type and presses and did a flourishing business until September 20, 1860, when it was destroyed by a fire that swept Washington (now Second) street from the City Hotel, then managed by J.K. McKenzie, to Garrison avenue. The office was in the second story of the building over Walton & Bourne's store. The loss was total, the firm not having a cent of insurance.

Mr. Weaver states that Messrs. Wheeler and Sparks did not long remain idle. In March, 1861, they purchased the material of the *Herald*, and started a paper called the *Fort Smith Times and Herald*, thus resurrecting the *Fort Smith Herald*, which had been dead for a year or two. Owing to the scarcity of paper, only one number of the weekly edition of this paper was ever issued, but the publication of the daily edition was continued until shortly after the battle of Elk Horn Tavern, in 1862, when it was suspended, owing to print paper being unobtainable. In 1865 or 1866 the *Herald* was revived by Judge Wheeler, who had returned from Texas, to which state he refugeeed upon the advent of the Union troops into Fort Smith on September 1, 1863. In 1867 Major Sparks returned from Pine Bluff, where he had been engaged with John L. Bowers in the publication

of the *Dispatch*, and bought a half interest in the *Herald*. The partnership between Judge Wheeler and Major Sparks continued until 1871, when Major Frank Parke bought Judge Wheeler's interest. Major Parke's connection with the paper was but temporary, and Major Sparks was soon in entire charge. In 1877, Major Sparks leased the paper to J. Frank Gallagher and James E. Breitz, which firm remained in charge of it for one year. Gallagher and Breitz issued a daily edition for twelve months, but issued no weekly. Breitz then retired, being succeeded by Ed Pennington. Gallagher and Pennington, after running the daily until February 3, 1879, suspended it. The daily was, from beginning to end, a losing venture. Upon the retirement of Gallagher and Pennington, Major Sparks again assumed charge of the paper. He, however, was in a short time compelled by ill health to retire from its management, and the doors of the office were closed for a time, to be opened temporarily by Ed Pennington and R.B. Rutherford. These gentlemen soon got enough of their job and abandoned it.

"But the plant of a suspended newspaper is always an attraction for aspiring young men of journalistic proclivities, and the old *Herald* plant proved no exception to the rule," says Mr. Weaver. In August, 1880, it was sold to James Saunders and Lawrence Lamb of Memphis, Tenn. Lawrence and Lamb were bright young fellows, and entered with vim upon the task of reviving the old *Herald*. They ran the paper for a time as a weekly, making it an excellent sheet, and then began the publication of a daily edition. Lamb was a man of delicate constitution, and his health giving away under the strain, he retired in a few months, selling his interest to J.D. Martin, also of Memphis. April, 1882, Martin sold to Col. M.D. Wisdom, a Tennessean, who, before removing to Fort Smith, had figured quite extensively in Tennessee politics. During the War Between the States Colonel Wisdom served with distinction under that greatest of all cavalry leaders, Gen. N.B. Forrest. He was a finished scholar, and one of the most polished and forcible writers that ever wielded a pen on a Fort Smith paper. Saunders and Wisdom continued the publication of the paper until March, 1883, when W.H. Forrest of Memphis bought Saunders' interest. April 20, the same year, Saunders came back to the paper, buying Wisdom's share. Forrest and Saunders ran the paper several months and then suspended it.

This ended the career of the first paper established in Fort Smith. The *Herald* had long been a landmark both in the local field and in the state at large, and, Mr. Weaver states, its demise was viewed with much regret.

After leaving Fort Smith, Colonel Wisdom settled in Muskogee, I.T., and during the last Cleveland administration he occupied the position of agent for the Five Civilized Tribes. Mr. Saunders, upon the advent of the first Cleveland administration, was appointed to a responsible position at Washington.

In 1855, Gen. A.G. Mayers bought the material from which the *Intelligencer* had been printed at Van Buren by Anslem Clarke, who had died. General Mayers removed the material of the defunct *Intelligencer* to Fort Smith, where he established the *Thirty-Fifth Parallel*, the first issue being made October 4, 1859. The *Thirty-Fifth Parallel* became the organ of one of the branches of the Democratic party. This party had its factions in Arkansas, even at that day. The paper was published until the outbreak of hostilities, when it succumbed.

General Mayers was a fierce Secessionist. He was postmaster at Fort Smith when Arkansas seceded from the Union. He died there February 16, 1870.

The *True American*, which espoused the principles of the so-called Know Nothing party, was started in Fort Smith in 1885, by J.C. Shook. It had but a short life.

In May, 1860, John C. Wheeler, son of the founder of the *Herald*, and Claude C. Colburn, another young printer, started the *Fort Smith Picayune*, a small paper whose columns were devoted to local doings and original and selected humor. This paper was published until 1861, when Wheeler joined the Fort Smith Rifles and went to the war. He took part in the Battle of Oak Hill and remained in Confederate service until the struggle closed. Much of his service was in the Indian Territory, with General Stand Watie, who was his uncle.

The *Daily Argus* was the name of a paper launched in Fort Smith in 1860 by Charles Gordon Newman and George P.M. Turner. The latter remained with the paper but a short time, and after his retirement the burden fell upon the shoulders of Newman, who kept the little paper moving until October 2, 1861, when he suspended it and shouldered a musket. Mr. Newman served throughout the war in the Confederate Army, rendering gallant service to the "Stars and Bars," and wearing, at the close of the struggle, the insignia of a major upon his collar. For years after the war he owned and edited the *Pine Bluff Commercial*. Turner, after the war, founded the *Memphis Scimitar*.

The *Fort Smith Southron* was started in 1860 by Ferdinand M. and C.C. Colburn, father and son. The *Southron* was short lived.

In 1861, the Messrs. Colburn again ventured into the newspaper field, starting the *Tri-Weekly Bulletin*, which they printed in the office of the *Times and Herald*. The *Bulletin* was also short lived. F.M. Colburn was editor of the paper; C.C. Colburn was publisher and local editor. F.M. Colburn died in Fort Smith during or shortly after the War Between the States. C.C. Colburn was for many years the guiding spirit of the *Ozark Democrat*. After the demise of the *Bulletin*, C.C. Colburn joined the Confederate Army and stayed with it to the end.

Upon the advent of the Federal forces into Fort Smith, September 1, 1863, two papers were started; first, the *Fort Smith Union*, by A.V. Green, and a short time afterward the *Fort Smith New Era*, by Valentine Dell. Green appears to have been an

attache of the army. His paper was suspended after a few issues. The only copy known to be in existence in 1920 was in the possession of Miss Mamie Mayers of Fort Smith. Mr. Dell issued his *New Era* from the office of the *Fort Smith Times and Herald*, which had been abandoned for more than a year. There was no print paper in the town, but this difficulty was overcome by the discovery of several hundred copies of *Washington's Farewell Address to Congress*, which had been printed in 1861 by a small party of local loyalists in an effort to stem the rising tide of secession. Upon the back of these addresses the first of the *New Era* was printed. Not a copy of this issue is in existence today, so far as can be ascertained. It is stated that until outside communication was opened up, paper was so scarce that several issues of the paper were also printed on sheets of foolscap. With great vigor and ability, the *New Era* expounded the cause of an undivided Union. Its motto was: "With malice toward none, with charity to all; but with firmness for the right, as God gives us to see the right." At first the *New Era* was strictly a Union paper, but later, when political lines were drawn, it became an ardent champion of the Republican party. For years it was the only Republican paper in that section, and the boast of its editor was — and the boast was not an idle one — that it was "the oldest Republican paper in the eleven states once known as the Southern Confederacy." The *New Era* was fearless, outspoken and independent, never hesitating to condemn corruption in the ranks of its own party as unsparingly as it did what it conceived to be the misdeeds of the Democracy. For this reason its editor was never popular with Republican leaders, though with the rank and file of his party he always commanded confidence and esteem. Mr. Dell continued at the helm of the *New Era* until October 10, 1885, when he fell a victim of tuberculosis. During the last two years of his life he was assisted in the management of the paper by his oldest daughter, Miss Annie Dell, who as a writer, had inherited much of her father's ability. The *New Era* was suspended a short time after its founder's death.

Both the *Herald* and *New Era* tried semi-weekly editions, and lost money.

Mr. Dell, upon going to Fort Smith, about the year 1859, adopted teaching as a profession, and followed that vocation until he launched the *New Era*. He was an enthusiast in the cause of free education, and it was due to his energy and his persistent efforts that the school board, while he was president of that body, shortly after the close of the War Between the States, purchased what became known as the Belle Grove school building and laid the foundation for that magnificent system of schools which is now the pride of the city.

The *Belle Grove Journal* was established in 1869 or 1870 by J.M. Lucey, who learned the printing trade at Fort Smith, and afterward became noted as a Catholic priest and a high dignitary in his church. Father Lucey died in June, 1914, leaving behind him

a memory that will long be revered by all among whom he ever lived. At the time he established the *Journal*, Father Lucey was principal of the high school department of the Fort Smith school system, and while the paper was published under his supervision, he chose for its editors some of the brightest pupils of the school. Some of the effusions of the young editors were very interesting and showed deeper and more original thought than is usually evinced by people of their age and time. The *Journal* was published as long as Father Lucey remained with the school, which was a period of about three years. It was the first school journal published in Arkansas.

April 2, 1867, A.V. Fitch began the publication of the *Fort Smith Standard*, Republican in politics. This paper did not last long.

The *Fort Smith Patriot*, a paper of fierce Republican proclivities, was started in 1871 by H.A. Pearce and C.L. Corbin. Pearce was editor, and Corbin was assistant editor. Corbin withdrew from the paper in a short time, but Pearce continued its publication until 1873, when he closed its doors. Mr. Weaver states that Pearce's editorials always read as though they had been written with a ten-penny nail dipped in vitrol. The *Patriot* had an extensive circulation, much of which was gratuitous. Its support was principally official patronage.

July, 1871, *Cabell's Real Estate Bulletin* was started by Gen. W.L. Cabell. This was the first development paper ever published in Fort Smith. It did not pay, and was soon abandoned.

The *Western Independent* was the next paper that entered the local field. It first saw light in December, 1871. John F. and John C. Wheeler and John Carnall were its editors and publishers. In December, 1872, John Carnall withdrew from the firm, leaving John F. and John C. Wheeler in control. These gentlemen afterwards changed the name of the paper to *Wheeler's Independent*, and continued the publication until 1880, when both passed away, John F. Wheeler dying March 10th of that year, and John C. Wheeler the 3d of the following July. E.B. Bright conducted the paper for several months and then leased it to J.F. Weaver and J.E. Breitz. In May, 1883, Breitz sold his interest to E.C. Johnson, who for several years had been publishing the *True Democrat* at Little Rock. Johnson removed his plant to Fort Smith and the two papers were consolidated under the name of *Independent-True Democrat*.

In January, 1884, a stock company was organized which launched the *Daily Tribune*, a morning paper, publishing it in connection with the *Independent-True Democrat*. E.C. Johnson was president of the company, J.F. Weaver was vice-president and George Tilles was secretary and treasurer, also city editor. Mr. Tilles' labors were so trying that after a few months his health gave way and he was compelled to take a trip to Europe to recuperate. He says he has been shy of newspaper ventures since that time, although he still loved the smell of printer's ink. January, 1885, Johnson disposed of his interest

in the concern to W.M. Greenwood, who had been publishing the *Star* at Chismville. Mr. Greenwood remained with the paper several months and then withdrew and purchased the *Paris Express*. In May, 1885, Weaver left the paper, which passed into the control of J. Frank Eberle and John T. Ginnochio. The latter withdrew in a short time and went to Little Rock, where he had formerly lived, and where he continued to be a well known newspaper correspondent. Eberle continued the publication of the *Tribune* (the publication of the *Independent-True Democrat* having been suspended some time before) until he had exhausted a snug little fortune, when he, too, abandoned it. The *Western Independent* during its lifetime had a wide circulation, and, in a political way, wielded much influence. The Messrs. Wheeler in 1879 started a daily, but abandoned it after a week's trial, realizing that the daily business was a bad job. During the latter part of 1877 A.C. Ketchum started the *Law Journal*, which was afterward removed to Little Rock.

On November 1, 1878, John Carnall and Cephas Wheeler began the publication of the *Fort Smith Elevator*, a paper destined to have a long career. The *Elevator* was Democratic in politics, but in its line of policy thoroughly independent. Throughout its lifetime its readers always knew where to find it. It never "wobbled on the gudgeon."

Mr. Wheeler, the junior editor, wrote much for the paper, but Col. Carnall was the guiding spirit. Mr. Wheeler retired from the *Elevator* October 22, 1880, and on June 17, 1881, Cad Allard bought a half interest and became editor. Mr. Allard was an enterprising young man and soon supplemented the weekly with a daily edition, the first issue of which was made September 6, 1881. The daily proving a losing venture, it was abandoned after two months' trial.

January 6, 1882, O.D. Weldon purchased Allard's interest, and the firm became Carnall & Weldon. The firm remained intact until January 11, 1884, when Mr. Weldon withdrew from editorial connection with the paper. He remained with the paper, however, as business manager. Col. Carnall remained in sole charge there until January, 1886, when he leased the paper to his sons, J. Henry and Wharton Carnall,¹⁴ who conducted it until January 1, 1888, when it was leased to O.D. Weldon and J.F. Weaver, who remained with it until January 1, 1891. For several months after that time the paper was published by O.D. Weldon and J.M. McDonald. The latter was a Scotchman who had been attracted to Arkansas by the boom of 1887. He bankrupted himself by trying to find gold at Golden City, Logan County. May 15, 1891, the plant of the *Elevator* was bought by O.D. Weldon and George T. Williams. Weldon & Williams conducted the paper until April 7, 1899, when they sold a third interest to Chauncey Lick. September 26, 1900, the firm was changed into a stock company, the company consisting of O.D. Weldon, G.T. Williams, Chauncey Lick, R.T. Kellam and J.F. Weaver. The officers of the company were: President,

Chauncey Lick; vice-president, O.D. Weldon; secretary and treasurer, G.T. Williams. Most of the editorial work was done by Mr. Weaver. Williams withdrew some time in 1901. August 1, 1907, the paper was sold to I.R. Arbogast, J.F. Henry and H.H. Horton, who, as the Elevator Publishing Company, continued its publication, with J.F. Weaver as editor, until May 28, 1909, when it was changed into an agricultural paper known as the *Southwest Farmer*, with T.T. Krill and J.F. Weaver as editors. November 2, 1909, the *Southwest Farmer* suspended, and with it the last vestige of the old *Elevator* disappeared.

The decline began when the rural mail routes were established and the farmers were not satisfied with receiving their news once a week. News from the United States Court began to be supplied daily by newspapers of the towns in Oklahoma where courts had been established.

In April, 1884, Zack Wells started the *Farm and Stock Ledger*. It had a brief existence.

M. Stroup showed the people of Fort Smith the *Border City Sun*, beginning in 1885. He established it with the printing outfit of the *Republican*. This newspaper was not a success. It was soon discontinued, and Mr. Stroup returned to his former home at Ozark.

The *Arkansawyer* was started in 1905. Its publisher, Dick Martin, died in 1908.

Colonel Carnall and Mr. Weldon both passed away, Colonel Carnall dying February, 1892, and Mr. Weldon December, 1909. Col. Carnall came to Fort Smith in the early part of the forties. A man of vigorous intellect and strong character, he assumed a leading position in local affairs shortly after his arrival, and this he maintained until the day of his death. He held the position of sheriff of Crawford County (when what is now Sebastian was a portion of Crawford) from 1846 to 1850, and was clerk of Sebastian County from 1851 (the date at which Sebastian County was organized) to 1856. As a writer he was bold and fearless, and thoroughly independent. He was always active in affairs relating to the development of the state, and no small part of the prosperity that Fort Smith and its surrounding territory now enjoys is due to his persistent and intelligent efforts. Mr. Weldon was a native of Ohio. He came to Fort Smith in the days of his boyhood and learned the trade of a printer in the old *Herald* office. He had rare qualities as a business man and was a plain, thorough, strong and vigorous writer. One of his fortes was the description of events. This he did in a manner that gained for him the reputation of being the most reliable writer on that line ever connected with the Fort Smith press. He altogether eschewed the school of sensationalism, confining himself strictly to facts. This, he always claimed, should be the true aim of a newspaper. He was not slow in the line of political editorials, either, but rarely ventured into that field, for the reason that it was distasteful to him. His sudden death occasioned general regret.

When George T. Williams retired from the *Elevator* he went into the coal business, but in 1909 the smell of printer's ink got the better of him and he returned to the newspaper field, becoming manager of the *News Record*. After the consolidation of the *Times* and the *News Record*, he became treasurer of the new company, from which position he retired in 1913.

During the early part of the campaign of 1884 the *Daily Evening News* was started in Fort Smith, by Wisdom & Harding. The latter withdrew in a short time and was succeeded by Ben Garland. Col. M. Wisdom was editor. The *News* was printed on the material of the defunct *Herald* and was the exponent of an agricultural organization known as the Farmers' Club. This organization consisted of members of the Wheel, the Grange, the Brothers of Freedom and other agricultural bodies. The Farmers' Club met in convention and nominated a ticket which was afterward endorsed by the Republicans of the county, and in the campaign that followed it put up a pretty stiff fight. After the State election of that year the *News* suspended.

Another paper, the *Fort Smith Times* was founded originally in 1858. It went into retirement during the divergence of opinion that existed in the early sixties and slept until December 1, 1884, when A.C. Cruce and Norve Naylor — two young men from Warrenburg, Mo., revived it from the material of the old *Herald*. Cruce and Naylor were capable newspaper men, and, considering the period and the means at their command, published a very creditable sheet. Naylor did not long remain with the paper, selling to Charles Knobel. He went back to Missouri, where he died a few years afterward. Cruce died in 1887. Knobel continued the paper until 1888, when its control was obtained by a stock company promoted by one C.E. George, who had come from somewhere in the East (nobody ever knew where), and had for a time been connected with the *Arkansas Gazette*. George had plenty of energy and an unlimited amount of assurance, which he put to use in organizing a pretty strong company. The stockholders were as follows: C.E. George, A.A. Powe, John Matthews, Charles Knobel, W.J. Echols, W.S. Murphy, James F. Read, R.M. Fry, H. Kuper, Jr., J.J. Little, R.T. Kerr, E.E. Bryant, W.M. Cravens, C.M. Cooke, R.E. Jackson, B.F. DuVal, J.H.T. Main, Williams Bros., J.G. Frizzell, Andrew Grier, Fellner Bros., Henry McGreevy, B.H. Tabor, J.B. Forrester, W.M. Fishback, D.T. Johnson, J.E. Reynolds, J.M. Hill, J.H. Carnall, R.A. Skinner, J.L. Hendrick, S.P. Day, C.R. Jones, J.D. Waldron, Pat O'Keefe, John H. McClure and S.M. Rutherford.

The directors were J.F. Read, W.S. Murphy, W.M. Cravens, W.J. Echols, D.T. Johnson, J.M. Hill, H. Kuper, Jr., E.E. Bryant and C.E. George.

The officers: J.F. Read, president; W.S. Murphy, vice-president; Charles Knobel, secretary and treasurer. The organization was perfected March 8, 1888. The capital stock was \$25,000, \$7,775 of which was actually paid in at the date of organization.

Will S. Murphy was made editor and C.E. George managing editor. R.A. Skinner was foreman and it is said he was about the only man of the whole office force who understood his business

Knobel sold his stock and retired. George was succeeded by John H. McClure, who soon gave up the job as a hopeless one. Then the well-known G.R. Williams, who had been successfully publishing the *Dardanelle Post*, was induced to take hold. He struggled manfully with his load for several years, adding to his plant by the purchase of the deceased *Journal*, and then the paper succumbed.

The paper next passed into the control of George W. Scruton and Hugh Dodson. Scruton retired after a trial. One night the office was badly wrecked by fire, and the *Times* was consolidated with the *Democrat*, a paper which had been established by G.R. Williams, Max Knobel, Dillard Wilson, Frank Freiseis, L.C. McCann, F.W. Jacques and John Laws. G.R. Williams was editor. McCann & Jacques had come to Fort Smith from Nebraska and started the *Fort Smith Enterprise*, a daily, January 24, 1895. The paper did not succeed, however, and the *Democrat* had been built from its ruins. Through the consolidation the paper became known as the *Times-Democrat*.

In the meantime the *Daily Sun* had been started by S.P. Day. The venture did not pay and the plant was sold to the *Times-Democrat* people, and the company reorganized. R.C. Hite and R.A. Skinner bought the various interests of Williams, Wilson, Freiseis and Dodson, and Frank Parke, Jr. and Fred Moffatt came into the firm. Under the new management the paper became known as the *Times-Sun*, of which Parke and Moffatt were editor and city editor, respectively. The paper next passed into the hands of D.O. Larimore, A.C. Root and Mrs. Root. R.C. Hite was connected with the firm for a short time. The latter part of the paper's title was dropped. A.C. Root was the moving spirit of the concern. The following year found J.W. Higgs and a man named Villimore in control. Higgs had previously published the *Van Buren Venture*. May 8, 1900, I.R. Arbogast and W.G. Weaverling of Kansas purchased the plant. The paper was continued with Arbogast as editor. April 8, 1901, J.F. Henry became connected with the firm, and after a brief experience as local editor, mounted the tripod. Mr. Arbogast assumed the business management of the new firm. July 1, 1909, the *Times* and *News Record* were consolidated under the title of *Times-Record*, without change of either editorship or business management. Mr. Arbogast remained at the head of the business department until compelled to retire on account of failing health. In the spring of 1914, J.L. Brady, formerly editor and publisher of Lawrence (Kan.) *Daily World*, purchased a controlling interest in the paper and became editor-in-chief, Mr. Henry taking the position of managing editor. R.S. Carver became business manager some time afterward, and remained with the firm for something like a year. January, 1918, the affairs of the company underwent another change, John F.D.

Aue, who had been connected with the press at Des Moines, Iowa, purchasing Mr. Brady's interest. By this change Mr. Henry again became editor-in-chief. Mr. Aue, the new business manager, was a man of abundant energy and rare business qualifications, and under his care the *Times Record's* financial affairs became decidedly successful. Mr. Henry, who for so long a time had been in editorial work, was of so retiring a disposition that the general public was but slightly acquainted with his goodfellowship. He was one of the most forceful and thoroughly scholarly writers that ever wielded a pen on a Fort Smith newspaper. Mr. Arbogast's retirement from active service did not result in the restoration of his health, as his friends fondly hoped it would. He passed away December 28, 1914, "regretted," Mr. Weaver says, "by the entire community, and particularly the journalistic brotherhood, for he upheld and exemplified the best ethics of the newspaper profession; and those privileged to walk a little way of life with him will count his company gain, keep in loving memory his many acts of kindness, and gain inspiration from his high ideals of life."

In 1920, the *Times-Record* was purchased by the Times-Record Company. Mr. Henry remained with the paper for four months as editor and then retired. John S. Parks and George D. Carney were publishers of this paper. T.H. Brannan was editor, and Harry Robinson was business manager. Mr. Parks, head of the Times-Record, was also president of the Radiant Glass Company, the principal owner of the Standard Box Company, president of the Garrison Furniture Company, and one of the directors of the First National Bank of Fort Smith.

During this period of kaleidoscopic changes in local newspaperdom, Fred Moffatt for a time published *The Eye*.

August 10, 1887, the Journal Publishing Company was organized for the purpose of publishing a morning daily. The stockholders were: James A. Miller, W.C. Van Antwerp, F.R. Conaway, J.H. Clendenning, Thos. H. Barnes, James K. Barnes, Stephen Wheeler, Harry E. Kelley, Thos. Boles, James C. Wilkerson, H. Stone, E.H. Devanney, Felener Bros. & Gans, John Patterson, M.S. Cohn, C.C. Ayers, M.D. Hunton, Julius Deiser, Belcher, Nash & McClannahan, Sengel & Schulte, George H. Lyman, J.L. Tilley, C.M. Barnes, W.M. Duncan, H.J. Rodman (Kansas City), W.W. Bailey, D.C. Morgan, W.H.H. Clayton, T.J. Hurley, J.H. Mershon, J.H. Covington, S.A. Williams, George Tilles, George A. Grace, Abe Meyer, and John Vaughan. The directors of the company were: J.H. Clendenning, Stephen Wheeler, James A. Miller, F.R. Conaway, W.C. Van Antwerp. The officers were: J.H. Clendenning, president; Stephen Wheeler, vice-president; James A. Miller, secretary; F.N. Conaway, treasurer. The capital stock was \$20,000, of which \$17,000 was paid in. James A. Miller was chosen editor; W.C. Van Antwerp city editor; and F.R. Conaway, treasurer, all skillful newspaper men and clever, gentlemanly young fellows. The *Journal* was Republican in

politics. It published a full line of telegraphic news, and its editorial and local departments were conducted with vigor and ability. But it was no go. The paper struggled hard for something like two years, and then gave up the ghost, the plant being purchased by G.R. Williams of the *Times*. The fact is, the town was not ripe for a paper like the *Journal*. The people appreciated the necessity for a first-class paper, but could not or would not pay for it. The *Journal*, when its affairs were wound up, stood square with the world, not owing a dollar, which was more than could be said of any daily paper that had been published in Fort Smith for many years. The *Journal* was the first paper ever published in Fort Smith that maintained a special correspondent in Little Rock during the session of the legislature. Its editor, James A. Miller, spent the entire session of 1889 at Little Rock, his place at home being filled by Col. J.H. Clendenning and others of the editorial force.

The *Evening Call* was launched about 1889 or 1890 by A.A. Powe, who was both editor and business manager. George W. Gunder and John E. Dunn were city editors at different times. For several months J.F. Weaver was connected with the paper in an editorial capacity. Powe made the paper pretty breezy at times, but lacking the means to put it, at the start, on a sound foundation, gave it up after a hard struggle of a couple of years, during which time he practically bankrupted himself.

R.A. Caldwell, who had the contract, under the Harrison administration, for feeding the prisoners in the Federal jail, started the *Fort Smith Republican* shortly before the *Call* was launched, and in the make-up of his paper used a portion of the matter — news, local etc. — that appeared in the *Call*. Some time after the election in 1892 Mr. Caldwell disposed of the *Republican* to J.F. Hand, who in turn sold to John E. Dunn, but the latter could not make the paper go and soon dropped it.

Shortly after the demise of the *Republican* the *Catholic Herald* was started by R.C. Hite and John E. Dunn, who, after conducting it for about eighteen months, let it die.

Another *Republican* commenced publication as a weekly at Fort Smith in 1890. R.A. Caldwell was its editor in 1890-92.

The *Fruit Grower* began publication at Fort Smith January 1, 1897, with R.A. Gamble as publisher. Its name appears to have been subsequently changed to the *Ozark Fruit and Farm*, of which E.N. Hopkins was the publisher in 1914.

The *News Record* made its appearance in 1893, and it presents the first instance, in Fort Smith, in which a daily newspaper was launched and pushed to success on energy and pluck alone. R.C. Hite, R.A. Skinner, William McAuley and Frank Parke, Jr., were its founders. All of the firm except Parke were practical printers. R.E. Jacobson was editor, Frank Parke was city editor, and R.C. Hite was business manager. The members of this firm threw all of their energies into their business, and by way of supplementing their industry kept their heads clear from

booze, a feat which some of their predecessors had been unable to accomplish. They had no plant of their own, but were permitted the use of the material from which the *Fort Smith Republican* had been printed. The paper was gotten up in good style, both as to contents and typographical execution. Its founders had a hard struggle, but managed to keep it afloat.

In 1894 A.J. Kendrick, who had been connected with the *Chicago News*, went to Fort Smith. He bought the name, good will and subscription list of the *News Record* and put in a plant of his own. Mr. Kendrick found his road exceedingly rocky for some time, but he was resourceful and full of energy, and in a couple of years had his business on a pretty firm foundation. He added another linotype, a perfecting press and put in a job department, besides erecting a two-story brick building. He ran the paper with great success until July, 1907, when he died while in Buffalo while on a visit of recuperation, his health having given away under incessant labor. He was a good writer and a man of broad views, and had a spirit that enabled him to overcome obstacles that would discourage many others.

The *Fort Smith Enterprise*, established in 1895 by the Enterprise Publishing Company, had a brief career. F.W. Jacques and L.C. McCarn were its editors. It was a very good paper while it lasted.

In 1905 Hon. J.B. Parker, a prominent St. Louis newspaper man, and who had been active in Democratic politics in Missouri and served in the State Legislature, acquired an interest in the *News-Record* and was associated with Mr. Kendrick as business manager for over a year. He retired and returned to St. Louis to serve as assistant manager and circulation manager of the *Times*.

After Mr. Kendrick's death the management of the *News Record* again passed into the hands of Mr. Parker, who later left it to go to the *Southwest American*. In 1909, George T. Williams bought an interest, and in a short time the paper was consolidated with the *Fort Smith Times*.

The *Saturday City Item* first saw light February 24, 1901. Miss Ida Hite was editor and R.C. Hite, her father, was business manager. It was devoted to local and society doings, and made a specialty of the work of the Federation of Women's Clubs. Mr. Hite passed away on September 2, 1910 at the age of 87 years. Miss Hite continued the publication until about 1931 when she was succeeded by her sister, Miss Anna Hite.

At the time of Mr. Hite's death he was the oldest newspaper man in the state, both in years and in point of active service, having been connected with press and types for seventy-two years. He began learning the printing trade in the office of the *Memphis Enquirer* in 1836. He owned a printing outfit at the beginning of the War Between the States, which he lost when the Federal troops captured the city. After the war he and W.A. Whitmore established the *Memphis Ledger*. He came to Arkansas in the latter part of the seventies,

stopping first at Little Rock. From Little Rock he removed to Clarksville, where he established the *Clarksville Herald*. He went to Fort Smith in 1890. After a suspension of publication, W. Howe Sadler purchased the *Item* from Miss Anna Hite in 1933 and resumed publication with himself as editor and publisher, assisted by H.H. Hedges, Jr. The *Item* suspended soon afterward. Its final paid circulation was less than 500.

In 1906, W.E. Decker established the *Southwest American*, a morning daily. Mr. Decker, for a number of years, published a weekly paper at Paulding, Ohio, where he was a leader in the political field, at one time representing his district in the State Senate. But he became tired of the slow-going old Buckeye state and decided to take Horace Greeley's advice to young men. He landed at Muskogee, where for three years he published the *Times-Democrat*, making it one of the leading papers in Oklahoma. Disposing of that paper to good advantage he came to Fort Smith, where his success far exceeded his expectations. His son, Jack Decker, was assistant editor.

The *Southwest American* was a modern journal, with Associated Press leased wire, other news services and special correspondents at important points. It had an A.B.C. Membership, was enterprising, and turned out from a good newspaper plant. Its editor-in-chief was in control from the start, which is rather an unusual record in Arkansas newspaperdom. Its business manager was Parke Walker, Mr. Decker's son-in-law.

The *Union Sentinel*, a paper to be devoted to the interests of organized labor, was established June 3, 1903, by W.F. Phillips. It was published almost continuously until October, 1919, when, owing to the advance in the price of print paper and a strike growing out of a demand of printers for higher wages, it succumbed.

In 1906, the *Laborer* made its appearance, edited by Pat O'Neil. As its name indicated, it was devoted to the cause of Union labor. Its tendencies were decidedly anarchistic. It lasted through one campaign.

The *Union Journal*, by Roger A. Barrett, was started in 1908. Its career was brief.

The first paper established in Fort Smith in behalf of the negro race was started in 1881 or 1882 by a preacher named Smith. It was edited with considerable ability. The *Golden Epoch* (negro) by Fisher and Clark, was removed from Helena to Fort Smith in 1888. It did not become permanent. The *Banner* (negro) was published in this city in 1896-97. In 1898 it was merged with the *Arkansas Appreciator*. T.D. Jones was editor. The *Fraternal Union*, another colored paper, was started by T.L. Dorman. The *Fort Smith Informer* (negro) was started by S.W. Harrison, J.J. Robertson and J.S. Pleasant about 1912 or 1913, with L.G. Van Pelt as editor. It had a brief career. None of the negro papers that have been started in Fort Smith has lasted more than a year or two.

The *Volksblatt*, published in German, was started in Fort Smith by Ernest Pope in 1885. It lasted for several years.

In 1885 S.P. Day started the *Fort Smith Developer* and for several years conducted it in exploitation of the advantages and resources of that city and its surrounding country. At a later date he removed to Kansas City, where he lived for a number of years. Then he returned to Fort Smith, where he had extensive interests, and established the *Monthly Magazine*.

In 1906 a young man by the name of Riggan started a monthly magazine in Fort Smith, but the field was not ripe for an enterprise of this kind, and only a few issues appeared.

November, 1887, J.W. Rice and E.P. Corley launched a small paper which they called the *Kodak*, which was devoted largely to original and selected witticisms, as well as cartoons of a humorous nature. January 23, 1900, F.J. Bruder bought an interest, Corley retiring. Rice and Bruder conducted the paper together until April, 1905, when Bruder bought Rice's interest. Some time during the summer of 1905 Bruder transferred the plant to a preacher by the name of Wheeler, who for a time used its material in the publication of a church paper. After the suspension of the latter the plant was consolidated with that of Lon Morgan, a job printer, and eventually became a portion of the Fort Smith Printing Company's outfit. By 1922 this company was extinct.

The *Booster* was established by C.F. Williams, with Curtis C. Wright, "the boy editor," August 7, 1909, and was distributed "free gratis for nothing." Wright was the recipient, in 1912, from the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission of a bronze medal and \$1,000 for saving from drowning in the Arkansas river his companion, Scott Johnson, on May 13, 1911. Shortly afterward he went to the University of Arkansas, and later to the University of Virginia. Williams ran the paper for a time and then sold it. After this it did not last long.

The *Witness* was the name of a small paper published in 1899 by the Presbyterian church, with Rev. McM. McKay as editor. It was published for nearly a year.

Mrs. Luella Aubrey, in 1910, established *Service*, which was devoted to the uplift of civic conditions, and published it for about a year. *Service* was very spicily edited while it lived.

Beautiful Arkansas started in 1910 by Mrs. Jessamine Fishback, devoted its columns to the improvement of moral and industrial conditions and to the development of sentiment in favor of universal suffrage. It had about one year's existence. In 1914 Mrs. Fishback and Miss Dora Mertz started the *Four-Leaf Clover*, devoted to "religion, politics, business and society," and its columns showed commendable spirit.

The *Union Poultry Journal* started in 1909 by G.C. Watkins and E.N. Hopkins. It was devoted to the breeding of fancy poultry and pet stock, and

supplied a "long felt want," no paper of this kind ever having ventured into the Fort Smith field. In 1910 Mr. Watkins retired from the paper, which was merged into the *Ozark Fruit and Farms*, established by E.N. Hopkins. The *Fruit and Farm* was, as its name implies, devoted to agricultural matters and the promotion of the fruit industry. It had a wide circulation and did much good.

The *Sebastian County Bulletin* was started in 1911 by R.A. Skinner, a printer who had learned his trade in North Carolina under the customs that prevailed in the olden days, and who knew about everything connected with the "art preservative" that the human mind could conceive. Mr. Skinner layed a lone hand on the *Bulletin* until June, 1912, when his plant was consolidated with that of a paper that had formerly been published at Greenwood, and a company was organized of which M.C. Burke was president, for the purpose of putting the *Bulletin* on a more solid basis. W.A. Black was chosen editor, and the name was changed to *X-Ray Bulletin*. As indicated by the change made in its name, the *X-Ray* was intended as a searchlight, the scintillations of which were to be thrown into places supposed to be dark and upon persons whose transactions in public life are suspected by some to be shady. Its style was of the "sizzling" order, and had the criticisms of the *X-Ray* been tempered with good judgment, there can be but little doubt that they would have had beneficial effect. Mr. Black, the editor, was a vigorous writer, and possessed a store of information that falls to but few of those who follow his profession. Aggressiveness in its most intensive degree was the drawback of his paper.

The *Sounder* is another publication that deserves mention. It was started in 1905 by the students of the Fort Smith High School in the form of a magazine. It later became the school year book which had two name changes, first *The Echo*, and now the *Bruin*. The Fort Smith High School (now Northside High School) newspaper is called *The Grizzly*.

The year book for Fort Smith Southside High School is called *Southerner* and the school's newspaper originated in 1963 as *The Rebel* is now named *Southworld*.

The Westark Community College located in Fort Smith also has a newspaper, *Lion Pride*, and a yearbook called the *NUMA*.

In 1911 W.R. Leighton established *Back to the Land*. He intended that it should be devoted to showing the capabilities of Western Arkansas as an agricultural and fruit growing country, but other fields presented allurements that drew him away and *Back to the Land* became numbered with the things that were.

In April, 1914, Miss Jessie McKay started the *Index*, the purpose of which was to further the interests of the Young Women's Christian Association of the city. The career of the *Index* was brief, although its editorship showed ability and an earnest spirit.

June 12, 1912, the *Citizen* was established by the Civic League. Only a few numbers were issued.

Prof. W.L. Morris is among those who will be remembered in connection with the Fort Smith

press. In 1875 he was connected with a paper at Forrest City. Later he was one of the editors of the *Russellville Democrat*. He went to Fort Smith from Dardanelle, where he was one of the editors of a paper. He was a clever gentleman and a good writer. He died several years ago in New Mexico.

But no history of the Fort Smith press would be complete that did not fix J.E. Dorente upon its pages. A man of more than ordinary mental capacity, with a mind trained by education in some of the best schools of the East and polished by subsequent study and observation, he merited a much higher rank in the journalistic world than he attained. He went to Fort Smith about 1897, and from that time until his death, in 1911, was on the staff of the *News Record* and the *Fort Smith Times*. Though his trend was, to some extent, on the line of sensationalism, his articles were always readable, and always clothed in a vocabulary that showed the reader and the scholar. His disposition had been affected by financial reverses in the early part of his career, but this he manifested only to his most intimate friends. To the outside world he was always optimistic.

Mr. Weaver states that among the fanciful tales told now and then by the metropolitan press in relation to Gen. Fred Funston's meteoric career is one to the effect he was once local editor of a paper in Fort Smith, and that during the temporary absence of the editor from the city he created a sensation by changing the politics of the paper from Democratic to Republican; also that because of his criticism of the conduct of a trial in the United States Court he was reprimanded by Judge Parker and threatened with imprisonment unless he desisted from his course. There is not the least foundation for either story. Funston was never in Fort Smith so far as anybody knows. Capt. Frank Eberle says that while he was publishing the *Tribune* he once employed as a reporter a young red-headed fellow from Kansas who answers to the description of Funston's appearance at that time. The young man, however, was let out after a week's trial. Capt. Eberle did not learn his name during the week he stayed with the *Tribune*. This may have been Funston, or it may not have been. But it is certain, says Mr. Weaver, that neither of the sensational events he is credited with having pulled off there ever occurred. "This story," Mr. Weaver says, "has found its way into the *Post-Dispatch* of St. Louis, the *Saturday Evening Post*, and several of the New York papers. By what means it obtained publicity is not clear, but it is as baseless as the pleasing fable that says that Henry M. Stanley, the explorer of Africa, once taught school in Fort Smith."

While Capt. Frank Eberle edited the *Tribune* there occurred an incident somewhat out of the ordinary. Chas. Knobel was editor of the *Times*, and he and Eberle got to passing compliments more emphatic than polite. Finally Knobel was astonished one day at the receipt of a challenge from Eberle to mortal combat. Knobel turned the matter into ridicule, and the affair was dropped. The incident caused more amusement than fear of a hostile meeting with a bloody termination.

Mr. Weaver states that this is the only instance in which a Fort Smith editor ever evoked the aid of the code duello to redress a grievance, although Geo. F. Williams, during the early part of his career on the *Elevator*, figured in a little episode in which an irate brother editor hinted at pistols and coffee.

A high-class weekly, which with its first issue, was accorded popular favor, was the *Fort Smith Herald* and *New Elevator*, which was established September 5, 1912, by J.B. Parker, with his sons, Edgar B. and Harry E. Parker. The Messrs. Parker launched their enterprise for the purpose of publishing a paper to be devoted to the uplift of the community, in a moral as well as a substantial sense, and admirably they succeeded. The *Herald* and *Elevator* was eagerly watched for each week, and it never failed to interest the reader. July 24, 1919, it abandoned its weekly form and appeared as a daily. December 11, 1915, it was absorbed by the *Times Record*.

The *Fort Smith Star* began twinkling in 1915, and continued to shine for a couple of years. Enoch F. Koontz was its editor, and J.W. Rice its publisher.

The *Fort Smith Daily News* was launched April 2, 1919, by the Inter-State Printing Company, with a capital stock of \$50,000, about \$19,000 of which is said to have been paid up. The stockholders were all Union labor men. The incorporators were Herman Scott, S.A. Cannaughtry, Carl W. Held, B.B. Boyd, J.A. Adams. Carl Held was editor and manager at first, but later gave way to Charles Miller. Held was a good writer, energetic and capable. But the paper did not strike a popular chord, and in the fall of 1921 went into the hands of a receiver. The material of the concern in 1922 was being used as a job office by Cluder Demois and Aubrey Ryan.

The *Fort Smith Journal* was established as a weekly in 1926; it soon became a daily. Clyde E. Palmer was the publisher. The paper lasted a little over two years, suspending publication in 1928.

In 1928 A.R. Guthridge and Charles Howard Miller purchased the *Fort Smith Once-A-Week Shopper's Guide*, a free distribution publication which had started a year earlier. In 1930 the name of the paper was changed to the *Fort Smith Tribune*, still a free distribution weekly. Guthridge and Miller continued to operate the *Tribune* until Miller's death in 1940. Guthridge continued the paper until 1943 when it was sold to R.G. Hines and Harry Robinson, Sr. The name of the publication was changed to the *Fort Smithian*.

In 1946 Lusk F. Robinson bought Hines' interest and joined his father in operating the *Fort Smithian*. In May, 1948, the paper was leased by the Robinsons to a group headed by Edgar R. Ramey; Ramey became the publisher and editor. In December, 1962, Ramey sold the weekly to a group headed by Ellis Yoes; Don Garrison became the editor. In March, 1964, the *Fort Smithian* suspended publication. Its final circulation had been nearly 4,000.

In 1959 Hugh Park, publisher of the *Van Buren Press-Argus*, established the weekly *Fort Smith News* as the successor to the *Fort Smith Union News*, a labor weekly which had been published since 1941. First Milton J. Willis and then Charles Chaney were managers of the *News*.

Around 1969 the name of the paper was changed to the *Fort Smith News-Examiner* with G. Edward West as editor and publisher. The *News-Examiner* was published until 1971. It was printed on Wednesdays and had a circulation of 920.

The *Border Advertiser*, with Evetts Haley, Jr., as publisher, was being published on a subscription basis in Fort Smith in 1969.

The *Thrifty Nickel* is a want ads newspaper. Every Thursday 45,000 copies are placed in stores throughout Fort Smith for free distribution. The exact date it began publication is not available, but the July 13, 1989 issue is Volume XI, Number 10.

Since Fort Smith was officially incorporated as a town in 1842, more than two dozen general circulation newspapers have served the city for 152 of its 157 years, beginning with John F. Wheeler's *Fort Smith Herald* on June 23, 1847.

Today only one publication — the *Southwest Times Record* — remains as the daily printed voice of western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. The name *Southwest Times Record* came about with the merger of two newspapers, the *Fort Smith Times Record* and the *Southwest American*.

The newspaper that was to become the *Southwest Times Record* may actually have begun publication in 1881 as *The Times*, but in January, 1882 it became a continuing, seven-day newspaper, boasting a large Sunday edition.

The editor of *The Times*, G.R. Williams, served as president of the Arkansas Press Association in 1890-91. After numerous owners and several consolidations with other papers, it was combined on July 1, 1909, with the *Fort Smith News Record* (established in 1893) to form the *Fort Smith Times Record*. In 1920 the evening daily *Times Record* was sold by John F.D. Aue to J.S. Parks and George D. Carney (overcompetitive bid by United Mine Workers of America).

The *Southwest American* was established in Fort Smith on February 15, 1907, by W.E. Decker. Decker continued to edit and publish the morning daily *Southwest American* until September, 1923, when he sold it to Parks and Carney, publishers of the *Fort Smith Times Record*. The owners proceeded to publish the *Southwest American* as a morning daily, the *Times Record* as an evening daily, and a Sunday edition as the *Southwest-Times Record*.

Parks and Carney continued to publish the papers for nearly seventeen years. Parks and later C.F. Byrnes served as editors. On March 29, 1940, Donald W. Reynolds purchased the dailies.

In May 1969, the *Southwest American* and *Times Record* were combined into a 24 hours, 7 days a week newspaper known as the *Southwest Times Record*. The circulation today is 48,000 for the Sunday edition and 44,000 weekdays.

Editors since C.F. Byrnes are Wm. D. Barksdale,¹⁵ Bill Kennedy, Jim Crow and the current editor, Jack Moseley.

Reynolds Corporation, now known as the Southwest Operating Company, has continued to publish the paper as a part of the Donrey Media Group.

FOOTNOTES

1. John Frank Weaver was born at Fort Smith, September 11, 1849, the son of W.J. and Catherine (Minmier) Weaver, natives of Philadelphia and Germany, respectively. He grew to manhood on a farm in Henry County, Illinois, where he received a common school education. At the age of 16 he went to Salem, O., where he served an apprenticeship of three year in the office of the *Salem Journal*. He then returned to Illinois and worked two years on a farm, and in 1871 came back to Arkansas. At Fort Smith he worked three years at his trade in the office of the *New Era*, of which V. Dell was editor, and then spent five years on the *Western Independent*, of which John F. and John C. Wheeler were editors. In 1880, he became one of the editors and publishers of the *Western Independent*, and in 1883 became one of the editors and publishers of the *Daily Tribune* and the *Weekly Independent-True Democrat*. In 1887, he became associated with the *Fort Smith Elevator* in the capacity of assistant editor, and in 1888, in partnership with O.D. Weldon, became one of the editors and publishers of that paper. In 1891, he was city editor of the *Daily Evening Call*. In 1892, he returned to the *Elevator*, with which he remained until its suspension in 1910. He was then connected with the *Fort Smith Times* and the *Times Record* until 1913.

He has always taken an active interest in politics. He represented Sebastian County in the lower branch of the Legislature in 1889 and 1891, was in the Senate in 1893 and 1895, and in the House again in 1899, 1901 and 1903.

2. The idea for this chronology was conceived by Harry McDonald, president of the Arkansas Press Association in 1969. Through his leadership, inspiration and perserverance this book was compiled and published. He did not live to see his dream fulfilled, but the book was dedicated to his memory.
3. See JFSHS (*Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*), Vol. 13, No. 2, September 1989 for biography of Judge John Foster Wheeler.
4. Gen. Albert Pike, one of the last editors of the *Little Rock Advocate*, became noted as editor, lawyer, soldier, poet, as well as in other lines of endeavor, and at the time of his death he was the most exhalted Freemason in the world. He was born in Boston, December 29, 1809; died in Washington City, April 2, 1891. In 1831, he accompanied an expedition to Santa Fe, N.M., and returning, settled at Fort Smith, Ark. In 1832 he became connected with the *Little Rock Advocate* and soon became sole owner of that newspaper. In 1836 he retired from the newspaper business to practice law. He commanded a squadron in the Mexican War and fought at the Battle of Buena Vista. During the Civil War he was Indian Commissioner for the Confederate government, and later a brigadier-general. After the war he settled in Washington City and for 32 years occupied the position of Secretary-General of the Scottish Rite Masonic Body for the Southern jurisdiction. He was the author of many beautiful poems, 30 volumes of Masonic works, numerous other works, and was a translator of Transkrit and Persian.
5. One of the great editors of the early days in Arkansas was Major J.H. Sparks, who edited newspapers at Pine Bluff and Fort Smith. He was for some time in the employ of his brother, Mitchell Sparks, an extensive merchant of his day, and in 1854 had charge of a wagon train that went from Fort Smith to California. Returning to Fort Smith after a stay of a year or two in California, he studied law, and upon admission to the bar began to practice that profession. From the law he drifted into journalism and politics. He commanded Company A of the Fort Smith Rifles, Third Regiment of State Troops, at the Battle of Oak Hill, and afterward became a major in the Confederate service. In about 1855, he purchased a half interest in the *Fort Smith Herald*, the first newspaper to be established in that city. He sold his interest in that newspaper, and in 1858 he and Judge Wheeler started the *Fort Smith Times*. Beginning in 1865 he was connected with the *Pine Bluff Dispatch*. He died January 27, 1879.

See JFSHS, Vol. 2, No. 2, October 1978, pages 60-67 Sparks family history and diary of wagon train written by James H. Sparks.

6. Valentine Dell, editor and proprietor of the *Fort Smith New Era*, was born in Baden, German, November 8, 1829. He graduated from Manheim College in 1846, and the same year came to America. From 1849 to 1854 he served in the United States Army from Florida to Kansas and Nebraska, being honorably discharged in 1854.

In 1859 Mr. Dell went to Fort Smith and established an academy for young ladies and gentlemen, which he conducted until 1864. On the 8th of January, 1863, he established the *New Era*, which paper he edited until the day of his death on October 10, 1885. It was a stanch Republican paper, conveying his honest sentiments, uncontrolled by party motives. He could never be bribed to hide or distort the truth, and he exposed corruption in his own party as quickly as he exposed corruption in any party or persons.

In 1864, 1866 and 1868, he was a delegate to Republican State conventions; in 1866-7 chairman of the Republican State convention. In 1866-68, he was delegate to Republican National conventions at Baltimore and Chicago. In 1868 he was also elected State Senator for the counties of Crawford, Sebastian and Franklin; an office which he held for five years, during which time he was largely instrumental in giving the State system of free schools. In 1860 he was also elected president of the school board, and during his official incumbency the schools of Fort Smith were regarded as the model schools of the State, and granted liberal donations from the Peabody Fund.

In 1874-5 Mr. Dell was postmaster at Fort Smith. In 1877-8 he was United States Timber Agent for the State; and in June, 1880, he was made United States Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas.

During all the years that Mr. Dell was called to places of public trust, his interest in his loved paper never relaxed, and it was personally supervised by him. His paper was popular with both parties because of his love for the truth and hatred for all that was dishonorable and tricky. During the last six years of Mr. Dell's life, his daughter was assistant editor, and his three eldest sons published the paper, all taking a deep interest in their father's life-work.

7. Major Charles Gordon Newman was born in Richmond, Va., in 1841, and died in Pine Bluff, Ark. June 6, 1911. He left home at age 16 and came to Fort Smith where he met J.M. Lucey, and the two learned the printer's trade side by side. Newman helped found the *Thirty-sixth Parallel*, a newspaper in Fort Smith. He served four years in the Confederate army, earning for himself at the age of 21 the rank of Major on the staff of General Fagan. After the war he taught school near Monticello where he met and married Miss Marianna Coleman. They had two children, Blanche N. Newman (Mrs. E.W. Freeman), and Clarence S. Newman. When he left teaching and resumed his role as editor, he moved to Pine Bluff where he founded two newspapers. (*History of the Arkansas Press*, Fred W. Allsopp, page 607. Biography written by E.W. Freeman.)
8. See JFSHS Vol. V, No. 2 September 1981, page 5 for biography of Col. Benjamin T. DuVal.
9. O.D. Weldon, a striking character who for years was local editor and business manager of the *Fort Smith Elevator*, was born near Cleveland, Ohio, September 23, 1847. He came with his parents in about 1854 to Fort Smith. He began learning the printing trade in the old Thirty-fifth Parallel office at Fort Smith in 1861. The paper suspended soon afterward because of the Civil War. In 1866 he resumed his work at the printing trade in the office of the *Fort Smith Herald*. He later was connected with the *New Era* and for years was the Fort Smith correspondent of the *Arkansas Gazette* and other newspapers. His father had been a trader with the Indians, and O.D. became an authority on Indian matters.
10. John Carnall, the founder of the *Fort Smith Elevator*, was a Virginian, of good education, who located in the early forties in Crawford County. He was at first a school teacher. In 1878, after moving to Fort Smith, he established the *Elevator* at that city, and used it to advance the interests of the city. He advocated railroads, the building of sewers, and in other ways was a pioneer who helped develop Fort Smith. In the early days he served as a deputy United States Marshal, and had also been a member of the State Legislature. He died at Fort Smith in 1892, aged 74 years.
11. George Rainey Williams was born at Dardanelle, Ark., November 15, 1848. He was Col. M.L. Davis' stepbrother, and the two were raised and educated together. He attended school at Paris, Texas. In 1882, he acquired by purchase the *Western Immigrant*, at Dardanelle, and changed its name to the *Dardanelle Post*. In 1889, he sold the *Post* to Thomas J. Hicks, and his friendship for the late Governor W.M. Fishback led him to accept the position of managing editor of the *Fort Smith Daily Times*, which he afterward bought. The paper finally failed, through no fault of his, and he then entered the insurance business, later to be connected with the R.G. Dun Commercial Agency at Little Rock. He died at the home of his son, Tom P. Williams, in Atlanta, Ga., November 13, 1913, and was buried in Oakland Cemetery, Little Rock. His wife died in 1912. He was survived by two sons — the one mentioned and George R. Williams, of Birmingham, Ala.
12. Col. E.C. Boudinot, a picturesque character, edited newspapers at Fayetteville, Little Rock and Fort Smith, Arkansas. He was born in Rome, Ga., August 1, 1835. His parents left Georgia when the treaty required the Indians to remove from that state in the same year. He was descended from a Cherokee Indian tribe. In 1859 a feud between two divisions of the tribe in the Indian Territory resulted in the assassination of his father, Elias Boudinot, after which E.C. Boudinot was sent to Manchester, Vermont, by his uncle, Stand Waite. Young Boudinot was educated there. In 1854, he began reading law in the office of Hon. A.M. Wilson, at Fayetteville, and was admitted to the bar in 1856. In 1860, while he was editing the *True Democrat* of that city, he was made chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, and in 1861 was secretary of the State convention. At this time he was only 26 years of age. At the outbreak of the War Between the States, he became major of an Indian regiment, under his uncle, Col. Stand Waite. He spent some years at Washington City, but his home for many years was at Fort Smith, where he became a leading lawyer.
13. See JFSHS, Vol. IV, No. 2, September 1980 for Civil War Diary of J.M. Lucey.
14. Wharton Carnall, son of John Carnall, was born on his father's farm, near Fort Smith, in 1862. He was for a number of years connected with the *Fort Smith Elevator* with his father and brother, John, and John H. Carnall. His principal activities, however, have been in the real estate line. The Carnalls have been among Fort Smith's most prominent citizens.
15. For obituary, see JFSHS, Vol. XII, No. 2, page 39.

Col. W.E. Decker

Jack Moseley



Col. W.E. Decker, Publisher
Southwest American, Ft. Smith.

William E. Decker, owner and publisher of the *Southwest American*, Fort Smith, was born near Columbus, Ohio, August 18, 1858.

He was a public school teacher for ten years in Northwestern Ohio, and published newspapers at Holgate, Napoleon, and Paulding, Ohio, from 1886 to 1904. He was elected to the Ohio Senate on the Democratic ticket in 1887 and served two terms. In 1904 he moved to

Muskogee, Indian Territory, and published the *Evening Democrat* there, later absorbing the *Evening Times* under the name of *Times Democrat*. He sold this newspaper property November, 1906 and came to Fort Smith early in 1907, where he founded the morning *Southwest American*, February 15, 1907 which he published with his son, Jack Decker, as managing editor, and his son-in-law, Parke M. Walker, as business manager.

Legend has it that Col. Decker, who founded the morning *Southwest American* in 1907, vowed never to sell his newspaper to his prime competitor, the *Fort Smith Times Record*. And when the colonel did sell out in 1923, the *Southwest American* reportedly announced, with great pride, that Decker had sold his newspaper to a Tulsa publishing company.

The next edition of the *Fort Smith Times Record* carried a different story, however. It announced that the *Times Record* had purchased the *Southwest American*, gaining commanding control of both afternoon and morning publications in western Arkansas. The announcement, according to old-timers, added that this had been accomplished by using a Tulsa publishing firm as the agent for the *Fort Smith Times Record*.

Decker left town shortly after the sale, taking his family west in a caravan of open touring cars. In Los Angeles, Decker supposedly used the proceeds from the sale of the *Southwest American* to acquire vast amounts of West Coast real estate which were lost in the Great Depression. Western Arkansans, who kept up with Decker, say he made yet another fortune raising turkeys after he was 70 years old.

A great-grandson of the colorful colonel toured the *Southwest Times Record* several years ago. He could not confirm or deny the legend. "I do remember hearing something about him making a lot of money in the poultry business," he said.

Chess Pie

Sarah Fitzjarrald

It has been a southern delicacy for a century or longer. While there are several variations of the recipe there is one ingredient that crops up occasionally, cornmeal, which makes it uniquely southern.

During a recent conversation with Mrs. E.E. Barber, Jr. (Margaret Ann), we discussed the origin of the name "Chess" pie. Long before electric refrigeration I remember two of my favorite aunts who had pie "safes". A pie safe was a kitchen cabinet with wooden or glass doors made especially with shelves to accommodate pies.

Pies were made early in the morning, cooled and put in the safe where they remained until the noon or evening meal. The rich fillings, made with lots of eggs and with or without milk, makes us wonder why more people didn't die from food poisoning.

Margaret Ann remembers her great-grandmother's pie "chest", which was the same as a pie safe. She believes that chess pie really began as "chest" pie, which makes sense. She shares an old recipe

handed down through the Barber family, modernized only to oven temperature. It has no cornmeal.

CHESS PIE

Combine 1½ c. sugar, 1½ c. water and 2 c. coconut in saucepan and cook over medium heat until coconut is clear.

Add 1 stick BUTTER while cooling.

Stir in 7 beaten egg yolks.

Pour into LARGE unbaked pie shell (at least 9-inch), bake at 375 degrees until golden brown and set in the middle.

A suggested, and delicious, variation is white raisins, if that takes your fancy.

Please note that this is a B.C. recipe (before cholesterol), and Margaret Ann asserts that substitutes such as margarine and 14 egg whites utterly destroy the old fashioned goodness that nourished our pioneers so faithfully through good times and bad.

We couldn't agree more.

Sebastian County Newspapers Available In Arkansas Libraries

The following list of Sebastian County Newspapers available for research in Arkansas libraries is taken from pages 124-130 of *Arkansas Newspapers, A Directory of Newspapers Available In Arkansas Libraries* compiled by Shirley J. Brendel and published in 1987. The library in which a particular newspaper is available is indicated by the following key:

AFU — University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
 AHC — Arkansas History Commission Library in Little Rock
 AKU — University of Arkansas at Little Rock
 ArFs — Fort Smith Public Library
 ASU — Dean B. Ellis Library at Arkansas State University at Jonesboro
 ArNe — W.A. Billingsly Memorial Library at Newport
 AKP — Arkansas Tech University Library, Russellville, AR 72801
 ArGa — Scott-Sebastian Regional Library, 18 North Adair, Greenwood, AR 72936

The Arkansas Newspaper Microfilming Project continues and the search is on for copies of newspapers that individuals may have. If you have even a single copy of a newspaper from Sebastian County, that is not on the following list, that you would lend to be microfilmed, please contact the **Arkansas Newspaper Project, Mullins Library, Room 107, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 71701.**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>Arkansas News Tribune</i>
City: Fort Smith
AHC: Ja 6, Mr 24, Jl 21, 1966 | <i>Fort Smith Daily Evening News</i> d. (My-N 1884?)
City: Fort Smith
AHC: My 22, 1884-Je 25, 1884 |
| <i>Arkansas Patriot</i> (1862-)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: D 16, 1871
Call number: Film 839 | <i>Fort Smith Daily Herald</i> d.
City: Fort Smith
AFU: N 21, 1877-Ja 22, 1879
Call number: Film 426, Reel 1, Item 4
AHC: N 21, 1877-Ja 14, 1882
AKU: Ap 14, My 10,22, Je 26,28, 1878
ArFs: N 21, 1877-Ja 22, 1878 |
| <i>Arkansas Weekly Patriot</i>
City: Fort Smith
AFU: Mr 14, My 30, 1873
Call Number: Film 839, Reel 1: Microfiche
AKU: Ap 26, 1872 | <i>Fort Smith Daily Journal</i> d.w. (1887?-1889?)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: Mr 10, Mr 13, 1888
Call number: Film 346
AHC: Mr 10, Mr 13, 1888 |
| <i>Blub</i> (Fort Smith School Paper)
City: Fort Smith
AKU: Ap 1, 1932 | <i>Fort Smith Daily Times and Herald</i> d.
(Mr 1861-Mr 1862?)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: Je 14-0 8, 1861
Call number: Film 426, Reel 6 |
| <i>Border Advertiser</i> (1967-)
City: Fort Smith
AHC: Mr 2, 1967-D 26, 1968 | <i>Fort Smith Elevator</i> w. (N 6, 1873-My 28, 1909?)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: N 1, 1878-D27, 1907 (Incomplete)
Call number: Film 16; Film 1102
AHC: N 5, 1880-My 28, 1909
AKU: My 16, 1884; N 6, 1891; Mr 25, D 16, 1892;
S 11, 1896; Ja 21, 1898
ArFs: Jl 15, 1898-D 31, 1907 |
| <i>Cat's Tale</i> (Fort Smith School Paper)
City: Fort Smith
AKU: F 14, 1915 | <i>Fort Smith Elevator Daily</i> d. (Jl-N 1881?)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: Ag 16-N 7, 1881 (Incomplete)
Call number: Film 23 |
| <i>Daily Fort Smith Tribune</i> d. (Ja 1884-1888?)
City: Fort Smith
AHC: Ja 22, 1884-Je 26, 1888 | <i>Fort Smith Enterprise</i> (Ja 24, 1895-?)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: Ja 24, 1895
Call number: Film 839, Reel 2 |
| <i>Daily Herald</i> d.
City: Fort Smith
AHC: Jl 24, 1915-D 11, 1915 | <i>Fort Smith Evening Call</i> (1889?-1891?)
City: Fort Smith
AHC: Ja 15, 1891-F 27, 1891 |
| <i>Daily Independent-True Democrat</i> d.
(My 1883?-1884?)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: Ja 1-17, 1884
Call number: Film 12
AHC: Ja 17, 1884 | |
| <i>Fort Smith Bulletin</i>
City: Fort Smith
AFU: N 1, 1862
Call number: Film 839
AHC: N 1, 1862
AKU: D 24, 1862 | |

Fort Smith Free Press

City: Fort Smith
AKU: My 1, 1925

Fort Smith Herald d,sw,w. (Je 23, 1847-)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: 1847-F 1852: Mr-N 1856;
Ap 17, 1866-D 24, 1881
Call number: Film 1016; Film 426
AHC: D 22, 1847-D 24, 1881 (Incomplete);
S 5, 1912-JI 22, 1915
AKP: D 6, 1848-S 29, 1877-ASB: 1847-1852,
1856-1857, 1860 (Incomplete)
AKU: JI 4, 1857; Je 16, 1860: JI 4, 1876; Je 16, 1877;
N 22, 1879
ArFs: 1847-1860 (Incomplete);
JI 6 1867-D 24, 1881
ASU: D 6, 1848-S 29, 1877

Fort Smith Kodak (1887-1905?)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: JI 10, 1887
Call number: Film 1102

Fort Smith News-Record d. (1893-1909)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: Ja 16, 1898-F 7, 1904
Call number: Film 839
AHC: Ja 8, 1908-F 2, 1904
AKU: Ja 12, 14, 16, 1898; S 4, 1901

Fort Smith Republican (1890-1892?)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: Ap 17, My 15, 29, Je 19, JI 10, 31, S 4, 11, 1890
Call number: Film 1120

Fort Smith Southron (1860?-?)

City: Fort Smith
AKU: Je 15, 1861

Fort Smith Times d. (1858-1909)

City: Fort Smith
AHC: Je 11, 1894-Je 30, 1909
AKU: JI 14, 1858; N 28, 1894; S 10, 1901; JI 20, 1903

Fort Smith Times Extra w. (1858?-S 20, 1860?)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: F 2-Mr 29, Ap 12-July 12, Ag 16, Ag 30, 1860
Call number: Film 839
AHC: Ap 25, 1858-N 24, 1858

Fort Smith Times Record d. (JI 1, 1909-My 1969)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: 1940-1949
Call number: Film 1052
AHC: JI 1909-My 1969
AKU: JI 4, 1910; Ap 19, 1912; Ap 6, 1917; N 11, 1918;
My 7, 1922; My 12, 1926; S 20, O 12, 1934; Ap 12,
21, Mr 7, Ag 7, 10, 14, 1945; N 22, 23, 1963

Fort Smith Times Sun

City: Fort Smith
AKU: F 6, 1898

Fort Smith Tri-Weekly Bulletin tw.

City: Fort Smith
AFU: Je 24, 1862-N 8, 1862 (Incomplete)
Call number: Film 356, Reel 1; Film 426, Reel 1
AHC: Je 24, 1862-N 8, 1862 (Incomplete)
ASU: Je 24, 1862-N 8, 1862
AKU: My 9, 1862

Fort Smith Tri-Weekly New Era tw. (1871?-1872?)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: Ap 3, 1871-D 18, 1872
Call number: Film 22, Film 839
AHC: Ap 3, 1871-D 18, 1872

Fort Smith Weekly Herald

City: Fort Smith
AFU: D 7, 1865-Mr 20, 1873; My 3, 1873
Call number: Film 426, Reel 4, 6: Microfiche
AHC: D 7, 1865-Mr 20, 1873
ArFs: D 7, 1865-Mr 17, 1866
ASU: JI 6, 1867-Mr 20, 1869

Fort Smith Weekly Journal d,w. (1888-?)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: S 6, 1888-O 31, 1889 (Incomplete)
Call number: Film 1102

Fort Smith Weekly New Era w. (S 1, 1863-O 1885)

City: Fort Smith
AFU: O 8, 1863-S 3, 1885
Call number: Film 22, 34, 839, 1260
AHC: O 8, 1863-S 3, 1885
AKU: Je 17, S 2, 9, 1865; My 6, 1874: Ap 25, 1877
ArFs: O 8, 1863-N 20, 1884
ArNe: D 26, 1863-S 9, 1865

Fort Smithian (1943-Mr 1964)

City: Fort Smith
AKU: My 7, 1945 & extra

Grizzly, Fort Smith H.S. (My 1929?-1961?)

City: Fort Smith
AKU: 1950/51, 1951/52

Independent Extra

City: Fort Smith
AKU: S 3, 1875

Independent-True Democrat w.

(Je 13, 1883-F 17, 1885)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: Je 13, 1883-F 17, 1885
Call number: Film 12

Labor Press

City: Fort Smith
AKU: Ap 4, 1930

Labor and Business Journal w.

City: Fort Smith
AHC: Ap 14-My 5, 1944

Rough on Rats

City: Fort Smith
AKU: Ja 16, 1896

Saturday City Item w. (F 24, 1901-1933?)

City: Fort Smith
AHC: Ja 13, 1905-F 5, 1916

Southwest American d. (F 15, 1907-My 18, 1969)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: F 15, 1907-My 18, 1969
Call number: Microfilm F419.F756
AHC: F 15, 1907-My 18, 1969
AKU: Mr 24, 1912-My 28, 1967 (Incomplete)
ArFs: Ja 4, 1908-My 18, 1969

Southwest Times Record d.w. (My 19, 1969-)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: My 19, 1969-to date
Call number: Microfilm F 419 F756
AHC: My 19, 1969-Je 30, 1970; S 26, 1982
AKU: JI 24, 28, Ag 8, 9, 1974; Je 27, 1976
ArFs: My 19, 1969-to date

Southwester
City: Fort Smith
AKU: D 23, 1928

Sun
City: Fort Smith
AKU: Ja 16, 1898

Thirty-fifth Parallel w. (O 4, 1859-N 1, 1862?)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: S 28, O 19, 26, 1860; F 23, 1861
Call number: Film 218, Reel 1; Film 839;
Film 1260, Reel 2
AHC: Je 25, 1861
ASU: Je 25, 1861; N 1, 1862
AKU: O 26, 1860

Tri Weekly Fort Smith Herald
City: Fort Smith
AFU: Ja 2, 1873
Call number: Microfiche
AKU: N 9, 1865

Union (S 1, 1863-1864?)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: S 10, 1863
Call number: Film 1260, Reel 4
ArNe: S 10, 1863

Weekly Journal
City: Fort Smith
AKU: Je 1, 1934; Ja 11, 1935

Western Independent w. (d 1871-O 23, 1878)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: F 8, 1872-O 23, 1878
Call number: Microfilm F406.W47; Film 839
AHC: Ja 11, 1872-O 23, 1878
AKU: O 10, 1872, O 22, 1874; My 31, JI 26,
S, 8, 13, 1876
ArFs: Ja 2-O 23, 1878

Wheeler's Independent w. (O 30, 1878-Ja 6, 1883)
City: Fort Smith
AFU: O 30, 1878-Je 6, 1883
Call number: Film 180; Film 839
AHC: O 30, 1878-Je 6, 1883
AKU: My 3, JI 19, 1882
ArFs: O 30, 1878-Je 6, 1883

X-Ray Bulletin (1912?-?)
City: Fort Smith
AKU: F 27, 1914

Greenwood Democrat w. (1883-)
City: Greenwood
AHC: Ja 1, 1915-to date
AKU: Ap 4, 1889; Mr 10, Ap 28, 1892; Mr 14, 1907;
My 3, 1934; Je 11, 1936
ArGw: 1969-to date

Greenwood Register (My 1911-D 1914?)
City: Greenwood
AHC: My 1911-D 1914

Greenwood Times
City: Greenwood
AKU: S 20, 1883; Mr 13, Je 19, 1884

Western Eagle
City: Greenwood
AKU: S 2, 1891

Hartford Developer (1900?-1913?)
City: Hartford
AFU: My 19, 1903
Call number: Film 1260, Reel 9

Huntington Democrat
City: Huntington
AFU: JI 22, Ag 19, S 25, 1892; Ap 27, JI 6, 1894
Call number: Film 177, Item 4; Film 839
AHC: JI 22, 1892-F 1, 1895

Huntington Herald
(O 1888-1892?; 1893?-1907?; 1912-1920)
City: Huntington
AFU: Ap 9, 1892-O 28, 1910
Call number: Film 177, Item 3
AHC: Ap 9, 1892-O 28, 1910

Huntington Hummer (My 31-Ag 9, 1888?)
City: Huntington
AFU: My 31, JI 5, Ag 9, 1888
Call number: Film 177, Item 2
AHC: My 31, JI 5, Ag 9, 1888

Levee
City: Lavaca
AHC: JI 18, 1974-JI 8, 1976; O 7, 1976-My 26, 1976

Alliance Patriot
City: Mansfield
AKU Ap 23, Ag 30, 1891

Citizen (S 28, 1967-)
City: Mansfield
AHC: D 26, 1974-to date

Mansfield American (1905-1910?)
City: Mansfield
AFU: D 20, 1907
Call number: Film 1260, Reel 9

Mansfield Messenger (1910-1938?)
City: Mansfield
AFU: Ag 28, 1914; JI 22, 1917; O 20, 1938
Call number: Film 1260, Reel 9

Mansfield Weekly News (1891?-1903?)
City: Mansfield
AHC: Ap 12, 1891

Midland Post (1909-)
City: Midland
AHC: My 1, 1909

News and Opportunities

TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIPS FOR 1990!!

Make someone else happy too — put a gift membership to the Fort Smith Historical Society on their Christmas tree.

FSHS 1989-90 OFFICERS AND NEW BOARD MEMBERS

1989-90 officers for the Fort Smith Historical Society are:

President, Ken Johnson
Vice President, Wallace Floyd
Treasurer, Don Marquette
Recording Secretary, Virginia Bruce
Correspondence Secretary, Pat Birkett
Membership Secretary, Jo Tillery
Editor, Amelia Martin
Associate Editor, Sarah Fitzjarald McCullough

Returning to the board of directors for three year terms are: Wallace Floyd, Ben Johnston, Jr., Floy Looper and Pat Birkett. New board members elected for three year terms are James Tuck and John Ayres. Carryover board members are Virginia Bruce, Leonna Belle Cotner, Stewart M. Condren, Del D. Conger, Dr. Donald J. McMinimy, Don Marquette, Judge Wm. R. "Bud" Harper, Ken Johnson, Gene Johnston and Franklin Wilder.

Our thanks and appreciation to the retiring directors: Mary Lou Jacobsen, Donald C. Peer, Larry Larson, Bob McCann and Guy Nichols.

CLYDE T. ELLIS HYDROELECTRIC GENERATING STATION DEDICATED

Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation's first hydroelectric generating plant, at lock and dam 13 on the Arkansas River near Fort Smith, was dedicated Monday, April 24, 1989. The plant came on-line in December of 1988 after three years of construction at a cost of \$75 million. The plant's three giant turbines generate electricity at the rate of about 128 kilowatt hours a year — enough to serve about 13,000 homes.

The generating plant is named for Clyde T. Ellis, an educator, Arkansas Congressman and the first general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, who was the driving force behind the development of hydroelectric resources. He was a leader in the long fight to electrify rural America and keep it electrified. The Arkansas Electric Cooperative honors his memory by naming this power station The Clyde T. Ellis Hydroelectric Generating Station for his vision and leadership.

FORT SMITH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

Dates and feature performers of the Fort Smith Symphony Association concerts are:

October 28, 1989
Peter Segal, Guitarist

December 2, 1989
James Westwater, Photochoreographer

January 27, 1990
Alan Chow, Pianist

April 7, 1990
Young Artist competition winner

May 12, 1990
Super Pops Concert, Michael Martin Murphy

Season tickets may be ordered from Fort Smith Symphony Association, P.O. Box 3151, Fort Smith, AR 72913. Telephone: (501) 783-2724. Prices: Classic Ticket Section, \$20.00; Anniversary Ticket Section, \$40.00; Conductor's Circle Section, \$50.00.

TWO FORT SMITHIANS 100 YEARS OLD MAURICE DERDEYN AND MRS. LEE NORA HORNE

Friends and family members of Maurice Derdeyn held a reception on Sunday, June 4, in recognition of his 100th birthday on Monday. He was born in Belgium on June 5, 1889, and moved to Fort Smith in 1917 where he taught at the Southwestern Studio before opening his own private school.

He later became choir director at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, where he lead its choir for 40 years. He was also Glee Club director at St. Anne's High School for 35 years.

He also taught string music at the University of Arkansas for three years and was a regular member of the Fort Smith Symphony for many years prior to his retirement at age 92.

Mr. Derdeyn is a resident of Mid Town Apartments.

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A drop-in birthday celebration at Grand Avenue Baptist Church on June 16 honored Mrs. Lee Nora Horne on her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Horne was born in Wayne County, Tennessee. She married James Horne in 1907 in the Indian Territory and moved to Arkansas two years later. She lived in the same place in Fort Smith for more than 40 years.

Her hobbies include cooking, quilting and gardening, and she is a member of the Grand Avenue Baptist Church.

She had three children: Cecil, born in 1910; Vera, born in 1912; and Gennievie, born in 1917. Her husband and children are deceased.

FORT CHAFFEE'S NEW COMMANDER

Army Col. Myrt Webb, Jr. became commander of Fort Chaffee at a change of command retirement ceremony on June 27, 1989, in which retiring Army Col. Henry Larsen handed over the post to Webb. Col. Larsen came to Fort Chaffee in June, 1983.

Webb's appointment to Fort Chaffee was made by the post commander at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, of which the local barracks are a subinstallation. Most recently, Webb was director of logistics there.

A native of Mississippi, Webb, a graduate of Reserve Officer Training at the University of California, Los Angeles, has a 24-year record with the Army. Currently a citizen of Washington, he has had diverse assignments with the Army. He served two tours in Vietnam, carried three job titles in West Germany, served as an assistant professor of military science and was chosen to attend Army War College, as well as serving in many other capacities.

After a 30-year career with the Army, Larsen is moving to Lawton, Oklahoma, to open a restaurant near the gates of Fort Sill.

BEN GEREN PARK GATOR GOLF

The Gator Golf miniature golf park at the entrance to Ben Geren Regional Park was completed in July. The 18-hole course for adults and nine-hole course for children also has a concession area and pavillion for group picnics. It is patterned after the company's other courses located in Fayetteville and Hot Springs.

SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION HELD IN NEW FOOTBALL STADIUM

Proud parents and friends broke in Southside High School's new football stadium with commencement ceremonies June 8, 1989, as 446 seniors graduated.

Both of the top graduates of Southside High School not only achieved a perfect grade point average, but also will attend Rice University in Houston this fall.

Jennifer Ledbetter, daughter of Charles and Jeanne Ledbetter, was a semifinalist in the Presidential Scholars Program in Arkansas. The program was initiated by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964 to recognize distinguished and accomplished students in each state on the basis of academic and leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities.

Ledbetter was named editor of the year at the annual Arkansas High School Press Association's convention. Under her leadership, *Southworld* took its sixth consecutive All-Arkansas Award for being "Best Division I Newspaper in the State." She was also a member of the National Honor Society, French Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Quill and Scroll and the Environmental Club.

A recipient of several scholarships, including a National Merit Scholarship and the Class of 1934 scholarship, she plans to major in physics at Rice.

Steve Graham, son of Gene and Margaret Graham, serves as president of both the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta at Southside. He also is the chairman of Project Earth and a member of senior council and band council. Besides playing the trumpet in band, Graham enjoys participating in sports, especially with the Fort Smith Soccer Association. Graham and his team earned second in the state soccer playoffs this year and won the title in 1988. He plans to major in mechanical engineering.

TEACHERS OF ARKANSAS STUDIES COUNCIL (TASC)

A new organization, Teachers of Arkansas Studies Council (TASC), has been organized for the purpose of nurturing and supporting the teaching of Arkansas history and its related studies throughout Arkansas' public and private schools. TASC was accepted as a constituent group of the Arkansas Historical Society at their state meeting in Hope on April 10, 1989. Officers of TASC are President Jan Eddleman of Fort Smith, Vice President Vickie Ellison of Mansfield, Secretary Nadyne Aikman of White Hall, and Treasurer Carolyn Batts of Malvern. Any teacher or other interested persons are eligible for TASC membership upon payment of annual dues of \$15.00, of which \$10.00 is for AHA membership. Current AHA members need pay only \$5.00. Membership dues may be sent to Nadyne Aikman, 600 Robin Road, White Hall, Arkansas 71602. The "TASC FORCE" newsletter will have its first publication soon.

JAN EDDLEMAN RECEIVES J.H. ATKINSON AWARD

Mrs. Jan Eddleman, a social studies teacher at Southside High School in Fort Smith, has received the first J.H. Atkinson Award for excellence in teaching Arkansas history. The award was presented by the Arkansas Historical Association at its annual convention in Hope, Arkansas.

The award is named for the late James Harris Atkinson, a long-time professor of history at University of Arkansas at Little Rock and chairman of the Arkansas History Commission.

Mrs. Eddleman has taught at Fort Smith Southside since the creation of the school in 1963. She was recently elected the first president of the Teachers of Arkansas Studies Council. She and her husband live at Hackett, Arkansas.

GLOVER ELECTED TO BOARD

Janie Glover of the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce has been elected to the board of directors of the Arkansas Association of Film Commissions.

The association is a volunteer group of 45 local and regional film commissions in Arkansas which help attract filmmakers to the state.

Floyd Bohannon of Siloam Springs was elected president of the association and Joanne Graham of Camden was chosen as vice president.

NORMA GIBBS RECEIVES AWARD

Norma Gibbs, president of the Sebastian County Association for Retarded Citizens of Arkansas, recently received the Downtown Sertoma Club of Fort Smith's Service to Mankind award. Gibbs' volunteer service has spanned 20 years. She has served in numerous capacities in the Special Olympics, Independent Living, Inc., and Bost School.

H.E. "Sonney" Henson, Jr., chairman, president and chief executive officer of City National Bank of Fort Smith, was elected president of the Arkansas Bankers Association at its 99th convention in May in Hot Springs. Former president Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter were speakers at the convention.

Armour Heights Nursing Home has changed its name to Covington Court, expanded and relocated. Covington Court is a new 105-bed, long-term care facility, licensed with the Arkansas Department of Human Services. The new building is at 4500 Old Greenwood Road.

SWTR EDITOR, STAFFERS HONORED

Jack Moseley, editor of the *Southwest Times Record*, has been named Arkansas Journalist of the Year, the highest award given by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Department of Journalism.

Additionally, *Southwest Times Record* city editor Debbye Hughes and Little Rock correspondent Anthony Kimbrough received Distinguished Service to Journalism Awards from UALR, along with newspaper publisher Daisy Bates and writers for the *Paragould Daily Press*, the *Arkansas Gazette*, the *Arkansas Democrat* and two Little Rock television stations.

Moseley, 52, was recognized for lifelong contributions to journalism in Arkansas and Texas, plus "years of distinction in the service of his profession" on the national level.

Hughes and Kimbrough were honored for extensive local and state reporting on problems in providing adequate treatment for the indigent and other mentally ill people in western Arkansas and across the state.

In addition to being Arkansas' most awarded columnist in the past decade, Moseley is on the board of New Directions for News, the nation's first journalism think tank headquartered at the University of Missouri. He has contributed to both high school and college journalism textbooks, had his writings placed in more than 3,000 libraries throughout the country and received numerous state and national writing awards. He is a member of the Task Force on the Future of American Newspapers of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Moseley was one of the first Mark Ethridge Graduate Journalism Fellows in America. A graduate of the School of Journalism of the University of Texas at Austin, he began his career in 1959 and has held every major news reporting and editing position on a metropolitan newspaper. He has been editor of the Fort Smith newspaper since 1975.

Former Arkansas Journalist of the Year recipients are Bill Simmons of the Associated Press, Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Greenberg of the *Pine Bluff Commercial* and former *Arkansas Gazette* publisher Hugh Patterson.

FRONTIER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Polly Crews, Patricia Boyd and her late husband Robert, the Clayton House Gardeners and the owners of 200 Garrison were recipients of the 1989 Frontier Achievement Awards presented by the Secondary Social Studies Educators of Fort Smith. The awards are given annually to individuals, businesses and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to the historical development and preservation of Fort Smith.

Crews, director of the Fort Smith Art Center, was recognized for her efforts to further the development of the Belle Grove Historic District and downtown Fort Smith.

The willingness of the Boyds to share historical artifacts earned a Frontier Award for them. The Boyds' John Rogers Collection which they donated to the Old Fort Museum is considered by many as one of the most significant historical contributions concerning the founding and development of the city.

The Clayton House Gardeners earned the award for having spent many hours researching Victorian and herbal gardens to assist them in the restoration of the Clayton House grounds, located in the Historic District.

Although originally three separate structures built in 1896, 200 Garrison was remodeled in 1985 by the 200 Garrison Associated Limited Partnership. The buildings have served wholesale, warehousing and manufacturing interests over the years, and are now home to the local offices of TXO, Merrill Lynch and Computerland.

ROY GEAN, JR. HONORED

Roy Gean, Jr. has been inducted into the Arkansas Swimming Hall of Fame for his twenty years of contributions to Arkansas swimming. During that twenty years he organized Sebastian County Aquatics — the Fort Smith Tideriders — in 1979; was Arkansas swimming chairman for the Amateur Athletics Union — now entitled United States Swimming — from 1968-70; meet director of the Region VIII swimming championships held in Fort Smith in 1971; meet director of the region's Junior Olympics held in Fort Smith in 1971; president of the Fort Smith swimming team for more than five years; and a member of the National Swimming Coaches Association in 1969 and 1970, helping three swimmers land college scholarships.

All Arkansas inductees are enshrined in the United States Swimming Hall of Fame in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

DAVID HAYS

David Hays, minister of music at Southside Baptist Church of Fort Smith, has been selected to participate in the second annual Emory au Quercy Chamber Chorus Tour in southwest France in July. He was chosen by the Robert Shaw Institute of Emory University of Atlanta after auditioning for the group of 60 from more than 300 applicants.

Hays holds degrees from Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

FORT SMITH CHRISTIAN HONOR STUDENTS

Kimberly Wasson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Wasson of Fort Smith, was named valedictorian of Fort Smith Christian High School. Wasson plans to attend Westark Community College and major in accounting.

Sydney Sagely, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Sagely of Fort Smith, was named salutatorian. Sagely plans to major in accounting at Westark.

JOEL STUBBLEFIELD HONORED

Joel Stubblefield, president of Westark Community College, has received an honorary doctor of education degree from the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville.

Stubblefield is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, has a master's degree from Syracuse and is a graduate of U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

The honor reflects the close relationship of Westark and the University of the Ozarks, which offers a variety of classes at Westark.

HAWKINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

James Franklin Hawkins has given \$100,000 to Westark Community College to establish and endow the Lucia Leigh Hawkins Memorial Scholarship Fund in honor of his wife of 46 years. This is one of the largest endowment gifts given in the history of the college. It will provide scholarships for ten to fifteen students each year.

Lucia Leigh "Mitty" Hunt Hawkins, a native of Fort Smith, was the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Hunt. After graduating from Fort Smith High School, she attended Fort Smith Junior College for one year, Centre College in Tennessee, and the University of Arkansas, from which she graduated in 1942. She died in September, 1988.

Mitty was one of those unique and rare individuals who enriched all who were around her. She inspired people and challenged them to realize their potential. She loved people, and people felt good after being around her. Her husband said, "It was because of Mitty's fine qualities, which included love, compassion and service to others, that the children and I wish to honor her life with a perpetual gift which will help so many others in the years ahead. The scholarship fund is a way of carrying on Mitty's commitment to excellence and her continual reaching out to improve the quality of life for other people in the community.

ELLA TILLES FALK ENDOWMENT

Ella Tilles Falk's \$10,000 endowment gift to Westark Community College will provide income for purchase of teaching equipment and will assist worthy students with scholarships. Mrs. Falk has a long record of giving both service and money to numerous local and area charities.

MINNIE CLARE HUBBARD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Lester and Jane Furr have established the Minnie Clare Hubbard Scholarship Fund with a gift to Westark of \$2,000, which will provide two full scholarships.

Minnie Hubbard, a native of Fort Smith, is remembered by many as an excellent teacher at Belle Grove and Duval Schools. After 47 years of teaching, she retired in 1954 and lived to the age of 98. She also served in the First Christian Church and taught in the Sunday School. She died in 1986.

S.W. JACKSON, SR. SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The children of S. Walton Jackson, Sr. have endowed a scholarship in his honor with a gift of \$12,000. The children are Caroline Dixie Preston of California and S.W. "Bud" Jackson, Jr. of Fort Smith.

Mr. Jackson, Sr., who learned the trade of printing with a weekly newspaper in Ola, Arkansas, served as secretary/treasurer of Weldon, Williams & Lick for 42 years. He died in 1956.

The income from the endowed scholarship will assist worthy students. Preference will be given to those persons who attend Howard Elementary School in Fort Smith. Howard is the adopted school of Weldon, Williams & Lick.

W.C.C. DEGREE PROGRAM FUNDED

Westark Community College, the state's largest, has received approval and funding appropriation from the Arkansas General Assembly for four-year degree programs on the Westark campus.

The General Assembly appropriated \$250,000 a year for the next two fiscal years for Westark's University Center.

Degrees will be granted by four-year universities whose faculty members will teach classes at the Westark campus.

HONOR RECOGNITION BANQUET

More than 100 local high school seniors were the guests of Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce members at its 27th annual honor student recognition banquet. Honor students from Northside High School, Southside High School, Metro Christian School and Fort Smith Christian School were presented scholastic achievement award certificates.

The four students who earned straight A's, Steve Graham and Jennifer Ledbetter, both from Southside High School, and Marian Crowe and Tuyen Le, both from Northside High School, were presented special awards.

Dr. Benny Gooden, Fort Smith public schools superintendent, presented awards to four local educators who earned statewide or national recognition during the year.

Gooden presented awards to Elizabeth Hauptert, a teacher at Northside, as Arkansas-Oklahoma Mathematics Association teacher of the year; Phillip Lewis, a Southside counselor, as the Southwest Regional College Board advanced placement award; Shirley White, a teacher at Bonneville, as Arkansas

PTA teacher of the year; and Janice Eddleman, a teacher at Southside High School, as state Arkansas history teacher of the year.

Michael Helm, chairman of the chamber's education committee, presented 108 individual certificates for each student participating in the National Honor Society to the presidents of each school's society. Accepting the honor society certificates were Kim Wasson of Fort Smith Christian School, Brad Pistole of Metro Christian School, Tuyen Le of Northside and Steve Graham of Southside.

TOP HONOR

Journalism students from Southside High School, led by adviser Lori Norin, defended their title of All-Arkansas Newspaper for Division I school at the Arkansas High School Press Association's convention in Little Rock.

This was the sixth consecutive year Southside has received this honor. The school collected 46 awards including a superior rating in general excellence for the yearbook *Southerner* in yearbook and newspaper *Southworld*.

In individual awards, senior Jennifer Ledbetter collected editor of the year for newspaper and senior Leslie Holland took the honor for yearbook, marking the first time that any one school has received both editor awards in the same year.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR

Christopher Coppeans, a senior at Southside High School, has been awarded the Arkansas Scholarship, the Grant T. White Scholarship and the National Merit Scholarship. He will be entering the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in the fall.

The five entries submitted by Southside High School art students received first-place honors in competition sponsored by the Arkansas State Garden Club Bird Illustration Contest. The student artists are Hope Coady, Michael Thom, Matt Hankins, Nancy Thomas and Viet Ngo.

The Northside High School Mixed Chorus received all Division I Superior Ratings during the Worlds of Fun Choral Festival recently held in Kansas City, Missouri. The festival involved choirs from eight states.

The Fort Smith School District has been recognized for outstanding curriculum in economic education. Four award winning projects from throughout the nation were chosen to appear in the Joint Council on Economic Education's new publication, "Among the Best Revisited."

Christ the King School received the Chapter I, Outstanding School of the Year award for the 1988-89 school year. Pam Byrd, principal, received the award on behalf of the school from Delores

Richardson, Fort Smith's Chapter I coordinator. The award was presented at the PAC Chapter I banquet on May 16.

ARKANSAS STATE DAY

Through nomination by Arkansas' Governor Bill Clinton, the Southside High School choir and band of Fort Smith represented Arkansas on May 2, Arkansas State Day in Washington, D.C. They played and sang a 45-minute program of patriotic songs on Liberty Square looking down Pennsylvania Avenue, placed a wreath, in a very moving, solemn ceremony on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, and had a tour of the city. The band was able to wear their new uniforms.

John Mankin, a Northside High School junior, recently was elected to the Missouri-Arkansas District of Key Club International's board of directors. A one-year Key Clubber, he will be the first student from Northside to hold the position in more than 39 years. Mike Shaw held the position from 1951 to 1952. Additionally, Mankin will be the publisher and editor of the *Keyway* — the district's quarterly newsletter.

SHIRLEY WHITE HONORED

Shirley White, third grade teacher at Bonneville school, has been named Arkansas' PTA Teacher of the Year. White is retiring after teaching 30 years in Fort Smith schools. She is the first teacher to serve on the state Board of Managers for the Arkansas PTA.

Her love and concern for children, willingness to work with parents, giving assistance when called on and her total involvement are the reasons she was nominated for the award by two groups, Bonneville PTA and the Fort Smith City Council PTA Board.

White has not stopped working because she has retired. She plans to write a book on parenting, continue giving speeches, travel and work at her local crafts shop.

The Special Collections Department, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, has recently published *Manuscript Resources For Women's Studies*. Compiled by Andrea Cantrell, Special Collections librarian, the guide describes over 140 collections preserved by the Special Collections Department which pertain primarily to Arkansas women. Of special note for individuals interested in the history of women in Fort Smith and Sebastian County are the papers of Margaret Bebee, Daphne Dailey, Alina Fernandez, the Fort Smith Fortnightly Club, Minnie Pahotski, Zillah Cross Peel, Fredrica and Grace Upchurch, Mary Elizabeth Birnie Coster Vann, and Thyra Samter Winslow.

The department's holdings include materials from every region of Arkansas. They include diaries, correspondence, scrapbooks, and family business papers of individual women, as well as records of Arkansas women's organizations such as women's

clubs, garden clubs, literary societies, sororities, and professional organizations. The Special Collections Department is currently making a concerted effort to preserve documents pertaining to women in Arkansas. Please contact the department if you have old letters, scrapbooks, family papers, business records, or club records which you would like to place in an environment where they will be preserved with other important sources for research.

The guide is available for \$5.00. To obtain a copy or more information, contact Michael J. Dabrishus, head of Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701. Telephone: (501) 575-5577.

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The Special Collections Department of the University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, has also recently opened several manuscript collections pertaining to Fort Smith and the Sebastian County area. Of special note are the James W. Trimble Papers, the Herbert L. Thomas Papers, the Robert A. and Vivian Young Papers, the Alina Fernandez Papers, and papers pertaining to the Fort Smith National Historic Site.

James W. Trimble (1894-1972) represented the Third District of Arkansas in Congress from 1944-1966. He held numerous local offices before winning the seat vacated by J. William Fulbright in the United States House of Representatives. In Congress, he promoted water conservation projects, rural electrification, and the development of federally-funded parks and recreation areas. He was instrumental in the creation of the Fort Smith National Historic Site, as well as Pea Ridge National Military Park and Beaver Lake.

Herbert L. Thomas was Chairman of the Board of the City National Bank of Fort Smith and founder and president of the First Pyramid Life Insurance Company of America. He devoted much of his life to working for the economic development of Arkansas and improving education in the state. He served on a number of boards and commissions including the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees (1943-51), where he played an important role in the admission of the first African-American to the University of Arkansas Law School in 1948. He was instrumental in encouraging William J. Fulbright to run for the U.S. Senate in 1944, and both he and his wife, Ruby G.C. Thomas, were active in Arkansas social causes.

Robert A. Young (1908-1973) was the founder of Arkansas Best Freight Corporation (ABF). Born in Greenwood, Arkansas, in 1908, Young received a law degree from the University of Arkansas in 1933. In 1940 he secured a permit for the operation of a bus line between Fort Smith and Fort Chaffee, and in 1951 purchased Arkansas Motor Freight Lines, the forerunner of ABF. He was also a member of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees, the Transport Insurance Company Board of Directors, and the Board of City National Bank of Fort Smith.

Alina Fernandez worked for the Cuban Haitian Task Force at Fort Chaffee during the Cuban refugee relocation program in 1980 and 1981. The papers contain reports of the task force, reports of

the Office of Refugee Resettlement, educational materials used to help the refugees learn English and prepare for life in the United States, and a series of taped interviews from KNJB (the Cuban refugee radio station at Fort Chaffee). Also of interest are photographs of the Hispanic Inaugural Reception in 1981, which was a special reception during President Reagan's inaugural festivities devoted to honoring Hispanic-Americans.

The Fort Smith National Historic Site Records pertain to its establishment in 1961 and its restoration in the 1970's. Included in the records are correspondence to Fort Smith Judge Paul Wolfe and Restoration Committee Chair R.K. Rodgers from Congressmen James W. Trimble and John Paul Hammerschmidt, Senators J. William Fulbright and Dale Bumpers, and officials of the National Park Service. The collection also contains historical reports written about Fort Smith by Judge Wolfe and J.C. Harrington, local and national resolutions in favor of the site, and Judge Wolfe's research notes.

The Special Collections Department opened more than one hundred and thirty collections pertaining to Arkansas history and culture in 1988. The department publishes an annual checklist describing its recently opened collections, a copy of which may be obtained for \$2.00. To obtain a copy or for more information, please contact Michael J. Dabrishus, Director of Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701. Telephone (501) 575-5577.

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GERMAN LANGUAGE NEWS ARTICLES BEING TRANSLATED

The *Arkansas Catholic* reported in its March 31st issue that Sister Herbert Huber of St. Scholastica Convent in Fort Smith is translating articles from the *Arkansas Echo*, a German Catholic weekly published 1891-1932.

The *Arkansas Echo* was a general interest German language newspaper published in Little Rock. Little previous work has been done in translating *Echo* material, though Dan Durning (now at Duke University, previously of Little Rock) published a number of translations in the *Pulaski County Historical Review*.

Sister Huber was born in Oedsbach-Baden, what is now West Germany, and came with her parents to Subiaco in 1925. She holds an MA degree in German from Stanford University.

Upon completion of the project, the English translations will be placed in the diocesan archives in Little Rock. The original issues of the *Echo* are housed in the Subiaco Abbey archives at Subiaco near Paris, Arkansas.

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TILLES SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Tom Carson of Fort Smith will be the new principal at Tilles Elementary School. Carson replaces Eddy Hill, who is transferring to Beard and Cavanaugh elementary schools.

Carson received his master's of education degree in school administration from the University of Arkansas, has taught elementary school in the Fort Smith system for 10 years and served as elementary school principal at Hackett.

Genealogy

Address for the Logan County, Arkansas, Historical Society is P.O. Box B, Paris, AR 72855.

PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGISTS OF ARKANSAS

A loose network of professional genealogists, researchers, teachers, librarians, archivists, publishers and family historians was formed to promote the field of genealogy in Arkansas, exchange helpful tips learned from members' experiences, provide information about new books, sources, reference materials, programs and conferences, exchange data about individual members with an eye to referral or subcontracting within areas of expertise and give advance notice of projects destined for publication. The organization publishes an eight to ten-page newsletter every two months and is open to anyone interested in genealogy and Arkansas. Membership is \$10.00 per year and includes a subscription to the newsletter. Address is: Professional Genealogists of Arkansas, 270 Midland Road, Alexander, AR 72002.

DOUTHIT ANCESTRY

Volume 1, Number 1 of *Douthit Ancestry*, successor newsletter to *The Douthit Family Tree* is off press. The 18 page, typeset publication contains excellent family records, research records, inquiries and an article entitled Early Days Along the Yadkin... Douthits and Elrods in 18th Century North Carolina. *Douthit Ancestry* will cover all spellings of the name, Douthwait(e), Douthit(t), Douthet(t), Douthart(d), Douthert(d), Douthirt, etc.

Editor is Jan Douthit Weir. She is a writer and historian, co-author and editor of *Hardship and Hope*, a history of women on the Colorado frontier. Her scholarly work in English history and bibliography has been published by the Oxford University Press. She has been a newspaper columnist and has published many magazine and newspaper feature articles. She has been following the trail of the Douthit(t)s from Ulster to the American Colonies and thence to points west for four decades.

Associate editor is Phyllis Dun Fulk, an accomplished genealogist who has published work on the Beery and Toner families. She has been researching the Douthits, family of her great-grandmother, for many years.

Douthit Ancestry will be published semi-annually. Subscriptions are \$6.00 per year in the United States, \$7.50 in Canada. Order from: Jan Douthit Weir, 3900 Bogey Court, Lake Valley Estates, Longmont, CO 80501.

PARKE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume XXVI, No. 1 of the *Newsletter of The Parke Society*, published by The Parke Society, a clearing house for research on all PARK/E/S immigrants from the British Isles. This issue is 16, 8½"x11" pages and among other features contains articles on Johnstown Flood; Immigrant James Park (Nova Scotia ca 1770); PARK/E/S Marriages, OH, IN, IL, MO; and Malcolm, Park, Designer.

Registrar, Theodore E. Parks, P.O. Box 590, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Application fee \$5.00; annual dues \$10.00; Life Membership \$100.00.

ARCHIVAL SUPPLIES

We are often asked about sources for archival supplies, ie. acid free paper, storage boxes, etc. They may be ordered from: University Products, Inc., P.O. Box 101 South Canal Street, Holyoke, MA 01041; or Light Impressions, 439 Monroe Avenue, P.O. Box 940, Rochester, NY 14603; or Gaylord Brothers, Inc., Box 4901, Syracuse, NY 13221.

Write company for catalog.

PENNSYLVANIA TRAVELER-POST

We have received the announcement that *The Pennsylvania Traveler-Post*, which was published from 1964 to 1983 by Richard T. and Mildred C. Williams, will resume publication in November under the leadership of Mildred C. Williams, P.O. Box 776, Newtown, PA 18940.

JAMES GEORGE THOMPSON

The Sterling C. Evans Library of Texas A&M University has published an encyclopedic work of JAMES GEORGE THOMPSON (1802-1879), his ancestors, and hundreds of contemporaries on the Arkansas-Oklahoma-Texas frontier. Thompson was of Scotch-Irish ancestry and his forebears migrated through the Carolinas, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Thomson's ledger and day book (which is photographically reproduced in the book) chronicles the operations of a frontier trading post among the Cherokees from 1832 to 1836. Mary and Mavis Kelsey, compilers of *James George Thompson*, amassed a wealth of data on the individuals in the day book including new information on Jesse Chisholm and many local chiefs.

James George Thompson is 578 pages, 20 of which comprise an exhaustive name and subject index. Copies may be ordered at \$35.00 each (plus shipping and handling) from: Texas A&M University, Sterling C. Evans Library, College Station, TX 77843-5000.

Letters and Inquiries

GOLDMAN HOTEL PIPE ORGAN

Installing the Goldman Hotel pipe organ in my home is my retirement project, and I wish to gather background information about the instrument. Any historical notes or suggestions of possible sources will be greatly appreciated.

Hugh Lineback, 201 Prospect, Siloam Springs, AR 72761. Telephone: (501) 524-3069.

Need information on James William (Bill) WALKER, born 20 May 1894 and was living on a farm near Fort Smith at the time of his death. Last marriage was to Emma STANLEY, but had two children by a previous marriage, Shirley and Wilbur.

Mrs. Susie Walker, 415 Adams, Neosho, MO 64850.

I am researching McMURTREY family who lived in the Fort Smith area in the 1800s. Any information will be greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Gladys J. Clifton, 417 Skyview, Fairfax, OK 74637.

Need information about my great grandfather, W.S. YOUNG, Baptist minister in Arkansas, born ca 1845 in Arkansas. He performed a marriage in Yell County in 1870 and at the bottom of the marriage record it says, "Credentials recorded in Fort Smith, Sebastian County, Arkansas."

Searching for information on family of Adeline PARKS and William Minor QUESENBURY.

Dianne R. Richards, 4004 Ranch View Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109.

I would like to join a COWAN family organization. Virginia A. Doonan, 1737 Elaine Street, Pomona, CA 91767.

Two sons of my great-great-uncle, John W. WILLIAMSON, were members of the Fort Smith Fire Department in 1937. Anyone researching the WILLIAMSON family, please contact me.

Patricia Kenoyer, 3588 Cyrus Road NE, Albany, OR 97321-9515.

I need information on the family names of HUKILL and HOUCHENS. My ancestor was born 10 February 1836, probably in Kentucky, moved to Arkansas where he married Mary Martha HOUCHENS and shortly after moved to Cooke County, Texas.

J.P. Hukill, 508 North Broadway, Cleveland, OK 74020.

I would like to contact other researchers on CARR, COFFEE or COFFEY families.

Mrs. R.D. Couch, P.O. Box 10043, Cleburne, TX 76033.

Seeking information on John S. ROBERTS and Samantha (Abbott) Roberts who had one child, Mary Samantha, born in 1850 in Wisconsin according to 1860 cu of Sanoma, County, CA and another daughter, Minerva Elizabeth, born in 1855 in Grass Valley, CA. Family stories say they traveled from up north, possibly Canada, by wagon train — possibly through Fort Smith.

My husband's great grandfather, William J. ANDERFUREN, Jr. was supposed to have been born in Pennsylvania in 1850. His death certificate shows his parents to have been in California ca 1865. His parents were William John ANDERFUREN and Marie Adele PERINOD.

Can anyone help me with these families?

Mrs. Dorothy Ditzig, 917 Poplar Drive, Benton, AR 72015.

I want to thank you for the response to my letter. I did write to the Arkansas History Commission. They had the information I was looking for.

They said my Grandfather died in 1890, and was a member of the West Harmony Baptist Church at Hartford, Arkansas... Thank you for your help. You made my day for me.

Ora M. Williams, 1400 Honor Oak Lane, Yuba City, CA 95991.

I am conducting a research project on the history of the accordion in America. At the present time I am looking for examples of its use and context in 19th Century America.

The accordion was invented in 1829 and was being manufactured and marketed in America by the 1840s. Its use in the travelling shows of the time increased its popularity while it was being marketed as a parlor instrument often to be played by young ladies. Elias Howe's "Accordion Tutor" had sold over 100,000 copies by 1855. Writers such as Charles Dickens and Mark Twain both tried their hand at playing the accordion.

I am looking for any examples of accordions in 19th century America and the early 20th century, either in illustration or in photograph...

Jared Snyder, 511 Carpenter Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19119. Phone: (215) 842-0896.

In Loving Memory

RODNEY COOK

Rodney Cook never got to see the stadium he worked so hard to build, but hundreds of Southside High School students will remember him because of it.

Cook, president of Cook Construction Company and a driving force behind Fort Smith Southside's new football stadium, died June 28, 1989, after a lengthy illness. He was 40.

Cook, Paul Montgomery and John Hartsfield were instrumental in planning, funding and building the stadium and did most of the work themselves. It was during this time that Cook became ill and he never got to see the stadium completed.

He was active in many community activities, including the Fort Smith Little Theater, in which he earned the "Acting Newcomer of the Year" for his performance of Chief "Broom" Bromden in the 1983 production of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

A 1967 graduate of St. Anne's Academy in Fort Smith, Cook attended the University of Arkansas on a football scholarship and played defensive tackle for the Razorbacks.

He returned to Fort Smith to join the family construction business which was started by his grandfather in the 1900s.

Funeral services were held in the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church with burial at Holy Cross Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Cynthia; a daughter, Susan Elizabeth, of the home; two sons, Rodney Brent and Gregory Paul, both of the home; and a sister, Barbara Conrady of Fort Smith.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rodney Cook Scholarship fund, care of Trinity Junior High School, 1300 North A Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

E.B. SPARKS, JR.

Local civic leader E.B. "Byron" Sparks, Jr., 72, of Fort Smith died May 23, 1989 in his home. He was a certified public accountant and a partner of E.B. Sparks & Co.

A graduate of the University of Arkansas, he later became associate professor of accounting there. He had been in public practice in Fort Smith since 1944, and had served in many positions, including president, of the Arkansas Society of Public Accountants. He was a 40-year honorary member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

He was president of the Fort Smith Jaycees 1946-47 and given its Distinguished Service Award in 1947. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the local Doss T. Sutton Charitable Foundation since 1959, past president of the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce, past president of the Fort Smith Jaycees, treasurer of the Westark Area

Council of Boy Scouts. He was a member of the Development Council of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, was instrumental in organizing the statewide Razorback Scholarship Fund for which he was treasurer for many years and a charter member of the Quarterback Club of Fort Smith.

He is survived by a daughter, Marilee Sparks of Fort Smith; two aunts, Abbey Arnold of Batesville and Mabel Griffith of Newark; and a cousin, Patricia Pathe of Rogers.

R.W. "BOOTS" LYNCH

R.W. "Boots" Lynch, a resource person for the Fort Smith Historical Society, died April 19, 1989 in a Lawrence, Kansas nursing home. A former resident of Fort Smith, he was the retired owner of Lynch Funeral Supply Co., a member of Goddard United Methodist Church in Fort Smith for 58 years, active in the Methodist Church affairs in Arkansas for many years, one of the founding members of the Methodist Village Nursing Home in Fort Smith and was the last surviving member of the original Board of Methodist Village Nursing Home.

He is survived by one son, Roger of Baldwin, Kansas; one sister, Grace Hardway of Fort Smith; three grandsons, John, Steve and Chris; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Goddard United Methodist Church, Fort Smith.

REV. PAUL COOKE

Rev. Paul Cooke, 61, of Oklahoma City died May 25, 1989 in Oklahoma City. A native of Paterson, N.J., he was former pastor for the First Baptist Church in Fort Smith.

He is survived by his wife, Hazel; three daughters, Kathy Smith of Charleston, W.Va., Karen Cooke of Oklahoma City and Donna Post of Mustang, OK; a son, Steve of Oklahoma City; his mother, Jesie Cooke of Pompton Plains, N.J.; three sisters, Winnie Tintle and Judy Newman, both of Pompton Plains, N.J., Margaret Gruninger of Rockville, MD; and seven grandchildren.

STANLEY E. SMITHSON

Stanley E. Smithson, 88, of Fort Smith died March 3, 1989. He was an insurance salesman for Aetna Life and Casualty, past president of Salvation Army board of directors, Lions Club and Arkansas Life Underwriters Insurance Association; member of First Baptist Church where he was a deacon for 60 years, a choir member, past Sunday School superintendent and was very active in the Intermediate Sunday School Department; member of Sebastian Lodge No. 706 F&AM, Western Arkansas Consistory, Scimitar Shrine and Amrita Grotto. He also was president of the board of directors of the Westark Council of Boy Scouts of America and a recipient of the Boy Scout Silver Beaver Award for service.

He is survived by four grandsons, Tim Smithson of San Francisco; Stanley and Steve Smithson, both of San Antonio, Texas; and Wayne Smithson of Fayetteville.

WILLIAM EADS, SR.

William Martin Eads, Sr., 91, of Fort Smith died March 2, 1989. He was board chairman of Eads Brothers Furniture Co. and a director of First National Bank for 53 years. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church where he was a past trustee and formerly on the Board of Deacons. He also was past president of Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce and the local chapter of the Red Cross. He was a graduate of Fort Smith Public Schools and Dartmouth College.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Cravens Eads; a daughter, Nancy Hornberger of Fort Smith; a son, William, Jr. of Fort Smith; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church and the Fort Smith Public Library Talking Book Department.

THOMAS HARPER, SR.

Fort Smith business leader and attorney William Thomas Harper, Sr., 80, died March 7, 1989.

A native of Greenwood, Harper had practiced as an attorney in state and federal court since 1930. During that time, he had been a special associate justice, Arkansas Supreme Court; general counsel and member of the board of directors for City National Bank, Arkansas Best Corp. and Fort Smith Boys Club; a U.S. commissioner; and a referee in bankruptcy.

A member of many professional organizations, he had been active in the Arkansas Board of Law Examiners, the Arkansas Statute Revision Commission; a fellow of the Arkansas Bar Foundation; and the American, Arkansas and Sebastian County Bar Associations and the American College of Trial Lawyers. He also had been a member of the Democratic National Committee for Arkansas and a past delegate to the Democratic National Convention. A veteran of World War II, he had earned the rank of lieutenant junior grade in the Naval Reserve. He was a member of First United Methodist Church and was president of Hardscrabble Country Club.

He is survived by his daughter, Kay N. Harper of Fort Smith; three sons, Granville Harper of Santa Barbara, California, Tom Harper, Jr. of Fort Smith and Blake Harper of Bellingham, Washington; and two grandchildren.

The family has established a memorial with the Fort Smith Boys Club.

DR. PAUL LEEDS ROGERS

Dr. Paul Leeds Rogers, 57, died April 24, 1989 in Charleston, Arkansas. He had been a radiologist at Cooper Clinic and former St. Edward Mercy Medical Center chief of staff and its radiology department medical director prior to his retirement in 1985. He was also medical director of the School of Radiologic Technology at St. Edward and was an assistant

professor of radiology at the University of Arkansas Medical Center and taught in the AHEC family practice residence program from 1979 until his retirement.

Dr. Rogers was a member of county, state and national medical organizations and had served as president of the Sebastian County Medical Society and the Arkansas Chapter, American College of Radiology. He was also a charter member of the American Society of Nuclear Medicine. He was active in community work and had been an elder in Westminister Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife, Maude Jeter Rogers; three sons, Paul L. of Pittsburg, PA, Chris T. of Arlington, VA, and Gill Rogers of Little Rock; and his mother, Marie Rogers of Shreveport, LA.

HELEN FORISTELL SOUTHARD

Helen Foristell Southard, 84, charter member and supporter of the Fort Smith Historical Society, died June 2, 1989 in a Fort Smith hospital. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, past president of Sebastian County Medical Auxiliary, charter member of Children's Service League and board member of the Red Cross.

Mrs. Southard was the widow of Dr. Jefferson Sherlock Southard who was the son of Dr. Jefferson D. Southard. Both of the Dr. Southards were Fort Smith physicians, and Helen Southard made available to the FSHS the most interesting diary of her mother-in-law, Corrinne Sherlock Southard, for publication in Volume I, Number 1 of *The Journal*.

JAMES H. "JIM" PARKER

James H. "Jim" Parker, 67, great-nephew of Judge Isaac Parker, died June 8, 1989 in his home in Greenwood. He was a retired chief petty officer after 28 years in the Navy, a veteran of World War II and the Korean conflict, a Disabled American Veteran, a member of the American Legion and the Order of the Blue Nose. He is survived by his daughter, Karen Parker of New York City; two brothers, Frank of San Diego, CA, and Paul of Pittsburgh, KS; and a granddaughter, Krystina Parker of New York City.

MINNIE LASER NELSON

Minnie Laser Nelson died June 25 in New Orleans, LA. She was a retired Fort Smith teacher, a homemaker, a member of the Woodland Presbyterian Church in New Orleans and Fort Smith First Presbyterian Church where in 1986 she was named outstanding member by the women of the church. She attended the University of Arkansas, Lindenwood College in St. Charles, MO, and Kansas City Conservatory of Music, served as past president of Sparks Regional Medical Center Hospital Women's Board and was the widow of E. Chester Nelson.

She is survived by two daughters, Sharon Weilbaecher of New Orleans and Sylvia Bass of Houston, Texas; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Burial was in Roselawn Cemetery in Fort Smith under direction of Edwards Funeral Home.

EDNA FARGO TUSTISON

Edna Fargo Tustison, 93, died June 23, 1989. She was the daughter of Confederate veteran Charles Allen Fargo who fought in the War Between the States under General Stan Waite and General Douglas H. Cooper. Mrs. Tustison was the last "Real Daughter of the Confederacy" who was a member of the Varina Jefferson Davis Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in Fort Smith, and an interview with her regarding her family was published in Volume IV, Number 1 of *The Journal* of the Fort Smith Historical Society.

She was a teacher in the Fort Smith Public School system, a member of First United Methodist Church where she was in charge of the nursery for many years, Eastern Star and United Daughters of the Confederacy.

She is survived by her son, Donald F. Tustison of Fayetteville; four nieces, Josephine Underwood and Lula Bruton, both of Fort Smith, LaHoma Bunce and Marjorie Fuson, both of Nashville; and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Oaks Indian Center, Oaks, Oklahoma 74359.

KATHY CARSON

Kathy Carson, 45, mathematics instructor at Darby Junior High School and Westark Community College, died May 23, 1989. She was president of the Fort Smith Crochet Club, active in the YWCA, member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, Phi Theta Kappa, National Education Association, Classroom Teachers Association and Eastside Baptist Church.

She is survived by a daughter, Wendy Carson of Fort Smith; a sister Diane Horton Rashall of San Antonio, Texas; and a brother, Stephen Vaughn Horton of San Antonio.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

MARQUIS LAFAYETTE DEAN

Marquis Lafayette Dean, 93, died March 25, 1989. He was a retired letter carrier, a member of the Ninth Street Baptist Church where he was chairman emeritus of the deacons, a veteran of World War I, a member of the NAACP, the Progressive Men's Club, Haley Chism VFW Post, Widow's Son Masonic Lodge, E.O. Trent Consistory and past patron of Queen Esther Chapter Order of Eastern Star. He was the son of the Rev. Samuel Dean, founder of the Ninth Street Baptist Church.

Burial was at the U.S. National Cemetery under the direction of Rowell-Parish Mortuary.

He was survived by one daughter, Hazel Maude Pegues of Fort Smith; one niece, Earnestine Collins of Kansas City, MO; and four sisters-in-law, Altha Roberts and Maggie Dean, both of Fort Smith, Jean Reynolds of Detroit and Hazel Rowell of Dayton, Ohio.

HAZEL MAUDE PEGUES

Hazel Maude Pegues, 69, of Fort Smith died April 14, 1989, in a Fort Smith nursing home. She was a retired teacher for Howard Elementary School, a member of the Ninth Street Baptist Church, Phyllis Wheatley Federated Club, Retired Teachers Association, Arkansas Education Association, Queen Esther Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star and C.J. Jamison Order of Golden Circle.

Burial was in the U.S. National Cemetery under the direction of Rowell-Parish Mortuary.

She is survived by several cousins, including Richard Thompson of Little Rock; Ada Walker Smith of Kansas City, MO; and Georgia Sewell of Chicago.

MARY FRANCES OLIVER

Mary Frances Oliver, 76, of Fort Smith died February 19, 1989, in a Fort Smith hospital. The widow of Charles Oliver, she was a retired high school commercial studies teacher, an active member of the First United Methodist Church where she served on the administrative board, past president of the local and district United Methodist Women, a member of Eastern Star and of the United Methodist Village Auxiliary.

She is survived by her sister, Mrs. Wanda Brian of Weatherford, Texas; and her brother, Reedy M. Busbee of Fort Smith. Memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church.

KARO MORLEY WHITWELL

Karo Morley Whitwell, 81, of Fort Smith died June 17, 1989. She was a retired third grade teacher at Sunnymede and DuVal elementary schools and attended Fort Smith High School and the University of Arkansas.

She is survived by her husband, Howard; two sons, Allen of Richardson, Texas, and Paul of Fort Smith; and two step-grandchildren.

MRS. HALLYE VANDERPOOL

Mrs. Hallye Young Vanderpool, 87, of Fort Smith died April 10, 1989. She was a retired speech, English and drama teacher for the Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma school systems, a member of the Westark Church of Christ, the American Association of University Women, Retired Teachers of America, Texas Women's Club, former instructor at the Harding Academy High School in Searcy and a graduate of Texas State College for Women.

She is survived by four sons, Guy Vanderpool of Crofton, MD, Dr. Harold Vanderpool and Dr. John Vanderpool, both of Galveston, Texas, and Dr. Roy Vanderpool of Fort Smith; two sisters, Lois Wythe of Lubbock, Texas; and Elizabeth Young of Palo Alto, California; one brother, Dr. Paul Young of New Hampshire; and 11 grandchildren.

MRS. ANNISE SKIDMORE

Mrs. Annise V. Skidmore, 75, died May 18, 1989. She was a retired elementary school teacher, former principal of Dwight school (formerly West Ward School) in Russellville, member of Retired Teachers Association, Delta Kappa Gamma, Kappa, Kappa Iota, former member of Classroom Teacher Association, life member of National Education Association, PTA, volunteer for the Adult Literacy Council in Fort Smith, recipient of the Golden Apple Award as Classroom Teacher of the year in Fort Smith, recipient of Kazanian Award for teaching Economics to elementary school students and member of the First Baptist Church in Fort Smith. She was the widow of Hillard Wayne Skidmore.

Burial was at Oakland Cemetery in Russellville, under the direction of Shinn Funeral Home.

She is survived by a daughter, Jane Skidmore Moseley of Elgin, Illinois; a sister, Alma Sipes of Wilmar, CA; two stepsisters, Mrs. Jean Bennett of Anaheim, CA, and Mrs. Opal Brand of Checotah, OK; a stepbrother, the Rev. A.N. Burns of Sacramento, CA; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church of Fort Smith or the Adult Literacy Council of Fort Smith.

MAJORIE ANN BEALL

Majorie Ann Beall, 61, died April 6, 1989. She was a retired physical education teacher for Northside High and Albert Pike schools, a member of the First United Methodist Church, the fellowship Sunday School class, NEA, CTA, AEA, and a life-long resident of Fort Smith. She was a leader for the TOPS Club No. 5 for several years.

She is survived by two cousins, Jaunita Talley of Little Rock and Judith Stewart of Santa Rosa, CA.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church building fund.

PAULINE MOORE DENTON

Pauline Moore Denton, 70, died March 20, 1989. She was a retired teacher of the Fort Smith public schools, member of the West-Ark Church of Christ, Alpha Delta teachers sorority, University of Arkansas alumni association, Retired Teachers Association and Hardscrabble Country Club Ladies Golf Association and a former patron of Children's Service League.

She is survived by two daughters, Sandi DeVore and Leanne Alexander, both of Fort Smith; one sister, Inez Lesley of Pocola; one brother, Clinton Moore of Waldron; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the West-Ark Church of Christ or the Fort Smith Boys Club.

CLARA REED BARBER

Clara Reed Barber, 85, died February 21, 1989. She was a member of National Retired Teachers Association of Fort Smith. Burial was in Stillwell City Cemetery under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Mary Barber of Dallas; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial fund has been established with First Presbyterian Church in Fort Smith.

SISTER CUNNIGUNDA RZODECZKO

Sister Cunnigunda Rzodeczko, 102, of Fort Smith died March 26, 1989, in St. Scholastica Convent. She was a retired teacher and had taught at schools in Subiaco, North Little Rock, Lake Village and several schools in the Arkansas-Missouri area. She entered the St. Scholastica Order in 1911 and retired from teaching in 1971. Burial was in St. Scholastica Cemetery under the direction of Putman Funeral Home.

MISS VIRGINIA GARDNER

Miss Virginia Gardner, 87, of Fort Smith died March 9, 1989. She was a resource person for the Fort Smith Historical Society, retired school commercial department teacher at Fort Smith High School, served 25 years as secretary to Sebastian County judges, was a member of First Presbyterian Church and was a great-granddaughter of John Carnall, one of the pioneers of Fort Smith. (For biography of John Carnall, educator, Chief Deputy United States Marshal, Sheriff, politician, realtor, newspaper editor and agriculturalist, see Volume IX, Number 1, pages 9 and 10 of *The Journal* of the Fort Smith Historical Society.)

She is survived by two nephews, Ronald Gardner, Jr. of Springdale and William C. Gardner of Tulsa.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church.

MRS. LYNDON E. ORR

Mrs. Lyndon E. Orr, 87, of Fort Smith died July 5, 1989, in her home. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, a former instructor for the Fort Smith Public School System and a graduate of the University of Arkansas. She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond F. Orr. Graveside service at Forest Park Cemetery was under direction of Edwards Funeral Home.

She is survived by a daughter, Julie Van Woert of Tuscon, Arizona; two brothers, Lee Brown Park of Midland, Texas, and Reuel Park of Oklahoma City; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

PAULINE DAWSON

Pauline E. Dawson, 84, of Fort Smith died Monday, July 10, 1989, in a Fort Smith nursing home. She was a retired teacher, having begun her career at age 17 in Poteau and taught in the Fort Smith public schools for 20 years. She earned a master's degree in elementary education from the University of Arkansas. She also was a member of the Retired Teachers Association and First United Methodist Church. Burial in Roselawn Cemetery was under direction of Fentress Mortuary.

She is survived by a daughter, Amanda Osborne of Fresno, California; a son, Jack Dawson II of Fort Smith; two sisters, Cleone Kelley and Gean Kukar, both of Fort Smith; and two grandchildren.

1889 Newspapers

FORT SMITH ELEVATOR

March 29, 1889 - December 27, 1889

Excerpted from microfilm at the Fort Smith Public Library by Mary Lou Jacobsen and Don Marquette.

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March 29, 1889

Frank Cauthroon, one of the most popular bartenders in this city, who has been with (illegible) Bros. for several years, died in this city on Friday night last after a long illness. He was buried in the City Cemetery on Sunday afternoon, his funeral being largely attended, notwithstanding the inclement weather.

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Edward Bell Freer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Freer, died at the residence of his parents in this city yesterday morning at 3 o'clock, of pneumonia, aged twenty years and three months. His funeral will take place this afternoon at 3 o'clock from his late home on Second Street. Ed was a bright and intelligent boy of great promise, and the pride of his parents, who are overwhelmed with grief at his untimely end. We extend our most sincere condolence in their sore affliction.

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April 12, 1889

Mrs. H.A. High has secured control of the Capitol Hotel on Towson Avenue two blocks from the Forks of the Road and will open it about the 15th inst. In connection with the hotel will be good stables and shade for the accommodation of stock. Mrs. High has long been engaged in managing hotels and boarding houses in this city and will no doubt keep up her well earned reputation in her new quarters.

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April 19, 1889

Sewer pipes are being laid in the avenue in front of the blocks extending from the Eberle building to the McKibben Hotel. This is because there is no alley back of the buildings on these blocks through which the pipes could be laid.

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The Ladies Aid Society for Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church met at the residence of Mrs. Naylor, 118 Cabell St. Several of the members were present and the meeting was quite interesting. The day of meeting was changed from Tuesday to Thursday.

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April 26, 1889

The Interior Department decided that Oklahoma still being in the Indian Country, the sale of liquor there will be illegal. Those who go there with expectation of making fortunes by dealing in fiery fluids will do well to consider before they embark in the business.

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UNITED STATES COURT

On or after the first of next month all defendants in murder cases coming before this court, will have the right of appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States on writ of error. Heretofore there has been no appeal from this court in such cases. (Error: See April, 1988 issue of the *Journal* - Ed.)

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The board of public affairs Monday afternoon let contracts to the following parties: Fort Smith Journal, printing ordinances and proclamations; Weldon & Weaver, job printing; J.H. Mayer, ruled books; feeding prisoners, J. Mayer.

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May 3, 1889

ON THE CHEROKEE STRIP
THE BOOMERS OVERFLOWING
UPON THE FERTILE FIELDS

The *Chicago Daily News* special from the Diamond Bar Ranch, I.T., says: "The occupation of the Cherokee Strip has begun along the whole line. A much harder nut to crack than was any of the Oklahoma booms is now presented to the government. The Cherokee Strip, which is now in process of being gobbled (up), comprises nearly 8,000,000 acres, being three or four times as large as Oklahoma, and it transcends the latter in beauty and fertility.

The crowds of fugitives from the famine, thirst, frost and heat of Guthrie are swelling as the reports come. The fiercest resentment breathed against the government was for the outrageous way in which the Country was thrown open. The whole machinery from the president down to the last deputy is passionately denounced.

The Cherokees are aroused to the situation. Patten, the chairman of their land commission, passed through Arkansas City this morning on his way to Washington to urgently protest against the invasion that he regarded as inevitable. Patten said that the Cherokee Nation was unconditionally opposed to parting of the Strip. The present offer of \$1.25 per acre was no inducement. The Indians, he said, had too little land left, and the Cherokees had pooled leases with the Kansas and Chickasaws, who are also menaced, to resist to the last, the cession of the Outlet.

It may be believed that hundreds of returning pilgrims are bearing northward with plans for location on the Strip, and that many tonight are camping this side of Salt Fork, upon what they would claim for their homes. It would be the duty of the soldiers to clear the Strip, as turmoil is bound to ensue."

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FOR RENT

Two 2-room houses at \$6 a month in Campbell's Row near Dyke Bros. Mill. Two 3-room houses at \$8 a month in Campbell's Row near Dyke Bros. Mill. One nice 4-room cottage with large yard, out Lexington Avenue at \$12 per month.

One 3-room cottage and stables, No. 405 Reilly Street at \$10 per month.

Two 4-room cottages on 10th Street at \$12.50 per month. One 4-room house out 13th Street at \$8 per month. One choice business house on Garrison Avenue. One good business house on 11th Street. 50 acres, choice river bottom land near the city.

Call on Carnall Real Estate & Rental Agents.

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PIC-NIC

The ladies of Mt. Olive Church will have a pic-nic on Saturday, the 11th of May at Montreal, the proceeds of which are for the benefit of that church. A principal feature of the day will be the crowning of the May Queen. A pleasant time is anticipated. All are cordially invited to come and bring their baskets well filled.

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We can sell you a buggy complete with steel axle and steel tire, for \$75.00.

Geo. Sengle Hardware Co., Fort Smith, Ark.

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May 10, 1889

GENERAL NEWS

It is thought that the attorney general will order investigation of the charge that federal officials took advantage of their authority to secure claims in Oklahoma.

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A contest is in progress in New Haven, Conn., over the will of the late B.B. Hotchkiss, inventor of the Hotchkiss gun. The amount involved is \$12,000,000.

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Arkansas has more third class material who hanker for gubernatorial honors in 1890 than she has at present any use for. Many of this small fry are entirely misinformed upon the question of executive ability and will doubtless ascertain that we need more firm hands and energetic laborers than we need third class candidates. — *Russellville Democrat*.

If things go on as at present it will be useless for material of any kind either first or third-class to attempt to beat. — *Eagle*.

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The pastor of M.E. Church, Rev. R.I. Selle, will preach from a true subject in Little Hall's on Garrison Avenue. The subject is "Pay your debts and be out of trouble." Un-settled bills cause trouble and sometimes after all bills have been paid, there is trouble still. The question arises then, "From whence cometh it?" The intention of this sermon will be to tell how to pay the bill that causes the trouble.

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HOW REPORTS TRAVEL

Last week somebody mentioned by way of a joke that a body of a man had been taken from the reservoir of the Water Works Company. There was no truth in it, but it spread like wildfire all the same and occasioned the officials of the company no little annoyance. It caused no little uneasiness, too,

among many who use water from the water works. It may be fun to some people to perpetuate such jokes, but we fail to see just where it comes in.

— • —

A word to the paving commissioners. No matter what kind of paving material you intend to adopt, get to work as soon as possible and let people know what you intend to do. And keep in mind, too, the condition of the avenue for a couple of months last winter.

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May 17, 1889

WANTED

First class cook for private family. None other need apply. Good wages paid for right one. Apply at Mrs. Cummings, 1103 N. 5th Street.

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May 24, 1889

Col. Thos. Boles, applicant for the marshalship of the Western District of Arkansas, hied himself to Washington last week, and arrived there just in time to see Jacob Yoes catch the coveted plum. It is little experiences like these which cause men to shut themselves up in the cold, damp, dark cells of monasteries and meditate on the vanities of life.

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The daily papers are filled to over-flowing with accounts of crimes committed in the North and East. Let us return thanks that we do not live in that God-forsaken region which lies north of the Mason-Dixon line.

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Mr. James Dodson and Miss Eliza Murray were married in this city yesterday morning at the Catholic Church by Rev. Lawrence Smythe. They left on the afternoon Frisco train for a visit to friends in Illinois.

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Yesterday morning a streetcar jumped the track and capsized at the corner of Garrison Avenue and Eighth Street. There were two passengers in the car, Mrs. Ventch and Mr. Aug. Reichart, but neither received any injury except a shaking up. The car was soon upright and started on its journey.

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May 31, 1889

Judge I.C. Parker arrived home from St. Louis on Monday last, and on Tuesday court was convened after recess of about eight days.

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DECORATION DAY

Decoration Day was becomingly observed in Fort Smith. The graves were decorated and the usual services held under the auspices of Thomas Williams Post, G.A.R., assisted by the posts of Hackett City, Mansfield and Huntington. The latter posts were accompanied by the Hackett City band.

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Dr. A.L. Brewster, of Huntington, and Miss Aurelia Cook, of this city, were married Wednesday evening at the residence of Mr. M. McEachlin. Dr. Brewster is one of the most promising physicians of Sebastian County. Miss Cook is a charming lady, a step-daughter of Mr. McEachlin, and we tender congratulations all around.

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Last Saturday Constables Meek and McBride raided a "crap" den on the lower part of the Avenue and pulled 26 "sports" whom they caught in the very act. Six of those arrested gave bond for trial, four were fined \$20 each and the remainder placed in jail to await trial. The house in which the "shooters" were arrested was kept by Tucker & Davis.

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SALE OF GARDNER PROPERTY

Col. J.K. McKenzie, administrator of the Gardner estate, sold last Monday morning the remainder of the property belonging to the Gardner estate. The property on Seventh Street occupied by the White Livery stable was first sold. This property is on lots 4 and 5, block 29. It fronts 100 feet and was bid in by Mr. Ed McKenna for \$10,700. The property on Texas road known as the old Harmon Mickle place, was sold in two pieces, one lot of 84 acres, bringing \$13 per acre; and one lot of 101 acres, bringing \$11 per acre. Twenty acres north of town, lying in the river bend, sold for \$100. Much of this tract lies on a sand bar. Mr. McKenna bought in both these items.

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June 7, 1889

A flood of death swept down Conemaugh Valley in the Allegheny Mountains Friday afternoon. By the bursting of a great reservoir above the city of Johnstown, Pa., the city was immediately flooded. The disaster had been foreseen, and hundreds had left the place for safety, but even then the loss of life was appalling. The first accounts sent out of the Johnstown disaster are at below the wildest estimates placed upon the extent of the calamity, and instead of 2000 or 3000 it is probable that the death list will reach 10,000 — many say 12,000. It is known that two passenger trains, two sections of the Day Express on the Pennsylvania Railroad, have been thrown into the maddened river and the passengers drowned.

It is one of the most appalling disasters that ever occurred in this country, and there is no telling as yet what damage of property may be added to that great loss of life. The towns submerged by the flood are South Fork, Mineral Point, Woodvale, Johnstown and Cambris City, aggregating 50,000 people besides other smaller villages. Leading experts' estimate of Johnstown and Cambris, say that 30 per cent of the residents have been victims of fire and water.

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Speaking of Paris, Logan County, Prof. Brannon says: "Paris has a splendid location, and if a railroad can only be built to it, it has a great future as a mining town. The coal around there is especially fine and abundant, to say nothing of other advantages." Let the Fort Smith, Paris and Dardanelle Railroad be pushed.

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William E. Pittman, a farmer living near Prairie Grove, had 13 hogs killed by a stroke of lightning one night recently; the hogs were lying under a tree which was struck.

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Judge Shackelford has decided that the Federal court at Fort Smith alone has jurisdiction over cases of parties arrested for whisky selling in the Territory.

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President Harrison has directed the issuance of an order stopping the inspection of arms on Sunday at the various army posts.

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So far nothing has been done towards making a step in the direction of street paving although this season is now wearing away and the demand for paving the Avenue grows louder each day. Some time delay has been occasioned by the indecision of the paving commission as to the kind of material to be used, and some delay by the neglect of property holders to assess their property in time to allow an assessment to be made in time to begin operations.

All these things may be very well; but we warn the people of Ft. Smith and property holders on Garrison Avenue especially, that the condition is yearly detracting thousands of dollars from the value of property and the business of every man in the city. Let Garrison Avenue be paved with something, either native stone or brick, and let the work be done as soon as possible.

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Mr. Frank McClure, of this city, has been appointed railway postal clerk on the Iron Mountain Railroad.

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June 21, 1889

The name of the Altus Collegiate Institute has been changed to Hendrix College. This is in honor of Bishop Hendrix.

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The ex-Confederate soldiers in different parts of the State are taking the initial steps for holding a reunion of the survivors of the Battle of Oak Hill at Little Rock on the 10th of August.

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President Harrison has given \$300 to the Johnstown sufferers.

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Dunlap Heights, or Winslow, forty miles from here on the summit of the Boston Mountains, is the favorite summer resort for Fort Smithians this season.

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Mr. H.A. Allen, a telegraph operator at the Frisco "Depot", and Miss Rose Krone of this city, bought tickets and eloped to Denver, Colorado, and told one or two intimate friends that they intended to get married when they reached that city.

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June 28, 1889

The northbound passenger train on the Cotton Belt road was wrecked on a trestle bridge across Crooked Bayou, about 26 miles from Pine Bluff. The accident was caused by a bull getting on the track just at the bridge entrance. J.C. Stafford, agent of the Southern Express Company was killed, and several others injured.

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When General Andrew Jackson visited Concord, N.H., after his presidential term had expired, he was entertained at the "Cass" Hotel — at that time the leading hotel of the State. The proprietor, wishing to do honor to his distinguished guest, provided a banquet and arranged to serve it with considerable style. With the first course the General surprised the waiter by ordering crackers and milk, and refused all other dishes, much to the disgust of the proprietor.

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Captain C. LeFlore of the U.S. Indian Police, is in the city for the purpose of getting a glass eye for the one he had taken out here a short while ago. Charley says he thinks he will look much prettier when he gets his new eye.

The *Elevator* is in receipt of tickets and invitations to the New Era Exposition to be held in St. Joseph, Mo., commencing on the 3rd of September.

Arrangements are being made to hold a grand Masonic picnic at Mazzard, 11 miles east of Ft. Smith on the 18th of July.

Household economy — Good things every house-keeper should remember.

1. That milk which is turned or changed may be sweetened and rendered fit for use again by stirring in a little soda.

2. That fresh meat, after beginning to sour, will sweeten if placed out of doors in the cool of the night.

3. That ripe tomatoes will remove ink and other stains from white cloth, also from the hands.

4. That a tablespoon of turpentine boiled with white clothes will aid in the whitening process.

5. That beeswax and salt will make rusty flat-irons as clean and smooth as glass.

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July 5, 1889

(Article in Evansville Newspaper)

Evansville, Arkansas is situated in the extreme southwestern portion of Washington County. There was shipped from here by wagon last year over four hundred bales of cotton which could have gone to Fort Smith had we had railroad connections. An annual business here of \$75,000 to \$250,000, which includes stores and mills, of which the wholesale houses of Ft. Smith would get a great share. The nearest railpoint is Fayetteville. The Frisco runs east of this point between 18 and 25 miles, but through such a mountainous country that we can not reach it. The M.K.T. Railroad is west about 60 miles, leaving this section of the country without rail connection. The Kansas City, Ft. Scott, and Southern Railroad is extending its line southward in a line to Fort Smith. Siloam Springs, Cincinnati, Dutch Mills, and Evansville are directly in line with terminus through these splendid farming districts. Col. Bush, pres. of the road, has promised to lookout the route down this line and if practical have it surveyed and then take the best route.

The opinion of the Attorney General Miller is that no national bank can be established in the Indian Territory except by special legislation.

The Tremont House at Pine Bluff was entirely destroyed by fire last Saturday night.

Little Rock has sent \$1,746.75 to the Johnstown sufferers.

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July 12, 1889

PROPOSAL FOR PAVING

Sealed proposals will be received by the Paving Commissioners of Paving District No. 1 at their office in Fort Smith, Arkansas, until 12 o'clock noon,

July 13, for the excavating of the present roadway of Garrison Avenue in said city, for the renewing and resetting of the curbing and paving the roadway with native paving brick upon a base of hydraulic chemical concrete. The street being paved is about 43,000 square yards. For further information see plans and specifications at the office of J.A. Hoffman, Chairman Paving Commission, District No. 1, Fort Smith.

Arkansas Gazette, July 15, 1889:

Fort Smith — Fort Smith is rejoicing this evening over the letting of the contract to have Garrison Avenue, her main business thoroughfare, paved with brick. W.A. Dagle of Kalamazoo, Mich., secured the contract at \$1.86 per square yard. The avenue is about one mile long and 120 feet wide and the job amounts to \$96,000.

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July 19, 1889

The city council has had a large number of hitching racks erected at the cemetery for the convenience of visitors, a much needed improvement.

A young son of Mr. George Sengel was somewhat bruised Friday evening by being run over by a buggy from which he had fallen. Fortunately, the little fellow escaped having any bones broken.

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July 26, 1889

The War Dept. has under consideration the removal of Geronimo's gang of Apaches from Florida to the Cherokee Reservation on Smokey River on the line between North Carolina and Georgia.

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August 2, 1889

A great storm prevailed in many parts of the State Sunday and did much damage. At Clarksville, water was standing on the streets as deep in places as five feet. All the streams on the Little Rock Railroad went out of the banks, the bridges and culverts on all of them being badly washed. The county bridge over Spadra was washed away. At Dardanelle the river rose ten feet in four hours. The storm was the widest in its range that ever prevailed in the State.

Gas from the crevices in the rock on Clear Creek, Crawford County, continues to flow with unabated vigor.

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August 9, 1889

A glance at the scaffold in the U.S. Court enclosure this morning will disclose two ugly ropes made fast to the cross beams. They have been carefully prepared by hangman Maledon for Jake Spaniard and William Walker, who, unless some unlooked for providential interference, will be hung by the neck until they are dead. The execution will take place about 12 o'clock noon. Jack Spaniard was convicted of murdering Deputy U.S. Marshal William Erwin. William Walker was convicted of shooting Calvin Church in the head while he was standing on the store porch smoking a pipe. The two were long time bitter enemies.

The south bound Frisco did not get in Tuesday afternoon for several hours, owing to delay caused by the north bound freight which was derailed by a cow. Nine freight cars were thrown from the track and one of the brakemen killed; also 100 sheep were killed.

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August 16, 1889

The efforts St. Louis is making to secure the World Fair in 1892 is putting her competitors to more stumps. New York wants it badly, but New York, as well as Boston, is too far east and too provincial. Chicago would do if she were more American.

— ● —

A couple of outlaws boarded an Iron Mountain train at Newport Saturday evening and took their stand on the rear part of the baggage car. On being ordered by the conductor to come inside the car, a fight engaged in which the porter of the car, a Negro named Andy Crittenden, was shot through the heart. The murderer, whose name is Whitfield, was captured. His companion escaped.

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Col. Wm. Fishback will deliver the commencement oration at the Arkansas Industrial University next month.

— ● —

Mr. J.W. Petty last week brought to this city a good supply of fruit, some of the finest specimens of which he placed at the Chamber of Commerce to show what Arkansas can do in that line. He left a magnificent watermelon at the Elevator office — weighing more than 50 pounds.

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August 23, 1889

Mr. C.E. McLinn, brother-in-law of our townsman, C.E. Cook, is in the city. Mr. McLinn is secretary and treasurer of the company which is looking at Fort Smith with a view of locating a cotton factory here.

— ● —

The railroads of Arkansas aggregate a trifle upwards of 2,000 miles, and are assessed at \$18,000,000.

— ● —

The trial of John L. Sullivan at Burris, Miss., has taken a turn that was not looked for. Last Friday the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, and on Saturday the slugger was taken into court and sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the penitentiary. His lawyers will appeal the case. Laws of Mississippi forbid public boxing.

— ● —

Mr. C.E. Campbell of the King Iron Bridge Mfg. Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, which has the contract for building the bridge across the Poteau, has been in the city during the week and has taken soundings of the river. Work will commence on the bridge this fall.

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August 30, 1889

The treaty with the Chippawa Indians of Minnesota will throw 3,000,000 acres of land open to settlement.

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One hundred prisoners were taken from the penitentiary last week to work on the Brinkley and Helena Railroad.

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September 6, 1889

Last Sunday evening, Capt. W.H. Rodgers, of this city, was married at Muskogee to Mrs. Sue Adair, widow of the late Judge W. Penn Adair, of the Cherokee Nation.

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The opening of the Fort Smith Conservatory of Music took place Tuesday night. It was largely attended and the program embraced the richest selection of music ever placed before a Fort Smith audience.

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September 13, 1889

Mrs. W.E. Christian, only daughter of General Stonewall Jackson, died at Charlotte, N.C., on the 30th of this August. She was in the 27th year of her age. She was taken sick with a malignant type of typhoid fever, at her home on West Trade Street. The battle for life was bravely fought. The remains will be taken to Lexington, Va., this morning, and will be interred there with military honors, by the side of Gen. Jackson.

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September 20, 1889

A monument to the memory of the late President Grant was unveiled in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, last Saturday.

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At Castle Garden, on the 12th, there were landed 3,089 immigrants, among them 154 Mormons, who proceeded at once to Utah.

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Two trains on the Baltimore and Potomac Railroads collided in a tunnel near Washington City. The engineer was killed and several others wounded.

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Bob Younger, the outlaw, died in prison at Stillwater, Minnesota, last month of consumption. He was 34 years of age. The crime for which he was convicted was committed at Northfield, Minn., Sept. 7, 1876, when horsemen dashed into the town and killed Norwood, the cashier of the bank, because he would not open the vaults.

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Mary Wilson and Nancy Wilson, charged with larceny, were brought in by Deputy Price McLaughlin this Saturday.

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September 27, 1889

General D.H. Hill, one of the most trusted lieutenants of General Lee during the Civil War, and one of the bravest and most skillful soldiers developed during that struggle, died at his home in Charlotte, N.C., in the 69th year of his age. General Hill, who graduated from West Point, served with distinction in the War with Mexico.

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October 4, 1889

On Thursday morning of last week Deputies Marshall Thomas and L.P. Isbell, with a posse of 3 men, went to the house of Ned Christie, the Cherokee outlaw, 14 miles from Tahlequah to make an arrest. It was nearly daylight when they reached the place and Christie's dog scented them and gave

the alarm. They demanded his surrender but he made no reply. He took refuge in the loft and opened fire on the officers. They again demanded his surrender and if he proposed to fight to send the woman and children out. Thomas and Isbell were behind the same tree and in turning around, Isbell was shot by Christie through his left shoulder, shattering the bones badly. Christie's wife ran out, and after a time a boy ran out. Thomas, thinking it was Christie, fired upon him. But the boy escaped in the tall woods. The house was set on fire and Thomas took his companion and retired from the burning building to where they had left their horses and went to Tahlequah. Thomas, after caring for Isbell, together with 2 deputies, scoured the Christie neighborhood and found the boy who was shot in both hips and had a shot through the lung. Christie was wounded in the forehead, and had escaped from the burning building after the officers left, hid in the woods, and then later escaped. At last accounts, Thomas was in Tahlequah with Isbell, who will have to remain there for several days before he can be safely moved. Christie is wanted here for the murder of Deputy U.S. Marshal Maples, and there is a \$500 reward for him.

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October 11, 1889

From the *Arkansas Press* we learn that Little Rock is to be illustrated in Frank Leslie's *Pictorial*.

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The *Times* says that during the present season buildings have been erected in Eureka to the amount of \$140,000, and that buildings are in contemplation for next year that will cost over a million.

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October 18, 1889

J.K. Rison, Editor of the *Rison Banner*, had his foot badly crushed last week attempting to bound a moving train.

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Geo. W. Simms of Crawford County, aged 113, was last week licensed to marry. The woman of his choice is 80 years old.

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October 25, 1889

An attempt was made in Little Rock on the night of the 17th to blow up Greshner's Saloon with dynamite. The former wife of the proprietor is supposed to be the person who made the attempt.

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Last Saturday's disastrous explosion occurred in a coal mine at Bryant Switch, about 50 miles west of this city in the Choctaw Nation. The accident was caused by a miner's lamp coming in contact with a large keg of powder. A further explosion of coal dust set the mine on fire. Sixteen men were in the mine; none of them were killed outright, but all were bruised and burned. The fire in the shaft was drowned out early Sunday. If not for an escape shaft every person in the mine would have perished.

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November 1, 1889

At a fire in Van Buren last week Al W. Winn, an old citizen, became so excited that he fell dead from heart disease.

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D.P. Cloyd, the erratic genius, who once was co-publisher of the *Van Buren Optic*, is now assistant publisher of the *Daily Optic* at Newport.

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November 8, 1889

A movement is on foot to connect Little Rock and Fort Smith by telephone.

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The *Democrat* says that the Iron Mountain & Pacific Railroad will soon erect a \$15,000 to \$20,000 freight depot at Texarkana.

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The trustees of the Arkansas ex-Confederates Association have decided to erect the home at some point within five miles of Little Rock.

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A *Gazette* correspondent says that Morrilton people are trying to raise \$30,000 as an inducement to move Hendrix College from Altus to Morrilton.

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November 15, 1889

Miss Lottie Larson of Minneapolis, Minn., on Halloween night walked downstairs backward with a looking glass and declares she saw his satanic majesty. She is now confined to her bed.

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A fire broke out in the Hotel Tralock at Pine Bluff Friday night. It was caused by the electric light wires and telegraph wires coming in contact. This is the second fire in the Tralock from the same cause within the past few months.

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Dispatches of last Friday mention the incorporation of a railroad company at Topeka, Kansas, to be known as the Kansas City, Nevada and Fort Smith. The intention is to push the road from Kansas City to Fort Smith by way of Nevada as rapidly as possible.

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November 22, 1889

Deputy Marshal Joe McNally, of the Paris District was in the city Tuesday, and from him we learn that Capt. Joe Everedge, his brothers Beck and Turner, and Henry Willis, have been committed to jail for the Luther killing. Also that Col. Cal Suggs, the well known cattle man, who is also charged with murder, was ordered to jail by the judge before his trial began, which was in progress before McNally left there. The Everedge crowd and Suggs are not kept in the regular jail, but have separate quarters in the court building. It is doubtful whether the Everedge gang will be tried this term as the court is running short of funds.

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November 29, 1889

Work has begun on the Kansas City & New Orleans Railroad.

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The Little Rock Board of Public Affairs has decided to put in an electric fire alarm system.

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A stock company is being formed to place the Arkansas lands of ex-President Jefferson Davis on the market.

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A freight train ran through an open switch near Argenta Monday, wrecking three cars. Damage was about \$5,000.

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We had the pleasure recently of meeting Prof. Morris of the Peabody School of Fort Smith. He is one of Arkansas' Representative teachers and is a heavy supporter of educational advancement of all kinds.

— • —

Dr. McReynolds was called Monday to see an Indian who had fallen from the high railroad bridge trestle just back of the National Cemetery. The Indian is full blood and cannot speak English. He was drunk when he attempted to cross the trestle; the fall broke his leg in two places. It is said he lay where he fell for 24 hours before he was discovered.

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December 6, 1889

The G.A.R. Posts of Minneapolis, Minn. adopted a resolution requesting the school board of that city to hoist the American flag over all school buildings on Thanksgiving Day. The board acceded to their request and hoisted.

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Marion Wallace was arrested in Graham County, Texas, last week for the theft of horses in the Indian Territory.

— • —

Sherman's sawmill at Stephens exploded Monday, killing Frank Stephens, the engineer, and injuring three other workmen.

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The schooner Marie Annie went down in the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the blizzard last Friday. Three men were drowned.

— • —

The New York World's Fair fund has reached \$4,828,942.

— • —

Col. J.H. VanHouse of Fayetteville, and Dr. McConnell of Huntington, attended the dedication of the Baer Memorial Temple. Mr. Fay Bromstead, the poet and historian of Arkansas, who came up from Little Rock, also attended the dedication.

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December 13, 1889

During the year there has been a notice about advancement in manufacturing. The Fort Smith Canning Company has added a new line to its business. The Oil and Cotton Press Company has greatly increased its capacity. An excellent roller flouring mill of 250 barrels capacity has been added; the saw mills are kept running night and day; iron foundries are busy, and the furniture factories are behind with their orders. The amount expended in new manufacturing plants and added to the old ones during the year are nearly \$100,000. There are now employed in the manufactories in Fort Smith upwards of 600 men, whose wages average over \$1.50 per day.

— • —

Ex-President of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis, died at the residence of his long time friend, J.V. Payne, at New Orleans, La., at 12:45 o'clock, on the morning of the 6th inst. The remains will be laid in the family burying ground at Briarfield, just below Vicksburg.

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December 20, 1889

Ex-Attorney General Garland is a strong advocate of the appointment of Judge I.C. Parker to the vacancy of the Eighth Circuit.

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The city council of Van Buren have closed a contract with an electric light company for lighting the streets of Van Buren.

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The mayor of Hot Springs and the sheriff of Garland County last Monday ordered the gamblers out of Hot Springs. The *Little Rock Register* says that two car loads of the gentry skipped in compliance with the order.

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December 27, 1889

Nearly every town in the State of any size held memorial services in honor of Ex-President Davis.

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It is said that in case Judge Parker should be appointed to the circuit judgeship of the eighth circuit, Judge LaFayette Gregg will apply for the position now held by Judge Parker.

— • —

In the Jefferson circuit court last week Judge Elliot imposed fines amounting to \$400 upon C.C. Brockaway, for selling whiskey on Sunday.

— • —

Yesterday 51 emigrants from North Carolina, all white and all democrats, arrived at Rison, Arkansas, looking for a good location to settle. They are much pleased with the country and it is thought will settle there.

— • —

Lumbermen say that \$100,000,000 will not cover the amount of timber destroyed by fire in Minnesota this fall.

— • —

Friday, train robbers held up a train near Hanks, Texas. They got only \$85 but killed a brakeman who resisted.

— • —

Last Friday two silver bars worth \$40,000 were lost off a truck in New York while in transit from the American Exchange National Bank to the Cunard Steamer dock. The bars were for England, and their weight, more than half a ton each.

— • —

The *Phoenix* says an organized gang of horse thieves are working the country around Muskogee.

— • —

The following railroads will ask Congress right of way across the Indian Territory at this session: The Frisco Rock Island; Missouri, Pacific, Montana, Kansas and Texas; Hutchinson, Oklahoma & Gulf; Leavenworth and Rio Grande; Denison & Washita Valley.

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NOTES: il - some sort of graphic is used, other than a portrait.
 por - a portrait of the person(s) named is on page indicated.
 (----) - for such as title, marital status, degree, etc.
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