

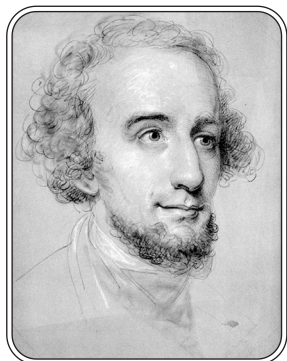


The JOURNAL

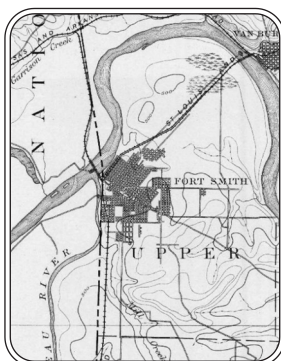


Rebels to Mavericks

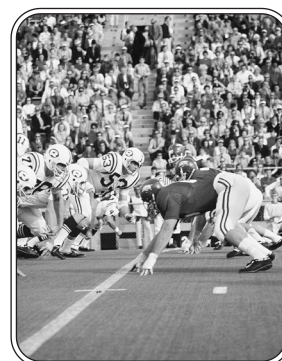
Southside High's link to University of Texas at Arlington



*Fort Smith's Historical
Figures, 1817-1825*



*Arkansas'
Boundaries*



*From SWC
to SEC*

Vol. 42, No. 2, September 2018



MISSION: The mission of the Fort Smith Historical Society, Inc., founded in 1977, is to publish the *Journal* of the FSHS and through the *Journal* and other activities to locate, identify, and collect historical materials; to publish primary source material and historical articles that pertain to the city of Fort Smith and the vicinity. Preservation of Fort Smith history is our primary mission, and we always welcome the loan of historical material, including photographs, letters, diaries, and memoirs, and will return it promptly.

MEMBERSHIP & ORDERS: *Journal* issues are available. Cost for current and past issues is \$7.50 plus a \$2.50 mailing charge per copy. Send orders to:

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QUESTIONS pertaining to the Fort Smith Historical Society or the *Journal* may be addressed by email to:

Mary Jeanne Black, inquiry coordinator and researcher, mblack3086@aol.com
Mary Jeanne edits the *Journal* department titled "Who Knew?" Contact her with your research and/or genealogical questions or topics.

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Content tabs: Organization, Membership, Back Issues, Tables of Contents, Contacts & Links, Archives and a Gallery.

SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS FOR POSSIBLE PUBLICATION IN THE JOURNAL:

A submitted article is peer-reviewed by members of the *Journal's* editorial board and approved before publication. The due dates for manuscript submission are February 15 for the April issue and July 15 for the September issue. The story should be relevant to the city of Fort Smith and/or this area and significant to the history of the border region. Manuscripts must be based on historical documentation with notes, bibliography or a list of sources. We recommend that authors search through the literature on their subject. We encourage photographs, charts, or maps to accompany the article. These visual aids must be released by the owner, who is to be properly accredited and appropriately captioned.

Specifics

1. Manuscripts of 3,000-7,000 words may be submitted to the Editorial Board of the *Journal* electronically using the email address of billy.higgins@uafs.edu, editor, or stoliv44@gmail.com, Sherry Toliver, President of the Society, or mblack3086@aol.com, Mary Jeanne Black, Inquiry Coordinator.
2. Title page should include article title and author name.
3. Manuscripts should be double-spaced in Times Roman 12-point font with one-inch margins. Pages should be numbered, preferably with author name, in the top right corner.
4. Notes and bibliography cited according to the Chicago Manual of Style (Turabian). Book, journal, and newspaper titles should be italicized.
5. Photographs and maps should be submitted with manuscript in digital format of at least 300 dpi resolution and must be captioned with 1-5 sentences. Photographs and maps must be credited as to source.
6. Author photograph and short bio submitted at the end of the manuscript along with mailing address, phone number, and email address.

Neither the Fort Smith Historical Society nor the editorial staff assumes any responsibility for statements, whether fact or opinion, made by contributors.

AMELIA WHITAKER MARTIN

Journal Editor & Co-Founder 1977-2004

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The JOURNAL

VOL. 42 NO. 2

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COVER: MAIN PHOTO: The mood was tense after violence broke out at an October 1969 pep rally. Head cheerleader Frank Prochaska tries to invigorate campus spirit in the face of ever-growing opposition to the Rebel theme. (Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

LOWER LEFT: Nineteenth century artist Titian Ramsay Peale

LOWER MIDDLE: The largely barren Indian Territory side of the border, 1890 USGS topographic map.

LOWER RIGHT: Arkansas v. Rice before a Razorback Stadium capacity crowd, but Rice drew small crowds on their field.

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News & Opportunities

Fort Smith founded 200 years ago



Use this link for schedule of events in commemoration:
<http://www.gofortsmithar.com/>

Fort Smith Historical Society Quarterly Meeting

September 12, 6 p.m.
Fort Smith Public Library
Community Room, Main Branch

Arkansas Historical Association 78th Annual Conference

April 11-13, 2019, Stuttgart Arkansas
Theme: Land, Race, and Identity

Founded by German immigrants, Stuttgart has a rich history as one of Arkansas' most important agricultural centers, known especially for its rice production and waterfowl habitat. The 2019 conference will mark several major anniversaries, including the bicentennial of the formation of Arkansas Territory and the centennial of the Elaine Race Massacre.

AHA memberships are \$20 per year and include four issues of the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* and all events of the annual meeting.

You may submit a conference paper proposal and/or register for the conference using this link:
<http://arkansashistoricalassociation.org>.

Clayton House Program

Clayton House
514 North Sixth Street
479-783-3000

Fourth Sunday programs at the Clayton House begin at 1 p.m. with refreshments and conversation. Presentations start at 1:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by calling 783-3000 or emailing claytonhouse@claytonhouse.org. These are free to members of the Fort Smith Heritage Foundation and for non-members, a \$10 donation toward the preservation and programs of the Clayton House.

For more information about these and our other events, check our website—claytonhouse.org or our Facebook page, or give us a call!

Upcoming events:

- ❖ September 23: Clayton Conversation.
- ❖ October 26 & 29: Murder & Mayhem: Haunted Trolley Tour and Progressive Dinner.
- ❖ November 30: Gaslight Gala: Holiday kickoff party and fundraiser.

Fort Smith Museum of History

320 Rogers Avenue
(479) 783-7841

Upcoming events at the museum:

❖ Murder and Mayhem Haunted Trolley Tour and Progressive Dinners

Narrated by Judge and Mrs. Parker (portrayed by Floyd and Sue Robison), Julia Bourland (portrayed by Debbie Carney), and a host of colorful characters as the trolley bus winds through downtown Fort Smith and the Belle Grove Historic District.

Progressive Dinner Tours: October 26 and 29 at 6 p.m. \$100 per person includes drinks and appetizers at the Fort Smith Museum of History, a stop for dinner at the Bonneville House, dessert at the Clayton House, after dinner drinks at the "Hole in Wall Saloon," 21 West End.

Regular Haunted Trolley Tours: October 25, 27 and 31 at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. \$50 per person includes drinks and appetizers at the museum followed by the haunted tour of downtown Fort Smith and Belle Grove Historic District.

❖ **Veterans Day Reception**—November 11

❖ **Annual Open House**—Following the Fort Smith Christmas Parade, December 2018

For program times, descriptions, reservations, and current exhibits, please use the museum website: <http://www.fortsmithmuseum.org/newsletters>.

❖ **Yarnell's Ice Cream**, made in Arkansas since 1932, is featured in the museum's old-fashioned soda fountain. Come in and treat yourself.

Drennen-Scott Historical Site

Visitor Center
221 N. Third Street
Van Buren, Arkansas
(479) 262-2750
drennen-scott@uafs.edu

❖ **Crawford County Chronicles** programs are scheduled for the first Sunday of every month.

For reservations and more information contact Tom Wing, director of the Drennen-Scott Historical Site on Facebook Drennen-Scott Historic Site, or email at drennen-scott@uafs.edu.

Saturday visitors are often treated to a guided tour by Albert Pike or perhaps another historically costumed interpreter.

❖ **Victorian Christmas Open House**—Friday, November 30, 5:30-8:30

St. John's Episcopal Church Mind Stretchers

Ruth Skinner Building across from St. John's Episcopal Church, 214 North Sixth Street

❖ **September 18, 2018—Responses to Climate Change**

Presented by Robert McAfee, Ph.D., and Shelley Buonaiuto

Robert McAfee is a native of Hackett, Arkansas, with a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He has been working in environmental education with an emphasis on climate change since 1976. He is a member of the Religious Society of Friends and active in many Arkansas and international environmental initiatives.

Shelley Buonaiuto is an artist and potter who has made her living as a sculptor for forty-four years. She is a member of the Religious Society of Friends, has been a co-chair of Citizens' Climate Lobby for six years, and is a member of the Citizens First Congress Steering Committee.

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479/484-5502

❖ **October 16, 2018—Climate Smart Agriculture:
Experiments over Arkansas Rice Fields**

Presented by Kosana Suvočarev, Ph.D.

Kosana Suvočarev, Ph.D., from the University of Arkansas will give insights into research ideas and results from Arkansas farms. Her interests in agriculture, environment, atmospheric science and outreach will be combined into a presentation on some local issues of global importance.

❖ **January 15, 2019—In the Beginning Was the
Word: Making Prayer through Poetry**

Heather Dobbins and Christian Anton Gerard

To Do Justice, to Love Mercy, and to Walk Humbly

❖ **February 19, 2019—Islam and the Common Good**
Imam Hamed Al-Alamat

❖ **March 26, 2019—Christianity in the Public Square**
Josh Packwood, Ph.D., and the Rev. Jeffrey Champlin

❖ **May 21, 2019—Meditation and Mindfulness**
The Ven. Geshe Thupten Dorjee

“Western District”

A Fort Smith Historical Society sponsored historic play,
written and directed by Brandon Goldsmith

Synopsis: On May 8, 1871, the Western District Federal Court of Arkansas was moved from Van Buren to Fort Smith and set up court where the “Hole in the Wall” saloon stood, a spot now occupied by 21 West End.

During the next fourteen months and twenty days, corruption ruled the courthouse like no other in the entire United States.

The play “Western District” covers that period revealing the true story behind the founding of the First National Bank and the real reasons why Isaac C. Parker came to Fort Smith.

To be performed:

❖ September 21-22—21 West End.

❖ September 28-30—New Theater, 9 North Tenth Street, Fort Smith.

❖ October 5-7—King Opera House, Van Buren.

❖ October 12—Fianna Hills Country Club.

“Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys”

**Lecture and program presented by David Stricklin,
Director of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies**

7:30 p.m., September 28, 2018

Free admission

Windgate Art and Design Auditorium

Campus of University of Arkansas—Fort Smith

Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys with their original style of music labeled Western Swing frequently played in Fort Smith at the UCT Wintergarden Hall in the 1930s and '40s. Al Stricklin played drums for the group.

**“One Family: A Celebration
of Brotherhood in Story and Song”**

Presented by the

**Arise Ensemble of Wichita, Kansas,
and the Northside High School Mixed Chorus**

7 p.m., September 29, 2018

Free admission

Fort Smith Northside High School Auditorium

Sponsored by St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church and University of Arkansas—Fort Smith

More information at

Facebook@<https://www.facebook.com/AriseEnsemblePage>

Letters From Readers

Inquiries will be published in the *Journal* as space allows and should include the following:

- Your full name and address.
- Full name of ancestor about whom you desire information.

- Definite time period (birth, marriage or death date or date appearing in a certain record at a definite time period).

- State the relationships (names of parents, names of children, names of brothers and sisters, or in-laws).

Material should be submitted using word-processing programs supported by Windows. Do not abbreviate any words; put all surnames in capital letters;

capitalize only the first letter of given names and places; write dates as follows (day, months, year: example 25 January 1978).

Submission of Articles

We welcome the submission of articles, previously unpublished, covering significant historical events and persons in Fort Smith and the surrounding area.

Manuscripts, including quotations and footnotes, must be double-spaced, using *The Chicago Manual of Style* (University of Chicago Press). Footnotes should be

numbered consecutively in the text, assembled at the end of the article, along with a list of additional sources.

The author’s name, address and phone number and email address should appear only on the title page. Manuscripts may be submitted on CD disks, using word-processing programs supported by Windows. Photographs should be submitted in digital format.

All correspondence and manuscripts should be submitted to:

Managing Editors
Journal of the FSHS
P.O. Box 3676
Fort Smith, AR 72913-3676

Fort Smith's Historic People

1817-1825

To salute the bicentennial anniversary of our fair city, the *Journal* adds a new series. This and the next eight issues will carry a list of people who through their presence here as resident or visitor or chronicler have interacted with situations and the environs leaving an impression and a historical record. In this way the Fort Smith Historical Society seeks to widen confirmed knowledge regarding Fort Smith and the vicinity through documentation of these people—and sometimes machines—from both primary and secondary sources. The lists will be chronological covering each twenty-five years from 1800 to 2025.

PART I 1800-1825

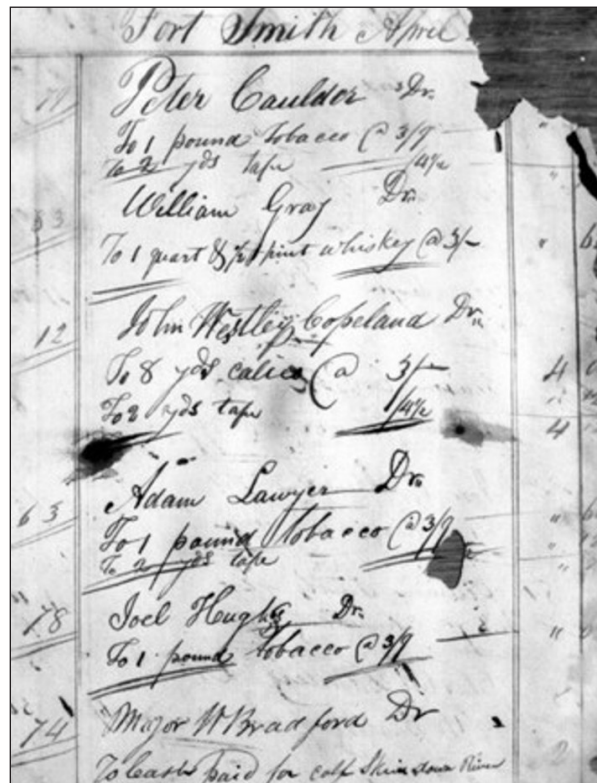
Before settlement by Americans, people stretching back to the Woodland (600 B.C. to 900 A.D.) and Mississippian (900 A.D. to 1541 A.D.) eras frequented the well-watered, abundant site occupied by the city today. After Hernando de Soto, at the confluence of the Poteau and Arkansas Rivers, historic-era Indians—the Osage, Caddo, and Quapaw—interacted with Spanish and French explorers, administrators, and traders in the early years of the nineteenth-century. Most of our knowledge, however, is about groups not individuals and comes from anthropologists and archeologists rather than historians who deal with written sources. See George Sabo III, *Paths of Our Children: The Historic Indians of Arkansas* (Arkansas Archeological Survey, 2001). The first American acknowledged to have traverse this point on the river was Lt. James B. Wilkinson who descended the Arkansas from the Rockies to the Mississippi in 1806. See Phillip Drennon Thomas, “Pike-Wilkinson Expedition,” *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*, www.okhistory.org.

Historical Period

1. Stephen Harriman Long. Dartmouth and West Point trained topographical engineer, Maj. Long was sent out by Gen. Thomas Adams Smith to explore and map the upper Mississippi River lands in 1817 and then the same for the Arkansas River later in year. He selected the site of a cantonment that Major William Bradford built. See Roger L. Nichols and Patrick L. Halley, *Stephen Long and American Frontier Exploration* (University of Oklahoma, 1995). Long reported to Congress after his 1819-20 expedition west of Fort Smith and described the lands as “The Great American Desert.” The name stuck for decades and slowed settlement in the Southwest. See “Major Long’s Skiff,” *The Journal* (September 2017): 8-11. “The 1820 Long Expedition” title of R.G. Beidleman’s 1986 paper on the subject available on line from internet archives has many details not to miss for historians of the Southwest frontier.

2. Major William Bradford. A War of 1812 veteran, Maj. Bradford participated in the wars of the old Northwest under future President William Henry Harrison and in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend with General Andrew Jackson, another future president. Bradford labeled his first monthly returns, sent by six-oared skiff to St. Louis, “Cantonment Smith,” which later became Fort Smith. See: Carolyn Foreman, “William Bradford,” *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* (Winter 1954): 341-51.

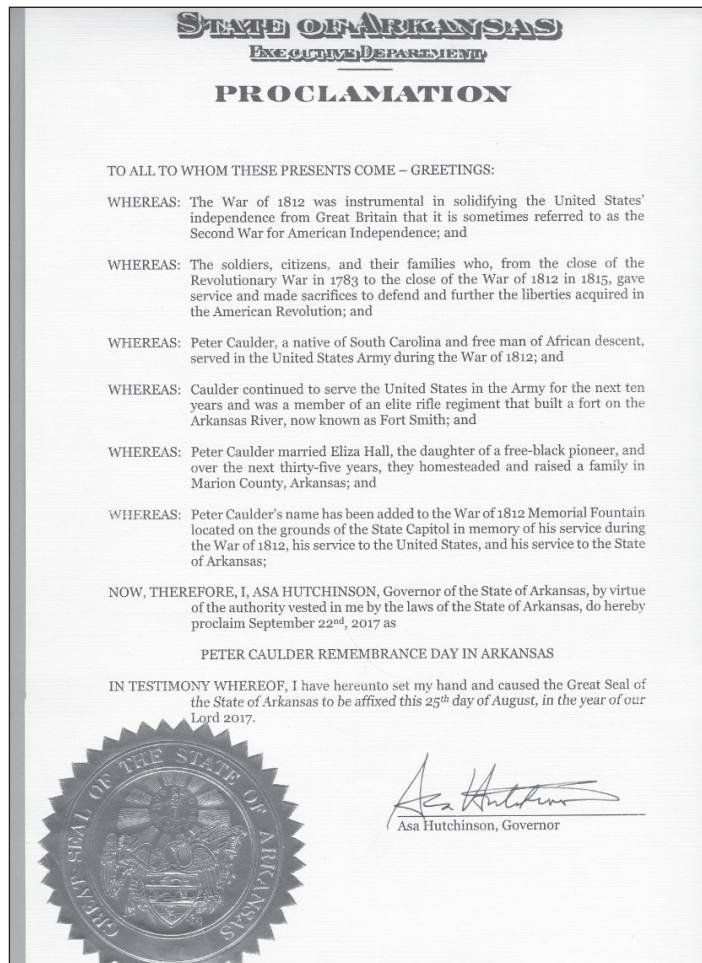
3. Hugh Glenn. A merchant from Cincinnati, Glenn had commissions from the Army for supplying goods and materiel to frontier posts from Minnesota to Oklahoma. He was the first post



SUTLER'S ACCOUNT BOOK, 1820.
(Courtesy of Gilcrease Museum and Archives)

sutler at Fort Smith. Because he was always busy, he left the store in the hands of a competent and educated clerk, David Stagner, whose clear penmanship in the three surviving sutler account books give historians a first-hand view of the consumer and cultural life of the early fort.

4. Thomas Nuttall. Nuttall, an English-born naturalist, came up the Arkansas River in 1819 and recorded his discoveries and adventures in *Travels through Arkansas in 1819-1820*. The young explorer/scientist wrote in the opening of his journal these words: "I could not at this time divert from my mind the most serious reflections on the magnitude and danger of the journey which now lay before me, and which was, indeed, of very uncertain issue." Nuttall withstood these dangers and risks without resorting to his firearm, which grew rusty from his use of it as a digging tool for specimens. Nuttall Oak and Nuttall's Whippoorwill are named for him. See Russell M. Lawson, *The Land Between the Rivers: Thomas Nuttall's Ascent of the Arkansas, 1819*. (University of Oklahoma Press, 2007).



GOVERNOR ASA HUTCHINSON'S PROCLAMATION
making September 22, 2017, Peter Caulder Day.

Private William Loving, and the couple were granted the privilege of building a cabin and farming a patch of ground across the river from the fort at Belle Point.

Their cabin, located about "10 rods from the river crossing," allowed them to tend a ferry, and Susan took in extra washing for an income. Susan Loving had a child in 1820 recorded by Captain John R. Bell.

Alone, she and children withstood threats and demonstrations from an angry Osage war party in April 1821. She was indeed a plucky lady on the frontier, but as noted by historian Edwin C. Bearss, bought "green ribbon and lace" at the sutler store.

8. Emily Browder. Browder was a laundress with the rifle company and wife to Private John Browder. Sometimes enjoying an after-dinner drink in the sutler's store, Ms. Browder would order molasses and cherry bounce with whiskey, thus, perhaps mixing the first cocktails served on the Southwest frontier adding a touch of refinement to the fort.

5. Zacheus Waldo. A musician with Bradford's Rifle Company that built Fort Smith in 1818, Waldo had served with General Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans in 1814. Waldo, descendent of a Connecticut family and a father who served in the Revolutionary War, was awarded bounty land in Arkansas for his War of 1812 service (Arkansas, land patent No. 24562, 160 acres Independence County, 1824). Did Waldo bring the folk tune, "Battle of New Orleans" to the Arkansas Ozarks? Snowball, Arkansas, school teacher Jimmy Driftwood wrote, or may have discovered, a folk song with that name, polished it, and Johnny Horton recorded it for a number one hit in 1959.

6. Peter Caulder. A South Carolinian of African descent, Caulder enlisted in the U. S. Army's Third Rifles after the burning of Washington city by the British in August 1814. He accompanied Bradford's Rifle Company to the frontier and participated in the founding of Fort Smith, as one of five black soldiers in the unit. Caulder settled in north Arkansas after his Army years, married into a free black family, and raised five children. The Daughters of 1812 acted last year to recognize this African-American veteran's twelve-year service through war and peace, and Governor Asa Hutchinson proclaimed September 22, 2017, as Peter Caulder day in Arkansas. See Billy D. Higgins, *A Stranger and a Sojourner* (University of Arkansas, 2004) and Nancy Williams, *Arkansas Biography* (University of Arkansas Press, 2000).

7. Susan Loving. A washerwoman who accompanied Bradford's Company on a keel boat up the Arkansas in 1817, Susan married twenty-three-year-old

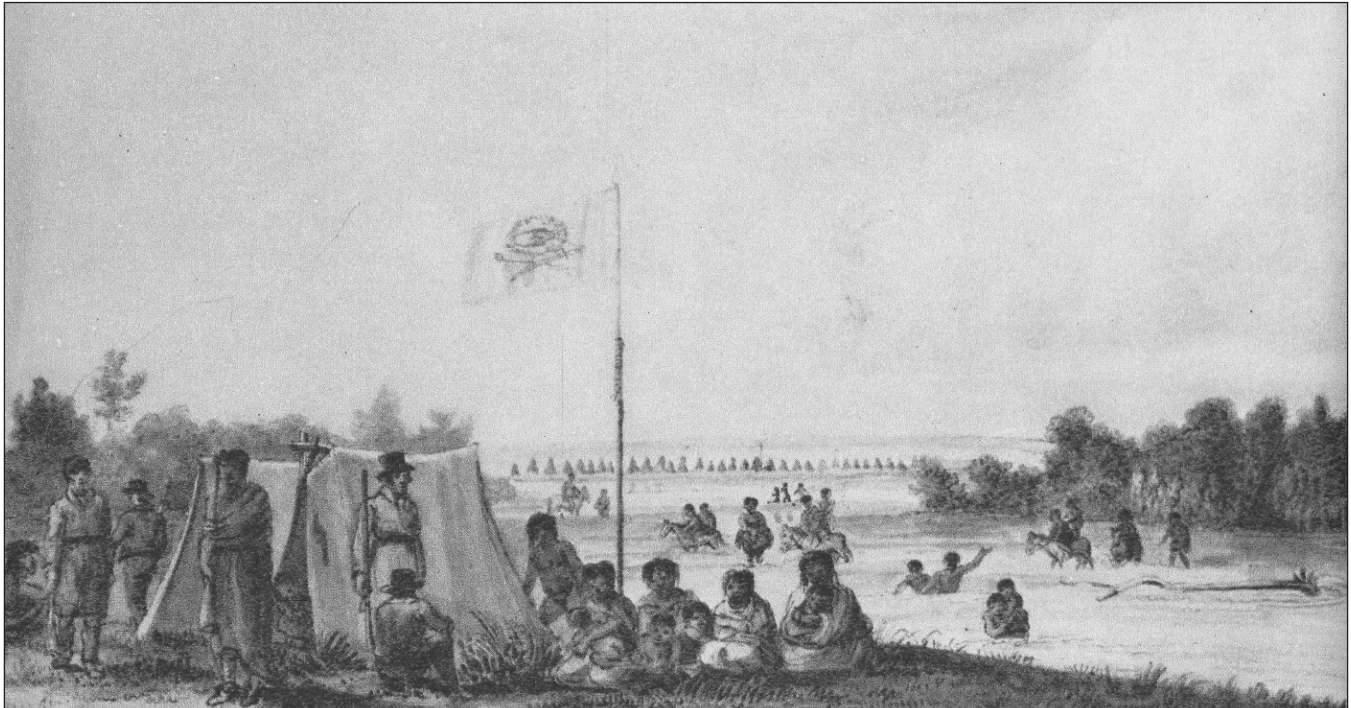
9. Surgeon Thomas Russell. Bradford had pleaded with Gen. Smith about finding a medical doctor for his command even before starting up the river to establish the fort. That wish was finally granted when Thomas Russell arrived in 1819. Russell and Bradford were the sole officers and probably took their meals together and enjoyed a friendship. They are buried side-by-side in the Fort Smith National Cemetery. See Harris Fennimore, “Bradford’s Riflemen and Laundresses,” the *Journal* (April 2018): 19 for picture of their tombstones. Russell accompanied Thomas Nuttall on naturalist excursions to the prairies around the fort, once pitching a tent to spend the night serenaded by the “music of the frogs” and awakened by the “cheerless howling of a distant wolf.”

10. Martin Scott. A Vermonter and Bradford’s second in command, Scott was pegged as the army’s “best marksman.” Scott’s defense of the fort during the Osage siege of 1821 marked a high point in military confrontation with the imperialistic Osage on the American Southwest frontier. During the War with Mexico two decades later, Scott served with distinction helping the success of Gen. Winfield Scott’s campaign to capture Mexico City and was a battlefield casualty. He has a fort named in his honor in Texas.

11. Tcha-togah-wahshin-pisch aka Mad Buffalo. Mad Buffalo was the son of Clermont, a principle chief of the Little Osages. In April 1821, Mad Buffalo and 300 Osage warriors threatened the fort, demanding access to its store rooms. Their objective was to better arm themselves and pre-emptively attack Cherokee settlements on the Arkansas. A two-week siege was highlighted by war dances and murdering three Quapaw hunters on the far shore. Settlers in the area took refuge at the fort. At one point, Lt. Martin Scott ordered his artillery crew to light the firing match for the fort’s six-pound cannon. The attackers withdrew and bypassed Fort Smith, headed toward the Cherokee down river, but then their force dissipated, the discipline of the troops saving Arkansas from what would have been its only combat by troops against Native Americans. See the *Arkansas Gazette*, May 21, 1821, and Edwin C. Bearss “Fort Smith 1817-1824,” unpublished manuscript, Fort Smith National Historic Site.

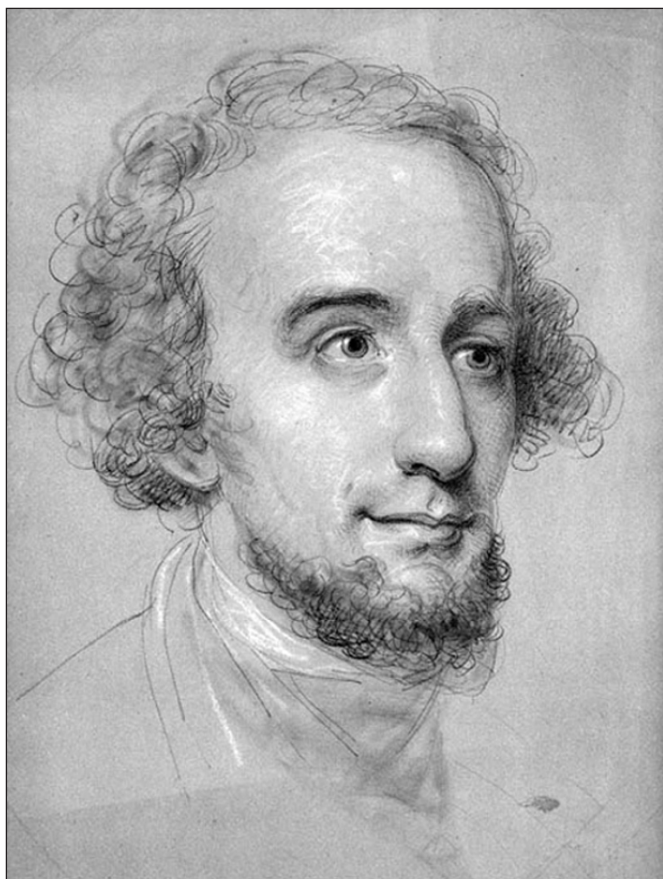
12. Benjamin Bonneville. Paris-born and West Point educated, Bonneville served in the U.S. Army from 1814 to 1862, several years of it in Fort Smith. His career on the frontier led to an interest in exploring the far west. The journal of his travels to the Rockies during a leave of absence was used by Washington Irving to write an account titled *The Adventures of Captain Bonneville*, originally published in 1837. Utah’s Bonneville Salt Flats, the Bonneville dam in Oregon, Bonneville County in Idaho, and the Bonneville House in Fort Smith are named for him. See Matthew Myers, “The Adventurous Benjamin Bonneville,” the *Journal* (September 2014): 39-43.

13. Samuel Seymour. A Philadelphia artist, Seymour accompanied Stephen Long on his exploration of the Arkansas River in 1820 as a “delineator.” The mounted expedition to the headwaters had two officers, two naturalists, two artists,



SAMUEL SEYMOUR'S ENCAMPMENT of the Long Expedition with Kiowa on the Arkansas River, July 1820.

(Courtesy of the Beinecke Library, Yale University)



TITIAN RAMSAY PEALE
1799-1885
(Self-portrait. Courtesy of Smithsonian Institution)

translators, guides, hunting dogs, and a squad of riflemen as escorts. Seymour's sketches on this long journey, which reached Fort Smith on the return in September 1820, included the classic watercolor of the first fort, the original of which the Fort Smith Museum of History brought to Fort Smith on loan from the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University in 2018 for the city's bicentennial celebrations.

14. Titian Peale. An artist on the 1820 Long expedition, Titian was the son of Charles Willson Peale, whose magnificent portrait of George Washington with his hand resting on a cannon hangs at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. The Peale family was nationally noted and cleverly named (Titian's brothers were Rembrandt and Raphaelle), and a portfolio of Titian's sketches made on the expedition is at the Beinecke Library of Yale University.

15. Thomas Say. A scientist recommended by Nuttall for the Long expedition. A foremost scientist who wrote numerous articles for the Academy of Natural Sciences and the *American Journal of Science and Art* on such subjects as herpetology, univalve shells, and arachnids, Say, one might say, would have been invaluable on this Long expedition in selecting tent sites. See Patricia Tyson Stroud, *Thomas Say: New World Naturalist*.

16. Edwin James. A naturalist with the Long expedition, James' published account is a valuable primary source for landscapes, Native American people, fauna, and flora of the areas west of Fort Smith in 1820.

This work relates natural history of the trip area and much about the conditions of the men, horses, dogs, and Native

Americans along the way. Upon their return to Fort Smith, James refers to the warm reception given them by the soldier and his wife across the river from the fort. He is speaking, little doubt, about William and Susan Loving, who were given permission by Bradford to set up a household there. He wrote *Account of an expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains, performed in the years 1819 and '20, by order of the Hon. J. C. Calhoun, Sec'y of War; under the command of Major Long, Mr. T. Say, and other gentlemen of the exploring party*. (Philadelphia, 1823) which you may see at the internet archive site <https://archive.org/details/Accountexpediti00n>.

17. Captain John R. Bell. Second-in-command to Major Long on the 1819-20 expedition, Bell kept a detailed log of the three-month long journey that began in western Missouri, went through present-day Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, and ended at Fort Smith. Bell's journal is a rich account profiling men, events, encounters, blessings, and troubles. When the men reached Fort Smith in September, they had been traveling the plains during the hot months of the summer. According to the sutler store receipt book, the first items they purchased (on credit of course) were? You guessed it, cotton socks. Bell recorded that the woman in the cabin mentioned by James, "a soldier's wife of the garrison was delivered of a fine boy weighing 12 pounds," on Sunday, September 17, 1820. See Harlan M. Fuller and LeRoy R. Hafen, editors, *The Journal of Captain John R. Bell, Official Journalist for the Stephen H. Long Expedition to the Rocky Mountains*, 1820.

18. Taylor Polk. A landowner in southwest Arkansas, Polk visited Fort Smith in the 1820s and acquired a beautiful "brown skinned" woman named Sally from her Cherokee owner. Sally dwelled in Fort Smith, seeing Taylor Polk on his visits. Sally bore Taylor a son, named Peter, and he bore the rebuke from his white wife, Prudence, and took Sally and Peter home to the family farm, "the Wilds," twenty miles south of Mount Ida. Another son by Sally and Taylor, John Spencer Polk, is the subject of a book by Ruth Polk Patterson, *The Seed of Sally Good'n: A Black Family in Arkansas* (University of Kentucky, 1985).

19. Etienne de Vaugine. A French-descent hunter and trader, Vaugine owned French long lot lands around Arkansas Post and was with Quapaw and Delaware Indians at the time of Mad Buffalo's siege in 1821. His friends were massacred by the angry Osage war party and beheaded. Vaugine barely escaped by canoe, crossing the river in front of pursuing warriors

until coming under the protection of the artillery pieces and reaching safety behind the fort walls.

20. James E. Miller. A hero of War of 1812, Miller's motto, "I'll Try, Sir," was widely popular in its day. Appointed by President James Monroe as the first governor of Arkansas Territory, mostly as a reward for his service in the war, the New Hampshire-born Miller made two trips up the Arkansas to Fort Smith from the territorial capital at Arkansas Post to meet with Osage and Cherokee chieftains and settled their differences. He obtained the Treaty of Fort Smith (1822). He spent less and less time in Arkansas after that, writing his wife that the people here lived on "greens, grease, and coffee." See S. Charles Bolton, *Arkansas, 1800-1860: Remote and Restless*, (University of Arkansas Press, 1998).

21. Matthew Lyon. Lyon was a congressman from Vermont during the presidency of John Adams when the Alien and Sedition Acts were passed. The purpose of these laws was to stop slanderous speech regarding the president and other government officers. The Jeffersonian Republican opposition to this Federalist move was vociferous and included Lyon, who was arrested, jailed, and served time under this law, one of the very few to do so. For his loyalty to Jeffersonian principles, President Monroe in 1820 appointed him government factor to Cherokees in Arkansas Territory, and Lyon set up his franchised trading post on the Arkansas River near Spadra Bluff. Lyon was the first to raise the alarm about Mad Buffalo's siege of Fort Smith and put his rifles, ammunition, and stores from the factory into canoes bound down the river to safety in Little Rock. See Tom Dillard, *Statesmen, Scoundrels, and Eccentrics: A Gallery of Amazing Arkansans*. University of Arkansas Press, 2010.

22. Mathew Arbuckle. Mad Buffalo's 1821 challenge to the garrison did not go unnoticed in the War Department, and within a year, the Fort Smith garrison was beefed up with the arrival of Arbuckle's Seventh Infantry from Florida where the First Seminole War had ended. The Seventh absorbed into its ranks Bradford's Company, the post manning document thereby increased from seventy to 205 soldiers, a more formidable military force on the Southwest frontier. Bradford was re-assigned and Mathew Arbuckle (the namesake of Arbuckle Island in Sebastian County) would have a longtime command of troops in this area. See Harold W. Ryan, "Matthew Arbuckle Comes to Fort Smith," *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* (Winter 1960): 287-92.

23. Auguste Pierre Chouteau. Chouteau was a scion of the Chouteau family, who were principle traders among the Osage before and after the Louisiana Purchase and founders of St. Louis. The elder Auguste Chouteau had helped convince the Little Osage to move their lands from the Missouri Ozarks to the Three Forks today part of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. In July 1820, A. P. Chouteau or his men landed a whiskey boat in Fort Smith. See Shirley Christian, *Before Lewis and Clark: The Story of the Chouteaus, the French Dynasty that Ruled America's Frontier*. (New York, 2004).

24. John Rogers and John Nicks. Rogers and Nicks took over the sutler's contract for Fort Smith from Hugh Glenn in June 1821. Since soldiers were so infrequently paid, much they bought from these franchised merchants was on credit, accounts to be settled when the paymaster came in. John Rogers went to considerable lengths to get satisfaction from soldiers who walked their bills after desertion or furlough. For more on the pecuniary conduct of Rogers and Nicks in the early days, see Edwin C. Bearss and Arrell M. Gibson, *Fort Smith: Little Gibraltar on the Arkansas* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1969), 101-103.

25. Jacob Fowler. A Kentucky gentleman, Fowler and his African-American valet traveled by horse to Fort Smith in

MEMORANDUM OF THE VOIGE BY LAND FROM FORT SMITH TO THE ROCKEY MOUNTAINS.

thorsday 6th Sept 1821

We Set out from fort Smith¹ on the arkensaw and
Crossing that River passed threw a bottom of Rich

¹ Present name of the town which has grown up on the site of the original military post, in Sebastian Co., Ark., about 5 m. S. W. of Van Buren, on the right bank of the Arkansaw river, at the mouth of Poteau river, immediately on the W. border of the State, where the river passes from the Indian Territory into Arkansas; lat. 35° 22' N., long. 94° 28' W.: pop. in 1890, 11,311. The original name of the then important frontier locality was Belle Pointe. "The site of Fort Smith was selected by Major Long, in the fall of 1817, and called Belle Point in allusion to its peculiar beauty. It occupies an elevated point of land, immediately below the junction of the Arkansa and the Poteau, a small tributary from the southwest. Agreeably to the orders of General Smith, then commanding the 9th military department, a plan of the proposed work was submitted to Major Bradford, at that time, and since commandant at the post, under whose superintendence the works have been in part completed" in Sept., 1820: Long's Exp. ii, 1823, p. 260, where description of the place follows.

From this starting-point our author proceeds on the direct road to the Neosho river, vicinity of present Fort Gibson, Ind. Terr.

JOURNAL OF JACOB FOWLER

August 1821 en route to join his old friend Hugh Glenn at Three Rivers. Glenn had just relinquished his sutler's store at Fort Smith and was to join Fowler on a monumental wagon trek to Santa Fe, the account of which is the classic, *The Journal of Jacob Fowler*, which illuminates, with quaint spelling, the military and civilian residents of Fort Smith in that year. With the advent of digitized classics available in the public domain, you can now read Fowler's journal by simply pasting in this link into your browser: <https://ia800707.us.archive.org/11/items/journalofjacobfo00fowl/journalofjacobfo00fowl.pdf>.

26. Wat Webber. Western Cherokee Chief Wat Webber lived on the Arkansas River and signed the Treaty of Fort Smith in 1822 along with others in the Cherokee delegation. Webber, who had fought the Osage, now favored peace with the rival tribe. The town of Webbers Falls near where he settled is named for him and was the focus of a slave revolt in 1842 in which a large body of African-America slaves took guns, horses, ammunition, and food from the plantations and headed south toward Mexico. See Daniel Littlefield and Lonnie E. Underhill, "Slave Revolt in the Cherokee Nation, 1842," *American Indian Quarterly* (Summer, 1977): 121-131.

27. The Robert Thompson. Stern-wheeler *The Robert Thompson* reached Fort Smith in April 1822, so now the Arkansas River was open to steamboats if they were equipped with higher pressure steam engines to power up rapid currents and through sharper curves that characterized navigable waterways in Arkansas. Such pressure meant more danger for crew and passengers, but it meant a shorter travel time and larger cargoes, which encouraged settlement as had establishment of the fort. See Leslie C. Stewart-Abernathy, *Arkansas Archeological Survey, Steamboats, The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*, www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net.

And TWO who never set foot here

1. Thomas Adams Smith. The future namesake of the city entered the U.S. Army in 1803 serving under nefarious General James Wilkinson in New Orleans. It would be the young Lt. Smith entrusted by Wilkinson to carry a secret letter for Thomas Jefferson "at a speed hereto unknown for this distance" giving away the conspiracy plans and whereabouts of Aaron Burr. The cross-country trip from Louisiana to Washington by horse had the elements of a spy story with Smith concealing the secret letter between oilskins fitted inside his shoe. The result was the arrest of Burr, the former vice president under Jefferson, and his trial for treason against the United States. Ten years later as general of the Rifle Regiment, Smith sent Bradford and Long to establish an army presence on the upper Arkansas, a presence that became a fort and city that he never visited. See Jerry Akins, "How I Met Thomas Adams Smith (the fourth)," *the Journal* (April 2018): 33-34.

2. The Marquis de Lafayette. A French aristocrat and hero of the Revolutionary War, Lafayette returned to the United States in 1824-25 for a grand tour on the fiftieth anniversary of American Independence. He toured all twenty-four states then in the Union but only touched Arkansas territory at the Mississippi River town of Napoleon, time not permitting him to steam up the Arkansas to visit Benjamin Bonneville, a family friend stationed here (in command of the caretaker detail after the garrison moved to Fort Gibson) at the time. However, at Lafayette's request, the War Department summoned Lt. Bonneville to accompany the nobleman for his voyage home on the schooner, *USS Brandywine*.

Matthew Harris Jouett's 1825 portrait of General Lafayette hangs at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. Fayetteville and Lafayette County, Arkansas, are named in his honor.

—Compiled by editors of the *Journal of the FSHS*.

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From Rebels to Mavericks

Southside High School's link to the University of Texas at Arlington

By Evelyn Barker

At first glance, the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) seems to have little in common with Southside High School in Fort Smith, Arkansas. UTA, founded in 1895, is a research university located between Dallas and Fort Worth with an on-campus enrollment of more than 40,000 students. Southside, located in a town of 88,000 people, opened in 1963 and has about 1,600 students in grades ten through twelve. UTA proudly points to having one of the most ethnically diverse student bodies in the nation.¹ Southside is 62 percent white.²

But both schools have walked the same narrow, rocky path between Southern heritage and school pride on one side, and racial violence and cultural awareness on the other. Both schools adopted the Rebel theme with Confederacy trappings as their own, and—forty-five years apart—both chose Mavericks as the successor to that theme.

In 2015, about a week after a white supremacist shot nine African Americans in a church in Charleston, South Carolina, the Fort Smith School Board voted to drop “Dixie” as the Southside High School fight song and the Rebel as its mascot, both of which had been in use since 1963. Displaying the Confederate flag at school had been banned in 1990. Beginning in 2016, Southside teams became known as Mavericks—a change that had ramifications across the school. The dance team changed from Dixie Belles to Southern Belles. The girls volleyball team became simply Mavericks instead of Confederettes. The “Johnny Rebs” name was excised from the high school choir. Within eighteen months, half a century of community identity (or, perhaps, baggage) was jettisoned.

Reaction to the change was heated. “This is going to [sic] far with what the black people want. No rebel mascots no Indian mascots what is next [no] white mascots only black ones,” wrote a man on Facebook.³

“I graduated FS Southside in 1978. This is heartbreaking. The ‘Dixie’ fight song and the flag during my time in no way was a form of racism. We were supporting our school and exhibiting school spirit,” wrote a woman.⁴



OLD SOUTH WEEK at Arlington State College, 1964.
(Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

“If everything was removed because of racism then there would be nothing. History can not [sic] & will not be erased,” a man wrote.⁵

On the other side the sentiment seemed to be, “It’s about time.”

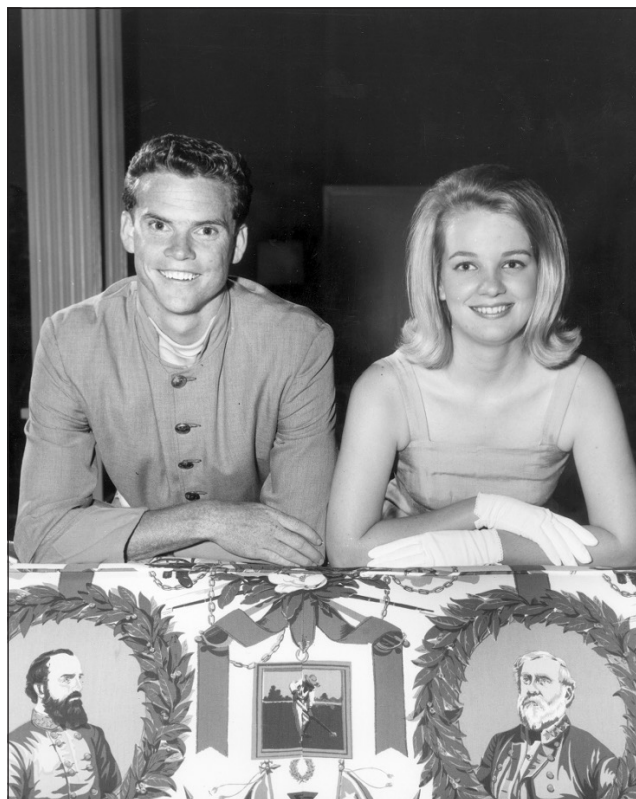
“I am glad people are finally waking up and realizing the role they are playing in perpetuating generational and systematic oppression and racism,” wrote a woman on Facebook.⁶

“What you see as heritage I see as the rape and destruction of several generations of people,” wrote a man.⁷

“The need to stop using oppressive and racist symbols in this country far out weighs [sic] any other reason to keep these kind [of] symbols above government buildings or in



(LEFT) KENNY TERRY AND DONNA VEE OWENS, Mr. and Miss ASC Rebel Spirit for 1966-67.



(RIGHT) “JOHNNY REB” AND MISS ARLINGTON STATE COLLEGE (1964-1965) pose in the Robert E. Lee Suite, located in the student center. On the sofa upholstery, portraits of Confederate generals Edmond Kirby Smith (left) and Robert E. Lee frame an image of a slave hoeing a field.

(Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

public institutions,” wrote another man.⁸

The arguments for and against the Rebel theme in Fort Smith might well have been lifted verbatim from the UTA Libraries’ archives. Within boxes of handwritten letters, black and white photographs, and yellowed newspaper clippings resides the story of UTA’s own struggle over the Rebel theme.

In 1949, UTA was named Arlington State College (ASC) and was a part of the Texas A&M system. That year, the ASC faculty athletic committee settled on Blue Riders as the mascot because of the school’s colors of blue and white. It soon became clear, however, that Blue Riders didn’t generate much excitement, so in 1951, ASC President E.H. Hereford asked the sophomore student body to vote for either Rebels or Cadets as a replacement.

“By unanimous vote, upperclassmen have scrapped the old name of ‘Blue Riders’ in favor of ‘Rebels,’” noted the *Dallas Morning News*. “Headline writers will be grateful for the shorter name and the general public will appreciate it.”⁹

Once the mascot was determined, other motifs of the Confederacy inevitably appeared. The Beauregard battle flag, commonly called the Confederate flag, flew across campus and was emblazoned on walls, band uniforms, varsity sweaters, book covers, and even garbage cans. “Dixie” became the fight song. Inside the student center, rooms were named for Confederate generals and Civil War battles. Upholstery and draperies were printed with portraits of Confederate generals and scenes of slaves working the fields. Homecoming week featured the election of Johnny Reb and Miss Dixie Belle.

In spring semesters, Old South Week on campus served up the South “during its years of glory”¹⁰ and featured hot dogs, lemonade, popcorn, a pancake flipping contest, and three-legged and sack races; as well as a mock slave auction, a “Yankee jail” for those who did not wear a costume on Old South Dress Up Day, a “State of the Confederacy” address and call for Confederate army recruits by a faculty member acting as Jefferson Davis, a Rebel yell contest, and the opportunity for students to fire real pistols at “Yankee” targets.¹¹

In September 1962, ASC became the first school in the Texas A&M system to partially integrate when a handful of



IN 1965, students like Theodore Smith (seated right) began actively protesting the Confederate flag on campus.
(Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

African-American students enrolled. African-American students could attend classes, but could not obtain campus housing or participate in athletics. With integration, the campus newspaper, *The Shorthorn*, became the first entity to publicly suggest that the Rebel theme was no longer appropriate, but the call for change garnered no support, and the issue was shelved for three years. *The Shorthorn* advocated again for a new mascot and theme in April 1965 when ASC left the Texas A&M system and joined the University of Texas (UT) system. “ASC should break even more ties with the past, changing the school spirit theme from the Rebel Dixie motif,” the editor wrote.¹² This second attempt had an impact, of a sort. In May the campus held the first of what would be many referendums on the school’s theme. By a 4-1 margin, students voted to keep the Rebel theme. The first battle to keep the theme was won, but the war had just started.

In October 1965, twenty-five to thirty students (including eight or nine African Americans) gathered

peacefully under the Rebel flag at the student center to protest the Confederate theme. They sang “Freedom” and “We Shall Overcome!” which attracted the attention of several pro-Rebel students. Fiery words were exchanged on both sides. Writing about the event in the spring 1966 *Arlington Review*, African-American student Henry Adkins reflected, “I had never really thought of the Rebel theme at Arlington State as degrading to my race because it was never looked upon as a racial issue. But as I began to think of the Confederacy and the Rebel theme ‘Dixie’ of the deep southern states that look upon the Rebel flag as some sort of sacred heritage, I began to wonder if such a nice school should have such an evil (in my opinion) associated with it.”¹³

African-American student James Frank Wyman wrote piercingly about his assessment of the Confederate theme in the fall 1967 *Arlington Review*.

For what are we wishing when we so zealously declare,
“I wish I was in Dixie?”You see a beautiful white

plantation house with ducks and swans swimming and feeding in the pond. There are beautiful magnolia trees. There are brilliant peacocks spreading their tails on a flower decked lawn that descends to the bank of the river.....You see a Scarlett O'Hara dressed in flowing silks and satins.....That is indeed a very pretty picture.....Now I'll turn back my own clock to those same days.

I see my great grandmother shedding tears because her sixteen-year-old daughter has been sold that morning to a white gentleman from somewhere near Texarkana, never to be seen again....Or worse yet, I see my great grandfather, stripped of all ties with manhood, watching the auctioneer fondle his wife's naked breast before the fluid eyes of whoever was in the market for a black bed-warming wench.¹⁴

Tension over the theme simmered until the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. on April 4, 1968. Residents in the Dallas-Fort Worth area watched as violence erupted in cities across the country. On April 29, the Student Congress passed a resolution that called for the end of the Rebel theme and the removal of the Confederate flag from the front of the student center. This prompted a backlash in which letter writers called the members of the Student Congress un-American and destroyers of school tradition.

"I think very few students think of their school song and name as being a symbol of slavery or anything but a spirit and willingness to do their utmost to make their school the best in every way," wrote a student after the resolution.¹⁵

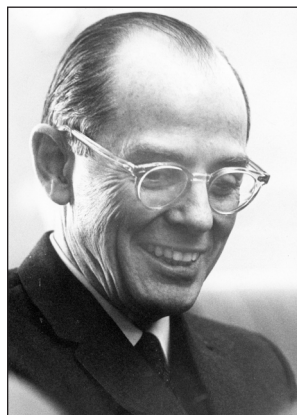
Charles McDowell, dean of student life at UTA, reported a disturbing incident relating to the resolution.

After the Student Congress had voted to replace the Rebel flag with a flag depicting the UT Arlington seal, many students were unhappy. One morning the security office reported that a stuffed dummy with a black face had been hoisted to the top of the flagpole. A sign on the dummy said, "The Jig is up; the Flag is down." The symbols "KKK" were painted on the sidewalk in front of the flagpole. Admittedly, either the "pro-flag" or the "anti-flag" group could have arranged for such a situation to take place; however, the scene created no disturbance because all indication of disruption had been removed by campus security personnel before 6:00 A.M. that morning.¹⁶

Undeterred, the Student Congress had the Confederate flag removed from in front of the student center and replaced with a university flag.

UTA student Jim McClellan explained why he supported the flag's removal.

The Confederate flag has come to be an acknowledged



FRANK HARRISON,
UTA president from
1968-1972.

(Courtesy of University of Texas
at Arlington Libraries Special
Collections)

symbol of an ideology which attacks the very foundation of our democratic beliefs in equality and human dignity. It has come to be the banner and rallying point for those who preach a doctrine of racial hatred. It makes its inevitable appearance at rallies of the Ku Klux Klan and similar racist groups. It greets advocates of segregation, such as "Dixiecrats" George Wallace and Lester Maddox, at their speaking engagements....It would be too naïve to assume that the flag appears in these and similar instances

as an effort to promote something as innocent as school spirit.¹⁷

But while the flag was removed relatively quickly, students opposed to the April Student Congress resolution got enough signatures to force a vote on the theme's removal. In November 1968, a newly elected Student Congress held a campus-wide vote to determine if the school should keep the Rebel theme and, if not, what should replace it. Of the 4,497 votes cast, 3,507 wished to keep the Rebel theme. Within the remaining 1,053 votes, the top vote-getter was Aardvarks—a campus joke that, in today's parlance, had gone viral.

When asked to explain why they wanted to keep the Rebel theme, many white students said they did not consider the Rebel theme and Confederate flag to be racist. Joann Heizer Homer, an ASC student who voted to establish the Rebel theme in 1951, wrote, "The name was chosen, not for anything related to racism, but for what we considered 'Johnny Reb' to stand for, 'a fighting spirit that never dies, honor even in defeat.'"¹⁸ This sentiment was echoed by Kenny Hand, a student at UTA from 1968 to 1972. "To white kids like myself, it wasn't a symbol of racism at all. It was just a symbol of the South and a symbol of the school."¹⁹

The November 1968 referendum made it clear that the Rebel theme was not going away any time soon. Increasingly frustrated, an on-campus student group named Collegiates for Afro-American Progress (CAP) presented a list of twenty demands to UTA President Frank Harrison in March 1969. The demands included the immediate removal of the Rebel theme; hiring black coaches, professors, and counselors; university action to secure off-campus housing



IN MAY 1968, a lame duck Student Congress voted to remove the Confederate flag, the fight song “Dixie,” and the Rebel theme from the school. In response, hundreds of students staged an impromptu rally and parade around campus to show their support for keeping the theme.

(Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

for black students; renaming rooms in the University Center for Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X; firing various faculty and staff members for racist behavior; and CAP oversight of all university decisions affecting African-American students. CAP was backed by a letter-writing campaign from other African-American groups and colleges across the country.

Harrison classified the demands as either those in which the university had no authority (e.g., off-campus housing), those under faculty jurisdiction rather than university administration, and those where university administration could “request action.”

Regarding the theme, Harrison wrote to CAP, “The choice of the theme is primarily a student matter....A change in the theme will be recommended by the administration to the appropriate authorities only if supported by a majority vote in a legal referendum of the students.”²⁰

Acrimony seethed around campus until Friday, October 17, 1969. At an outdoor pep rally, members of the Kappa Alpha fraternity displayed their fraternity banner, the Rebel flag. Members of CAP asked the fraternity to take the flag down, but the fraternity refused. Associate Dean Reby Cary, who had become UTA’s first African-American

professor a month before, asked the assembled students to take down the flag to calm the situation, but was answered back with shouts of “No!”²¹

Then the band, which also waved the Rebel flag, started playing “Dixie.” Angered, a number of CAP members (reports range from ten to seventeen) attempted to forcibly capture both the fraternity’s and band’s flags. The resulting shoving match caused two women and one man to be knocked to the ground. CAP members next entered the student center, seized two miniature Confederate flags displayed in the building, then brought the flags outside and set them aflame. Some witnesses alleged that they saw students carrying weapons like rocks, tire irons, golf clubs, and pieces of pipe.²² Eventually the crowd dispersed with no serious damage done.

The event was reported in the local news and left the campus shaken and on edge. Unsurprisingly, response to the incident was polarized. The pro-Rebel side sent a barrage of letters, some thoughtful and earnest, others vituperative. Several letter writers wanted to keep the theme because they didn’t like feeling bossed around. “How stupid can anyone get when they yield to any whim of a minority group. I am a veteran of W.W.II and believe



AS A RESULT OF STUDENT CONGRESS'S *May decision to drop the Rebel theme, UTA officer Mark Britain (left) lowered the Confederate flag from in front of the student center for the last time on June 29, 1968.*

(Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

in equal rights but to hell with demands and special treatment," one man wrote.²³

"This was your theme befor [sic] black students were admitted, remember?" wrote another, echoing an oft-repeated sentiment that students could attend another university if they didn't like the theme.²⁴

Many blamed hippies, Communists, and "imported agitators"²⁵ for stirring up trouble. Others, including the *Dallas Morning News* editorial board, appealed to history saying that the Confederate flag represented a portion of American history and as such should not be discarded. "Southerners can be legitimately proud of the fighting qualities of their ancestors without being adherents of racist ideology. Do student leaders at Arlington also want Lee and Jackson stripped from the walls? Do they want the history of the war suppressed, too?"²⁶

Those advocating change were equally passionate.

Dear Sirs;

Well, we finally read that u are gonna join the 20th century. CONGRATULATIONS.

TWAS UTTERLY RIDICULOUS FOR AN ALLEDGED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION to have the symbol of ignorance and illiteracy flying over it. [sic]²⁷

Another wrote, "We have to place ourselves in the black man's shoes to see how he feels about this. Since that is impossible, the next best thing is listening and caring. That's all this whole country needs. Listening and caring. Please."²⁸

Many cited damage to the school's reputation as a reason to change the theme. "I am very embarrassed by the poor image the theme creates, [sic] for a fine, growing University, on campuses outside the South....Why should a tax supported [sic] institute such as U.T.A. have a theme which offends or embarrasses even a small segment of those who contribute to its financial support?"²⁹

Campus unrest continued to increase. During a UTA football game on November 8, 1969, Arlington police ejected several African-American students from the stadium. According to the complaint filed in U.S. District Court, African-American student Forest Alexander Jr. was searching for his seat in the stadium when a plainclothes police officer threw a chunk of ice at him. After exchanging words, several police officers arrived in the stadium section and required all African Americans to leave that section. When Alexander and the others took new seats, several plainclothes police moved to sit behind them. Suddenly, about twenty uniformed police officers

appeared and ordered the group of thirty-one African Americans to leave, for no known cause. After escorting Alexander and the others out of the stadium, police locked the stadium gates behind them and formed a “human barricade” behind the gates to prevent re-entry.³⁰

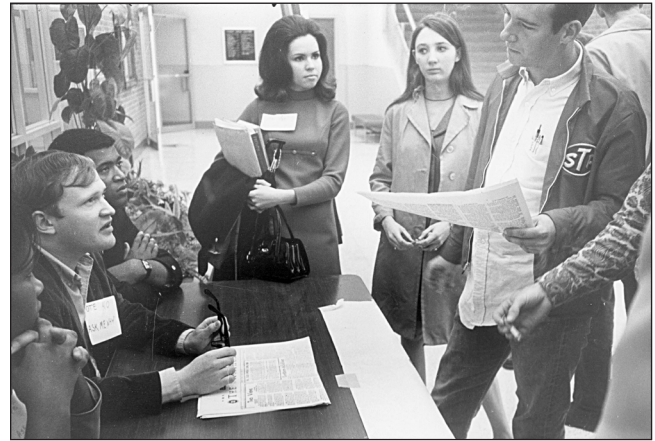
More trouble happened three days later when vandals started five trash fires around campus, one set by Molotov cocktail. University officials pointed to tensions over the Rebel theme as the cause. Clearly, the campus needed decisive action to forestall more and greater violence. Bill Saunders, president of UTA Student Congress, wrote:

At one time I was one of the theme's strongest supporters. I have evaluated my feelings despite these strong emotional ties and now believe the question is that of finding a good alternative....If the current theme is kept, we must be prepared to meet violence with violence....We have heard much talk about the importance of majority rule. I don't doubt its importance but to rule, a majority must be both responsive and aware of the feelings of a minority....I no longer want to be the president of a divided student body or a campus constantly threatened with violence.³¹

By the end of 1969, students were tired of the divisiveness and pleaded with campus administration to resolve the issue, but university administration refused to act. Instead, it persisted in placing the decision and onus of change on the students. At a school with a large majority of white students, the administration's insistence that the theme could be changed only by a student vote meant that voting outcomes would likely continue tilting toward keeping Rebels. Some believed that to change the theme despite the vote would undermine the democratic process.

The Student Congress responded to the administration's stance by holding another vote on the theme that asked students to choose Texans, Mavericks, or Apollos to replace Rebels. Texans won the vote, but nearby Tarleton State College had changed from Plowboys to Texans in 1962 and promptly wrote President Harrison saying it would not be appropriate for UTA to have the same theme. UTA disregarded this request and held a runoff between Mavericks and Texans in February 1970. Out of only 492 votes, 318 preferred Mavericks.

Next, the Student Congress held an election in March 1970 pitting Mavericks against Rebels. Once again, the Rebel theme won the majority of votes, although the percentage of victory had dropped from 78 percent in 1968 to 56 percent in 1970. Responding to the results, President Harrison recommended keeping the Rebel theme to the UT System Board of Regents. The regents approved but suggested removing all associations with the



THE CONFEDERATE FLAG was removed from the student center flagpole in June 1968, but students forced a campus-wide vote about removing the theme altogether. In the November 1968 referendum, students were asked if they wanted to keep the Rebel theme and, if not, what should replace it. Rebel flag opponent James Neal, seated center, wears a tag that reads “Vote No. Ask Me Why.” Students overwhelmingly voted to keep the Rebel theme.

(Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

Confederacy. By fall 1970, UT Arlington had its Rebel theme, but none of the Confederacy trappings. An ever-growing number of students continued advocating for a theme change, and the ongoing controversy prompted a UTA alum to upbraid the school for its “wishy-washy indecision. We feel this constant upheaval over the theme—what is acceptable and what is not—must end.”³²

Finally, the UT System Board of Regents took the decision away from UTA. On January 29, 1971, the board voted seven to two to abolish the Rebel theme, effective June 1. Student Donna Darovich wrote in the 1971 UTA yearbook:

The official ruling of the Regents marks the end of a bitter era for the university. And just as students have adjusted to six changes on the name of this institution, so will they identify with another theme if student leaders dedicate themselves to the present and future welfare of the student body.

To be sure, a trail of bitterness and frustration stretches across the campus but with violence rampant around the globe, it's time for both sides to dedicate themselves to ending a conflict where everybody emerges a loser.³³

Rather than stick to the thoroughly vetted Maverick theme, students voted yet again for a new theme that would replace the Rebels. The four options were Mavericks, Toros, Rangers, and Hawks. Only ninety-nine votes separated first-place Mavericks from fourth-place Hawks, so President Harrison called for a runoff between



THE MOOD WAS TENSE after violence broke out at an October 1969 pep rally. Head cheerleader Frank Prochaska tries to invigorate campus spirit in the face of ever-growing opposition to the Rebel theme.

(Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

Mavericks and Toros. The result conclusively established Mavericks as the new theme.

Now the campus faced a new problem: what is a Maverick? No one at UTA knew, so a committee of students and administrators solicited sketches from area artists and asked students to vote for their favorite. The winner was an image of a horned horse which, when depicted in profile, resembled a unicorn.

It didn't last.

Horses—horned or otherwise—were not allowed on the field at Arlington Stadium where the football team played, so a Maverick became Sam Maverick, a cowboy-type figure loosely named after real-life Texas land baron, legislator, and slave-owner Samuel A. Maverick. This cowboy image of a Maverick endured into the twenty-first century with various makeovers, the last coming in 2003. In 2007, students voted to replace Sam Maverick with a new incarnation, a blue and white horse—unhorned—named Blaze. This time around there was no problem with horses on the field because UTA had ended its football program in 1985.

Few people at UTA in the late 1960 and early 1970s could have imagined UTA becoming the large multicultural university it is today, much less a campus unified around the Maverick mascot. Writing in 1967,



KATHY MARCUM AND KIRK WALDEN, representing Sam Maverick, pose with UTA's new Maverick mascot in 1971. This concept of a Maverick didn't last long. In the 1970s, the UTA football team played on a converted field in Arlington Stadium, the baseball park used by Arlington's new MLB team, the Texas Rangers. The Rangers did not want a horse on their turf, so the horse concept was soon dropped and not revived until 2007.

(Courtesy University of Texas at Arlington Libraries Special Collections)

African-American student James Frank Wyman predicted, "Twenty years from now, Rebel yells will still echo from the stadium and the sound of 'Dixie' will still stir a more

patriotic pulse than the National Anthem.”³⁴ But that did not come to pass. With nearly a half-century of use, Mavericks is now the most enduring mascot UTA has had in its 120-year history.

Old times in Arlington may not have been forgotten, but UTA did look away from divisive Southern symbology and toward a future of growth. Today UTA is the largest university in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and can claim an international reputation. While the 2015 Rebel theme dispute in Fort Smith shows that the issues UTA struggled with fifty years ago are still very much alive, UTA shows that there is a way forward after the controversy.



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Arrested Development

Historical impacts and influences of the boundary of Arkansas

Patrick D. Hagge

I. INTRODUCTION

“Island 37” is a low-lying, forested patch of Tennessee land on the banks of the Mississippi River. Curiously, Tennessee’s Island 37 has been attached to the Arkansas mainland since 1876, when a flood altered the course of the river. Tennessee authorities could approach the “island” only by boat, so contact between this geographical oddity and the rest of Tennessee faded. In the 1910s, the parcel had become a haven for outlaws and bootlegging. Authorities on the Arkansas side, including Mississippi County Sheriff Sam Mauldin, argued that Island 37 was the rightful property of Arkansas. In July 1915, the sheriff led a raid into the disputed territory. The sheriff was killed during the first attack, which sparked additional raids by vengeful Arkansans, resulting in Arkansas’ capture of several Island 37 residents.¹ The Tennessee state government in Nashville furiously protested Arkansas’ unlawful incursion across a state border, and various legal maneuverings and strongly worded lawsuits were delivered between the two states.²

Lines on the map matter; borders have consequences. This article’s central research question assesses such border consequences by examining the historical impacts of the state boundary of Arkansas. Although the evidence is wide-ranging and complex, a case can be made that Arkansas’ borders have been harmful for Arkansas’ history. The boundary of Arkansas hampered the state’s development throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, fostering extensive adverse impacts on Arkansas’ economy, population, and politics. A delay in development left Arkansas far behind neighboring states in terms of economic metrics, across a period of two centuries.³ The rural, poorer nature of the state due to suspended development is directly related to the geography of Arkansas—and to the state boundary itself.

This argument is supported by an examination of six separate hindrances to development: an untouched Mississippi River, south-flowing rivers, mountain roadblocks, the “Oklahoma wall,” notches and lost opportunities, and cross-border “bad luck” (Figure 1). In more detail, a largely underdeveloped and rural Mississippi River border caused a delay in Arkansas’ inward expansion, and whatever westward growth existed was stymied by a series of north-south river barriers preventing

easy transportation crossings. If development did occur across the lowland barriers of east Arkansas, the large upland regions of the Ozark Plateau and the Ouachita Mountains served as vast roadblocks, funneling any westward movement along the thin Arkansas River valley. Westward expansion along the Arkansas River reached a final obstacle, the “wall” of Indian Territory/Oklahoma. In addition to a border that impeded Manifest Destiny’s westward push, Arkansas’ border “notches”—the Missouri Bootheel in the northeast and along Texas in the southwest—represented lost population and missed economic potential. Furthermore, economic comparisons between Arkansas and its neighbors have favored the bordering states, representing chance misfortune that continues to compound the state’s geographic disadvantages.

This approach to Arkansas history is novel, as no comprehensive examination of the negative historic effects of Arkansas’ border yet exists. However, the history of Arkansas’ border creation is well-documented by several Arkansas historians. Several journal articles have exclusively focused on a particular issue of Arkansas’ historical border-making, especially concerning the Oklahoma and Texas borders, as those boundaries were unsettled before Arkansas became a territory.⁴ Numerous book-length histories of Arkansas have also contained detailed narratives of partial border creation, such as the complicated process of settling the Arkansas-Oklahoma border throughout the 1820s and 1830s.⁵ Likewise, other documents discussing the effects of a particular border segment exist.⁶

As is the case with most states west of the Mississippi, nearly all of Arkansas’ borders are composed of either straight lines of latitude/longitude or paths of major rivers. Arkansas is adjacent to six other states (Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas), and many border segments have been drawn and redrawn throughout history. While brief summaries of the creation of each segment of Arkansas’ border are included throughout this article, the effects of the state boundary upon Arkansas’ development receive far more focus. Each of the six “hindrances to development,” and their associated effects on historic Arkansas, are reviewed in the discussion that follows.

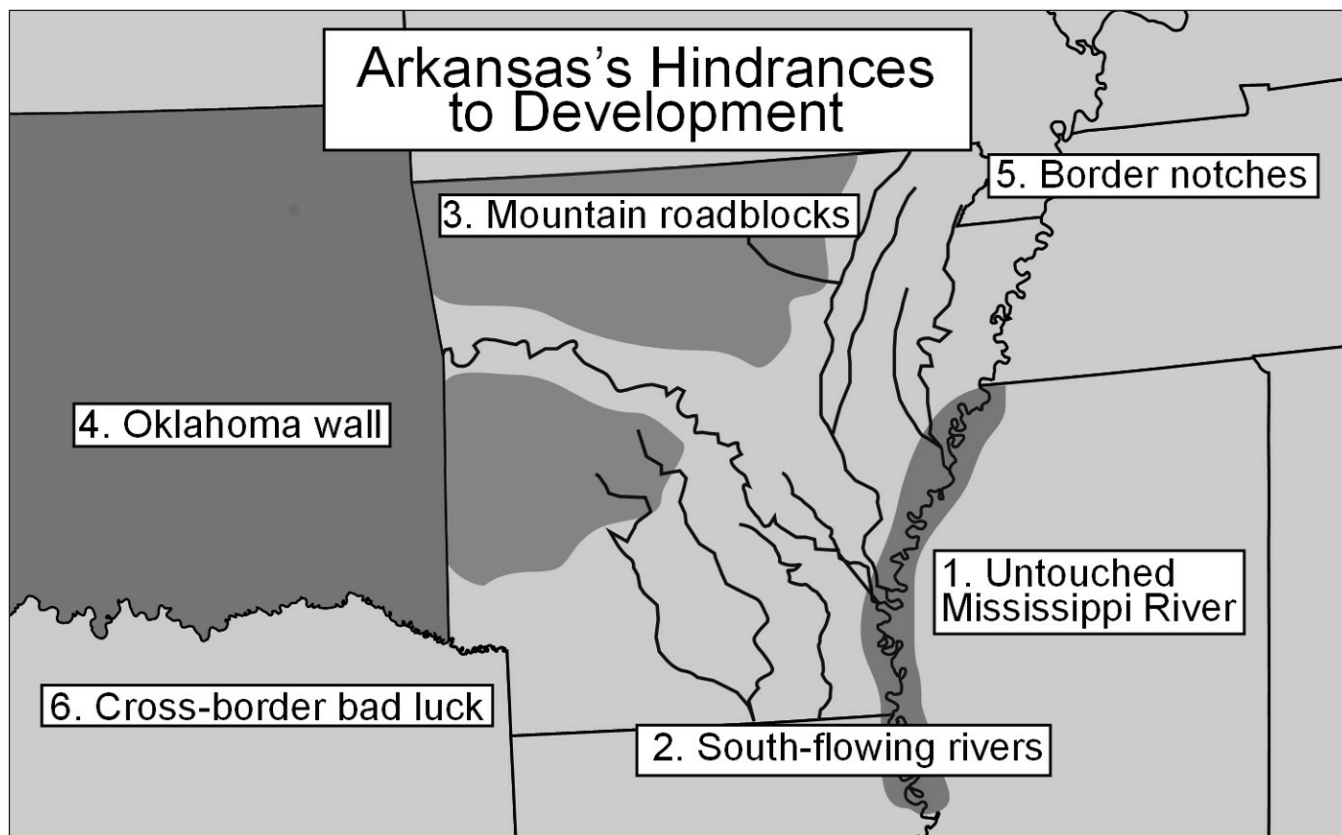


FIGURE 1: *The six major geographic hindrances to development faced by nineteenth- and twentieth-century Arkansas. Map by author, 2018.*

THE UNTOUCHED MISSISSIPPI RIVER

The historical path of the Mississippi River forms the border between Arkansas and the two states of Mississippi and Tennessee. Little initial cross-state controversy over this border existed, as Tennessee and Mississippi had been assigned a western river border since their respective statehoods in 1796 and 1817, furthering a delineation that had existed between the United Kingdom and Spain since the end of the French and Indian War in 1763. Problems of exact land ownership (such as ownership of Island 37) did arise due to the changing course of the Mississippi River through the centuries, but eventually, the eastern border of Arkansas was set as the centerline of the Mississippi River at statehood in 1836.⁷

At first glance, a long riverine border along North America's major river would seem a boon for Arkansas' progress, but the geographic surroundings of the Mississippi River represent the first major hindrance to development. Arkansas' Mississippi River border is largely untouched, underpopulated and underdeveloped compared to other major riverine borders in the United States. A recent National Geographic Adventure story on canoeing the "wild sprawl" of the lower Mississippi noted that "the 300 river miles between Memphis and Vicksburg,

Mississippi, are the most sparsely inhabited stretch of the entire river."⁸ Indeed, along that stretch of 300 river miles, only Helena-West Helena, Arkansas (population 10,000) and Greenville, Mississippi (population 30,000) exist as cities with any sort of port or riverfront. Compared to a similar stretch of mileage along the upper Mississippi River or the Ohio River, the lack of riverside urban places bordering southeast Arkansas is an incredible contrast.⁹

A lack of larger port cities deters development. With fewer places of urban growth, there were fewer transportation crossings, be it nineteenth-century ferries or twentieth-century interstate highway connections. The rural nature is seen in census records for Island 37, where the 1910 manuscript census sheets record the majority of Island 37 residents as living on various address-less "Public Roads."¹⁰ Industrialization largely bypassed the broad Delta region, not only due to the agrarian surroundings, but also due to a lack of regional infrastructure. In general, river location is a boon for regional growth, but few Mississippi River port towns existed to foster such growth.

Why the southeastern Arkansas border was so underpopulated must be addressed, and the many reasons for sparse settlement are largely related to geography. Lands around the Mississippi were not simply low in

elevation because of the smoothing action of millennia of alluvial flooding; several river confluences on the Arkansas side created more opportunities for inhospitable lowland terrain. The Arkansas River, the White River, and the St. Francis River all constitute separate drainage basins that empty into the Mississippi River along Arkansas' state border. In the lowlands, these river systems were often surrounded by marshes and swamps, creating unfavorable building conditions on many stretches of riverbank. Early European explorers into North America noticed that bottomland hardwood forests covered the alluvial plain on both sides of the Mississippi River. In the nineteenth century, this swampy land required dredging and draining in preparation for agriculture. The conventional view of sprawling cotton plantations on both sides of the Mississippi is appropriate, but the broadest area of cotton farming existed only after decades of land clearing had occurred.¹¹

Once the land had been cleared, the low elevation and poor flood controls enabled the cyclical floods of various rivers to wash away potential port land. Sometimes, rising waters removed urban places altogether. Arkansas Post, first established in 1686, was moved and rebuilt several times, with a relocation in the late 1770s related to fear of flooding. Napoleon, Arkansas, was located near the confluence of the Mississippi River and the Arkansas River, but a massive Mississippi River flood in 1874 permanently destroyed the town.¹² The Arkansas city of Hopefield, near present-day West Memphis, was washed away in a flood in 1912.

A further impairment to regional growth in the early nineteenth century specifically was the status of much of northern Mississippi as regions of Native American settlement or relocations. Until the two treaties of Doak's Stand in 1820 and Dancing Rabbit Creek in 1830, most of the delta lands of Mississippi were effectively Choctaw lands. Domains held by Indian tribes were less likely to be economically integrated into the wider U.S. economy, furthering the prevention of large-scale regional urban development.

The effects on population growth (or lack thereof) were long-lasting. Census statistics of urban and rural populations show the difficulty in kickstarting development. In each census between 1910 and 1940, Mississippi was either the first or second most rural state in the country, and Arkansas was among the top five most rural states. The long Mississippi-Arkansas border offered few urban areas to engender economic expansion, but Arkansas' distinctive struggle with development continued. While a chain reaction of rurality from Mississippi could be expected to move westward (as Oklahoma, Mississippi, and Arkansas were the three of the five most rural states in

1900), Oklahoma's urban situation improved markedly. Oklahoma City and Tulsa began their impressive urban growth periods, improving Oklahoma to the eighteenth most rural state by 1940, yet Arkansas was still the third most rural state by that census.¹³ In short, Arkansas' development was slowed by an eastern border of swampy lowlands largely devoid of large river port cities or cross-river economic assimilation.

SOUTH-FLOWING RIVERS

Arkansas' southern boundary, a straight line following thirty-third degree north latitude at Louisiana's northern edge, was first established as the northern boundary of the District of Orleans in 1804, during the initial division of the Louisiana Purchase. The boundary crosses vast hardwood forests and Delta lowlands, traversing a portion of the second border hindrance to Arkansas' development: Arkansas' mostly south-flowing rivers.

Arkansas' major rivers flow far more south than east, which created a major impasse for cross-state transportation, slowing westward development across Arkansas. Particularly for railroad crossings, a series of hard-to-pass north-south rivers in eastern Arkansas greatly slowed westward movement. Moving west from Memphis to Little Rock, the Mississippi River, St. Francis River, L'Anguille River, Bayou DeView, Cache River, and White River form a series of potential river crossings all within the first eighty-five miles, and Bayou Meto and the Arkansas River are additional crossings on a trip to Little Rock. Compared to the other trans-Mississippi states (Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, and Louisiana) only Louisiana could boast similar north-south riverine barriers.

Because of the southerly nature of rivers, crossing the state by boat proved a much longer distance than a latitudinal east-west journey. Steamboats traveled the Mississippi River for nearly a decade before ever voyaging along the Arkansas River. The fastest keelboat barges in the territorial period took about three weeks to travel from the Arkansas River's mouth to Little Rock and back. By the mid-nineteenth century, other problems occurred, as extensive droughts impeded boat traffic on the Arkansas River.¹⁴ Even with these riverine difficulties, Johnson noted that "overland travel in pioneer Arkansas was slower and more uncertain than river travel," and rivers were some of the "greatest obstacles" to road construction across the state.¹⁵

Evidence of the difficulty in river crossings suggest Arkansas' delayed connectedness with the rest of the United States. Detailed time-series examinations of railroad construction across east Arkansas show the many river obstructions. Before 1850, no railroads existed in the state.¹⁶ In 1860, Arkansas had the least total railroad

mileage of any southern state by orders of magnitude. Soon, transcontinental railways connected the Pacific to the Atlantic, but Arkansas was still a rail backwater. By 1870, a rail traveler could ride from San Francisco to Memphis, but not from Memphis to Little Rock.

The staggered start of Arkansas railway construction delayed development, as railroads were vital for a town's success. Moneyhon described the phenomenon, arguing that Arkansas cities realized that "to fail to secure a rail link was to risk the economic future of their town."¹⁷ Railroads did not just aid the growth of existing towns, but rail lines encouraged the creation of new towns.¹⁸ A 1951 pamphlet produced by the Association of American Railroads summarized the economic importance of the last century of rail travel, noting that "railway development was exerting a powerful influence upon immigration and agricultural and industrial growth throughout the country."¹⁹ Unfortunately for Arkansas, the belated construction of railroads initially prevented this "powerful influence" from shaping the state.

Other modes of transportation were stymied by south-flowing rivers. In the Civil War era, the major road west toward Memphis was inaccessible for months due to the wetland environment.²⁰ In the twentieth century, state highway maps of Arkansas show that as late as 1938, ferries, not bridges, were the only way of crossing the White River at St. Charles, with presumably private toll bridges on river crossings near Clarendon and DeValls Bluff.²¹ In some instances, the enormous watersheds of the Arkansas, White, and St. Francis create a lack of transportation that continues to the present.²²

MOUNTAIN ROADBLOCKS

Eventually, railroads and bridges crisscrossed eastern Arkansas, solving the problem of south-flowing rivers. However, a third hindrance to development was posed by Arkansas' borders: the mountain roadblocks of the Ozarks and Ouachitas. In terms of topographic relief, the Ozarks and Ouachitas represent the tallest mountain range between the Appalachians and the Rockies. If westward-moving economic development did in fact cross the Delta to reach central Arkansas and beyond, the two large mountain ranges are "in the way," leaving migration, settlement, and commerce to be funneled through the Arkansas River valley.

Indications of the mountain roadblocks are seen in the locations of Arkansas' pre-statehood Indian reserves. From 1817 to 1828, much of the land between the Arkansas River and the White River—the Ozarks heartland—served as Cherokee territory, and from 1820 to 1825, most of the region between the Arkansas River and the Red River—the core of the Ouachitas—served as Choctaw lands. Essentially, when the federal government looked for

destination territory for Indian nations, the Ozarks and the Ouachitas were seen as unimportant enough land to be parceled to the second-class-citizen Native Americans.²³

The relative impassability of the mountains is apparent through the absence of transportation routes. By the end of the 1820s, nearly ten "post routes" connected various locations in the eastern half of the state, including routes that align with the current paths of modern U.S. highways. However, a single post route in the Arkansas River valley was the only path crossing western Arkansas.²⁴ Future post roads were constructed, but a lack of communication and governmental reach in nearly half the state did not bode well for Arkansas' development. Even river travel near the mountains was challenging. In the steamboat era of the first half of the nineteenth century, only high-water portions of the White River could be traversed in Ozark country.²⁵

A lack of railroad construction suggested mountain isolation. An 1895 railway map showed the ubiquitous spread of thirty-one separate railroad lines throughout Arkansas, except for the core of the Ouachita and Ozark regions. No railway lines existed in the center of these mountain strongholds, and absent a north-south line roughly following modern U.S. Highway 71, there would be no traversing the state by rail without a stop through Little Rock.²⁶ Furthermore, in subsequent years, several railways that did attempt to cross mountainous terrain faced financial difficulties, such as the Missouri & North Arkansas line (M&NA), colloquially called the "May Never Arrive" train.²⁷

The impact of railroad connections upon Arkansas' growth should not be understated, as new connections meant new economic links. The Cairo and Fulton Railroad to St. Louis was the first railway to link Arkansas with the eastern United States and has rightfully been described as a railway that "opened up the state for development."²⁸ The problem for Arkansas was the hard-to-pass mountains preventing such developmental openings from ever occurring. Furthermore, surrounding rural populations were often too few to support the railroad. Hull (1969) noted that "...you may build a railroad through the Ozarks, but it is a very different story when you try to operate trains over it on a profit."²⁹

Even in the twentieth century, the roadblock nature of even the mountain foothills existed. According to official state highway maps, the last segment of Arkansas' Interstate 40 to be completed was the portion between Clarksville and Ozark in 1972, arguably the hilliest stretch of the highway.³⁰ And Interstate 49, which will eventually reach 700 miles from Kansas City to south Louisiana, is virtually complete except for the 150 miles through the core of the Ouachita Mountains. Even if development pushes were able to traverse the many river systems of

eastern Arkansas, the upland mountains of western Arkansas created yet another impasse.

THE OKLAHOMA WALL

Arkansas' western border underwent a continual shrinking from its territorial creation in 1819 until statehood in 1836. Technically, the original "Arkansaw Territory" reached to the far western edge of the Louisiana Purchase (in present-day New Mexico) upon the territory's formation in 1819. A series of border changes in the 1820s, mostly with the Cherokee Indians, cleaved the territory until its current position was drawn. These border shifts were fraught with legal challenges and were not officially resolved between Arkansas and Oklahoma until 1905.³¹

The Arkansas-Oklahoma border represents the fourth hindrance to development: the "Oklahoma wall." From the aftermath of the Trail of Tears in the 1830s until Oklahoma's statehood in 1907, the lands beyond Arkansas' western border were designated as Indian Territory. As Arkansas continued its delayed development throughout the nineteenth century, an obstacle was realized. The directional push of Manifest Destiny was to "Go West, young man," but going west from Arkansas went straight to the obstruction of the Indian Territory.

The mere existence of a reserve for various American Indian tribal nations did not automatically signal a lack of economic interaction or development. Fort Smith, which contained around 2,000 residents by the close of the Civil War, was noted as a market center for the Choctaw and Cherokee lands, and a contemporary newspaper noted that Fort Smith maintained "great trade" with Indian lands beyond the Arkansas border.³² Similarly, nineteenth-century transportation westward from Fort Smith did occur on routes such as the military's California Road or the Butterfield Overland Mail stage route.³³ Still, linkages between the U.S. and Indian Territory were lower than similar contacts between U.S. states.

The obstruction posed by the Indian Territory can be seen through several historical transportation trends. While the first Transcontinental Railroad took a northerly route, connecting the Midwest with San Francisco, the first southern cross-country rail line took an extremely southerly path, near the Mexican border in New Mexico and Arizona through the newly acquired Gadsden Purchase. There was no thought to build a rail line west through Arkansas, because the Indian Territory was simply in the way, even as local Fort Smith residents were hopeful for nearby construction of this "Grand Trunk Pacific Railroad."³⁴ By 1880, a Memphis to Little Rock to Fort Smith railroad existed, but no railroad line crossed from Arkansas into Oklahoma. By 1890, major rail lines connected St. Louis and Dallas, traversing Arkansas roughly along modern U.S.

Highway 67, but few railroads crossed into Indian Territory.

The effects of the Oklahoma wall are also seen through population figures, namely populations in the vicinity of Fort Smith. For nearly two centuries, settlement and town growth have occurred strongly on the Arkansas side of the border, with little growth on the Oklahoma side. Even when accounting for possible lowland floodplains along the Arkansas River, the Oklahoma side of the border is—and has been—much more rural compared to the Arkansas side. An 1890 topographic map includes a well-developed Van Buren and Fort Smith in Arkansas, but no Arkoma or Moffett in Oklahoma (Figure 2). In Oklahoma, only a few roads and the labels of "Choctaw Nation" and "Cherokee Nation" are visible.³⁵

The Oklahoma border-as-wall phenomenon continues to the present. Using geographic information systems (GIS) and mapping techniques, modern Census counts can be approximated within a series of circles centered on the Fort Smith National Historic Site. As the site is nearly on the Arkansas-Oklahoma boundary line, given a random population distribution, 50 percent of the population "should" live in each state. However, 75 percent of the 200,000 persons living within twenty miles of the historic site are Arkansas residents, and over 90 percent of the 125,000 persons living within ten miles of the historic site are Arkansas residents. Even when excluding all persons within Fort Smith's city limits, the Arkansas side within ten miles of the site accounts for nearly 80 percent of all border population. In the twenty-first century, suburban or rural Arkansas borderlands are still far more developed than suburban or rural Oklahoma borderlands. The Oklahoma wall endures.

NOTCHES AND LOST OPPORTUNITIES

An unusual characteristic of Arkansas' borders is the set of "notches" in the otherwise straight boundary lines in Arkansas' northeast and southwest. Arkansas' northern border along Missouri was delineated as part of the Missouri Compromise in 1820, but its 36°30' North latitude also forms part of the Tennessee-Kentucky border.³⁶ However, this border is interrupted by an indentation in northeast Arkansas known as the Missouri "Bootheel," which was attached to Missouri in 1820 due to the desire of local landowners.³⁷ The Bootheel is composed of portions of three Missouri counties: all of Pemiscot County, most of Dunklin County, and some of New Madrid County. The three counties are so similar to the Arkansas Delta that a local description of the Missouri Bootheel is "Arkansas in denial."³⁸

On the other side of state, the Arkansas-Texas border is constituted of a straight line on the western edge of

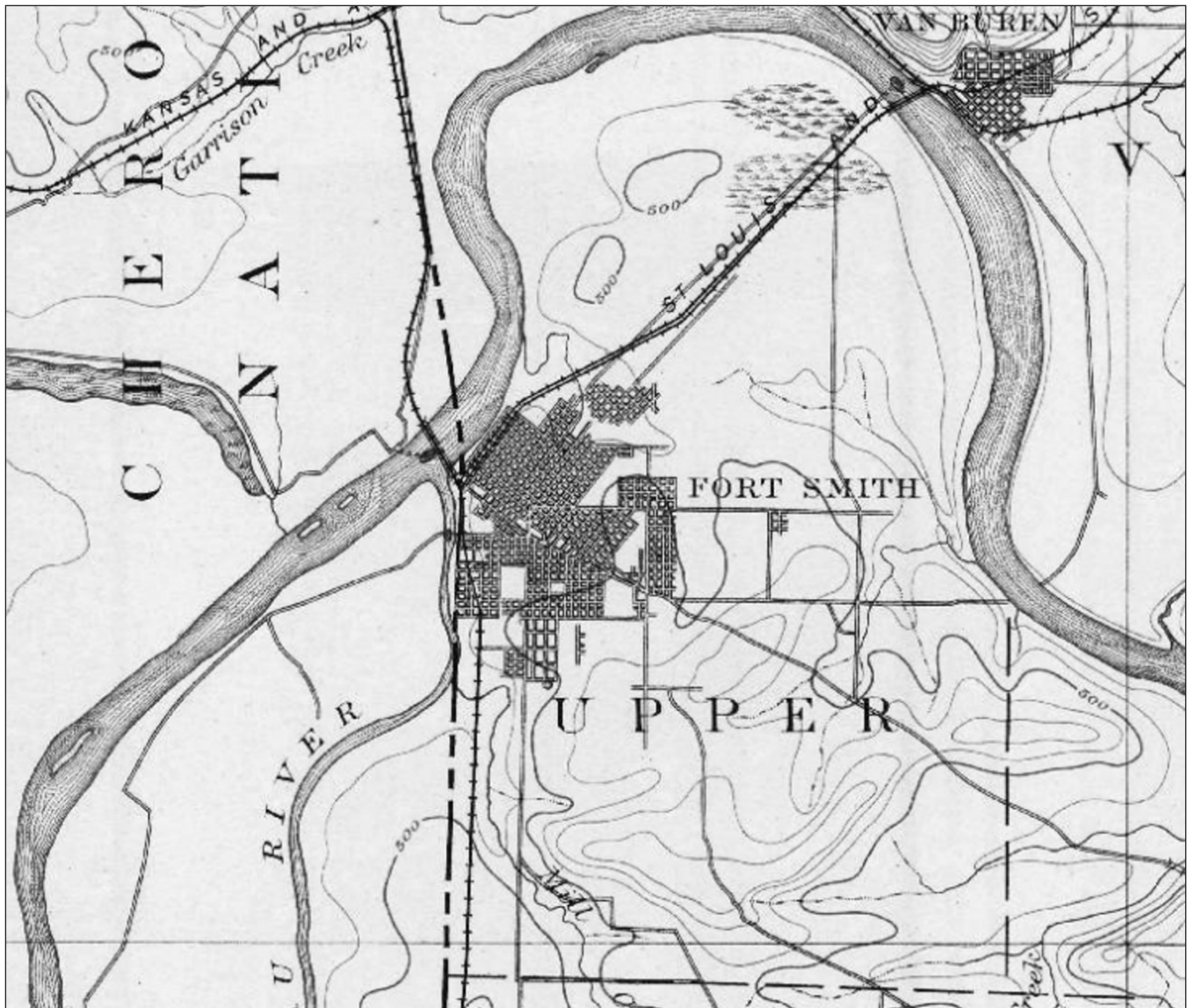


FIGURE 2: *The largely barren Indian Territory side of the border, 1890 USGS topographic map.*

Arkansas' Miller County, along with the Red River on the southern edge of Arkansas's Little River County. Early Arkansas's border continued south of the Red River to the 33° North latitude of Louisiana's northern edge, creating a right angle at Arkansas' southwest corner. Upon statehood in 1836, Arkansas politicians assumed their state map was "notchless" in the southwest and imagined an extended Miller County.³⁹ Matters were complicated by the line's status as an international border, as a traverse across Miller County meant entering any place from Spain to Mexico to the Republic of Texas to the state of Texas at different points between the 1810s and the 1840s. With proper surveying, the border argument began to go against Arkansas' favor, and by the time of the admission of Texas as a state in 1845, the current southwest border of Arkansas became official.⁴⁰

The Missouri and Texas boundary quirks account for the fifth hindrance to development, as Arkansas' irregular border notches represent lost opportunity for more territory, residents, and political power. In short, losing the two corner borderlands resulted in some surprising disadvantages for Arkansas throughout its history. Of great importance was that these landholdings were home to thousands of would-be Arkansans. Similar to most Delta regions, the Missouri Bootheel had its population peak in the mid-twentieth century and declined thereafter due to mechanization of the cotton fields. At their height, the Bootheel counties were home to roughly 130,000 persons. The disputed Arkansas-Texas region contains most of Bowie County, Texas, which grew from about 60,000 persons in the mid-twentieth century to over 90,000 residents today. The two border notches represent up to



FIGURE 3: Payday lending in Arkoma, Oklahoma, just across the Arkansas-Oklahoma border. Photo by author, 2015.

200,000 persons that could (or should) have been Arkansans at some time during the last two centuries.

These lost Arkansans from four “almost Arkansas” counties resulted in several downstream effects for Arkansas. Not only would a larger population of Arkansas residents equate to more taxpaying Arkansans (perhaps allowing the state to avoid its infamous 1933 default), but more Arkansans would equate to more political power. The number of U.S. Congressional seats apportioned to Arkansas has consistently declined after Arkansas’ population dip in the mid-twentieth century: Arkansas had seven Congressional seats from 1900 to 1940, six Congressional districts in 1950, and four Congressional districts from 1960 onward.⁴¹ With the extra population from the Missouri Bootheel and Texas’ Bowie County region, Arkansas’ population would have been just enough to retain a fifth Congressional district in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s, with a possibility of a fifth district into the 1990s.⁴²

The effects of extra Congressional districts would be numerous: more direct Congressional power for Arkansas’ state delegation, more importance in the Electoral College and presidential campaigns, and more Arkansas politicians participating in national politics. Hypotheticals abound: perhaps a fifth Congressional district would have been designated as a “majority-minority” district to comply with the 1965 Voting Rights Act, likely broadening Arkansas’ Congressional representation. Or perhaps a younger Bill Clinton runs for Congress in 1974 not in the Republican-dominated Third District against John Paul Hammerschmidt, but in a smaller and therefore more winnable district. Various “what-if?” effects of political

contests in a theoretically shrunken Missouri and Texas exist as well.⁴³

CROSS-BORDER BAD LUCK

The final hindrance to development posed by Arkansas’ borders has been the wide-ranging “bad luck” of cross-border state relationships. In general, Arkansas’ borderlands and bordering states have often been larger, richer, more populated, and more economically situated for development than Arkansas (with the notable exception of the Fort Smith area due to the Oklahoma wall.) Every surrounding state is larger in population than Arkansas, and every surrounding state has larger cities, state capital cities, and metropolitan areas than Arkansas.⁴⁴ Many cross-border cities see this pattern as well: Texarkana, Texas, is larger than Texarkana, Arkansas, and Greenville, Mississippi, is larger than Lake Village, Arkansas.

Furthermore, neighboring states have exploited Arkansas’ economic policies for their own benefit in recent years. Both Mississippi and Oklahoma allow for casino gambling, bringing in tourism dollars and tax receipts to those states. As Arkansas does not allow casino development, it is unsurprising that these states place their casinos as close as geographically possible to Arkansas in order to maximize their customer base. The “bad luck” of differences in casino policies envelops Arkansas. Of the six states that border Arkansas, the four states with the longest shared Arkansas borders offer some form of commercial casino gambling. Similarly, “payday lending” is legal in Oklahoma but not Arkansas. Because many Oklahoma payday lenders are just across the Oklahoma-Arkansas border, customers from both states frequent the institutions,

but only Oklahoma receives the tax receipts from payday lenders (Figure 3).⁴⁵ Other financial differences between Arkansas and its neighbors have included restrictive banking laws such as anti-usury policies.

Contrasts in tax rates are also disadvantageous for Arkansas. For 2017, each of the six states that border Arkansas possessed lower maximum state income tax rates than Arkansas. Of the six states bordering Arkansas, Texas has no income tax of any kind, and Tennessee only taxes interest and dividends, not wage or salary income, making Arkansas one of a very small pool of states to border two nearly tax-free neighbors in Texas and Tennessee.⁴⁶

The effects of tax variations are evident. Texarkana, Texas, and Texarkana, Arkansas, share the same general terrain, climate, and so forth, but Texas is free of personal income taxes. At present, Texarkana, Arkansas, has around 20,000 residents while Texarkana, Texas, has 30,000 residents. In the unincorporated rural regions around the two Texarkanas, about 5,000 residents live on the unincorporated Arkansas side of the state line, while the unincorporated area on the Texas side of the state line contains nearly 25,000 residents. The pull of Texas' financial incentives was so strong that in the early 1970s, the state of Arkansas passed a "border exemption," allowing residents who live and work within Texarkana, Arkansas, to have their income exempt from Arkansas' state taxes. Ultimately, the fact remains that in several economic rolls of the dice, where Arkansas and a bordering state differ on economic policy, the neighboring state has had the more financially advantageous situation.

CONCLUSION: A STATE THAT SHOULD NOT BE

For over two centuries, the geographic position of Arkansas' state boundary has clearly and significantly hindered the economic development of Arkansas. A barren Mississippi River border and the hurdle of south-flowing rivers postponed growth in interior Arkansas. Two major mountain regions and the Indian Territory wall stifled westward movement beyond Arkansas. Border idiosyncrasies in two corners of Arkansas, along with more attractive economic situations across the state boundary further impeded widespread progress for Arkansas. This article aimed to identify the impacts of the state boundary of Arkansas, and subsequent discussions have explained the effects of the border in detail. The overall theme is a simple statement describing a looming problem throughout Arkansas' history: the border has been bad for Arkansas.

Additionally, the imprudent boundary lines have contributed to an Arkansas identity crisis. Lands contained within the borders of Arkansas are contradictory, combining lowland plains and upland mountains, of Old South and semi-Midwest. Arkansas has been described as

"two states within a state," split by a grand diagonal from northeast to southwest.⁴⁷ In the modern era, the "two states" of Arkansas face wildly different trajectories with population and economic growth: a northwest Arkansas on the move, and a southeast Arkansas in decline. An analysis of official Arkansas state highway maps shows an often-rotating cycle of map cover images showcasing Delta scenes then Ozark/Ouachita scenes, defining Arkansas in one yearly image as alternately upland and lowland. Arkansas stands as a state with stark geographic diversity among its spatial halves, but the potpourri that is Arkansas lacks a sense of place. Importantly, the fundamental differences in this bifurcated state arise from the unfortunate state boundary. The end result is that in many ways, Arkansas' borders have created "a state that should not be."

The optimistic view is to recognize that the border-related struggles could have been worse. While the boundary line has done no favor for historic Arkansas, other states have seen border disputes range from angry hostility to outright warfare, such as Ohio and Michigan's "Toledo War." However, the pessimistic view is to acknowledge that while Arkansas has avoided massive border conflicts, this is likely due to the fact that four of the six state borders with Arkansas were already drawn and agreed upon by Arkansas' statehood in 1836. Two state borders not yet predetermined by 1836 (Arkansas-Oklahoma and Arkansas-Texas) resulted in dispute after dispute. In essence, the process of border-making in Arkansas was hardly trouble-free.

Island 37, the parcel of riverbank land claimed by both Arkansas and Tennessee, was the setting for the violent skirmishes in the opening of this article. But Island 37's history has one more noteworthy event. The cross-state legal arguments between Arkansas and Tennessee concerning land ownership related to the 1915 raid continued, and eventually the question was decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. In *Arkansas v. Tennessee* (1918) the court found that while the Mississippi River had changed course, the state border had not, awarding Island 37 to Tennessee. In fact, the 1918 decision argued that the interstate boundary line should be based off the national boundary in place at the close of the American Revolution. Undoubtedly, lines on the map matter.

Arkansas' borders have possessed net negative effects on the state's historical development, changing the trajectory of population and politics, while hindering economic growth in the state. However, any remedies for this situation are theoretical at best. Arkansas' borders will not be radically redrawn, nor should they. Arkansas will not add or subtract lands to or from a neighboring state. The late-arriving state development cannot be rerun or sped

up. However, understanding the harmful effects of the border is essential. The glacial path toward development throughout Arkansas' history was fundamentally affected by the geographic positioning of the boundary line. This is not to argue that Arkansans were simply victims of a superimposed border, with millions of residents possessing no agency or capacity of change.

However, it is important to note the resulting difficulties posed by such a flawed state perimeter. For a state that consistently sits near the bottom of any fifty-state ranking, Arkansas' entire history could be radically different without the geographic hindrances to progress discussed in this article. Borders can fundamentally transform the lands they contain, affecting long-lasting changes—perhaps none more so than the border of Arkansas.



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Endnotes

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- 5 See Whayne, Jeannie, Thomas DeBlack, George Sabo, and Morris Arnold. *Arkansas: A Narrative History*. 2nd edition. Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 2013. Various elements of the border, particularly issues with the Oklahoma and Texas lines appear in Bolton, Charles S. *Arkansas, 1800-1860: Remote and Restless*. Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 1998.
- 6 A discussion of the varied effects of the Arkansas-Texas border upon Texarkana's economy is seen in a report by Pakko, Michael R. *Taxes and the Economy of Texarkana AR-TX*, UALR Institute for Economic Advancement, July 2011.
- 7 Gill, John P. "Arkansas State Boundaries," *The Encyclopedia*

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- 8 Seely, Kimberly Brown. "Where the Big River Gets Lost." *National Geographic Adventure*. August 2007. 60-66, 89-92.
- 9 For comparison, the 300 miles of the Ohio River downstream from Cincinnati include the large cities of Louisville (population 600,000), Cincinnati (population 300,000), Evansville, Indiana (population 120,000), Owensboro, Kentucky (population 60,000), and more than a dozen other port cities far larger than Helena-West Helena.
- 10 Manuscript census returns, Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, Population Schedules, Tipton County, District 14/Reverie, TN.
- 11 An excellent treatment of this process is seen in Saikku, Mikko. *This Delta, This Land: An Environmental History of the Yazoo-Mississippi Floodplain*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2005. Some areas of the Yazoo Delta in Mississippi were not completely drained until the 1880s. The swampy lowlands surrounding the lower Mississippi created wholly different environments than the shores of the upper Mississippi or the Ohio rivers.
- 12 Hammond, Michael D. "Arkansas Atlantis: The Lost Town of Napoleon." *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 65 (Autumn 2006): 201-223.
- 13 "Urban Percentage of the Population for States, Historical," Iowa Community Indicators Program, <https://www.icip.iastate.edu/tables/population/urban-pct-states>
- 14 Bearss, Ed and Arrell M. Gibson, *Fort Smith: Little Gibraltar on the Arkansas*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1969, 218.
- 15 Johnson, Boyd W. *The Arkansas Frontier*. Little Rock: Perdue Printing Company, 1957, 110-115.
- 16 Whayne et al, 2013, 144.
- 17 Moneyhon, Carl H. *Arkansas and the New South: 1874-1929*. Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 1997, 26.
- 18 Moneyhon notes that shortly after the laying of the Missouri and North Arkansas route, "thirty-three new towns had been created along its route." Ibid, 103.
- 19 The Association of American Railroads. *American Railroads: Their Growth and Development*. Pamphlet. 1951.
- 20 Tucker, 1985, 7.
- 21 Arkansas State Highway Commission. Official Highway Service Map. Little Rock, AR, 1938.
- 22 Snow Lake, a community in Desha County, is separated from the rest of the county by the Arkansas River, and due to few river crossings, the journey from Snow Lake to the county courthouse in Arkansas City is over 130 miles.
- 23 The Quapaw reserve from 1818 to 1825 existed in a small patch of east Arkansas south of the Arkansas River. This Delta-located land actually represents a reduction in territory from the previous Quapaw-held lands throughout east

- Arkansas, so the Indian lands in the Delta were shrinking while the Indian lands in the insignificant mountains areas were growing. See Bolton, Charles S. *Territorial Ambition: Land and Society in Arkansas, 1800-1840*. Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press, 1993 for a good overview of changes in this era.
- 24 A detailed map appears in Johnson, Boyd W, 1957, 126. A short post route connected Batesville to Icard Courthouse, but the entirety of the major Ozark and Ouachita regions were absent of any post route less than a decade before statehood. The single western Arkansas post route also included an Arkansas river crossing near Dardanelle, giving additional isolation to the foothills of the Ozarks west of Dwight (near modern Russellville.)
 - 25 Rafferty, Milton D. *The Ozarks: Land and Life*. 2nd Edition. Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press 2001, 99.
 - 26 See map by Cram, George Franklin. Cram's township and railroad map of Arkansas [map]. Chicago, 1895. Viewed online at Library of Congress, call number G4001.P3 1895 .C7.
 - 27 Caldwell, Bill, "The sad tale of the Missouri & North Arkansas line, aka the 'May Never Arrive.'" *The Joplin Globe*. 2018 Mar 24.
 - 28 Condren, S. Michael. "Cairo and Fulton Railroad." *The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*. <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=2422>
 - 29 Hull, Clifton E. *Shortline Railroads of Arkansas*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1969, 53.
 - 30 Arkansas State Highway Department. 1973 Highway Map of Arkansas. Little Rock, AR, 1973.
 - 31 The border issue resurfaced in the 1980s as Oklahoma entered additional lawsuits against Arkansas concerning the state border.
 - 32 "Arkansas Prospects," *The Arkansiana* (Fayetteville, AR) Feb. 3, 1860, p. 2.
 - 33 Bearss, Ed and Arrell M. Gibson, 1969, 216.
 - 34 "Arkansas Prospects," *The Arkansiana* (Fayetteville, AR) Feb. 3, 1860, p. 2.
 - 35 Fort Smith's platted blocks in 1890 stretched to modern-day Dodson Avenue in the south and Greenwood Avenue in the east. United States Geological Survey. Arkansas-Indian Territory: Fort Smith Sheet, 1890.
 - 36 The Tennessee-Kentucky border piece in question is a partial attempt to continue the Royal Colonial Boundary of 1665, which split Virginia and the Carolinas.
 - 37 See Whayne, DeBlack, Sabo, and Arnold (2013), 99-101 for more information. The powerful landowner John Hardeman Walker was most responsible for the Missouri attachment.
 - 38 An excellent discussion of the culture and environment of the Bootheel is found in Dougan, Michael B. "Missouri Bootheel." *The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*. 2011. <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=5736>
 - 39 The extended territorial "Miller County" appears to have been created in 1821. Maps showing late 1820s-era pre-statehood "post routes" included delivery to "Miller Courthouse," currently located in Bowie County, Texas. Arkansans at statehood firmly believed that an extended Miller County was Arkansas' land.
 - 40 The extended lands claimed by Arkansas were known as "Miller County," which was disestablished by Texas. Later, "Miller County" was created in Arkansas, creating a unique situation in U.S. history: a county was created, disestablished, and then re-created.
 - 41 Office of the Historian, U.S. House of Representatives. "Representatives Apportioned to Each State." 2007.
 - 42 U.S. Census, "Population of States and Counties of the United States: 1790 to 1990." 1996. It is likely Arkansas would have also possessed an eighth Congressional district after the 1900 and 1910 apportionment, which would have lasted until the 1930 apportionment, as no reapportioning occurred after the 1920 Census.
 - 43 It is impossible to know how voters in the Bootheel/Bowie regions would vote given ballot issues in Arkansas versus Missouri or Texas, and published county vote records would have to be split to exactly represent an Arkansas without "notches," but hypothetical scenarios include a less controversial U.S. Senate primary win for Lyndon Johnson in 1948 and a flipped Missouri presidential vote in 1960 in favor of Richard Nixon, bringing Nixon within a successful challenge of Illinois' electoral votes from the presidency.
 - 44 Arkansas' lack of large cities compared to its border neighbors can be seen by the fact that every Arkansas-bordering state except Mississippi is home to at least one professional sports team of any of the "Big Four" North American sports—MLB, NBA, NFL, or NHL.
 - 45 Evidence of the just-over-the-border establishments can be seen in the payday lending strip of Arkoma, Oklahoma, just beyond the Arkansas-Oklahoma border. Several establishments suggest a veritable "miracle mile" of payday lending in Arkoma along Oklahoma state Highway 9A.
 - 46 If one excludes the far western states (where several energy-rich states have no income tax), Arkansas is the only U.S. state bordering two mostly income tax-free states.
 - 47 Nelson, Rex. "Two states in one." *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. 2011 Aug 17, p.19. This is not a new split: various measures of a disunited Arkansas have extended from the territorial period onward. Differences in economic conditions among highland and lowland Arkansas in the territorial era are seen in Bolton, Charles S. "Economic Inequality in the Arkansas Territory." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 14, no. 3(1984): 619-633.

Present at the Creation

*Miles Everett Foster, Sidney Wolferman, and Davis Goldstein:
Building a Clinic in Fort Smith a Century Ago*



DR. MILES EVERETT FOSTER



DR. SIDNEY WOLFERMAN



DR. DAVIS GOLDSTEIN

*These portraits hang in the old Cooper Clinic Main Lobby.
(Photos courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAFS)*

By Taylor Prewitt

It was nearly a century ago that Fort Smith saw an innovative experiment in the delivery of health care when two groups of doctors left “private practice” to form two multi-specialty clinics, Cooper Clinic in 1920 and Holt Krock Clinic in 1921.¹ A valuable source of information about one of these clinics recently came to light as Cooper Clinic joined Mercy Clinic-Fort Smith on November 1, 2017, and donated its archives and scrapbooks to The Pebley Center for Arkansas Historical and Cultural Materials, located in the Boreham Library on the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith campus. Preserved in five cardboard boxes stored in a cabinet at the back of the clinic board room, historic documents were mixed with snapshots and newspaper clippings, providing a vivid picture of how medicine was practiced a hundred years ago.

Dr. St. Cloud Cooper was fifty-nine years old when he founded the clinic in 1920; the six others were in their early

thirties. Three of these junior partners—Everett Foster, Sidney Wolferman, and Davis Goldstein—formed, with Cooper, the backbone of the clinic and practiced in it for the rest of their lives. Another physician who would have a long and distinguished career, A. A. Blair, joined the clinic three years later.

This was a time when a doctor stayed up all night at the bedside of child with acute appendicitis—or put off a vacation to Colorado because a patient had typhoid fever.² The Cooper Clinic senior surgeon drove to Sallisaw to remove a patient’s gall bladder on the kitchen table, accepting eggs, ham, butter—and on one occasion, a horse—as payment.³

MILES EVERETT FOSTER

“I mashed my finger when I was a little boy,” Irvin Sternberg recalls, “and when Dr. Foster was inspecting it, he saw that I was about to faint, and he had me hold my

head down.” Office nurse Ann (Polla) Miller described this same gruff surgeon as striking fear in the hearts of nurses by cursing under his breath when he had to operate on an overweight patient.

Miles Everett Foster Sr. was born in Witcherville, Arkansas, on January 4, 1887, to Dr. James H. and Christine Foster. He graduated from Fort Smith High School and was valedictorian of his graduating class at Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia in 1906. After an internship at Atlantic City Hospital in Atlantic City, New Jersey, he completed a surgery residency at Jefferson Medical College Hospital in Philadelphia. He practiced with his father in Fort Smith from 1911 until he entered military service during World War I. He then studied plastic surgery under Dr. Vilray Blair, commander of the U.S. Army corps of head and neck surgeons, at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis. Dr. Foster served as executive officer and chief of plastic surgery with the 42nd General Hospital Center. He received the European Theater Ribbon and the Croix de Guerre.⁴

After the war he entered practice in Fort Smith and joined Dr. St. Cloud Cooper in planning the formation of Cooper Clinic, going with him and Dr. Sidney Wolferman to Rochester, Minnesota, to study the organization of the Mayo Clinic as a model. The original partnership agreement shows Cooper as director of the clinic, receiving 28 percent interest in the partnership, and Foster as vice director, with a 20.75 percent interest. (Wolferman’s interest was 15.75 percent, and Goldstein’s was 9.95 percent. The records are silent as to how these percentages were determined.) Foster’s job description was “General Surgery.”⁵

Foster was a member of the American College of Surgeons and served as president of the Sebastian County Medical Society in 1936. He succeeded Cooper as president of Cooper Clinic and served many terms as chief of staff at St. Edward Mercy Hospital. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and Hardscrabble Country Club.⁶

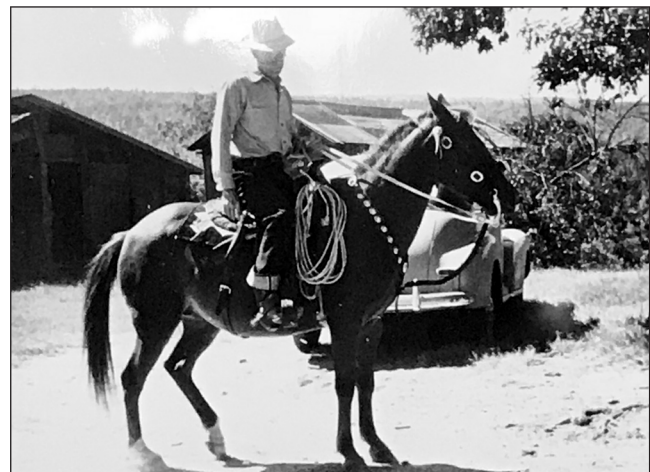
A rather informal insight into Dr. Foster’s clinical interests is found in a comment on a colleague’s paper presented at the Arkansas State Medical Society meeting, recorded in the *Journal of the Arkansas Medical Society* in 1933:

I was very much excited last week. I saw a woman, age 65, with a small movable mass near the umbilicus, marked visible peristaltic waves, history of alternate constipation and diarrhea, no vomiting, a sensation of fullness, with pain at times after eating, and I thought surely we were going to add another case of small intestinal tumor to our series of one. The X-ray, however, spoiled our playhouse, as the



DR. EVERETT FOSTER dropped his gruff operating room demeanor for a clinic party in 1947. A hidden face above his right shoulder must be responsible for the cup being held above his head.

(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAfS)



DR. FOSTER enjoyed spending weekends at his ranch the “Lazy F,” often entertaining clinic and hospital staff there.

(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAfS)

roentgenologist gave us a diagnosis of carcinoma of the pyloric end of the stomach, which was verified several days later by operation.⁷

His plastic surgery training led to his repairing most of the cleft palate and harelip deformities in the Fort Smith area. His marriage in 1912 was recorded in the September 26 issue of the *Fort Smith Daily Herald*:

Dr. Everett Foster, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Foster, will be married October 9 to Miss Lynn Iler, a favorite society girl of Shreveport, La. Dr. Hunt will accompany Dr. Foster to Shreveport and act as best man at what will be one of the most fashionable society weddings ever held in the

Louisiana city. After a trip to New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Atlantic City, and other eastern points the happy couple will return to Fort Smith and be “at home” at 501 North Eighteenth Street.⁸

(Liz Wolferman Hauptert observes that this clipping confirms the impression of Mary Lynn Foster as a Southern lady, whereas her own mother, Elizabeth Moulton Wolferman, was more of a tomboy who hunted quail with her husband and taught him to fly fish—with dry, not wet flies. The two ladies were the best of friends.)

Among his other interests: the *Daily Herald* of Fort Smith reported in July 1913, that Dr. M. E. Foster’s Tony Faust was second in the Class A Pace at the Matinee Club’s fairgrounds meeting on July 4.⁹ Horse racing, including harness racing, had been popular in Fort Smith since the 1850s. Races were held at Spring Park on Race Track Prairie, approximately where Ramsey Junior High School now stands.¹⁰ Foster later owned a ranch on the Fourche La Pave River and spent spare time there. He enjoyed fly fishing and vacationing in Colorado with the Moulton and Wolferman families.

Foster was forced to retire in 1963 because of peripheral vascular disease, which led to his death in 1966 at age seventy-nine. He was survived by three children, Dr. Miles Foster, a pathologist in North Platte, North Dakota; Robert Foster of Fort Smith, who was retired from the United States Weather Service; and Eva Foster Whitehead of Houston, Texas.¹¹

My connection with the Foster family was through his son Robert and Robert’s wife, Lenamae “Trip” Foster, both now deceased; and I fancy I can visualize Dr. Everett Foster with the characteristic facial features and voice that were passed on to both his sons. Much of the oral tradition about Dr. Foster was passed on to me by his office nurse, Ann Miller (whom he called by her maiden name “Polla”), when she was a nursing supervisor at St. Edward.

SIDNEY J. WOLFERMAN

“Rural town in Arkansas needs physician.” This note on the bulletin board in Barnes Hospital in St. Louis in 1913 attracted the attention of a young resident in training. Though born and raised the Midwest, his mother had grown up on a Virginia plantation, and the idea of living in the South had a certain romantic appeal. He answered the notice, joined an older physician, and began his practice in Fort Smith. This was Sid Wolferman, whose mother’s brother, Col. Joseph M. Heller, was an Army physician who had sent him stamps from a posting in the Philippines, giving him an early orientation toward a career in medicine.¹²

Sid Wolferman was born in Streator, Illinois, on January

7, 1889, the son of David and Carolyn “Carrie” Frank (Heller) Wolferman. David had come with his family from Birchfield (Birkenfeld) in Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany. The family was Jewish but decided not to practice the Jewish religion or customs.

His mother, Carolyn, was Jewish and grew up on a plantation in Virginia. Carolyn’s sister, Ida Heller, married Isadore Saks, who with his brother, Andrew Saks, founded the first Saks store, the predecessor of Saks Fifth Avenue.

Sid skipped a grade in Streator because he disrupted class. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree at University of Wisconsin, his Doctor of Medicine degree at Northwestern University in Chicago in 1911; and he did his internship and residency training at Barnes and St. Louis City Hospitals in St. Louis. He was assistant to the dispensary physician of St. Louis and then moved to Fort Smith on October 1, 1913.

Young Wolferman moved in with the family of a friend his age, Al Pollock, in their large house on 912 North Thirteenth Street. This was the pink brick mansion that was destroyed by fire in 2010.¹³ The newcomer from Illinois soon found himself engaged in the life of the community, judging from a short paragraph in the *Arkansas Democrat*, dated July 9, 1915, which states, “Dr. Wolferman and Al Pollock of Fort Smith will arrive Saturday to attend the Ehrman-Wolf wedding. Dr. Wolferman will serve as best man.”¹⁴

After a short time in practice with the older physician who had posted the notice on the hospital bulletin board, Wolferman elected to begin his own solo practice. One can track some of his professional interests through short newspaper clippings. While still a resident at St. Louis City Hospital, the *New York World* quoted Dr. Sidney Wolferman, “insanity expert at the City Hospital,” who reported that sixty-three cases of insanity had been admitted to the hospital in January 1913, more than twice the monthly average. Dr. Wolferman ventured the opinion that one reason for this increase was the high cost of living, provoking a flurry of correspondence and editorial comment.¹⁵

As a Fort Smith physician, Wolferman quoted Dr. S. W. Harrison, “prominent negro physician of this city,” as saying that “83% of the negroes who live in Fort Smith are afflicted with tuberculosis....Dr. Wolferman urges the erection of a tuberculosis sanatorium for the negroes of this state.”¹⁶

The clouds of war were gathering, and a clipping of April 5, 1917, is headed, “Business Men Practice Drill.”¹⁷

Business men of Fort Smith gathered in force at the Plaza Wednesday at noon to enroll for the noon day civilian military drill. The conditions of the drill were explained to



(LEFT) Dr. Sidney Wolferman led Fort Smith businessmen in marching drills in early 1917, just prior to American entry into World War I. He volunteered for service and was commissioned a first lieutenant in the regular army medical corps at age twenty-eight.

(RIGHT) Lt. Wolferman had special training in plastic surgery during his service in World War I.

(Photos courtesy of Liz Hauptert)

the crowd, namely that their services were voluntary and that in joining the squad no man assumed any obligation whatever.

Dr. S. J. Wolferman, who has been active in the movement since its inception, acted as enrolling clerk, and in a short time secured the following roster though many had no chance to sign who will sign when the squad meets at 6 o'clock Thursday afternoon to decide whether the drills shall occur three times a week, or daily.

When war came, Wolferman was commissioned as a first lieutenant in the regular army medical corps. Another clipping announces:

One of those wonderful opportunities which this world war is opening up on every side for young men of promise and ability has just come to the fortune of Dr. Sidney Wolferman, of Fort Smith, Arkansas. He has been appointed among thousands of young physicians who are to take a special course in Plastic and Oral Surgery, which is one of the most delicate and difficult of all phases of

surgical work....Dr. Cooper of Fort Smith is responsible for Dr. Wolferman's name, which combined with the fact that Dr. Wolferman had worked under Dr. (V. P.) Blair, the world-renowned surgeon, gave him double recognition.

Dr. Wolferman will be sent to St. Louis at government expense, where he will study and conduct special experiments along this line....¹⁸

(As noted above, Dr. Foster also studied plastic surgery under the same Dr. V. P. Blair in St. Louis during World War I. After the war, Foster seems to have made plastic surgery a personal specialty in Cooper Clinic. Wolferman became the clinic's primary orthopedic surgeon. He was also recognized as a diagnostician in internal medicine. Specialties did not appear to be so segregated at this transitional stage in medical history.)

In his military service Lieutenant Wolferman specialized in facial surgery at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, also serving at Camp Sevier, Georgia, and at Garden City, Long Island. He studied plastic surgery, orthopedic surgery, and radiology at the Army Medical School in Washington, D.

C.¹⁹ Early in his military career the young bachelor physician sent a letter home describing his experiences. Lacking wife or local family, he addressed his letter to the Fort Smith Rotary Club. These excerpts may be a bit graphic, but this is the way it was:

Camp Greenleaf,
Co. 8, Second Bat.
Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., Nov. 18-1917

Dear Jack and Fellow Rotarians:

I've neglected you all but it is not due to the fact that I have not thought of you often, for I have, but camp life is not conducive to letter writing and we are kept well occupied.

When I first went to St. Louis they worked us from morn until night and then we had to study in the evening. In that special work of "making new faces out of old," the war has developed much and we had to go some to learn it. We were made first to do a dissection of the human head and neck, working out all nerves, blood vessels and muscles. All the little muscles of facial expression that in previous work we had paid no attention to, now had to be worked out in detail. After getting that down, the different operations, and their mechanisms were explained to us, and we were given cadavers and had to perform each operation. In order to make it even more practical (and though this is no secret it doesn't sound good for general talk) a number of cadaver heads were shot with .45s and we had to repair all injuries. The work is getting to such a degree that really they could change Louis's nose to look like D. C.'s.

...I can't begin to tell you all the wonders of this place. But just draw upon your imagination—we are camped upon the famous Chickamauga Battle Field. Each morning we drill on the historic Kelly field, and twice a week have review on McDonald Field. On a riding lesson last week I rode all along the famous Missionary Ridge and went up Lookout Mountain. That's the atmosphere we are in.

...The weather is fine about noon but the mist settles in the evening and by night it's the coldest place on earth. It takes about 5 blankets and a comforter to keep warm—and it's sure cold when we turn out—Our only consolation is the little saying that everyone fires at you if you kick. "You're in the army now."

Hope you may be able to read this writing & that I have not bored you—My very best wishes to you all & to Rotary, I am—

Sincerely, Sid ²⁰

Upon his return to Fort Smith he became one of the

original founders of Cooper Clinic. A century later, it's difficult to realize how revolutionary this concept was. The distribution of income among the partners was probably based on whatever system the Mayo Clinic used; and whether determined by the entire group, a compensation committee, or Dr. Cooper himself, it did not appear to be based solely on production. Liz Hauptert recalls that in its beginning, the clinic did one third of its work as charity. This was not a system for everyone, and it's worth noting that three of Dr. Cooper's original six partners left the group within five years, for one reason or another. During its first four or five decades, more physicians left the group than stayed with it. Time and money, in one form or another, prove to be recurrent issues, and a paragraph in the minutes of the Clinic meeting of March 23, 1924, is an example:

There was general discussion about loafing in the noon hours of doctors and getting back to work on time, and about Sunday afternoon work. It was agreed that everyone should eat lunch as soon as possible and when not busy to immediately come back to the Clinic. It was generally agreed that the men should sort of pair off, so that one out of each two would be available Sunday afternoons when necessary.

Everyone was advised to keep the front office informed as to where they were on their calls and when they left the building and when they arrived.²¹

Saturday mornings were standard office hours.

The young bachelor physician became a somewhat older bachelor physician before finally marrying, in 1928 at the age of forty, Elizabeth Moulton, age twenty-eight, daughter of Dr. Everett Crockett (E. C.) Moulton Sr. and granddaughter of Dr. Herbert Moulton, both ophthalmologists of Fort Smith. Dr. Herbert Moulton had set up his practice in Fort Smith in 1890. The new Mrs. Wolferman also had a brother, Everett, who was the third of four generations of Moulton ophthalmologists in Fort Smith. Sid joined his in-laws and the Fosters on annual vacations to Workman's Ranch in Greeley, Colorado, on the headwaters of the Rio Grande River. The children went along for two weeks in the summer, and Sid and Elizabeth went together for two weeks each fall.

The Colorado connection was also significant in that Everett Moulton Jr. met his wife, Bettye Tripplehorn, when they were both fishing there, and Dr. Everett Foster's son Bobby met his wife, "Trip" Tripplehorn, Bettye's cousin, at the same ranch.

Liz Hauptert recalls that the doctors were a close-knit group socially as well as professionally. Cooper, though older, was a close friend and associate, and he and



THE FOSTER, WOLFERMAN, AND MOULTON FAMILIES vacationed regularly at this primitive ranch near Greeley, Colorado. Fly fishing was good, but there was no indoor plumbing.

(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAfS)



ELIZABETH WOLFERMAN, twelve years younger than her husband, taught him to fly fish in Colorado, where they spent vacations every year. Mrs. Wolferman died in Fort Smith at age 101.

(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAfS)

Wolferman bought a bank together in Oklahoma. That was in 1928, and it is not thought that the bank lasted very long after 1929. Bill Brooksher, radiologist at St. Edward, and his wife, Peggy, were close family friends. Dr. Foster, though not related, was “Uncle Everett.”

Liz’s older sister, Linda, was the last baby Dr. Cooper delivered. He died the next day in 1930. Dr. Wolferman was called to the house, but Cooper died before he arrived.

Wolferman’s favorite retreat was the ranch of Dr. Walter G. Eberle, with its biggest attraction: no telephone. Liz Hauptert recalls that the telephone company provided her father with an extra-long cord so that he could keep a telephone on the dining room table. He answered every call



THE BROOKSHERS AND WOLFERMANS were close family friends. Peggy Brooksher, left, died in 1970. Dr. William Brooksher, in the hat, was director of radiology at St. Edward at the time of his death in 1971. He served as editor of the Journal of the Arkansas Medical Society from 1934 to 1954. Their only child, William R. (Bill Riley) Brooksher III, was chief resident in internal medicine at UAMS in Little Rock when he died in an automobile accident in Little Rock at age twenty-nine, after having been married for a week. Linda Wolferman was three years older than her sister, Liz, on crutches, in front of her father, Dr. Wolferman.

(Photo courtesy of Liz Hauptert)

himself, and the telephone company also provided him with a phone jack for a receiver in every room. This may not appear remarkable to those who carry a cell phone with them at all times, but Liz says she never saw so many telephones in anyone else’s house.

Participation in organized medicine and in civic organizations were part of the responsibilities of a physician as Wolferman understood it, and he continued a variety of extracurricular activities. He wrote an article for the newspaper about the school system's responsibility to remember the physical health of the students and be alert for such deficits as poor vision. He treated Jimmy Jamiski, star third baseman of the Fort Smith Twins, for the fracture of two small bones in the right ankle in 1920, as club physician. He delivered a lecture to the Teachers' and Parents' Association of Belle Point School on the care "necessary for an infant," and he served on a technical advisory committee for the Arkansas Crippled Children's program. He was president of the Fort Smith Rotary Club in the later 1930s.²²



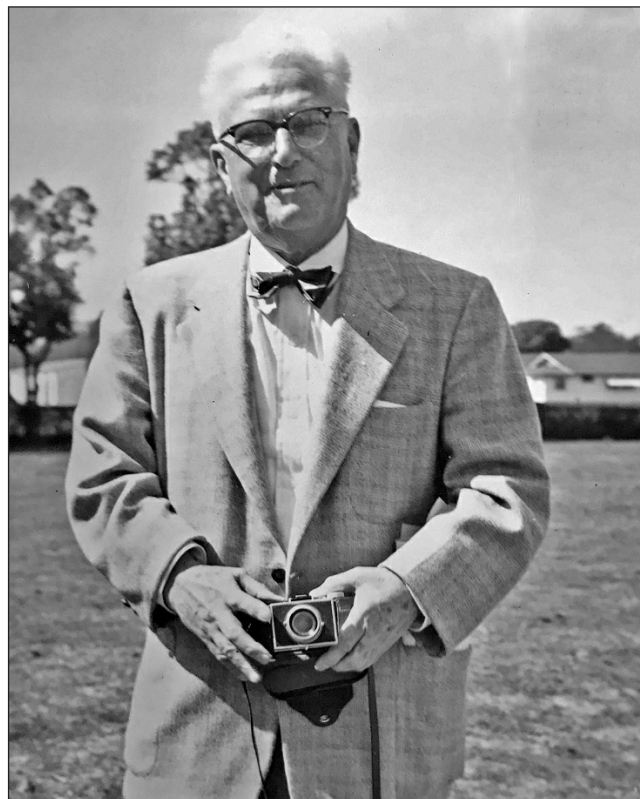
"HE WAS JUST a very happy person," *Liz Wolferman Haupt* recalls of her father, shown here in front of the Cooper Clinic building.

(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAfS)

Wolferman's professional honors and responsibilities included election as a fellow of the American College of Physicians in 1928, directing the meeting of the Fort Smith Clinical Society in 1932 during his term as president, when he presented a paper on "The Evaluation of the Surgical Treatments for Peptic Ulcer," serving as president of the Arkansas Medical Society in 1939 and serving as councilor of the Southern Medical Association.

Practice responsibilities were especially heavy for doctors too old to serve in World War II. Dr. Ken Thompson, who joined the clinic in 1941, wrote, "The clinic founders were all veterans of World War I, and with all the Fort Chaffee activity in 1941, the partners felt that the clinic should be represented in the army. Since I was the newest and youngest, I seemed the logical one to represent us. I volunteered in January 1943 when my second daughter was six weeks old."²³ In any event, Dr. Wolferman had a heart attack in late 1944, spent six weeks at bed and chair rest, and stopped smoking, using Life Saver mints liberally. His daughter Liz recalls, "Only a few months before he died, he responded to a request for a house call by explaining that since his heart attack he was no longer able to make house calls. The woman said, 'Don't tell me your troubles, Dr. Wolferman. I didn't ask you to be a doctor.'"

"One night he called my mother to give him a shot in his



SHOWN HERE WITH A CAMERA, *Dr. Goldstein* continued to play an active part in the life of the community.

(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAfS)

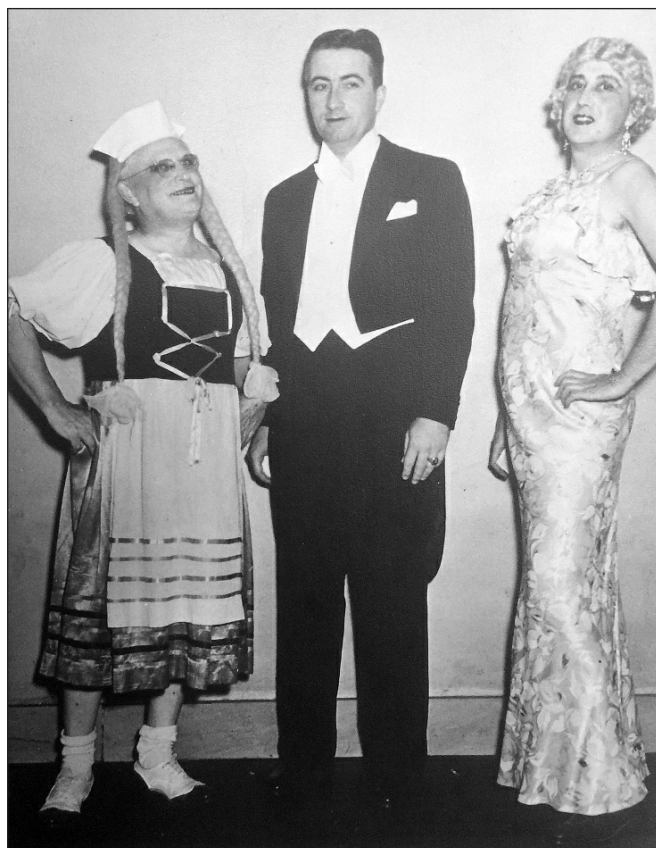
stomach. I don't know what the shot was, but he died within an hour or two." He was fifty-six when he died on February 18, 1945. His funeral was at First Presbyterian Church.

Born of Jewish parents who did not identify with Judaism, he developed friendships both within the Jewish community and among non-Jews. He attended the Presbyterian Church with Elizabeth whenever one of the daughters was playing a part in the service, but otherwise "he was one of those who said he could find God on lakes and creeks," his daughter recalls. He loved the nuns at St. Edward, enjoyed taking them to Dr. Eberle's farm to ride horses, and every morning before making rounds at St. Edward he sat silently for a few moments in the chapel. Interestingly, he belonged to Hardscrabble Country Club decades before the club initiated a policy of welcoming Jews to its membership.

Irvin Sternberg quotes Mrs. Wolferman as saying that her husband "felt every pain that every one of his patients had." Liz recalls, "He was just a very happy person."

DAVIS WOOLF GOLDSTEIN

Dr. Davis Goldstein was the only founder of Cooper Clinic still living when I joined Cooper Clinic in 1969. He



(LEFT) Amateur theatricals were a popular form of entertainment and were regularly used for fund-raising purposes. The identity of the clown on the left is unknown. Dr. Goldstein indulged his love of fun with such roles as this, whatever it was. **(RIGHT)** Dr. Goldstein, in peasant girl dress, is shown with Dr. Ken Thompson, perhaps a master of ceremonies for this production. The identity of the tall figure on the right is unknown.

(Photos courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAFS)

died in 1980 at the age of ninety-one. A dermatologist, he was the only one of the founders to limit his practice to a defined area of specialization; but his sense of public service and private charity was wide. During the depression he personally underwrote projects to ensure that every child served by welfare had a Christmas present.²⁴

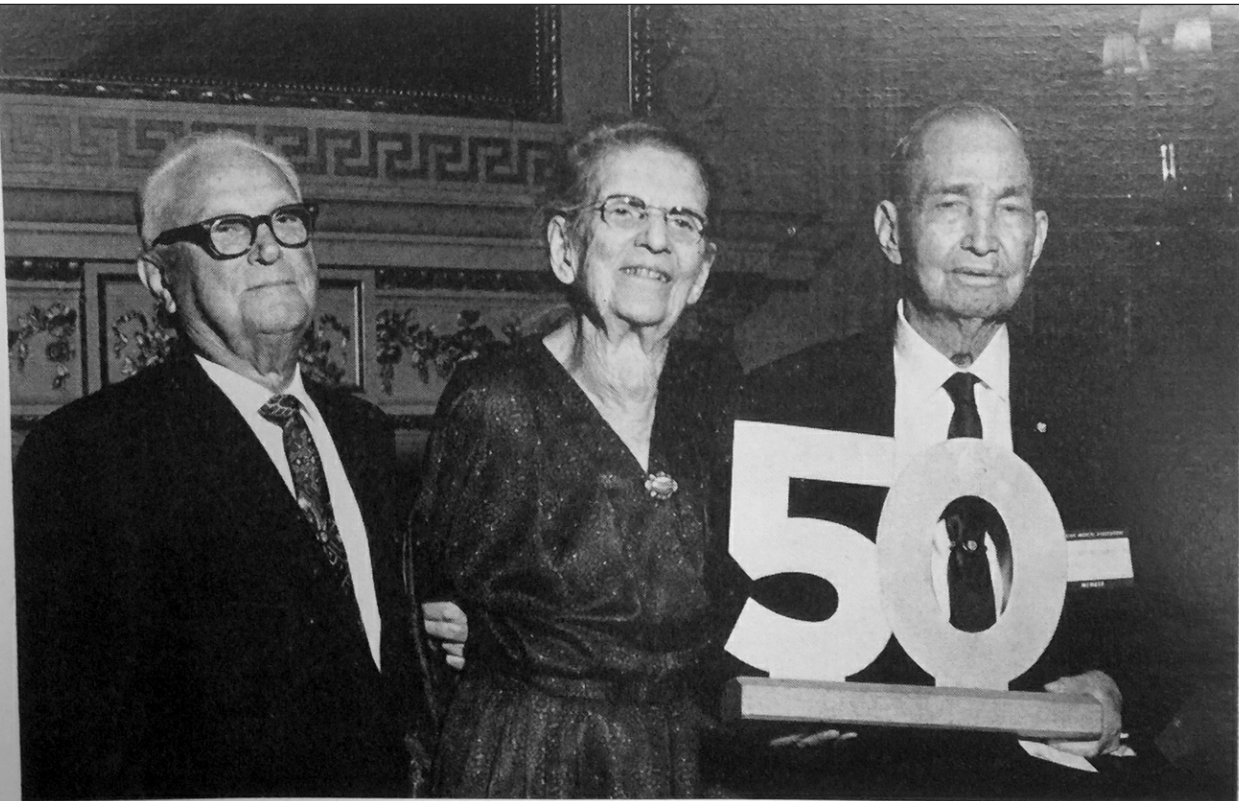
Rabbi Sam Teitelbaum of the United Hebrew Congregation in Fort Smith walked through the lobby of Cooper Clinic in the late 1930s and was astonished to find black and white patients sitting together. He had never seen this before in the South. Dr. Goldstein, a member of the UHC, explained: "You, Rabbi, did this to me, and I did it to my colleagues....You motivated me to realize that 'colored people' are human beings and must be treated as such."²⁵

Davis Goldstein was born to Marx and Rosa (Woelf) Goldstein in Greenville, Mississippi, on September 14, 1888. After graduating from Greenville High School, he began studying pharmacy at Tulane University, but he changed his mind and enrolled at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis, where he worked in a chemistry lab and in drug stores to pay tuition

costs. He served as an intern at John Gaston Hospital in Memphis, and since there were few options available for dermatology training in the United States, he spent eight months in 1910 touring dermatology centers in Europe, spending three months in Vienna and studying in London, where he became acquainted with Sir Alexander Fleming, later the discoverer of penicillin. When in Paris he studied under Marie Curie, the discoverer of radioactivity. Upon his return to the United States, he worked at the Skin and Cancer Hospital in Philadelphia.

He came to Fort Smith in 1912 and practiced dermatology until World War I, when he volunteered, serving as regimental surgeon in the 328th Combat Infantry Division. (There he knew Sergeant Alvin York, the subject of a movie about his winning the Congressional Medal of Honor.) Captain Goldstein was decorated for service under fire in the Meuse Argonne offensive, and in 1919 he was promoted to major.²⁶

After World War I he and other recent veterans of the war—Drs. Foster, Wolferman, and Klingensmith—joined St. Cloud Cooper in formation of the Cooper Clinic, where



Dr. D. W. Goldstein (left) Ft. Smith, Ark.; Dr. Sara Janson, Chicago; and Dr. J. H. McCurry, Cash, Arkansas at the 50 Year Club of American Medicine luncheon, Palmer House, Chicago, Wednesday, June 27, 1966.

Dr. Janson is 94 years of age and still in active practice in Chicago. She was elected Vice President of the 50 Year Club in American Medicine.

Dr. J. H. McCurry, Cash, Arkansas is the founder of the 50 Year Club of American Medicine and was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. He is 94 years of age.

Dr. D. W. Goldstein, Ft. Smith, Ark., is the retiring President and was elected Assistant Secretary.

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DR. GOLDSTEIN served as president of the American Medical Association 50-year club. As shown in the caption, this organization was initiated by a physician from Cash, Arkansas.

(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAFS)



(LEFT) Beset by beautiful women, Dr. Goldstein enjoyed clinic parties.

(RIGHT) Dr. Goldstein is holding a golf club presented to him at his retirement in February, 1969. Vi Wakefield, long time laboratory technician, stands left of Dr. Goldstein. Dr. Calvin Bradford, his partner in dermatology, stands behind him. Mary Ethel Ledbetter, longtime clinic office manager, in an off-white dress, stands right of Dr. Goldstein. Cooky Sadler, surgery office nurse, stands beside Mrs. Ledbetter. Dr. J. V. LeBlanc, clinic internist (in glasses) and J. L. McAleb, clinic manager, stand in the rear to the right.

Dr. Goldstein's specialty was listed as dermatology and radium therapy. He was the only dermatologist in the clinic until Calvin Bradford, the first trainee to complete the dermatology training program at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, joined him in 1963. Dr. Bradford, who referred to Goldstein as "one of the most honorable men I have had the privilege of knowing," was somewhat taken aback when he came to Cooper Clinic and Goldstein looked up at him and told him in his gravelly voice, "You and I are going to be married to each other."

Professional and community service were intertwined for Goldstein. He was chairman of the Sebastian County Department of Public Welfare for many years, helped organize the Arkansas and Sebastian County Cancer Society, coordinated the work of hospitals, nurses, and doctors of the Arkansas State Crippled Children's Agency, and was American Legion post commander and served many years as chairman of the Legion's Child Welfare Committee.

The Davis W. Goldstein Dermatology and Research Fund was established by Dr. and Mrs. Goldstein in 1965. The gift to the medical center included his personal medical library of some 200 volumes, funds to maintain and expand the new facility, and a continuing trust fund to further knowledge and research into diseases of the skin.²⁷

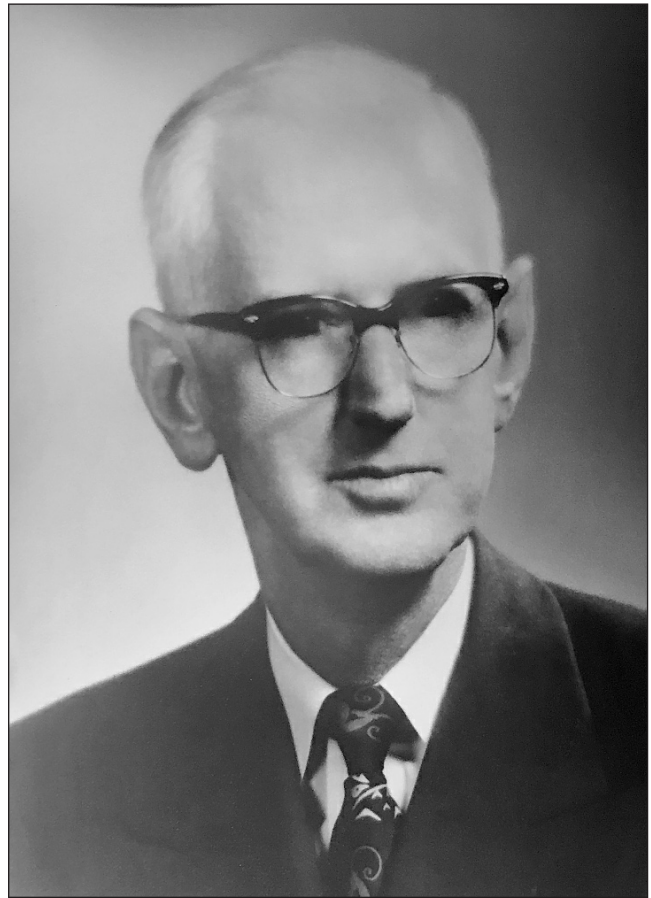
As a diplomate of the American Board of Dermatology and Syphilology, he was the adviser to the local Health Department on the management of venereal disease at Camp Chaffee; and he worked in the health department's Venereal Disease clinic at a time when syphilis was treated with weekly injections of bismuth and arsenic.²⁸ Less well known was his medical care for the women who worked at Miss Laura's and other houses of ill repute. His waiting room may have been racially integrated, but he had a separate entrance for these women so that they could come discreetly for diagnosis and treatment.

Active in the American Medical Association, he was vice president of the Arkansas Medical Society and president of the AMA's Fifty-year Club.

The Fort Smith Noon Exchange Club honored him in 1954 with its Book of Golden Deeds Award. He served as president of the Fort Smith Rotary Club in 1934-1935, having been a member since his first arrival in Fort Smith.

He was active in the Jewish community and was president of the United Hebrew Congregation. Upon retirement from Cooper Clinic in 1969, he was given a set of golf clubs. He played regularly at the Fort Smith Country Club, which was a public golf course, and he continued to golf into his late eighties.

Davis Goldstein married Florence Pahotski, who came from a Fort Smith Orthodox Jewish family, in 1917.²⁹ They had one daughter, Gloria Goldstein Klein (1922-1984).



DR. A. A. BLAIR, shown in this clinic portrait, became a partner in the clinic three years after its founding and shifted the emphasis of his practice from laboratory medicine to internal medicine. He served as governor for Arkansas of the American College of Physicians, and he served on the Fort Smith School Board for eleven years.

(Photo courtesy of Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, UAfS)

Florence Goldstein died in 1973, and Dr. Goldstein subsequently married Leona (Farber) Heilbron, a longtime family friend who had lived in Fort Smith and had been away in California for some years.³⁰ She survived him by three years, dying in 1983.

I remember Leona Goldstein with great fondness; she was a generous, loving person, and she gave great joy to Davis. I remember entering her hospital room at Sparks during an illness, where she and Dr. Goldstein were both laughing. "We've just been talking about old times and old friends," he explained.

ARLESS A. BLAIR

Dr. A. A. Blair was born in Scranton, Arkansas, in 1891. He attended Paris High School, the University of Tennessee, and the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. He interned at St. Mary's Hospital in Hoboken and took residency at St. Louis City Hospital. He served as

captain in the Medical Corps in World War I and came to Fort Smith to practice after the war.³¹

Cooper Clinic was organized September 30, 1920, and Dr. Blair's name first appears in the minutes of Cooper Clinic in an entry of March 14, 1921, when it was agreed that work "previously referred to Sparks Memorial Hospital" be referred to Dr. A. A. Blair "incident to the absence of Miss Owens from the Hospital." A subsequent entry of November 28, 1921, shows that Dr. Blair would be named director of the clinic laboratory. It was decided to make Dr. Blair an offer to come into the clinic at the meeting of January 23, 1923. "It was decided he do inside work and be trained as assistant to Dr. Thompson. Percentage he was to be offered will be decided later. Dr. Foster was to tell Dr. Blair." The matter of his joining the clinic was discussed at several subsequent meetings through June 18, 1923, with "no definite action taken."

Minutes are unaccountably lacking for the second six months of 1923, but apparently Dr. Blair was officially taken in as a partner during this time. An undated "analysis of sale" shows assets to be transferred in connection with Dr. Blair's becoming a member. A schedule of payments by Dr. Blair to the clinic shows the first of five annual payments to be made January 1, 1924.³²

It appears that Dr. Blair emphasized pathology and laboratory supervision in his early years but then changed his practice to internal medicine after joining Cooper Clinic. He went on to practice in the clinic until his untimely death October 24, 1955, at age sixty-four. He served as president of the Sebastian County Medical Association and was governor for Arkansas of the American College of Physicians. He served on the Fort Smith School Board from 1935 to 1946 and was president of the Sebastian County T. B. Association. He married Florence Ware McKennon of Fort Smith in 1919, and they had two daughters.³³

COOPER CLINIC

The definitive step that identified Cooper Clinic as a proper clinic was the move to a new building at the corner of Little Rock Avenue (now Rogers Avenue) and Thirteenth Street in 1924. The clinic consisted of two floors, as described by Dr. Ken Thompson in a 1990 clinic anniversary celebration: "The basement of the clinic (in 1939) had parking space for five cars for the founders—two Lincolns belonging to Drs. Foster and Wolferman, a Cadillac for Dr. Blair, and Dr. Goldstein's Dodge, which was parked nearest the door, since he didn't drive well in reverse. Dr. (William) Adams and I parked outside."³⁴

For whatever reason (following the custom of the day, they were smokers), most of the founding pillars died relatively young, most of them still working—Dr. Cooper

in 1930 at age sixty-nine; Dr. Wolferman at age fifty-six in 1945, Dr. Foster at age seventy-nine, in 1966, after a three-year retirement because of peripheral vascular disease. Dr. Goldstein (though shown in one photograph with a cigar, he must not have smoked very many of them) enjoyed a vigorous old age and retirement. Among other things, he took classes at Westark Community College. With his death in 1980 at age ninety-one, an era passed.



Taylor Prewitt, M.D., is a cardiologist and author. He has written widely about Fort Smith and western Arkansas medical practice people, events, and organizations.

ENDNOTES

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- ² Personal interview by author with Irving Sternberg.
- ³ Personal interview by author with Liz Wolferman Hauptert.
- ⁴ Amelia Martin, *Physicians and Medicine: Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas 1817-1976* (Fort Smith: Sebastian County Medical Society, 1977), 338-339.
- ⁵ Cooper Clinic minutes, 1920, from archives, Pebley Center, University of Arkansas Fort Smith.
- ⁶ Thompson, J. K. "History of the Cooper Clinic," talk delivered at seventieth anniversary dinner, Fort Smith, April 7, 1990. Martin, *Physicians and Medicine*, 339.
- ⁷ *Journal of Arkansas Medical Society* 7, 1933 (clipping provided by Pebley Center, UAFS).
- ⁸ *Daily Herald*, Fort Smith, Ark. Clipping dated September 26, 1912, Pebley Center, UAFS.
- ⁹ Ibid. Clipping dated July 10, 1913.
- ¹⁰ J. Yadon, S. Ross, and R. Viguier, *Reflections of Fort Smith* (Fort Smith Historical Press, 1978), 101.
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- ¹³ Ibid.
- ¹⁴ *Arkansas Democrat*, July 9, 1915.
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- ¹⁶ January 14, 1917. Clipping from unknown publication, in family collection of Elizabeth Hauptert.
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- ²⁵ H. Weiner, M. Bauman, B. Kalin, *The Quiet Voices: Southern Rabbis and Black Civil Rights, 1880s 1880s to 1990s* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1997).
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- ²⁷ Ibid.
- ²⁸ Thompson, "History of Cooper Clinic," 1990.
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- ³⁰ LeMaster, *A Corner of the Tapestry*, 298,453.
- ³¹ Martin, *Physicians and Medicine*, 241.
- ³² Cooper Clinic archives, Pebley Center, University of Arkansas Fort Smith.
- ³³ Martin, *Physicians and Medicine*, 241.
- ³⁴ Thompson, "History of Cooper Clinic," 1990.

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From SWC to SEC

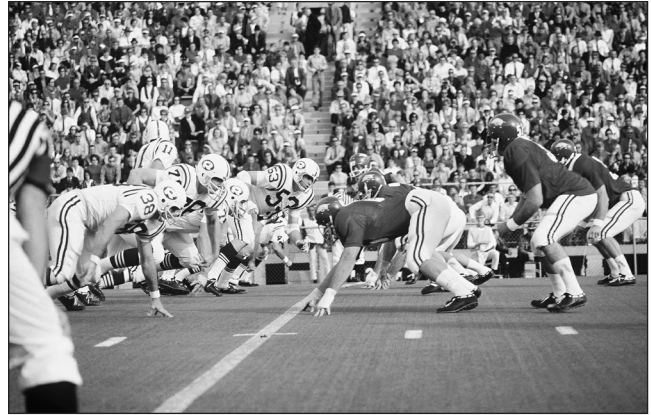
How the Arkansas Razorbacks came to join a new conference

By Matthew G. McCoy

The Southwest Conference was a fixture in collegiate athletics for eight decades, especially in football. Legendary players and legendary teams roamed the fields every Saturday in the fall, bringing the conference's members a national prominence despite its geographic provinciality. Teams in other sports periodically won attention, but the SWC's reputation was built on its members' success on the gridiron. It was, first and foremost, a football conference; more to the point, it was a Texas football conference. This model worked well until television contracts began to alter the landscape of college sports in the 1980s. This new model, propelled by the growth of cable networks, forced conferences to begin thinking about reaching major television markets in order to maximize profits. With all but one of its members in Texas, the SWC was at a distinct disadvantage in this situation. When the Southeastern Conference invited the University of Arkansas to join in 1990, the university jumped at a chance to move to a new conference with bigger television contracts, a far better reputation, and a much greater market. Although the SWC struggled on through 1995, Arkansas' departure showed that the conference could no longer compete nationally.

The University of Arkansas was a charter member of the Southwest Conference, which began competition in 1915. For the next seventy-five years, the Razorbacks were a cornerstone of the conference, winning or sharing more than eighty conference championships, plus thirteen national championships in cross country and track and field, and the 1964 Football Writers' Association of America national championship. But as the only "outside" school in the conference, Arkansas was vulnerable to the political machinations that took place in Texas, where the conference was firmly embedded in the state's culture. Until the 1980s, the situation was an annoyance, but it became increasingly problematic as the conference struggled during the decade.

Recruiting scandals plagued the Southwest Conference in the 1980s. Only Rice and Arkansas avoided NCAA probation during the decade. Serious offenses occurred at Southern Methodist, where a group of boosters, including future Texas Governor Bill Clements, had paid players under the table for years. After repeated violations, the NCAA finally gave SMU's football program the "death



ARKANSAS V. RICE *before a Razorback Stadium capacity crowd, but Rice drew small crowds on their field.*

University of Arkansas Southwest Conference games played in Fort Smith:

1915—Arkansas, 14; Oklahoma A & M, 9. (Became Oklahoma State in 1957)
1916—Arkansas, 13; Oklahoma University, 14.
1917—Arkansas, 0; Oklahoma University, 0. (Oklahoma left the SWC in 1919)
1921—Arkansas, 14; SMU, 0.
1922—Arkansas, 0; Oklahoma A & M, 13.
1923—Arkansas, 13; Oklahoma A & M, 0. (Okla A & M left the SWC in 1924)
1937—Arkansas, 12; SMU, 0. (Game at Grizzly Stadium)

Arkansas' SWC record in Fort Smith: 3-2-1

Arkansas' first football season was in 1894 and its first Southwest Conference games were in 1915. From then until the last SWC season played by the Razorbacks in 1991, the University of Texas was the only SWC team with a winning record against Arkansas.

In its pre-SEC football years, Arkansas played three future conference opponents beginning with LSU in 1901, a game the Tigers won in Baton Rouge 0-15, the start of a long non-conference series with LSU which leads in games won, 39-22-2 overall, and 16-10 since 1992. Razorback football teams lead against Ole Miss 36-27-1 overall, and 16-10 Arkansas since 1992. UA played Vanderbilt three times before 1992, winning twice, Mississippi State two times losing both, and the other Southeastern Conference teams the Razorbacks faced only in bowl games before the 1992 season, going 4-11-1.

—Compiled by Editors

1915

CONFERENCE STANDINGS

School	Coach	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.	Pts.	Opp.	Full Season				
								Won	Lost	Tied	Pts.	Opp.
Oklahoma	B. G. Owen	3	0	0	1.000	63	20	10	0	0	370	54
x-Baylor	C. P. Mosley	3	0	0	1.000	48	6	7	1	0	188	22
Arkansas	T. T. McConnell	1	1	0	.500	14	32	4	2	1	121	55
Texas	Dave Allerdice	2	2	0	.500	117	27	6	3	0	335	69
Texas A&M	E. H. Harlan	1	1	0	.500	13	7	6	2	0	182	34
Rice	Phil Arbuckle	1	2	0	.333	7	85	5	3	0	122	143
Okla. A&M	J. G. Griffith	0	3	0	.000	22	52	4	5	1	161	93
Southwestern	J. Burton Rix	0	2	0	.000	0	55	4	3	0	46	82

x—Baylor forfeited claim to co-championship for using ineligible player.

CONFERENCE RESULTS

October 8

Baylor 26 @Rice 0

October 16

@Texas 59 Rice 0

October 23

x-Oklahoma 14 Texas 13
xx-Arkansas 14 Okla. A&M 9
Baylor 10 @Southwestern 0

October 30

@Texas 45 Southwestern 0

November 8

@Rice 7 A&M 0

November 13

Oklahoma 24 @Arkansas 0
@Baylor 12 Okla. A&M 6

November 19

@A&M 13 Texas 0

November 25

xxx-Oklahoma 26 Okla. A&M 7

x—Played at Dallas

xx—Played at Fort Smith

xxx—Played at Oklahoma City

ALL-CONFERENCE (Selected by Joe Utay)

E: John Garrity, A&M, Sr.
E: Homer Montgomery, Oklahoma,
5-10 1/2, 165, Jr.
T: Jeff Campbell, Okla. A&M, 6-0, 200, Sr.
T: Oliver Hott, Oklahoma, 5-11, 185, Jr.
G: N. M. Braumiller, A&M, Sr.
G: Willis Hott, Oklahoma, 6-1, 210, Jr.
C: Pig Dittmar, Texas, 6-0, 170, Jr.
B: Hap Johnson, Oklahoma, 5-10, 150, Jr.
B: Elmer Capshaw, Oklahoma,
5-8, 147, Sr.
B: Clyde Littlefield, Texas, 6-1, 185, Sr.
B: *Forest Geyer, Oklahoma, 6-2, 162, Sr.

*—All-American selection.

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penalty," canceling the school's 1987 season entirely. The university canceled the 1988 season. But SMU was hardly alone. At Texas Christian, Richard Lowe, president of an oil exploration firm in Fort Worth, admitted being part of a conspiracy to pay players. "We did it because it was obvious that everyone else was doing it, and we were getting our butts kicked. That doesn't matter. We were wrong." Lowe also claimed, "It would take a good-sized bus" to accommodate all the boosters involved.¹

Frank Broyles, Arkansas athletic director and former head football coach, lamented the state of recruiting. "Things are just getting out of hand now and are much worse than when I was coaching. It's almost embarrassing to be in the Southwest Conference."²

The Southwest Conference's image problems from the recruiting scandals might have faded had the television landscape for college athletics not changed dramatically in the 1980s. In 1980, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Georgia sued the NCAA over the organization's monopolization of television negotiations. The U.S. Supreme Court agreed that the television plan violated Sherman and Clayton Antitrust Acts in *NCAA v. Board of Regents* (1984) and threw out existing contracts between the NCAA and ABC and CBS, allowing all networks to bid for the right to televise games. Conferences or unaffiliated schools could now negotiate individual contracts. New agreements led to a dramatic increase in number of college football games on television, but a

surprising drop in revenues for universities. The glut of televised contests drove down ratings for each network, which drove down advertising revenues. The networks, in return, offered less to the universities. ABC and CBS spent about \$31 million to televise the same amount of football in 1985 as they had paid \$75 million for before deregulation.³

With the exception of the Pac-10 and Big-10 conferences, the other major conferences and independent programs negotiated television contracts through the College Football Association, a group formed in 1977. The Southeastern Conference threatened to leave the association in 1986 to sign a deal with ABC and TBS, but ultimately decided to remain in the CFA.⁴ This dalliance was a sign of things to come, however. With contracts scheduled to expire in 1990, CFA members began positioning themselves for the next round of negotiations. Penn State, one of college football's most prestigious independent programs at the time, announced in December 1989 that it would join the Big-10 the following year. In February 1990, Notre Dame, the most prized program in college football, shocked the CFA by announcing that it was withdrawing from the association's recently negotiated five-year contracts worth more than \$300 million with ABC and ESPN in favor of its own five-year, \$30 million deal with NBC to televise its home games.

Rudy Davalos, the athletic director at the University of Houston, said, "They said they were doing it for their fans and alumni, but I don't think there was a real big problem seeing Notre Dame on TV. I call it greed. Certainly, it's their option, but it hurts the effectiveness of the CFA when people go wildcatting."

Colorado State athletic director Oval Jaynes was less restrained. "The bottom line is money, and it boils down to one word: greed. Notre Dame wants all the exposure and all the money."

Broyles summed up the concerns when he said, "The CFA is renegotiating with ABC and ESPN. We'll see what the money is without Notre Dame."⁵

Indeed, the new deals cut \$35 million from the ABC contract.⁶

Davalos' reaction to the Notre Dame deal was borne from rumors that Texas, Texas A&M, and Arkansas were interested in looking for a better deal. In February 1988, A&M athletic director and head football coach Jackie Sherrill announced that his school would market its radio broadcasts rather than joining the conference's radio deal. "The Big Eight doesn't own Nebraska's rights or Oklahoma's. The Southeastern Conference does not own Alabama's rights to its broadcasts or telecasts. The SWC cannot delegate the rights of its members without their permission." Texas and Arkansas also refused to join the SWC radio package. Still, Sherrill added, Texas A&M was

not looking to leave the SWC.⁷ But only eight months later, Sherrill changed his tune and declared that A&M might go its own way and take the SWC's other big draws with it to a new conference. "Say you put Arkansas, Texas, and Texas A&M in it and maybe South Carolina, then you could divide the division East and West. It could be done and it would be a heckuva league."⁸

Just a few months later, a television station in Columbia, Missouri, reported that the Southeastern Conference was interested in adding Texas, Arkansas, and South Carolina. Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds denied the story. "I have absolutely no idea where this got started. There's always conversations about conference realignment and reorganization, but there is not anything imminent. The SEC is a good conference, but the Southwest Conference has been good for Texas, and Texas has been good for the Southwest Conference. We have seventy-five years of tradition, and you don't walk away from that."

Frank Broyles said the report was "purely a rumor, a figment of someone's imagination." Officials with both the SWC and SEC categorically denied any recruitment. But, Dodds said, conferences were likely to change in the coming years. "The Big Ten is probably set, but if you look around at the other conferences, there could be some changes. I think you'll see institutions more alike going together. You might see some movement in the Pac 10 where the northern end of it goes east and southern end expands west. The WAC might move some this way, the Big Eight might move down, and the SWC might move east. If we did something, we'd want to go where there's the largest TV market." Regardless, he concluded, "You always have to be looking around. If not, we're not doing our job."⁹

While such move might not have been immediately on the table, it was not just a rumor for Arkansas, despite what Broyles said. The Arkansas athletic director, who had ties to the SWC going back to his days as an assistant at Baylor in the late 1940s, had long experience with how Arkansas was "ignored or punished in league meetings."¹⁰ In 1988, Broyles played golf with SEC commissioner Harvey Schiller and then-Tennessee athletic director Doug Dickey, who had been an assistant under Broyles. During the outing, Broyles told the two outright that Arkansas would like to move to the SEC if the conference decided to expand.¹¹ Clearly, Broyles wanted out of the SWC even before the issue of television-driven realignment reared its head.

Up to 1990, all the changes in college football involved independents. That changed at the end of May when the Southeastern Conference announced that it was looking to expand, and Pat Dye, head football coach at Auburn, stated that Arkansas, along with independents Florida State,

1991 CONFERENCE STANDINGS

								Full Season					
Team	Coach	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.	Pts	Opp	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.	Pts	Opp
Texas A&M	R.C. Slocum	8	0	0	1.000	289	95	10	2	0	.833	404	154
Baylor	Grant Teaff	5	3	0	.625	192	138	8	4	0	.667	282	204
Texas Tech	Spike Dykes	5	3	0	.625	254	216	6	5	0	.545	315	272
Arkansas	Jack Crowe	5	3	0	.625	131	117	6	6	0	.500	175	203
Texas	David McWilliams	4	4	0	.500	169	111	5	6	0	.455	195	145
TCU	Jim Wacker	4	4	0	.500	173	223	7	4	0	.636	279	267
Houston	John Jenkins	3	5	0	.375	260	250	4	7	0	.364	353	344
Rice	Fred Goldsmith	2	6	0	.250	148	233	4	7	0	.364	239	287
SMU	Tom Rossley	0	8	0	.000	75	297	1	10	0	.091	141	359

Bowl Results: Poulan/Weed Eater Independence – Georgia 24, Arkansas 15; Domino's Copper – Indiana 24, Baylor 0; Mobil Cotton – Florida State 10, Texas A&M 2.

Miami, and South Carolina, are schools that would fit well in the conference in terms of both academics and athletics.¹² Arkansas officials denied any contact with the SEC, though University of Arkansas System President B. Alan Sugg said he had spoken to Broyles, who told him that “if any other conference wants to talk to him about the possibility of moving, he would talk with them and discuss the possibility.” Some SWC officials downplayed the rumors.

“I’ve been in the league for thirty years, and I’ve been hearing about this ‘Super Conference’ since I’ve been here,” said TCU athletic director Frank Windegger.

His counterpart at Baylor, Bill Menefee, echoed these sentiments. “Yeah, we worry, but it’s not a new thing. It’s kind of like a prairie fire—it burns brightly for a little while, then it kind of subsides.”

But Rudy Davalos was more concerned. “That’s a mirror of our society right now. We try to teach our student-athletes about loyalty and commitment, then another group or conference wants to go out and raid other conferences.”¹³

After a week of speculation, Chancellor Dan Ferritor admitted that SEC Commissioner Roy Kramer had spoken to him about bringing the Razorbacks to the conference. “I told him two things: one, that we were very flattered to have been asked and, two, that we were very happy with long-term membership in the Southwest Conference, but that it was an option that I would look at and get back with him at one point.” Broyles said, “If it was going to be business as usual in the ’90s, we wouldn’t even consider it. But all indications are that it’s not going to be business as usual, that it’s going to be turbulent and subject to change, and we want to consider what our options are.”¹⁴

Arkansas’ disclosure touched off a weekend of wild rumors at the CFA convention in Dallas that began just a few days later. Many saw it as just the first move set in

motion by Penn State’s decision to join the Big 10. NCAA executive director Dick Schultz said, “I predicted to my staff last year that in the next five years we’d see some major realignment in the conferences. The Big 10 might cause it to happen earlier.” Syracuse athletic director Jake Crouthamel said, “People are trying to position themselves so they can get the best deal.” Big Eight commissioner Carl James put it succinctly, saying, “Anything can happen now.”¹⁵

There were two popular scenarios involving the Southwest Conference. The first was that Oklahoma would replace Arkansas, should the Razorbacks depart. Oklahoma athletic director Donnie Duncan admitted that he had informally discussed such a move with Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds at both the NCAA Midwest basketball regional final in Austin in March and again at the CFA convention. Duncan said, “Our position in the Big Eight right now is very good. There’s a lot of tradition and a lot of strong rivalries. But if Arkansas was to leave the Southwest Conference, Oklahoma should be the school that would come to mind.” Duncan’s willingness to discuss a move stemmed from his dissatisfaction with the Big Eight’s revenue sharing. “We should be compensated on worth,” he said.¹⁶

The University of Arkansas system trustees said they were willing to trust Ferritor and Broyles to do their jobs. “Unless an individual campus is making a big, big mistake, we try not to interfere,” said Chairman Jim Blair. Syke Harris, who chaired the board’s athletic committee, said of the SEC’s offer, “I think it’s something we have to seriously consider.”¹⁷ The chancellor in Fayetteville sent out a press release stating, “The university has agreed to sit down with SEC officials and discuss what the world would look like for Arkansas if we made such a change.” Broyles said that Arkansas was “studying our options.” He noted, “The Southwest Conference has appointed an executive

committee to look at future options for the SWC, and we are interested in seeing the results.” But if a decision was made, Broyles said, “It is in the interest of a school moving from one league to another to move quickly. The speed with which the transition could be made is important. That will be a factor.” Broyles made clear that Arkansas was not just searching for more money, but rather looking for a conference with prestige to highlight the Razorbacks’ successes. “It is important for us to be nationally competitive. That’s what our fans want, and that’s the base they’ve given us to build from.”¹⁸

In Texas, reports of Arkansas’ dance with the SEC brought mixed reactions. Fred Windegger, the athletic director at TCU, said, “We’re letting the Southeastern Conference feed their egos on the Southwest. I hope Oklahoma will be at the door, knocking to come in, if Arkansas leaves.”¹⁹ But the talks between the SEC and Arkansas rekindled rumors that Texas and Texas A&M might leave as well. Columnist John Maher at the *Austin American Statesman* reported that DeLoss Dodds and Donna Lopiano, the men’s and women’s athletic directors at Texas, reported they had “heard almost nothing but positive comments about a possible jump to the SEC.” He quoted one Texas official as predicting that the Longhorns could realize an extra \$1 million per year in the SEC. “That should do a lot more than cover the increase in travel expenses, that [being] about the only argument one could make against joining the SEC. And think about the positives. No longer would the Texas football team play in front of modest crowds like Waco, Lubbock and Houston. In the SEC almost every school has a big-time program.”²⁰ In fact, Broyles later claimed that he had discussed just such a scenario with his counterparts at Texas and Texas A&M. “...[W]hat was really disturbing was that when we played anybody but Texas, Texas A&M, the football stadium was barely half full and basketball about a fourth filled. And so the TV money was droppin’. Everything was goin’ down, and Texas A&M and Texas and Arkansas—we met many, many times. And we kind of had a silent agreement that they were goin’ to follow me, but they couldn’t do it because of political matters. I was to go first, and then they would follow. But they couldn’t do it. They went the other way eventually.”²¹

Broyles was as good as his word in predicting how fast Arkansas would move on the offer. On August 1, the university announced that it was accepting the SEC’s invitation and would begin competing in all sports other than football in 1991, with the gridiron team to follow in 1992 in order to complete two-year scheduling contracts. Ferritor said that the decision was based on trying to move his school forward. “We’re not really leaving, not tearing down. What we are doing is building—we’re building for

the future of the University of Arkansas. Broyles believed that the SWC had been crippled by professional sports in Texas competing for fans’ dollars. Looking back to the 1950s, he said, “There was [sic] no professional sports in the state of Texas. In the last two decades we have added two teams (Texas Tech and Houston). At the same time, in the last twenty-eight years, they have developed seven professional teams—three in Dallas, three in Houston and one in San Antonio. So, the pie in Texas has been shrunk as far as the Southwest Conference is concerned.” If the Southwest Conference could offer the same competitiveness as the SEC, “our decision today would most likely be different.”²² But Broyles’ job was to plan for the future, and he doubted the conference’s viability in the shifting landscape of college sports. “The ’90s will not resemble the ’80s in college athletics,” he said.²³

Nor were there any second thoughts among others in the Razorback camp. Chancellor Dan Ferritor called the move a “bittersweet task,” and said, “We have had a wonderful seventy-six years in the Southwest Conference. We value the good memories we have from the Southwest Conference.” But for Ferritor, the issue had been decided when the presidents of the SWC institutions met two weeks earlier to consider the future of the conference. During the July 12 meeting of athletic directors, the group recommended that the SWC pursue a merger with the Big Eight. Five days later, the presidents rejected that idea. “They were more interested in an affiliation,” Ferritor said, that would pit teams from the two conferences against each other in one or two football games early in the season. “Things that would certainly generate some fan interest,” he went on, “but it was not a basic change in how business was done in the Southwest Conference.” Beyond that, the presidents voted to conduct a study of potential courses for the conference, which to Arkansas’ administrators showed a distinct lack of urgency. Jim Blair said, “One of the things we did want to do was give the Southwest Conference a chance to fix something that was broke.” But the presidents’ lackadaisical reaction made clear to Arkansas that it was time to leave. The following week, the Faculty Athletics Committee voted unanimously to approve the move, as did the Board of Trustees. Trustee Bart Lindsay said, “After reading the packet of information they [the SEC] sent, there was no doubt in my mind that it was the right thing to do.”²⁴

Arkansas’ move woke up the SWC members to the serious of the threat. With the Razorbacks gone, the possibility that Texas and Texas A&M might be on the way out as well became much more real. *Dallas Morning News* columnist Randy Galloway quoted one unnamed SWC athletic director as saying, “One of our biggest problems is a bunch of Yankees are in charge at the University of

Texas. They don't know Texas, but they are getting ready to find out what this state is all about. It's going to get nasty."²⁵ Broyles had foreseen this exact scenario. Asked a month earlier about Texas or Texas A&M leaving the SWC, he replied, "Politically I don't think they can go. Politically there are a lot of questions whether they can make that move."²⁶ Angered by Arkansas' defection and the rumors surrounding Texas and Texas A&M, Baylor football coach Grant Teaff said, "Who is the SEC anyway? We've had enough abuse. We're not going to take it. We'll come out slugging if we get any more." Texas Tech football coach Spike Dykes was even more pointed. "Let them go....I could care less....Don't let the door hit them on the way out."²⁷ Teaff doubled down on his comments days later at the SWC's annual kickoff luncheon. "I owe a public apology. Newspapers accurately quoted me as saying the Southeastern Conference was unethical in their approach to a member of our conference. I want to retract that statement. I now am firmly convinced the Southeastern Conference is the Iraq of the college football scene of America."²⁸

But there was nothing to be done about Arkansas leaving, shortly thereafter joined by South Carolina as new members of the SEC.

The Razorbacks were gone, the first full member institution to leave a conference as part of the new landscape of college sports and television. Arkansas competed in the SWC in the 1990-91 academic year, winning championships in men's basketball, women's basketball, and men's indoor and outdoor track and field. The Razorbacks honored their two-year football commitments by playing as a member of the SWC in 1991, posting a 5-3 record. Broyles' insight proved correct as both Texas and Texas A&M remained members until the conference broke up in 1995. Beginning that fall, those two schools, along with Texas Tech, and Baylor, joined with the existing Big 8 to create the Big 12. The other SWC schools joined various conferences, none as prestigious as what they had once enjoyed.

The predictions by Broyles, Dick Schultz, and others that the 1990s and beyond would present a new era for college athletics, especially college football, were correct. Arkansas' move to the SEC was indeed the domino that started a chain of conference switching that still is part of college athletics today. Arkansas' decision to leave the SWC left behind seventy-five years of tradition, but it was the right move.

Frank Broyles and Dan Ferritor saw that the SWC could not compete in the 1990s, and they took the opportunity to move to a conference offering more money, more stability, and better competition. In doing so, they set in motion changes that are still altering college sports.



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Endnotes

- ¹ Douglas S. Looney and Armen Keteyian, "Deception in the Heart of Texas," *Sports Illustrated*, September 30, 1985, 28-9.
- ² *New York Times*, October 2, 1985 [accessed via Lexis-Nexis 14 March 2006].
- ³ Allan Dodds Frank, "Block that Kick," *Forbes*, November 4, 1985, 112.
- ⁴ *New York Times*, November 12, 1986.
- ⁵ *St. Petersburg Times*, February 8, 1990.
- ⁶ *New York Times*, February 10, 1990.
- ⁷ *Houston Chronicle*, February 25, 1988.
- ⁸ *Houston Chronicle*, October 30, 1988.
- ⁹ *Austin American Statesman*, April 1, 1989.
- ¹⁰ Orville Henry and Jim Bailey, *The Razorbacks: A Story of Arkansas Football*, new ed. (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 1996), 369. The authors claim that if the Southeastern Conference had extended an invitation to Arkansas when the conference was formed in 1933, the university would have accepted based on fan enthusiasm for games against Mississippi and LSU as opposed to Texas schools.
- ¹¹ George Schroeder, *Hogs! A History* (New York: Fireside Books, 2005), 202-3. In his oral history interview, Broyles suggested that the conversation took place in 1987.
- ¹² *Austin American Statesman*, May 31, 1990.
- ¹³ *Arkansas Gazette*, June 1, 1990.
- ¹⁴ *Arkansas Gazette*, June 9, 1990.
- ¹⁵ *Chicago Tribune*, June 10, 1990.
- ¹⁶ *Los Angeles Times*, June 19, 1990.
- ¹⁷ *Austin American Statesman*, June 12, 1990.
- ¹⁸ *Austin American Statesman*, June 20, 1990.
- ¹⁹ *Austin American Statesman*, June 20, 1990.
- ²⁰ *Austin American Statesman*, June 20, 1990.
- ²¹ The David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History, University of Arkansas Arkansas Memories Project, J. Frank Broyles Interview, December 18, 2007, accessed January 8, 2018, <http://pryorcenter.uark.edu/interview.php?thisProject=Arkansas%20Memories&thisProfileURL=BROYLES-Frank&displayName=J.%20Broyles&thisInterviewee=227>.
- ²² *Austin American Statesman*, August 2, 1990.
- ²³ *Arkansas Gazette*, August 2, 1990.
- ²⁴ *Arkansas Gazette*, August 2, 1990.
- ²⁵ *Arkansas Gazette*, August 3, 1990.
- ²⁶ *Arkansas Gazette*, July 8, 1990.
- ²⁷ *Arkansas Gazette*, August 3, 1990.
- ²⁸ *Arkansas Gazette*, August 4, 1990.

Book Reviews

The Future Ain't What It Used To Be: The 2016 Presidential Election in the South

Edited by Branwell DuBose Kapeluck and Scott E. Buchanan. (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2018. Pp. 316. Notes, sources, indexed, \$34.95 paperback, \$90 cloth).

This forensic autopsy of the 2016 presidential election in the fourteen traditionally Southern states is the ninth such post-election compendium on data and trends dating back to the 1984 presidential election and its effects on the South and Southern voters.

Fans of the University of Arkansas Press, headquartered in the historical McIlroy House on the state's flagship campus, will be delighted to know that this is the third time UA Press has published this compendium of essays and observations from some of the South's most enlightened scholars on voting trends and political observations from each of the fourteen states of the South.

Of local note, Dr. Jay Barth of Hendrix College and Dr. Janine Parry of the University of Arkansas, collaborated and penned the chapter on Arkansas' 2016 political notes. Chapter eight, which kicks off the "Elections in the Rim South" section as the third division in the book, is titled: "Trump Is a Natural for the Natural State."

This eighteen-page chapter, completed with several numerical tables showing results, voting trends, percentages and poll results and voter turnout for several past elections, augment the strongly worded and expert text of Barth and Parry, which begins like this:

While noting that since 1980, Arkansans have voted consistently for Republican Presidents (when Bill Clinton was not the Democratic nominee), those elections remained competitive until recently because of the continued strength of the Democrats at the state level....

But jarringly, Barth and Parry write in the very first pages of the eighteen-page chapter of the decisive presidential contests in 2008 and 2012, as a fundamental realignment occurred in Arkansas.

"Indeed," the duo writes, "no state political party in the

modern era has experienced a more precipitous decline than Arkansas's Democrats."

After expert interpretation of the tables, polls and outcomes of the 2016 election, the duo writes plainly in their conclusion: "The 2016 elections—a Republican rout up and down the ballot—sealed the tomb of a southern Democratic Party that until 2010 had managed not only to remain competitive but indeed dominate state elections."

Perhaps nailing down the lid on the tomb, Barth and Parry end their essay with this: "Outside of a smattering of local races in a handful of urban and diverse, counties, Arkansas Democrats are in for some lean years."

But not only is the message of GOP Red taking control of the South found in the Arkansas chapter, but throughout the book.

The entire book and its many authors note that the slow evolution from a strong Democratic South to the roughish and more Conservative GOP has been an evolution that has taken since Barry Goldwater won five of the Deep South states in 1964.

Editors Kapeluck and Buchanan, both distinguished political scientists at The Citadel in South Carolina, have again worked their statistical and trend driven magic on politics by enlisting some of the South's most gifted writers and political scientists in this volume.

—Reviewed by Maylon T. Rice. Mr. Rice is a former newspaper writer, editor and columnist at several newspapers in Arkansas. He is a member of the Arkansas Historical Association Board of Trustees and is president of the Washington County Historical Society in Fayetteville.

Looting Spiro Mounds: An American King Tut's Tomb

By David La Vere. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2007. Pp. 226. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$24.95.)

As a child growing up in northeastern Oklahoma many long years ago, a favorite place in my known world was Frank Phillip's Woolaroc Museum. Phillips, the oil

magnate and founder of Phillips 66 amassed over the years an impressive collection of Native American art and artifacts. In the cool dark recesses of the museum, I spent hours and hours staring at the collections of prehistoric artifacts from Spiro, Oklahoma, wondering who made them and what those people were like. Now, decades later, my questions are answered and the mystery is solved, thanks to the fine work of David La Vere, professor of history at University of North Carolina.

In *Looting Spiro Mounds: An American King Tut's Tomb*, La Vere tells two very different stories. On one hand the book explains the origins and importance of the Spiro Mound site in eastern Oklahoma and the cultural/historical importance of the society that developed there. Simultaneously, La Vere describes how the poverty and the desperation brought on by the Great Depression led first to disaster for the mound site and then to a change in the way that society and the court systems viewed prehistoric sites across the country.

Although people began to develop the Spiro site around AD 800, La Vere's book begins in AD 1933 during the depths of the Great Depression. Driven by desperation and, of course, greed, residents living near and on the Spiro site begin to increase and better organize their artifact collecting activities.

The area, near present-day Fort Smith, Arkansas, had a long standing reputation as a locale rich in artifacts and residents made small amounts of money selling such things to collectors around the country. The extreme deprivations of the Depression led to the creation of the Pocola Mining Company (PMC), an outfit created to begin, with vigor, the unearthing of Native American artifacts from the mound site. Not satisfied with the occasional weekend foray, or the discovery of a piece or two here and there, the PMC obtained leases for the site and began, in the fall of 1933, a thorough, organized pillaging. Within a month of

beginning, newly uncovered artifacts, some of which were seeing light for the first time in a thousand years started to make their way onto the collector's market. Always on guard though, university faculty members in archeology and anthropology also noticed the new items on the market and began their own inquiries. The diametrically opposed goals of the looters and the academics and the ensuing struggle between the two camps led to, eventually, a change in the legal standing and protections of sites like and including Spiro.

One of the most impressive components of La Vere's work is the ability to move the reader backward and forward through centuries of time without causing confusion or creating a loss of interest. While charting the "progress" of the PMC and the efforts to stop them, La Vere unfolds the story of the Spiro site and how and why the area became such a pre-Columbian focal point of trade and development. Through this back and forth construction the reader is made aware of the tremendous importance and cultural impact of the Spiro site at the same time as they are learning of the site's eminent doom through the action of the PMC.

With any good work there is room for improvement and this is no different. I think the comprehension of the physical layout of the Spiro site could be greatly improved through the inclusion of better maps of the area and diagrams of the mounds. La Vere's writing is good but it is a struggle sometime to visualize exactly what it is that is being described.

In the world of history writing it is rare to find books that satisfies both the general public as well as academia; with this work, La Vere definitely accomplishes that Herculean task.

—Reviewed by Dr. Steven Kite, Chair, History Department, University of Arkansas—Fort Smith.

Surprise your favorite people with membership in the

Fort Smith Historical Society.

They will love the *Journal* and you.

Who Knew?

Who knew we would still be celebrating the 1817 to 2018 birthday and the changes to Fort Smith this late into our special 200th year celebration of Fort Smith? So many have come together to plan and make the festivities happen. We mentioned the celebration in the last issue of *The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*. Pardon the second reference, we are still celebrating!

The Arkansas Historical Association held its seventy-seventh annual conference here in April. The Fort Smith Historical Society was one of the many sponsors of the conference. Patrick Williams, secretary/treasurer for the Arkansas Historical Association, said before the conference, "We are meeting in Fort Smith to help mark the Fort Smith bicentennial. We have a 'Frontiers and Borders' theme."

Angela Walton-Raji, professional genealogist and keynote presenter of the conference, is known for her work in Native American and American Indian black genealogy. Angela focused on the role of both cultures in this region's history. Angela began her education in Fort Smith and has done extensive personal research in western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma, formerly Indian Territory.

Kathleen DuVal, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill history professor and a graduate of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, was also a keynote presenter. Kathleen has also done extensive research focusing on the Colonial era in our region and has published books on the subject of her presentation. There were also many more excellent conference presenters.

The presenting researchers have filled in gaps data specific to this area. Time well spent. If you ever get the chance, attend an Arkansas Historical Association conference. The attendees were most impressed with the Fort Smith and surrounding area preservation projects.

Why are we talking about these subjects in what is traditionally known as a query/answer section of the journal? We don't just give answers, we show the inquirer where and how we found their answers.

This is also a time to thank Fort Smith Historical Society members who generously volunteer their time, share knowledge of available sites to explore, and go above and beyond to find answers. These experts are also called on to look over data collected when a solution is not found; they often suggest other areas to explore. Often this advice leads

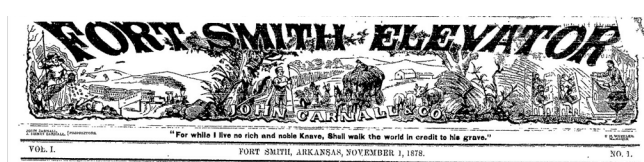
straight to the answer. When we cannot find the answer it is a disappointment to both the inquirer and the researchers.

The Fort Smith Public Library has an alternate method for searching otherwise difficult data without a specific date. We can look up information in most of Fort Smith's older newspapers with the use of this method, indexed microfilm. While the best situation is to know the specific date of the event, we will use the data you give us to look for an answer. In the past, only a year to narrow when an event was just too much to ask of us. Now with optical character recognition (OCR) software, we have a better chance of success! To all that made this possible, a big Thank You.

From the desk of: Jennifer Goodson

The Fort Smith Public Library owns the Fort Smith newspapers, in their various forms, from 1848 to present on microfilm. Our earliest issue is the *Fort Smith Herald* for Wednesday, December 6, 1848. Other titles in our collection include *Arkansas Developer*, *Belle Grove School Journal*, *Daily News Record*, *Daily Southwest American*, *Evening Call*, *Fort Smith Bulletin*, *Fort Smith Daily Herald*, *Fort Smith Daily Time and Herald*, *Fort Smith Elevator*, *Fort Smith Enterprise*, *Fort Smith Herald*, *Fort Smith Herald and New Elevator*, *Fort Smith New Era*, *Fort Smith News Record*, *Fort Smith Southwest American*, *Fort Smith Standard*, *Fort Smith Times Record*, *Fort Smith Tri Weekly Bulletin*, *Fort Smith Weekly Herald*, *Fort Smith Weekly New Era*, *News Record*, *Ouachita Conference Journal*, *South West Independent*, *Southwest American*, *Southwest Times Record*, *Sun*, *Thirty Fifth Parallel*, *Times Record*, *Tri Weekly Fort Smith Herald*, *War Times*, *Weekly New Era*, *Western Independent*, *Wheeler's Daily Independent*, *Wheeler's Independent* and *Wheeler's Western Independent*.

Digitizing our microfilm collection had been on our wish list for a long time, but the idea really gained steam after I made a presentation on the history of the Fort Smith Public Library at a meeting of the Fort Smith Historical Society in February 2017. In the discussion that followed the presentation, I talked with the members about the FSPL microfilm collection and the limitations of the equipment at the Main Library for using it. As we brainstormed

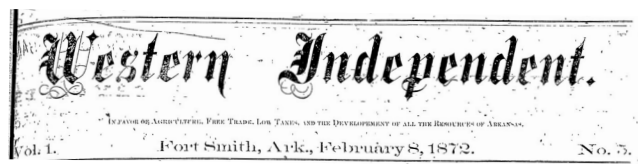
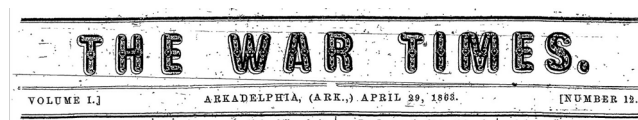


possibilities for improving usability, I was reminded that the best solution would really be to digitize the collection. Following that meeting library staff began to research possibilities and began the digitization project we have underway now.

We have chosen to work with Advantage Preservation on our digitization project. Based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, they follow ANSI/AIIM, Research Libraries Group, and Library of Congress industry standards in digitizing our microfilm.

They scan the microfilm, then they OCR (optical character recognition) the images, index the keywords, and host the images on a website that is accessible to library users. Through the interface on the website, users can search, view, clip, print, download, and share specific articles and pages from the digital images. In addition, Advantage puts a copy of every scanned image onto a searchable portable hard drive that we retain at the library as a backup to the digital files.

We started the digitization project with \$10,000 from the Friends of the Fort Smith Public Library in December 2017. We were able to allocate some funds from the



library's 2018 budget to move the project along a little more. Shifting funds from another project to the digitization project in May allowed us to inch the project forward a little more.

To date we have spent over \$18,000 on the project. The date range currently digitized is December 1848 through March 1932 and December 2012 through February 2018.

Progress will be slower as we work our way through the newer newspapers. The newspapers get bigger (more pages). There are also both morning and afternoon editions of the newspaper published for a number of years, and both editions are on the microfilm reels.

Pricing for digitization is per roll of microfilm and runs \$115 or \$120 per roll. This pricing includes access to the images on the hosted website and backup copies on the searchable hard drive. Advantage has locked in this pricing for the duration of the project, even if it takes years to complete. The estimated total for digitizing the entire collection of Fort Smith newspapers is \$165,000. Once the Fort Smith papers are complete, there are other microfilm resources in our collection that we might also consider digitizing. We have some issues of the *Lincoln Echo* on

microfilm, Dawes rolls, and a number of Arkansas (Other than Fort Smith, since those are completed.) newspapers, among other things.

We are pursuing funding to continue digitizing through as many avenues as possible. The Friends of the Library are enthusiastic about the project, and I believe they will continue to contribute money as their funds permit. Library funding is tight as always but when possible we will allocate some library funds for digitization. The Fort Smith Public Library Endowment Trust also plans to support the project as funds permit. We hope to identify grant funding that might move the project along. We would enthusiastically welcome contributions from individuals and groups in the community who share our excitement about having digital access to these resources and would like to help the project move forward.

Please encourage your members to let me know if they have questions or need more information. I am happy to demonstrate the site and what we have digitized so far for groups or individuals if anyone is interested. To contribute funds to the project, donations can be sent to my attention with a note that they are designated for the microfilm digitization project. Contributions to the library are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

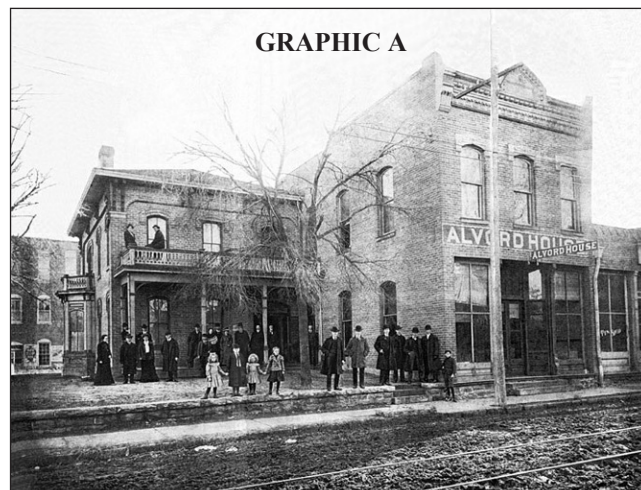
Thank you for your help spreading the word about this exciting initiative.

Jennifer Goodson, MLIS, CAS,
Library Director
Fort Smith Public Library
3201 Rogers Ave.
Fort Smith, AR 72903

Please consider digitizing a roll of microfilm your way to contribute to the preservation of Fort Smith history. A group of researchers might pull funds and have a roll digitized. This method of researching Fort Smith events is truly a time saver. If your time is valuable, think of the hours of research you will save. Consider donating back a portion of those funds in order to access easily the remainder of the newspaper data not yet indexed.

Fort Smith Public Library has handed us the key to retrieve documentation with lightning speed in what would otherwise involve hours of pouring over film just to see if it holds the data needed.

These are samples of original answers to queries and follow up information made possible by using the new tool:



Alvord House

On March 12, 2016, we received a query requesting a photo of the Alvord House, 20 North Fifth Street, Fort Smith. We sent the photo seen below. It would have been helpful to include additional information about the house with the original correspondence. It would not have been done easy though. Now with microfilm scanned and easily converted into digital, searchable, and indexed files, we can find the *Fort Smith News Record*, page 4, June 13, 1905, article reporting the fire easily. The fire, caused by a defective flue, burned a hole in the ceiling and roof of the Alvord House. Damage by fire and water amounted to about \$500 in damage.

court and will serve short sentences.

FIRE AT ALVORD HOUSE.
Fire from a defective flue, burned a hole in the ceiling and roof of the Alvord House on Monday. The damage by fire and water amounted to about \$500.

Page 4 of The Fort Smith News Record, published in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Tuesday, June 13th, 1905

Fire at Alvord House.

Fire from a defective flue, burned a hole in the ceiling and roof of the Alvord House on Monday. The damage by fire and water amounted to about \$500.

Fred Leininger 9/19/2015

Question: My grandfather Fred Leininger played for the Fort Smith Twins from 1914-1916. I was hoping that you might have some collections that would shed some light on his career there? And, can you point me to other likely sources of information in Ft. Smith?

(AP)—Associated Press

Earl Leininger Made President of Rotary



EARL LEININGER

The Fort Smith Rotary club Wednesday elected Earl Leininger as president of that organization for 1926. Leininger has been very active in business and civic club circles in Fort Smith for many years.

Page 1 of The Southwest American, published in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Thursday, March 18th, 1926

Earl Leininger President of Rotary



Fort Smith Public Library
<https://goo.gl/8fqPzV>

GRAPHIC C

Thanks, Eric Leininger

Answer: Mr. Leininger,

Is your Fred related to Ray Leininger? Is the "F" in Ray F. Leininger for Fred? In 1914 Playing Level "D" ball, Position: Shortstop, Played 126 games, 4564 at bats, 89 hits/hits allowed 11 doubles hit/allowed, 0 triples hits/allowed, 1 Home run, .196 BA, .227, etc., Fort Smith Twins?

Question: I have not heard my grandfather referred to as

Ray, only Fred. I was told he had only two names, Fred Leininger. However, your other information syncs up with info I received from the Hall of Fame researchers in Cooperstown. 10/2015

Question from MB to EL: Mr. Leininger, the Fort Smith Public Library have many of their old Fort Smith newspapers in digital form now. Is Earl Leininger, the gentleman in the photo, a relative of yours? See Graphic c.)

Note: I tried to contact Mr. Leininger by email. His email account is no longer valid.

Speegle /Doerr

Question: Mike to MJ

I have almost no information on Charles, Sr. (Doerr) we have hit a brick wall.

Answer: MJ to Darla: With the indexing of old Fort Smith, AR newspapers, I have found these Doerr names. Are they Charles Doerr, Sr. family ties? James Doerr, Cora F. Gibson, Tom J Doerr, Nettie Doerr, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Doerr, Mr. and Mrs. James F. Peters. This article was found in our *Southwest American* newspaper, Sunday May 29, 1920, page 28. Graphic d.) May 9, 1920 *Southwest American*

Question: Darla to MB

<p>We wish to extend our sincere thanks to our neighbors and friends in Fort Smith, Little Rock and Van Buren for their untiring assistance shown us during the illness of our dear wife mother and sister and after death for the kind words and beautiful floral offerings. May God bless one and all—James Doerr, Mrs. Cora F. Gibson, Tom J Doerr, Nettie Doerr, Mr and Mrs. Phil Doerr Mr. and Mrs. James F Peters.</p>	<p>A C C A A I N</p>
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Page 28 of The Southwest American, published in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Sunday, May 9th, 1920

Doerr thank you.

Fort Smith Public Library
<https://goo.gl/RIRQwZ>

GRAPHIC D

Good question. I am not sure since we still cannot find any information on Charles. He is the first Doerr that shows up in the tree. I wouldn't be surprised. I will research the names and see if anything comes up.

Answer: MB to Darla

Claude Speegle State Mine Inspector is Jessie Speegle Doers' brother. Graphic e.) Feb. 9, 1932, *Southwest American*

Speegle, Claude Mine inspector. Inspected Paris, AR blast

FUNERAL PLAN MADE FOR VICTIM OF BLAST

Bill Bramlette, Killed Early Sunday
in Explosion at Paris, Will Be
Buried Tuesday Afternoon

(Special News Service)
Paris, Ark., Feb. 8.—Funeral service for Bill Bramlette, about 50 years old, injured fatally in an explosion late Sunday morning in the Liberty coal mine, will be conducted at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at Booher cemetery, six miles west of Russellville, with Rev. T. J. Oolcher, pastor of the Assembly of God church, officiating.

Pallbearers will be Charles Wahl Jr., Lamar Cox, B. C. Reed, C. C. Pitta, George Maaham, and Sheridan Reames. Arrangements are in charge of the Meredith and Mitchell Funeral home.

The explosion occurred when a body of "mine gas" was ignited, supposedly by the pit lamp of Bramlette, foreman of the mine. Four other men in the mine were rendered unconscious by carbon monoxide fumes.

Claude Speegle, state mine inspector, Monday afternoon returned from Paris where he conducted an investigation of the explosion in the Liberty mine which cost the life of one man and resulted in near-asphyxiation for four others.

Speegle said a body of methane gas, or "mine gas," was evidently ignited by the pit lamp of Bill Bramlette, who was fatally injured in the explosion.

Only slight damage was done to a west entry of the mine, Speegle said, but the mine will probably remain closed for two or three days.

Speegle was informed that the four men suffering from the effects of inhaling carbon monoxide gas are recovering.

Page 7 of The Southwest American, published in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Tuesday, February 9th, 1932

GRAPHIC E

Question: Darla to MB

Thanks for that. I do recall you mentioning and showing that there is a monument to Coal Miners and Claude's name is on it.

Answer: MB to Darla

Darla—It is not available for the public right now but Fort Smith Public Library at some point will have old newspapers indexed. I found the attached showing Jesse Speegle and her Father GW ate Thanksgiving with Mrs. Bob and James Craig. It appeared in the Graphic f.) Dec. 7, 1906 *Fort Smith Elevator*

Question: Darla to MB

This is great. I see Bonnie East and John Burris are also listed. They were neighbors that she mentions. (Isn't Bonnie the boy that got away?) Darla

From Auburn

To the Elevator

Auburn, December 3.—Messrs. James Cross and Ben Wolverton returned last week from a two month's visit at Carbon, Texas.

The O. E. S. gave a sumptuous banquet at the hall Saturday night and conferred some side degrees. Several members from Charleston and Lavaca lodge were present.

Bonnie East, who is attending school at Charleston, visited home folks Saturday night and Sunday.

Mrs. Dr. Wright of Hot Springs and Mrs. Gifford of Fort Smith spent Wednesday night of last week with Mr. and Mrs. John Burris and family.

Messrs. Marvin Moore and Gordy McGee of Burnville attended singing at Center Valley Sunday.

John Burris and daughter, Mrs. Lizzie East, made a business trip to Charleston Saturday.

School at Center Valley is progressing nicely under the management of Prof. Garrison of Mansfield.

Rev and Mrs. East were shopping in Charleston Tuesday.

G. W. Speegle and daughter, Miss Jessie, spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Bob and James Craig.

John Fitzgerald returned last week from a two month's visit in Oklahoma.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Craig gave a little social Thursday night in which candy breaking was the principle feature of the day.

Mountain Daisy.

Page 9 of The Fort Smith Elevator, published in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Friday, December 7th, 1906

G.W. Speegle and daughter, Miss Jessie, spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Bob and James Craig.

Fig 8 of the Fort Smith Elevator published in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Friday, December 7, 1906

GRAPHIC F



Who Knew is developed and written by FSHS corresponding secretary Mary Jeanne Black, shown here accepting an award for the Journal from Mark Christ, president of the Arkansas Historical Association.

1918 Newspapers



By Al Whitson

The second half of the year 1918 found Fort Smith, like all of America, in a somber and anxious mood, as the war in Europe continued. Every headline and most of the news in general was aimed at and focused on the war effort. But daily life continued and with it came the attendant celebrations and tragedies that mark the lives of communities. Saint John's hospital became the first clinic in the city to be equipped with an X-ray machine, Garrison Avenue received trash receptacles and jay-walking laws, and Victor Ellig became the first Fort Smith boy to die on the battlefield in Europe. And then, the pandemic found its way to America. The first local victim wasn't local at all. On September 25, Archie Barton, only fourteen years of age—yet serving his country in the Navy, died in a naval hospital in Philadelphia as a result of the Spanish flu. In Fort Smith, all social gatherings were reduced or stopped altogether. Church services,

schools, picture shows were all shuttered throughout October in an effort to limit the effect of the pandemic in the city. Late in that same month, one of the biggest fires ever to occur in Fort Smith ravaged the warehouse district, taking the lives of four men. But by the second week in November the bans had been lifted, and life was beginning to return to normal, and then, on November 12, the news of victory over Germany reached the city and jubilation once again returned to Fort Smith. The boys would be coming home, and soon.

Tuesday, July 2, 1918

EXCELLENT PROGRAM IS ARRANGED FOR FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Arrangements for the big Fourth of July celebration here Thursday were affected yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the executive and arrangements committees at the office of Mayor Arch Monro, and the completed program has been announced.

The celebration will begin with a band concert by Darby's band, starting at 7:15 p.m. and lasting fifteen minutes. The celebration will be staged at the Plaza, and following the band concert the formal ceremonies will be held as follows:

- ❖ Singing of "America" by the audience.
- ❖ Recitation of "The Pledge To The Flag." by the audience.
- ❖ Reading of the Declaration of Independence, by Ray Gill.
- ❖ Patriotic services by children of foreign born residents.
- ❖ Patriotic address, Rev H. W. Bartels.
- ❖ Singing of patriotic songs by the audience, led by a community singer from Camp Pike.
- ❖ Reading of a special message from President Wilson by C. A. Darling.
- ❖ Patriotic song service, by the colored people, led by the choir of the Eighth street Methodist church.
- ❖ Retreat services, by the Home Guard.
- ❖ Musical concert, by the band

Announcement has been made that during the entire day, the old commissary building will be kept open for

inspection by visitors and with an attendant present to explain the historical value of the building and its contents. Most of the stores and business houses of the city will be closed at least during the afternoon of Thursday, and many will remain closed throughout the day, it was stated last evening.

Tuesday, July 2, 1918

SUES FOR DIVORCE

Suit for divorce was filed in chancery court yesterday by D. Smith vs. Jo Smith plaintiff, alleging that he was intoxicated at the time of the ceremony, that he was only 18 years of age when the ceremony was performed, and charging defendant with adultery.

Wednesday, July 3, 1918

MOB LAW'S VICTIM CAME FROM ARKANSAS

Special to the *Southwest American*

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., July 2—Lougious McGill, negro, lynched at Madill, Okla. Saturday, was identified Monday morning as Will Garner, a "bad" Arkansas negro, who began his criminal career in Logan county, Ark., and ended it in Logan county, Okla.

He was sentenced from Logan county in January, 1911, to serve 21 years for murder. He served two years, escaping and going to Kansas penitentiary at Lansing for burglary. Just before completing his term, he led a revolt in the prison coal mines, which resulted in the death of several convicts and guards. Upon completing his term, he was returned to Arkansas and again entered prison. Last November he led seven convicts in an escape from the state farm, fleeing to Guthrie, Okla., where a few days later he killed a negro. He was sentenced last week, and escaped. He was lynched for attacking a white woman.

Thursday, July 4, 1918

CONS WILSON WOUNDED, LUTE GREGORY KILLED, IN DUEL WITH PISTOLS

Luther Gregory, farmer, 21 is dead as the outcome of a pistol duel with Cons T. Wilson, which occurred about 5:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, in a field about six miles from the city on the Waldron road.

Wilson received a bullet wound in the mouth, but his

wound is declared to be comparatively slight.

At a late hour last night, Coroner Hugh Johnson had not conducted an inquest and Gregory's body was being held at the Fentress morgue, awaiting the coroner's instructions.

Max Jenkins, former member of the city police department, is suffering a cut wound on the head, which he declares was caused yesterday morning by a rock thrown at him by Gregory. That incident resulted in the shooting, because Jenkins had a warrant issued against Gregory, and Wilson was attempting to place Gregory under arrest when the shooting occurred.

According to Jenkins, Gregory's mother has been employed by him on his farm, as a hoe hand, but was discharged because of unsatisfactory work. Later, Jenkins charged Mrs. Gregory with interfering and attempting to cause discord among negro women working for him and adjured her to "attend to her own business, as he was attending to his."

Jenkins said last night that the mother evidently told her son of his remarks, because yesterday morning the youth threw rocks at him as he was going to his field. Jenkins declares he started to go after the youth, but that he remained on his wagon and drove off, when Gregory drew a weapon.

Jekins[sp] declares he came to the city and had his wound dressed, and then procured a warrant against Gregory for the assault upon him. This warrant he placed in Wilson's hands for service. Wilson searched for the boy during the early afternoon, and notified officers at Van Buren and other points, but finally met the boy near Jenkins' place.

It is declared Gregory fired one shot only, the bullet striking Wilson in the mouth, and that Wilson in turn fired only one shot, which struck Gregory in the right side, about the seventh rib, and caused almost instant death.

Wilson and Jenkins are both widely known in the city. Wilson formerly was in the saloon business here, but more recently has been farming. Gregory was a young farmer, and it was said last night that he was under orders to leave Friday for an army camp, with other drafted men.

Friday, July 5, 1918

AIRPLANE PASSES OVER FORT SMITH?

Several persons reported last night by telephone to *The Southwest American* that they had watched an airplane pass over the city, about 9 p.m., moving toward Little Rock, from the west.

The substance of the reports was that the machine bore two lights, at the front and rear respectively and that it was

perhaps 2,000 or 2,500 feet in the air.

COMMITTEE WILL TRY TO SOLVE MYSTERY

Owing to the great amount of discussion that has arisen since the presentation of "A Night With the Spirits" at the Lyric at the beginning of the week, it will be repeated tonight by special request so that a committee of prominent men interested in the supernatural phenomena may be present on the stage and investigate very closely the entire performance. Nothing so startling has ever been seen here, and everybody seems to have a different opinion as to the solution of the mystery.

NATION'S HOLIDAY IS CELEBRATED LOYALLY BY FORT SMITH FOLK

America's national holiday was observed by Fort Smith people in a rather informal manner yesterday. The post office, federal, and state courts were closed, with practically all the business houses in the city. The proprietors, employees and professional men, being thus released from the cares of the day, made trips into the country, many of them being accompanied by their families and friends.

As announced the old commissary was open to visitors yesterday and a steady stream of sightseers passed through the vine-clad doors from early morn till late evening. Many Fort Smith people availed themselves of this opportunity for the first time yesterday and were well repaid for their trouble. There were many old relics, including guns, swords and implements of a time long gone by. All visitors were asked to register and the old book now carries many names new to the record that reaches back to a time when Fort Smith was a village. The well-preserved paintings of Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee well repaid most of the older visitors.

Mrs. Robb, Mrs. Lyman and Mrs. Horton, of the Old Commissary association, were in charge of the building during the day and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. there was a steady stream of visitors. More than 200 of the visitors registered. From many distant points came the visitors, all of whom displayed great interest. One of the lady visitors declared that her grandfather built the foundations for many of the older buildings here, and that her father had written her to be sure and see the Old Commissary building while she was in this section.

Many others, released from the cares of the day, visited the National cemetery and again viewed the well-kept lawn and graves of soldiers who have long since joined the great army beyond.

Later in the evening those on outing trips began to return and soon the streets were choked with people. And still later, as the time for the exercises and entertainment at the



Plaza drew near, the people from the homes began to appear on the streets and movement in either direction on Garrison avenue soon became slow and almost impossible.

Plaza Is Crowded

At the Plaza, the crowd was so great that one was lucky to get within hearing distance of the platform. Mayor Monro was master of ceremonies and did succeed in advising the big crowd of the next numbers on the program.

The singing of "America," and recital of the "Pledge" by the audience, was given with a will, after which Ray Gill read the Declaration of Independence in a creditable manner. His reading was given the closest of attention and all were able to follow him.

The most inspiring number on the program was the exercise of the children of foreign-born parents who mounted the platform bedecked in patriotic apparel for the most part, carrying flags galore and sang some of the good old songs dear to the heart of every American citizen. They acquitted themselves with credit and those who had their training in hand are to be congratulated.

C. A. Darling read a message from the president which contained words of praise for what has already been accomplished and asking that the American people stand steadfast and true to the doctrines of the signers of the

Declaration of Independence.

Rev. H. W. Bartels, who will soon leave the city and his church for duty at the front, made a classical and patriotic talk. He had the undivided attention of the big crowd and his telling arguments for closer patriotic work were cheered.

Sergeant Knap, a leader of community singing at Camp Pike, took charge of the platform and led in some grand singing. The songs were new to Fort Smith singers, but they soon "caught on" and all joined in, and it was a song service that will be long remembered by all those present or in hearing distance.

Saturday, July 6, 1918

RAILWAY FIREMAN KILLED BY ENGINE

W. C. Carroll, a Missouri Pacific fireman, was almost instantly killed in the Frisco yards in this city yesterday morning about 10 o'clock when the switch engine on which he was firing, bumped into a car and he was thrown on the track in front of a moving engine.

It appears that he was standing on the foot or running board in front of the engine leaning over and oiling the trucks. The engine was moving very slowly and bumped into a car or string of cars. The shock was light but Carroll was leaning far over and lost his hold and fell. One arm and leg was almost torn from his body besides his body was almost severed just above the hips. He was rushed to Sparks Memorial hospital but died shortly after arrival.

Deceased had lived in Van Buren for about two years, coming to that city from Spadra. The remains will be shipped to Spadra this afternoon and will be interred in the Altus cemetery. He is survived by his widow and four children and other relatives who reside in Van Buren and at the old home at Spadra.

Deceased was a member of the railway firemen's union and was a Woodmen. He was about 35 years of age and was held in high esteem by the people of Van Buren.

Sunday, July 7, 1918

MODERN EQUIPMENT FOR LOCAL HOSPITAL

St. John's private hospital on North Eleventh street now is completely and modernly equipped with an X-ray plant and bacteriological laboratory and an expert will be secured to handle the work.

Installation of the X-ray plant was completed on Saturday and a number of pictures taken to test the machine which was found to work satisfactorily. The laboratory

with all modern and up-to-date equipment is ready for work.

St. John's is said to be the only hospital in this section of the southwest which is equipped in this manner and physicians and doctors other than those connected with the hospital will be given the privilege of taking advantage of them.

Tuesday, July 9, 1918

CITY WILL PROVIDE TRASH RECEPTACLES ALONG THE AVENUE

The city will install at various points along Garrison avenue the next few days, canvas box-like receptacles, into which the public is expected to throw trash, old paper and other such stuff, which now, because of the careless habits of people generally, serves to give the avenue the reputation of being one of the dirtiest streets in this section of the state.

The canvas receptacles have been tried elsewhere, and have fully answered the purpose, the city-commissioners have been informed. Several are now being manufactured by a local plant, and they will be given a trial. If they prove satisfactory, and if the people do their part by throwing paper and trash therein, more of the receptacles will be ordered and installed. By this means, the city commission hopes to be able to keep Garrison avenue clear of the trash which now litters it to such a great extent.

LEAVES FOR EAST ON PURCHASING TRIP



Sam Tilles of the Fair store leaves today for New York, and other Eastern and Northern markets, to make purchases for the big local establishment. En route, Mr. Tilles will stop over for a visit with his son, Captain Alvin W. Tilles,

who is an officer in the great National army. Mr. Tilles expected to be away several weeks.

Thursday, July 11, 1918

JAYWALKING LAW IS EFFECTIVE TODAY

The city commission yesterday afternoon adopted an ordinance materially amending the traffic laws of the municipality, and making it a violation to cross Garrison avenue or any of its cross streets, at other than the regular

street intersections, along the proper paths provided for pedestrians. These paths are not marked out in any way, it being generally understood that everybody knows where is the proper place, at which to cross a street.

The ordinance in its entirety is printed elsewhere in *The Southwest American* today. It makes changes by amendment of previous traffic laws to which also it adds several features. The jaywalking feature is one of additions to the law, while perhaps the most generally important change is that which requires automobiles parked in Garrison avenue to head into the curb and face to the left, instead of to back in and face to the right, as has been the custom heretofore.

40,000 MORE PERSONS RIDE OVER FREE BRIDGE AND INCOME INCREASES

Over 40,000 more street car passengers paid tolls across the Fort Smith and Van Buren bridge the first six months of 1918 than crossed the bridge during the corresponding period of last year. And they increased the bridge income by \$1,769.20 over that of the first six months of 1917. The report of President J. H. Butler to the board at its meeting yesterday showed that over a quarter million passengers crossed the bridge between January 1 and July 1, 1918.

According to the report the number of passengers in the first six months of 1917 was 213,317, and in the corresponding period of 1918 it was 253,902. Bridge tolls during the former period amounted to \$4,849.49 and the first half of this year it had increased to \$6,618.69. Increases in passengers 40,585 and in tolls \$1,769.20.

The board adopted a resolution requiring that a collection of 1918 district taxes shall close October 1 on both sides of the river and after that date delinquent penalties shall be added.

The district has notified the traction company that the south approach of the bridge is to be paved and the company is expected to pave its tracts at both approaches of the bridge. This improvement is to be in line with the proposed paving between Fort Smith and Van Buren. The board paved the north approach last fall, but the company at that time failed to pave its portion of that approach.

The board yesterday appropriated \$10.85 to pay a doctor bill incurred by Wayne Shaw of the Fort Smith fire department as a result of an injury received at the bridge fire. At that time his hand was injured by a nail in a bridge timber he was handling and the wound was infected.

MIDLAND'S LAST DAY AT OLD TERMINALS

Tonight at 10:45 o'clock will occur the last opportunity to meet a passenger train at the old Frisco station at the foot of Garrison avenue. The final passenger train to pull in at that station will be No. 2 of the Midland Valley, and for six

hours preceding that hour there will have been no Midland Valley freight trains in the yards at the foot of the avenue. After 4 o'clock today all in-bound Midland Valley freights will pull into the Kansas City Southern yards on the reserve.

Friday morning passengers for the Midland Valley will find their train in the union station at the usual departing hour. Shippers having business with the Midland Valley will hereafter transact business at the freight depot on South Eighth and Rogers.

These changes are in pursuance to orders that, effective Friday morning, the Kansas City Southern will take care of all passenger and freight trains operating over the Midland Valley railroad all freight trains pulling into and out of the Kansas City Southern yards and all passenger trains into and out of the union station. The change is a result of consolidating a number of southwestern railroads under one management and under control of Federal Director, J. A. Edson.

Friday, July 12, 1918

WOMAN BADLY HURT BY ENRAGED BULL

Mrs. Lily Kouri, who resides with her mother, Mrs. Pierce, at 206 South Twelfth street, was attacked by a mad bull at the crossing of Rogers and Towson avenues, Wednesday evening, as she was returning uptown to her work.

The animal was being driven by two men and when it had approached near where she was crossing the street, rushed upon her without the least warning. She was knocked down and trampled upon and both feet and legs were injured by the animal's sharp hoofs, besides she was bruised in the breast by the animal's head.

The men rushed to her assistance and saved her. The Putman ambulance was called and Mrs. Kouri was taken home, where she is recovering from the fright and physical injuries.

The two men who had the animal in charge got the brute off the street as soon as possible and no one could be found who knew them.

Tuesday, July 16, 1918

SCISSORS COMPANY READY FOR WAR WORK

The Solid Steel Scissors company has placed two sample pairs of surgical scissors at the Business Men's club for inspection of visitors. The samples are the same as are

found in every army surgeon's instrument case and appear to be perfect in construction and finish.

At the declaration of war, this company offered to turn its plant over to the government to be used in any way that would best assist in the prosecution of the war. With the present facilities in the way of factory and machinery, the plant could turn out 600 dozen pairs of scissors per day, working on a war basis. From the start this factory has been a source of pride with Fort Smith people largely on account of the high grade product it turns out.

Mr. George Sparks, who enlisted for service in the American Red Cross abroad has reached his destination safely according to a message received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dave B. Sparks of North Twelfth street on Monday.

Wednesday, July 17, 1918

CITY SELLS CAGE IN OLD JAILHOUSE

The city commission last evening accepted the bid of Feenberg company for the steel cage in the old city jail, and sold the steel to that company for a price of \$16 per ton.

FIREMEN NEEDED TO STOP LEAK IN AMMONIA PIPES

The main supply pipe of the cooling system of the Watson & Avon ice cream factory sprang a leak about 7 o'clock yesterday evening. The foreman was standing near the pipe when the break occurred and almost instantly turned the valve, thus cutting off the supply. But the pipes were all full of the ammonia and in a few moments the deadly fumes were felt out on the sidewalk in front.

Employees found it to be impossible to reach the three other valves controlling the system and notified the fire department. Chief Brun and one or two of his men quickly made the run and with their gas masks on soon had the valves all turned and the rooms soon emptied of the fumes.

Wednesday, July 24, 1918

CALL NURSES FOR WAR WORK ABROAD

The Red Cross has accepted the tender of service by five local girls, graduates of the nurses training school of Sparks Memorial hospital and the young women have been instructed to leave Wednesday night for Camp Pike, for induction into the war service. They are expected shortly to go to Europe, for work near the front lines.

The young ladies are Miss Margaret Alexander, Miss Vera Jones, Miss Sanford Mann, and Miss Winifred Mann, who will leave this city tonight and Miss Alma Hardy, who is visiting in McAlester, Okla., and will go direct from that city to Camp Pike.

Wednesday, July 24, 1918

DISPOSAL OF CITY'S GARBAGE MAY CAUSE FORT SMITH TO OPEN QUITE AN EXTENSIVE ENTERPRISE

In the effort to rid the city of its waste trash and garbage and to convert this waste into something useful with little or no cost to the city, Mayor Arch Monroe has decided for the city to lease for a stated period an old foundry building near the river front, where paper, rags, bones, metals and other such stuffs found in the city's trash pile shall be separated and prepared for shipment to buyers in the north, at a price that will at least pay the cost of the handling.

Details of the matter are now being perfected by Mayor Monroe, whose plans in part are as yet only tentative, but Mr. Monroe stated last evening that he would try out the plan for a while anyhow to see how it will work. Should it be successful in clearing the city of its trash and garbage with returns sufficient to meet the cost of handling, the plans will be extended so that in the not too-remote future the city itself may be in the position of having established quite an important little municipal enterprise.

Waste paper is to be sorted, waste rags will be separated, old iron and other metals will be piled in one place, bones will go into another pile, and even glass from broken bottles and other such articles is to be gathered in one big heap, each separate class or grade later to be sold and shipped. There is ready market for the paper, rags, metal and bones at prices that apparently bring a profit to the junk dealer. The glass, it is understood, can be sold to window glass plants, which melt the glass over again and use it in the ordinary processes of manufacturing.

Mayor Monroe has obtained much information along these lines from other cities and towns where such practices are being followed, and he is of the opinion that there will be no difficulty in getting the plan into execution here on a small scale later extending it so that it may even include the establishment of a municipal rendering plant, for the disposal of carcasses of dead animals. Should the rendering plant be installed, the city could enter the market for the sale of the rough-tanned hides and could also, with a small investment, enter into the manufacture of the coarser grades of laundry soap for which there is always a very large demand at remunerative prices.

TORPEDOES ON TRACK

Some unidentified person placed several torpedoes on the Fifth street car track about 10 o'clock last night and the discharge caused some excitement, but no harm was done.

Sunday, August 4, 1918

FILLING STATION IS MODERN PLANT

Yesterday witnessed the opening of the "Drive-In" filling station at the Goldman Plaza, Thirteenth and Garrison avenue. This new filling station is a handsome place and so arranged that patrons have plenty of room to drive under the roof, while waiting for cars already being served to get out of the way, and during filling.

W. M. Jones, proprietor, is well known to the automobile trade, having been connected with the oil business for many years. The new place will serve Dixie gasoline, a product of the Ozark Refining company made in Fort Smith.

In addition to the handling of Dixie gasoline, the Drive-In station will handle the full line of Veedol oils and greases.

Friday, August 9, 1918

FIRST FORT SMITH HERO DIES ON BATTLEFIELDS OF FRANCE

To Victor Martin Ellig, son of Oswald and Lizzie Ellig, 1017 North eleventh street, has come the honor of being the first Fort Smith boy to give up his life in action for the cause of his country in the fight against the hun, and to his parents has been given the honor of being the first father and mother of Fort Smith to make the greatest sacrifice.

The information that Victor Ellig had fallen in action was contained in a message received yesterday by his mother, Mrs. Lizzie Ellig from Adjutant McCain at Washington, the telegram expressing deep regret at the sad news conveyed. His death occurred on July 23 and on the 26th of July he would have been 30 years old. A year ago on his birthday, his father told the *Southwest American* last night, Victor was in Colorado on a motoring trip with Tony Meister of this city.

Victor Ellig enlisted in the infantry of the United States at Jefferson Barracks (St. Louis), November 18, 1917. He remained there about eight weeks and was moved to Charlotte, North Carolina. A card from him gave the date of his arrival as the third of May, 1918.

In a letter received from him on August 6th, mailed July 2, Victor was in good health and in cheerful spirits. He did not say much about military affairs in any of his letters, but in his last one stated that he was at the front. Mr. Ellig knew that his son's division was in the thick of the fighting on the Aisne-Marne front by the dispatches and was apprehensive for his safety. While feeling their loss greatly, there was not a word of complaint from any member of the family.

Young 'Vic' was well known and well liked in Fort Smith and he had many friends. He was a press reader by occupation and was listed as a mechanic in the army. He worked for Weldon, Williams and Lick for many years and later for the Calvert McBride Printing company.

Tuesday, August 13, 1918

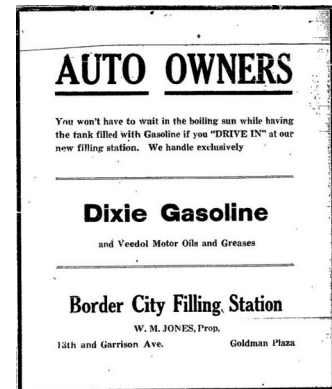
SEARCH FOR RESISTERS ON AT BLUE MOUNTAIN; THEY STAGE A BATTLE THROUGH BAD BLUNDER

BLUE MOUNTAIN, Ark., Aug. 12—Shooting heard on the south side of Blue mountain Saturday is believed to have been a fight between two parties of the much-sought-for slackers and resisters, each of which had mistaken the other party for a posse of citizens engaged in the effort to run them down. No details are obtainable, but Captain Rosser of the Home Guard, who is in charge of the posse, declares none of his men were in that vicinity at the time the shooting was heard.

In the meantime the search for resisters is continuing without halt.

Volunteers from Bonneville, Sugar Grove, Chismville and other places are lending great aid in this respect, while many persons are sending food, tobacco, clean clothing and other necessities for the possemen, who are keeping steady vigil, and who are confident that they will eventually bring the resisters into custody.

Chickens have been stolen from farms and other supplies also have been commandeered by the skulkers, but it is believed each day their condition is becoming more precarious, especially because of the continued dry weather and that if the search is continued steadily, the men will be compelled to surrender or come to a pitched battle with the possemen.



TILL SHAW VISITS HIS SON IN ARMY HOSPITAL

Till Shaw returned Sunday from a week's visit with his son Private John Shaw who is confined in the general army hospital at Otisville, N.Y., with 800 other patients, many of them from overseas forces. Shaw is in the tubercular sanitarium. His father reports the boy is getting the best of care and that the hospital is a wonderful place and that the officials do everything possible for the comfort of the patients.

Shaw entered the service September 19, 1917, was sent to Camp Pike and later transferred to Camp Jackson, N.C. He visited here last April and on May 30th suffered a hemorrhage. While his affliction is serious and he is unable to perform the duties of a fighting man, it is not considered that Shaw is dangerously ill and that with the attention he is receiving his complete recovery is probable in time.

Wednesday, August 14, 1918

SCISSORS FACTORY GETS ANOTHER ORDER GOVERNMENT WORK

The Solid Steel Scissors company of Fort Smith has received another contract for steel scissors for the government, the latest contract being for 10,000 pairs of bandage scissors for use by the surgeons in the allied armies.

The order came through Captain G. W. Wallerich, in charge of the general purchasing office at Washington.

The government is in greater need than ever for surgical scissors and shears and there are but four other factories in the United States that are making these goods. The local scissors factory also has received a contract for a quantity of scissors to be delivered to the Marine Barracks at Fort Constitution.

TRAIN INJURIES FATAL TO NEGRO

Harrison Bledsoe, a negro, died at Sparks hospital early Monday morning as a result of injuries received when a Kansas City Southern train ran over him at Peno last night. Bledsoe, who lived at Peno, stated that he was sleeping on the platform last night and must have rolled onto the tracks during his sleep. When K. C. S. No. 1 connection, which leaves Fort Smith at 12:25 a. m. passed through Peno it ran over his body, cutting off both legs below the knee.

The injured man was given emergency medical

treatment by Mrs. Martha Egelston, a surgeon, who was on the train at the time of the accident and who is bound for some place in the east where she will embark for France in charge of a body of Red Cross nurses to engage in hospital work behind the lines "over there." Mrs. Egelston was previously in charge of a hospital in Shreveport, La.

The negro was brought to Fort Smith and removed to Sparks hospital where he was attended by Dr. McGinty, and where he died shortly after his arrival.

Friday, August 16, 1918

BATHERS ARE WARNED FOR RECKLESSNESS

Mayor Arch Monro yesterday issued a warning against the reckless and dangerous practice of some of the bathers and swimmers who use the "municipal bathing beach" across the river off the foot of North C street, who swim across the swift but somewhat narrow channel in the middle of the stream.

"There is no danger to anyone who uses the beach" said Mayor Monro, "but there are quite a number of swimmers who insist on swimming across the channel. When the most competent swimmer may be stricken with cramps or a less competent swimmer may be induced to attempt the same feat, which would bring tragedy upon us. "Because of this I want to warn all swimmers against swimming across the channel."

Wednesday, August 28, 1918

PATRIOTIC LAD DIES AFTER OPERATION TO FIT SELF FOR ARMY

Robert Young Grimes, giving up his life in an attempt to offer it to his country, has died as patriotically as if he had shed his blood on the field of battle.

A short time ago young Grimes went to Kansas City to enlist in the army. Following an examination, he was told that an operation would be necessary to put him in an acceptable condition. He complied with the suggestion and, as a result died yesterday on his 21st birthday.

Robert is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Y. Grimes, 606 North Fourth street, and is well known in Fort Smith, having been a member of the local Home Guard company before his departure for Kansas City. He was employed here by the Reynolds-Davis Grocery company.

The body arrived in Fort Smith at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon and was removed to the Fentress undertaking parlors. Funeral services will be held from the home of his parents at 4 o'clock this afternoon. Rev. J. F. Johnson officiating, after which the Home Guard will form a guard of honor to conduct the funeral procession to Oak

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O. K. Transfer and Storage Company

Office, 101-103 N. 4th St. **MARVIN N. CRABTREE, Mgr.** Phone 230.



cemetery, where the body will be interred.

Friday, September 6, 1918

LOCAL PLANT MAKES GREAT QUANTITIES OF HYDROGEN GAS

The Moark Oxygen company of South Fort Smith has perfected plans and already begun operations for the trebling of the daily production of oxygen and for the making of a like amount of hydrogen, the latter product being a new departure for the company. The capital has been increased from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and E. B. Dyer of the St. Louis Oxygen company, which operates the largest oxygen plant in the world, has become associated with the old stockholders of the local company.

The Moark company has been owned by stockholders of the Best-Clymer Manufacturing company of South Fort Smith, owners of the largest sorghum plant in the world, located at South Fort Smith. The original oxygen plant had a capacity of 40 generating cells. The new plant, which is temporarily housed, will have a capacity of 120 cells, and the handling of this product will mean an additional carload and a half of freight for South Fort Smith daily.

While the product of the original plant has been solely oxygen, the new plant will manufacture 12,000 cubic feet of hydrogen daily. The latter product is compressed into metal cylinders under 1000 pounds of pressure and will be shipped to a point designated by the government, for use in aeronautics, according to officials of the company. There is a division of opinion as to the risk attendant in handling hydrogen, it is stated, therefore the plant for the present will be a temporary structure far enough removed from the large Best-Clymer plant to eliminate all danger to the latter should an explosion or fire occur.

Wednesday, September 25, 1918

ARCHIE BARTON DIES OF SPANISH "FLU" AT NAVY HOSPITAL

Archie Barton, Fort Smith's youngest war hero, died Tuesday afternoon at the navy base hospital at Philadelphia of pneumonia following an attack of Spanish influenza, which disease has been ravaging the cities and towns of the North Atlantic coast the past fortnight or more.

Less than a week ago the parents of the lad received a short letter from him which was printed in the *Southwest American* and in which the lad told of the sinking of a hun submarine by the gunners of his ship and expressed the hope that he would be able to make a trip home after another tour across seas.

Archie will come home soon, he will have his wish for

***These days you
must economize, not
exactly in price, but to
get clothes that will
give you the best of
service.***

Our fine Suits and Overcoats are made of the best materials--tailored to stand the test of endurance and are the most economical to buy.

Suits and Overcoats you'll find it impossible to equal at

**\$15, \$20, \$25 and up
to \$50**

Come in Today

Sol. C. Cohn Clo. Co.



the visit home, but it will be his last visit and already there has been discussion of some community demonstration as a tribute to the first Fort Smith boy dying in his country's service, to be given burial here.

Archie was not quite 15 years of age, he would have reached that age on November 19 next. He was a well-built robust lad and had no difficulty getting into the navy. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Barton of 1200 North Eighth street. His father is a fireman on the Frisco. Besides his parents, the lad is survived by one brother, Arthur and one sister, Mrs. Ivy Plye.

The lad's illness it is believed here, was short. Monday night a government telegram brought the news to the parents that he was critically ill of pneumonia and on the first train, Mrs. Barton started for Philadelphia, to be with him. Last night came the death message, and the mother is somewhere between St. Louis and Philadelphia today, unconscious that the youthful hero has sunk into his final sleep.

Thursday, September 26, 1918

CAMP PIKE HAS SPANISH "FLU"

Special to *Southwest American*

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Sept 25 -- Spanish influenza has broken out at Camp Pike and numerous units are under quarantine, it was learned this morning. Camp Pike officers said quarantine measures were precautionary, but probably would not be extended to the entire camp.

Tuesday, October 8, 1918

CHARLEY FOUNTAIN DIES OF PNEUMONIA

Charles W. Fountain, 33 years of age, died of pneumonia in a local hospital Sunday afternoon at 2:15 o'clock. Mr. Fountain was a conductor for the Frisco and was well known in Fort Smith, having resided here for more than 18 years.

Wednesday, October 9, 1918

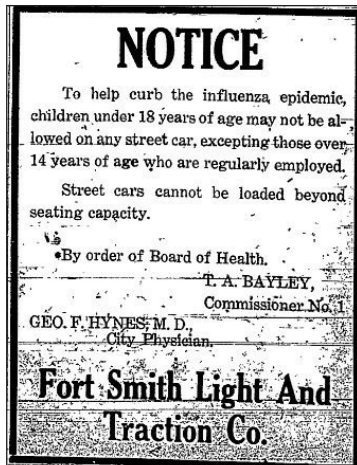
75 NEW CASES OF INFLUENZA ARE REPORTED

There were 75 new cases of Spanish influenza reported yesterday to Dr. Hynes, city health officer and by him reported last night to Dr. Garrison, state board of health. The report advised the state board that yesterday's cases bring the total reported in the city to date to 326. Dr. Hynes advised the state board that many of the cases are convalescent and complications not found so far in great percentage. It was reported that there "has been general enthusiastic response to the call to lay low the traitorous disease."

Dr. Hynes stated last night that no reports had reached the board yesterday of critical complication in any new cases during the day. The most critical case yesterday was that of Ben D. Kimpel, who was reported last night suffering with double pneumonia, and his family and friends much concerned over his condition.

A feature of the epidemic is the evident tenseness of the public mind as evidenced in the grave rumors which prove to have no foundation in fact. There were repeated reports that Dr. Hugh Johnson, and both Drs. Stevenson were either dead or critically ill. Dr. Eugene Stevenson, who was not ill, stated last night that the report of his death was greatly exaggerated.

Dr. Hynes stated last night that the influenza is rightly called the three-days disease, and that he had no evidence of serious results except in cases where the attack was complicated by some other disease, especially with pneumonia.



Thursday, October 10, 1918

BEN KIMPEL VICTIM OF PNEUMONIA

Ben D. Kimpel senior member of the law firm of Kimpel & Daily and prominent among the younger members of the Fort Smith bar, died at Sparks Hospital at 7:45 Wednesday morning of double pneumonia resulting from an attack of Spanish Influenza to which he had been exposed two weeks ago while, as Sebastian county chairman, he had been attending a state conference at Little Rock.

Wednesday, October 23, 1918

CITY SUFFERS HEAVY LOSS IN FIRE, TWO PROMINENT MEN DEAD IN RUINS

Big Business Houses Razed By Rapid Spread of Flames

It is almost certain two lives were lost—and there is some probability that the total will be three—in the most terrible tragedy which has visited Fort Smith in some years, and which resulted, in addition, in the injury of a score or more men and women and the destruction of more than half a million dollars of property in the heart of the city's wholesale section yesterday.

Rumors of heavy loss of life were current throughout the afternoon, but diligent effort finally reduced the probable loss to three, with a strong indication that two of the city's best known men were the only victims.

C. V. Riley, more familiarly known as "Pat", and T. F. Morrison, better known as Tom Morrison, are missing, and it is feared they are buried beneath the ruins of the big four story brick building of the Fort Smith Coffee company and the Fort Smith Commission company, which was gutted by the fire which followed immediately after an explosion that occurred at 1:50 o'clock Tuesday afternoon

A score or more employees of the companies housed in the buildings suffered injuries ranging from serious to slight—most of them were cuts and bruises and many of them were burned, but last night it was confidently believed all would recover.

The commission company's building was absolutely destroyed by the flames, which leaped across the alley and destroyed the big four story brick building of W. J. Echols & Co., wholesale grocers.

The aggregate financial loss is estimated at something more than \$500,000, and it was stated that the loss is covered by insurance.

Mr. Riley, according to the story of a negro employee

named J. D. Davis, was in the basement just a bare minute or two before the explosion occurred and was never seen thereafter. Mr. Morrison was standing near the shipping room door when the explosion occurred. His little son Ferrol was near him and escaped. It is believed Mr. Morrison, not knowing his son was safe, went into the building in the effort to rescue him, losing his life instead.

Friday, November 1, 1918

PLACE OLD TIRES ON POLE IN PLAZA

The people of Fort Smith are to be asked to give their old automobile tires to the committee for relief of French orphans of which Mrs. Ben Cravens is local chairman. Mrs. Cravens announced yesterday that a pole will be erected in the plaza, on which the tires are to be placed, and when the pole can hold no more, the tires may be placed around it at its base.

Saturday, November 2, 1918

BANS LIFTED AS FLU FIGHT IS FINALLY WON

After a city board of health conference yesterday, Dr. George F. Hyner, city health officer, made public an announcement that the quarantine against services will be lifted Sunday morning and all religious services permitted. The release also includes the cessation of the quarantine restrictions on the street cars on Sunday.

Monday the ban on the schools, lodges and public gatherings generally will be removed and permission given for "business as usual" before the epidemic quarantine was put into effect.

Sunday, November 10, 1918

APPRECIATION FOR BRAVE ACT

R. Vick, lineman in the employ of the Fort Smith Light and Traction company was presented Friday night, by

Manager Green of the company, with a fine letter of commendation and a check for a neat little sum of money, from the Chicago headquarters of the company as a mark of the company's appreciation of Vick's bravery shown immediately following the explosion which on October 22 destroyed the building of the Fort Smith Commission company, with the loss of four lives. All the employees of the traction company were at the office when Manager Green made the presentation.

Vick was right at the building when the explosion occurred. He was unable to enter the front door, and he went around to the side of the building. There at great risk to himself, he dragged Jim Chadwick through a door, and was attempting to drag out another man, believed to be Tom Morrison, when the flames and wreckage forced him to abandon the task.

Tuesday, November 12, 1918

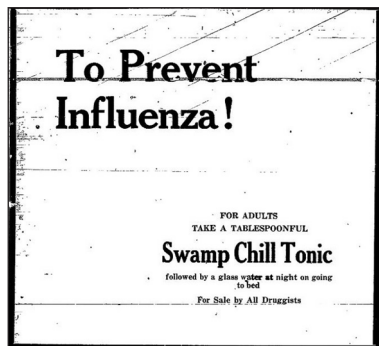
FORT SMITH IS RAMPANT IN VICTORY CELEBRATION

New York's White Way on New Year's Eve; St. Louis at the height of its Veiled Prophet celebration; New Orleans in the very climax of its Mardi Gras; Los Angeles and its wonderful Festival of Roses; all of these, with the addition of that spontaneity which makes any such affair really remarkable, were more or less duplicated in Fort Smith yesterday, in the local celebration of the downfall of the Germans who have for more than four years ravaged innocent peoples and wrecked peaceful lands.

From early in the morning about 2 o'clock—when *The Southwest American* communicated the good news to Mayor Arch Monro—until late at night when the people of the city went home, tired but wonderfully happy, it was by far the biggest, the greatest day ever experienced in this city, this state, this country or anywhere in the world—excepting only the day on which the Savior was born.

Whistles, pistols, and shotguns awoke the people at 5 a. m. at the very hours the boys over there were firing their last rounds of shot and shells at the enemy. Soon the people were coming down town, to celebrate the great event of which they had learned in the big Peace Extra of *The Southwest American*. And thereafter the day was given over almost entirely to the celebration, which was marred by no accident of any serious nature.

At 11 a. m. the Kaiser was hanged in effigy at the plaza. Last night there was a mass meeting at the plaza with short talks by Rev. Dr. Horan, Rabbi Latz and Rev. W. W. Harrison. This meeting was followed by a marching parade, with all vehicles barred from Garrison avenue



during the period the parade was forming and moving. An immense crowd of people witnessed the celebration.

Thursday, November 14, 1918

MANY SOLDIER BOYS ARE FED AT CANTEEN

The Van Buren Canteen hut was brilliantly lighted Tuesday night at midnight when 85 U. T. C. boys went through, en route to Camp Pike. The canteen captain met the train and invited the boys over to the hut, where hot coffee and sandwiches were served. A very enjoyable hour was spent with the Canteen ladies.

Wednesday morning, at 11 o'clock the canteen hut was thrown open again to 200 Camp Funston boys, en route to Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. They were served coffee and sandwiches.

Sunday, December 22, 1918

ORPHANS TO HAVE CHRISTMAS TREE

Christmas Eve there will be many beautiful Christmas trees in Fort Smith, but none that is looked forward to more eagerly or that will be enjoyed to the greater extent than the tree at the Rosalie Tilles Children's Home.

Hotel Main	
CHRISTMAS DINNER	
11:30 to 2 P. M., 5:30 to 8 P. M.	
\$1.00 PER PLATE	
New York Counts in Cocktail	
Crisp Celery	Salted Nuts
Consomme Princess	
Baked Chicken Halibut Au Gratin	
Calves Brains Fried	Tomato Sauce
Burlington Fritters	Caramel Sauce
Roast Young Turkey Stuffed	Giblet Sauce
Baked Suckling Pig, Southern Style	
Creamed Potatoes	Maryland Yams
Green Peas	Asparagus Tips on Toast
Head Lettuce	Thousand Island Dressing
New Mince Pie	Fresh Pumpkin Pie
Christmas Plum Pudding	Fruit Ice Cream
Cream Cheese	Atlantic Sprays
After Dinner Mints	Cafe Noir

There are a score or more little ones who are eager in their anticipation of this event. The tree has been given them and Mrs. J. M. Tenney and Mrs. Salisbury R. Walker have been appointed as the committee in charge.

No donations will be solicited, but if there are any who wish to add to the pleasure of this joyous occasion, they may do so through either of these ladies.

Many of the children have been ill, and at first it was thought not advisable to have the entertainment this year. The disappointment of the tots would be so great, however, that it was decided to give them the happiest day possible.

THREE ARMY AIRPLANES REACH CITY AND SATURDAY IS BIG AVIATION DAY

Saturday was aviation day in Fort Smith. Mayor Monro received a aero postage stamp which had reached Chicago by aero mail. "Mutt and Jeff," appearing in today's *Southwest American* had been transported from the east by

The Lid's Off
Let's Go!!

STRAWS

1 OFF 3

Men it's your chance to "Go over your top" with a

- PANAMA,
- BANGKOK,
- LEGHORN,
- SPLITS OR
- SENNETT

At 1-3 OFF.

Every straw hat in the house included and as we have said before—don't let us feed 'em to the cows.

The Fashion Shop
"town's best log store"



aerial mail. Under the direction of the Business Men's club, the signal cross had been placed on the new landing field in the Kelly pasture on Waldron road. Arrangements were also made for planting the regulation pole from which to swing the "wind bag sausage" for testing wind direction and force.

And to top it all, shortly after 1:30 o'clock, two big two-seated planes from the west landed at the Country club golf links followed half an hour later by a third plane. The planes were driven by Lieutenants Williams, Duke, Maxey and Steward and Sergeants McCord and Davidson. The aeronauts had intended to make Little Rock Saturday night, but three additional planes were expected, and waited for. They did not arrive and word was received in the evening the second flight of planes had not left Ada Saturday.

The six birdmen were the guests of the Business Men's club at the Country clubhouse for luncheon and registered at the Goldman last night. The planes are being transferred from Post field, Fort Sill Okla., to Eberts field, Lonoke, Ark., it was stated yesterday.



Al Whitson selects historically significant entries from microfilmed newspapers of Fort Smith as reported one hundred years ago.

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NOTES: # —Some sort of graphic, other than a portrait, is used.
 * —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
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www.fortsmithhistory.org

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A site dedicated to the stories, studies, and songs from Arkansas' past and Arkansas' future.

ARKANSAS FREEDMEN OF THE FRONTIER

The African American experience in northwest Arkansas is chronicled here. It has a lot of great links and information.

ARKANSAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Arkansas Historical Association is to promote the perseverance, writing, publishing, teaching and understanding of Arkansas history through the publication of the Arkansas Historical Quarterly as well as other activities.

ARKANSAS HISTORY COMMISSION AND STATE ARCHIVES

The Arkansas History Commission is one of the oldest existing state agencies in the Natural State and Arkansas' official state archives maintained by the commission.

BLACK MEN WHO RODE FOR PARKER

A site dedicated to the African-American deputy marshals who enforced the law in the federal court district of western Arkansas and Oklahoma. Judge Isaac Parker presided over the district in the late nineteenth century.

CENTER FOR LOCAL HISTORY AND MEMORY

The Center for Local History and Memory at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith grew out of student-faculty efforts in 1997 to collect oral history interviews to document the first seventy years of the college.

ARKANSAS CIVIL WAR SITES

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission website with information on Arkansas' participation in the 150th anniversary of our country's struggle with itself.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARKANSAS HISTORY AND CULTURE

The Encyclopedia of Arkansas project is proud to present its initial entries.

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For more than twenty years, the Fort Smith Trolley Museum has worked to educate people about transportation history, restore and maintain antique trolley cars, and even give riders a trip back in time in those streetcars.

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The Fort Smith Museum of History acquires, preserves, exhibits, and interprets objects of historical significance relevant to the founding and growth of Fort Smith and the region.

FORT SMITH AIR MUSEUM

Located at the Fort Smith Regional Airport, the museum is a treasure trove of facts and artifacts that tell the story of Fort Smith's aviation history. Our readers might also enjoy this site on the History of Flight, submitted by one of our readers (Tony, a history researcher and student of Ms. Brooke Pierce in Delaware)—the site proves a fantastic time line that breaks down the early history of flight in America.

HISTORIC FORT SMITH

A page containing some general information about Fort Smith history, heritage tourism in the city, and links to other sites.

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A recognized Natural Historic Landmark with more than 152 years of history is home to the burial sites of outlaws hand by order of Judge Isaac C. Parker, marshals, deputy marshals, and Arkansas governor, fifteen mayors of Fort Smith, and the founder of Fort Smith, John Rogers.

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Set in the oldest surviving state capital west of the Mississippi River, it houses a multimedia museum of Arkansas history with a special emphasis on women's history, political history, and special programming for children.

RICHARD C. BUTLER CENTER FOR ARKANSAS STUDIES

The center for Arkansas Studies proudly presents what we hope will one day become the premier online resource for historical information related to Arkansas.

SOUTH SEBASTIAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The South Sebastian County Historical Society, located in Greenwood, Arkansas, is an excellent resource on the history and landmarks of the area.

WIKIPEDIA ENTRY FOR FORT SMITH

The online, user-created encyclopedia has a descriptive entry about the largest city in western Arkansas.

MORE GENEALOGICAL LINKS

FORT SMITH LIBRARY GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT

One of the greatest resources of local genealogical information to be found in the city. The Fort Smith Public Library is also a frequent gathering place of local historians and history buffs.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, ARKANSAS CEMETERIES

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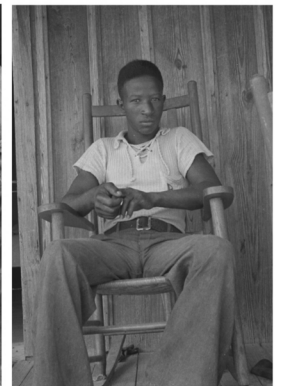
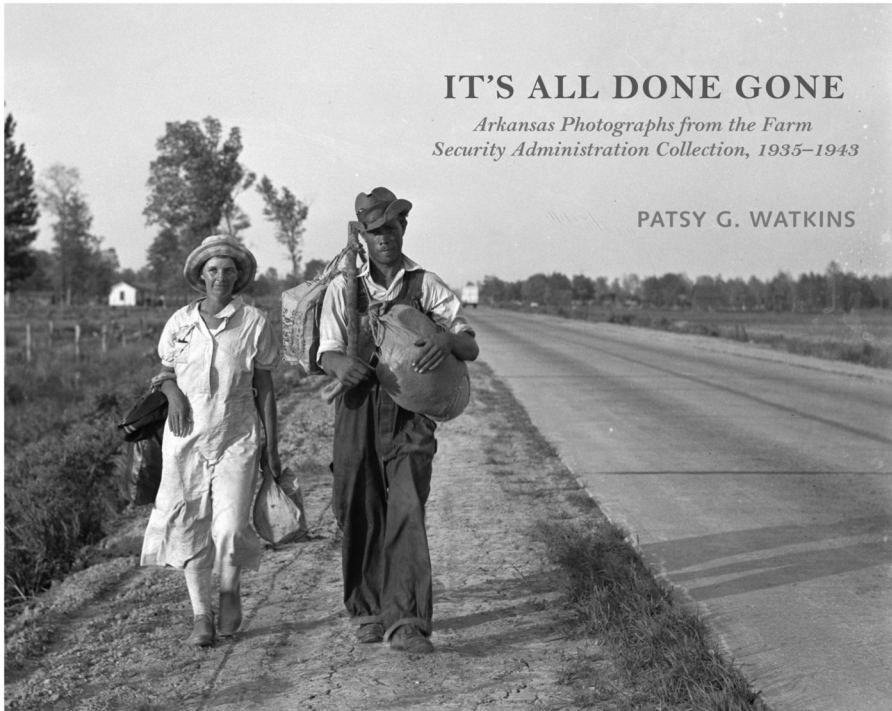
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