

# The JOURNAL

## *All Aboard the Creekmore Express*



### *Inside:*



*Winter Storm of the  
Century*



*African American  
Policemen of Fort Smith,  
Arkansas*



*Oak Cemetery Resident  
Implicated in President  
Lincoln's Assassination*

*Vol. 25, No. 1, April 2001*

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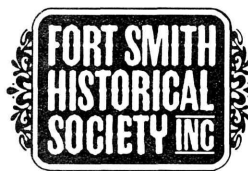
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# The JOURNAL

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COVER: Creekmore Express. Larry Burger at the controls.

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# *Creekmore Holiday Express*

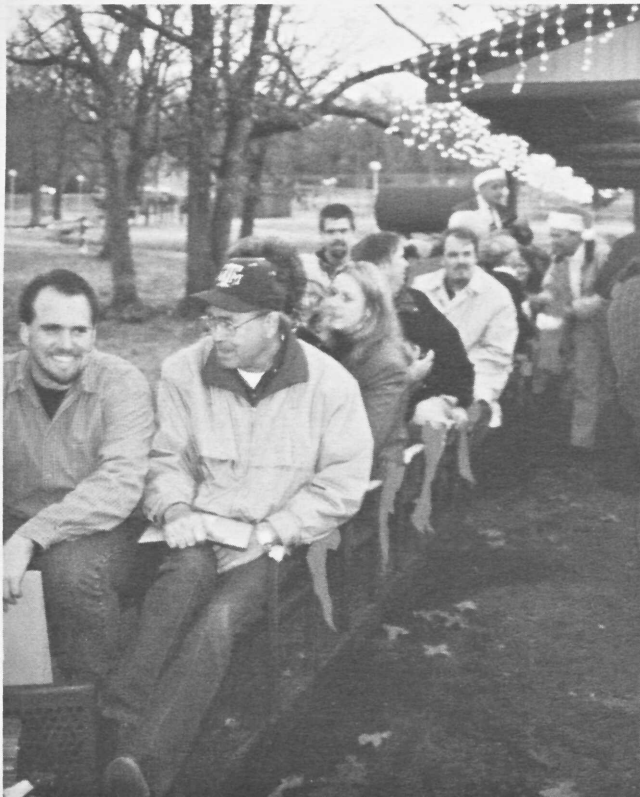
## *A New Tradition is Born*

**By Charles Raney, Director of Parks and Recreation**

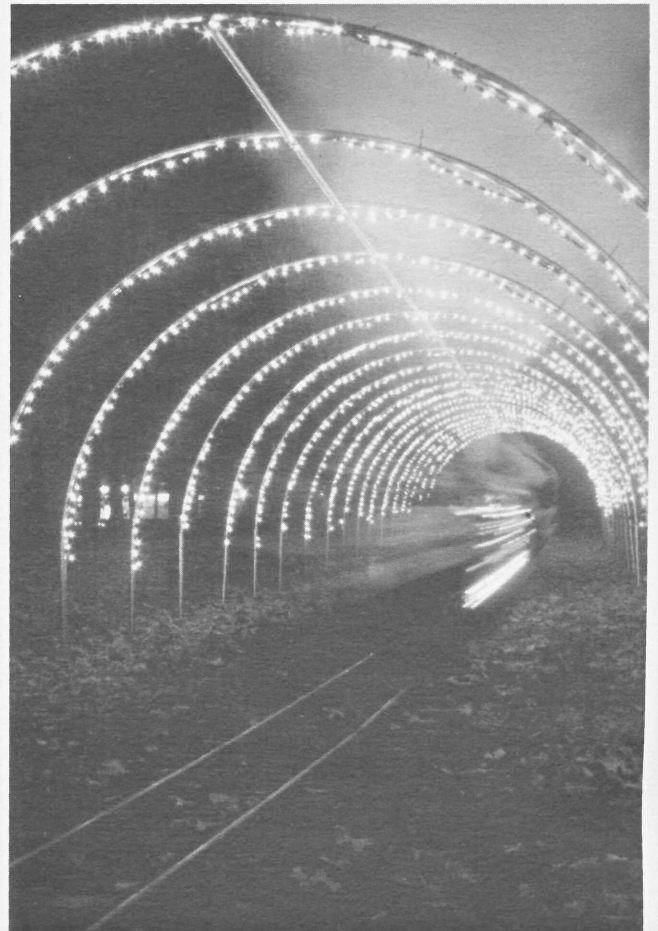
Starting a new tradition in Fort Smith for the holiday season, the parks and recreation staff, commission and friends of the park initiated the "Creekmore Holiday Express". From December 4 through December 23, 2000, the train ran in Creekmore Park every night except Sundays. Mother Nature was not kind to Fort Smith in December 2000 and of the three weeks scheduled, one week had to be canceled. Still, 8,827 young and old alike bundled up and the die-hard train riders came to Creekmore Park to ride the train, see the lights of the park and

listen to entertainment provided by a different Host each night.

Besides the train ride, there was the Trail of Christmas Trees and the Trolley Bus Tour of Christmas Lights. 28,500 people from Fort Smith and the surrounding communities braved the winter weather to enjoy the new holiday tradition. There were 18 Hosts who volunteered their organization to provide music, hot drink, candy canes, free train tickets and even Santa Claus on some nights. The old saying "build it and they will come" proved to be very valid. The park was decorated throughout and families could stroll through the



All Aboard for the train ride.



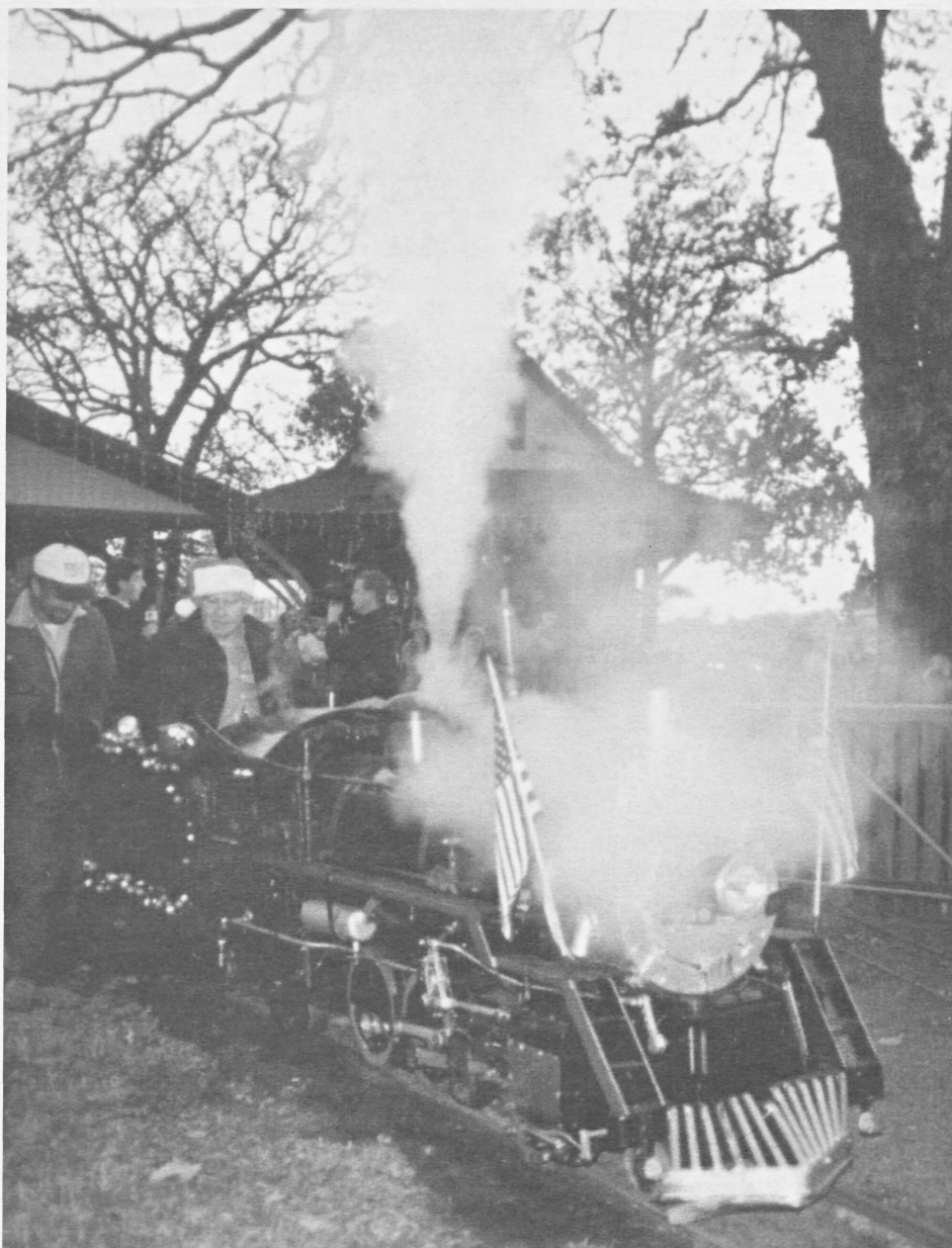
Tunnel of Lights.

trail of Christmas trees, ride the train through the tunnel of lights, see winter wonderland, animal kingdom and doves flying through the air.

Adults and kids came wrapped in blankets and dressed so that only a small part of their face could be seen, but come and ride they did. After the train ride, even the small portion of face exposed could not hide the enjoyment of the lights and festivities. The Creekmore Holiday Express quickly became a regional event. Comments were heard that people did not have to drive to other towns to see the lights of Christmas, now they could stay home and even more important, they could get out and see, hear and actually do things in the park.

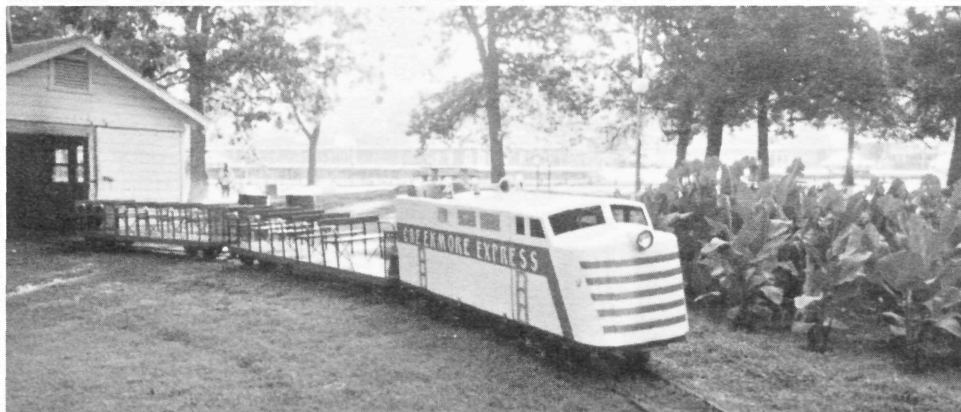
Even with the bad weather, the Hosts from several churches, several civic groups, Salvation Army, Sunnymeade PTA, Old Fort River Festival, Cancer Support House, Sparkie's Kids and Scottish Club came out to provide entertainment and to make

**Creekmore Express, Larry Burger at the controls**



**Little Steam Engine  
ready for a run.  
Engineer, Larry Burger**

the evening special for those braving the weather. This event should only grow bigger, and with decent weather, those that come to the Creekmore Holiday Express will come from many communities around the state and some adjoining states. Plans are to expand the lights and activities within the park so that the tradition started in 2000 will become a major event each year, and for many years to come memories will be shared by those that made the Creekmore Holiday Express a family tradition.



**Diesel Engine**

### ***LITTLE STEAM ENGINE TRAIN "CREEKMORE EXPRESS"***

The little steam engine that still runs today in Creekmore Park was built by Mr. Sam Skidmore from Paris, Texas. The train was built and brought to Creekmore Park in the summer of 1949 when the park was initially opened. Mr. Louis Hope, who worked for OG&E at the time, bought the miniature train and ran it as a concessionaire beginning in 1949. Mr. Sam Allen, current resident of Fort Smith, says that he was the first engineer to operate the train in the park.

The steam engine operated for nearly a year until the City of Fort Smith pressured Mr. Hope to sell the train and the city would take over operation. This transition was not a pleasant one, but eventually the city was able to operate the train efficiently

and has been doing so ever since.

Mr. Eldon D. Pence, a general agent with the Kansas City Southern Railroad was instrumental in getting the railroad company to send in a crew to lay the nearly 1/2 mile of tracks for the little train. Mr. Sam, as Sam Skidmore was known to most people, sold the steam engine for \$5,000. The train in Fort Smith was one of five built by Mr. Sam before he died in 1965. The park steam engine became known as the "Creekmore Express" and is the last of the five trains to be operating as we move into the year 2001.

The Creekmore steam engine was constructed on a scale of two inches to one foot. Originally it cost 10 cents to ride the train, and after 51 years the price to ride is only one quarter, a real bargain today.

A group was formed in 1988 to accept private donations for the renovation of the steam engine. City Park Commissioner

Lisa Morris headed the drive to save the train and the drive was a huge success. To ensure the longevity of the steam engine in Creekmore Park, the money raised was also used to build a diesel engine to run daily in the park while saving the steam engine for holidays and special occasions. Mr. Jay Wiechert, owner of Wiechert Manufacturing Company in Fort Smith at the time, agreed to build the diesel engine that runs today. Mr. Wiechert was well known in the business as he built the first "electric chair" for the State of Arkansas.



**Lights, Creekmore  
Holiday Express**

# The Winter Storm of the Century

(We Hope!)

By Janice B. Eddleman

This year it was not the Grinch who stole Christmas, but Mother Nature, hot on Santa's trail, who plagued Fort Smith and the surrounding area. In practice for her master production, she blanketed much of Arkansas with an ice/snow storm on Tuesday, December 12, 2000, causing approximately 90,000 Arkansans to lose electric power.<sup>(1)</sup>

By Saturday, December 17, 2000, approximately 2,000 people in the River Valley were still without power<sup>(2)</sup> and temperatures dropped very low. In Johnson County a mother, with two of her children, died, after rescuing three of her daughters, in a fire caused by the candles and fireplace which they were using for light and heat.<sup>(3)</sup> However, most of the first storm was to the east and south of Fort Smith and there was not much damage in the immediate area with the exception of traffic accidents.

The *Times Record* warned on Christmas morning that icy roads were likely and quoted Mike Teague of the National Weather Service Office in Tulsa as saying, "It looks extremely messy."<sup>(4)</sup> The article went on to predict that the sleet and freezing rain would start late on Christmas night. This proved to be a false prediction as the icy precipitation began falling Christmas morning and many holiday visitors either had to cut their Christmas

visits short or risk being stranded. By eleven a.m., when my husband and I decided that we could not risk staying at my mother's for Christmas dinner, the roads were a solid sheet of ice. In spite of the efforts of the city crews who began spreading sand and salt on Fort Smith streets, some of the hilly roads on the southside of town were closed on Monday.<sup>(5)</sup> Airlines began to cancel flights and conditions continued to worsen with the NWS predicting more freezing rain and sleet through Wednesday.

From personal experience, I can tell you that spending all of Christmas night listening to the breaking of limbs and waiting for one to fall on your house is not a fun thing to do. Yet, this was an experience shared by many Fort Smith residents. To top this, one by one, area by area, neighborhood by neighborhood, the lights began to go out as power lines were knocked down by falling limbs, broken under the weight of the ice or power poles split and buckled under the heavy



**Broken trees block driveway and completely hide from view the garage at right of house. Many streets all over town were blocked by fallen trees. (Photo by Bradley Martin)**

coat of ice. Not only was the electricity going, but so were the phone lines and cable service and water lines began to freeze and burst without heat. People were suddenly left without all the things we so take for granted -- heat, light and communication -- and many were to remain that way for days and, in some instances, for as much as two weeks.

On Tuesday, December 26, the ice continued to accumulate and conditions continued to worsen even stopping the clock on the Square in Greenwood at 5:50 p.m.<sup>(6)</sup> More power lines went down and conditions worsened. Emergency shelters began to be set up by the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army to help those who were without heat, food or, in some instances, water.

For the first time in its history, the Fort Smith *Times Record* failed to publish a daily newspaper on Wednesday, December 27. Publisher Gene Kincy stated that the roads were so icy that they would have had a hard time getting enough employees to the plant to print the paper and that it would have been impossible to deliver it.<sup>(7)</sup> However, by Thursday the presses were again rolling and the National Weather Service was saying that "the worst is over."<sup>(8)</sup>

The local newspaper was not the only source of communication that was lost. Many people were without telephone service and not even a cell phone was a sure shot at communicating with the outside world as the cell sites buckled under the ice. Many local radio stations were off the air as their transmission towers either lost power or collapsed in the heavy load of at least three inches of ice. Power was lost to the Sebastian County repeater on Poteau Mountain and this threatened to leave the county without communications for the Sheriff's office, EMS and the rural fire departments as the battery back-up was rapidly depleted. The Fort Smith Area Amateur Radio Club stepped in to help, putting "Hams" in the patrol cars, at the Sheriff's office, in shelters, in fire departments, in EMS stations and in National Guard "Humvees". All in all about 40

"Hams" worked for four to five days. "At around 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 27, the Army National Guard 142nd Field Artillery, 2nd Battalion, started up Poteau Mountain behind a 188th Air National Guard D-9 Caterpillar bulldozer. Communications were handled through "Ham" radio operators. The goal was to deliver a generator to the top of the mountain to run the Sebastian County radio system. Arrangements were made with Southwestern Bell Wireless to take their 35K generator up and assist them in fueling it as needed. In exchange, the Sebastian



**Bradford Pear tree, broken ice covered limbs on ground and roof of house. (Photo by Marilyn Martin Fulgham)**

County system would also be powered by this generator. Nine long hours later, this mission was complete. There were several more trips made in the next few days for maintenance, repairs and refueling of the generator. All trips were made with "Hams" in tow for communication."<sup>(9)</sup> Luckily, the "Ham" repeater on Cavanaugh Hill continued to function until after the emergency was over when one of the batteries exploded and the antenna came crashing down.

About 62,000 area residents had lost power by December 28, and the electric companies were working long, cold hours and calling in extra crews to try to get power back to their customers. Arkansas Valley Electric Cooperative reported that almost half of their members were without power and OG&E reported 42,000 customers without electricity.<sup>(10)</sup> By Friday, OG&E still had about 31,500 people in the dark and cold and

Arkansas Valley about 6,000. Utility crews continued to work around the clock to restore power.<sup>(11)</sup> As late as January 2, 2001, about 15,000 OG&E customers and 1,600 Arkansas Valley members still shivered in the dark.<sup>(12)</sup> In fact, it was not until Monday, January 8, 2001, that the power companies could announce that almost all of the area again had electric service.<sup>(13)</sup>

The power outages had created markets for many goods. It was difficult to find batteries, kerosene lamps, kerosene or lamp oil, candles, propane or propane heaters. Local television stations were announcing when and where generators could be purchased on their news programs and many people were learning generator terminology. By the same token, other businesses which were without power were forced to close because they could not operate their cash registers and gas stations without electricity could not pump fuel.

On Sunday night, December 31, Mother Nature added insult to injury when she dropped another two inches of snow on the area. The result was another rash of traffic accidents and

the cancellation of the annual New Year's Ball Drop. However, the Mayor's New Year's Eve Ball at the Convention Center went ahead as scheduled.<sup>(14)</sup>

As electric service returned, people began to miss their televisions. James Anderson, local manager of Cox Cable, estimated that about one-third of their customers were still without service as of Friday, December 29 but every where you looked Cox trucks and contract crews were at work trying to repair the damage.<sup>(15)</sup> Meanwhile, some people opted to switch to satellite service. According to Dan Flippen, owner of TSC Digital, they "pretty much lined up" to buy digital television systems.<sup>(16)</sup>

Folks also began to look at the physical damage from the storm. Twigs, branches and whole trees littered every yard. In some places whole trees were uprooted and one house on Beverly Lane in Fort Smith was crushed beneath a fallen tree.<sup>(17)</sup> There were holes in roofs, burst plumbing and shorts in electrical wiring which caused several fires. Roads, streets and highways were full of potholes from thawing and freezing and the use of plows and graders to attempt to remove the thick ice layer. By Friday, December 29, Arkansas Governor Huckabee declared Sebastian County a disaster area and

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**Tree, uprooted by weight of ice, fell across and crushed house in background. Storage house in foreground balanced on roots of tree. (Photo by Alayna Ferrell)**



this was shortly followed by a disaster declaration by President Bill Clinton.<sup>(18)</sup>

Local residents began cleaning up the mess and the buzz of chain saws could be heard every where. The Fort Smith Regional Landfill did not have the capacity to process the storm damaged tree debris and a local business which owns land along the Arkansas River opened this land for the burning of the brush and a city bulldozer was sent to help control the burning.<sup>(19)</sup> City crews began picking up limbs and debris that were piled on the curb and by Thursday, January 4, the City Sanitation Department had resumed regular residential sanitation service.<sup>(20)</sup>

The Federal Emergency Management Agency began the process of handling disaster recovery grants and urged residents to save the receipts from their expenses.<sup>(21)</sup> By January 8, FEMA officials, accompanied by Representative Asa Hutchinson, visited the area and opened offices to begin to process storm victims' claims.<sup>(22)</sup> By January 10, it was reported that some aid checks had already been mailed by FEMA.<sup>(23)</sup> Other



Same destroyed Bradford Pear tree shown on page 6, after the storm, stacked by curb waiting to be removed by city clean-up crew – a common site at houses on every street. (Photo by Art Martin)

agencies were also busy, as insurance agents and adjusters, tree specialists, electricians and plumbers suddenly found their services in overwhelming demand. There was, of course, some damage which cannot be repaired in our lifetime, such as that to tall old trees, but the recovery is under way.

The storm brought out the best in people and there are many unsung heroes -- the neighbors who checked on each other; the policemen who went out of their way to check on the welfare of others and do good deeds too numerous to mention; the amateur radio operators who volunteered their time to help; the crews who worked in

the cold to restore power, telephone and cable; the Red Cross and Salvation Army and others who took in those of us forced to "refugee". It also forced us to realize how dependent we are on modern technology. A hundred years ago such a storm would have caused much less inconvenience because our grandparents would have not had to worry about downed power lines -- there were none. They would have already been using kerosene lamps, candles and wood burning stoves or fireplaces. They would have simply been a little more confined to home and had to be careful as they went to milk the cow and gather the eggs. Their lives would not have come to a stand still as many of ours did.

#### FOOTNOTES:

1 "Ice Storms Cripple Co-ops"; *Rural Arkansas*; Vol. LIV, No. 3; January, 2001; p. 10

2. Lyon, John; "Snow, Ice Keep Region Frozen"; *Times Record*; Sunday, December 17, 2000; p. 1A

3. "Mother, Children Die in Fire"; *Times Record*, Sunday, December 17, 2000; p. 2A

4. Ream, Michael; "Icy Roads Likely"; *Times Record*, Monday, December 25, 2000; p. 1A

5. Lyon, John; "Ice Storm Smacks FS Area"; *Times Record*, Tuesday, December 26, 2000; p. 1A

6. Taber, Rick; "Ice Storm Freezes Sebastian County"; *Greenwood Democrat*, Vol. 119, No. 50, December 26, 2000; p. 1A

7. Garrett, Rusty; "Storm Stops Times Record Press"; *Times Record*, Thursday, December 28, 2000; p. 1A

8. Anderson, John T.; "NWS: The Worst Is Over"; *Times Record*, Thursday, December 28, 2000; p. 1A

9. "Y - 2 - K Drill Pays Off!"; *The W5ANR Reporter*, Vol. 1, No. 1, January, 2001; p. 5

10. Crider, Mary and Tina Tabor; "Ice Storm Knocks Out Power"; *Times Record*, Thursday, December 28, 2000; p. 1A

11. Katte, Carole; "Residents Remain Without Power"; *Times Record*, Saturday, December 30, 2000; p. 1A

12. Lyon, John; "Thousands Remain In The Dark"; *Times Record*, Tuesday, January 2, 2001; p. 1A

13. Lyon, John; "Long, Dark Wait Ends"; *Times Record*, Monday, January 8, 2001; p. 1A

14. Lyon, John; "Snow Covers Area"; *Times Record*, Monday, January 1, 2001; p. 1A

15. Garrett, Rusty; "Customers Await Cable Connections"; *Times Record*, Saturday, December 30, 2000; p. 1A

16 Ibid.,

17. Sanderford, Brian D.; "Heavy Ice"; *Times Record*, Sunday, December 31, 2000; p. 1A

18. Katte, Carole; "County Eligible for Aid"; *Times Record*, Friday, December 29, 2000; p. 1A

19. "Local Burn Site Established"; *Times Record*, Sunday, December 31, 2000; p. 1A

20. Katte, Carole; "FEMA: Hold On To Receipts"; *Times Record*, Wednesday, January 3, 2001; p. 1A

21 Ibid.

22. Ream, Michael; "FEMA Officials Visit Area" *Times Record*, Tuesday, January 9, 2001, page 1A

23. Taber, Rick; "Some Checks Mailed"; *Greenwood Democrat*, Vol. 120, No. 2 (January 10, 2001); p. 1A

# *African American Policemen of Fort Smith, Arkansas*

## *To Serve, To Protect, and Honor*

**By Kathy Criswell-Conley**

Oh how times have changed in the life of the police officer, especially in the life of the African American officer from 1926 to the late 1960's. Black officers were sworn in to obey, protect all citizens, and to keep law and order with limited resources. However, this task did not stop them from performing their duties or performing any task that would arise. Due to segregation, African American officers could not carry a gun or arrest a white citizen until the late fifties. When an African American officer stopped a white citizen, the officer had to contact a white officer, and ask the white citizen to wait until the white officer would arrive. Before the late fifties, their only weapon was a black flapjack and in one case, a dog. Each officer patrolled the North side of town, often referred to as the "Negro District". Special attention was given to 9th street and what was called "Suburban Track". Their salary ranged from \$100.00 to \$166.00 a month.

### **ALLEN GRANT ROGERS**

The first recorded African American policeman in the state and the City of Fort Smith was Allen Grant Rogers, also known as A. G. Rogers. He joined the Police Department in December 1926 as a patrolman.



An article published in the Southwest American newspaper, dated August 2, 1938, page 6, stated local police replied, "A. G. Rogers once served as a member of the New York police force and at one time he was a prominent boxer." His height was 6'3" and weight 200 pounds with very large hands. A. G. Rogers had a trained and obedient partner, Fritz, a large German Shepherd, who always sat in the backseat of his patrol car. It has been said when Mr. Rogers would patrol the Suburban Track area, the people would scatter. He lived at 715 North "N" street with his wife, Hattie Hazel Johnson, a schoolteacher at Washington and Howard Schools, and their two sons, Al Rogers Jr. and Sam Rogers. He treated everyone the same, an outstanding policeman respected by blacks and whites. When he became ill, on September 21, 1937, Mayor Jim Jordan wrote a letter to the

Negro Chamber of Commerce in Dallas, Texas, stating A. G. Rogers was a very fine officer and the city of Fort Smith would hold his position until it could be established if Mr. Rogers would be able or not to work again. Officer Rogers died on July 31, 1938, at the age of seventy-one. Captain Andy Pevehouse sent the family a letter and funds stating that this contribution could be used for a better purpose than flowers and Mr. Rogers would rather have it that way.

### **LELAND ANDREW SEMOND LONGLEY**

In October 1945, according to Frances Wilson Longley, wife of Leland Andrew Semond Longley, he joined the Fort Smith Police Department as a car officer and remained until his death in 1960. The mayor of Fort Smith,



Pink Shaw, and Mr. Peck, head of the city's water department, assisted in his hire. His parents nicknamed him "Chief" because the community wanted a black chief.

He was born in Little Rock, Arkansas on May 22, 1908 and lived at 2002 Dennison. He attended Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Alabama, and Georgia State College in

Savannah, Georgia, joined the armed forces on February 19, 1943 and played in the 337th Army Service Band. In 1942 he was a member of the "Rockets of Rhythm", a band with the famous Alfonso Trent and loved to play the tenor and alto saxophone. On February 11, 1943 he married Frances Wilson and to this union twelve children were born.

Officer Longley attended law enforcement training from January 10, 1950 to February 9, 1950, worked with the MP's at Fort Chaffee and became a member of St. John Catholic Church in 1945. His family has lived at 1905 North 12th street in Fort Smith since 1949. Officer Longley was 6'0" and weighed 259 pounds.

Chief was involved with the community. He loved working with the youth and began to teach music to young people. He didn't believe in sending youth to reform schools. If anyone lost their home for any reason, he would provide housing in properties he owned until they could do better.

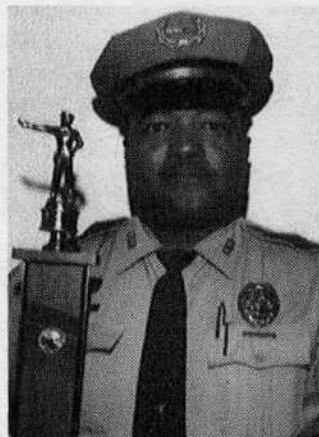
He worked seven days a week for three years until he trained officer Alvin "Stacey" Hardwick, who was also his next-door neighbor. After officer Hardwick was trained, he rotated one month days and one month nights.

#### **ALVIN "STACEY" HARDWICK**

Officer Alvin "Stacey" Hardwick's wife, Florene Charter, said "Officer Hardwick joined the police force March 10, 1949 and remained until 1976 as a patrolman. He weighed 290 pounds, was 6'3" and the only weapon I remember him carrying was a black flapjack.



We had seven children born alive. He was present at Walgreen located at 9th and Garrison Avenue when Daisy Bates came to Fort Smith during segregation and stopped at Walgreen to have a soda from the fountain counter. Officer Hardwick made sure that everything remained peaceful. He was the mentor of two other well-known officers while employed with the police department, Officer George Willis and Officer Lawrence Tidwell. He also worked as a jailer in Sebastian County for four years, and died in Fort Smith on October 12, 1976."



#### **GEORGE WASHINGTON WILLIS, SR.**

Officer George Washington Willis, Sr. said he joined the Fort Smith Police Department on November 16, 1960. He was born June 20, 1923, in Van Buren, Arkansas, attended Douglas Elementary in Van Buren and graduated

from Lincoln High School in 1941. He was on the high school Bear football team. He joined the US Army on December 5, 1943 and is a survivor of the Battle of the Bulge.

He married Mattie Jean Young and together they had five children. His children were told they couldn't miss a day of school and he helped with his grandchildren's college education.

He trained three weeks in Camden, Arkansas to become a police officer. According to Officer Willis, at the end of Officer Hardwick's service, Officer Hardwick was able to carry a firearm and believes that he was the first African American officer to do so in Fort Smith.

Officer Willis would call people on the phone who committed a crime, and tell them to meet him at the jailhouse and they would. He would go out-of-state and transport people back to Fort Smith. He was also noted for finding and following youths home after curfew hours. He was familiar with almost everyone's parents and would call them or go to their home when there was trouble.

A newspaper article in the Southwest Times Record dated November 14, 1980 stated, George Willis Sr., a Fort Smith police officer who was critically wounded on August 16, 1976, while pursuing suspects in an armed robbery investigation, will be recognized with "George Willis Day" and a retirement ceremony Friday at the Municipal Auditorium. After twenty years of service, Willis will retire Sunday. Mayor Jack Freeze read the proclamation declaring Friday as "Willis Day. In 1980 he retired after being shot and was not expected to live, but again he beat the odds and is still living to this day. He has received numerous awards. His faithful service and outstanding achievements will always be admired and remembered."



### **LAWRENCE EDWARD TIDWELL, SR.**

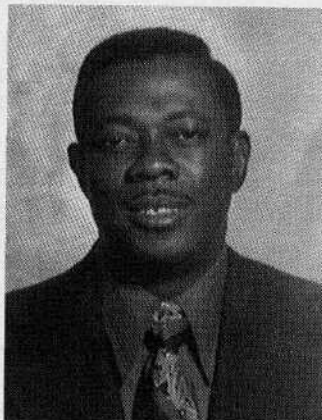
Officer Lawrence Edward Tidwell, Sr. joined the police force April 1962 and served as an administrative desk sergeant and worked in the Detective Division.

He was born August 5, 1934, in Fort Smith, Arkansas to William Lawrence Tidwell and Jettie May, graduated from Lincoln High in 1947 and attended college at Arkansas A.M.&N. in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. He was the father of three children, one grandson, and was married to Charlotte Jones when he deceased April 17, 1997. On Saturday, April 26, 1997 his funeral was held at the Fort Smith Civic Center located at 55 South 7th Street in Fort Smith.

He attended Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church where he served as Protom of the Trustee Board, Steward, in the Lay Organization, and the Senior Choir. He was active in the Progressive Men's Club, the Lincoln Alumni Association, Lincoln Youth Service Center, Shady Grove Masonic Lodge #28, E. O. Trent Consistory #233, and the 4-H Club. He also served in the community with Arkansas Valley Habitat for Humanity, Harbor House, Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inter-Faith Community Center, Fort Smith Optimist Club, Eastside Sertoma Club, Fulfill-A-Dream, Kiwanis Club March of Dimes, Red Cross, United Way, Fort Smith Bicentennial Commission, Martin Luther King Planning Commission, Boys Club, Girls Club, was a Golden Apple Recipient and Liberty Bell Recipient.

### **ALVIN BRADLEY**

Officer Alvin Bradley states he joined the Fort Smith Police Department on April 26, 1969 as a patrol officer. On January 7th, 1977 he was promoted to sergeant, on August 6, 1984, was promoted to captain and on May 9,



1988 was promoted to major. His height is 6'4" and he weighs 220 pounds. When he was asked how he would like to be remembered, he said he would like to be remembered as a good man, feeling like he did a good job for the city of Fort Smith and helped to better the community for everyone.

Officer Bradley retired on June 8, 2000 after 31 years of service. He and two fellow officers, Lawrence Tidwell, Sr. and Paul Christian, were inspired in September of 1971 to open the Lincoln Youth Service Center, a place where everyone could come regardless of race or creed, on the north side of town and was at one time a part of the Lincoln High School. Officer Bradley stated, "There was a need for a youth program where the youth could be channeled in the right direction." The center was opened from the funds given by the officers and later they received funds from the City of Fort Smith. The center came at an appropriate time, due to the youth perceiving police officers as the enemy, and therefore called them "Pigs." A juvenile probation office was set up and judges worked with the officers to help better the youth. Their goal was to meet the physical and mental needs of youth, to let them know they wanted to help and have a good relationship with them.

In 1972, rap sessions were established within the local schools, and a documentary film, "Pig No More" was shown at the center. When a Little Rock, Arkansas, television station heard about the film they decided to air it on the Little Rock Educational Channel. The Center has received numerous awards and citations and is still in existence today with officer Bradley continuing to lead it to success.

Other African American policemen who later joined the Fort Smith Police Department are: Officer Paul Christian, Corporal Charles Warr, Officer Danny Brewer, Patrol Officer Wendall Sampson, and Officer Michael Lang.

### **THE GOLDEN EPIC**

"*The Golden Epoch*, a weekly newspaper published more especially for the colored people, was established some years ago at Helena, Ark. and was moved to Fort Smith in June 1888. Messrs. Fisher and Clark (colored) are its editors and proprietors. It is a six-column folio, and advocates Republican principles."

*The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical  
Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas, page 764.  
Published 1889*

# *In Loving Memory*

## **ROY THOMAS**

L. B. "Roy" Thomas, 76, of Fort Smith died July 26, 2000. He was a pharmacist for 36 years, a member of a number of organizations, a Little League baseball coach and a volunteer for the Fort Smith Trolley Museum, Fort Smith Museum of History and the Tourist Information Center. He was the recipient of the Kiwanian of the Year award, Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver award and the Arkansas Museum Volunteer of the Year award.

He is survived by his wife, LeJune; one daughter, Debra Seyfried of Joshua, Texas; two sons, Michael C. Thomas of St. Joseph, Mo., and Win Thomas of West Lebanon, Ind; two sisters, Pearl Linker of Russellville and Sadie Adlong of Houston, Texas; one brother, Alfred of Russellville, and nine grandchildren.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **MARY HOSEMANN**

Mary Betty Hosemann, 72, of Van Buren died Saturday, September 23, 2000. She was a retired co-owner and operator of the Frontier Belle river boat attraction. She and her husband, Captain John Hosemann, brought the Belle to Van Buren in 1991. Burial was in Rosehill Cemetery in Arkadelphia. She is survived by her husband, one adopted daughter, four sons, two brothers and six grandchildren.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **HUGH HARDIN**

P.H. "Hugh" Hardin, 74, a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, died September 22, 2000. He was a World War II Navy veteran, an attorney, a member of the State Board of Law Examiners, a special justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Oklahoma Regional Education and Promotion Association, an Emeritus Trustee of Westark College, a Mason and a member of the First United Methodist Church of Fort Smith.

He is survived by his wife, Nadine; one son, Davis of Fort Smith; three daughters, Tara Black and Betsy Rayle, both of Atlanta, and Lori Hardin of Fort Smith; one brother, Fred of Vian; and five grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made in the name of P. H. "Hugh" Hardin to First Methodist Church of Fort Smith; Westark College Foundation of Fort Smith; University of Arkansas School of Law, 131 Leflar Law Center, Fayetteville, AR 72701; or a charity of the donor's choice.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **THELMA COUSINS**

Thelma L. Cousins of Fort Smith died October 6, 2000. The widow of Ray C. Cousins, she was retired secretary and treasurer for Kay Chair Co., past president of Children's Service League, founding board member of the Fort Smith Art Center, past board member and officer of the Fort Smith Historical Society, a member of First United Methodist Church and a former school teacher. She is survived by three sons, Duane of Van Buren, Fred of Fort Smith and Jerry of Rogers; three sisters, Dorothy Snearly, Lois Carleton, and Doris Eike; one brother, Harold Dillon; eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church, 200 North 15th, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **REV. RUPERT PIXLEY**

The Rev. Rupert Pixley, 80, a Freewill Baptist minister for 63 years, died October 31, 2000. He pastored the First Freewill Baptist Church in Fort Smith for 44 years, and at the time of his death was pastor of Bethlehem Freewill Baptist Church in Van Buren.

He also was involved in ownership of three local nursing homes, a 32nd degree Mason and member of Belle Point Masonic Lodge.

Survivors include his wife, Gladys Marie Teague Pixley; three daughters, LaBertha Parks, Aletha Ray and Emmetta Hawkins; two sons, Ben and Harlan; a twin brother, the Rev. Gilbert Pixley of Van Buren, two sisters, Belva Dodd and Leah Atwell; 13 grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **ED RAUSER**

Ed Rauser, 83, died December 20, 2000 in Fort Smith. He was a retired engineer for

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, an Army Signal Corps veteran of World War II, a member of telephone pioneers, Belle Point Lodge No. 20, a 33rd degree member of Western Arkansas Scottish Rite Bodies, a member of the First United Methodist Church and a volunteer motorman for the Fort Smith Trolley Museum.

He was survived by his wife, Margaret; one daughter, Kathy Joubert of Maumelle; one son, Jim of Charleston; one sister, Virginia Matteson of Fort Smith; two brothers, John Daniel Rauser of Tulsa and Dorsey Rauser of Van Buren; and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church, 200 No. 15th, Fort Smith, AR 72901, or Masonic Benevolent Association, P.O. Box 24, Fort Smith, AR 72902.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **MARGARET RAUSER**

Margaret K. Rauser, 80, of Fort Smith died December 23, 2000. She was a member of First United Methodist Church and was the widow of Ed Rauser.

She is survived by one daughter, Kathy Joubert of Maumelle; one son, Jim Rauser of Charleston; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church, 200 North 15th St., Fort Smith, AR 72901.

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#### **LURA DUFF ELLISTON**

Lura Duff Elliston, 67, died December 21, 2000. She is survived by three sons, Edward Duff Nowotny, George Edward Nowotny III, and Addison Dance Nowotny; two grandsons and one aunt, Elizabeth Stephens.

A past board member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, she had also served in many capacities for a number of civic organizations and businesses.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Voice of the Retarded, 5005 Newport Drive, Suite 108, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008; Fort Smith Little Theatre Inc., 401 North Sixth Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901; J. E. Duff Scholarship, Texas A&M University, Dept. of Student Aid, College Station, TX 77843.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **KATHLEENE KECK**

Kathleene Isabel Keck, 82, died Nov. 5, 2000. She was a retired music instructor for Westark College, former member of the Fort Smith Symphony, member of the American Guild of

Organists, and the Fort Smith Musical Coterie and taught private lessons in her home. She was a 1934 graduate of Fort Smith High School and a graduate of the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by one brother, Henry Manford Keck II of Fort Smith; a nephew, Ken Wintory of Fort Smith; seven nieces and nephews; 15 great-nieces and nephews, and two great-great-nieces.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Fort Smith Symphony Association, 5111 Rogers Ave., Fort Smith, AR 72903, or donor's choice.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **J. F. KELSEY, M.D.**

J. F. Kelsey, M.D., died Nov. 5, 2000. Dr. Kelsey practiced medicine in Fort Smith with Obstetric and Gynecology Associates from 1953 until retirement in 1986. He was a member and had served on the advisory board of First United Methodist Church, and was a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society. He was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha honorary medical society, was certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, a member and officer in a number of medical associations, and was an Army veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He served on the medical staff of Sparks Regional Medical Center, St. Edward Mercy Medical Center and was an associate clinical professor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

He was on the board of the Mount Magazine Girl Scout Council, adviser and member of the board of review for the Boy Scouts, was an Eagle Scout, served as chairman of the advisory board of the Salvation Army, and was a member of the board of the Sparks Medical Center Foundation.

He is survived by daughters Margo Roberts of Dodge Center, Minn., Ellen Jacobi of Grand Forks, N.D., son Dr. Fred C. Kelsey of USAF of Fairfax, VA, and eight grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Memorial Foundation of First United Methodist Church or the J. F. Kelsey Endowment of the Sparks Hospital Foundation.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **VIRGINIA FORT**

Virginia Schnell Fort, 94, died Nov. 20, 2000. She was retired from Traveler's Aid, was the oldest living member of Goddard United Methodist Church and one of the originators of the Community Rescue Mission. She was a member of the Daughters of the American

Revolution and the board of the Western Arkansas Counseling and Guidance Center and was active with the Children's Service League and Project Compassion.

She is survived by one son, William F. "Bill" Fort of Daly City, Calif.; one grandchild, S. William Fort of San Francisco and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Goddard United Methodist Church Building Fund, Children's Service League, Project Compassion or the Community Rescue Mission.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **HAZEL PRESSON**

Hazel Presson, 89, longtime Fort Smith journalism teacher, historian and novelist, died Nov. 28, 2000 in Starksville, Miss.

Presson authored the Arkansas history textbook that was used by hundreds of thousands of public school children for many years. She also wrote a high school journalism text that was updated repeatedly in new editions and used throughout the United States. She was a mentor and inspiration to young people at Northside High School where she encouraged many of them to pursue careers in journalism.

A lifetime member of the First United Methodist Church of Fort Smith, she authored several novels after retiring from teaching. She also purchased and donated open prairie land near Charleston to the Nature Conservancy.

Presson's body was cremated. Her ashes will be returned to Fort Smith in the Spring, and a local memorial service will be conducted.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **ANN PEARCE**

Ann Pickens Pearce, 83, the widow of Owen C. "Cul" Pearce, died Dec. 1, 2000 in Fort Smith. She was a former co-owner of Pickens Pearce Kindergarten, former director of First United Methodist Church Weekday School, member of First United Methodist Church and a number of organizations.

She is survived by three daughters, Pat Hendricks of Fort Smith, Marcie Scriber of Jonesboro and Mary Stockland of Springdale; one son, Cal of Springdale; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **EVANS Z. HORNBERGER JR., M.D.**

Evans Z. Hornberger Jr., 82, died Dec. 1, 2000

in Fort Smith. He was a Fort Smith physician in private practice from 1950-75, medical director of Sparks Regional Medical Center from 1975 until his retirement in 1986. He graduated from the University of Nebraska College of medicine in 1942, was a member of Alpha Omega Alpha honorary medical fraternity, and the American, Arkansas and County medical Associations.

A veteran of World War II he served with the 16th Armored Division at Fort Chaffee and the 35th Infantry Division in the European Theater, was wounded in action and received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star medals.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Smith, where he served as elder and trustee, was a member and officer in a number of civic and charity organizations, and delivered Meals on Wheels to shut-ins for several years.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Eads Hornberger; one son and daughter-in-law, Robert E. and Pam Hornberger of Fort Smith; a daughter and son-in-law, Ellen and Conrad J. Masterson Jr., of Houston; a granddaughter; three grandsons; two great-grandsons and a brother and sister-in-law, Dr. John and Joan Hornberger of Manning, Iowa.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church or Don Reynolds Cancer Support House.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **CHARLES MCDONALD**

Charles W. McDonald, 77, died Dec. 22, 2000 in Fort Smith. He was a retired sales manager and director of safety with Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Corp., and was a member, elder and trustee of First Presbyterian Church of Fort Smith.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; two daughters, Charlotte Jones and Emily Evans, both of Fort Smith, and one grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church, 116 No. 12th St., Fort Smith, AR 72901.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **VICTOR EUGENE STEWART**

Victor Eugene Stewart, 82, died in Springdale, Jan. 4, 2001. Burial was in Woodlawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Fort Smith under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home. He was an Army veteran of World War II, a retired schoolteacher, school administrator and an educator for 35 years. He taught at Mount Ida, Mansfield, Darby Junior High and Fort Smith High School. He was

principal at Southside High School for 19 years and a member of First United Methodist Church for 44 years.

He is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Vicki and Tommy Smith of Springdale; one son and daughter-in-law, Terry and Nancy Stewart of Plymouth, Minn.; one sister, Louise Varnell of North Little Rock; four granddaughters; and one great-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth Kelley Stewart.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Fort Smith Boys Club, 4905 No. O St., Fort Smith, AR 72904, or the Victor E. Stewart Library at Southside High School, 4100 So. Gary St., Fort Smith, AR 72903.

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#### **BEULAH JETTON**

Beulah Jetton, 88, died Jan. 8, 2001.

She was a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, a retired salesperson for Berry Dry Goods Co. and a member of East Side Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Claude and Grace Jetton; and two sisters, Faye and Rebecca Jetton. She is survived by several cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to Gideons International, P. O. Box 971, Fort Smith, AR 72902.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **HERBERT BROCK**

Herbert E. "Herb" Brock, 72, died Jan. 9, 2001 in Fort Smith. He was a member of Park Hill Church of Christ, served on the board of directors

of Harbor House and Gateway House, was an original trainer and caller for the Old Fort Days Dandies, a member of the Westark Jazz Band, and a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society.

He is survived by two daughters, Suzanne Richmond of Fort Collins, CO., and Sarah Lou Abbagnaro of Wheatridge, CO.; one son, Dr. Steven A. Long of Golden, CO; and two grandchildren, Lucas E. and Alisa S. Richmond. Memorial contributions may be made to Harbor House Inc., 615 No. 19th, Fort Smith, 72901 or Gateway House, 3900 Armour St., Fort Smith, AR 72904.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **NOBIA LEE "PADDLE" BUFFORD**

Nobia Lee "Paddle" Bufford, 79, of Fort Smith died Saturday, February 24, 2001 in Fort Smith. She was a homemaker, a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church, a member of the Quilting Bunch and a retired cook for the Fort Smith Public School System, serving Chaffin Junior High School.

She is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Anita and Jimmie Farra of Jacksonville, Arkansas and Janice and John Eddleman of Hackett; a sister, Marie James of Desha; a brother, Ocial and Willene Jeffrey of Desha; a granddaughter, Andrea and Scott Mason and a great-grandson, Samuel Alexander Mason.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley United Methodist Church, 2200 South Phoenix, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

## *Annual Business Sponsors*

#### **Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce**

612 Garrison • Fort Smith, AR 72901

#### **Belle Point Beverages, Inc.**

1 Belle Point Place • Fort Smith, AR 72901

#### **Spiro State Bank**

Spiro, Oklahoma 74959

#### **Southern Wholesale Inc.**

P.O. Box 10630 • Fort Smith, AR 71917-0630

#### **Coca-Cola Bottling Company**

3600 Phoenix • Fort Smith, AR 72903

#### **Fort Smith Convention and Visitor's Bureau**

2 North B. Street • Fort Smith, AR 72901

#### **City of Fort Smith**

623 Garrison • Fort Smith, AR 72901

#### **Fort Smith Trolley Museum**

100 South 4th Street • Fort Smith, AR 72901

Phone: 501-783-1205 or 501-783-1237

# *Oak Cemetery Resident Implicated In President Lincoln's Assassination*

**By Charles Raney, Assistant Director of Community Services, City of Fort Smith**

**T**here died in Fort Smith, May 8, 1906, age 76, a man who played a prominent part in the war between the states, and who narrowly escaped being executed for the complicity in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, who, although having no knowledge of Wilkes Booth and his plans, was implicated in another and more daring plot against the President. This man was Captain Richard M. Smoot.

The plot in which he was implicated was the kidnapping of President Lincoln, carrying him into Virginia and holding him as hostage to force a treaty of peace that would grant the South her freedom. Captain Smoot had made all of the arrangements for the transferring of the President from his captors in the city of Washington and had the boat ready to receive him. The stopping place on the journey from Washington had all been arranged, as well as the location for hiding the prisoner.

A few days before the assassination of President Lincoln, Captain Smoot went to Washington to complete the arrangements at that end. That the plot was never attempted was due to Mrs. Surratt, one of those executed for the murder of the President. She was known to be a woman through whom all the people of southern

sympathies could be reached, and spies on reaching Washington, were hidden at her home, and meetings arranged between them and their friends in Washington.

When Captain Smoot called on Mrs. Surratt, she would not give him any information, but told him to get out of the city immediately. As he knew she was well informed on the affairs of the city, he took her advice and went to Alexandria, Virginia and put up at a hotel. Early in the morning, he was awakened by cavalry galloping down the street, and asking the reason for the activity, was informed that President Lincoln had been assassinated. Captain Smoot was arrested for complicity in the assassination, but as he was very cautious in unfolding the plot to kidnap President Lincoln, nothing was discovered that would warrant holding him for trial. A lucky man thanks to tight lips and Mrs. Surratt who was not so lucky.

Captain Richard M. Smoot is buried in historical Oak Cemetery next to his wife, Mary E. Smoot, who died January 2, 1904 at age 72. Preservation of Oak Cemetery and its history is vital to Fort Smith and Sebastian County. There are nearly 15,000 stories yet to be told.

**Acknowledgment: Phoebe Parke,  
"Old Folks and Facts"**



# News & Opportunities

## **FORT SMITH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

New address for the Fort Smith Public Library is 3201 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72903

## **FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Fort Smith Historical Society's office moved with the library to the new address:  
3201 Rogers Avenue

**New mailing address is:**  
**Fort Smith Historical Society**  
**P.O. Box 3676**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72913**

PLEASE NOTE  
CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

### **2001 ANNUAL MEETING**

Annual meeting of the  
Fort Smith Historical Society will be:

Thursday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.  
New Public Library  
3201 Rogers Avenue

## **Arkansas Historical Association Annual Meeting**

Annual meeting of the Arkansas Historical Association is April 19 - 21 in Benton, Arkansas. For information contact the Association at: Telephone: 501-575-5884; Fax: (501) 575-2642; email: rhondak@comp.uark.edu

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## **FORT SMITH TROLLEY MUSEUM**



The first five hundred feet of streetcar track extension that is to be built will be on Garrison Avenue. The track now ends at Garrison Avenue beside

the Varsity Grill. The extension will start by curving the track across the sidewalk to the south edge of the avenue and proceed along the parking area to 2nd street. Final plans have been approved for the construction of the Ross Pendergraft Memorial Park on Garrison between 2nd and 3rd streets. A trolley stop and some type of tourist information display is planned at 2nd street. Eventually the track will be extended further west turning north under the Garrison Avenue bridge and stopping at the pavilion on north 2nd and north B streets across the railroad tracks from the Visitors Center and the River Front. The Garrison extension is planned now to coincide with the park construction.

A new direction sign pointing to the Trolley Museum, National Historic Site, Museum of History and the Visitors Center has been placed at Garrison and 4th street. More signs are still needed to direct visitors to Fort Smith's historic attractions.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FORT SMITH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE VISITOR INFORMATION**

### **LOCATION:**

#### **Downtown Fort Smith**

To access site from Garrison Avenue, go south on 4th Street, three blocks to Garland and turn right into the designated parking lot.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Closed New Year's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

### **FACILITIES:**

The fully ADA accessible visitor center is located in the newly restored courthouse/jail building. With the restored courtroom, two jails, and five exhibit areas, and with an expanded bookstore and theater. On the grounds, see the reconstructed gallows, commissary building, and walkways to the fort site with interpretive panels and audio information.

### **WEB SITE:**

[www.nps.gov/fosm](http://www.nps.gov/fosm)

### **PHONE:**

Superintendent Bill Black, (501) 783-3961

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS:  
Fort Smith Museum of History  
320 Rogers Avenue

Fort Smith Trolley Museum  
100 So. 4th Street

Miss Laura's Visitor's Center  
2 No. B Street

**Shifting perspectives --  
a new look at issues and images:**

After the survivors of the government-forced march known as "The Trail of Tears" reached their appointed lands, the military garrison at Fort Smith became the federal overseer of tribal borders and peace between the resettled tribes.

Inside the park, an overlook point on the Arkansas River bank marks the end of the Trail of Tears water route. From here, the relocated tribes moved into the Indian Nations.

After the largest removal in 1839-40, the federal troops at Fort Smith were charged with guarding the tribal boundaries from white settlement, barring the sale of liquor to Indians, and apprehending white lawbreakers. The Nations were each policed with their own lawmen and tribal courts, but had no jurisdiction over whites.

Judge Parker's docket from 1875 to 1896 was packed with criminals who used the territories as an escape from U.S. lawmen, and victimized the Nations' legitimate citizens by theft, whiskey peddling, murder, and violence.

Parker's court served to protect the Indian Nations' sovereignty and safety, though many government officials who dealt with the people pushed unwillingly into Oklahoma deepened their misery. Parker's administration is recognized in the exhibit for its fair dealing.

Judge Parker's significant role as the only federal steward of justice for the Indian Nations is emphasized more strongly than his sensational image as "The Hangin' Judge." The north exhibit hall contains an accurate representation of his courtroom. His judicial procedures, including the mandatory sentencing of murderers and rapists to capital punishment, are detailed in the exhibits and courtroom replica.

**NEWS CHRONOLOGY**  
**July 5, 2000 - January 15, 2001**  
**(Abstracted from Fort Smith Time Record**  
**and Chamber of Commerce newsletter)**  
**by Becky and J. P. Chancey**

**JULY**

5th – Westark College requests survey to learn what kind of institution the community wants it to be.

\*\*\*\*\*

10th – Art Quest, a private group of volunteers, is working with the City of Fort Smith to place art in the new civic center.

\*\*\*\*\*

23rd – Fort Smith Times Record nets 11 awards at the annual convention of the Arkansas Press Association held in Hot Springs. Editor Jack Moseley took first place honors in both serious and humorous column writing among the larger newspapers in the state. Community service honors went to reporter Amy Sherrell. Reporter John Anderson and photographer Carey S. Krasko also received awards.



**AUGUST**

2nd – Clinic Founders Memorialized. Framed Portraits of Drs. Charles Holt and Fred Krock were unveiled in a ceremony in the lobby of Sparks Medical Plaza, the Dodson Avenue site of the former Holt-Krock Clinic.

\*\*\*\*\*

16th – The Honorable Anne Woods Patterson made history here this week when Judge Robert Dawson swore her in as U.S. Ambassador Extraordinary to Colombia. The event marked the first time an American ambassador to a foreign nation ever has taken the oath inside this state's borders.

\*\*\*\*\*

17th – Architect Gordon Guest described his plans for a new park at 200 Garrison Avenue to Donnie Pendergraft, Charles Raney, director of parks recreation, and Mayor Ray Baker. Pendergraft gave a check in the amount of \$500,000.00 to Mayor Baker to memorialize her husband, Ross Pendergraft.

\*\*\*\*\*

19th – Award winning vocalist, Sandi Patty, performs at the Grand Avenue Baptist Church, in Fort Smith.

\*\*\*\*\*

21st – Peter, Paul and Mary perform in front of a crowd of thousands on the Westark Campus green.

\*\*\*\*\*

23rd – Construction of a final phase of widening for Fort Smith's Old Greenwood Road got the nod August 22nd, with the city committing to 6.69 million dollars for the 1.24 mile project. The widening will be 5 lanes at the Rogers Avenue and South S Street intersection, and four lanes in between. The project extends from Country Club Avenue north to Rogers Avenue and will complete a widening from Phoenix Avenue north to Rogers Avenue.

\*\*\*\*\*

24th – PUT A LID ON IT. Construction workers place a ceremonial top on a rotunda of the Fort Smith Convention Center during a Topping Out Ceremony. The \$30 million renovation and expansion of the Convention Center is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

\*\*\*\*\*

29th – Fort Smith Airport lands jet service. American Eagle will introduce nonstop regional jet service between Fort Smith and Dallas/Fort Worth Airport October 5.

\*\*\*\*\*

30th – Fort Smith students ACT scores above average.

\*\*\*\*\*

31st – Fort Smith reaches 108 degree, high temperature for the summer.



## SEPTEMBER

1st – City National Bank name changes to Bancorp South.

\*\*\*\*\*

8th – Sen. Joseph Lieberman, Democratic candidate for Vice President speaks to crowd of supporters at Fort Smith Regional Airport.

\*\*\*\*\*

9th – A federal grant with the promise of matching state funds will enable the first stages of water and sewer system improvements on surplus Fort Chaffee land, according to Trust Executive Director Phil Reeves.

\*\*\*\*\*

12th – U of A announces that gymnastics would be the 11th sport added to the Lady Razorbacks program.

\*\*\*\*\*

13th – Formal ground breaking for the 80,766 square foot convocation center on the Westark College campus at the site on the southeast corner of Waldron & Kinkead.

\*\*\*\*\*

18th – Donald W. Reynolds cancer support house opens. Supporters of the facility, which is reported to be the only one of its kind in the nation, were out in full force.

\*\*\*\*\*

22nd – Arkansas-Oklahoma State Fair runs through September 30 at Kay Rodgers Park.

\*\*\*\*\*

23rd – 188th first upgraded F-16 flies in.

\*\*\*\*\*

27th – Chad Colley took part in the Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority Chad Colley Boulevard dedication. Colley, a Vietnam veteran, has a long list of accomplishments, including Disabled Veteran of the Year in 1970, Handicapped American of the Year in 1988 and was elected as commander of the 900,000 Disabled American Veterans in 1985. Colley also won gold medals in the Downhill and SuperG races, held in Albertville, France, in 1992 and is an accomplished pilot.

\*\*\*\*\*

27th – New breed of disease free American Elm trees were planted at Fort Smith National Historic Site.

\*\*\*\*\*

27th – Southside High School was presented the Excellence in Education flag, one of 198 schools in the US to receive the National Blue Ribbon Award in 2000. Southside is one of 22 schools that have received the award three times.

\*\*\*\*\*

30th – VA Medical Clinic opens doors in Fort Smith. A primary care clinic operating in 9000 square feet rented from Sparks Medical Plaza will provide better care and more care for veterans.



## OCTOBER

1st – Almost 2000 students in Fort Smith Public Schools speak a language other than English in their homes. Educators say it takes five to seven years to be proficient in English.

\*\*\*\*\*

2nd – Formal dedication for Baldor Technology Center at Westark College will be at 1 PM October 6th near flagpoles on the Donald W.

Reynolds Campus Green. A special event will feature The Oak Ridge Boys at 7:30 PM.

\*\*\*\*\*

3rd – Dancin Don's opens doors. A Fort Smith businessman re-opened a historic Garrison Avenue water hole, Old Town Grain & Feed.

\*\*\*\*\*

5th – Fort Smith elementary students tag monarch butterflies for migration study at the University of Kansas.

\*\*\*\*\*

6th – Date set for volunteers to pull up historic bricks. Belle Grove Historical District volunteers will be pulling up old bricks in the first 50 feet of 500 block of North Seventh Street, October 21st giving the city the opportunity to pack down the foundation before the volunteers replace the bricks in the street.

\*\*\*\*\*

12th – Rotary Club honors First National Bank. The Fort Smith bank was named corporate citizen of the year.

\*\*\*\*\*

26th – Wayne Bledsoe of Fort Smith recently received the Parker Westbrook Award, the highest Arkansas award in the field of historical preservation. Bledsoe is coordinator of the Fort Smith Historic District Commission, which oversees the Belle Grove Historic District.



## NOVEMBER

2nd – Ground breaking for the 2.6 million-dollar exhibition building at Kay Rodgers Park. The 43,400 square foot construction project will include administrative offices, 2 large public restrooms, a serving kitchen for large banquets, 3 separate meeting rooms to accommodate 50 people. Also included will be a 25,000 square foot exhibit/banquet hall, and a large exhibit area for antique wagons, buggies and other pieces from the Days of 49 Building.

\*\*\*\*\*

5th – New bakery set to open. Owner George Harris brings European style foods to Fort Smith.

\*\*\*\*\*

8th – Sebastian County voters reject Amendment 5, which if approved would have placed a gambling casino in Sebastian County and five other counties across the state.

\*\*\*\*\*

8th – Former Fort Smith resident Ruth Whitaker wins Arkansas State Senate District 27 seat.

\*\*\*\*\*

12th – Times Record welcomes new business editor, Michael Tilley.

\*\*\*\*\*

14th – Postal rate commission raises stamp one penny. First class stamp will rise to 34 cents in January.

\*\*\*\*\*

16th – Army signed over almost 4,000 acres of Fort Chaffee to local community leaders November 15th in Washington. Linda Schmidt, chairwoman of the Fort Chaffee Public Trust, signed the deed.

\*\*\*\*\*

16th – St. Edward Mercy Medical Center Auxiliary will again host it's Starlight Holiday Spectacular December 1 at The Oaks. Money raised will support the mobile mammogram van, which provides mammograms for low-income women in Fort Smith.

\*\*\*\*\*

17th – Lynda Fulmer, Sunnymede Elementary School Principal, was selected Western Arkansas Elementary School Principal of the Year by Arkansas Association of Elementary School Principals.

\*\*\*\*\*

17th – Bruce Vick, Kimmons Junior High School social studies teacher, was selected as Butler Economic Education Fellow by the University of Arkansas. Vick will help develop curricula on Arkansas history.

\*\*\*\*\*

17th – The Westark College Board of Trustees approved a merger agreement that will allow the college to join the University of Arkansas system.

\*\*\*\*\*

18th – Fort Smith Ministerial Alliance will assist the Community Rescue Mission. Members will cut plywood and assemble 24 beds for the missions new dormitory.

\*\*\*\*\*

21st – Dr. John D. Hoffman is selected as new President and CEO of St. Edward Mercy Medical Center. He is the first doctor to hold the hospital's top position.

\*\*\*\*\*

24th – Madrigal Dinner planned December 8 and 9 by Southside High School Choir members. The 16th annual dinner will take place in the schools auditorium.

\*\*\*\*\*

25th – The City of Fort Smith will move its Christmas activities to Creekmore Park. The park's miniature train, carolers, a dinosaur named Rex and more than 60 trees will be featured. The train will pass through a 100 foot "tunnel of lights", candy land village, and an animal kingdom.

\*\*\*\*\*

25th – One Eighty Youth Center to open January 14, 2001 at intersection of US 71 South and Interstate 540.

\*\*\*\*\*

26th – Taliano's celebrates 30 years. Restaurant owners, Tom Calderera and Jim Cadelli, first opened their doors November 25, 1970.

\*\*\*\*\*

29th – Airport terminal design approved. Members of Fort Smith Airport Commission approved the general design for a new terminal scheduled for completion in 2002.



## DECEMBER

1st – Westark students can register online. More than 1000 students have signed up for spring classes. Campus pipeline also gives students access to e-mail accounts and campus announcements, as well as other information.

\*\*\*\*\*

3rd – Charity could benefit from Chaffee demolition. A plan in works would enable the non-profit Habitat for Humanity organization to dismantle the barracks and resell the wood, windows and building extras. The abandoned barracks at Fort Chaffee were built from some of the finest timber in the country.

\*\*\*\*\*

3rd – Fort Smith Christmas parade set for Garrison Avenue, December 9th at 6:30 PM.

\*\*\*\*\*

4th – Parker Elementary will be closed as a school and converted to a parent/teacher conference center at end of this school year.

\*\*\*\*\*

4th – Hogs accept bid to Las Vegas Bowl, December 21st. Will play Nevada – Las Vegas.

\*\*\*\*\*

5th – Following Christmas Parade, December 9, Santa will make a stop at Fort Smith Museum of History for its open house featuring a portion of the thousand plus doll collection of the late Ella Tilles Falk. Falk was known by her friends and

family as a doll aficionado. The Salvation Army's Annual Festival of Dolls will be on display.

\*\*\*\*\*

5th – Home Depot to open in Fort Smith in May 2001.

\*\*\*\*\*

5th – Fort Smith sales tax receipts, a generally accepted barometer of retail activity, jumped ahead in October, according to figures provided by the city.

\*\*\*\*\*

6th – Mayor Ray Baker presented Fort Smith Good Neighbor of the Year Award to Gladys and Dr. Prentiss Ware, December 5, during the Fort Smith Pride appreciation luncheon at Talianos' restaurant.

\*\*\*\*\*

7th – Fort Smith Civic Center expansion is scheduled to open in January 2001.

\*\*\*\*\*

7th – Dr. Jay Johnson of Fort Smith was among 20 Arkansans appointed to state boards and commissions by Gov. Mike Huckabee. Johnson is director of audiology at Cooper Clinic.

\*\*\*\*\*

8th – "The Nut Cracker" returns. The Western Arkansas Ballet Co will stage "The Nut Cracker" in Breedlove Auditorium at Westark College, December 15-17.

\*\*\*\*\*

8th – Sparks Regional Medical Center will have a children's memorial ceremony at 6:45 in the Shuffield Education Center, December 9th.

\*\*\*\*\*

8th – Fort Smith Library closes main branch, December 7th, ending a 30-year run of service. The new 67,000 square foot library, located at Rogers Avenue and Free Ferry, will be open to patrons in approximately six weeks.

\*\*\*\*\*

9th – The Clayton House Christmas Open House "Victorian Christmas Celebration" will be held December 10.

\*\*\*\*\*

11th – Fort Smith convention Center to open for Mayor Baker's New Year's Eve gala. The building will not be 100 percent done at that time. The New Year's eve celebration will use the front 10,000 square feet of the center's exhibition hall.

\*\*\*\*\*

12th – Natural gas prices surge—Cold spell sends prices to record highs.

\*\*\*\*\*

14th – A winter storm passing through Fort Smith area brought with it freezing rain, sleet, snow and more than a few headaches.

\*\*\*\*\*

15th – The United Blood Services of Fort Smith in need of donors. Due to inclement weather, a number of blood drives were cancelled and supplies have grown dangerously low according to Daren Bobb, director of community services for United Blood Services.

\*\*\*\*\*

15th – Gaye McClure, Ramsey Junior High Choral director, received the Junior High School Choral Director of the Year Award for the West Central Region.

\*\*\*\*\*

16th – Voters to decide on merger. With both the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees and the Westark College Board of Trustees supporting it, a merger between Westark and the University of Arkansas System is now left to the state Legislature and the citizens of Sebastian County.

\*\*\*\*\*

17th – Musicians sought to play taps. Ellig-Stoufer American Legion Post No. 31 is seeking people to perform taps at area cemeteries for veteran burial ceremonies.

\*\*\*\*\*

18th – Fort Smith Grad Named Rhodes Scholar. Anna Terry, a 1996 graduate of Southside High School, and now University of Arkansas student, is among 32 chosen.

\*\*\*\*\*

20th – City accepts Donrey's building donation. Donrey Media Group donated the four stories, 14,000 square foot building at 920 Rogers Avenue, as well as a 28,000 square foot parking lot at South 10th and Carnall to the City of Fort Smith.

\*\*\*\*\*

28th – A winter storm dumped 3" of ice on Fort Smith December 25th and 26th, causing 62,000 residents in the Arkansas River Valley to be without electric power.

\*\*\*\*\*

28th – For the first time in its nearly 118 years, the Times Record Press did not publish on December 27th, this due to the ice storm and area road conditions.

\*\*\*\*\*

30th – 31,500 customers are still without electric power.

## JANUARY

1st – Snow covers area. Second storm in a week adds insult to injury.

\*\*\*\*\*

1st – U.S. Census numbers to be released this spring likely will verify what demographic experts have been saying for years; Arkansas has one of the fastest growing Hispanic populations in the nation.

\*\*\*\*\*

2nd – Thousands remain in dark.

\*\*\*\*\*

2nd – Eight take holiday dive. New Year's Day swim in Frog Bayou creek is a growing tradition. Arkansas Polar Bear Society has been having New Year's Day swim parties at the creek in Rudy since 1999.

\*\*\*\*\*

4th – Eagle watch tours slated in January. Many of Arkansas lakes and state parks conduct special eagle watch programs and tours during winter months. Activities are scheduled at Lake Ouachita State Park, Beaver Lake, and Holla Bend National Wildlife refuge near Dardanelle.

\*\*\*\*\*

5th – Ham operators prove vital during ice storm.

\*\*\*\*\*

5th – Storm boosts hotel industry as area residents sought refuge from icy roads and power outages.

\*\*\*\*\*

9th – FEMA officials visit area. Disaster recovery centers to open in local area towns.

\*\*\*\*\*

10th – Fort Smith River Park project is expected to be completed February 15th.

\*\*\*\*\*

13th – Mom's Day of Prayer slated for January 20 at Evangle Temple Assembly of God. The annual event is the result of the work by Kathy Coleman, of Fort Smith. Coleman, the mother of two, envisioned the annual day of prayer that would take place at a different church each year.

\*\*\*\*\*

15th – The national teacher shortage is making it's way into the region as local districts report critical shortages in the areas of secondary math and science, foreign language and counselor education. Tougher certification requirements and pay concerns contribute to the problem, education official says.

# Genealogy News

## **Researching the Criminal Case Files for Fort Smith, Arkansas, 1860-1896**

If you know of an individual who lived in Fort Smith, walked through it, breathed near it, or lived in nearby Indian Territory you should take a gander at the index to the criminal cases for Fort Smith and keep an open mind

Step (1) You can access the index at the Southwest Region or via NARA Archival Information Location (a.k.a. NAIL) at the web address: [www.nara.gov](http://www.nara.gov).

Step (2) Note the exact spelling of the individual's name, the jacket number, and any name listed in the *et al* column

Step (3) You may request the case papers in person, via the mail, or send a representative. If you are visiting the Southwest Region, please make a reservation to view these records. If you are mailing the request, please note that the minimum mail order is \$10.00 per jacket. The easiest way to request the Fort Smith jackets is to print the jacket information from the NAIL. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the National Archives Trust Fund. If you want to pay by Mastercard, Visa, Discover, or American Express, please provide the credit card number and expiration date. The mailing address is: National Archives Southwest Region, P.O. Box 6216, Fort Worth, TX, 76115.

### **Want More Information?**

Step (1) Try the Common Law Record Books – on microfilm publication 7RA-77 and 7RA-117. These books contain orders issued in law, civil, and criminal proceedings heard in the Fort Smith court. The volumes also contain the texts of orders admitting attorneys to practice before the court, appointing court officials, and approving financial accounts of court officials. Each volume contains an index to plaintiffs or to defendants if the United States was the plaintiff as in criminal cases.

Step (2) Try the Sentence Record Books, 1884-1909 – on microfilm publication 7RA-52.

There are two parts to these books: 1) the index and 2) the record books. The index contains the name of the defendant, nature of the criminal offense, conviction or acquittal (date, length of sentence, and a reference to a volume and page number in the common law record books for the period of 1866-1884 or the sentence record books for the period of 1884-1890. The sentence record book contains information on persons sentenced by the Fort Smith court to confinement in the U.S. jail at Fort Smith; state and county penitentiaries in Arkansas, Illinois, Michigan, New York, and Ohio; reform schools in the District of Columbia and Maryland and the U.S. penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Each entry contains the name of the defendant, indictment or case number, nature of the offense, place of confinement, length of the confinement, and amount of fine, and the sentencing date. The National Archives – Central Plains Region has records relating to prisoners at Fort Leavenworth. The Burton Collection, Detroit Public Library has records, including inmate registers and physicians reports from the Detroit penitentiary.

Step (3) Try the Transcripts of Testimony – **they only cover 1889-1899**. Until 1889, cases heard in the federal courts of the Western District of Arkansas could not be appealed to an appellate court. These records, arranged alphabetically, are unbound transcripts of testimony given in criminal proceedings which were appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. A list of defendants to whom the transcripts relate is given in appendix B of the preliminary inventory of the U.S. Federal Court in Arkansas (Record Group 21).

Step (4) Criminal records generally do not contain biographical information, such as age, birthdates, addresses, or information about spouses, parents, or children. The criminal case files resulted from someone being charged with a violation of a criminal law. Records within each case vary as to content. If a defendant was not located, the file may contain only a few pages.

## Can't Find Them Listed in the Index?

Step (1) Try the Common Law Record Books – on microfilm publication 7RA-77 and 7RA-117. These books contain orders issued in law, civil, and criminal proceedings heard in the Fort Smith court. The volumes also contain the texts of orders admitting attorneys to practice before the court, appointing court officials, and approving financial accounts of court officials. Each volume contains an index to plaintiffs or defendants if the United States was the plaintiff as in criminal cases.

Step (2) Make sure the individuals you are researching were indeed in the western portion of Arkansas or Indian Territory.

Step (3) Try the various court records in Indian Territory (no criminal case files from the Southern District (Ardmore) have been located). The Southwest Region has records pertaining to Federal Court in Indian Territory. The Oklahoma Historical Society has records relating to those individuals who were tried in tribal courts. The U.S. District Court, Paris, Texas, also had jurisdiction over southern portions of the Indian Territory, but the Paris federal court and all of its records were destroyed in a 1916 fire.

Step (4) Try newspapers, manuscripts, etc. in other repositories. Or perhaps your individual just did not get caught.

### Other Sources:

Oklahoma Historical Society  
Archives Division  
2100 North Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Western History Collection  
630 Perryington Oval  
University of Oklahoma  
Norman, OK 73019

Fort Smith National Historic Site  
National Parks Service  
P.O. Box 1406  
Fort Smith, AR 72902

Arkansas History Commission  
One Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201

## FORT SMITH COMMON LAW RECORD BOOKS

The volumes, which are similar to minute books, record the court's daily activities. Entries within the volume are arranged chronologically by court date. The common law record books have been reproduced as microfilm 7RA77 or 7RA117. Duplicate copies of the microfilm may be purchased for \$15 per roll. Please make the check or money order payable to National Archives Trust Fund. Visa, Mastercard, Discover, and American Express cards are also accepted, provided that the requester provides the card number and expiration date. BE SURE to indicate what 7RA number and roll number is being requested.

### 7RA77

### Common Law Record Books- U.S. District Court

1	December 1855-December 1860
2	August 1865-January 1872
3	January 1872-November 1874
4	November 1874-July 1876
5	July 1876-February 1878
6	February 1878-May 1879
7	June 1879-June 1880
8	June 1880-April 1881
9	April 1881-February 1882
10	February 1882-December 1882
11	December 1882-July 1883
12	November 1883-November 1884
13	November 1884-November 1885
14	November 1885-December 1886
15	December 1886-March 1888
16	March 1888-June 1889
17	June 1889-October 1890
18	March 1891-July 1892
19	July 1892-June 1893,
20	June 1893-September 1894
20A	September 1894-August 1895
20B	August 1895-December 1896
20C	December 1896-February 1900
20D	February 1900-February 1906
20E	February 1906-June 1909
21	June 1906-March 1910

### 7RA117

### Common Law Record Books- U. S. Circuit Court

1	May 1889-November 1893
2	November 1893-October 1897
3	October 1897-June 1907
4	June 1907-December 1911

# Inquiries

Inquiries are printed free as space allows, but must have some connection to Fort Smith or be submitted by a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society. Remember, effective inquiries must contain full name, dates, places and submitter's name and address.

## SCOTT

Need obituary or other information on Thomas G. Scott, a lawyer and postmaster in Fort Smith and a former resident of Minnesota. A death notice in the St. Peter Tribune, St. Peter, Minnesota said he died on 30 July 1877. He served in the 2nd Minnesota Infantry, Company E. Was discharged from army July 16, 1865. — Roger Norland, 1600 Nottingham Drive, North Mankato, MN 56003.

## CALDWELL

Looking for burial place of George Washington Caldwell who died ca. 1908 - 1910. His last known residence was Van Buren, Arkansas and his last child, Charlie Caldwell, was born in 1908. In the 1910 census his widow was head of the house-

hold. A marriage license dated 1910 for her marriage to a boarder who had been living in her home in the 1910 census said she was living in Barling, Arkansas. The family tales are that G. W. Caldwell was killed by the Feds in Fort Smith or Van Buren. — Mrs. Anne Armour, 512 West 20th St., Bartlesville, OK 74003.

## HODGES

Searching for information on William T. Hodges (middle name may be Thomas or Taylor), died 11 December 1862 in Fort Smith, Ark. Served in 37th Arkansas Infantry, Co. I, in Civil War. Wife, Martha (Lusby). — Patricia Stanley, 223 South Cass Ave., Westmont, IL 60559-1929.

## KELLAR/KELLER

Need help with Kellar/Keller family history. Ollie (Kellar) married (James) Elmer Gay and lived in Fort Smith. One family member was Fannie (Kellar) Downey who died June 10, 1926 — Lou Orr, 1610 N.E. 192nd St., Shoreline WA 98155-2334.

## Location of Cemeteries in Sebastian County, Arkansas

Arbuckle Cemetery	Mulberry	Hill Cemetery	Lavaca	Oak Cemetery	South Fort Smith
Barling Cemetery	Barling	Holy Cross Cemetery	Van Buren	Oak Valley Cemetery	Lavaca
Begum Cemetery	Hartford	Huntington Cemetery	Huntington	Old Hickory Cemetery	Hackett
Bell Cemetery	Barber	Inolan Cemetery	Lavaca	Old Union Cemetery	Hackett
Bethel Cemetery	Abbott	Island Cemetery	Alma	Pleasant Hill Cemetery	Greenwood
Buggy Hill Cemetery	Huntington	James Fork Cemetery	Huntington	Pleasant Ridge Cemetery	Barber
Bull Cemetery	Abbott	Jones Cemetery	Lavaca	Pleasant Valley Cemetery	Hartford
Calvary Cemetery	Fort Smith	Killings Cemetery	Charleston	Ramsey Cemetery	Greenwood
Carnis Auburn Road Cemetery	Lavaca	Laura A. Nolan Cemetery	Barling	Red Oak Cemetery	Lavaca
Carruth Cemetery	Charleston	Lewis Cemetery	Abbott	Red Yard Cemetery	Hartford
Carter Cemetery	Charleston	Liberty Cemetery	Burnville	Rose Lawn Cemetery	Van Buren
Center Valley Cemetery	Lavaca	Lone Star Cemetery	Burnville	Saint Marys Cemetery	Barling
Cherokee Cemetery	Huntington	Lovelace Cemetery	Greenwood	Speegle Cemetery	Lavaca
Clark Cemetery	Hartford	Mannuis Cemetery	Barber	Steep Hill Cemetery	Barling
Clarkeen Cemetery	Greenwood	Marietta Cemetery	Lavaca	Stone Cemetery	Burnville
Dake Cemetery	Huntington	Mayberry Cemetery	Lavaca	Stroud Cemetery	Greenwood
Dawson Memorial Cemetery	Burnville	McAllister Cemetery	Barling	Union Ridge Cemetery	Abbott
Doubleday Cemetery	Greenwood	McConnel Cemetery	Burnville	Vaenita Cemetery	Hackett
Douglass Cemetery	Greenwood	McCoy Cemetery	Barling	Valley View Cemetery	Greenwood
Forest Park Cemetery	Van Buren	Measles Memorial Cemetery	Lavaca	Ward Cemetery	Lavaca
Fort Smith National Cemetery	Fort Smith	Memorial Cemetery	Huntington	Washburn Cemetery	Barber
Gentry Cemetery	Greenwood	Morris Cemetery	Lavaca	Washington Cemetery	Van Buren
Gilliam Cemetery	Greenwood	Morrow Cemetery	Charleston	White Bluff Cemetery	South Fort Smith
Greenwood Cemetery	Burnville	Mount Olive Cemetery	Huntington	William Teague Cemetery	Lavaca
Hartford Memorial Cemetery	Huntington	Mount View Cemetery	Hackett	Wisely Cemetery	Barling
Hepschy Cemetery	Mulberry	Mount Zineche Cemetery	Greenwood		
Hickory Ridge Cemetery	Charleston	Newlon Cemetery	Fort Smith		

# Book Notes . . .

*Review copies of books are placed in the Genealogy Room of the Fort Smith Public Library as a gift from the author and the Fort Smith Historical Society.*

**ELECTRIC PARK, FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS SUMMER RESORT AND AMUSEMENT PARK**, compiled and published by Stan Kujawa. 136 pages, spiral bound, indexed.

Contains more than 125 photographs and other illustrations. Price \$26.00 plus \$4.00 priority mail shipping and handling. Available at Fort Smith Museums or order directly from Camelot Consulting, P.O. Box 11013, Fort Smith, AR 72917-1013.

In this book Stan Kujawa has collected and preserved the history of Electric Park, which was the finest attraction in western Arkansas between 1905 and 1920.

From a giant roller coaster to a 2,200 seat auditorium – that's more seats than in the remodeled Fort Smith Civic Center – to beautiful gardens, an outdoor concert band shell, restaurant, shooting gallery, penny arcade, riding stables and more, this was a place for fun,

dancing, music and entertainment. Fort Smith Light & Traction Company, which built, owned and operated the park, kept a full time orchestra and sponsored its own baseball team, The Trolley Dodgers. The best vaudeville acts in the country played Electric Park, and the latest silent movies were shown there first. League Park, adjacent to Electric Park, in addition to being a baseball field, was a favorite take-off and landing field for early aviators and barnstorming aerial acrobats. The first "aeroplane" flight in western Arkansas took place there May 21, 1910.

Kujawa says history doesn't preserve itself, and he spent months researching Electric Park, finding old photographs and establishing a time line of events that took place there. His sources included files of the Fort Smith newspapers, the University of Arkansas files at Fayetteville, the Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society, rare picture postcard collections and many other records of this city's past.

Kujawa is also in the process of producing a second historical volume. This one will be dedicated to Garrison Avenue, will contain more than 300 photographs and more than 8,000 listings of businesses along the street, who owned and operated those businesses, where they were located, what goods and services they provided, etc. Expected publication date will be around the end of 2001.

**HAND-BOOK OF FORT SMITH AND SEBASTIAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS**, published in 1887 by the C. S. Burch Publishing Company, and reprinted by Darrell Goins in 2000. Paperback. Price \$15.00 postpaid. Order from Darrell Goins, 312 North 17th Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

This is an exact reprint of this out of print book which is a valuable illustrated history of Fort Smith and Sebastian County industry, businesses, residents, homes, etc. in 1887. The collection of pictures of buildings and people of this area are not available anywhere else. The few copies of the original printing that have survived are too fragile to be handled for research. This reprint on acid free glossy paper preserves this

## MEMORIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE GIFTS IMPORTANT TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**When making a gift to honor or remember someone important to you, please remember the Fort Smith Historical Society. Gifts may be made in memory of a loved one, or in honor of a birthday, graduation, anniversary, or other event. Memorial gifts are acknowledged with a letter to both the donor and the family of the person honored. Gifts may be made in any amount.**

rare publication and makes it available to the public again.

**BLACK SLAVES AND EARLY FREEDMEN OF HEMPSTEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS, 1819-1850.** 8 1/2 x 11, perfect bound, 151 pages, indexed, price \$20.00 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling. order from Linda McDowell, 14617 Sara Drive, Little Rock, AR 72206.

*Black Slaves and Early Freedmen of Hempstead County, Arkansas: 1829-1850* is a compilation of slave transactions abstracted and transcribed from Hempstead County deed records. Hempstead County was established in 1818 and is one of the oldest counties in Arkansas. It once supported a fairly large slave population which included four sets of the author's great-great grandparents. The compilation consists of ten (10) county deed books with over 1300 names of slaves and free people of color.

This book will prove to be a great resource for genealogists tracing their family roots in this southwest part of the state. It also contains a variety of transactions that originated in other southern counties and states recorded in Hempstead for various reasons.

Linda McDowell is the Genealogy coordinator for the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Central Arkansas Library in Little Rock, Arkansas; and a charter member and officer of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Arkansas Chapter.

**DESCENDANTS OF BARTHOLOMEW STOVALL (1655 - 1722),** First Five American Generations, compiled by Donald E. Bishop and published by the Stovall Family Association, Inc. in 1999. 396 pages, paper bound. For ordering information contact Donald E. Bishop, 21 Flem Phillips Road, Laurel, MS 39443-9142. Phone (601)763-8197.

**LIFE AND TIMES OF THE CHOCTAW ORIGINAL ENROLLEES** by Charleen Samuels. The price has been reduced to \$30.00 plus \$5.00 for postage and handling. Order from Samuels Books, 1704 Redbud Lane, McAlester, OK 74501.

**BALLEW FAMILY JOURNAL** is a publication of The Ballew Family Association of America Inc. The Journal is published annually and distributed to members of the Ballew Family Association and to interested genealogy associations and

libraries. For information on the Ballew Family Association or the Ballew Family Journal, write to the Association at P.O. Box 450684, Atlanta, GA 31145 or visit the Association web site at [www.ballewassn.org](http://www.ballewassn.org).

## LET'S GO FISHING!

*(From the White House Cookbook, The Werner Company, 1894. Courtesy of Donna Skaggs Sharp. Contributed by Sarah Fitzjarrald)*

In selecting fish, choose only those in which the eye is full and prominent, the flesh thick and firm, the scales bright and fins stiff. They should be thoroughly cleaned before cooking.

The usual modes of cooking fish are boiled, baked, fried and occasionally stewed. Steaming fish is much superior to boiling, but the ordinary conveniences in private houses do not admit of the possibility of enjoying this delicate way of cooking it. Large fish are generally boiled, medium sized ones baked or broiled, the smaller kinds fried or broiled. Very large fish, such as cod, halibut, etc., are cut into steaks or slices for frying or broiling.

The heads of some fish, as the cod, halibut, etc., are considered tidbits by many. Small fish, or pan fish, as they are usually called, are served without the heads, with the exception of brook-trout and smelts; these are usually cooked whole with the heads on. Bake fish slowly, basting often with butter and water. Salmon is considered the most nutritious of all fish. When boiling fish, by adding a little vinegar and salt to the water, it seasons and prevents the nutriment from being drawn out, the vinegar acting on the water hardens the water.

Fill the fish with a nicely prepared stuffing of rolled cracker or stale bread crumbs, seasoned with butter, pepper and salt, sage and any other aromatic herbs fancied; sew up, wrap in a well-floured cloth, tie closely with twine, and boil or steam. The garnishes for boiled fish, turbot, fried smelts or other boiled fish are parsley, sage, sliced beets, lemon or sliced boiled egg.

# 1900 Newspapers

## DAILY NEWS RECORD

January 3, 1900 - March 29, 1900

(Abstracted from microfilm at the

Fort Smith Public Library

by Mary Lou Jacobsen and Dorothy Doville)

January 3, 1900

### FORT SMITH BUSINESS DIRECTORY

When you want to buy, look over here and see who keeps it.

\*\*\*\*\*

TAILORING, A. H. Morrow – Gives the best fits in town. Pants \$3.50 up, suits \$12.00. Drop in at Pape's book store and look at my samples.

\*\*\*\*\*

FURNITURE REPAIRING, H. Greve – 611 No. A St. Furniture repaired, cleaned and refinished. All kinds of cabinet work. Satisfaction guaranteed.

\*\*\*\*\*

RIVER TRANSPORTATION. The Myrtle B. leaves the wharf at the foot of Garrison avenue every Wednesday morning for Webbers Falls and way points, Capt. Blakely.

\*\*\*\*\*

Veterinary Surgeons. Dr. Kraft - Veterinary Surgeons, Office at Schulte's stables. Residence on Park Avenue. Careful attention paid to diseases of horses and other stock.

\*\*\*\*\*

IT'S GOING UP – You cannot expect it to do otherwise with cold and freezing mornings and blizzard nights ahead. We still offer a fine grade of Jenny Lind and Paris coal at prices that are right. Better see that your winter supply of coal is in your cellar instead of at our yards.

\*\*\*\*\*

J. B. Williams, President - Will J. Echols, V. President – C. S. Smart, Cashier.

### MERCHANTS' BANK

Capital \$100,000.00

Surplus 300,000.00

Undivided Profits 68,000.00

Directors: Will J. Echols, Ira D. Oglesby, J.B. Williams, P. R. Davis, W. A. May, W. J. Murphy, C. E. Speer, John Schaap, Josiah Foster, Fort Smith, Ark.

\*\*\*\*\*

Personal: Mrs. Hall of St. Louis, arrived on the Cannon Ball this morning and will spend a few days visiting her sister, Mrs. W. J. Murphy, on North Thirteenth street.

\*\*\*\*\*

Miss Lola Boyce and Mrs. Bessie Cotton, of Dardanelle, Ark. are visiting Mrs. Charles Goodman at her home on North Fourteenth street.

\*\*\*\*\*

### POINTED PARAGRAPHS

The surest way to catch a husband is not to try. A man usually finds it a hard job to get a soft one.

All men are equal, but the majority of them find it easier to slide than to climb.

— • —

January 4, 1900

Dr. E. H. Stevenson has returned from a visit to the bedside of his father (Willis M. Stevenson) at Bolton, Tenn., who was some better when the doctor left yesterday.

\*\*\*\*\*

Miss Ora Moore, one of the little belles of Cartersville, I.T. is stopping at the Grand Central.

\*\*\*\*\*

J. A. Glasgow, buyer for the Central Coal & Coke Co., at Bonanza is registered at the Main.

— • —

January 5, 1900

E.O. Sparks, President, Sam'l McCloud, Vice President, John Vaile, Cashier, F. A. Handlin, Assist. Cashier.

### FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Capital Stock, \$200,000.00

Surplus \$90,000.00

Directors – A. Y. Berry, Geo. T. Sparks, Sam'l McCloud, H. Stone, B. F. Hobart, H. Baer, J. Adlaer, John Vaile – Oldest National Bank in the State.

\*\*\*\*\*

C. F. Miller, a prominent resident of Poteau used a Grand Central register pen this morning (this is the way it was written in the newspaper).

\*\*\*\*\*

W. E. Barton, one of the jolly road agents of St. Louis, is resuscitating at the Grand Central.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. & Mrs. Shaw, the latter the daughter of John Callahan, a prominent Creek Indian, are visiting the family of Col. Ben Duval. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw are deaf mutes.

\*\*\*\*\*

A very enjoyable German was given by Mrs. J. H. Alexander last night at her home on Lexington avenue, which was attended by the prominent members of society. An evening replete with pleasures which will long linger in the memory of the guests.

Mrs. Miles Dickens was the charming lady in waiting at the punch bowl, and she served the spiced creation with much charming grace and wit of conversation. The refreshments consisted of ice cream and cake and through the forethought of the hostess there were numberless "cozy corners" which met with the complete approbation of the young people.

Mr. and Mrs. James Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Jewell Black, Mrs. James K. Barnes, and Mrs. D. B. Crane received the guests and proved very comfortable people to have around. The evening was full of delights and those in attendance made an entry in the note-book of their memories that a more enjoyable evening they had never spent.

— • —  
**January 7, 1900**

**CLARANCE EDDY**

If you desire a rare musical treat, don't miss Clarence Eddy's organ recital at the Catholic Church on the evening of January 15. Given with the auspices of the Botefuhr Conservatory of Music. Tickets now on sale at Botefuhr Bros.

\*\*\*\*\*

**FORT SMITH BICYCLE MESSENGER SERVICE**  
**W. S. HENDERSON, MANAGER**

Notes, Packages, Promptly Delivered  
Any Day or Night.

Charges reasonable - everything confidential  
Room 4 - Berman Building, Fort Smith, Ark.  
Telephone 345

\*\*\*\*\*

**ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES**  
**STEAM HEATED THROUGHOUT**  
**ELECTRIC ELEVATOR**  
**THE GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL**

**RATES — \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.50**  
**Under New Management**  
**American Plan**

**L.W. WALTON, PROP.**  
**FORT SMITH, ARK.**

— • —

**January 8, 1900**

**CHRISTIAN UNITY**  
**JUSTICE BREWERS OPINION**  
**OF THE NEXT CENTURY**

**EXPRESSED HIS OPINION IN HIS**  
**LECTURE ON THE TWENTIETH**  
**CENTURY AT WASHINGTON LAST NIGHT.**

**Scripps - McRoe Telegram**

**Washington, D. C. Jan. 8**

Justice Brewer of the United States Supreme Court lectured last night on the Twentieth Century, from another view point.

"The present century," he said "will be of a denominational rivalry and strife. The next will be one of Christian Unity, Catholicism and Protestantism are drawing closer together."

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE PRACTICAL JOKER IS IN THE LAND.**  
He was on hand yesterday. He was on South Sixth street and he saw the piles of mud and puddles of water and then the humor in him bubbled over. He got a stick and stuck it in the middle of one of the street pools. Then he put on the stake a sign on which there was a grotesquely made index finger pointing towards the mayor's office, the sign read:

**"BOOTS FOR RENT"**

Some compassionate individual removed the reminder of somebody's fault, but not before it had tickled the risibilities of many people.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHEN PLACING YOUR**  
**FIRE INSURANCE REMEMBER**  
**GEO. TILLES**  
**IS ENTITLED TO YOUR FIRST**  
**CONSIDERATION**

1st. — Because his office possesses the best for taking care of business of any agency in Arkansas.

2nd — His companies are among the oldest, strongest and best.

3rd. — Since the establishment of his agency, rates have been materially reduced and property owners are saved thousands of dollars by reason of lower premiums being charged.

Join the procession. Get the best. "Talk with Tilles" He insures everything.

**GEO. TILLES**

**No. 1 Tilles Corner Fort Smith, Ark.**

— • —  
**January 9, 1900**

Miss Edith Black, who for a long time was the stenographer for Hill and Brizzolara, left for Fayetteville this afternoon to accept a position with a prominent firm there, which is much more advantageous financially than the one she left here.

— • —  
**January 11, 1900**

Get a blanket for your horse and protect him these cold nights as you do yourself.

**STORM COVERS**

Protect both harness and horse. If in need of above goods see

JOHN KERWIN, SADDLERY

— • —  
**January 12, 1900**

At a recent election of School Directors, W. W. Payne was elected to succeed himself, John W. Coker was elected to succeed E. S. Blackburn, and A. W. West was elected to fill the vacancy made by the retirement of Jas. W. Breedlove, at the last meeting of the board. W. W. Payne was elected to succeed himself as president and Thomas J. Coara was elected secretary.

— • —  
**January 18, 1900**

**HE REPENTS**

**ED HICKS GETS A V  
CHANGED FOR A BAR KEEPER**

He forgets to return with the money and finds himself in Durance very vile.

Ed Hicks a slick duck who wants to make good when he is caught. He appears to be a stranger in this section, at least he is not known to the police and for that reason he is presumed to be a stranger. Last evening he was in Speaker's saloon on the corner of the avenue and First street, when a gentleman stepped to the bar and tossed off 4 fingers of jug juice and tendered a five dollar bill in payment. The barkeeper did not have that amount of change in his clothes and he handed Hicks the bill to get changed. Hicks went to John Bender's saloon and got the change after he had blown 70 cents for booze. Then he skipped out with the rest but was arrested some hours later. In the police court this morning he offered to make restitution but was remanded to jail in order that the barkeeper might be summoned to appear against him.

\*\*\*\*\*

**LADY MANAGERS TO MEET**

The Board of Lady Managers of Belle Point Hospital will meet with Mrs. Frank Parke Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pointed Paragraphs:**

Says an old bachelor "No one ever heard a married man boasting that he never made a mistake.

A thumb on the hand is far better than three fingers of whiskey in the stomach.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you want something to chew buy chewing gum, but if you want nice, juicy meat, give Charley Beckel a trial. His shop is at 11th and J.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mrs. John Witherspoon has as a guest Mrs. H. E. Finney, of Kansas City. Mrs. Witherspoon will give a German in her honor Tuesday at the Arkansas Club rooms.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mrs. J. B. McDonough will entertain the Euchre Club this week.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Odell received the wedding cards of Miss Lula Martin, of Hackett, a sister of Prof. Martin of Fayetteville College, and Mr. R. L. Redwine, a prosperous merchant of Spiro.

— • —  
**January 19, 1900**

**CALLED A PASTOR**

Dr. Earle has been tendered a call to the pastorate of Cumberland Presbyterian Church which was made vacant by the resignation of Rev. F. M. Wylie. Dr. Earle will occupy the pulpit of C. P. Church Sunday morning.

— • —  
**January 20, 1900**

**MARRIED**

Miss Lucy Bloomberg and Julian Berson, two of the popular employees of the Boston Store, were quietly married Saturday afternoon. Miss Bloomberg is the daughter of A. E. Bloomberg, one of the old settlers, and has been a glove saleslady for about two years.

— • —  
**January 23, 1900**

**A SPONGE SANDWICH**

Sponge sandwich or roll is made as follows, and if baked in a very hot oven it will be delightfully light.

Take a teacup of flour, the same quantity of castor sugar, a pinch of salt and a teaspoonful of baking powder. Mix these well in a basin. Break an egg into a teacup and if satisfied that it is fresh, add it to the flour and other ingredients. Do the same with another egg and not beating it until added to the flour. Beat all for five minutes, spread on flat tins to the thickness of half an inch and bake.

— • —  
**January 29, 1900**

#### GOT PLENTY OF QUAIL

Mayor Garrett and Attorney Martin returned yesterday from the vicinity of Cameron, I.T., where they were on a hunting trip. They bagged eighty-five quail bringing the largest bag of game seen here for many a moon.

"We shot at nothing but quail", said the mayor this morning. "Had we wanted rabbits we could have gotten plenty of them. I almost stepped on one. It was right under my feet. I kicked at it, but of course missed it."

— • —  
**January 31, 1900**

#### VALENTINE BALL A GRAND MASK AFFAIR AT TURNER'S HALL

It will be under the management of the Volunteer Firemen and will be a swell function.

Very gratifying progress is being made with the arrangements for the masque ball to be given at Turner's Hall on the night of Valentine's Day, February 14th.

It will be under the management of the Volunteer Firemen which is a guarantee both of perfect appointments and the absence of anything objectionable. The tickets are \$1.00 which will admit a gentleman and a lady and also entitles them to supper. Ladies tickets are 50 cents each.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### POINTED PARAGRAPHS

1. There are too many lawbreakers who call themselves attorneys.

2. When a glass in the kitchen falls, it is a sure sign of a domestic storm.

3. When a woman suffers untold agony it is usually because she has no one to tell it to.

4. New wrinkles in dress please a woman, but a new one on her face has the opposite effect.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### PUBLIC READING ROOM

A Christian Science reading and reception room at 704 Garrison Avenue is open daily from 3 to 6 p.m. Students are always in attendance and visitors are cordially invited.

— • —  
**February 1, 1900**

Dr. H. Moulton

Practice limited to disease of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, office in Hollowell Building. Hours 9 to 12 a.m., 2 to 4 p.m. office telephone (Bell) 206. Residence telephone (Bell) 226.

— • —  
**February 2, 1900**

Dr. Johnson Returns From Winslow to the jail. His five days parole terminated and he tried to get it renewed but without avail.

Dr. J. H. Johnson, of Winslow, who pleaded guilty to selling liquor without a government license, was sentenced to thirty days and \$100 fine, and subsequently permitted to go home to his family on a five day parole for the purpose of fixing up his affairs, returned this morning and presented himself to the acting warden of the jail, saying that he would return before his parole limit was reached and went to see his attorney.

An effort was made to have further serving of sentence suspended and considerable influence was brought to bear upon the district attorney who declined to interfere. Dr. Jackson went to see Judge Rogers and had quite a conversation with the court who, however, could see no reason for further clemency, so Dr. Johnson went back to jail and took his place among the other prisoners, there to remain until the expiration of his term of service.

\*\*\*\*\*

Charley Nathan started for Hot Springs last Thursday to be gone four weeks. He took three baths, became disgusted and is now back home. He says he could not become accustomed to the strange sights and faces he saw there.

\*\*\*\*\*

W. W. Payne, a high class Muldrow merchant, ate dinner at the Grand Central today.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### TWO UNFORTUNATES

This morning at 10 o'clock W. S. Eselmond of Cavanal, I.T. was brought in to the Belle Point hospital with a fractured leg which he had sustained by being run over by a wagon. The accident occurred about five days ago, and during that time he was treated by a physician, but the fracture had not been properly reduced. Another patient was brought in from the Territory with a mashed finger, the accident occurring in the Territory stone quarry.

\*\*\*\*\*

Ladies, meet your husbands at 817 Garrison Avenue and take an oyster dinner with the ladies of Central Church.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. E. H. Stevenson, Office 801 Garrison avenue. Residence 201 North Fifteenth St. Office hours 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon: 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Office telephone Bell 296, residence 11.

\*\*\*\*\*

A man who bets may be doing wrong, but the man who doesn't is no better.

\*\*\*\*\*

Save up your pennies while young and at the age of three score and ten you will have a lot of old copper on hand.

\*\*\*\*\*

James A. Hale, a Merchant of Cameron, used a Hotel Main toothpick at noon today.

\*\*\*\*\*

C. F. Norman and wife, of Van Buren, were at the Main for breakfast. They came over to attend the German at the Arkansas Club last night.

— • —

### **February 6, 1900**

The Board of Public Affairs reported that the fire department was in need of another horse, as the one recently purchased had proven balky and was of no service.. The cost of a new horse would not exceed \$125, as balky animal could be sold and would be useful for other purposes. The report of the board was adopted and an appropriation of \$125 made for the purchase of a new animal.

— • —

### **February 7, 1900**

E. J. PETTIT

1011 Garrison Ave.

has opened a wholesale and retail meat market. All kinds of Dressed Poultry, Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, Etc., always on hand. Give me a trial. You will be satisfied.

— • —

### **February 9, 1900**

MARDI GRAS FESTIVITIES

NEW ORLEANS FEBRUARY 27, 1900

The Iron Mountain will sell tickets to New Orleans for the above occasion at a fare of \$17.50 for the round trip, limited to return to March 15th, 1900. Dates of sale Feb. 19th and 20th.

C.E. Carstarphen, Agent  
Brick Dept.

### **February 11, 1900**

The last payment is being made on the debt of the First Methodist Church. In a short time the church will be entirely free of debt. The church is prospering in all departments of its work. During the short time that Rev. Goddard has been pastor he has added more than one hundred members to the church and the church has today the most auspicious outlook in its history.

### **February 12, 1900**

DIED

Mr. J. Hopp died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. B. Schram on Eleventh Street yesterday morning and was buried this afternoon. He was the father of Max, Sam, and Louis Hopp and Mrs. Sam Badt. He was 75 years of age and came here ten years ago from Germany.

\*\*\*\*\*

Invitations are out for the marriage of Mr. R. F. Stalcup and Miss Fannie Norvell to take place on the 22nd inst. Both Mr. Stalcup and Miss Norvell are well known in Fort Smith society.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **FUNERAL NOTICE**

The funeral services of the late Francis M. Ward will be held tomorrow at 2 p.m. at the late residence of the deceased, 21st and B streets. All the friends invited. Interment in the National Cemetery.

— • —

### **February 13, 1900**

CHURCH IS UNSAFE  
FATHER SMYTHE HAS  
CLOSED ITS DOORS

The handsome new building at the head of the Avenue cannot be used at present.

There will be no services held in the new Catholic Church until the gentleman who superintended its erection makes a thorough examination of the building.

"The church is condemned", said Father Smythe this morning. "And I have locked the doors. I want no one injured through an act of mine" ...

(Full details are too lengthy to extract)

— • —

### **February 15, 1900**

REBEKAH HALL

The Rebekahs, I.O.O.F. will give a ball and supper at Barber's Hall, Friday, Feb. 16. A cordial invitation is extended to all. Admission 25 cents each.

\*\*\*\*\*

We want every boy and girl to get one of these empty cigar boxes.

Palace Drug Store

— • —

**February 20, 1900**

We are authorized to announce W. R. Cravens as a candidate for the office of Prosecuting Attorney subject to the action of the Democratic party.

\*\*\*\*\*

A systematic effort is being made to increase the subscriptions of the business men around town, to the support of the Commercial League. The movement is one that should be heartily supported and liberally supported. It would be an everlasting shame and disgrace for Fort Smith to allow the present organization to die for want of support. Help the cause along with your dollars. As a motive power for ships, wind is almost entirely out-of-date. It is likewise out-of-date as a method of making cities move along. Therefore, something more substantial than wind is needed in the present case.

\*\*\*\*\*

Many a man has avoided the slip 'twixt the cup and the lip by drinking out of the bottle.

\*\*\*\*\*

When a man sees the error of his ways he should change his route.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CALL FOR PRIMARIES** To the Democrats of the City of Fort Smith:

Notice is hereby given that a primary election, for the purpose of choosing candidates for city attorney and city clerk, will be held in the council chamber on Saturday, February 24. The polls will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and all Democrats who are qualified voters in the April election are entitled to vote thereat.

Geo. T. Williams,  
Chairman Democratic City Com.  
Frank Park, Jr., Sec'y.

— • —

**February 22, 1900**

**LOST** — One tan colored male greyhound named "Clinton" Reward paid for return to 221 Lexington Ave.

\*\*\*\*\*

## AMUSEMENTS THE MINSTRELS

Beach & Boers present at Tilles Theatre Friday night one of the best minstrel aggregations upon the road. Their specialities are new and bright. The company carries no old time stars upon their reputation, but has gained popularity through bright, sparkling jokes, singing and dancing.

### THE MOREY STOCK COMPANY

The Morey Stock Company brings back that popular actress Luella Morey.

The company will arrive here Sunday and will be stopping at the Grand Central, which is ample evidence that it is not a cheap company.

\*\*\*\*\*

### SOLD HIS RESIDENCE

The Sengel homestead on Fifth street which George Sengel built something like eighteen years ago is now the property of Ed Haglin, who today closed the deal for its purchase. The price was \$6500. Negotiations have been pending for some time between Messrs. Sengel and Haglin but an agreement was not reached until today when the papers passed.

Mr. Sengel built the house when he was first married and he has lived there continuously ever since.

— • —

**February 23, 1900**

### GOOD ADVICE

Put your heart into the work  
When business you begin  
But you'd better think awhile  
E'r you put your money in.

\*\*\*\*\*

### DANCING

**PERSONAL** — Come and hear the Indian Pianist at Egans Dancing Academy at No. 10 South Fifth Street.

\*\*\*\*\*

2 year old roses at 20 cents  
2 year old Am. Beauty 20 cents  
Pansy plants in bloom 35 cents dozen  
Pansy plants to bloom in about four weeks 20 cents dozen  
Both Phones  
A. A. Pantet & Co.

— • —

**February 25, 1900**

### SPRINGTIME IS HERE

and all sorts of building will soon be in order. It is just as well to begin your figuring at the present

time, and if you do that figuring with us, we will show you how money is saved.

DYKE BROS.

— • —  
**February 26, 1900**

Now is your chance to buy a good black clay worsted suit cheap. We place on sale tomorrow over 150 men's clay worsted suits, all sizes. This is the regular \$8.00 quality. They go for

\$6.50

Our \$10.00 and \$12.00 qualities

\$8.00

You will save money by trading with  
APPLE AND SCHWELZER

\*\*\*\*\*

Andrew Carnegie's reason for giving his money for the establishment of libraries rather than any other form of charity was because "libraries give nothing for nothing. In order to get benefit from them a man must help himself, must read and study."

— • —  
**February 27, 1900**

**A COMING WEDDING**

Will F. Germann, the popular druggist will be married tonight at 9 o'clock to Miss Anna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Armbruster. They will be at home to their friends at 400 North Ninth street Thursdays during the month of March. The young people are both popular and will start out in life with the best wishes of a host of friends.

\*\*\*\*\*

**GETTING READY**

W. J. Echols has broken ground in Convent Place for his proposed fifteen thousand dollar house. It will be pushed rapidly to completion.

\*\*\*\*\*

We'll look into it — Chief Fuller says that he will investigate charges made by Capelle, the city prisoner who declared he was abused by inmates of the city jail.

— • —  
**February 28, 1900**

**ROUNDING THEM UP**

The police are rounding up the saloon keepers who sell on Sunday. Quite a number of them were arrested yesterday and will have their hearing tomorrow morning.

\*\*\*\*\*

**HAVE THE WARRANTS**

The city officials have received warrants for the amounts awarded them by the supreme court and that is all they have got. There is no money in the treasury.

— • —  
**March 2, 1900**

**PUBLIC EUCHRE  
A NOVEL ENTERTAINMENT  
AT THE PROGRESS CLUB**

The ladies of the Progress Club gave a public Euchre party in the rooms of that well known organization.

Beautiful prizes were offered and about forty or fifty ladies entered into a spirited but friendly contest for the honors. This was the first affair of this kind ever held here and was a great success.

— • —  
**March 5, 1900**

**WILL ASK FOR DIRT**

This evening at the meeting of the council, a petition will be presented for W. J. Echols asking that A and B streets from thirteenth to sixteenth streets and also fourteenth and fifteenth streets between A and B streets to be graded by the city and that the surplus dirt be given to him to fill in the low places on his property.

City Engineer Bayley made a calculation today as to the amount of surplus there would be and finds that there would not be over 50 square yards. The petition of Mr. Echols will therefore be submitted to the committee on public improvements and find its death there.

— • —  
**March 7, 1900**

Appraised the property: Henry Kuper, Jr., W. J. Murphy, and Pat O'Shea this morning appraised a piece of property belonging to the late Michael Callahanon at the corner of A and 5th street at \$1500.

\*\*\*\*\*

**TOLD TO LEAVE**

Silas Early, a crippled tramp, was given an hour in which to leave town by Judge Freer this morning, and he made haste to obey this order and his stiff knee limbered up, he made good time.

\*\*\*\*\*

Ward Convention: At 8 o'clock tonight the ward conventions will be held throughout the city for the purpose of nominating aldermen to fill the vacancies which will be created by the expiration of the terms of several now on the payroll.

\*\*\*\*\*

Moonshining Family: Joe Pelham of Fort Douglas, Johnson County, is in Federal jail charged with illicit distilling. He belongs to a family of moonshiners, nearly every male member of

which has done time for offences against the government.

— • —  
**March 11, 1900**

Nominee Foreman Henry, of the Frisco shops, is wearing his political honors with becoming dignity. He was asked yesterday what course he intended to pursue when he got into Council and he said "I really don't know anything about what is to be done. I know that there are some electric lights on the outskirts of the city where they do good only to the few, and I know that down this way where hundreds of men are compelled to travel at all hours of the night there are no lights. I know that we have few, if any, street crossings which will enable a person to cross our streets in wet weather with any degree of foot dryness, and I know that sewer connections are badly needed, but whether I will be able to effect any reform in this direction remains to be seen. I am going to do the very best for the ward that I can, and further than that I cannot say. I am not in a position just now to do anything.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Observations by Truthful James**

Speaking of politics, I am bitterly opposed to them. I would rather see a child of mine turn out to be a policeman or even a newspaper man than a politician. When a man once becomes addicted to the office seeking habit, there is no keeley cure for him. There have been more prominent young men planted in premature graves, more bright hopes blasted, more brilliant prospects shattered by overwhelming desire of men to serve their county than from all other causes combined.

— • —  
**March 13, 1900**

Beginning to Arrive – Walter Evans, who is presumably a candidate for city engineer, arrived in the city yesterday and McCarty is expected to enter the field in time to see how he stands with the councilmen. In the meantime, City Engineer Bayley is on the anxious list.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Paying Up**

Most of the candidates for office have paid up their assessments. Today W. F. Blythe separated himself from twenty dollars that he might have the privilege of contesting with County Judge Spradling.

— • —  
**March 15, 1900**

"The Adventures of Lady Ursula" a high class

comedy written especially, we are told, for Mr. Daniel Frohman by Anthony Hope, author of "The Prisoner of Zendall" will be presented by the popular star, William Morris, at the Tilles Theatre on Monday night, March 19. Miss Frances Drake and a company of artists of genuine merit will appear in support of Mr. Morris. "The Adventures of Lady Ursula" is laid in and around London in 1720. Mr. William Morris who will be remembered as the star in "Under The Red Robe" and in "Lost Paradise" will be Sir George and in this character he is said to excel his past work in the Frohman enterprises. Miss Frances Drake who played the leading female roles with Frohmen companies, will be the masquarading and venturesome Lady Ursula. The advance sale begins at No. 1 Tilles corner Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MARRIED**

Last evening there was a very pretty wedding in the Barnes & Sweet addition at the home of Mrs. Whybark. Miss Cora Whybark became the wife of Norman McKay, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. McKay of the Presbyterian church. The groom is employed at the hardware store of Ayers & Co. and highly thought of. The bride is one of the most charming ladies of the entire city. The young couple went to house-keeping on Fifth street foregoing a wedding trip until later on. The good wishes of a host of friends follow them upon their new career.

— • —  
**March 16, 1900**

Standard of Excellence – There is nothing on the market equal to Swift's Premium Hams and Bacons.

\*\*\*\*\*

Fagan Bourland sells Paris coal and the best seasoned wood cheap. Both 'phones.

— • —  
**March 18, 1900**

The week in Society: Miss Agnes Oglesby has returned from her Florida trip.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mrs. Tibbetts has returned to her home in the Territory, after a visit with her father, Mr. J. H. Hamilton, who is now quite improved and able to sit up.

The Ladies Sewing Society, of the First Methodist Church, will meet Tuesday with Mrs. R. G. Hunt.

\*\*\*\*\*

G. D. Porta Shoe Shop, shoes and boots made to order. All kinds of first class repairing done. Give me a trial and be convinced. No. 905 Garrison avenue.

— • —  
**March 19, 1900**

The court of claims at Washington D. C. has made allowances to letter carriers for service performed in excess of eight hours a day. Among the beneficiaries are three Fort Smithians. The lucky ones and the amounts to which they are entitled are as follows: William L. Jackson, \$82.91; W. E. Joshensonberger, \$5.55; W. D. Lunsford, \$6.19.

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy is the youth whose crop of wild oats isn't worth harvesting.

\*\*\*\*\*

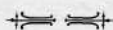
A saloon reminds some men of a counterfeit dollar—they can't pass it.

— • —  
**March 25, 1900**

Mrs. James Brizzolara, always a charming hostess, entertained informally last Wednesday morning with a luncheon. These morning informals will be quite a fad until Easter. Mrs. Brizzolara's home was beautiful with her palms, potted plants, and flowers from her own conservatory. Six handed euchre was played by the following women. Mesdames Oglesby, Boone, Veva Heironimus, May Hollowell, Hammons, Barkrim, Harrison, Strayhorn, Heyman and Boyd.

— • —  
**March 29, 1900**

We are informed that our opera house manager, Mr. Tilles, has succeeded in booking the Griffeth Hypnotic Company for a series of performances beginning Monday, April 2. This company has the reputation of not only presenting hypnotism fairly and honestly, and in every form, but of giving a highly amusing entertainment that is instructive and extremely interesting as well. They promise to introduce the much talked-of blindfold drive, the prolonged Hypnotic Sleep, The Version of Trilby and some very strong calepsy and anesthy tests.



**FORT SMITH ELEVATOR**  
**February 9, 1900 - April 20, 1900**  
(Abstracted from microfilm in the  
Fort Smith Public Library)

by Dorothy Doville, Mary Lou Jacobsen,  
Michael Richardson, Clara Jane Rubarth  
and Joanne Swafford)

**February 9, 1900**

**A NEW GRAMOPHONE \$5.00**

Reproduces same records as all standard talking machines. A strongly constructed gramophone with simple mechanism made to meet the demand for a first class talking machine at a low price

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOT A TOY**

Make your own records. The pleasure of owning a graphophone is largely increased by being able to make and reproduce your own records. We furnish this machine with records for \$5.00 making it the cheapest recording and reproducing talking machine on the market. Graphophones of every description. Send for Catalogue No. 30

Columbia Phonograph Co.  
720-722 St. Louis, Missouri

\*\*\*\*\*

From the beginning of the Spanish American war to the present time the total expenditure of that war and on account of the war in the Philippines amount to the snug little sum of \$350,000,000.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTICE**

I will on February 28, 1900, apply to the probate court, Sebastian County, Fort Smith District for authority to sell the undivided one-sixth interest of my wards Leroy and Oliver Boas, in and to Lots 5 and 6, Block R, City of Fort Smith, Arkansas, for the purpose of investment. This January 25, 1900, Wm. Boas guardian.

— • —  
**February 16, 1900**

**Death of Tony Geheb**

Mr. Tony Geheb, a well known young man of this city, died on Saturday night at his residence on South Eighth street, aged 25 years. He had been ill for several months. His funeral took place Monday afternoon. Rev. Lawrence Smyth officiating and was largely attended. He was a member of the fire department, and almost the entire company of which he was a member were present when he was laid away.

Mr. Geheb was a brother of Mrs. R. Metzger and Mr. Henry Geheb, both of whom only a few months ago (CORRECT, DOESN'T SAY WHAT A

FEW MONTHS AGO, ASSUME DIED). His father, mother and one brother survive him.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### APPLE - SCHWEIZER HAT COMPANY

Wholesale Hats

117 Garrison Avenue Fort Smith, Ark.

\*\*\*\*\*

WANTED Experienced German girl for general housework. Small Family, no children. Wages \$3.00 per week. References required. Address W. Elevator Office.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Catholic church at the head of Garrison Avenue has been closed for the present. This is owing to the examination Saturday by Architects, who pronounce it unsafe. The trouble lies in the fact that the weight of the roof threatens to crush the south wall. The contractor who built the church has been sent for and until the damages are repaired, the doors will remain closed.

— • —

**February 23, 1900**

#### TEACHERS INSTITUTE

A Teachers Institute for the teachers of Sebastian County will be holden (yes, it was holden) at Huntington, commencing February 28, 1900. The old law in regard to institutes is in force. Teachers will take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

\*\*\*\*\*

T. S. Norton of Fort Smith was the only man to make a straight score of twenty-five birds at the national shooting tournament which took place at Hot Springs last week. The next closest contestants were Elliott & Heikes

\*\*\*\*\*

Judge Rowe has issued an order to the effect that all prisoners in the county jail on charges of misdemeanors shall be turned over to the city. This will lessen the expenses of the county to quite an extent but correspondingly increase those of the city and while the action seems unjust, it is doubtless within the limits of the law.

\*\*\*\*\*

Saturday morning the old building on the Reserve belonging to the Tenney-Anderson Lumber Company caught fire and burned to the ground notwithstanding the efforts of the fire department to prevent its destruction. Being an entirely frame building and very old, it burned rapidly. It was occupied at the time by one or two families and it is supposed a spark from one of their stoves started the flames. The building was

owned by Mrs. Sue Bonneville, loss \$1250. No insurance.

— • —

**March 9, 1900**

Mr. C. B. Brewster publishes in the Greenwood Democrat a card announcing his withdrawal from the race for prosecuting attorney.

\*\*\*\*\*

Henry C. Loeb, a general merchant in Van Buren, filed a petition in bankruptcy in the federal court last Saturday. Liabilities small and assets still smaller.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Booneville Democrat says a little son of Mr. Glover was badly burned by an explosion of powder. His clothing caught fire from the explosion, and but for the prompt action of Mr. Ed Richardson he would have burned to death.

\*\*\*\*\*

Last Friday morning Esq. Dan Baker, at the county clerk's office, tied the matrimonial knot for Samuel Wheat and Mrs. Myrtle Wheat. The similarity of names arises from the fact that the bride was the widow of the bridegroom's brother.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Greenwood Democrat says Will Dansdon's barn burned during the early part of last week. Everything in the barn except the horses was burned. Two hundred bushels of corn was lost. The fire is supposed to have been the result of incendiary work.

\*\*\*\*\*

A Monday night meeting of the council on ordinance passed placing a tax of twenty-five cents each upon telegraph, electric light, telephone and street car poles. This is a big reduction from the rate fixed by the original ordinance, and will probably be acceptable to all concerned.

\*\*\*\*\*

Last Friday evening the occupants of the Hotel Main were considerably rattled by an alarm of fire. It was about suppertime, and the alarm created quite a stampede. The fire originated in a room, presumably from a carelessly thrown match, and was extinguished with a few buckets of water before much damage was done.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Citizens Bank of Mena will be open for business tomorrow. It has been incorporated with a capital of \$35,000, with the following officers: D.H. Hopkins, President; J. O. Jackson, Vice President; L. C. Acumen, Cashier. As the bank is

in a flourishing town and good country there is no reason why it should not do a fine business.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Democratic Central Committee of Crawford County which met in Van Buren chose Phil D. Scott as chairman for the next two years and H. L. Fitzhugh, secretary. As the ticket nominated is made up of first-class men, and the party is not troubled with factional differences, there is no doubt it will score a signal victory in September.

\*\*\*\*\*

Barney King and Jim Haris, two worthies unknown to the denizens of Fort Smith, were run in last week by constables Jim Shannon and Charlie King, and upon investigation were found to have a lot of miscellaneous goods concealed about their persons. The officers being satisfied that they were crooks held them over for a day, or so, but being unable to prove against them anything worse than suspicious looks, finally turned them loose, giving them permission to leave town as soon as possible. They went.

— • —  
**March 16, 1900**

John Johnson, an old citizen of Logan County, died last week.

\*\*\*\*\*

Joe Pelham of Madison County was lodged in the federal jail during the week on a charge of making moonshine whiskey.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tomorrow is St. Patrick's day, a day especially revered by our citizens of Hibernian descent, and fast becoming a day of note among all classes of people.

\*\*\*\*\*

Paris Magnet: Fort Smith is making an effort to secure a cotton mill. The Magnet hopes to see the enterprise succeed. The Border City now has railroad facilities which should enable her to do considerable in the way of manufacturing.

\*\*\*\*\*

Shortly before 8 o'clock Tuesday night the building in which John Nolan has been conducting a store at North Sixth and N streets, caught fire and burned to the ground. The fire department responded promptly to the alarm, but as the building stood outside the city limits nothing could be done to save it.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. Frank P. Banks, one of the proprietors of the Kansas City Restaurant, died on the 8th from

a congestive chill. He was 35 years of age and leaves a widow and one child. Mr. Banks came here several months ago from Little Rock, and while a comparative stranger to many of our people, he made a favorable impression upon all with whom he became acquainted.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mr. J.H. Hamilton, one of our best known citizens, underwent a severe operation last week for the removal of a tumor which was threatening his life. The tumor was in his throat, and had been troubling him for a year or two. Drs. Moulton, Hatchett, Eberle and Johnson conducted the operation, which was successfully performed and with very little distress to the patient. If no unforeseen circumstances arise, Mr. Hamilton will recover.

\*\*\*\*\*

Will Tranton, a young fellow who lives in Bonanza, came to the city Saturday to see the elephant, and saw the animal to his heart's content. Tanking up with bug-juice he tackled Otis Hampton, of the Elevator office, for a row, and promptly got it, accompanied by a knock down blow. This was not exactly enough, so farther down the street he jumped Flem Little. The result of his encounter with Flem was a blow that sent him hurriedly through one of Uptmoor's windows. Monday he appeared before Hizzoner Freer with woebegone countenance and highly colored optics and begged the court's mercy. He received a fine of \$7.50, which he paid and went home.

— • —  
**March 23, 1900**

Excerpts from  
**A PAGE FOR WOMEN**

The children of the Jewish synagogue gave a masquerade at the Progress Club Saturday night. There were clowns, colonial dames, Napoleons, and Washingtons in the crowd. Some of the costumes were very pretty and unique. Prizes were given to the best representations and the Judges found it difficult to decide which were best.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mrs. James K. Barnes entertained at cards Tuesday morning. Six hand euchre was the game played. An elaborate luncheon was served and all spent a delightful morning. The first prize, a rose vase, was won by Mrs. Joe Matthews, the second, a bunch of cala lillies was received by Mrs. Day. The guests were mesdames Jim Sparks, Day, Dunn, John Witherspoon, T.W.M. Boone, I.M. Dodge, brizzolara, Ben Cravens, R. Hunt, Joe P.

Matthews, Tibbetts, Al Mantor, Tom Davis, Misses Sue Webber and Anna Carter.

\*\*\*\*\*

Men who disapprove of their wives going into a club because it will "take them away from domestic interest" are about as broad minded as the farmer who said he couldn't imagine what made his Betsy crazy, as she hadn't stepped out of the kitchen for twenty years. There are some men who need a club of some sort. — Ladies Home Journal.

\*\*\*\*\*

The musical talent of this city will be represented at the State Convention in Little Rock in June. Everyone interested will call on Mrs. Harry F. Butler who has the chorus in charge with Prof. Michaelis as director.

\*\*\*\*\*

A very informal whist club has been organized in the neighborhood of Twelfth Street. The club meets every week at the homes of the different members, and some very pleasant evenings are spent. The members are Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Moulton; Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard Stone; Mr. and Mrs. J. D. McDonough; and Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Williams.

— • —

### **March 30, 1900**

#### **CAKE SALE**

The ladies of the First Baptist church will have a cake sale at the drug store of J. Lee Grace and Co. Saturday. This will be a good opportunity to secure some delicious sweetness. Orders for any special kind will receive prompt attention.

\*\*\*\*\*

Postmaster Brizzolara informed us that by authority of the first assistant Postmaster general the postoffice at Fort Smith is authorized to cash all money orders irrespective of place of payment and to cash orders drawn on this office, the notices of which have been received on proper identification.

\*\*\*\*\*

Judge Blythe and Judge Spradling, candidates for county judge, are wrestling together on the stump this week.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **GOLD ROPE**

**RISE AND SHINE**

**FIVE CENT JIM**

**THRASHER**

**JOLLY JACK**

**MERRY WAR**

**BY JINGO TWIST**

The above brands of tobacco are made by an Anti Trust, Union Labor Factory. The Wilson and McNally Tobacco Company, Midsdleton, Ohio, and are the best goods on the market. Try them and keep down the Trust.

Arther E. Edie  
General Agent  
Fort Smith, Ark.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **ANOTHER BURGLARY**

Friday morning the tailoring establishment of H. Kruper and Son was entered and robbed of quite an amount of goods. The articles stolen were one suit, one unfinished suit, five pairs of pants and some piece goods. A negro by the name of Moore was arrested Saturday on a charge of being connected with the robbery and is now under bond of \$500 to appear at next term of court. Tuesday evening the officers discovered some of the stolen goods in the house of Mrs. Atchinson, a negro woman, and placed her and her two sons under arrest. Four pairs of pants and a suit pattern have been recovered.

— • —

**April 4, 1900**

#### **SAND**

Wanted — People to buy a load of sand for their children to play in, hens to scratch in or any old purpose. Earl Hardin. Both Phones.

— • —

**April 6, 1900**

Quite an honor has been shown the Century Club of this city. Out of 57 Women's Literary Clubs of the state, it has been chosen as one of three to present a paper before the Federation to be held at Texarkana, April 18. Mrs. A. H. Carter will read a paper entitled, "Club Courtesies". Mrs. J. B. Williams will accompany as a delegate.

\*\*\*\*\*

The city election passed off quietly and all the Democratic nominees were elected.

\*\*\*\*\*

Charles Sevier and Miss Lucy Gray of Sebastian County were married in Van Buren last Monday morning by Justice Ferguson.

The Argus says this wedding took place in Jarvis Grocery Store. The witnesses being Messrs. Jarvis and Jones.

\*\*\*\*\*

Friday afternoon fire broke out in the residence of Mr. Dave May at 805 North 8th Street. An alarm

was quickly turned in but owing to a misunderstanding the department rushed to Mr. Mayo's former residence in Barnes and Street addition. This delayed the arrival of hose carts at the real seat of danger for some time. Mr. Mayo's loss is about \$3,000. Insurance about \$2,000.

— • —  
**April 9, 1900**

Mrs. W. N. Ayers Dead. She passed away at her home Saturday Night. Fort Smith lost one of it's noblest specimen of womanhood in the passing of Mrs. W. N. Ayers, the wife of W.N.Ayers, of the Ketchem Iron Works, and mother of Walter, John and Will Ayers of the city.

Mrs. Ayers was 71 years of age and succumbed to pneumonia. She was a consistent and valued member of the Baptist Church and loved by all who knew her. Many in the city have felt the weight of her kindly hands.

The deceased leaves a husband, W. N. Ayers, four sons and two daughters.

The funeral service will take place tomorrow afternoon at 2:O'clock from the residence of the deceased at 820 North Twelfth Street. The Rev. Pitman of the Baptist church will officiate and the interment will be in the city cemetary.

\*\*\*\*\*

**PLUMBERS ARE IN SESSION  
STATE ASSOCIATION MEETS  
NEW OFFICERS ELECTED**

August Reichart will succeed Ed Thomas. At the Morning session, election of officers will take place. The afternoon session will be devoted to routine business. They will end with a banquet at Hotel Main beginning at half past ten o'clock.

Fort Smith delegates are August Reichert, Ed Thomas, Bert Hoffman, W. H. Bruce, H. R. Bruce, B. J. Dunn and Ed Faucette.

One of the delegates said "we have two hundred dollars in the treasury and we proposed to spend every cent of it before we leave town."

— • —  
**April 20, 1900**

**JOE P. MATTHEWS INDICTED**

Quite a sensation was created in this city Tuesday the 12th by the arrest of Mr. Joe P. Matthews upon indictment returned by the grand jury charging him with grand larceny, obtaining money under false pretense and forgery. The prosecution grew out of matters connected with Mr. Matthews' recent failure in business.

Mr. Matthews promptly gave all the bail required and appears to give himself very little

trouble about the outcome. He is confident of acquittal and is anxious that the case be tried at as early a day as possible.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Spark's Chill Tonic**

While there are many kinds of Chill Tonic on the market — good, bad, and indifferent — there is one that keeps its hold on popular favor, and its increased use is a certain indication that it is a preparation that does all that is called for. Spark's Tasteless Chill and Fever Tonic now has a larger sale than ever before and the demand is constantly increasing. This Chill Tonic is a pure vegetable compound and it is indisputably the most effective treatment of ague and suffering from nervous derangement of any Chill Tonic on the market. Ask for Spark's Tasteless Chill and Fever Tonic and take no other. Price 50 cents.

\*\*\*\*\*

The doors of the great Paris Exposition were thrown open last Friday. The United States stands second to France in the number of Exhibits.

\*\*\*\*\*

Both the Democratic and the Republican Parties are skirmishing around for candidates for Vice President.

\*\*\*\*\*

At El Paso, Texas, Col. W. J. Bryan, when asked for his views regarding the Constitutional Amendment that provides for the election of Senators by popular vote said: "I am in favor of it. During both my terms in Congress I introduced resolutions in favor of it. If the people are intelligent enough to elect governors and congress, they are intelligent enough to elect senators. The senators not only are not selectd by the people, but the senatorial contests in the legislature interferred with the real duties of the legislature at great expense to the people, especially if the contests are prolonged. Last year the legislatures of four states were dead-locked the entire session."

\*\*\*\*\*

Ex-Governor Fishback and Mr. H. B. Salls left Sunday night for Galveston, Texas, to attend the Trans-Mississippi Convention. They will make a red-hot delegation.

\*\*\*\*\*

50 acres in good condition, good 3-room house, good barns, good well water, 6 acres set in strawberries, locally known as the John Nolen Farm. Also good house in town of Lavaca. \$900 cash will buy farm and property in town.

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- NOTES: # - some sort of graphic is used, other than a portrait.  
 \* - a portrait of the person(s) named is on page indicated.  
 (- - -) - for such as title, marital status, degree, etc.  
 " - " - for nickname or special emphasis.  
 (-) - dash between page numbers indicates the name of the person, place, etc. is carried throughout the story.  
 (gp) - group picture  
 (pc) - postcard

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