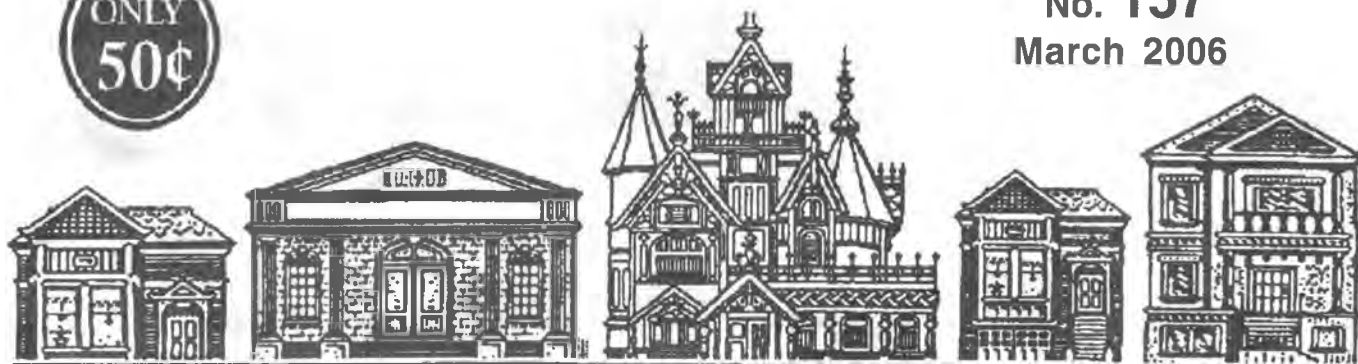


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The End of the War

“Lee has surrendered, Johnston has surrendered, and as far as we know all have surrendered.

“Now, boys, hear me for the last time. Had I no one depending on me for a living and no one to care for but myself, we would fight those blue-coats hilt to hilt. But your unworthy commander has a family depending upon him for support.”

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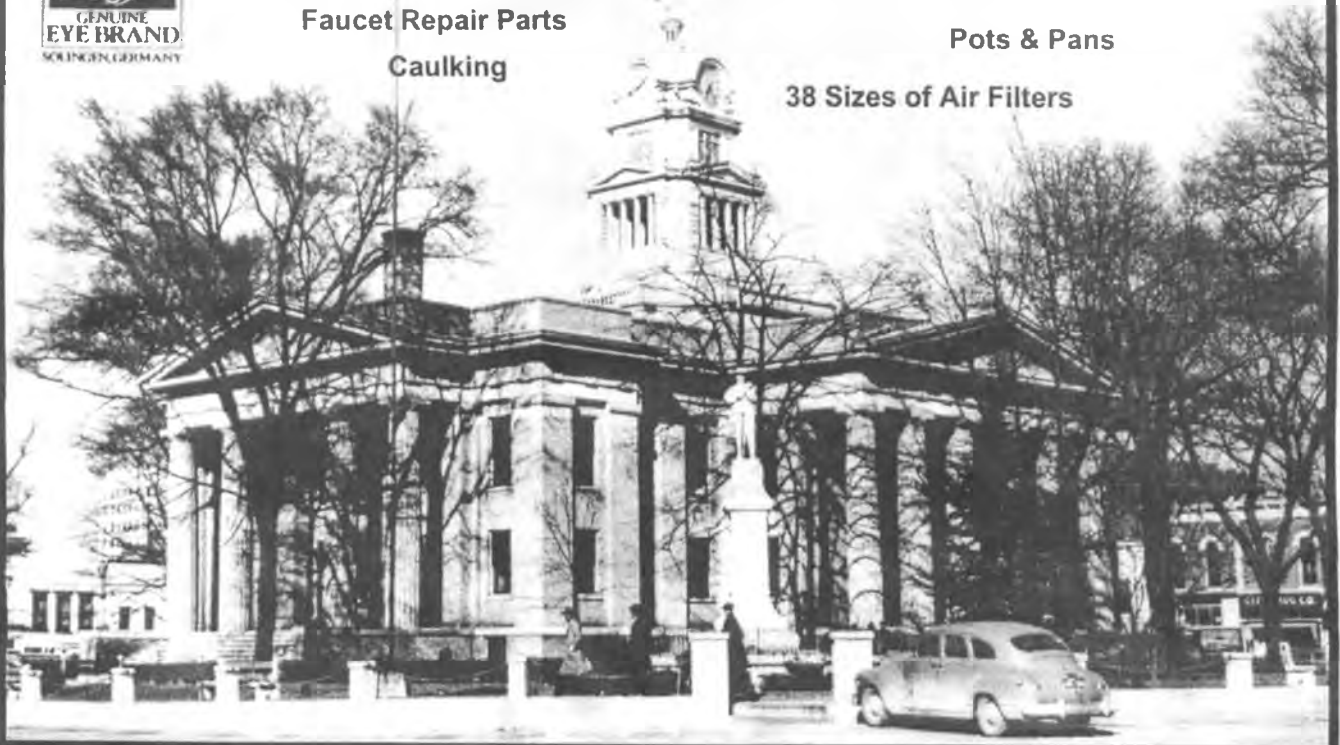
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The End of the War

by C.S.A. Maj. Milus Johnston,
written in 1902

The War was over. Confederate armies everywhere were laying down their arms. One of the last Confederate units in North Alabama was that of Major Johnston, but he too knew the struggle was hopeless.

Here, in his own words, he tells of the last days of the war, beginning with a final address to his troops.

"Lee has surrendered, Johnston has surrendered, and as far as we know all have surrendered. Hence it looks very much like we have been beaten and all is lost.

"Now, boys, hear me for the last time. Had I no one depending on me for a living and no one to care for but myself, and just one man to walk by my side and press Southern soil, just as long as we had strength to stand upon our feet we would fight those blue-coats hilt to hilt. But

your unworthy commander has a family depending upon him for support. Therefore, for their sake we are going to surrender, and you who wish to go with us shall have the best terms possible to be made."

A large majority of those present agreed to surrender with us, while the rest refused the proposition. At once, we sent a dispatch to the Federal commander in Huntsville, which ran as follows:

"General Granger, Dear Sir: We have concluded to surrender our command, provided you will give us a living chance. But we wish it distinctly understood that after we surrender, we are not to be marched through the streets of Huntsville, to be tantalized like so many monkeys, or court-martialed, shot, or hung like so many dogs: or in other words, if we are forced to sell out, we intend to sell out at the very highest price. We repeat it, give us a living chance and we will surrender all the men we can get to come in."

"Respectfully,
M. E. Johnston, Major."

General Granger replied, as follows:

"Major Johnston, Dear Sir: I will grant you, with pleasure, the same terms that were



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granted to General Lee and General Johnston.

"Respectfully, Granger."

At the same time he proceeded to state the terms so plainly that they could not be misunderstood. The reader will understand that there had been so many threats against our command that we had no notion of surrendering until the terms were laid down in black and white.

After a few more dispatches had passed between the two parties, the terms of surrender were agreed upon, and General Granger appointed a man to receive the surrender, while we appointed a man to make it. Colonel Given was appointed by General Granger to receive the surrender. In the meantime, we had requested the general to allow none of his men to come south of the Memphis & Charleston railroad until after we had met him, giving as a reason that it would tend to scatter our men and render it difficult to get them together to surrender.

We were to meet Colonel Given at Trough Spring on the side of the mountain, about half way between the base and the summit. And at the appointed time away we went to become prisoners of war. We arrived at the appointed place first, which

was on the public road leading from Huntsville to Vienna. We did not have to wait long until we heard the bluecoats coming. There was quite a crowd of them, and they had two brass bands. And to finish the thing up well, they had brought along a ten gallon demijohn, which they said was full of old apple brandy. In the crowd were Dr. Patton. Squire Tabor, and old Ben Jolly, all staunch friends of Johnston and his boys, and they were present to make as fair weather for the bushwhackers as possible.

As soon as we heard them coming, we had a white rag flying high in the air. Then we beheld a Union flag with a white flag waving close by its side, advancing to meet us. Colonel Given and our appointed officer met first, after which this notorious bushwhacker advanced and was introduced to the colonel. As soon as the formal salutations were ended, the bushwhacker remarked, "Colonel, permit me to say that you are the first Federal, officer or private, whom I have met since the war began who treated me as if I had been anything above a four-footed animal."

The colonel replied, "I am sorry to hear that, major."

"I know that is plain language, colonel," we rejoined, "but it is nevertheless the unvarnished truth."

In a few minutes Colonel

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Steadman, Dr. Gilbert and Karen

(U.S.A.) Homer, who had fallen in behind us with his regiment, came marching up. As soon as the major laid eyes on him, he turned to Colonel Given, saying, "If we had met that man ten minutes before we met you, there would have been a fight, for we never intended to surrender to that fellow."

Soon they began to drink their apple water, and some of them became rather lively. Among other things, they urged the major to drink also; and they kept pressing him so that he became uneasy, lest they should try to pour it down him. At length he said, "Gentleman, if I were in the habit of drinking at all I would drink with you today, but you must excuse me for I do not drink with man, woman, nor child." Just at that moment, Dr. Debow said, "I am authorized to do Major Johnston's drinking."

Thus things went on for some time, and the Federals, if no one else, seemed to enjoy themselves hugely. The agreement was that we were to be paroled on the ground and set at liberty. But presently it began to rain, and there was little chance to write paroles in the rain.

Colonel Given then proposed that we march into town, where we could find shelter. But we objected. He continued to urge and we to object. At this crisis up stepped old Uncle Ben Jolly, and with his strong commanding voice

called out, "Major, move into town with your men. It is true we cannot treat you as well as we would like to. But I've got plenty of meat and bread, and two large rooms covered with carpets where your men can lie crossed and piled. Besides. I've got the best Rebel gal in all America."

Then Colonel Given began to urge again, and under the pressure of both we yielded. When the latter was appointed to receive our surrender, he asked our courier some pointed questions.

First: "Are not Johnston's men poor men?" "They are."

Second: "Will they not need their horses in order to make a crop?"

"They will."

"Well, you tell the major to dismount his command and come into town on foot, for if I do not see their horses I will not have to report them."

This sounded strange coming from a Federal soldier.

When Ben Jolly had finished, Colonel Given pitched in the second time. He was standing in the midst of his officers, when he called out, "Major, it is true your men laid down their arms, but let them shoulder them again and march right into town, and if I had my way, I would allow your men to keep their arms to kill some of those rascals who might give them trouble." We leave the reader to draw his own conclusions.

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The time we are writing about was the middle of May, 1865, and what we have just mentioned occurred in the afternoon. As it continued to rain, we were finally compelled to go into the city. And as we entered the city, there were two roads, one entering the upper and the other the lower part of town. The arsenal where they intended to deposit our arms was in the lower part.

In a few minutes we halted near the arsenal, when a number of citizens and soldiers gathered about us. And while our arms were being stored away, we could hear the soldiers and citizens making various remarks, when one of them exclaimed: "Well, those fellows did more execution than any set of men I ever heard of, to use such pokestalks for guns!"

If we had been so minded, we could have made the secret plain to him. The fact was when we found out we had to surrender, we hid our best guns in caves for safe keeping. And we are of the opinion that there were no better arms of the kind in all the United States than those

we hid away. On the other hand we doubt whether a sorrier set of guns could have been gathered up in all Dixie than those we surrendered.

Night came on very soon after our arms were stored away, and the next thing that concerned us most was a place of lodging. But the enemy put no special guard over us, and allowed us to stay with our old friends, while the citizens vied with each other in trying to make us comfortable.

The next morning when everything was in a bustle up and down the streets, our boys were gathering at the point at which they were to be paroled. When we reached Colonel Given's headquarters, he gave us a firm grip of the hand, as a pleasant smile spread over his face. He began business at once, and while writing the paroles, in stepped one of his aides and said, "Colonel, here is a U. S. horse out here." Raising his head, the colonel replied, "You may go away from here, sir. There may be a U. S. horse out there, but I do not see him."

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"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork."

Mae West

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ment bought or captured a horse, it was branded with U. S. and ever afterwards it claimed to be Uncle Sam's property.

Colonel Given continued his writing, but it was not long before the same fellow came back and said, "Colonel, there are three or four U. S. horses out here."

We saw at once the colonel was stirred. Among other things he said, "if I were to go out there perhaps I would find half a dozen U. S. horses, but I do not see them. Sir, you go away from here, and stay when you are gone!"

The fact was there were more than half a dozen U. S. horses there, but the terms of surrender were that our officers were to retain their horses as well as their sidearms.

After so long a time our command was paroled and released as citizens of the United States. On parting with the colonel, he gave us a hearty shake of the hand, accompanied by a cordial invitation to call at his headquarters whenever we were in the city.

As we passed through the streets of Huntsville after we were paroled, all kinds of rumors were floating in the air. Among others, it was said that the home-made Yankees had gathered on the other side of the mountain, and were going to shoot us into doll-rags as we went home. Old Uncle Ben Jolly having heard this, and meeting Colonel Homer (U.S.A.) on the street,

told him the rumor. Homer said but little, but told us to go on. But Horner's conduct did not suit Uncle Ben, and he exclaimed to me, "Major, take your men and go on, and if those fellows interrupt you, come back here and you shall have your guns to kill every rascal of them!"

So on we went. But when we reached the foot of the mountain, we found a good many Union soldiers, and also a good sprinkling of the home-made fellows. The Union men remained perfectly quiet, but the home-mades pricked up their ears and looked as if they would bark, if they dared to. One "Big Ike," fierce-like, came bristling up to the road close to the major, and began to bark quite fiercely.

A good many of our boys

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thought he was going to bite. All his spite seemed pitched at the major. He fairly foamed at the mouth! Ever and anon, placing his hand upon his pistol, he would lift it up and let it drop back in its scabbard. Seeing this, some of our boys became uneasy. Ira Cobb said, "Look out, major!"

The major was ready, for his hand rested upon a pistol that would not fail to fire, while his eye was fixed steadily upon the fellow who was ranting. At the same time, every officer in our command had his hand on his pistol, and if that man had lifted his pistol out of his resting place, he would never have known what struck him, thunder or lightning. But finally, he calmed down, and we passed across the mountain to our homes and loved ones.

As Ben Jolly's name has been mentioned in these pages, we wish to add a few words about that noble old man. He was a citizen of Huntsville, and had a family and an extensive relationship, the most of whom were respected and honorable people. He had a plenty of this

world's goods, and when the South was preparing to fight the North, he helped us equip several regiments for the fray. But when the Federals came in, he being advanced in life and otherwise incumbered, remained within the Federal lines. Being inside the lines, he was compelled to take the oath to support the Union. He was therefore styled a Union man. But in our judgment, his Union sentiments were but skin deep, and only to save his head and his property. He never failed to assist a Confederate when he had an opportunity, and he went to our surrender in order to help his bushwhacker friends. Ben Jolly was one of those open, frank whole-souled men, who said what he pleased. And because of his sincerity and candor, he was quite popular. As a

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friend, he was strong in his attachments, and never forsook a friend under any circumstances.

When the men of our command arrived at their respective homes, taking their horses with them, we settled down to make a living, and to accept the situation as best we could. And although the Reconstruction period that followed proved something harassing, we tried to be loyal to our oath and make good citizens of the restored union.

It is true that as a consequence of war, bitter feelings were stirred up in the minds and hearts of the opposing parties. But we were willing to forgive and to ask forgiveness; and after more than thirty-six years have passed by, we have not seen fit to change our mind. We believe that the Judge of all the earth, in deal-

ing with both sides, will do right, and we are willing to submit to His decision. With this prayer we close these sketches:

May the blessings of God rest upon all the boys who followed us through the bloody struggle; if they have passed from this stage of action, to an unknown world to us, may

similar blessings rest upon all their living posterity.
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- Of all the presidents to have visited Huntsville, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, received the biggest welcome. Over seventy percent of the city's population turned out to greet him.

- In the mid sixties, with the Cold War at its height, a major espionage scare was averted at Redstone Arsenal when it was discovered that the "spy" who had entered Werner Von Braun's office was actually the night janitor looking for a comfortable place to eat his dinner. The thermos that he had accidentally left behind was sent to Washington to be checked for listening devices.

- During War World II Huntsville had two Medal of Honor winners.

- The stone masonry used to construct the Church of Visitation (Catholic) downtown was part of the Union defenses at Ditto Landing.

- The city of Huntsville still owned mules and wagons up until 1946 when they were sold for the sum of \$200.00.

- The city council passed an ordinance in 1889 that would impose a fine of not less than \$5 and no more than \$25 on any lewd woman riding horseback in the city limits.

- In 1928, when Montgomery Ward department store opened downtown, police had to be called out to control the crowds.

- Mullins Restaurant was the first restaurant in Huntsville to have curb service. Hamburgers were 10 cents apiece, tip not included.

- The last bordello did not close in Huntsville until 1949.

- Moonshine in Huntsville now costs more than the liquor bought in stores.

- The huge cedar trees lining Whitesburg Dr. were planted to commemorate the World War I dead.

- The largest fish ever caught in the Tennessee River was a 117-pound catfish.

- In 1923 the city offered free water for five years to any business that would invest \$100,000 in a new building.



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How I Almost Ended The Space Program

by Steve Meigs

Huntsville, Alabama was the water cress capital of the world until Redstone Arsenal, its army base, was chosen as a major research site for rocketry and munitions at the end of World War II. A sleepy southern town with a confederate statue in the square suddenly became the fastest growing city in the U.S..

Scientists from the north, from the west, and from Europe had arrived. Russia was rumored to name Huntsville the #5 target in the United States. All because of those brilliant European scientists building those intercontinental ballistic rockets.

There were rumblings every afternoon off in the distance, the sky glowed from rockets on the testing stands by the river. Alan Shepard led a parade after he survived that first manned space flight, and the confederate staring balefully from the courthouse saw confetti and an array of military vehicles rolling by.

It was a warm fall day at Madison Pike Elementary School, 1960. I was in fourth grade. Our class went single file to the library. There were about fifty of us in the library. Maybe 300 students in school, a city school at the edge of Redstone Arsenal.

There were barbed wire fences at the back edge of the school, and beyond that was the Arsenal. The Arsenal kids were bussed. I saw them every after-

noon as I walked home, five or six big modern army green buses filled with kids, probably half the school.

I was at Madison Pike for three years and this was the only time we ever had an "assembly" in the library. The principal was there, Mr. Morris, a balding bespectacled friendly man. Mr. Morris introduced the guest, a famous scientist, and I didn't catch the first name, it sounded foreign, but the last name sounded like "Bran".

The man was very important looking. He had an accent. I had an accent too at the time, but mine was southern and this tall man's accent was German. He looked important, with broad shoulders, an expressive broad face, and extremely handsome in a gray suit, with a slight bit of gray at the temples. He spoke briefly about


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his life and his job, building rock-ets.

The librarian passed around a book about the man: "From Earth To The Moon," by Willy Ley. The man's picture was on the cover, and his name: "Werner Von Braun." He wasn't wearing a suit in the picture. He was in a white shirt. The moon was big and full.

The librarian asked for questions and I raised my hand, and asked if man would be going to go to Mars. I saw my teacher's look of surprise.

I was a lousy student, probably should have been on Ritalin or something. My dad was a scientist, too, a doctor anyway, a pediatrician. The Meigs family had talked about space at the family dinner table. There was a rocket visible a half mile behind the little house on McCallister Drive, under bright arc lights. It was the last thing I saw at night from the top bunk in the tiny addition added on the rental house.

Mr. Von Braun said eventually

that man would go to Mars, though first would be the moon.

Five or six years later I found out Von Braun was a neighbor of sorts, he lived less than a mile away, near the Grau family, where I was learning what a bad poker player I was, and what great mathematical minds the sons of German scientists had. I had even met Margaret Von Braun, a tall pretty blonde, one of the man's several daughters.

Flash forward to 1968. I'm driving around the Blossomwood area of Huntsville in a Fiat 850 Spider, a turquoise racy looking car, with rocketry inspired lines and a motor a little bigger than the ones the vacuum cleaner salesman has. My mother had a part time job at

the Fiat place, making a few bucks and escaping the drudgery of raising six sons, and no daughters.

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Groucho Marx

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Sometimes Nothing Else Will Do!

The Fiat was fun to drive though. I'm going faster than the speed limit and come zipping over a hill and around a curve, and have to brake suddenly because there is a tall man striding close to the side of the road, with another car coming. My heart pounds harder for a moment, then the car glides slowly past the man, and I glance at him as I go by.

It's Von Braun, looking regal in some European walking shorts, and carrying a staff.

I almost ran over the space program, while trying to look cool in my mom's baby blue Fiat 850.



Scoundrel Kills Horse

from 1888 newspaper

Last Saturday night some malicious scoundrel killed a horse belonging to Mr. H.W. Helm, the well known blacksmith.

The horse, a very fine one, was in the pasture bordering the spring branch, and was killed by being struck just above the eye with a brickbat. It is rumored that one of our city's worse elements had partaken of too much drink and was attempting to prove his strength. We trust the perpetrator may be appropriately punished.

How Refined Are You?

from 1892 "Book of Etiquette"

About a hundred years ago, the acid test of your refinement and culture was how you behaved during the dinner hour. If you were a well-bred diner in 1890, you would:

- Keep the hands off the table until you were served. It was considered very rude to take knife and fork in hand and commence to bang on the table in an impatient manner.

- Never cut bread, always break it with your hands, and spread butter on each piece right before eating.

- Be sure to spend at least an hour at the table.

- Never explain why certain foods don't agree with you.

- Never clean your fingers by putting them in your mouth, or wiping them on the tablecloth.

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Memories of Lincoln Mill Village

by Jim Harris

In 1918 William Lincoln Barrell of Lowell, Maryland purchased Abington Mill and transformed it into a large textile center named Lincoln Mill village. Mr Philip Peeler served as general manager from 1934 to 1957. The mill stopped operation in 1957. It later became known as the HIC building which served as manufacturing and office space for many aerospace contractors. It burned in 1980.

An addition to the mill, which was constructed from concrete, still stands behind the shopping center on the south side of Oakwood Avenue between

Meridian Street on the west and the railroad tracks on the east.

The school was built in 1929 and became the central core of the community until 1956 when the village was annexed into the city of Huntsville. Edward W. Anderson served as principle for 27 years.

The old part of the village which consist of Front Street, Lawrence Street and Davidson Street was built in the early to mid twenties.

Now for some unusual facts about the village:

All village houses had electric lights, one in each room, running (cold) water in the kitchen and a toilet with a commode that flushed. That's all the toilet had. It was a toilet, not a bathroom.

The water came from a well on mill property and, as I recall, located under the mill.

Plumbing services were free.

Villagers didn't have to buy toilet tissue, (It was just paper

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in those simpler times) it was delivered free of charge, twice a week, thrown into the yard or on the porch.

Rent was cheap. Two figures I heard are 75 cents per room per month and \$1.35 per month.

Remember the Lum and Abner radio show and its "Jottem Down Store"? Lincoln had its own Jottem Down Store. The name came from the owner's bookkeeping system. You buy groceries on credit and he'd jot'em down on a piece of paper.

The intersection of Meridian Street and the railroad tracks was called Miller's Crossing. The Past Time Cafe, which featured dancing in the back, was located there.

The Homecoming Queen was selected according to how many votes she sold. That's right. Girls running for the honor solicited votes from everyone who had a penny. The girl who had the most money at the end of the contest won.

I met the 1947/48 queen re-

cently. Her name is Elizabeth (Tiny) Daniels Davis.

Pinhook Creek once caught fire. A gas line broke and leaked into the creek which someone ignited. Some kids thought the world was coming to an end because the water was burning.

And then there is the most unusual fact that I ever heard of which was common to the times actually, not just the village, and it demonstrates to what extent one would go to help a neighbor: My older brother was sickly as an infant. My mother was

a small woman and didn't have enough milk to nurse him. Two neighbors also had nursing babies and they nursed my brother because mama couldn't.

When was the last time you saw that kind of caring?

"I have never killed a man, but I've read many obituaries with great pleasure."

Clarence Darrow

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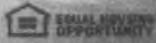
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Heard On The Street

by *Cathey Carney*



Congratulations to **Rita and Loyd Garrison**, who were the first to call with the correct guess of the Photo of the Month for February. That adorable boy was **Louie Tippett**, of United Cleaning Service. Loyd and Rita love to go out to eat with friends each week, and have vowed to try each and every restaurant in Madison County!

We saw our friends **Pluitt and Ruth Ann Dean** the other day - they sure are making East Clinton Avenue look great!

Our friend **Wayne Steele** told us he and his sweetheart **Susan** are looking forward to a June wedding anniversary.

We met up with **Jim Hamlett** recently and he told us he is currently helping his son **Josh** finish out a new home.

While we were at Philby's Pourhouse we talked with **Charlotte** (LeeAnn Lancaster's sis) and her friend **Kathy** who both work at Amsouth Bank.

Josh Mann of Huntcorp is sure proud of his wife **Jacqueline**, and told us that they have been married only since September of last year! We met **John Hunt**, too, and enjoyed talking with them.

Mark McAllister is a really in-

teresting guy who lives here in Huntsville and just loves it. He works at Vishay as account manager.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of **Ret. Col. Lee James**. We send our sympathy to his wife **Kathleen**, daughter **Janet Holland**, and son **Lee James Jr.** as well as all his friends who loved him.

It was really good to meet **Jim Larkin** recently, when he stopped by the office. Jim is the new manager for the downtown Holiday Inn (old Hilton) and loves our history here.

Judge Buddy Little and his sweet wife **Maggie** can't wait to meet their new grandson who will be born by the time you read this. Proud papa **David**, and wife **Mimi**, already have two beautiful girls. We don't think this new little one will be spoiled at all!

Speaking of Judge Little, he's also proud of son **Allen Little**, who plays in the band Shametown, and has entertained

crowds all over Huntsville.

Marian Biss, of Huntsville, was a little over 100 years old when she died in her sleep in February. She was a Civil War nut and preserved letters from her relatives who wrote home during the war. Her son **Bob Biss** and grandchildren **Sally** and **Scott** will sure miss her, along with granddaughter **Anne Cleaver** & rest of the family.

Mark Pope says to say hello to his friends - he 's working hard in grad school and *holds down* a job at the same time!

It was fun meeting several new folks at lunch lately. **Chuck & Gail Flanagan, Marie Melochick, Gen. Ed Donley, & Bill Whatley** were enjoying a good lunch on a beautiful day at Redstone Village.

Happy birthday to our good friend **Gale Nichols!**

We saw our buddy **Jerry Barclay** recently - he's such an interesting guy to talk to!

That famous **Leroy Cunningham** had a birthday bash in February, hosted by **Marie Hewett** at her beautiful

Photo of The Month

The first person to correctly identify the youngster below wins a full one-year subscription to "Old Huntsville" magazine.

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Hint: This young man spent his life sitting on a bench.



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mountaintop home. It was a really fun event, with people like **Louie & Jane Tippett, Rita & Loyd Garrison, Cecil Ashburn, Clyde Yarbrough, and Greg Gray**. It was reported that this was Leroy's 49th birthday!

A big welcome to little **Anne Harper Avery!** Grandma **Louise Avery** will be tearing up the roads to see her new beautiful granddaughter!

Linda & Bill Drake and a few others were hosted by **Joyce Russell** of New York Life Ins. Co. at the Heritage Club recently. Everyone had a really good time.

It was really fun spending a little time with **Casey Saari**, that handsome bartender at Sazio's. The girls just love him!

We wanted **Jean and Ron McIntosh** to know we are thinking of them!

It's always good to run into our friend **Charlie Cox**, he's a sweetheart and tells more stories than you can ever believe.

We recently spent time with **Ty Samples** of Samples Properties, **Perry Hughey** of Interep and **Jim Smith** of Rep, Inc., and loved hearing stories of the "good old days." Also there was **Majdi Mortazavi**, of Siemens.

Happy birthday to **Brandon Owens**, handsome son of **Ken & Diane Owens** of Huntsville.

Ron & Barb Eyestone invited friends over for the Superbowl in February and guests were eating from the time they got there. Some of those attending were **Connie & Johnny Johnson, Glenn & Sheila Brooks, Beverly Fruehauf & Glen Switzer, and Lawanda Allison & Tim Spivey**,

It was fun running into **Glenn Watson** recently eating breakfast. On this particular morning, it seemed that every breakfast place in Huntsville & Madison had an hour wait time!

David Milly was looking good recently at Furniture Factory - that man never ages!

Nadiah Saki told us recently that she is on her way to Costa Rica - to visit the Rain Forests and to learn Spanish! She loves to travel but can't wait to get back home!

I met the delightful **Helen Greene** recently. She moved into Redstone Village last fall and is happy to be near her daughter, **Debbie Coma** who lives here with husband **Jack** in Madison. Helen says the key to a happy life is to keep it simple, and to learn something new every single day!

That's all for this month! Have a happy St. Patrick's day!



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by Shelli Segal

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Vera Tippett's Kitchen

Louie Tippett's Mom, Vera, was quite a cook and these were some of her favorite recipes!

Gobblers Knobb Pie

- 4 eggs, well beaten
- 2 c. milk
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- Pinch salt
- 1 9" unbaked pastry shell

Combine eggs, milk, sugar, vanilla and salt - mix well. Pour into pastry shell and bake at 425 degrees for 35-40 minutes. Serve slightly warm or cold, do not over-bake or custard will become watery.

Sweet Coconut Cake

- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 3 eggs
- 3/4 stick butter

2/3 c. water

Mix & bake in greased rectangular pan. Let cool. Punch holes in cake with drinking straw so filling can soak in.

Filling:

Mix 1/2 can Eagle Brand milk with 1/2 can cream of coconut. Pour this over the cake, then spread 1 medium Cool Whip over cake. Sprinkle one can of coconut over it. Keep cake in the fridge and serve cold.

Delicious Slaw

- 5 lbs. cabbage
- 1 green pepper
- Jar of pimentos
- 1 t. mustard seed
- 1 1/2 t. celery seed
- 4 T. dry onion flakes
- 1 pt. white vinegar
- 3 packets artificial sweetener
- 1/2 t. tumeric

1/2 t. salt

Grate cabbage & pepper. Mix rest of the ingredients and heat mixture til it comes to a boil, then cool and pour over the cabbage mixture. Store in covered jars in refrigerator. This tastes better after it sets for a day, and will keep several weeks in the fridge.

Cream Cheese Candy

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 1 box powdered sugar
- 1 1/2 c. pecans, chopped
- 1 t. vanilla extract

Melt cheese in double boiler. Mix in sugar, nuts and extract. Drop by teaspoons onto sheets of waved paper. These will harden and are delicious!

Orange Delight

- 12-oz. cottage cheese

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1 large can drained crushed pineapple
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 Mix all together, refrigerate & serve.

Best Ever Meatloaf

1 can Cream of Mushroom or Golden Mushroom soup
 2 lb. ground beef
 1/2 c. fine dry bread crumbs
 1/3 c. finely chopped onion
 1 egg, slightly beaten
 1 t. salt
 1 t. black pepper
 4 T. water

Mix 1/2 cup of the soup, bread crumbs, onions, eggs and salt and shape into loaf pan. Bake at 375 for 1 hour and 35 minutes. Blend remaining soup and 2 table-
 spoons of water, warm in pan and pour over hot meatloaf. Serve immediately.

Vera's Carrot Cake

1 1/2 c. Wesson oil
 2 c. sugar
 4 eggs, separated
 4 t. hot water
 1 1/2 c. finely grated carrots
 2 1/2 c. self-rising flour

2 t. cinnamon
 2/3 c. pecans
 Crack eggs and separate out the whites, set aside. Mix yolks with other ingredients. Beat 4 egg whites til stiff. Fold in the whites to the carrot batter. Pour into 2 layer pans or 3 small layer pans.

ICING:

1 large can milk
 3 egg yolks
 1 c. sugar
 1 can coconut
 1 t. vanilla extract
 1 c. pecans
 Mix milk, yolks and sugar. Cook til thick over low heat, then add vanilla, coconut and nuts. Frost when cake has cooled.

Hot Fudge Cake

3/4 c. sugar
 1 c. flour
 2 T. cocoa
 1/2 c. milk
 3 T. margarine
 1 t. vanilla

Mix ingredients together and pour into greased pan. Do not heat the pan before you pour the batter in. Then make topping:

Topping:
 1/2 c. sugar

1/4 c. cocoa
 1/2 c. brown sugar
 Mix topping ingredients and sprinkle over cake batter. Pour 1 & 1/2 cup water over mixture. Bake in pre-heated 350 degree oven for 45 minutes.



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A Strange Marriage

from 1878 newspaper

Marancy Hughes, of this town, was married in September last to a person who was known as Samuel M. Pollard. Her relatives opposed the match, but she eloped and was married without their knowledge. A short time after their marriage, Pollard confessed to her that he was really a woman; that she had had trouble with her relatives in the East; had lost her property and assumed the disguise of a man for the reason that avenues for making money would be open to her in the character which would be closed to her as a woman.

Pollard has never given her any particular reason for doing her this great wrong, but is believed to have been actuated by foolish pride in appearing in the character of a married man. The victim was ashamed to acknowledge that she had been so imposed upon and shrunk from admitting the truth.

Pollard, without actually

threatening her life, repeatedly intimated that it would be bad for Marancy if she exposed her, and she kept silence until a fortnight ago, when her aunt got a perception of the fact and questioned her closely, and she related to her the whole story.

The victim says that the woman's real name is Sarah M. Pollard, and that her trunk is filled with feminine apparel. A complaint was filed yesterday by J.C. Howerton, accusing Pollard of perjury in swearing when he took out the marriage license that he was a male.

Another Bad Marriage

from 1893 newspaper

A gentleman of Huntsville has brought suit against his new bride for fraud. The trial will come off at the Court House, next Tuesday.

Lola Jenkins, the lady in question, was betrothed to Alan Moore of this city and for a few days it seemed a blissful marriage. The honeymoon finished on a sour note when the bride informed her new husband that she was the proud mother of seven children and he was to take care of them. The blissful marriage ended abruptly.

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Mr. Tom Steger

by Austin Miller

When Mr. Tom Steger, a life long resident of Moontown, was a young man, he got hit in the forehead with the end of a two-by-four. It occurred in the early part of the last century at a saw mill where he was working. The impact wounded him so severely that no one at the scene thought he could possibly live. Thinking he would surely die, Mr. Tom was loaded in a two-horse wagon and taken to Ryland to wait for the next train to Huntsville. Late in the morning, the train came and he was loaded in the baggage car for delivery to the funeral home. Despite lying in the wagon bed all morning without medical attention he was still alive when the train got to Huntsville. When he finally saw a doctor it was mid-afternoon and several hours had passed since the injury. It was not Mr. Tom's time to go. Despite the long delay and the severity of his wound he fully recovered. The only visible effect of the trauma was a permanent dent in his forehead big enough to bury half of a

softball.

Mr. Tom was a cotton farmer in Moontown and must have had a lot of money because he didn't spend any. He drove a 1930's model car until about 1960. When that car gave out, he traded up for one about 20 years old. He never married and except

for coming to church led a reclusive life. He did like to fish. Once he caught a seventy-five pound yellow catfish on a trotline at Sublet's bluff. That was probably the biggest fish ever caught in Flint River. He had to shoot it with a pistol before he could get in the boat.

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Another passion was Shiloh Church. I doubt if he missed five services in 50 or 60 years. One Sunday, Ryland woke up to about a foot of snow. There were no cars on the road anywhere. Somehow, Mr. Tom was able to drive his old car out of Moontown to the church. He was greatly perturbed when he got there and learned that church had been canceled. He let it be known that a little snow was not a good reason to call off church.

He wore the same slick seated dark gray suit, tie and white shirt every Sunday, year-in and year-out. His shirt was so aged and dingy that it looked more yellow than white. He never served in a leadership position or taught Sunday school, but he may have been the most faithful member in the history of Shiloh Church. Sunday after Sunday, he came, sat in the same spot and left without saying much or visiting his fellow parishioners. Most people at Shiloh didn't pay much attention to him. But after his death in the 1970's, he left a void. Two generations had seen him there every Sunday sitting in the same pew as far back as they could remember.

Charles McCay, the minister at Shiloh for twenty-nine years, often held up Mr. Tom as an example of faithfulness in his sermons.

He was as regular Sunday night as he was Sunday morning. For the evening service, he always got there early, sometimes as much as an hour or two, and sit in his car until church started. Occasionally, in warm weather, he would get out a while and visit the graves of relatives in Ryland Cemetery. When he got into his eighties he quit com-

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ing at night but continued to come every Sunday morning until his death.

In my growing up years I didn't think much about Mr. Tom. Most of us who knew him all of our lives didn't take much notice of the big dent in his head. To us, it was just part of who he was.

In later years, I have thought about him often and wished I had made it a point to know him better. The accident didn't take his life or health but it took other things. His disfigurement was likely the reason he never married and had a family.

The last time I saw him was on a warm summer day just before he died. He was on his land in Moontown sitting on the banks of Flint River watching the water flow by. I have never seen a person who appeared to be more at peace with himself than Mr. Tom did that day.

It occurred to me that he had the privilege of enjoying a pristine setting on land that he owned. I felt good about seeing Mr. Tom that day because I thought maybe he had a better life than most people thought.

"The art of medicine consists of amusing the patient while nature cures the disease."

Voltaire

Old Soldiers Don't Forget

**Woodville, Jackson County
Oct. 18. 1878**

Sir: the Confederate soldiers of the Eighth District will give their hearty support in the coming congressional election to their old comrade, Col. Lowe. If they had no other reason for doing so, the following ought to suffice:

There is a man now in our neighborhood who went to Mr. Garth during the war to get a chicken to make for a Confederate soldier who lay very near to death's door. He secured the chicken - but not until he had placed a Five Dollar bill in Mr. Garth's grasping hand. This is a positive fact, and it can be substantiated by a sworn affidavit.

This may appear to be a very small matter to some people, Mr. Editor, but old soldiers - who stood shoulder to shoulder in times which tried men's souls - will not so regard it, nor look upon it as an offense easily condoned.

Signed:
R.M. Erwin, John Wilkison

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Donald Royston - Bill Russell - Bill Sevey - Reggie Skinner - Joe Sloan - Walt Terry
John Vaughn - Ben Vizzier - Ray Weinberg - James Winning - Sam Zeman

The Mountain Road

by Jack Harwell

By a fortunate circumstance of geography, Huntsville lies at the edge of the great mountain range that stretches all the way to New England. We may not have a Mt. Mitchell or a Mt. Washington here, but the heights to the east of the city are ours, and are as instantly recognizable as landmarks of home as the Golden Gate Bridge is to a San Franciscan.

Monte Sano has been a recreational destination almost as long as Huntsville has existed. A century ago, vacationers could take a train ride from the depot on Church Street to a hotel on the mountain's western face. Then, in this century, a state park was established atop the mountain, along with roads to get there. But for many years,

the lack of transportation facilities enforced the isolation of the mountain, and of the people who lived there.

People were living on Monte Sano as early as the 1830s. During that decade, one mountain resident opened a female academy there; little information about the school survives. Enough people lived on the mountain by mid-century to form a small town, named Viduta. Today only a street name remains to recall the long-ago village.

Those who chose to live on the mountain were, of necessity, an independent lot. Getting to Huntsville was no simple matter, even though the mountain folks could almost see the city from their homes. There was a road to Huntsville, an old stage road, parts of which can still be travelled - on foot - today. But it was long, steep, and tortuous, and taking a horse-drawn wagon down the road was an ordeal. It wasn't tried very often.

The joining of Monte Sano and Huntsville began in the

1880s. At that time, the city was enjoying a period of prosperity brought about by the opening of the textile mills. The North Alabama Improvement Association, which was made up of mill owners and other entrepreneurs, many of them Northern transplants, built a hotel on the mountain. It was placed on the



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western side of the mountain top, and offered a fine view of the city below. Opening day was June 1, 1887.

It had been the thought of the Improvement Association members to attract tourism to the mountain, and initially they were quite successful. Promotional literature made much of the health benefits of mountain living. One brochure contained testimony from four physicians claiming that maladies as varied as dyspepsia, indigestion, and nervous exhaustion would respond almost miraculously to the air and water on Monte Sano - the "mountain of health."

But getting to the mountain remained a problem. The old road was repaired in 1883 as a prelude to development. Indeed, the Monte Sano Breeze, the newsletter published by the hotel, wrote in 1890 that the mountain could be reached by "a fine macadamized road with an easy ascent." But some more reliable mode of transportation was called for, and thus the Monte Sano Railroad came about.

With the completion of the railroad in 1889, the success of the hotel seemed assured. But the developer's hopes were not to be realized. To begin with, some people had reservations about riding a train up the steeply sloping mountain side. The curves in the track were numerous and severe, to keep the grade of the road bed down to a manageable level, and the

locomotives had to move at crawl speed to take them. Shortly after the railroad opened, a locomotive lost its brakes coming down the mountain and jumped the track. There were no injuries, but the accident provided the line with the kind of publicity that they - and the hotel operators - could have done without.

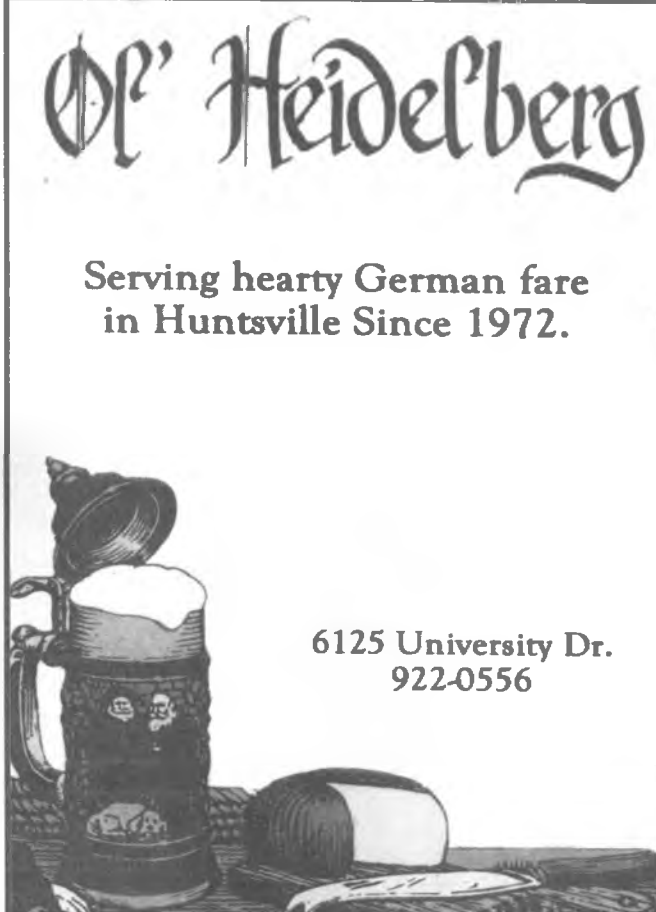
Eventually, the railroad went out of business due to lack of customers. The tracks were lifted, and the cross ties stacked in piles which could still be seen half a century later. Not incidentally, the hotel closed not long afterward, following the 1900 season. It was reopened in the 1920s, but without success.

A quarter century after the hotel closed, interest in developing Monte Sano began anew. A local group called the Mountain Heights Development Company began selling lots on the mountain. This time a road was built so people could drive to the top. It led from the Florida Short Route - the main road leading to

the South in those days, now US 431 - to the vicinity of the old hotel. It opened on Independence Day 1927 and is today called Monte Sano Boulevard.

Then in the 1930s, it was decided to create a new state park on Monte Sano, making the mountain accessible to everyone. Cabins would be built, so that anyone would be able to enjoy the privilege of a mountain vacation close to home.

Those cabins, as well as many other facilities in the park, were built by the Civilian Conservation



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Corps.

Because of the CCC's involvement, the federal government had a hand in the park's development. One local developer later told how two men from Washington described the need for another road from Huntsville to Monte Sano. But where to put it?

The man showed them the old railroad bed, and they decided that it would be the perfect place for a "parkway." The road was completed in time for the park's opening ceremonies in 1938.

William B. Bankhead, for whom the parkway was named, was born in Lamar County in 1874. In 1938 he was Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, but at the turn of the century he had practiced law in Huntsville for ten years. His office was located in the Schiffman Building, which still stands at the corner of Eustis Street and East Side Square, across from the courthouse. It was there, too, that

his daughter, Tallulah, was born in 1902.

Bankhead's career was both distinguished and meteoric. The son and brother of U.S. Senators, he was elected to the state legislature at age 26. Ten years later, he became solicitor for the 14th Judicial Circuit. He was elected to congress in 1916, and in 1934 was made chairman of the House Rules Committee.

The next year he became Democratic Floor Leader, and, a year after that, Speaker of the House. Congressman Bankhead was present at the lavish ceremonies that accompanied the opening of the Monte Sano State Park on Thursday, August 25, 1938. The affair was covered by radio stations from Huntsville, Decatur, Sheffield, and Birmingham. In addition to Bankhead's speech, there was a motorcade from the courthouse to the top of the mountain, and the whole affair was concluded in fine



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fashion with a ball at the Russel Erskine Hotel that night.

Today an engraved stone marks the lower end of the Bankhead Parkway. Much of the road, as planned, follows the route of the old Monte Sano Railroad.

Where the two digress, it is now possible to walk the route once travelled by steam cars, thanks to the Huntsville Land Trust.

Part of the Parkway was closed in 1982 when the roadbed collapsed. Reopened in 1984, it had to be closed again soon after, and remains so to this day.

Still, it is a pleasant drive - even without a motorcade.

Did You Know...

In 1959 construction was started for the first television station in Huntsville. It was owned by Rocket City Television, Inc, with the call letters WAFG-TV.

The station and tower was located on Monte Sano. and residents would know it as Channel 31.

Want Ads From 1911

- Position available for man willing to work on farm. Room and board and \$3 a week. Contact E. Yarbrough in Hazel Green.

- Wanted - agent for Nashville Banner. Pays forty dollars a month. Must be reliable and a hustler. See John H. Lackey, Huntsville Hotel.

- Wanted - white woman for house work and place for a boy twelve years old for his board and clothes to work around the house or farm. Apply at Salvation Army quarters, 703 Pratt Ave., or call phone 181.

- Wanted two riders who desire to go to Nashville, \$2 each. Will leave Wednesday morning next - weather permitting. R. Lowery at Huntsville Hotel.

- Lost - two \$10 bills, one gold

certificate and a silver certificate, between Clinton and Madison Streets. Reward for return to J.M. McKee.

- For rent - two furnished rooms heated by furnace. Men preferred. 242 Walker Street. \$1.50 a week.

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Washing Clothes In The Old Days

by Ron Eyestone

In the early days washing clothes was a major chore. Tilling the soil just naturally made things get dirty. There were work clothes, bedding, long Johns, Sunday clothes, diapers, shirts, and various other things made of cloth that needed washing every week.

Wash day began by hauling water. The water was poured into a big tub and the dirty clothes were allowed to soak in order to remove some of the heavy dirt. Each piece was then removed, one at a time, and placed on the battling bench. (The battling bench was a split log mounted on wooden legs so that it stood about halfway between the knees and the waist.)

Each piece was then beaten with a battling board to remove the first layer of dirt. (The battling board was actually a pine paddle rounded at the edges so that the

battling process did not cut the cloth.) Each piece was then rinsed in fresh water, battled again and rinsed again. By now most of the big chunks of dirt had been removed and it was time to rub each article with soap, homemade of course, and throw them into a large cast iron kettle of boiling water.

(Notice that in this process she has hauled a goodly amount of water.)

The boiling pot was stirred constantly with a long paddle to mix the clothes, soap and water as completely as possible. All then had to be rinsed again in clean water and hung up to dry.

Perhaps this is why it is just men who long for the "good old days." Just hauling that water wasn't any easy chore!

"I need not suffer in silence, while I can still moan, whimper and complain."

Janie Edwards, Arab

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Old Huntsville Trivia

1808 - Stephen Neal, Sheriff, gives the oath of office to William Winston, Madison County's first Representative.

1809 - Federal soldiers are used to evict ninety three families that had settled illegally on Indian lands. When the soldiers left, the families moved back.

1811- Madison County, with a 22 square mile area, produces twice the amount of cotton than any county in the country for its size.

1815 - A candle factory opens In Huntsville. The following year it was destroyed by a fire caused by a burning candle.

1822 - Huntsville's city council authorizes the expenditure of \$1200.00 for a fire engine. Mr. J.J. Fackler, city treasurer, traveled to Philadelphia to purchase It.

1852 - Citizens are in an up-

roar over the high salaries being paid to their elected officials. The Mayor earned \$300.00 a year, and the Marshall \$500.00.

1853 - The Sons of Temperance Society reports that "King Alcohol" has been driven from Maysville and not even a gallon of "Ardent Spirits" or a retail liquor "could be found within the village limits."

1887 - Over 4000 people gather at New Market to celebrate the opening of the depot and arrival of the first train.

1891- The announcement that Dallas Cotton mills will be located in Huntsville is greeted with wide-spread jubilation. Huntsville has a population of 1,327 citizens.

1899 - The City Council passes an ordinance forbidding any female to enter a billiard or pool room.

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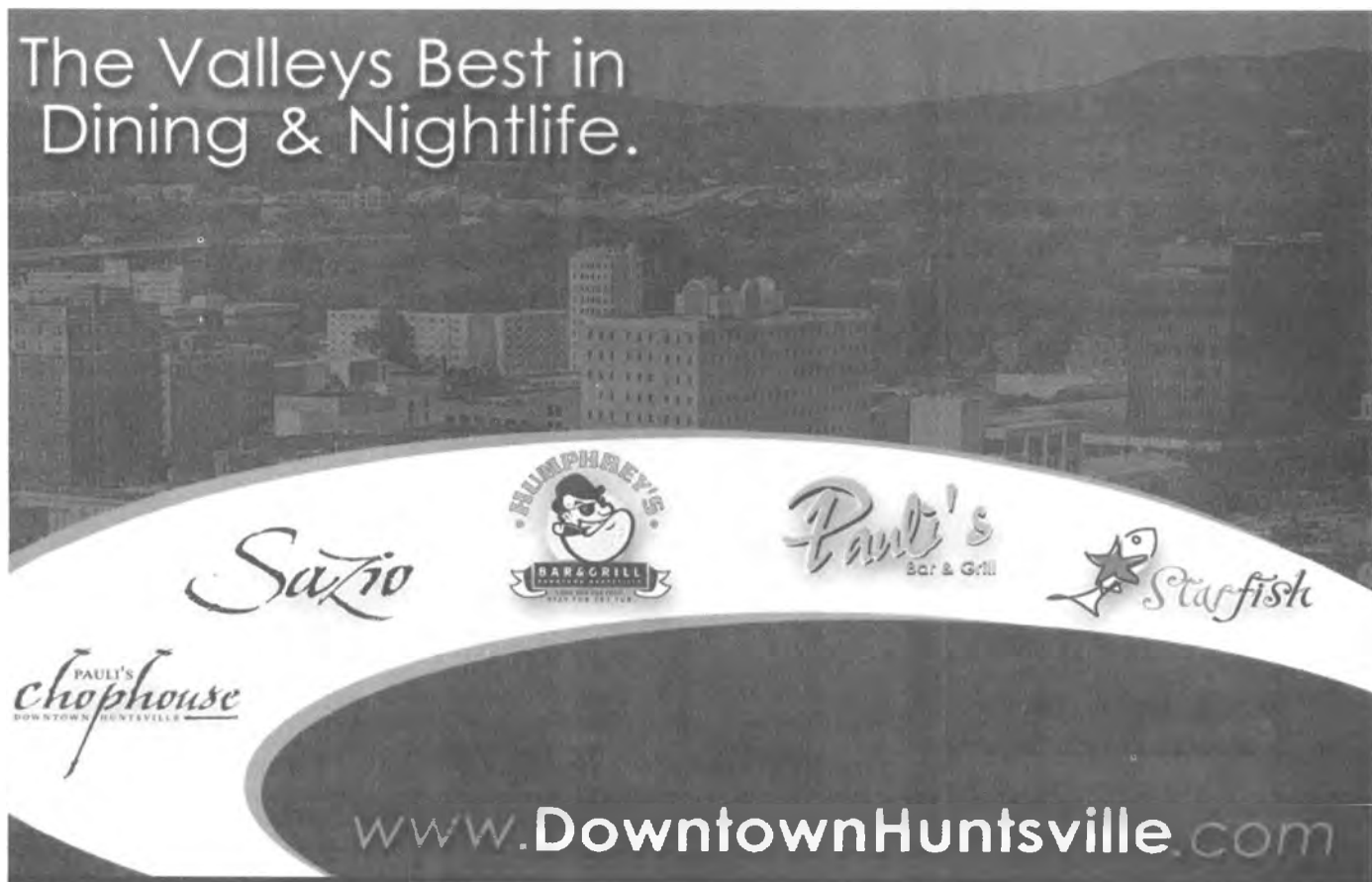


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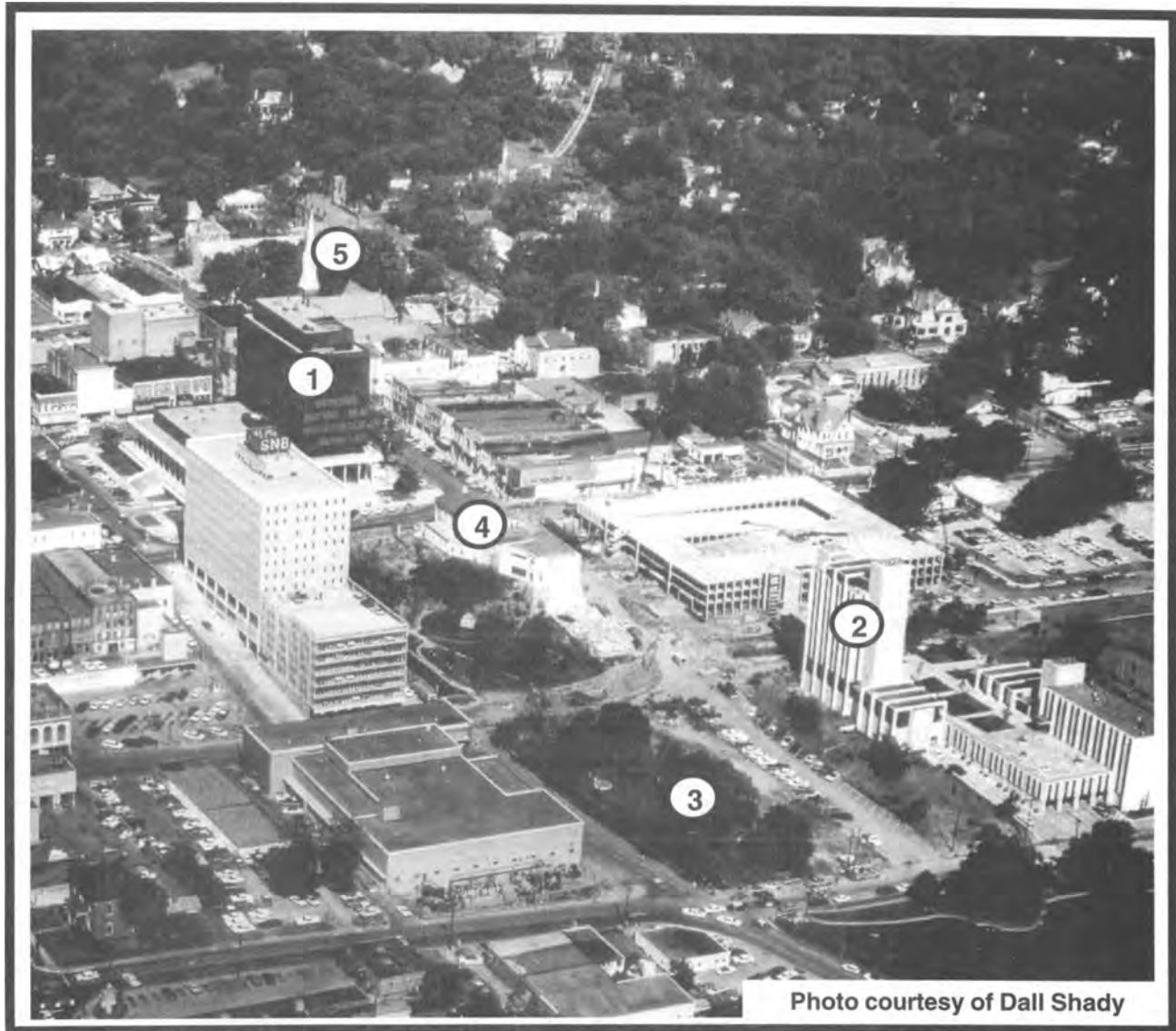
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3 - Big Spring
4 - Old Bank Building

5 - Church of Nativity



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News From The Year 1906

News From Huntsville and Around The World

Earthquake Devastates San Francisco

Miles of flames are reducing most of San Francisco to ashes tonight, a day after a severe earthquake jolted the entire bay area. Military officials estimate that up to a thousand people may have been burned to death or crushed by falling debris. The city's business district has been destroyed, and the winds shifted today, allowing the flames to advance toward the fashionable Nob Hill residential area. Damage estimates range up to \$200 million.

Martial law has been declared in San Francisco in an effort to keep the peace, and military units are helping police prevent looting. A number of thieves have reportedly been shot dead. Thousands of panicked citizens have streamed out of the city on ferries and rail lines, but many more are begging for transport. There are long lines on the docks. Half the

city's population is spending the night in public squares, parks and open spaces. Many of them fled in panic from their homes earlier today after new shock waves rattled through the city.

One reporter says that bodies are stacking up at the morgue. Two hundred and seventy inmates died in an insane asylum. And hundreds of seriously injured residents are being treated at hospitals throughout this devastated, terrified city.

Biggest U.S. Taxpayer Dies

The richest merchant in the world and the largest individual taxpayer in the United States died yesterday of exhaustion following a bad case of pneumonia.

Marshall Field, 70, a farm boy

from Massachusetts, left home at 17 to become a dry goods clerk in Chicago, saving half his \$400 yearly salary by sleeping in the shop.

At age 30, he was a partner in the firm that became Marshall Field & Company in 1881. Last year, the public spent over \$65 million in his Chicago store.

He has stores in Paris and Manchester, England, as well. The twice-married Field (his second wedding was September 5 last year) also built a library, a natural history museum, and donated to the University of Chicago.

His funeral is expected to draw dignitaries from across the country to Chicago.




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Suffragettes Urge Violent Campaign

In England today, a group of women said they are tired of waiting; they want the right to vote and they are willing to go to prison to win their battle. Emmeline Pankhurst, leader of the militant Women's Social and Political Union, declared that women may have to become violent and risk arrest in order to achieve their goals. In France, suffragettes are demanding a reduction in taxes so that deputies opposed to voting by women will not receive salaries from the state. Several American states have already given women citizens the right to vote.

Mormon President Fined for Polygamy

President of the Mormon Church, Joseph F. Smith, has been charged with polygamy following the birth of his 43rd child. The baby was born to his fifth wife. Smith pleaded guilty and paid the maximum fine of \$300.

Smith descends from the

founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons). The elder Smith started the faith in New York state in 1830. While plural marriage is a Mormon tenet, most members of the faith ceased to enter into such unions 16 years ago. Joseph Smith the younger told the Salt Lake City district judge he considered each of his marriages a solemn contract.

Liberia to Become Haven for Negroes

Addressing the congregation of New York's Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Bishop C.S. Smith of Detroit spoke of his plan to resettle in Liberia those Negroes "who are praying for relief from the discrimination and injustice" they find in America.

Referring to Senator Tillman's speech in Atlanta, Georgia, that "there are not enough Yankees between Cape Cod and hell to prevent Southern people from doing as they please with the Negro," the bishop replied that "there are not enough Tillmanites between Cape Cod and hell to hurl the American Negro back into slavery or permanently impair his onward march."

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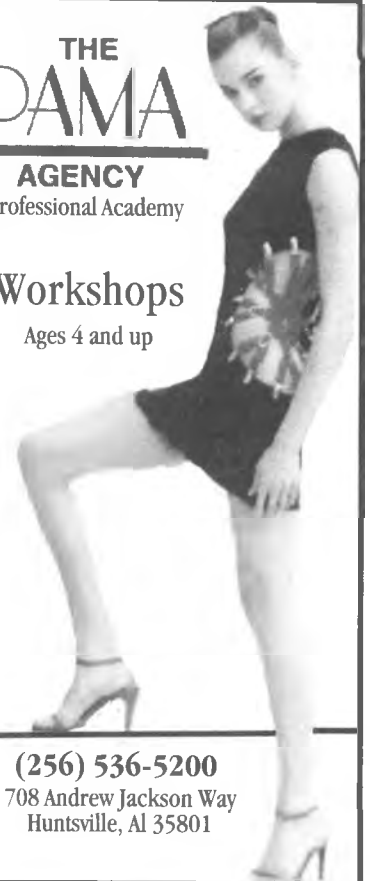
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Conscription in the Confederacy

Excerpted from "Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama" by Walter Fleming. Published in 1901.

Few good soldiers were obtained by conscription, and the system, as it was organized in Alabama, did more harm than good to the Confederacy. The passage of the first law, however, had one good effect.

During the winter of 1861-1862, there had been a reaction from the enthusiastic war feeling of the previous summer. Those who thought it would be only a matter of weeks to overrun the North now saw their mistake. Many of the people saw no need of more fighting, and hence did not volunteer.

Thousands left the army and went home. A measure like the enrollment act was necessary to make the people realize the actual situation.

Upon the passage of the law all the loyal population liable to service made preparations to enlist before being conscripted, which was deemed a disgrace, and the close of the year 1862 saw practically all of them in the army. Those who entered after 1862 were boys and old

men.

Great dissatisfaction was expressed among the people at the enrolment law. Conscription being considered disgraceful, many who would have been glad for various good reasons to remain at home a few months longer went

at once into service to escape conscription.

While the conscript law secured few, if any, good soldiers who would not have joined the army without it, it certainly served as a reminder to the people that all were needed, and



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as a stimulus to volunteering.

After the passage of the enrollment laws, every man with excessive regard for the integrity of his person and for his comfort began to secure exemption from service. In north Alabama men of little courage and patriotism lost confidence after the invasions of the Federals, and resorted to every expedient to escape conscription. Strange and terrible diseases were developed, and in all sections of the state health began to break down.

It was the day of certificates, - for old age, rheumatism, fits, blindness, and various physical disabilities. Various other pretexts were given for staying away from the army, while some men hid out in the woods. The governor asked the people to drive such persons to their duty.

There was never so much skilled labor in the South as now. Harness making, shoe making, charcoal burning, carpentering - all these and numerous other occupations supposed to be in support of the cause secured exemption.

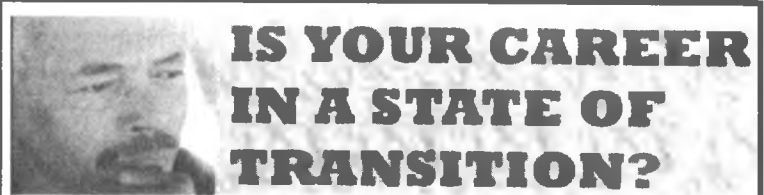
Running a tanyard was a favorite way of escaping service. A pit was dug in the corner of the back yard, a few hides secured, carefully preserved, and never finished, for more hides might not be available, then the tanner would be no longer exempt.

A report dated April, 1864, gives the number of exempts in Alabama as 8,835 to January, 1864. A month later, all exemptions were revoked. In February, 1865, a report placed the total number exempted by law and order in Alabama at 10,218, of whom 3,933 were exempted by medical boards.

Very few of the slaveholders and wealthy men tried to escape service; but when one did, he attracted more attention and called forth sterner denunciation than ten poor men in similar cases would have done. In fact, few

able-bodied men tried to secure exemption under the "twenty-negro law." It would have been better for the Confederacy if more planters had stayed at home to direct the production of supplies, and the fact was recognized in 1864, when a "fifteen-negro law" was passed by the Congress, and other exemptions of planters and overseers were encouraged.

There is no doubt that those who desired to remain quietly at home - to be neutral, so to speak - found it hard to evade the conscript officers. One of these declared that the enrolling officers "burned the woods and sifted the ashes for conscripts." Another who had been caught in the sifting process deserted to the enemy at Huntsville. He was asked, "Do they conscript over the



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river?"

"Hell, stranger, I should think they do; they take every man who has not been dead more than two days."

But the "hill-billy" and "sand-mountain" conscripts were of no service when captured; there were not enough soldiers in the state to keep them in their regiments. In one example the Third Alabama Regiment of Reserves ran away almost in a body.

Thus the best men went into the army, many of them never to return, and a class of people the country could well have spared survived to assist a second time in the ruin of their country in the darker days of Reconstruction.

It is interesting to notice the fate of the conscript officers when captured by the Federals. Bradford Hambrick was tried by

a military commission in Nashville, Tennessee, in January, 1864, charged with being a Confederate conscript officer and with forcing "peaceable citizens of the United States" in Madison County, Alabama, to enter the Confederate army.

He was convicted and sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor for one year, and to pay a fine of \$2,000 or serve an additional imprisonment of 1,000 days.



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Doctor Jimmy Carpenter

by Sara Ruth Burleson

"Did you know Dr. Carpenter?" Many conversations in my life have begun with that question. My Grandfather, Dr. Carpenter, touched many lives in New Hope and the surrounding communities. Because of his service and commitment to patients over the years, people always seemed to make an instant connection to my family and me. Stories about his care would immediately flow from their heart and I would have another glimpse into the life of a man that I did not know.

Dr. Jimmy, as he was affectionately known, was the last of a dying breed in Madison County - he was a country doctor. His father began practicing medicine on horseback in New Hope before the turn of the century.

Dr. Jimmy was born in New Hope in 1909 and graduated from New Hope High School in 1927. He graduated from the University of Alabama, Vanderbilt School of Medicine, and interned at General Hospital in Toledo, Ohio. Dr. Carpenter married Anna Ruth Farris, from Hampshire, Tennessee, in 1935. In 1936, Ruth and Jimmy

moved back to New Hope where he followed in his father's footsteps and began his life of service to this community. He spent his days and nights making house calls and traveling between his three offices in New Hope, Gurley and Farley.

Dr. Jimmy and Ruth were blessed with 2 daughters, Henrietta and Jimmie Ruth. Their family time together was surely limited due to the fact that at any time of the night they could be awakened by a frantic knock on the door or a phone call from a patient about to give birth.

A country doctor, unlike those who practice medicine today, was on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Dr. Jimmy delivered an estimated 5000 babies in the home. He would go to his patients no matter what the weather was and no matter what financial state a particular family happened to be in at the time.

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imagine only paying \$2 for an office visit that included medication? I can not, but many did who lived during the days of Dr. Carpenter. His giving nature may have taken away from time with his family. It may have even taken away from financial fortune that could have been gained like "city doctors". But look at the lives he touched as a country doctor. I often wonder about those fortunate people who were treated by Dr. Carpenter years ago.

Does your mind drift back to the "days gone by"? As you sit in a doctor's waiting room for an hour or two, then wait for another period of time in a patient's room, only to be examined for 10 minutes by a doctor, do you think back to your visits with Dr. Carpenter?

Times have really changed for many of you over the past several decades. Hospitals and specialists have changed the medical profession, but for my generation it is the only way we know. There are insurance papers to file, long waits in doctor's offices, and late night trips to hospital emergency rooms.

We do not live in a time when you called a doctor and he came to your home, or you went to his home whenever there was a need. We do not live in a time when "payment for services ren-

dered" was not a priority in the mind of doctor or patient.

For all Dr. Carpenter did for the medical profession years ago, he was also very involved in civic organizations and politics. He served many years as the team physician for the New Hope School basketball and football teams. He was a member of the New Hope School Board, the Lions Club, the advisory board of the New Hope State National Bank, the Huntsville Hospital Board, the American Medical Association and the Madison County Medical Society.

Dr. Carpenter was also a Mason and a Shriner. He was an ardent politician and served 12 years as Madison County District 3 Commissioner.

What leisure time he did allow himself was spent fishing, coon hunting, and his cattle farm in New Hope.

Because my Grandfather passed away when I was only two years old, most of

what I know about him comes from the memories of people he helped. Whether you remember going to the porch at his home for help, having him come to your house in the middle of the night to deliver a baby, or walking up the flight of stairs at his New Hope office to get a shot from him, never take for granted the special time you lived in.





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The Great Circus Fire

by Judy Wills

In the days before movies and television, Huntsville residents were eager for any kind of traveling entertainment. They came in droves to see horse fairs, plays, and circuses. Even the famous Buffalo Bill Cody came to Huntsville with his famous Wild West Show.

In late October, 1916, Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus came to Huntsville. They were already billed as the "Greatest Show on Earth." P. T. Barnum sought entertainers from all over the world and local people could hardly wait to see the circus freaks as well as the wild animals. This particular circus featured over 130 horses, performing ones as well as the wagon pulling variety. In those days, the circus parade was a major event. Howard Harbin, a retired Madison County employee who had seen the parade as a small child, recalled that the parade would stop every now and then to put on a small skit. This was meant to whet the appetite of the crowd to come and see the main performance. The parade was to move along Jefferson Street and then Washington Street until it came to the site of the performance tents. This was a cleared tract of land on the east side of North Washington Street near the Southern Railway depot.

There had been great debate about whether the city of Huntsville should extend its corporate limits to include the site where the circus would be held. If the site had been inside the city limits, the city would have received \$150 plus a payment of \$75 for a permit to hold the parade. Some of the citizens felt that the circus was a bad thing to have and could contribute to the decline of morality in Huntsville, but the mayor and council were in favor of having the circus inside the city limits so

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that the city, instead of the county, could benefit from the sale of a privilege license to the circus. Other local cities had derived as much as \$1,000 from a visit from the circus. The opponents of extending the city limits were in the majority and the city lost the opportunity to receive a larger portion of the \$300 collected by the county.

Howard Harbin recalled that his family, who lived in Maysville, loaded into the wagon early in order to be in town before the parade started. In 1916 it was a two-and-a-half hour trip to Huntsville by wagon. The Harbin family found a good spot to watch the parade on Washington Street. When the parade broke up, the Harbins joined the crowd that followed the menagerie to the circus site. As they neared the site, a great commotion broke out. Harbin and his family saw smoke coming up from a little rise, just ahead of the big top. They moved away from the crowd to a place behind a grove of trees.

Just at that moment, horses started galloping in panic from over the hill. More than 100 horses had been stabled in a tent just over the rise. There were two rows of horses with a long manger that held grain and hay. They had been visited by scores of on-lookers and horse fanciers.

It isn't known exactly how a fire started, but most of the men were

smoking cigars and apparently a discarded cigar butt was tossed into the manger. The weather had been very dry that month and it did not require much to start a fire. With so many of the circus employees involved in the parade, there were not enough workers to put out the fire. The workers started cutting the horses loose, but the fire was spreading faster than they could release them. The tent caught fire and the screams of the horses were horrendous. Before the day was over 27 of the most seriously injured horses were shot to death and in the end a total of 130 horses had died of burns or been shot.

The disposal of animals had always been a problem in the city. The carcasses were hauled to a site that was at the corner of present day Owens and McClung, then, the site of the pest house. This disposal was of a magnitude that had not been anticipated before. State law pro-

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vided that carcasses be hauled to a site where the odor of burning them would not reach residences. This was not possible on the pest house land so the circus officials contracted a local man who claimed that he could bury them at the required twofoot depth. The local contractor was paid \$100 for his efforts and started digging trenches.

The circus fire had been on Saturday and by the following Wednesday it was apparent that the job was too much for the man who had taken it on. Rather than allow the matter to grow into a law suit instituted by angry residents, Judge Archie McDonnell and Mayor T. T. Terry went to the site and put to work every available truck and wagon they could procure. Eventually, all the dead horses had been hauled to the site and enough trenches had been dug to hold them.

It was not the sort of revenue enhancing event that the city fathers had anticipated. The city and the county had to pay for almost all of the labor involved plus the hiring of the trucks and wagons. Efforts were begun immediately to get the circus to pay for the disposal but it was not an easy task and it would be forty-nine years before Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey would visit Huntsville again.



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Dear Editor,

I read with much interest your story about C. Powers, the man who spent his life in prison. It was especially important for me because I knew him well back in the late 1940s. We both grew up together in Huntsville and were well known for running wild and getting in trouble.

Several months before C. left town I got caught and had to go to court. The judge gave me a choice between the Army or jail. He was well known for giving young boys this option. It was rumored that he got a bounty from the Army for every boy he sent them.

My mother signed the papers and it was the best thing that ever happened to me. It's hard to be a juvenile delinquent when you have to get up at five in the morning, clean latrines and do push ups every time you mouth off. The Army made a man out of me and gave me a sense of pride I had never known before.

I spent twenty years in service, got married and raised a family. I've had a good life.

I had heard C. was sent to prison but had no idea for how long. When I read the story I was saddened but also keenly aware that for the grace of God, and a drill sergeant, it could have been me. Possibly, if some judge had given him the same choice as I - things might have turned out differently for many people.

T.J. Atlanta, Ga.

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Seeking information about my wife, Julia Harding. She left Nashville on May 11 to visit relatives in Huntsville but never arrived. She is 23 years old, dark haired with green eyes. Contact this paper.

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The Invisible People

No one knows how many illegal aliens live in Huntsville and Madison County. If you have work done on your home chances are there will be Mexicans on the crew. If you go to a restaurant there will probably be Mexicans helping prepare the food, washing dishes or cleaning the tables.

They have become a permanent fixture in Huntsville's economy but no one sees them. They are the invisible people.

My name is Jose and I was born in Madeira in Chihuahua, Mexico. Even as a small child I knew I would come to the U.S.A. someday. There were no jobs in Madeira. A man could work for four or five dollars a day or go hungry.

Most of my cousins and uncles worked in the U.S.A. My father worked in the fields in Arizona until he hurt his leg and had to quit work, then there was no more money for the fam-

ily. My uncles and cousins would come home a couple times a year and it would be a happy time. They brought presents and we would have a celebration and they would tell us stories about the places they worked.

I was nineteen the first time I came across the border. My father borrowed \$600 from his padrone and Orlando, my cousin, and I took a bus to Juarez. We had been told it was too dangerous to cross at Juarez so we walked about twenty miles to a small village near the border. There was a field outside of town where people waited until dark so they could cross.

There was maybe two or three hundred people there waiting. It was almost like a carnival with people selling tacos and bottled water. It was easy to spot the experienced crossers. They all had plastic milk jugs filled with water. Coyotes (smugglers) were everywhere making arrangements to guide people across. The best price we could find was

\$200 each and we could not afford that so we decided to just follow along behind another



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group and go where ever they went. We did not know it then but it was dangerous to go into the desert alone.

That night we started walking. We tried to stay about a hundred yards behind the people in front of us. At first it was easy to stay on the trail - so many people had gone before us that it looked almost like a road, packed down. As the night went on it became more difficult to keep up. There were many trails going everywhere and it was hard to pick the right one.

Finally we had to admit we were lost. The next people we saw were three men with guns. They took all our money and left us in the desert. A couple hours later we were picked up by the INS and sent back across the border. We learned later there were gangs who waited for people to get separated from groups so they could rob them. Almost everyone who crossed had several hundred dollars on them.

When I got back home my uncle Luis was there. He had been working in Huntsville, Alabama and was home to see his wife and children. He had been going back and forth across the border for years. When he learned what had happened to Orlando and I he agreed to take us back to Alabama with him. He charged us \$800 each but we could make payments on it when

we went to work.

Uncle Luis, Orlando and I took the bus back to Juarez and then walked back to the same field we had started out from before. Luis had crossed at that place many times before and knew who to make arrange-

ments with. A coyote agreed to take us across and give us a ride into El Paso for \$200 each. We walked almost all night long until we came to a dirt road in the middle of the desert where we stopped and waited. Our coyote had a cell phone he used to



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call someone. About an hour later a pick-up truck with a camper shell on the back showed up. There were twelve of us but we all fitted into the truck. The driver dropped Orlando, Luis and I off at a garage where Luis had left his van before going home.

Uncle Luis explained to us that when you went home you always left your car on the American side of the border, otherwise you could never get it back into the states.

We hung around the garage most of the day. Luis did not want to leave until about five that afternoon when the traffic was the heaviest. He said the border patrol did not check many people on the main roads during rush hour traffic. While we were waiting the owner of the garage introduced Luis to three more men who were waiting for a ride to Alabama. Luis agreed to take them for \$500 each.

Before we left that afternoon Luis made sure each one of us went to the bathroom - he said we would not stop for anything once we started. He told me to sit up front with him and made the others lie down in the back with a blanket over them until we got about a hundred miles away from the border.

When we arrived in Huntsville the next day I thought it was the most beautiful place I had ever seen. There were so many big trees and elegant homes. Every-

thing was so neat and clean it looked like everyone must be rich.

Luis had an apartment he shared with two other men and they agreed to let Orlando and I live there for \$50 a week each. That first day I was afraid to go outside. I just walked back and forth in the apartment looking out the windows. Finally Luis laughed at me and told me to go on outside - no one would care if I was legal or not.

That afternoon Orlando and I walked down to a Wal-Mart store. Neither of us had ever seen anything like it. It was huge and sold everything you could imagine. We just walked around looking at everything for hours. Luis was right - no one paid any attention to us.

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The next morning was a Saturday and Luis said we could work with him that day. After loading some lawn mowers and yard tools in his van we drove to the old part of Huntsville. Luis would drive real slow and every time he saw a yard that needed cutting or hedges needing to be trimmed he would stop and talk to the people. Orlando and I did the work while Luis went ahead getting other jobs. By that afternoon I had made \$85 - the most I had ever made in one day. I decided right then that Huntsville was like paradise.

Luis talked to someone he knew and got Orlando and I jobs with a construction crew. He borrowed a couple of Social Security cards somewhere for us to use. After we got hired we had to give the cards back but we didn't care. We were making \$7 an hour.

It's not that hard to get I.D.'s. Anglos think we all look alike so all they see is that we are from Mexico. You can buy a Social Security card for \$25 in El Paso and

a drivers licence for \$300. Employers don't care who the card belongs to as long as you are a good worker. One restaurant I know has three people working under the same social security number. If they ask you a question you just pretend like you don't speak english.

Even with making payments to Luis and sending money home to my father I was still making a lot of money. My job during the week paid the bills and the jobs I did on weekends was spending money. There are always chances to make extra money if someone wants to. Sometimes I helped roof houses or cut grass. I helped do sheet rock and move furniture. Even restaurants, if someone was sick, would ask a friend if they knew someone who would work that weekend. They all pay in cash money.

There are many people here I know. There are people I went to school with or grew up with. My mother has three cousins work-

ing in Guntersville and I have other relatives in Shelbyville. Sometimes when we have a party I can almost close my eyes and think I am back in Mexico.

After a while, after I got Luis paid back, I bought a car and rented my own apartment. I think they charged me more because I was a Mexican but they didn't ask any questions. My cousins



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showed me how to go to a thrift store and buy furniture cheap - the same kind anglos spend big money for.

Once I had a car and an apartment I went home for a visit. I drove to El Paso and parked my car, for \$75 a week, at the garage Luis had showed me. Before leaving I talked to the owner about finding some people who wanted a ride back to Alabama with me.

Getting back across the border into Mexico is easy. They don't check anyone going in that direction unless you are Anglo. I took a bus to Madeira and that night I was home. It was good to be back for a visit but there were still many things to remind you about Alabama. Auburn and Alabama caps are popular - it seems like everyone wears them. When you go to a cantina there is always someone who will yell "Roll Tide," and even neighborhood stores sell road maps of Alabama. Working in Alabama is one of the biggest businesses in Madeira.

After a couple weeks it was time to leave. Two of my cousins wanted to come back with me so I agreed for \$1200 each. This time we went to a place outside of Juarez (across from El Paso) where we could see across the border. We waited and watched until about midnight then the Border Patrol started picking people up. We knew it would take a while to process the people they picked up so as soon as they left we started running. Ten minutes later we were in El Paso where we called a cab to take us back to my car.

The owner of the garage had found two men who wanted to come to Alabama so I paid him \$200 and charged the men \$600 each.

Back in Huntsville I agreed to let the men stay in my apartment for \$50 each a week. It was

winter and there was not much construction work so they went to a temp agency. One of my cousins had a nephew who worked for the agency and he

told us that it took them a year sometimes to process and check background and social security numbers. The companies the temp agency placed the workers

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with didn't care.

The next year I went home again and brought back my sister and her girl friend. Neither one could speak much English at the time but it didn't matter. I started calling motels and within ten minutes had both of them jobs cleaning rooms. It didn't matter if they could speak English as long as they could work.

I like Huntsville. There is much money here and people treat you good but I will go back to Mexico someday. I am sending my father money and he is building me a house. I will live there and be an old man but my children and grandchildren will keep coming to Alabama.



Did You Know...

Automobiles and motorcycles had become a nuisance on Huntsville's streets by 1909. After heeding repeated requests from citizens, the city council passed an ordinance forbidding automobiles and motorcycles from exceeding speeds of 12 mph. They were also required to blow their horns at every street crossing. Violators could receive a fine up to \$50.

News From 1909

- A responsible business man of Huntsville has said that for \$200 he will find the main stream of the big spring on the Little Mountain and provide water enough to supply the city. The gentleman wants the money for his trouble and it will not have to be paid him if he fails to find the stream. The matter will probably be taken up at the next city council meeting and there may be some thing doing in regards to this.

- That puddle in front of the Post Office cafe is still there. It has been there ever since the square was paved. A load of Iuka gravel would save the skirts of many of the ladies and prevent some hard words from being spoken by the gentlemen who must pass there after heavy rains. People walk through the court house yard to keep from passing the unsightly place and this will finally hurt the business on that side of the square, for when the number of passersby is cut down, the rents

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go down also.

- That deer in the court yard is going to cripple someone yet and who is going to pay the damage? Is the county responsible? Put the buck in a fenced-in corner of the yard or else have him removed entirely from the court yard. What's the purpose of keeping a vicious animal in the way of travel?

- The policemen on day duty presented an imposing sight when they began their rounds on horseback. From now on every section of the city will be covered during the day by the mounted men. This has been the law for years but it has been neglected and many of the policemen found it more comfortable to walk than to ride horseback.

"Don't let worry kill you, let the church help."

Seen in local church bulletin

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Rules for Alabama Teachers in 1882

Below are actual guidelines as prescribed by the Alabama School System in 1882.

1. Each day teachers will fill lamps and clean the chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal each day.
3. Make pens carefully. Whittle nibs to individual tastes of students.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings if they go to church.
5. After ten hours in school, the teacher may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside a goodly sum from earnings to benefit his declining years so that he will not become a burden to society.

8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to be suspected of his worth, intentions, integrity and honesty.

9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing that the Board of Education approves.

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Tips from Liz

- For a fun day with your cat, just crumple up a piece of aluminum foil into a ball and throw it. They love that scratchy sound!

- Remember to throw your fireplace ashes around your trees and shrubs to keep the soil sweet.

- For those ladies who like the sheer look, match your bra to the color of your skin, not the color of your blouse.

- Try a bit of ground cinnamon on top of your vanilla ice cream - gives it a delicious taste!

- People who exercise in the morning, when they have more energy, usually stick to it longer than those who try to do it at night.

- To keep your cookies moist, put half an apple or slice of fresh bread in your cookie jar.

- For a fun project with your young cook, use a melon baller to place small balls of ready-made peanut butter cookie dough in your mini-muffin pan, then press down. Finish with a Hershey's kiss in the middle and bake!

- A very effective make-up remover is olive oil. Just massage a small bit onto your face and remove with a warm washcloth!

- If you're tired of your dry, old itchy winter skin - use your leftover suntan oil in the shower after washing and smell like summer all day!

- Any type of nuts will have a better taste if you toast them before you use them - just put a layer of nuts on a pan, and place in preheated 400 degree oven for about 5 minutes. Be careful not to burn them!

- Get a bottle of wintergreen oil from your favorite store (like Pearly Gates or Garden Cove) and soak cotton balls in it. Lay them in closets, bathrooms and hallways for a good scent!

- To renovate your goose down pillows, just set your clothes dryer on air setting and let your pillows tumble for 15 minutes.

Katrina Pets need your Help!

The Pet Pawlor in Madison is currently housing 40 Katrina animals in their kennels. They had been getting food from a dog food company but the food donations have stopped. They desperately need help in getting these animals adopted, as well as collecting food for them.

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People of Huntsville

1935 - J. Emory Pierce, founder of Huntsville Times, is indicted for fraud. He was found guilty.

1937 - W.H. Pollard starts the first radio station in Huntsville. It was called WBHP.

1944 - Chick Russell and Dilbert Williams opened a small grocery store on Meridian Stree named Star Market.

1945 - Medal of Honor winner Paul Bolden reenlisted in the Army. The Army later tried to void the enlistment because Bolden only had a second grade education.

1946 - Abe Pizitz, a local businessman, became the first passenger to buy an airline ticket on Eastern Airlines maiden flight from Huntsville.

1947 - Jimmy Taylor is hired as manager for the Russel Erskine Hotel.

1949 - Roy Jones opened a small reastaurant in Five Points. It was called the Zesto Drive-In and specialized in "dip dogs."

1950 - Local attorney Robert Bell became the first canidate for Governor to campaign on T.V.

1952 - "Speck" Searcy is elected mayor after defeating Mayor McAllister 1,563 to

1,515.

1958 - Rock and Roll singer Little Richard enrolls in Oakwood College.

1963 - WHNT TV goes on the air with Grady Reeves as sports director and H.D. Bagley as weatherman.

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