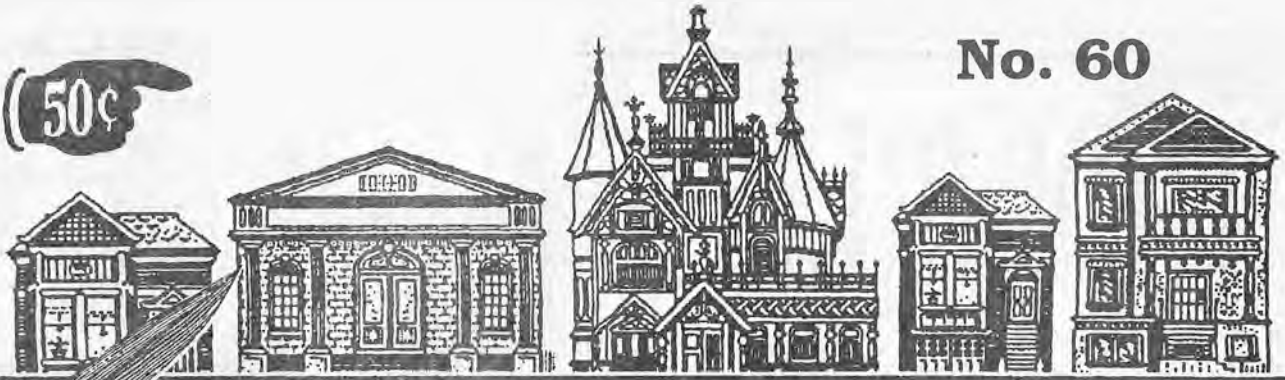


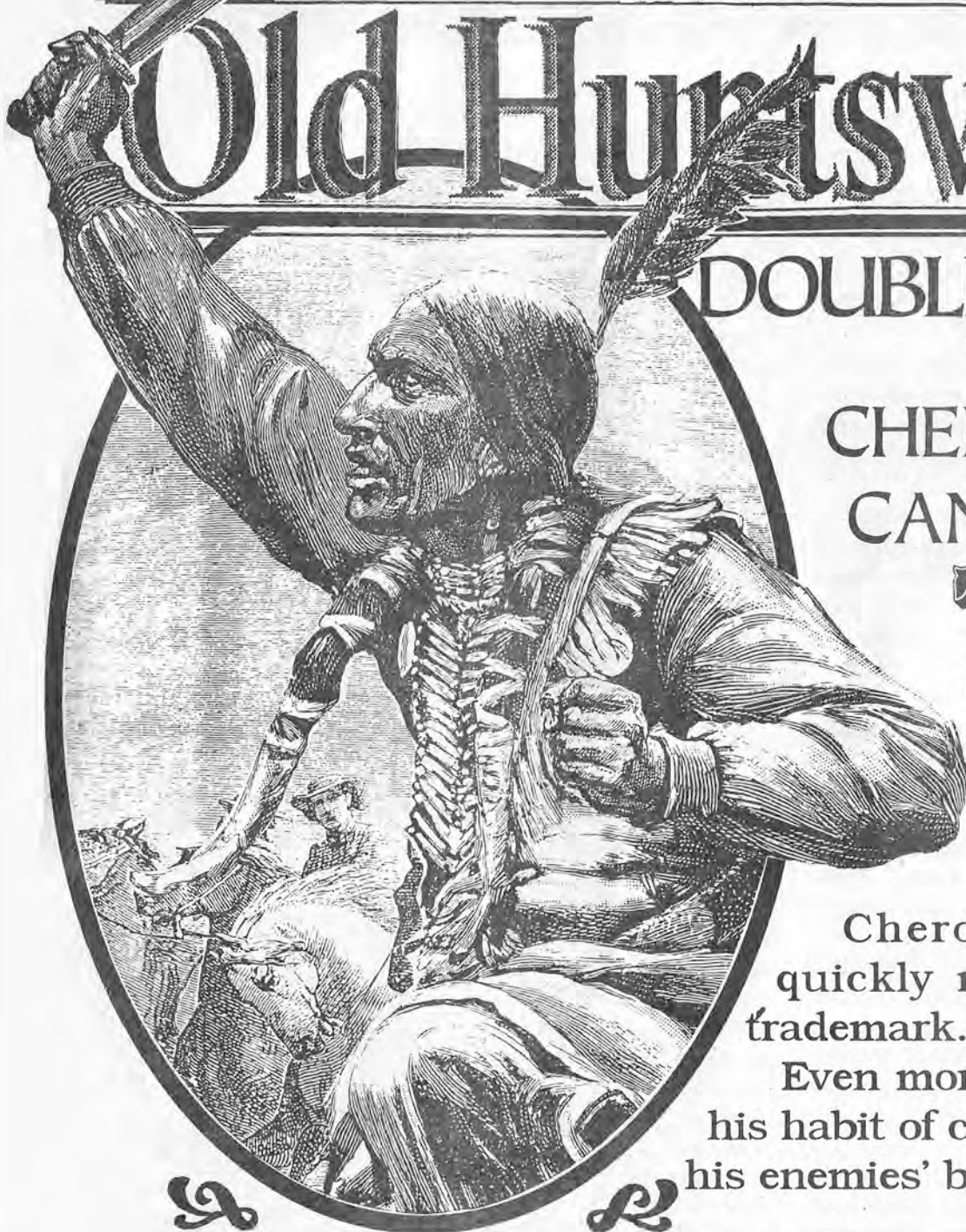
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No. 60



# Old Huntsville

## DOUBLEHEAD THE CHEROKEE CANNIBAL



**T**hough the taking of scalps was not common among the

Cherokees, he quickly made it his trademark.

Even more grisly was his habit of cannibalizing his enemies' bodies...

**Also in this Issue: Hillbilly Heaven**

# DOUBLEHEAD

## THE CHEROKEE CANNIBAL

For longer than anyone could remember, the Tennessee Valley had been the ancestral hunting grounds of the Cherokee, Chickasaw and Creek nations. This was a land where Indians could live peacefully without fear of encroachment from the whites.

By the late 1700s, however, times began to change as white settlers from Virginia, Tennessee and Georgia began moving onto the Indian lands.

The great Indian nations, decimated by war and fragmented by internal strife, could no longer offer resistance. Only one man stood in the way of this movement.

Part cannibal, part savage and part statesman, Chief Doublehead would leave his bloody mark on the pages of the Tennessee Valley's history.

Doublehead was born into the Cherokee aristocracy in the Cumberland foothills of Tennessee. His father had been a ferocious warrior, well-known for his bravery and his brother, Tassel, was a principal chief, and statesman. His oldest sister, Wurteh, married a white man, Nathan Gist, and produced a son who was destined to become the greatest of all Cherokees, Sequoyah. Another sister married a white soldier and their son, John Watts, became the Chief of Chiefs among the Chero-

kee Nation.

The Indian nations were a scene of much turmoil during Doublehead's youth. Part of the tribes wanted to fight the white man who were taking their lands, while others, guided by their heads rather than their hearts, charted a course of peaceful cooperation.

To say that Doublehead was a rebellious youth would be an understatement. Even as a child, barely out of puberty, Doublehead began leading raiding parties against white settlers. Though too young to fight, the youths would lie in wait until the settlers were away from home, then sneak in, burn their cabins and run off the livestock.

Soon tiring of this, Doublehead began to look for other ways to harass the settlers. The isolated settlements depended on traveling peddlers for necessities such as salt, gunpowder and cloth. Realizing this, Doublehead fanned his group of teenage warriors out across the wilderness trails where they laid in ambush. Within a short while no peddler dared to enter the territory unless provided with a large armed escort. The few brave souls who did meet with a premature, and often gruesome death.

Doublehead purposely cultivated his image as a bloodthirsty savage. Though the taking of



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Larry has been recognized by our Community for his many contributions to Huntsville. Among them are:

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Junior Achievement Consultant of the Year Award (1992)

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---

## Larry Mullins' Business Experience goes back 35 years

In 1961 he started Mullins Paper Company. In 1978 he purchased the family business, Mullins Drive In Restaurant and currently serves as President of Mullins Enterprises, Inc.

---

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for  
**Mayor**

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Pd. Pol. Adv. By Larry Mullins



scalps was not common among the Cherokees, he quickly made it his trademark. Even more grisly was his habit of cannibalizing his enemies' bodies. After a successful raid he would cut a piece of flesh from one of his victims, and often with blood running down his chin, eat it as a sign of his enemies' impotence. Afterwards, he would demand that his warriors, as a symbolic blood oath, do the same.

Years later, when in Philadelphia meeting with President George Washington, an inquisitive reporter asked Doublehead's opinion of the white race. Without even giving the matter a moment's thought, the chief replied: "Too salty."

In order to keep his bands

loyal to him, Doublehead knew he had to do more than merely lead them on raiding parties. He made the acquaintance of several white traders and soon goods from the hapless peddlers, who had met an untimely death, began showing up in stores in the white settlements. In return, Doublehead was able to supply his band with guns, powder and other items not normally available to the Indians.

Despite Doublehead's growing popularity among the tribes, his days of running wild throughout the Cumberlands were numbered. The whites were putting increasing pressure on the Indians as a result of the raids and even many of his own tribesmen were beginning to turn against

him.

Realizing this, Doublehead gathered his band, a motley mix of Cherokees, Chickasaws and Creeks and moved to the sanctuary of the Tennessee Valley. They settled on a site several miles south of the present day Athens, Ala., which in a few years became a thriving village.

The land was supposed to be shared as a hunting ground by the Cherokees and Chickasaws, with none of them actually living on it. Doublehead quickly solved this problem by giving two of his sisters to George Colbert, the chief of the Chickasaw Nation.

Though Doublehead continued to be a nuisance, leading occasional raiding parties against the Tennessee settlements, it was the murder of his brother, Tassel, that ignited the fires of open hostility.

Tassel, head chief of the Cherokees had been invited to meet with Major John Hubbert under a flag of truce. After a series of talks, the unarmed chief was escorted to a smoke house where he was to spend the night. That night, with Hubbert guarding the door, a youth, armed with a tomahawk, entered the building and killed the chief as he lay sleeping. To the whites, this was only justice, as the youth had recently lost his parents to a Cherokee war party.

A murderous rage descended upon the Tennessee Valley when Doublehead learned of his brother's death. His name soon became synonymous with terror as his band fanned out for hundreds of miles in every direction, dealing death and destruction to any settlements in their paths.

Knowing the importance of symbolism among his Indian tribesmen, Doublehead used the



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death of Captain William Overall to enhance his already gruesome reputation. Overall had distinguished himself as a particularly brave fighter before finally falling under Doublehead's tomahawk.

Doublehead carried the captain's body back to his village, where in full view of everyone, he dismembered the body and began eating the choicest parts, inviting his tribesmen to join him.

"The white man is no more than a dog, or a pig of the woods," he reputedly said, "and should be treated the same way."

Perhaps the most unforgivable atrocity, and the one that turned many of the Cherokees against him, happened in 1793. Doublehead's brother, Pumpkin Boy, had been killed in a recent raid against the whites and he was still bitter about it when he entered a village and saw a small white child mounted on a horse behind his nephew, John Watts. Watts had captured the child while assaulting a white settlement, and as was Cherokee custom, would raise the child as his own.

With a wild scream of uncontrollable rage, Doublehead charged, burying his tomahawk deeply in the body of the small child. Afterwards, for the rest of his life, he was known as "Kill Baby" to many of the Indians who were shocked by the ghastly incident.

Then, abruptly in 1794 Doublehead quit the warpath. Almost immediately he began displaying a new found wealth. Indian couriers were sent to Nashville on a regular basis to purchase furniture and other items for his house. He became a collector of fine race horses, once sending all the way to

Charleston, South Carolina to purchase one that had captured his fancy. He even began to dress the part of a wealthy man.

The source of his wealth became an item of speculation for people who knew him. Especially intriguing was the fact that much of his wealth seemed to be in the form of bars of silver bullion. At first it was supposed that this was treasure he had stolen during his days on the warpath, but as time went on, people realized there had to be another answer.

Before long, everyone in his tribe was wondering about the source of the bullion. According to legend, Doublehead once asked two of his warriors to accompany him on a trip. After walking for days, he finally led them to a cave where a great quantity of silver was stored. The men loaded as much as they could carry in back packs before returning to the village, where Doublehead warned the Indians against ever revealing his secret under pain of death.

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Friday July 12, 6:30 pm

Quite naturally, as Doublehead had expected, later that night one of the Indians revealed to his wife what he had seen. Doublehead, who was lurking outside the cabin, listening, immediately burst into the cabin and killed the hapless Indian.

No one in Doublehead's tribe ever again spoke of the mysterious silver bullion.

Though secure in his new-found wealth, Doublehead still took his life in his hands when he traveled outside of the Indian lands. For the people whose relatives had been murdered by Doublehead, there could be no forgiveness.

In 1794 a leading group of Cherokees had been invited to Philadelphia to meet with the president, and Doublehead, aware of the political ramifications of such a visit, appointed himself as the spokesman. With his tall, foreboding looks, and dressed in an elaborate costume, he was the center of attention.

People nudged and poked one another to catch a glimpse of the man reputed to be the most bloodthirsty savage in America.

Doublehead undoubtedly capitalized on his reputation, for when he left, Secretary of War Henry Knox awarded him an annual annuity of \$5,000. Knox probably realized this was cheaper than having Doublehead return to the warpath.

This also placed Doublehead under the protection of the United States Government, much to the ire of the whites who had lost their homes and relatives to his murderous band.

Doublehead quickly settled into his new life-style. He made frequent trips to New Orleans, Pensacola, Charleston and even visited New York once, where he was described as "the classic example of the noble savage." Strangely enough, Doublehead, who once feasted on his enemies' bodies, even visited some of the finer restaurants and attended a

## Shaver's Top 10 Books of Local & Regional Interest

1. The Coves of Jackson County - A Saga of Two Pioneer Families by Marlin Tucker (\$14.95).
2. From Huntsville to Appomattox - History of the 4th Regiment, Alabama Volunteer Infantry (\$32.95).
3. Mid-South Garden Guide - The Best How to Book for Zone 7 (That's Us) Gardens (\$15.95).
4. Like Bugles Passing By - Selected Columns by *Huntsville News* Editor Lee Woodward (\$10.00).
5. Planter's Railway - The Memphis & Charleston Railroad during the Civil War (\$15.95).
6. Photographic Memories: A Scrapbook of Huntsville and Madison County (\$10.95).
7. True Tales of Old Madison County - Reprinted by the Historic Huntsville Foundation (\$5.95).
8. Maple Hill Cemetery - Phase One. A Genealogist's / Historian's must (\$20.00).
9. Glimpses into Antebellum Homes of Huntsville & Madison County, 8th Edition (\$10.95).
10. The Old Huntsville Book of Recipes and Timeless Tips - A combination of recipes, timeless tips and old fashioned remedies by Cathey Carney (\$15.95).

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play while in New York.

Unfortunately, though Doublehead had become wealthy and was prospering, the Cherokee nation was not. Every year, with every treaty, the Indian lands became smaller. John Hunt had already settled near the Big Spring in northern Alabama of the Mississippi Territory and more settlers were pouring in every day.

In January of 1806, Doublehead and the other chiefs of the Cherokee nation signed a treaty giving up all the land lying between the Tennessee and Duck rivers. Unbeknownst to the other chiefs, Doublehead had negotiated a secret agreement with the Indian agent where he received a large tract of land, numbering in the tens of thousands of acres, in exchange for signing the treaty.

If Doublehead was hoping his duplicity in the treaty would go undiscovered, he was sadly mistaken. Several months later,

while attending an Indian ball game at Hiwassee, in the Indian nation, he was accosted by a fellow chief named Bone Polisher, who loudly denounced him and called him a traitor to his people.

As matters reached the boiling point, Bone Polisher drew his tomahawk and rushed Doublehead, swinging wildly at his head. Doublehead, despite having received numerous wounds managed to shoot his assailant through the heart.

Onlookers carried the wounded chief to McIntosh's Tavern where they sought assistance. Instead of help, however, they were confronted by another group of angry accusers who also called Doublehead a traitor. Someone in the tavern (it's never been established who) extinguished the light. Instantly, as soon as the tavern went dark, a shot rang out. When finally the light was relit, Doublehead was lying on the floor mortally wounded.

Friends carried the chief across the field to the home of the schoolmaster. Unfortunately, the blood trail was easy to follow and within minutes another group of avengers appeared to finish the task.

Doublehead, the scourge of the Tennessee Valley was dead.

Doublehead's death signaled the end of the Cherokees in North Alabama. Though they

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would remain here for another thirty years, they would never again be a powerful force.

Almost immediately after Doublehead's death, people began searching for the source of his wealth. In 1840, two prominent men of the Shoals area, Levi Cassity and James Thompson found a cave that they believed to be the source of Doublehead's treasure trove. In the cave they found tools and crucibles used for melting silver. Many of the tools still had traces of silver on them.

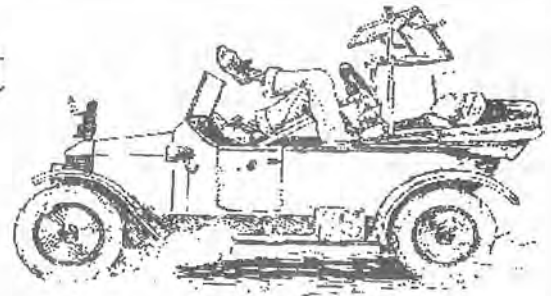
But there was no mine or any ore. The closest thing resembling a treasure was a few old Spanish coins retrieved from the cave floor.

Were the coins part of Doublehead's treasure? Many people think so. When Hernando de Soto visited North Alabama during his explorations he was alleged to have hidden a large amount of silver coins somewhere in present day Jackson County. Could Doublehead have stumbled across the treasure and transported part of it to a cave closer to where he lived? If so, it would explain the tools and crucibles, as many people who would readily accept bullion would not take two hundred year old Spanish coins.

We will never know, for as Doublehead once said, "When I die, my secrets are buried also."

*Nothing is more annoying than to have someone report word for word what you shouldn't have said in the first place.*

# Hindsight was 20/20

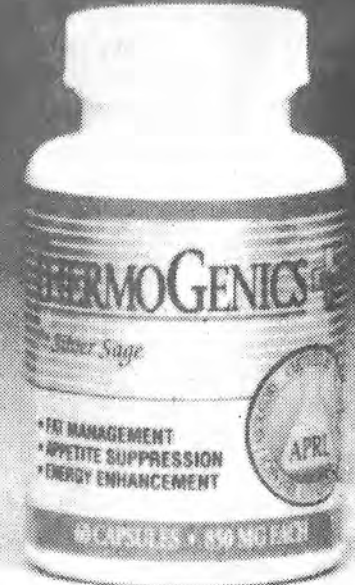


In 1930 two Missouri men drove a 1929 Model A Ford from New York to Los Angeles, staying in reverse for the entire journey. They did not stop the engine once. This feat took 19 days. They must have liked seeing the country this way because when they made the return trip, it also was in reverse!

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## The General Huntsville Doesn't Talk About!

by Charles Rice

Huntsville native Andrew Jackson Hamilton was both a Civil War general and a governor of Texas. Yet no one talks about him very much and Huntsville doesn't seem exactly eager to claim him. You don't suppose this might have something to do with the fact that Hamilton sided with the Yankees during the war, do you? Sure enough, Jack Hamilton was a bonafide Southern carpetbagger.

A.J. Hamilton was born in Huntsville on January 28, 1815, and grew up in our city. He studied law and was admitted to the Alabama bar in 1841. Six years later, he moved to Fayette County, Texas, becoming that state's attorney in 1849. Hamilton took up residence in Austin and served a term in the state legislature. In 1859 he was elected to the U.S. Congress as a unionist. Two years later, Texas seceded and Hamilton returned

to Austin. He was promptly elected to the state legislature, where he continued to speak out against secession. Once fighting actually broke out, Hamilton naturally found himself branded a traitor to Texas.

In 1862 Jack fled across the border to Mexico. He soon sailed from there to Washington, D.C., where Abraham Lincoln promptly commissioned him a brigadier general in the Union Army and named him "military governor" of Texas. Nevertheless, Jack rubbed a lot of Yankees the wrong way and was considered controversial even in Washington. The Union Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles, called him "a deceptive, vain, self-conceited partisan," and the U.S. Congress refused to confirm Hamilton's commission as a general. Undaunted, Lincoln appointed Jack a brigadier general and President An-

drew Johnson later confirmed him as military governor of Texas.

Hamilton returned to Texas at the war's end and assumed his position as Reconstruction governor. Surprisingly, he proved to be relatively moderate, so much so that the dictatorial General Sheridan became displeased with him. In August 1866, Hamilton was replaced by an "elected governor" who had been virtually handpicked by Sheridan.

Hamilton was then named to the state supreme court, where he rendered surprisingly conservative decisions. He also unsuccess-

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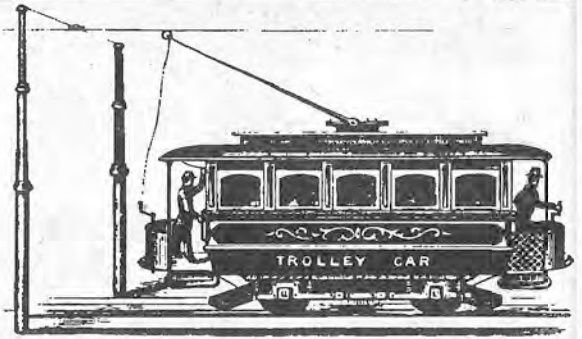
**536-1841**



fully opposed the Reconstruction measures that denied the vote to nearly all white Texans. As a result, a coalition of conservatives nominated Jack for governor in 1869. However, he was defeated in a rigged election run by the carpetbaggers.

Jack Hamilton died in Austin on April 11, 1875 at the age 60. He had redeemed his reputation somewhat by his distancing himself from the Radicals. Nonetheless, his disloyalty to Texas and the South has never quite been forgiven, and as such is the case, you are not likely to see any monuments being put up to him in either Huntsville or Austin.

# Want Cars to Depot



Traveling men are discussing among their organization the idea of making a request of the Alabama Power Company to put on cars to and from the Southern Depot. They think that with the number of trains arriving and departing daily, that it will be a paying proposition at once.

Even if the cars only ran on the train schedule it would be a great help. The majority of the traveling men object to paying 50 cents for the round trip. As one of these gentlemen said last night, "The street car company could step in and help a great deal."

*From 1916 Huntsville newspaper*

*The person who  
rows the boat  
generally doesn't  
have time to rock it.*



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## GOOD OLD "LINKERN"

### *Memories of Lincoln School*

by Margaret Priest Cobble

Our days began when the mill whistle blew at 5:30 a.m. Daddy was soon on his way for the short walk to Lincoln Mill, where he was a Warper-Tender. Mother made hoecakes in the iron skillet while we washed our hands and faces at the kitchen sink.

After breakfast, we gathered up our coats, books, and sack lunches and skipped to school. (No. We weren't allowed to "skip" school. Our principal, Mr. Anderson, knew where we lived!)

Everyone had to line up outside with the teachers at the head of the stairs, and no one entered the building until we were calm and quiet. We used to say it was just like being in prison. After leaving our belongings in home room, we lined up again to march in to Chapel in the big auditorium. This was the "I Mean Business" part of the day, since Mr. Anderson was also a Baptist minister. That didn't keep Miss Graham from jazzing up the hymns we marched in to. She could make "Sweet Hour of Prayer" sound like one of Sousa's finest.

We learned patience from sitting one solid hour on solid oak benches in Chapel. The same attention span was expected from grades one through twelve.

Mr. Anderson taught us to love God, our country, our parents, each other, and to be loyal to "Linkern School." He chastised our bottoms with a paddle and our spiritual needs with the Bible.

We didn't know the word "Evolution" and to us, "Revolution" was something about wars. "Pot" was what Mama used to cook the beans and greens in. "Grass" was what never had a chance to grow on our playground. As to sex education, birds were birds and bees were bees, and the two were never mentioned in the same sentence. In Biology, we learned that we could make Mr. Carpenter's face turn red just with little questions like: What does "excretion" mean? One day he wrote on the board, "LOOK IT UP!" With each embarrassing question, he would silently point to the magic words.

We had many wonderful teachers at Lincoln. Papers were graded, suggestions for improvement written in, and parents notified early when necessary. The principal backed the teachers, and the parents backed them all. If we got the paddle at school, we knew we'd get the switch at home.

In English class, we knew we could get Mrs. Hackworth off the subject of grammar by asking her to read her favorite poem, "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes. She read so well that we could hear the horses' hooves, and see Bess' long black hair. I have loved poetry ever since, and I appreciate Mrs. Hackworth more as the years go by.

Mrs. Campbell was short on patience but long on love and interest in us. Miss Maples sparkled and laughed a lot but was a firm disciplinarian. Mr. Grant, Miss Larkin, Miss Blackburn, Miss Sibley, Miss Moore, Mrs. Pittman, and anyone I have omitted, I love you and the memory of you.

Fortunately for us, the mill owners felt a responsibility to bring some culture into our lives, and hired some very gifted music directors, notably Mr. Freeman, Miss Davenport, and Miss Georgette Graham. Our Glee Club and quartets won several competitions throughout the state. We were introduced to classical and light-classical music. We formed Debating societies, Drama clubs, and practiced Public Speaking.

Miss Davenport insisted on evening clothes for our Spring Glee Club Concert one year. I don't know how the other parents coped (this was during the Depression), but Mama sat up nights making dresses for my sisters and me on the good old Singer. We thought they were beautiful.

It was always hot enough to pop corn at Commencement time. Without air-conditioning, microfilm or computers, Lincoln School managed to graduate a good many each year. Mr.

Phil Peeler, the Mill Superintendent, flashed us a proud smile as he handed out the diplomas. Pretty Mrs. Peeler took an interest in the school and visited often.

We lived in an age of hard times, Orphan Annie, Fibber, McGee and Molly, strikes and no work, but through it all, a spirit of trust and leaning on each other existed in our small community.

We didn't worry about locking our doors or having anything stolen, because we trusted and respected each other. We are family. We shall always be tied to each other through memories of the past, and our hearts lift when we meet again. I'll bet you all feel as I do when I say that I am proud I came from Lincoln Village.

*"Yes, I'm from Linkern,  
Good old Linkern.  
It's still the best School  
in the Land.*

## War Department Wants Stables Clean!

Dr. Husman, government veterinarian, representing the War Department, was in Huntsville this morning in conference with Dr. Grote, the Health Officer.

The object of his visit was to get all livery stables and coach stables thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Last year the government lost hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of horses and mules because of infectious diseases, such as influenza, etc., which are preventable diseases.

The department therefore is endeavoring to get all stables thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and kept so.

Dr. Husman has requested the health department to looking after this matter and Dr. Grote assured him that every



patriotic stableman in Huntsville will cooperate.

Rules for the cleaning and disinfection will be issued by Dr. Grote as suggested by the War Department at once.

*1916 Huntsville newspaper*

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# Safety Tips For Travelers



1. Don't answer the door in a hotel room without verifying who is it. If a person claims to be an employee, call the front desk and ask if someone from the staff is supposed to have access to your room and for what purpose.

2. When returning to your hotel late in the evening, use the main entrance of the hotel. Be observant and look around before entering the parking lot.

3. Insure that your door is secure when in your room and whenever you leave. Use all of the locking devices provided.

4. Don't display guest room

keys in public or carelessly leave them on restaurant tables, at the swimming pool, or other places where they can be easily stolen.

5. Don't draw attention to yourself by displaying large amounts of cash or expensive jewelry.

6. Know whoever is in your room. Don't invite strangers into your room.

7. Place all valuables in the hotel's safe deposit box.

8. If you didn't place your valuables in the hotel safe, DO NOT leave them in your car. Keep them with you at all times.

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# Calls Him Clodhopper, So He Asks For a Divorce!

Charging that she told him his ancestry was too common for her, called him a clodhopper and followed her verbal assaults with a bombardment of glassware which much blackened, cut and otherwise mutilated his countenance, Paul Oscar Werner has sued for divorce from his wife Frances C. Werner.

He added that she insisted on living at expensive hotels and wearing high priced jewelry for which he could not pay.

They were ejected six times from various apartments because he could not pay the rent, he said.

*from 1921 Huntsville  
newspaper*

## The Old Huntsville Book of Recipes and Household Tips

*This will quickly become  
your favorite cookbook!  
Only \$15.95.*



## "Common Nail Problems of the Foot"

**Dr. R. Lee Freeman** has been treating patients in North Alabama since 1979 and is currently associated with **Dr. Angela W. Murphy**

The nails of the foot are exposed to a good deal of trauma over a lifetime. This trauma may result in painful, thickened nails that are discolored and infected with a fungus; or more simply, an in-grown nail which may be infected by bacteria. Nail problems of the foot should not be ignored. They can lead to severe infections that may affect the bone.

This is especially true for people affected by diabetes or poor circulation.

# The Foot Group

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# Food to make You Feel Better

## Nut & Fruit Drink

Grind one Tablespoon each of the following and put in small bowl:

- Almonds
- sunflower seeds, unsalted
- sesame seeds
- wheat germ
- soy powder
- powdered milk

Put the following in a blender:

- 1 banana
- 1/2 t. cinnamon
- 1/4 t. ground nutmeg
- 1/2 c. water
- 1/2 c. grape or apple juice
- 3 ice cubes

Add the ground nuts/seeds and blend til smooth - this is full of good vitamins, potassium and magnesium for you.

## Spicy Broccoli

- 1 bunch broccoli
- 1/2 c. tomato juice
- 1/2 t. Tabasco
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 t. salt
- 2 T. wine vinegar
- 1/4 c. oil

Slice the broccoli into small pieces, steam 7 minutes. While your broccoli is steaming, make your sauce by heating oil and garlic in a saucepan. Add the rest of the ingredients and simmer for about 10 minutes. Pour your sauce over the broccoli and serve.

## Frozen Apple Yogurt

- 1 c. plain yogurt
- 1 c. unsweetened applesauce
- 1/2 t. cinnamon
- 2 T. maple syrup or honey

In a blender stir the yogurt, syrup and cinnamon til blended. Stir in the applesauce. Pour into small containers and freeze for 4 hours, let it soften about 10 minutes before serving.

This is a great refresher on these hot, humid days.



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**505 East Airport Road 883-7656**

**Four Seasons Sunrooms - Enjoy Outdoor Living Indoors - 539-3687**



## Hot Sesame Chicken

### Stir-fry

1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts  
 1 T. sesame seeds  
 2 T. soy sauce  
 1 t. cayenne pepper  
 1/2 t. black pepper, freshly ground  
 3 t. oil  
 1 c. carrots, sliced thin  
 1 c. broccoli, cut  
 12 snow pea pods  
 1/2 c. mushrooms  
 1 small can water chestnuts, sliced  
 1/2 c. chicken broth  
 1 1/2 c. scallions, sliced  
 1 T. cornstarch, mixed with 1/2 c. cold water

Cut your chicken into small strips, against the grain. Mix the soy sauce, 2 teaspoons of the oil, peppers and sesame seeds in a small bowl. Add the chicken to this and let stand for 10 minutes. Heat a nonstick skillet to hot and

cook the chicken for 5 minutes, stirring the whole time. When cooked, remove the chicken and set aside. Add the remaining oil to a pan, add the vegetables and stir for a minute. Add the broth and cook a minute, stir in the chicken, scallions and cornstarch mixture, stir until boiling. Cover and simmer 2 minutes - serve hot.

## Pumpkin Seed Snack

2 c. plain pumpkin seeds, unsalted  
 garlic powder  
 soy sauce

On an oiled cookie sheet, spread your seeds out one layer deep. Bake in 350 degree oven for about 15 minutes. Remove, place in a warm frying pan. Drizzle with about 3 tablespoons soy sauce and 1 teaspoon garlic powder. Stir well, cook over medium heat for a couple of minutes.

## Garbanzo Spread

1 16-oz. can chick peas, drained  
 1/4 c. lemon juice  
 2 cloves garlic, minced  
 2 t. soy sauce  
 3 T. tahini  
 cayenne pepper to taste  
 1/4 t. ground cumin  
 2 T. chopped fresh parsley

In a blender, puree your chick peas. Add a little water if the mixture gets too thick. Add the remaining ingredients and blend again. Refrigerate before serving. This is good with crackers as a dip, or can be used on sandwiches.



*I Believe that the  
 Huntsville  
 City Council  
 should Work in  
 Harmony for the  
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 Respect of the  
 Community.*

**Glenn Watson  
 For City Council  
 District 5**

Paid Political Advertisement by friends of Glenn Watson

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 Correct its Own Imbalances!**

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 Huntsville, Ala.



## Grandma's Remedies

Cold tea leaves, bound on a minor burn, will reduce the burning sensation.

The juice of a lemon, without sugar, drunk before breakfast can make a headache vanish.

A tablespoon of glycerine in a mug of hot milk will often stop

a fit of coughing.

If your child shuts his finger in a door or bruises himself badly, put his finger in as hot water as he can manage, without scalding him, for at least fifteen minutes. Keep on topping up the water so it stays hot.

If several children from the same family are stricken with whooping cough, a remedy that is supposed to work is this. Take a lock of hair from the eldest girl's head and cut it off. Put it in some milk, and let the other children drink from the milk, starting with the youngest and working up. It is thought that the whooping cough will then leave the household.

Beer used as a final rinse to your hair in the shower acts as a setting lotion and will help make the hair shiny. If you want your child's hair to grow quickly, cut it when the moon is waxing.



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Sat - 9-6  
We Now Carry **LGB!**  
All G Scale 25% Off - All The Time!  
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# DIXON FOR MAYOR

Please remember, its:  
**Herb Dixon**  
not Herb Nixon

### Herb Dixon

is a Vietnam veteran, a university professor, and a member of University Baptist church spent 7 years in Washington D.C. defending the \$1.4 billion Redstone Arsenal budget is experienced in managing very large corporations, and he owns a small business

### Herb Dixon is the man with "The Plan" to:

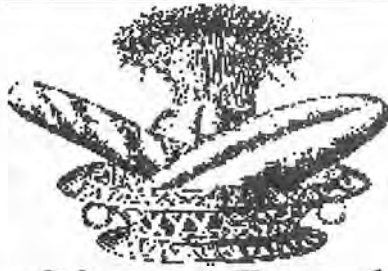
- 1) Repair the shrinking tax base and not raise taxes so we have money for education and services
- 2) Establish a Deputy Mayor for Community Concerns to have a more direct line to the Mayor
- 3) Fight for more openness by Huntsville Hospital to keep the public better informed
- 4) Keep our "green spaces" whenever and wherever practicable

Please vote for **HERB DIXON** on August 27, 1996

**The man with "The Plan"**

Paid for by Dixon for Mayor, 732 Bluewood Drive, 1 Huntsville, AL. 35802

**Bishops Potting Shed - 539-2711 - 509 Pratt Ave.**



## 20 cent Bread now Possibility

New York, Sept. 21 - President Wilson will be asked to call a special session of Congress to declare an embargo upon the exportation of wheat, and state investigations of the increase in the price of flour will be demanded by resolutions adopted by 200 bankers of Brooklyn yesterday.

It was asserted that flour would be sold at \$14 a barrel and bread at 20 cents a loaf next Spring unless an embargo is imposed.

*from 1917 newspaper*



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that count the most.*



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# Huntsville Heresay

By Billy Joe Cooley  
and His Unidentified Sources



NOW THAT state and county political primaries are over, attentions are turned to the city elections which are in late-August.

Also, the regular around-town gossip gets more interesting in hot weather, so here goes.

Stanleo's Restaurant owner **GLENN WATSON** is shaking all the political bushes in his bid for the city council seat now held by **Jim Putnam**.

Meanwhile, Putnam says he wants a rest from the job. Look for him to endorse a mayoral candidate in the next couple of weeks. The name of School Board member **Ann Fee** keeps arising in connection with the council post, but she says absolutely not.

Other names we keep hear-

ing in political circles are **Bob Harrison**, **Judith King Scales**, former policeman **Will Culver** and insurance executive **Charlie Cox**. They are reportedly eyeing various city posts.

WHEN **GLADYS "Brownie" Buscher** birthdayed last week, it took three days to consume all the ice cream and cake.

**Arnold Hornbuckle** has closed the doors forever on his music store and is devoting full time to his **WAHR** radio station.

**HERB DIXON** is going full blast in his bid for mayor. He gathered quite a crowd around himself at the gazebo concert last week. Meanwhile, rumor has it that **Loretta Spencer's** daughter **Sara** has engaged a Birmingham firm to handle her mom's advertising in her campaign for mayor.

We spent some quality time last weekend with songwriter/author **Tom T. Hall**, who sent congratulations to retiring banker **Louis Boatright**.

**BILL KLING**, seeking election as tax assessor, spent the other Saturday wooing voters. His political foe, incumbent **Waylon Cooley**, spent the day at a Braves game.

**Frank Caberetta** has returned from an extensive adventure through the golden west, mainly New Mexico and Colorado. A lot of tales will be forthcoming.

Retired banker **Dean O'Farrell** had quite a turnout in the Roundhouse for his mayoral race kickoff.

Huntsville music filled Dothan's beautiful Landmark

## HUNTSVILLE'S OWN IRISH PUB

Visit with the ladies & gentlemen of

# FINNEGAN'S IRISH PUB

And Enjoy Your Heritage  
South Parkway

(Next to Joe Davis Stadium)



Park last weekend when **Bianca Cox, Bob Gifford** and the dozen others who comprise Sugar 'n' Spice, played their Gay 90s rag-time music to thousands. The band then traipsed on down to Gulf Shores for frolicking on the beach. All got sunburns, of course.

Persons have until July 16 to qualify in the city elections and **Mrs. Jackie Reed**, a perennial thorn in the silly council's side, says she's not to be counted out of this year's politics. She already has bumper stickers and t-shirts printed.

Wedding bells chimed last weekend at Ditto Landing for **April Robinson** and **Kris Griffis**. They really looked good together.

We keep hearing rumors on the street that mayoral hopeful, **Ken Arnold** has built a strong coalition of past and present politicians. This will definitely be a campaign to watch!

**THREE STARS for Larry Mullins.** Whether he wins the mayor's race or not, he has already won the hearts of numerous young people in Huntsville to whom he has given scholarships over the years. Although

Larry will not talk about his gifts, he did say, "*Education is the best investment our society can make for the future.*"

**Hot News Flash!** Word on the street has it that legendary troubadour **Tony Mason** may be running against **Mark Hall** for his city council job in 1998. Friends tell us that an exploratory campaign group is definitely being formed.

Folks in New Hope tell us that **John Crow** is picking up a lot of votes from former **Jerry Craig** supporters in the County Commission District 3 race. With John running on the slogan "*It's Broke ... Let's Fix it!*" this should make for a highly interesting race.

**Heads are going to roll after the mayoral election.** That's the prediction of folks at City Hall as they scramble for new jobs. Several highly entertaining resumes have already been sent out.

And finally ... Regulars at **Aunt Eunice's** tell us that Democrats favor pork for breakfast, Republicans prefer their eggs half-done and people not running for office tend to be better tippers.

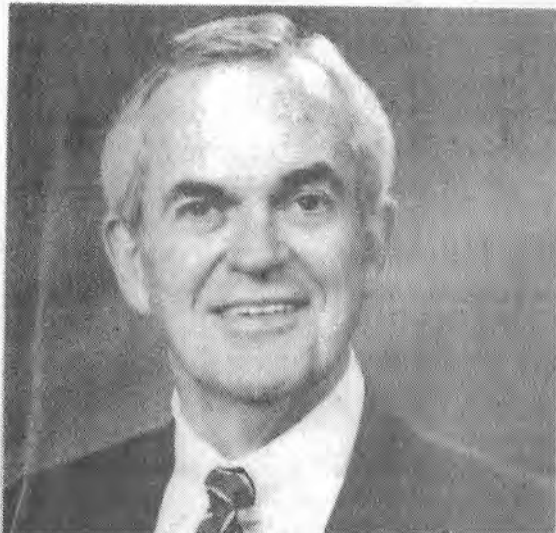
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**O'Farrell** **Dean**  
MAYOR  
MAYOR

*A Responsible Government Needs A  
Proven Responsible Leader*

*Paid for by friends of Dean O'Farrell for Mayor*

# J. Emory Pierce, Editor of Huntsville Daily Times, Held For Acts of Fraud in Liberty Drive

## Charges Made By Federal Officials

*from 1918 Huntsville Mercury Newspaper*

Huntsville: J.E. Pierce, editor of the Huntsville Daily Times, one of the most strenuous reform politicians in North Alabama and candidate for the State senate last summer, was arrested here last night on a federal warrant sworn out by federal officials charging him with obtaining money under false pretences by representing himself to be a government official. Pierce made bond in the sum of \$500.

Mr. Pierce waived a preliminary hearing before U.S. Commissioner Watts and he was bound over to the federal grand jury. The charges upon which Mr. Pierce was arrested by the federal authorities were first brought informally before a meeting of the Campaign Committee of the Fourth Liberty Loan Drive during the last week of that campaign. The district and county chairmen, with a full attendance of various sub-committees composed of the best citizenship of the county, after hearing the charges presented against Mr. Pierce, recommended the matter be referred to the Madison County War Defence Council and the Council of Defense for investigation. At a called joint meeting of these two federal bod-

ies, witnesses appeared and under oath gave their testimonies concerning these wholesale frauds practiced upon fifty or sixty odd Negro citizens of the county.

By unanimous motion of these federal boards the chairman was instructed to lay the matter before the United States District Attorney of this district for further investigation and action. At this point all local activities ended and all subsequent developments proceeded from the government.

Many prominent and well respected Negroes appeared before the War Council and claimed that Pierce enforced col-

lection of \$30 from each of them on the grounds that it was compulsory and levied by the Federal government. This was during the last ten days of the Fourth Liberty Loan campaign and all the witnesses declared that they were given to understand that this constituted a part of the government's bond drive.

Some stated that he declared these sums were assessed to be expended in patriotic advertising, some stated they were led to believe they were making first payments on Liberty Bonds and all declared they would not have contributed unless they had believed it was obligatory.

Leaders among the Negroes

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here declare that Pierce collected about \$2000 from well to do as well as needy Negroes of the county in these solicitations and that the fraud greatly hampered the success of the Liberty Bond campaign. A few were given receipts for display advertising in return for their money, but in most cases no receipt was given.

Witnesses stated that Pierce's operations had created great consternation and resentment among the Negroes of the county.

Witnesses who appeared and were placed under oath testified that the collection of money in Pierce's advertising campaign was practically by force.

One person testified that Pierce told him the government was requiring this contribution, and that Pierce and the Huntsville Daily Times were merely acting as agents for the government.

Another witness declared that Pierce stated to him that he had to make the contribution, that he saw Mr. Pierce's brother, the United States deputy collec-

tor, in Mr. Pierce's car a short distance off, and that Pierce gave him to understand that these demands were being backed by this official. The witness further stated that he paid the money because he believed he had no other choice.

Another witness stated that Mr. Pierce said to him, "Do you know that gentleman in the car?" Pointing to his brother, the deputy collector. "I want \$30 from you for the Fourth Liberty Bond Drive." The witness then stated that after paying the money he was given a receipt which he read as Pierce was leaving the place; that as soon as he saw on the face of the receipt that it was for patriotic advertising, he ran after Pierce in an effort to catch him so as to get his money back but could not outrun the car.

Another witness testified that Mr. Pierce stated to him that he wanted him to take out Liberty Bonds, where upon witness replied he had no money. Pierce replied that he would lend it to him if he would sign a waiver

note for it; that if he didn't do so, he (Pierce) would put him in jail. The witness stated that he believed Pierce because Pierce pointed to his brother who was waiting nearby in the car.

Two other witnesses stated that Pierce declared these were first payments on Liberty Bonds which were assessed against the witnesses and that they were compelled to pay the assessments to him.

Some twenty odd Negro farmers, out of the great number alleged to have been defrauded by Pierce, gave sworn testimony substantially along the same lines.



*The way some people drive,  
you'd think they were  
late for their own  
accident.*

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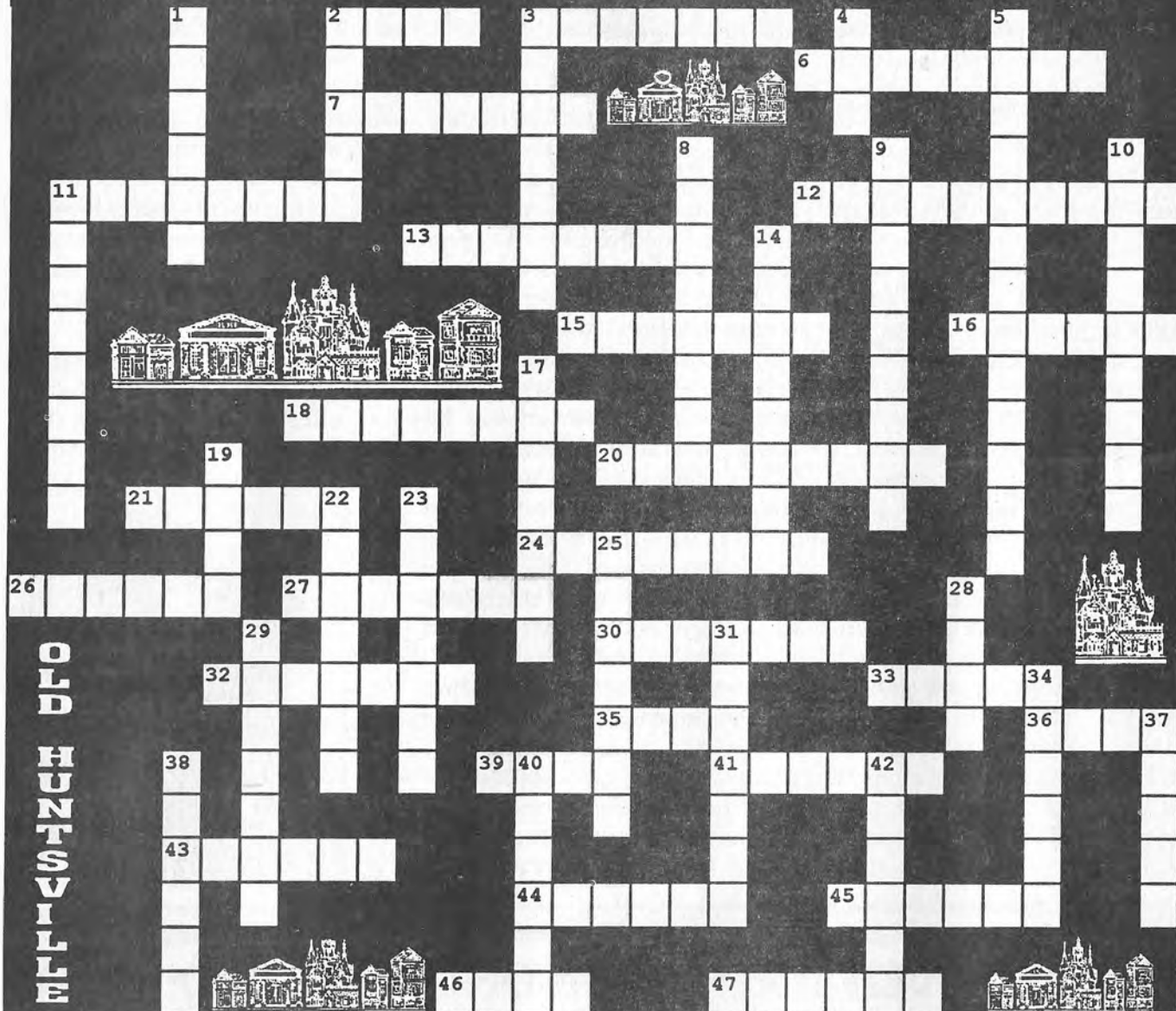
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# OLD HUNTSVILLE CROSSWORD



## Across

- 2. County Commissioner
- 3. Running for Mayor
- 6. Founder of Huntsville
- 7. Controversial police chief
- 11. Movie Tony Mason acted in
- 12. Early name of Huntsville
- 13. Democratic V.P. nominee in 1952
- 15. Most visited public building
- 16. Congressman
- 18. Actress born above Schiffman building
- 20. Mt. overlooking Huntsville
- 21. City councilman
- 24. Downtown Restaurant
- 26. Wants to be Congressman
- 24. Downtown street
- 30. Historic district
- 32. Street Downtown

- 33. Street in Twickenham
- 35. Animals kept in Courthouse yard in 1908
- 36. Famous Madam
- 39. Father of Huntsville
- 41. Publisher of Old Huntsville
- 43. First settler in Madison Co.
- 44. District Attorney
- 45. Founder of Huntsville Daily Times
- 46. Head of SCI
- 47. Hardware store on Washington St.

## DOWN

- 1. Mill Village
- 2. Mayor ten year ago
- 3. Sleeping Preacher
- 4. What Lily Flagg was
- 5. Old hotel Downtown
- 8. German scientist
- 9. Downtown Park

- 10. City Cemetery
- 11. Name of Arsenal
- 14. President who was here during Civil War
- 17. Largest rocket built in Huntsville
- 19. Market in 5 Points
- 22. Restaurant on Andrew Jackson
- 23. Cotton mill
- 25. King of the Snuffdippers' Ball
- 28. Imprisoned with Jefferson Davis
- 29. Oldest lodge in N. Alabama
- 31. Yankee officer who sacked Athens and was tried here
- 34. Early Huntsville architect
- 37. Old theater Downtown
- 38. Huntsville historian
- 40. Chief of police
- 42. Everyone's Aunt

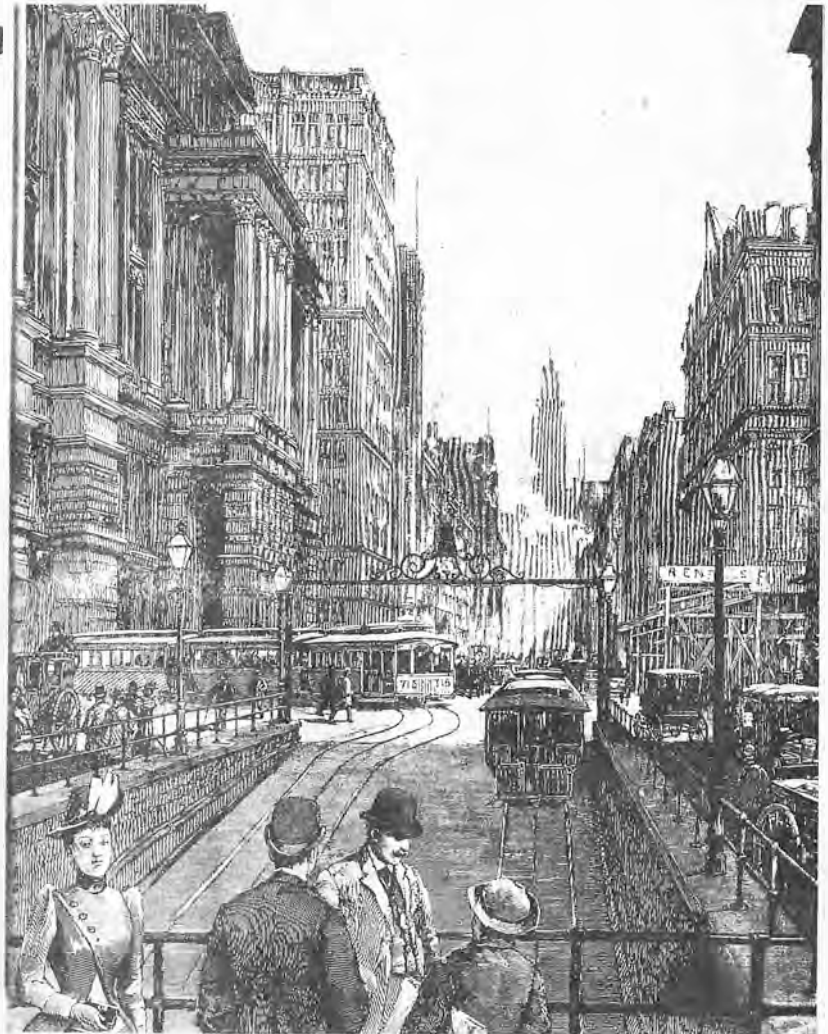
Answers on page 29

# Hillbilly Heaven

It was a fairly small neighborhood, bordered on one side by working class polish emigrants and outlined by the tall, coal blackened smokestacks that made up the heart of Chicago's industrial might.

The first thing you noticed as you entered the neighborhood was the music. The music seemed to come from everywhere. Every one of the cold water flats lining the streets appeared to have a radio in the window turned to a country music station and the cars clogging the streets seemed to compete with one another in who could play the music the loudest. Adding to the noise were the honky tonks and bars lining the streets.

Packed in tightly among the bars and dilapidated apartment buildings were small neighborhood restaurants serving such delicacies as grits, cracklin' bread and black eyed peas. Occasionally, one might see a hand written notice, stuck haphazardly on a restaurant window: "Going to Hunts-



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601 Washington St., Inside Interstate Trade Mart Bldg. (Corner of Pratt & Washington - Entrance Located in Rear)



ville on Friday. Will share gas."

A stranger didn't have to ask where he was. All he had to do was look at the car tags. Hundreds, if not thousands of the tags bore the slogan "Heart of Dixie," telling the world that their owners were from Alabama.

The place was "Hillbilly Heaven," a place of dreams, hopes, and sometimes broken hearts.

The end of World War II saw one of the largest exodus from the homeland of the Southern working class since the end of the Civil War. Young men, newly discharged from the armed forces and having experienced the thrills and excitement of London, New York and Paris, were no longer content to return home to a life of cotton farming.

Realizing there were few jobs to be had in North Alabama, many of the men turned their sights northward to Chicago, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Detroit.

It was Chicago however that attracted the most people from Madison County. With the end of the war, and the growing, almost unquenchable demand for consumer goods, Chicago's manu-

facturing plants were experiencing an unprecedented boom. Soon, signs advertising "Help Wanted," became a common sight in front of the plants.

As word of the good jobs began filtering into North Alabama, many men decided to make the move. With only a twelve hour drive separating Huntsville and Chicago the choice between a well paying job, and staying in Huntsville doing nothing, became easier.

Lola Hendrix remembers the move to Chicago her family made in 1947. "Pa packed our clothes and pots and pans in the back floorboard of the car. On top of them he placed a featherbed mattress, and that's where my sister and I rode. There was a big cardboard box in the trunk where Mama had stowed the groceries, and packed in every crevice and corner of the car were jars of her canned goods and preserves. Every time we had a flat tire, or hit a big bump, we could hear another jar breaking. My Sunday dress smelled like pickles for weeks afterwards."

"Pa tied our beds on top of the car and every time we saw a car with a mattress on top we

would look to see if they were from Alabama."

The part of Chicago drawing most of the Southern immigrants would soon become known as Hillbilly Heaven. Poor, working class neighborhoods were abundant here and the rents were cheap. Most of the brownstone buildings in this area had been built in the last century and were often in bad repair.

For many of the people who had never been out of Alabama the cultural differences were shocking!

"I remember all the people," recalled Kenneth Gentry. "Everywhere you looked were people and they were always in a hurry. The biggest thing I missed about home, were trees. Chicago just didn't have many.

"We moved into a three room flat on the sixth floor of an apartment building. One of our neighbors was a family from Hazel Green and on the floor below us were a bunch of men from Decatur. Almost everyone worked at the same place."

It was fairly easy for the newcomers to gain employment at one of the nearby plants. The Southerners had already acquired a reputation for being hard workers and were in demand. Most of the time it merely took a word from a cousin or brother-in-law who was already working there.

One of the plants was S.K. Wayne, a company manufacturing automotive tools. By 1950, over half of its work force was made up by people from Alabama, many of whom were related. One company actually had to post a notice on the bulletin board prohibiting more than 5 members of a family from taking off at the same time.

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 Handmade Glass Gifts, Angels, Trivets,  
 Beautiful Birdhouses and  
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By 1951, the Southern influence had spread throughout the neighborhood. Honky Tonks with such names as the "Alabama Rose" and "The Decatur Bucket" began replacing the older neighborhood bars. Polish ethnic music was replaced by country ballads and restaurants that had once specialized in Polish and Italian food now began serving Southern cuisine.

Many of the men, unable to regard Chicago as "home," chose to leave their wives and children in Alabama, making the long commute every weekend. Friday afternoons would see an exodus of men from the neighborhood as they piled into cars for the trip home. Often with six or seven men in the cars, sharing the driving and gas expenses, they would drive all night, arriving in Huntsville before daylight, where each one would be let off at his home.

Saturdays would be a day of catching up, and shopping with the families. Without the wages earned in Chicago, many families in Madison County would have been destitute. One survey, taken in 1956, declared that 17% of rural families had members working "up north."

Sunday was a day of church, fried chicken and potato salad. Always in the back of their minds however, was the fact they had to leave for the long trip back to Chicago in a few hours.

Normally about 5 or 6 o'clock in the evening, a car would pull to a stop in front of the houses and blow its horn. It was time to go. With a last kiss for his wife and a pat on the children's heads, each man would rush for the waiting car.

The trip back would be made in silence most of the time, with the men lost in thoughts of their

families and the problems they were forced to leave behind, and thinking ahead of the next trip home, next week.

Many of the men who immigrated to Chicago in search of work were young and single, and it was these that made Hillbilly Heaven notorious. With more money than they had ever dreamed of before, and nothing but good times to spend it on, the neighborhood took on a raucous, and slightly seedy look at night.

High wages and an abundance of nightspots helped to make it a mecca for country music fans. Top Southern recording artists such as Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, and the Delmore brothers all made Hillbilly Heaven part of their tours.

Chicago natives who ventured into the area at night soon discovered that the violent reputation of the "Hillbillys" was not

**KEN!**  
**ARNOLD**  
m a y o r

"Today and tomorrow's challenges will require imaginative solutions forged from a uniting of the many faces of Huntsville. As mayor, I will work to secure our present and provide for our future prosperity by focusing on four key areas:"

#### Enhanced Basic Services

- \*Senior citizen shuttle
- \*One call citizen response center
- \*Downtown parking construction
- \*Health Department relocation

#### Steady Economic Growth

- \*Top/Bottom review of City business Ords & Regs
- \*Economic incentive zones
- \*One stop business coordination center
- \*Southern By-pass, Atlanta-Memphis Hwy, Four Mile Post Rd

#### Fighting Crime

- \*Neighborhood police sub-stations
- \*Integration of technology at patrol level
- \*Increased police patrols
- \*Comprehensive drug interdiction attack plan

#### Strong Schools

- \*Technology funding in City capital plan
- \*Joint use/resource sharing council (services, purchases, facilities)
- \*Development of education short/long range goals
- \*Established police presence at all levels to ensure safety

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exaggerated. For a "Northerner" to make a pass at one of the ladies, or to insult one of the Southerners could become a deadly mistake. Sometimes the Southerners themselves would become involved in fights with one another.

Lew Daniels was forced to leave Decatur suddenly when he was caught with another man's wife. Traveling to Chicago, the first place he went to was the "Rebel Star," a bar in Hillbilly Heaven notorious for its many fights. Before Daniels even had time to order a beer, he was recognized by the man's brother, who promptly shot him dead.

The constant traveling back and forth between Alabama and Chicago gave birth to many entrepreneurial enterprises. Workers from North Alabama soon discovered that cars rusted out from the salt spread on Chicago's streets, or rust bombs as they were more commonly known, could be purchased cheaply. Thousands of these cars ended up in North Alabama, where it

seemed as if everyone had a brother in-law, or cousin who was skilled in applying "bondo."

There were so many body shops on Sand Mountain that it became known as the "bondo capital" of the world. Many a Huntsville native can still tell stories of having purchased a sharp looking car, only to have part of it fall off when the car hit a rut in the road.

By the mid 1960s Hillbilly Heaven was but a ghost of its former self. Most of the Southerners had returned home where they were now able to find jobs. Other immigrants, this time from eastern Europe, began moving into the neighborhood bringing with them their own cultural identity.

Occasionally, one might still find a dusty Rebel flag hanging behind the bar in an old honky tonk, or even an Alabama car tag nailed to a wall, but the people who made Hillbilly Heaven the home away from home it was, have long gone.

*The End*

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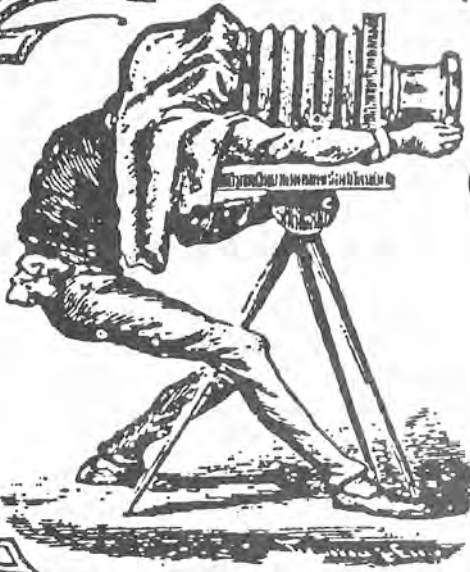
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# The Liar

William Little was a liar. Everyone on the rough frontier of Texas in the mid 1830s had their own story to tell, but few were as outlandish as Little's.

Little, when drinking with his rough-hewed friends would tell of his home in Alabama, where he had been a successful attorney and had owned vast plantation holdings with many slaves.

The frontiersmen would merely chuckle under their breaths and change the subject. They all had a past they were running from and that is what drew many of them to Texas; a chance to start over again.

There was a small grain of truth in Little's stories however. He had been a lawyer, though one Alabama paper labeled him as "the worst barrister in the state."

Little's legal career came to an abrupt end when he murdered a man for making advances toward his wife. Shortly afterwards he abandoned his pregnant wife and fled to Texas.

Once in Texas, Little got caught up in the war fever that was sweeping the territory and offered his services to the small Texas army. Probably realizing he faced possible death in combat, William Little resumed using his real name.

Every man dreams of winning immortal fame and William achieved it at the Alamo. Near the old walls of the ruined mission stands a simple granite monument. The inscription reads. "Defender of the Alamo ... William Travis."

## Crossword Puzzle Answers

### Across

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 2. Dyer        | 26. Parker   |
| 3. Spencer     | 27. Clinton  |
| 6. John Hunt   | 30. Old Town |
| 7. Vizzini     | 32. Madison  |
| 11. Ravagers   | 33. Adams    |
| 12. Twickenham | 35. Deer     |
| 13. Sparkman   | 36. Teal     |
| 15. Library    | 39. Pope     |
| 16. Cramer     | 41. Cathey   |
| 18. Tallulah   | 43. Criner   |
| 20. Monte Sano | 44. Morgan   |
| 21. Putnam     | 45. Pierce   |
| 24. Richards   | 46. King     |

### 47. Lewter

### DOWN

- |                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1. Dallas         | 22. Mullins |
| 2. Davis          | 23. Lincoln |
| 3. Sanders        | 25. Crowder |
| 4. Cow            | 28. Clay    |
| 5. Russel Erskine | 29. Masonic |
| 8. von Braun      | 31. Turchin |
| 9. Big Spring     | 34. Steele  |
| 11. Redstone      | 37. Lyric   |
| 14. Garfield      | 38. Record  |
| 17. Saturn V      | 40. Ottman  |
| 19. Star          | 42. Eunice  |



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**Washington, June 5** - Today is America's first Registration Day." Ten Million male residents of the U.S., between the ages of 21 and 31 are going to the polling places where vast, complicated election machinery and other means are being utilized to record careful statistics of the nation's young manhood liable to draft for defense.

There has been no adequate means of notifying everyone of his duty to register. The newspapers have done their best but they are insufficient to reach into the slum, the cheap lodging house and the backwoods district. Those who do not register will be liable to severe penalties, but it is probable that when the delinquency results from ignorance or stupidity and not through willful negligence, the courts will deal lightly with the

offenders. Otherwise it is safe to predict, jails and penitentiaries will be crowded to overflowing.

In every city, town and village Registration Day is being observed by festivities of a thousand and one different sorts. In some places the day has been proclaimed a holiday.

Wives, sweethearts and friends are accompanying the young men to the registration places. Parades are showing the appreciation of the people for the patriotic duty to be done by those drafted from the men registered.

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# NO LIGHT ON SOLDIER'S DEATH

Was Killed While on Guard  
at Trestle over Swan Lake  
near Decatur

**Albany, June 12.** - No light has been shed following investigation of the death of Herbert Spencer, aged 22, of Birmingham, whose dead body was found yesterday morning beside the railroad track at the end of the Swan Lake trestle, across the Tennessee River in Limestone County.

Spencer was on duty guarding the trestle, and his body was found at 3 o'clock yesterday morning when he was to be relieved by a comrade. Indications were that life had been extinct but a few minutes.

A gash, four and a half inches long, was at the back of his skull, while the forehead bore a gash one and a half inches long.

Capt. Hal Halstead, in command of Co. B, to which Spencer was attached, advanced the theory that the soldier was killed by a freight train that pulled out of the Decatur station about 2:30 o'clock, although it is possible that Spencer's death was due to foul play.



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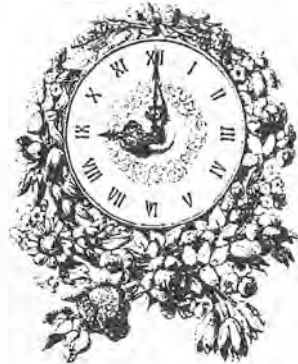
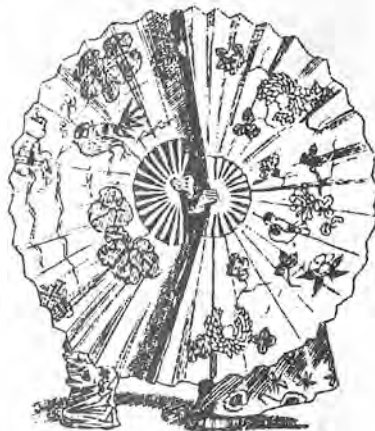
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## Painted Girls Barred From Visiting Camps

from 1917 Huntsville newspaper

Montgomery: So that the military police will find it easier to tell modest girls from the brazen and immoral, the authorities have secured action by the city council here. In a resolution the women are asked to give up cosmetics and gaudy clothes.

The board also suggested the arrest of unchaperoned Misses caught strolling near camps after 9:00. Dr. Frank Overton, State Sanitary Supervisor, backed the anti-cosmetic resolution.

"What shall the girls use to protect their complexions?" he was asked.

"Soap," he replied laconically.

## 100 Colored Men to go soon

### Local Draft Board is Expecting to Send them off Sunday

From 1917 Huntsville newspaper

The local draft board is preparing to send one hundred colored men to army training camps next Sunday. Fifty-nine Negro boys were sent away last Saturday.

Seventy young men who have arrived at the age of 21 years since June 5, 1918, registered Saturday and they will be called in for examination in a few days. They are needed in the first class to which most of the physically fit will be immediately assigned.

The board has only 13 men remaining in the first class, whites, and they are going away with the next contingent of fifty-nine men who will be sent from here September 3 to 6.

Probably all the June registrants will be off during the

month of September as several calls are expected.

*The trouble with being a leader today is that you can't tell if people are following you or chasing you.*

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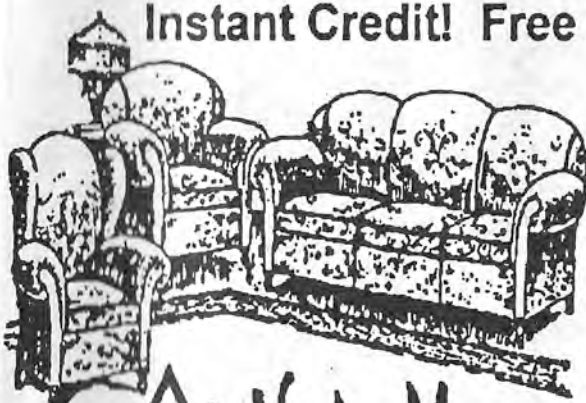
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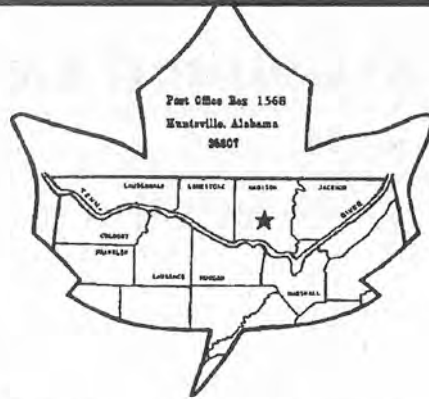


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# Searching For Our Ancestors



*A monthly column provided by the Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society to aid people in their genealogical research.*

## **RICHARDS**

Interested in corresponding with anyone who is researching RICHARDS surname in Madison Co., AL. My ancestor is Evand RICHARDS, b. in Wales, who first settled in Northampton, NC abt 1800. He was in Madison Co., AL by 1815. Children are: Stephen M. (b. abt 1802, NC); Mary Ann (b. NC abt 1805); Evan Goodson (b NC abt 1807); John M. (b. NC? abt 1812); Nancy Julia (b AL, 1813); Malcipiah (b AL 1819); and Susan (b AL 1822). Willing to share notes. Thanks in advance.

J.M.Emanuel 140 East Drive,  
Mobile, AL 36608-3406

## **PRINCE \* KENNEDY \* ANDERSON \* SMITH**

Would like to correspond with and/or exchange info on Simeon Edward (Ed) PRINCE (b. 1863, Jackson Co., AL, d. abt 1891), and Levia A. KENNEDY (b 1867, Franklin Co., TN) m. 3 Aug 1882 Franklin Co., TN, d. ?). Ed is the son of Rev. Elisha PRINCE and Elizabeth J. ANDERSON (m. 1855) of Paint Rock Valley, Jackson Co., AL. Levia is the dau of Solomon and Syrena Catherine (SMITH) KENNEDY of Francisco, Franklin Co., TN. According to my grandmother, Syrena was a

full-blood Cherokee. Any help in proving her identity will be appreciated.

Betty Jo (Golden) Bradford,  
300 Morris Road, Toney, AL  
35773

## **FOWLER \* HALL \*ARNOLD**

Seek info on William Oliver FOWLER (b. 26 Dec 1854) and his wife, Sarah Jane HALL (b. 8 Jan 1856). Both were born in Jackson Co, AL, and married there 3 June 1875. They came to Montague Co., TX 1877 or 1888. Sarah was the dau of Thomas and Minia HALL of Jackson Co. William's parents, James Madison FOWLER (b. 18 Mar 1828) and Minerva Jane CHAMBERS (b. 26 Sep 1832), married outside Anniston 30 Mar 1850. Parents of James were Ferman FOWLER (b. 22 Aug 1794, SC) and Gincy ARNOLD (b. 15 Nov 1809, AL). They also lived in

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**TAYLOR \* WILSON**

Would like to correspond with descendants of Isaac TAYLOR, b in Antrim or Armagh, No. Ireland, abt 1690, and immigrated to Augusta Co., VA in 1737 with his mother's bro, John WILSON. Isaac's wife, Isabella WILSON, came later with their six children. Isaac died in Montgomery Co., VA in 1781. Their second son, Isaac II, had a son, Joseph, who married Jane BLACKBURN, sister of Gideon

Blackburn, the famous teacher, preacher, and Indian fighter. Joseph and Jane Blackburn TAYLOR had children: Isaac, Margaret "Peggy", Jane H., John K, Pleasant C., Gideon Blackburn, Albert C., and Matilda P. Joseph moved to Madison Co., AL in 1807 and died in 1809. His youngest son, Albert Calhoun, lived in Aliceville, Pickens Co., 1831-1844, and was in Williamson Co. TX in the 1850 Census. Albert Calhoun had children: I would like to get in touch with some of my AL relatives.

Earl Taylor, 2060 7th St., La Verne, CA 91750

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# The Old Courthouse

by Jack Harwell



Let's take a walk through Old Huntsville and see how the town used to look. It's just possible we might see and learn some things we have missed heretofore. After all, our town has been around for over 180 years, so there's a lot to know.

A good place to start would be the courthouse square. It is, after all, the center of town, and just a very short distance from Big Spring, site of John Hunt's pioneer cabin. You've been by the courthouse many times, but you may not have considered the history behind this old site. We'll see some of that history now as we tour the Old Town.

The town was first surveyed in 1810 on the rise above the Big Spring. It was planned as twenty blocks—five blocks long, four blocks wide. Each block en-

closed three acres. In order to accommodate the spring within a single block, the streets were angled 34 degrees off true north. That's why, if you look at a map, the north-south streets such as Washington and Jefferson due not run precisely north and south.

The town planners designated the block just east of the spring as the public square. It was centrally located, and contained an elevated rocky knoll which made it slightly higher than the surrounding blocks. At that time (1810) the town was still known as Twickenham, in deference to the wishes of LeRoy Pope. On July 5 of that year, a commission designated Twickenham as the seat of Madison County. Immediately, plans were made to erect some sort of

governmental structure on the public square.

Twickenham, of course, was never a popular name, and the sentiment was to name the town in honor of its first settler, John Hunt. By an act of the territorial legislature, Twickenham officially became Huntsville on November 25, 1811. In that same month, the first courthouse was opened on the square.

Compared to later courthouse buildings, the first one was a modest affair. It was a two-story brick structure, and occupied only a part of the square. The lower floor housed the offices of the courts and county officials. At the northwest corner of the square stood a small jail, with a public pillory. No photographs exist of any of this, and for a long time no one had any clue as to what the first courthouse looked like, beyond written accounts. However, more recent research, such as that done by James Record and Frances Roberts, provide a more detailed description of this early structure.

Unassuming though it may have been, the first Madison County Courthouse played a starring role in the early history of our state. Although the state



# Bud Cramer

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constitutional convention was held one block south, the first meeting of the state House of Representatives took place on the ground floor of the courthouse on November 7, 1819. Two days later, William Wyatt Bibb was sworn in as the first governor of Alabama there at the courthouse.

The first courthouse did not have a long history. The town quickly outgrew the quaint brick structure. By 1830 the population of Huntsville had grown to 2,000, and the town now extended a quarter mile from the square. The original 60 acres had grown to 160. Further, the courthouse was becoming run-down, and the adjoining jail was in even worse shape. A letter sent to county officials in 1825 by Robert Caruthers, the jailor, and John McBroom, the sheriff, complained that the jail had become so dilapidated that it was becoming difficult to hold prisoners there. In addition, the roof leaked, and the walls and floors were becoming rotten. At the time, the county was deeply in debt and could do nothing. But such conditions as the sheriff and jailor had described would have to be remedied.

The county enlisted the services of one George Steele, an architect from Virginia whose work in Huntsville would long outlast its maker. Thanks to a new courthouse tax passed by the legislature in 1835, the county now found itself in a position to afford a new structure. Steele drew up the plans for the new courthouse, and local builders William Wilson and James Mitchell were awarded the construction contract. Ground was broken in July 1836.

The second Madison County

courthouse would be a much grander work than the first. The foundation was of blue limestone quarried on Russel Hill, just west of the town. White limestone for the exterior came from Monte Sano. Before construction began, the entire square was graded level, and the material from this job was used to pave the surrounding streets. So massive was the finished building

that consideration had to be given, in laying the foundation, to the large caverns below. A stone wall with rounded corners, set back fourteen feet from the street, surrounded the courthouse, as did an iron fence, which would become very popular as a hitching post. The courthouse contained a full basement, and was topped off by a dome.

The second courthouse was



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completed in 1838 at a cost of \$52,000. It was considered so outstanding in design and construction that it was featured in the book *Lost America*, by Constance Greiff (published 1971), which lists some of the more interesting examples of early American architecture which, unfortunately, have not survived to the present.

This building would stand for 75 years, longer than any other Madison County courthouse (so far). It saw the city through the Civil War and the industrial expansion of the 1890s. Except for the addition of a clock in 1849, its appearance was little changed during that time. The courthouse grounds were the scene of many a social gathering during the second half of the nineteenth cen-

ture.

There were other things going on, too. In November 1898 a group of soldiers, being held in the basement for public drunkenness, set fire to some papers in a file room. The fire blazed unchecked until noticed by passersby, who notified authorities. The courthouse was saved, but many valuable and irreplaceable records were consumed in the blaze.

One notable change to the courthouse grounds was the placement of the Confederate Soldier statue, which took place on November 21, 1905. It was a grand occasion, attended by the governor, William D. Jelks. Thirteen young ladies, representing the southern states, each laid a wreath at the stone soldier's feet. The local United Daughters of

the Confederacy had raised \$2,500 for the statue from rummage sales, teas, and afternoon parties. The statue was chiseled from Vermont granite by Oscar Hummel; Jim Mott Robinson of Hazel Green served as the model. Much of this work was done in temporary sheds on the current site of the parking lot used by the Church of the Visitation.

On February 15, 1913, a mass meeting was held to study the question of replacing the courthouse. The sentiments expressed at that meeting would be echoed when the issue came up again fifty years later. Some wanted a new courthouse, some said the old one should be repaired, and other wanted a new building at a different site, so the old building could be preserved

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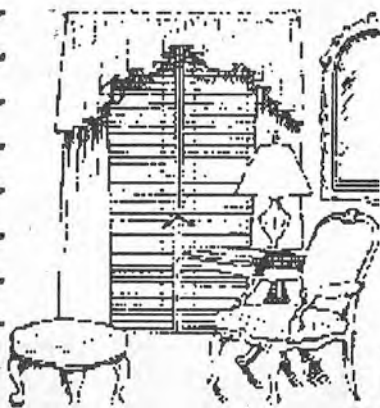
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for posterity. The decision was made to remodel, but the renovation process had scarcely begun when it became apparent that the old building was beyond repair. The county would have to replace the courthouse.

The third courthouse was not dissimilar to the its predecessor. It would also be built of stone, with large columns all around. The clock from the old courthouse would be installed in the new one. Construction proceeded mostly without incident, except for one incident in March 1914. A cog wheel from a hoist being used to place one of the stone columns on the north side broke loose and flew across the street, doing some damage to businesses there. Two workmen were injured. The last scaffolds were torn down on May 29, 1914, and the courthouse was complete.

But there was still one item to be tended to before Huntsville could release its hold on the nineteenth century. For years, the iron fence around the courthouse had been a source of controversy. It was used to hitch horses, and local doctors complained that the resulting animal waste created an unsanitary condition. Petitions were brought to remove the fence, but these were

opposed by downtown merchants, who feared a loss of trade if customers who went shopping on horseback were discouraged from entering the city. A law was passed making it illegal to hitch animals to the fence, but this was later repealed.

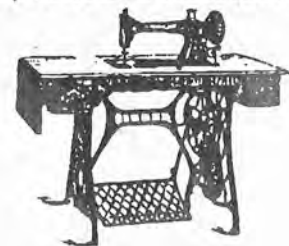
For more than thirty years, the courthouse fence was a source of contention. The Civic League hoped the fence would be removed during construction of the new courthouse in 1914, and suggested a fountain and shed in its place. But the fence stayed. Finally, people began to realize the health problems created by piles of manure in the downtown streets—typhus was a recurring problem in the last century, and Huntsville had suffered an epidemic in 1898. In September 1921, the fence was ordered removed. The order came from Dr. Carl Grote, the first county health officer. The existence of such an office was indication of the changing attitudes of the times.

There we will leave our tour of the courthouse square. The third courthouse, sans fence, would serve the county through two world wars, the Great Depression, right up to the beginnings of the Space Age. On the night that a Huntsville-build Ju-

pter C missile launched America's first satellite, Explorer 1, there was an impromptu parade around the courthouse by joyous citizens, on foot and in horn-honking automobiles.

It is this 1914-era courthouse that the longtime residents of Huntsville remember from their youth. It graced a typical small, quiet Southern town, but in the end was overtaken by events. If you can remember this old building, now nearly three decades departed, you can remember a different Huntsville, one that was perhaps closer to its roots than it would ever be again.

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# Search for the Last Rebel Yell

In the spring of 1949, The Smithsonian Institute hired Frank Tolbert, a renown historian, to capture on a tape recording the most spine chilling sound ever created by man ... the infamous "Rebel Yell."

Time was of the utmost importance. There were only four veterans of the Civil War, all Confederates, still living and they were all over 100 years old. Fortunately, they all lived in Texas, which appeared to make his job much easier.

The first veteran Tolbert visited was Joseph Haden Whitsett, a feisty 103-year-old.

"Can't do it," Whitsett answered. "Can't Rebel yell. I'm

sorry. I tried to learn it a thousand times when I was with General Joseph Shelby's escort during the war. I didn't seem to have the right kind of voice."

Walt Williams, 107 years of age, was next on Tolbert's list. "Used to could do it," he replied. "But I haven't got the throat linings for it now. When you get a hundred seven you can't do everything you want no more."

Disappointed, Tolbert next traveled to Wichita Falls, where 104 year old Thomas E. Riddle made his home. Riddle had recently divorced his third wife and claimed to be looking for a fourth.

Unfortunately, though Riddle remembered the yell well, he could not do it. "Takes a young man," he said, "and I ain't got the strength no more."

Only one name was left on Tolbert's list - Samuel Merrill Raney, 103 years of age.

"Can you do the Rebel yell?" Tolbert asked Samuel.

Abruptly the old veteran threw back his head and started yelling, "like an opera singer hit-

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ting an almost impossibly high note, as if a mountain lion and a coyote were crying in chorus," Tolbert later remarked.

Tolbert listened in awe to the historically significant shout. He, alone, was listening to the last person left alive in the world who could do the Rebel Yell the same way it had been done during the Civil War.

When the old man had finished, Tolbert inquired about making a recording of the yell.

"Can't," the old man replied. "Ain't got no electricity."

Undaunted, Tolbert went to town in search of a battery powered tape recorder. A few days later he returned to Raney's farm and knocked on the door. A strange man opened the door.

"I'm looking for Mr. Raney," Tolbert said.

"He ain't here," the man replied. "He died."



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# Meditation, A Timeless Art



In these changing days and times the stress levels of just living has skyrocketed. In the old days life was so simple, but these days we need to find ways to alleviate stress. Meditation is an ancient art that has worked for years - following is an article by Richard Rausch, who practices meditation daily, and who is 83.

There exists an intimate relationship between Mind and Body. Your Mind influences your body either in a positive or negative way, and this direction depends upon the frequency of the energy which flows from the mind through the body, and back

again. This frequency constantly varies due to the continuous contact with the outside world through your senses. The proper functioning of our organs that make up the body can be maintained only if the frequency of the energy that activates the organs is held steady between 10 to 12 Hertz. This is a fairly low frequency and has been measured in people who are in a deep state of meditation.

This particular frequency is also the vibration produced by the rotation of our planet Earth. That fact points to the close cosmic relationship our nature is

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subjected to. So, if we are to keep the frequency of 10 to 12 Hertz pretty steady in our mind and body, the benefits for our well being could be great. It can be done by applying a thousand year old tool called Meditation.

Our attention is most of the time directed outwardly to the surrounding world. Nature, however, gave us with our minds a very precious instrument that can be used as well when used inwardly. In other words, we are capable of shutting off our feelers in outward direction and concentrate towards the incredibly complicated machinery of our mind and body including the forces that make them run and function so flawlessly.

Have you ever reflected about the mystery of creation, when you held a little baby? The tiny organism has been painstakingly assembled in a mother's womb with billions of cells. Each cell knew exactly where it belonged by following a plan that was woven into each one. When the human baby is born, the mysterious Intelligence and Power that formed it is still there and takes care of the new organism's development and growth. The purpose of meditation is to become aware of, and to recognize intuitively, this Power and Intelligence that lives in each one of us. It is necessary to understand that, once we are ready to meditate.

Here's how to prepare for meditation:

1. Find a quiet place with low light.
2. Sit down on a comfortable chair. Do not lean back, put your hands leisurely upon your thighs.
3. Close your eyes, fix them between your eyebrows.
4. Begin meditating with

deep, slow breathing.

Pause for a moment or so. Then begin relaxing body and mind. Talk to yourself clearly and slowly, without moving your lips. Relax your mind and body totally. Eliminate all stress and strain from the brain and the mind. Remove all tension from the muscles of the entire body. Relax. Enjoy relaxation and feel how it is to be totally relaxed. Continue that way until all members of your entire body are absolutely relaxed.

During the next phase begin to recognize and feel intuitively the Intelligence and Power of the Universal Metaphysical Force behind all physical phenomena and activities.

The best time to meditate is early in the morning and in the evening before going to bed. Do it for about 20 minutes.



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# Household Tips by EARLENE



**Cure for Barber's Itch** - moisten the parts affected with saliva (spittle) and rub it over thoroughly three times a day with the ashes of a good Havana cigar. This is a simple remedy, yet it has cured the most obstinate cases.

Don't burn your fingers with too-short matches when trying to light candles. Instead, use a piece of uncooked spaghetti. It works well.

Want your freshly shined brass to stay that way? Just coat with a little wood finishing oil, like tung oil. It'll make the shine last 3 times as long.

How to clean your glass shower doors that are full of gunk? Try wiping them clean with any furniture polish that has lemon oil. If the film is really heavy, use a steel wool pad soaked in dishwashing liquid to make the glass sparkle.

If you need to paint your wrought-iron furniture and don't want to spray, try using a sponge.

To shine up your chrome, wad up some aluminum foil, shiny side out, dampen the chrome and rub away.

Your plants will love the leftover water (cooled down, of course) from cooking your vegetables.

If you're using cloth diapers for your baby and don't want to put cold ones on him when you're changing him at night, just put a heating pad in with the diapers.

Soften your hands by rubbing them well with oatmeal while wet.

An ordinary art gum eraser will get most of those scuff marks off light colored shoes.

Use bananas to shine silver? Try this - take the ends off your banana peel, and throw the skin into a blender. Take the puree and shine your silver with it!

Use an old, mismatched fork near your plants to use as a handy "rake."

When you paint your rooms, save the last of the paint in a small baby food bottle. Write the color, room and date on the bottle and close securely. You'll be surprised how this little dab of paint will come in handy for touch-ups.



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## Homemade Dog Biscuits

Every year this recipe is a big hit with both our two-legged and four-legged friends. We want to share it with you!

### Ingredients:

- 2 c. unsifted all-purpose flour
- 1 1/4 c. shredded cheddar cheese
- 2 cloves finely chopped garlic powder, dash
- 1/2 c. vegetable oil
- 4-5 tablespoons water

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Combine the flour, cheese, garlic powder and oil. Mix by hand til the texture is like coarse meal. Slowly add water til dough forms a ball. Divide into 12 pieces. Roll each piece to 1/2" thickness and cut into bone shapes. Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake 10-15 minutes until bottoms are lightly browned. Cool completely and store in fridge.

From the Osborne Animal Clinic, Decatur, Alabama

*The trouble with some women is that they get all excited about nothing-- and then marry him.*

## Mother Shipton's Prophecy

The lines known as "Mother Shipton's Prophecy" were first published in England in 1485, before the discovery of America, and of course, before any of the discoveries and inventions mentioned therein. All the events predicted have come to pass, except for the last two lines.

*Carriages without horses shall go,  
 And accidents fill the world with woe  
 Around the world thoughts shall fly  
 In the twinkling of an eye.  
 Waters shall yet more wonders do,  
 Now strange, yet shall be true.  
 The world upside down shall be,  
 And gold be found at root of a tree.  
 Through hills man shall ride  
 And no horse nor ass be at his side.  
 Under water man shall walk,  
 Shall ride, shall sleep, shall talk.  
 In the air men shall be seen  
 In white, in black, in green.  
 Iron in the water shall float,  
 As easy as a wooden boat.  
 Gold shall be found 'mid stone,  
 In a land that's now unknown.  
 Fire and water shall wonders do,  
 England shall at last admit a Jew.  
 And this world to an end shall come.  
 In eighteen hundred and eighty one.*



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# Wife told to stay home after leaving 30 times

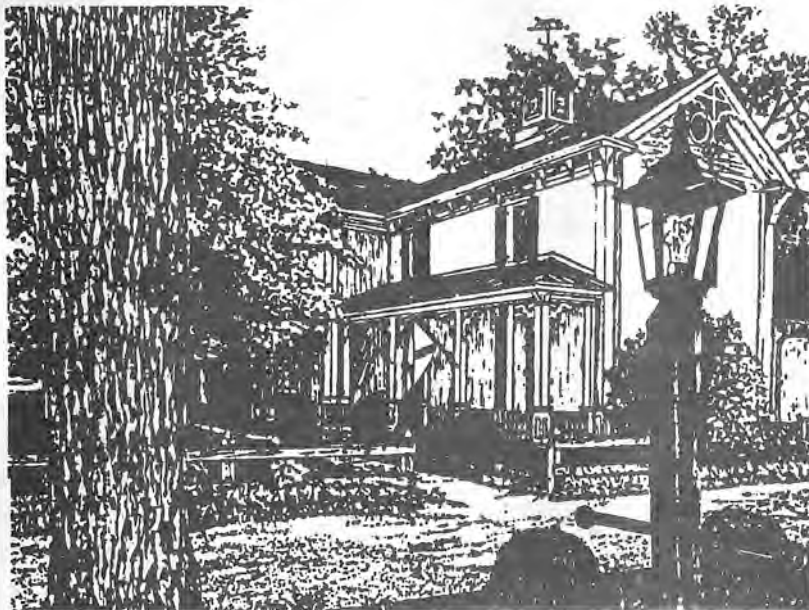
*From 1922 newspaper*



Decatur Ala. - Thirty times Mrs. Aaron Ridenour left her husband; twenty nine times he induced her to return; nine times she had him arrested.

This was the family record disclosed when the wife filed a desertion and non-support suit.

Just how the judge felt about it was indicated when he ordered Mrs. Ridenour to pay all the costs of the suit and to go home, stay there, and to take care of her husband.



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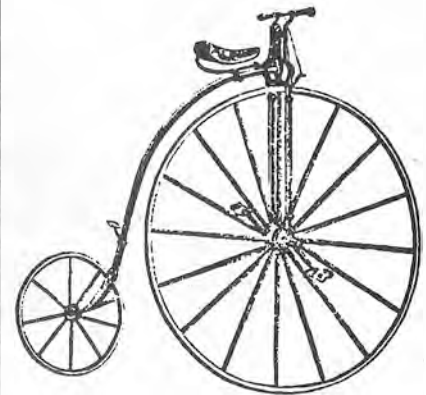
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# Letters from Over There



Nov. 1, 1918

My dear Brother,

Will try and write you a few lines to let you know I am well. Just got back from the front, was up for twenty five days. Sure had some hard fighting. We captured close to three thousand prisoners and killed quite a few. The machine bullets were pretty thick and I was lucky to get by without a scratch.

The Fourth Division is one of the best in France. We have been in every drive that has been made over here this year. So you see it must be a fighting bunch. We have gained more ground than any other division in the A.E.F. We are now back for a rest but that don't mean we do nothing. We have to drill when we are

not fighting so you see I won't get much rest until the war is over. I think I may get a seven day pass soon. I received your letter dated Sept. 15. Sure was glad to hear from you and glad that you all were well and glad too you had a good crop. Sure wish I was there to help you save your crop, that sure would be easy for me now.

Well, the way things look now, the war will be over soon, and I will get to come home and be with you next spring. That will be the happiest day of my life. I sure have had enough of the army. It is HELL. I think I have walked all over France. Been walking every since I got off the ship. France is not as pretty of a country as people there think. It is about a thousand years behind

the times. I sure will have a lot to tell you when I get home.

Well I have to close for now. Paper is very scarce. I want you to see that old Santa Claus remembers little Clifton for me and kiss him for me. I know he is a fine boy by this time.

With Lots of love to all  
Walter Davis

June 30, 1918,

Mr. Tom Mason  
Huntsville, Ala.

My dear Mr. Mason,

It is with utmost regret that I inform you that your son, James T. Mason, Company D, 167 Infantry, was killed in action against enemy troops by high explosive, June 1, 1918.

I realize the irreparable loss in this sacred offering to the cause we all feel is so right and just, and hope that it may be of some consolation to you to know that your son fulfilled with that splendid spirit and determination so characteristic of the American soldier his great part in this terrible drama. His memory will never be forgotten by his comrades.

A beautiful custom has been inaugurated here in France for the care of the resting places of our fallen comrades. Each grave is enclosed in a lattice-work fence and the enclosure planted with flowers. French children tend the graves and their innocent hands garnish the mound where your boy sleeps.

Please accept my deepest condolences.

Very Sincerely

Major General C.T. Mendher

*This letter was received the same day as a telegram from the War Department, informing Walter Davis' family that he was missing in action.*

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Sept. 30, 1918

Hello Wife,

How are you today? This leaves me fine and dandy. Got your letter you wrote on the 28th of last month. Sure was glad to hear from you all. Also got a letter from Uncle Jesse Moneyham. Well, I have not seen brother Bill yet but I think I am pretty close to him. Get letters from him often. Tell John and my little boys hello. Write to May and the rest of the folks and tell them I am doing well.

Well, don't worry if you don't hear from me every week. Will send you some money when I get this month's pay. Write and tell me all the news. I would like to

write and tell you all I have seen but can't until I come home. Tell my boys to be good until Daddy comes home and kiss them for me.

Say, what do you think about this paper? I took it from a Dutch. If this gets by this time will write more next time. Answer soon with a long letter.

Yours forever,  
Oliver Tally

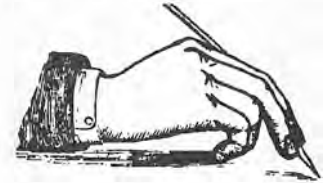
Oct. 22, 1918

Mr. J.A. Ellet,  
Owens Cross Roads  
Dear Sir,

Your son (Jesse J. Ellet) has asked me to write a few lines as

his right arm was amputated near the shoulder. The left arm also has a couple of wounds but not serious. They are healing fine and he is feeling good. You know wounds in the arms do not hinder walking and that helps a lot. We get the best of care from the nurses and doctors. I expect he will start to the States within a few weeks. Will close with best regards.

Yours Truly  
V.I. McLain

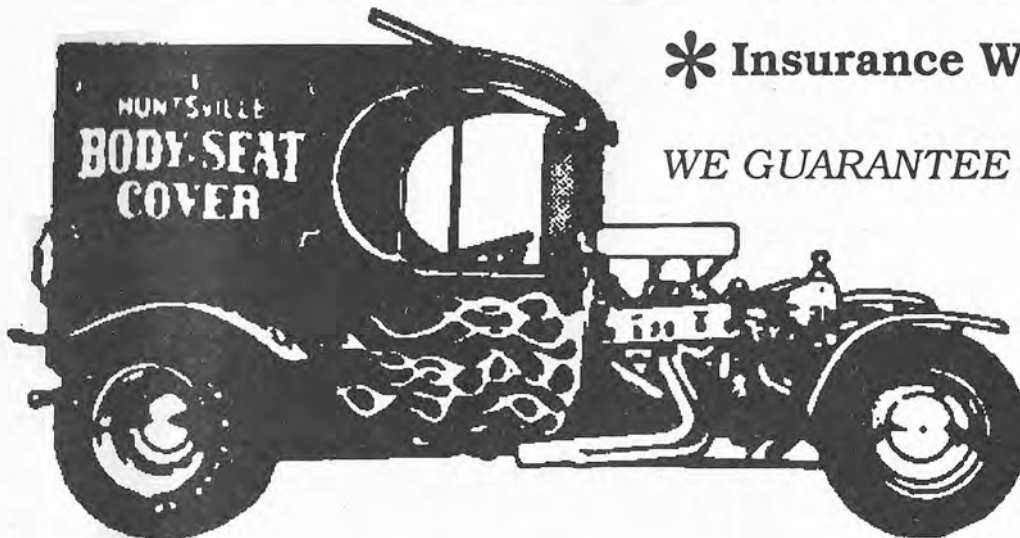


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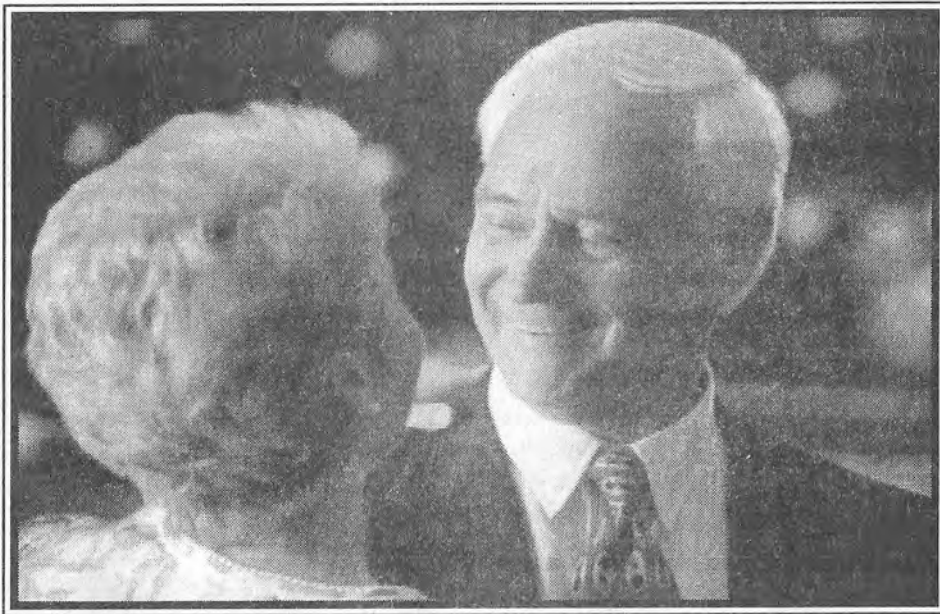
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