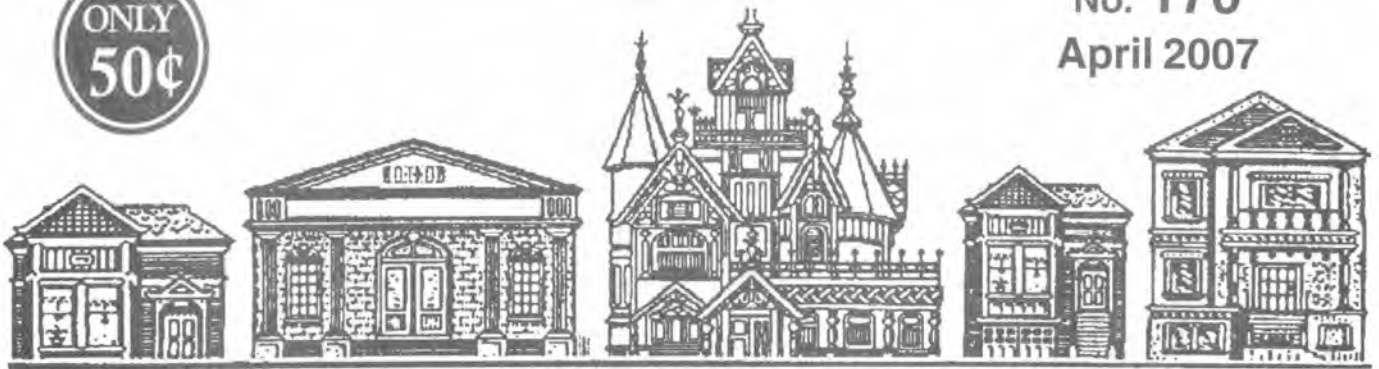


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April 2007



Old Huntsville

HISTORY AND STORIES OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY



She Painted on Spider Webs

The amazing story of Anne Bradshaw Clopton who became famous for her beautiful paintings.

The paintings were small, measuring just inches across and taking months to complete.

And they were painted on cobwebs.

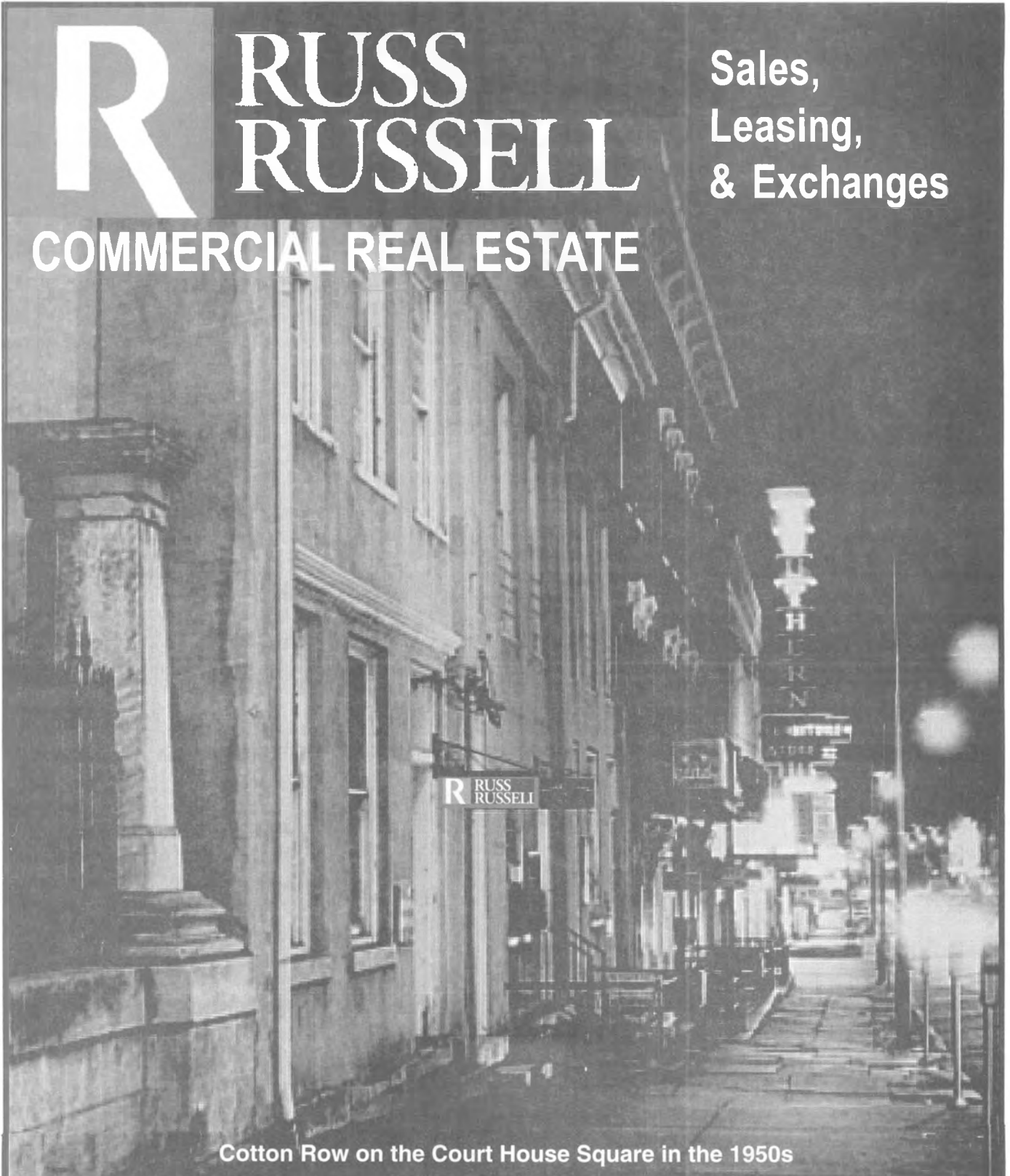
Also in this issue: **The Mill Strike**

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She Painted on Spider Webs

The crowds at the 1896 World's Fair in Saint Louis were huge. People from all across the country flocked to the exposition to marvel at exhibits from around the world. Some of the booths housed cultural exhibits while others amazed people with new and astounding inventions.

One of the most unusual exhibits was in a building where artists from around the world were displaying their works. A young lady sat silently as people critiqued a painting she had recently completed. It was one of her favorites; a portrait of President McKinley. Although the painting was small, only a few inches square, the details and colors made the portrait seem almost three dimensional.

The crowd's reaction was what she had come to expect. "That's impossible - it has to be a fake - no one can do that."

The artist watched with horror as one man started to touch the painting. His finger barely touched the portrait but it was

still enough to destroy months of painstaking work. Although it was probably no consolation for the artist, at least everyone in the crowd watching finally realized the truth - the portrait really had been painted on a cobweb

Anne Bradshaw was born on July 22, 1878 in Shelbyville, Tennessee. Within a few years the family moved to Fayetteville where her father served as professor of Dick White College, a secondary school for young ladies. Although the school taught the standard basics, like composition, Greek, Latin and drawing, there is no indication she took any courses in painting.

According to a story she later told, she was about thirteen years old when one of her teachers gave her a stack of art magazines. In one of them was an article about Johann Burgmann, a famous Bavarian painter of the last century who had developed a technique for using spider webs as a canvas for oil paintings. His paintings had drawn critical acclaim all across Europe and are still highly prized today.

What the article did not tell, however, was that the silk spider webs Burgmann used were a special type he had imported from China and were practically indestructible as compared to



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common cobwebs. Fortunately Anne did not know this; otherwise her life would have turned out much differently.

Anne read the article over and over again, becoming more intrigued with each reading. "Surely," she must have thought, "if he could do that, then I can too!"

After locating a water color set that belonged to her sister, Anne climbed to the attic where she knew there would be an abundance of spider webs. Her first attempts were disastrous. Regardless of how lightly she applied the brush, the cobweb would tear apart. She quickly decided the brush was too large so she began removing the bristles a few at a time with each attempt until finally there was only one or two left. The tiny brush seemed to help but each stroke still tore the cobweb.

Finally, after much trial and error, she discovered that by using a single hair she could apply a tiny dot of color to a single strand of the cobweb without tearing it. "Now," she must have thought, "all I have to do is make enough dots until I

have a picture."

After working all afternoon, until it got too dark to see, she managed to color a tiny bit of the cobweb, probably no more than a fraction of an inch. The next day when she returned to the attic she found that the spider had woven a new web, covering her work with a sticky gauze. Anne started over again, applying tiny dots until once again it got too dark to see. The next day she found that Mr. Spider had once again spun a new web on top of her work.

Most people would have given up by now but Anne had the youthful enthusiasm of a thirteen year old and, more importantly, was probably too hard headed to admit defeat. She realized that painting a complete picture on cobwebs in the attic was impossible. She had to figure out some way to remove the spider web without destroying it.

After much experimentation, and many torn cobwebs, she discovered that by taking a piece of cardboard, maybe six or seven inches square, and cutting the middle out so that it resembled a picture frame, she could place it gently under a new web and the sticky gauze would adhere to it. If everything went right, and most of the time it didn't, she could then loosen the outside edges of the web, resulting in a

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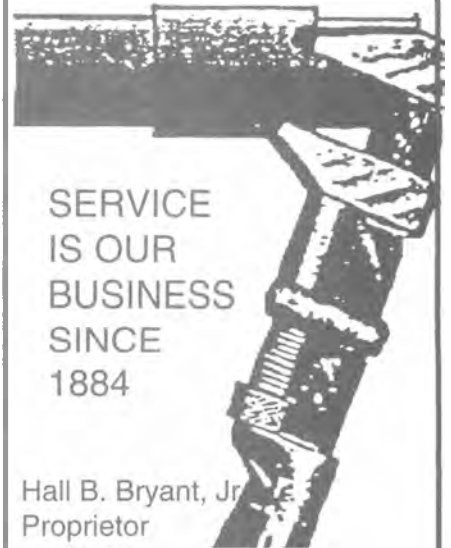
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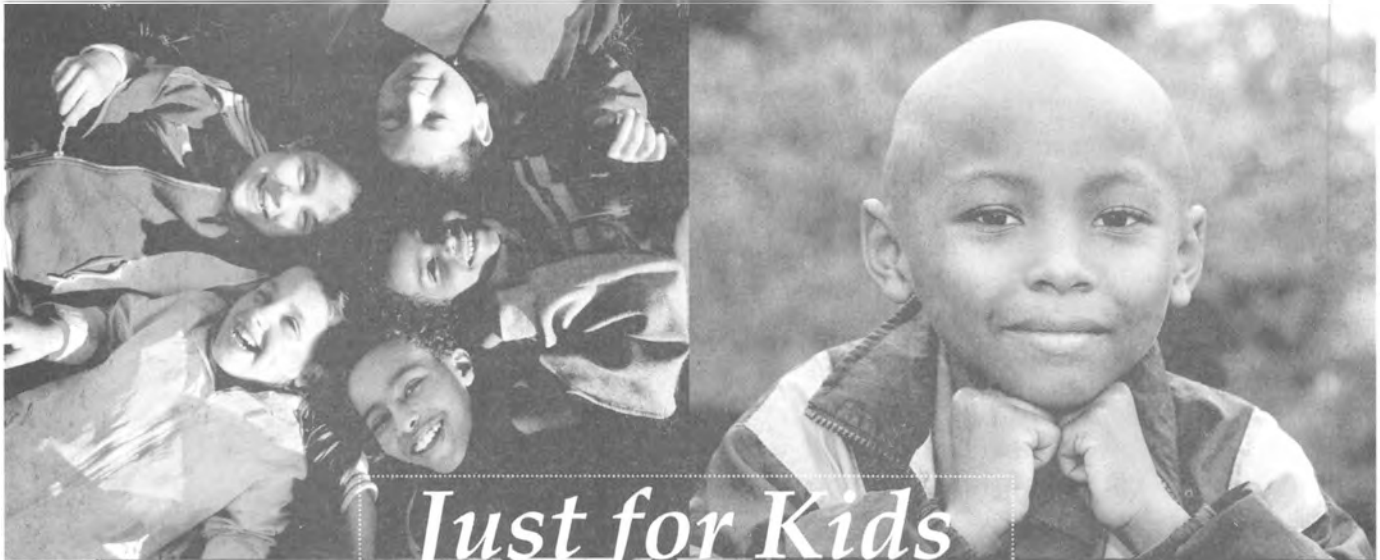
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small cardboard frame with a transparent spider web "canvas" in the middle.

Now she no longer had to crawl in the attic or worry about a spider's new web but other problems soon arose. The water colors she was using would crack when they dried, causing the cobwebs to tear. She began experimenting with oil paints but the paint was too heavy, causing the webs to sag and tear.

She finally discovered that by thinning the oil paint with turpentine until it was just a mere tint, the paint would stick without tearing the web. Unfortunately, the paints were still so heavy that she could only paint a tiny bit each day before having to stop so it could dry. Not exactly a job for the impatient.

For the next several years Anne continued to experiment. She learned that tiny brushes made with pig's hair worked best and bottle caps were good for mixing colors. She learned the best cobwebs were made by the common brown spider.

Finally, after almost two years, she produced her first painting. It was small, perhaps four inches square, but represented hundreds of thousands of tiny dots and months of painstaking labor. The result was almost ethereal, seeming to almost float in the air with the colors blending beautifully. The painting, which her mother named *God's Acre*, was of a cemetery with an old arched stone bridge in the foreground.

The painting was good; perhaps too good. When her mother showed it to a self-professed art critic/friend he examined it from every angle before finally announcing it could not be a cobweb. Before anyone could stop him he ran his finger through the tiny painting. The red faced art critic quickly made his exit.

This would be a problem that would haunt her all of her life. Many people continued to call her a fake or a fraud even though the cobwebs were always visible in the paintings. Numerous paintings were destroyed over the years by people who insisted on touching them to prove they were fakes.

As her confidence in cobweb painting grew she also became a talented artist. All of her paintings were in full color and, combined with her attention to minute details and exact shadings, made some of them seem almost surreal. No doubt, even if she had not discovered cobwebs, she would still have been recognized as an accomplished artist.

In 1901 Anne's father accepted the position of president of the Huntsville Female College. Anne, who had already graduated from Dick White College and was teaching Latin and Greek there, moved to Huntsville with her family and was also hired by the seminary.

Apparently teaching at a girls' school was too strait laced for the young and talented Anne. The fol-

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lowing year she quit and got a new job as bookkeeper for James Blunt Clopton who owned a grocery store on the edge of Merrimack Village as well as two large farms. Clopton was smitten by Anne and soon proposed marriage.

Married life agreed with Anne. Somehow she juggled raising six children, continuing to work as her husband's bookkeeper and still found time to pursue painting. Children in the neighborhood called her the "Spider Lady" and hardly a week went by without some child showing up on her doorstep with a new spider web for her.

As beautiful as her paintings were, they were so fragile they could not be displayed for any length of time. In order to protect some of them Anne began buying old pocket watch cases and, after removing the works, would produce miniature paintings which she would place inside the case. The paintings, done in bright vivid oils, were of landscapes, animals, people and flowers - all painted on cobwebs with some of them being less than one inch across.

Sometime around 1919 Anne began teaching lower grades at Merrimack School. Later when it became Joseph Bradley School she taught Latin and arithmetic. She was a popular teacher who could be seen almost every day riding her bicycle back and forth to school, often with a line of students following on their bikes.

Despite Anne's busy schedule, she always had time for children. When a boy scout troop was organized in Merrimack Village many of the young girls were devastated. "It wasn't fair," the girls complained, "The boys get to go camping and have fun while we have to stay home."

Anne, perhaps remembering her own childhood, decided the girls deserved to go camping. Somehow she commandeered an old flat bed truck, loaded the girls, bedding, food, pots and pans and a thousand other things on it before heading to Sharp's Cove.

Betsy Deavers remembers her grandmother talking about what happened next. "The day was fun but late that night it began pouring rain and we didn't have any tents. Mrs. Clopton

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kept telling us that it would stop in a minute and to just think about what great fun we were having. I don't think anyone really believed her. Finally, late that night Mrs. Clopton decided we needed to load the truck and go back to town. She wasn't a very good driver and only got about fifty feet until the truck got stuck in a mud hole.

"Mrs. Clopton then decided we would walk to a neighbor's house and spend the night. We only got as far as a barn when it really started raining hard so we just stayed there. Just imagine the next morning when the farmer found a schoolteacher and eight school girls piled up in the hay asleep!"

Mrs. Clopton later organized the first Girl Scout troop in Alabama. She also made sure they had tents!

As talented as Mrs. Clopton was, she never became a good driver. Once when she backed up and hit another car, she got out, looked at the other car and announced, "That's a dumb place to park a car!" Other long time residents of Huntsville Park still laugh when they remember people trying to get off the road when they saw her car coming.

One of the most poignant works Mrs. Clopton ever painted was one of her five year old grandson. While she was working on it he tragically drowned in the pond in front of her home and she finished the portrait from memory. Seventy

years later it is almost impossible to look at the angelic little boy in a sailor suit, so delicately done, without thinking about the grief and tears she must have felt as she patiently applied the tiny dots of paint.

Although Mrs. Clopton never sought publicity, the story of the woman who painted on cobwebs soon spread throughout the country. In 1938, Dave Elman, the president of Hobby Lobby, heard about the unusual paintings, and after a careful examination to make sure they were not fakes, invited her to New York to appear on their radio program. In 1939 she was a featured attraction at the World's Fair where she demonstrated her



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spider web painting technique to astonished crowds.

When the Smithsonian Institute learned of her paintings, they sent curators to examine her work. They too thought it was impossible. Finally satisfied, and amazed, they acquired one of her paintings to display in the museum.

Years later while visiting the Smithsonian Institute she learned they had several paintings by Johann Burgmann, the German painter who had originally inspired her.

After asking to view them, she was speechless when she saw them. For almost a half century she had been creating paintings by placing thousands of tiny dots on a flimsy cobweb, thinking it was the same method Burgmann used. Now she realized the spider web he used was more like a piece of silk, enabling him to use regular brushes and paint with strokes.

Suddenly the story of the Spider Lady seemed to explode. Ripley's *Believe it or Not* heard

of her paintings and purchased several to display in their museum. Universal Pictures came to Huntsville and featured her in a movie segment entitled *Stranger Than Fiction*, followed later by Columbia Pictures who cast her in their film series *People at Work*. Magazines and newspaper editors knew a good story when they saw one and soon her fame was being spread throughout the country.

Even though she had become a famous artist she remained the quiet, almost shy person she had always been. When one of her works, an exquisite painting of four red roses, was displayed at an exhibition in Vancouver, Canada she paused in front of as if examining it for the first time. Finally she left without saying a word. Later she wrote on the frame, "They hung it upside

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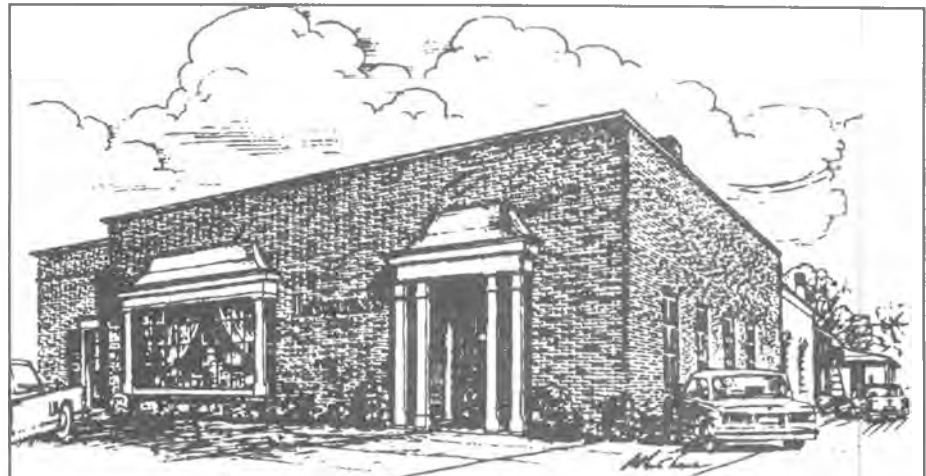
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down.”

Toward the end of her life her eyesight began to fail. Visitors at her home would often find her working on a tiny portrait, one dot at a time, with the aid of a huge magnifying glass. By the time she died in 1956 she had painted over 700 of her unique cobweb masterpieces, many of which are prized parts of private collections today.

After her death it was decided to have a showing of her works at a local museum. Hundreds of neighbors and friends attended to honor and remember the woman known as the Spider Lady.

Unfortunately, they all also wanted something to remember her by. At the end of the evening the exhibit had been stripped clean of everything small enough to fit in a pocket or purse.

As far as is known, Anne Clopton is the only person to have ever truly mastered the art of painting on cobwebs. In 1987 a group of students at an art school in New York attempted to recre-

ate her style. After months of frustrating work and hundreds of torn spider webs they gave up, saying simply “It’s impossible.”

Examples of Anne Clopton’s beautiful, but impossible, paintings may be seen at the Burritt Museum, located on Monte Sano mountain in Huntsville, Alabama.

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- Mr. E. B. Miller has sold his newspaper, The Independent, to Mr. Munger and will move out to Shelta Caverns, where he will engage in agricultural pursuits. Success to you, Bro. Miller, and we want you to send us in a bushel of your second crop of Irish potatoes.

- The colored citizens living on Howe Street, off Meridian Road, were made painfully aware that some more than usual elemental trouble was in progress, when the water entered their homes and the furniture began to float around the rooms, It was a terrible dilemma to be placed in, to face the blinding storm outside or remain indoors and perchance

perish if the angry waters continued to rise. The cause of the high water was the narrow state of the bridge under Meridian Street, which could not accommodate the raging flood, but held it in check until a lake of backwater was formed, and this found its way back into the houses.

The wooden bridge over Clinton Street was entirely swept away, and before daylight dawned we expect the timbers that formed the bridge were drifting down the Tennessee River near Triana or somewhere else. The foot bridges on Henry Street near the source of the Big Spring were lifted up by the roaring rush of the mighty waters. On Madison and Franklin streets the bridges were displaced, and will have to be repaired and strengthened before heavy travel is resumed. This is a dangerous state of affairs and should be taken care of immediately.

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- Lost - on the street between Walker Street and Huntsville Bank & Trust Co., a star and crescent gold scarf pin with pearls. Gift from husband, now dead. Reward if returned to the Bank & Trust.

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Putting Food on the Table

by Cecil Mae Carroll

These days people often assume there was always a wide variety of food on the farm. This is an error born of our familiarity with a worldwide transportation system and electric refrigeration. On the farm without electric power there was no way of keeping food cool. Fresh meat had to be eaten within a couple of days. Milk would sour overnight. Fresh vegetables and fruit were available only for the short time of their particular season. Oranges were a special treat for Christmas, shipped by train from Florida. Vegetables and fruit for the rest of the year were either tanned, preserved, or dried.

The problem of food variety was compounded at our farm because, looking back, I can see that neither Mamma nor Daddy were good managers. Both of them worked hard and with a family of eleven children they certainly needed to work hard. But Daddy was always intent on making a money crop, growing cotton even when there was not a good market for cotton. He farmed as had his father and his father before him, without con-

sidering the changing world.

Of course there was a need for a money crop because we had to have money for clothing, food staples we couldn't grow, and farm equipment.

Especially there had to be money to pay the rent on the farm. After I was 16, Daddy bought a farm but each year he had only enough money to pay the interest on the loan. Once, Daddy did raise some peas because a portable pea thrasher was brought to the house to thrash the peas. There were many more peas than we could eat, so I suppose he sold the rest. Usually, however, cotton was the only money crop. So, like it or not, Daddy was locked into a system where each year he had to, with back breaking labor, raise enough cotton to obtain money to stay even with his


obligations.

One problem was that the price of cotton fluctuated rather wildly and sometimes it was hardly worth picking. Once, just before World War I, cotton was only three cents a pound. That year Daddy was renting the farm from his father and he had to borrow money to pay the rent. There was a jingle that summed up the situation.

"Ten cent cotton and twenty cent meat ...

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It would be nice to say that Daddy was able to overcome all adversity and make a success of farming but, after Mamma died, Daddy seemed to lose heart. During the Great Depression of the 1930s he, like many



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other farmers, didn't make enough to pay the interest on the farm loan and the bank foreclosed. Daddy was able to make a meager living fanning until all the children left home.

When Daddy died of a sudden heart attack in 1944 while he was visiting me in Birmingham, his entire estate was the money in his pocket, just barely enough to pay the emergency room bill.

In the larger sense Mamma and Daddy were a great success; they raised eleven children who all were hard working, honorable members of society. I don't think anyone could achieve higher honor than that.

After the money crop, the next concern was food for the livestock, hay and corn. The garden to grow vegetables for the family was considered to be the job of the women and children. Outside of plowing it in the spring,

Daddy more or less ignored the vegetable garden. Daddy never seemed to realize that with only about an hour's work each week he could have had a large productive garden. The money saved by the better garden would have been more than the tiny loss on the money crop.

Vegetables that could be preserved for the winter had to be a first consideration. Of course we ate the fresh vegetables in season, but often the time span when they were ready was fairly short. Turnip greens, poke salad, and radishes were the first fresh vegetables of Spring and we were all hungry for fresh greens.

I should point out that 'poke salad' was the old English terminology where 'salad' means green leaves. The leaves of the poke-berry plant are poisonous, as are the berries of the plant. In the spring the young tender leaves were picked and then boiled in water. The water was discarded, new water was added and

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the leaves boiled again. This process was usually repeated three times so as to leach out all the poison. You may be assured that if you just took the fresh leaves and ate them with a salad dressing you would become deathly ill.

English peas and onions were in season soon after the turnip greens. During the hard times after the Civil War Grandma ate dandelion greens but we never ate them at our house.

There was home canning to put up surplus vegetables but, since there were no pressure cookers, the effort to sterilize the canned vegetables was a hit or miss affair. At least half of the home canned vegetables spoiled.

Sauerkraut was made by putting shredded cabbage into a large stone crock; a layer of cabbage and a layer of salt. Water was added to cover the cabbage and a stone was placed on the cabbage to press it down below the water level. A cloth was placed over the crock. I always liked the homemade sauerkraut.

Onions were tied by their tops into strings and peppers were threaded onto strings. The strings of onions and peppers were suspended from rafters wherever they could be protected from the elements.

Dried fruits and vegetables were a staple for out-of-season use. Dried beans and peas were a big item. The peas and beans were allowed to dry on the vines. I hated to pick the dried peas - mostly whippowills and blackeyed - the pods were hard and cut my hands. I was really delighted when we got a hand pumped pea thrasher. Of course dried corn was a mainstay for both man and beast, we ate the ground corn meal as bread and the livestock ate the kernels from the cob.

Potatoes were an important crop. We ate fresh potatoes all during the growing season and then stored them for the winter. Potatoes were plagued with potato bugs. The potato bugs crawled on the leaves of the potato plant and ate the leaves. The plants would soon die if the bugs were not removed. If we wanted potatoes to eat then the bugs had to be removed, so we removed the bugs by hand.

We did not have a root cellar to store potatoes for the winter. Daddy dug a hole in the garden and the potatoes were placed on

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a bed of hay or corn shucks and covered with sacking. Then the potatoes were covered with about a foot of dirt. This was enough so they could keep cool but would not freeze. This kept the potatoes fairly well, but it was a chore to replenish the potato bin.

Corn was picked from the stalk after the corn had dried and, still in the husk, it was placed in the corn crib.

When we wanted corn for meal, we opened the small door and raked out about a hundred or so ears. The husk was stripped from the ears and the kernels were broken from the corn cob by twisting the ear with one hand while holding it with the other. Your hands had to be tougher than the corn to shell corn this way. When we finally got a hand cranked corn sheller I thought I had died and gone to heaven. The kernels were put into a bag until we had about a bushel of shelled corn. The shelled corn

would then be taken to the grist mill and ground into corn meal.

Corn was also used to feed the stock animals. Then we just removed the husk and let the animal (pig, horse, cow, mule) eat the kernels from the cob. They were able to crush the kernels with their teeth and the corn was a treat.

The left over corn shucks were used the way wheat farmers used straw. Sometimes mattresses were stuffed with corn shucks. The corn shuck mattresses were noted for the loud rustle every time you shifted position in bed.

Peaches and apples were sliced and dried in the sun on flat surfaces. Often the dried slices were strung on strings and suspended from rafters in the house.

A standard sweetener on the farm was homemade Sorghum molasses. The molasses was obtained from the Sorghum sugar

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cane that was grown in the fields like corn. It was always a big time for the farm children when molasses was being made.

The women of that day would have revolted at the thought of buying a dead chicken. The birds were small enough to be consumed in a single day so they were killed and eaten the same day. There was a reluctance to eat a young egg producing hen, so the prime candidates for the pot were the young roosters and old hens.

If you think you would rather go hungry than kill and prepare a chicken, then you have never been hungry.

On the farm there was a direct connection between the live animals you fed and the dinner you ate. We didn't make pets of the farm animals, and most of them were not at all lovable.

When I was about five we had a big turkey gobbler that would attack me every time I went into the yard. The turkey was as tall as I was and it would peck and hit me with its wings. It terrified me and I would run screaming into the house with the turkey flapping at me all the way.

By way of comfort, Daddy told me to pick up a stick of firewood and hit the turkey the next time it bothered me. The next time I left the house I was carrying a piece of split firewood. As soon as I was well into the yard the turkey came running toward me, neck outstretched and squawking at the top of his lungs. I swung the stick of wood with all my might and connected with the turkey's head. The turkey fell over backward, gave a few convulsive twitches and lay still with blood running from its head.

I ran screaming toward the house, sure that I had killed the turkey, but when I returned with Mamma the turkey had staggered to its feet and outside a bloody head seemed none the worse for wear. The turkey never attacked me again. It wasn't that the turkey was a fast learner, it was just that nobody had ever before explained it like that to him.



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This free event features actors in period costumes reenacting more than 60 former Huntsville residents.

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Davisville

Though the fact is not recorded in many history books, John Hunt was not the first man to settle in what is now known as Huntsville.

The very first cabin erected in this area was in 1805 by Joseph Criner, the uncle of Isaac. It was located several miles away from Isaac's who preferred the beautiful area now called New Market.

Although these gentlemen were the first to settle in the county, they were by no means the first to arrive here. John Ditto had come to Huntsville back in 1802 and had built himself a small shack by the area known now as Big Spring. After a short while he moved down next to the Tennessee River to what is now known as Ditto Landing.

Samuel Davis came to the Big Spring before John Hunt, but after building the foundation of a small cabin and cutting the logs, returned to Georgia for

his family. Just after the Criners had moved into their cabins in New Market, John Hunt and a man by the name of David Bean stopped for the night and were welcomed into one of the homes. The next day Hunt and Bean left and reached the Big Spring where Davis had started his cabin. Hunt liked the area so much he decided to finish building the cabin. Bean helped him with the work, but was not as intrigued by the country here and went back to Tennessee and settled near Salem.

Not much is known of what

really happened when Samuel Davis returned and discovered John Hunt in his newly finished home, but Davis left and built another cabin near New Market.

If Davis had not returned to Georgia for his family when he did, odds are we would be living today in Davisville, Alabama.

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Hannah Troup, 1st Grade

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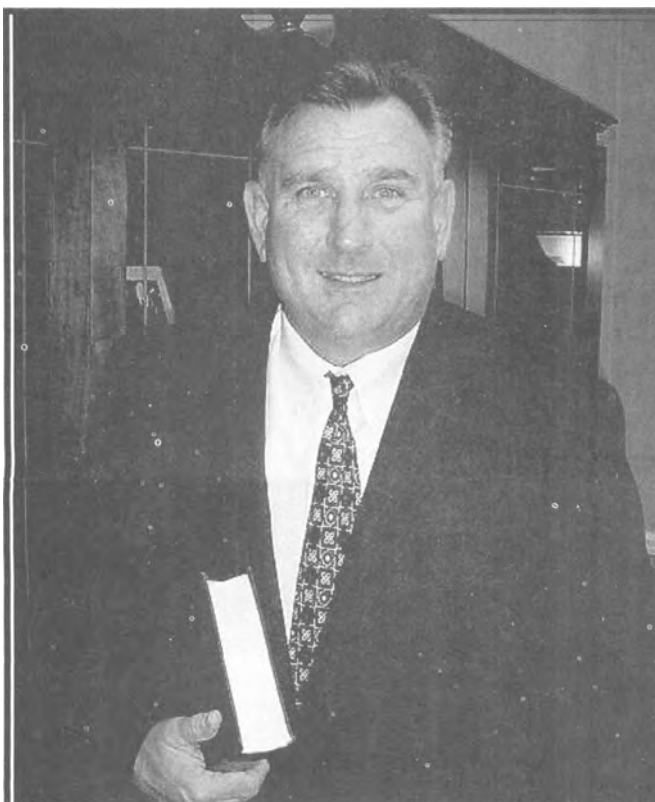
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A Letter

Sept. 5, 1861 Huntsville
Camp Jones

Dear Mattie,

This leaves me tolaible well and I hope it will find you and our darling babe doing well. I was rite sick yesterday. I took my blanket and went out and taken an Eruetic. I believe it done me well as my appetite has returned and I hope by tomorrow I will be all right, though I can not tell for I may have a chill or fever tomorrow. Mr. Martin arrived here yesterday with five recruits from our Co. - which makes us about 100 men.

I believe that General Nicholson is one of our worst boys so far. The very first night he came here he got a company of our boys and went to Huntsville and taken the finest bar room and drinking saloon that is in the place. Taken it with bowie knives and pistols, so they say, and then marched something like a hundred men in by fours. Made them drink and fall back so as to give room for others. They got a negro hemmed up behind the bar and made him light cigars for the Co.

The police of the city were soon present and they had, I am told, a general row, but as good luck would have it none of them were hurt at all and Lump Davis was also in the crowd and it is a pity for him and our company and

those that he is connected with that he was in the frolic.

Nicholson lost his watch and it was found in Davis' possession. A court Martial was held and he proved guilty of the charge. Davis then acknowledged that he was guilty, and he then wore a ball and chain everywhere about 40 lbs., for 4 days and was marched across the encampment once a day and the rogues march played by all the old drums in the camp following just behind him and was drummed out of the camp this morning. I am sorry I ever knew his name.

E. D. Treadwell

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Heard On The Street

by *Cathey Carney*



The winner of the Photo of the Month contest for last month was **Charlotte Keller**. She lives in Grant and works at Seimens Video. The little baby girl in the photo was me! Congratulations to you Charlotte - you just won a year of "Old Huntsville" Magazine!

We were all so heartbroken to hear of the terrible devastation in **Enterprise, Al** - Huntsville residents sure know what tornados can do. Many were very impressed by the immediate action taken by our governor **Bob Riley**, who showed much compassion and determination to get them back on the road to recovery.

Before I forget, I wanted to welcome **ALL the newcomers** to Huntsville! You are living in an amazing city, full of history and loaded with the best residents you can find. You will be surprised at the cleanliness and friendliness of our city!

Jane and **Louie Tippett** have worked very hard to renovate the Lowry House, and now brides are calling Jane to reserve the house months in advance for weddings and receptions. The woodwork and stair case is just beautiful - a

great background for photography.

So many birthdays recently - **Sherry Taylor** of Hampton Cove, **Vivian Kruse** of Madison and **Liz Waggett** and **Linda Drake** of Huntsville are all sorority sisters in Beta Sigma Phi - Happy Birthday to my "sisters"!

Joyce Russell, Compliance Manager with New York Life, recently hosted a birthday party for her Mom, **Mildred Butler**, who turned 88. Happy birthday to Mildred!

We were so sorry to hear that **Jane Roberts**, wife of **Roscoe Roberts** and only 79, had died recently. Her funeral services were packed were hundreds of friends who remember Jane and worked with her on her many volunteer efforts.

Don't forget our **letter carriers' annual Food Drive** coming up in May. Those guys work really hard every day getting our mail to us, and they work even harder collecting food for the

people who need it. We really appreciate our mail men and women.

We hear that **Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury**, current AMCOM commander and his wife **Becky** are leaving Huntsville when AMCOM changes leaders. His replacement will be **Maj. Gen. James Myles** who'll be coming here from Virginia. We're sorry to see Gen. and Mrs. Pillsbury leave because they really love Huntsville and its people, and know they will miss us. They definitely plan on retiring here later, so we'll be seeing them again. Good-bye for now to you two, and welcome to Gen. Myles.

Happy birthday to that dashing **Sam Huffstetler**, who turned 75 recently. His sisters hosted a big bash for him in North Carolina, along with **Glenda**, his wife.

Now that it's getting warmer it's impossible to stay inside. Many parents are taking their kids to the **Old MacDonald's Petting Zoo** that Sherry Lewis runs, east of

Photo of The Month

The first person to correctly identify the youngster below wins a 1-year complimentary subscription to "Old Huntsville" magazine.

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Hint: This little girl is well known for keeping the city council on their toes.



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Huntsville on 72. There are tons of baby animals and children love feeding and petting them.

Last month **Weatherly Heights Elementary School students raised \$7,080.70** for American Heart Association. The children raised all the money by jumping rope in PE class! **Hannah Troup**, a first grader there in **Mrs. Barone's** class, was just one of many young people who worked really hard for a great cause.

We all have birthdays, but when **Dr. James Smith** turns 65, he wanted to do something really different. Dr. Smith is known nationally as "**The Autoharp Man**" and performs all over the country, but lives here. So he decided to travel the entire Appalachian Trail, and play his music all along the way at small and large venues. James will kick off his tour at The Coffee Tree at 6:30pm on Thursday, May 3.

Our favorite mailman **Jeff Tucker** and his pretty wife **Kelly** have a little son who will be celebrating his first birthday in April! Happy Birthday to **Matthew!**

Dave Smith is still in his forties, but not for long! When he turned 49 in March his fiance **Sherri Williams**, of Pleasures, threw a big bash for him at Lee Ann's on Church near the Train Depot, with friends celebrating and wishing Dave the Best!

Congratulations to **Chuck Saunders** who recently won the Alabama State Teacher's award. Sweet wife **Barb** is sure proud of him!

Linda Drake will be modeling in the DuMidi Annual Fashion Show on April 27. She is gorgeous but will look even better strutting her stuff on the catwalk!

Demetria Braudaway, who works as Customer Sales Rep for Colonial Bank on Church street, does an outstanding job in handling accounts and just taking care of her customers. Her hus-

band **David**, who works at Toyota Motor Manufacturing, recently celebrated a birthday in March. They are the proud parents of twin boys **Isaiah** and **Uriah**, who both turned 7 at the end of March.

Old-timers in Huntsville really look forward to the annual **Pilgrimage Weekend May 5 and 6**. On the 5th you can buy tickets to tour 6 beautiful old homes in the historic districts. On the 6th is the **Cemetery Stroll** which is so interesting especially to newcomers to Huntsville. More than 60 area residents will be dressed in period costumes, standing over the graves, to share stories about Huntsville's colorful past. Mark your calendars!

Happy Birthday to our dear friend in Woodstock - **Cheryl Tribble** turns another year older in April!

Happy 52nd anniversary to **Jack & Martha Gross**. They are the dear parents of **Cathi Harless**, who works for that popular Madison dentist **Dr. Whitworth**. Cathi's niece **Melissa Gross** will be marrying **Patrick Flanagan** on May 26th! They are both graduating in May from Freed Hardiman College in Henderson, Tenn. and will be married 2 weeks later.

Have a wonderful Easter and remember how lucky we are to live in Huntsville, Alabama!

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Easy Bundt Rolls

- 1/2 c. butter, melted
- 1/2 c. maple syrup
- 3/4 c. brown sugar
- 1/2 c. nuts
- 2 tubes buttermilk biscuits

Mix first 4 ingredients in a bowl. Grease a tube bundt pan and place half of the syrup mixture in the bottom of the pan. Place biscuits on end around the pan, and pour remaining syrup over the top of the biscuits. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes and let stand for 5 minutes. Remove from pan.

Breaded Pork Chops

- 1/2 c. milk
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 6 pork chops
- 1 1/2 c. crushed soda crackers

In a bowl, combine milk and egg. Dip pork chops into egg mixture, coat with cracker crumbs. Put 1/2" oil into the skillet. Fry pork chops til golden brown, about 8 minutes. Season lightly.

One-Dish Oven Meal

- Sliced raw potatoes
- 1 lb. hamburger, browned
- Sliced raw carrots
- Sliced onions
- Velveeta cheese

Put into casserole in order listed. Cover with 1 can cream of mushroom soup and 1/2 cup milk. Bake in a covered dish at 350 degrees for 1-1 1/2 hours.

Cheesy Potatoes

- 1 1/2 lb. sour cream
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1/2 c. butter

- Velveeta Cheese, cubed
- 10 lbs. potatoes

Peel & cook the potatoes, and either shred or cube them, then put them into a bowl. Combine all remaining ingredients, and pour over the potatoes, mixing well. Pour all into a greased casserole dish and bake at 350 degrees for an hour.

Barbequed Green Beans

- 10 slices bacon
- 1/4 c. chopped onions
- 3/4 c. catsup
- 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 3 t. Worcestershire sauce
- 3/4 T. salt
- 4 c. green beans

Fry bacon, break into pieces. Saute onions in bacon drippings. Combine catsup, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce and salt. Add onions and bacon pieces. Pour over green beans and mix

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lightly. Bake in a 1-quart covered casserole dish at 300 degrees for 40 minutes and heated through.

degrees for 25 minutes. Remove from oven and dust with powdered sugar while still hot.

Coconut Cream Cake

- 1 white cake mix with pudding
- 1 can Eagle Brand milk
- 1 8.5 oz. can cream of coconut
- 1 carton Cool Whip
- 1 can flaked coconut

Bake cake as directed on box. While cake is hot, punch holes in it. Pour Eagle Brand milk and cream of coconut over top. Cool. Spread with Cool Whip and top with flaked coconut. This is moist and delicious!

Lemon Bars

Crust:

- 2 c. flour
- 1/4 c. powdered sugar
- 1 c. butter

Filling:

- 2 c. sugar
- 4 T. flour
- 4 T. fresh lemon juice
- 4 eggs, beaten fluffy

For crust, mix like pie crust and press into pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 20 minutes. For filling, mix sugar, flour and lemon juice. Add beaten eggs, mix well. Pour over hot crust. Bake at 325

Layered Dessert

Crust:

- 1 c. flour
- 1/2 c. butter, softened
- 1 c. chopped nuts

1st Layer:

- 1 c. powdered sugar
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 1 c. Cool Whip

2nd Layer:

- 1 pkg. vanilla instant pudding
- 2 c. milk

Mix crust and press into 9 x 13" pan. Bake at 350 for 20 minutes. Cool. Mix powdered sugar, cream cheese, and Cool Whip. spread on cooled crust. Mix pudding and milk, spread over first layer and top with more Cool Whip.

Peanut Butter Popcorn

- 12 c. warm, popped popcorn
- 1/4 c. butter
- 3 T. sugar
- 2 T. peanut butter
- 1 T. Karo syrup

Mix butter, sugar, Karo and peanut butter. Pour over popcorn and mix. Cool well and store in gallon Ziploc freezer bags.



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A Battle Report

"July 30, 1862, Woodville, Al. Sir:

I have the honor to report the entire success of the expedition sent out under my command on the 27th for the purpose of destroying the ferries on the Tennessee River from Law's Landing to Whitesburg.

In accordance with instruction, the expedition left Huntsville on the morning of July 27, 1862 and proceeded by rail to Woodville where we were joined by the 3rd Battalion of the Third Ohio Cavalry. From which place I proceeded with the whole command as above stated for the Tennessee River which we reached the same day about 8:00 and encamped opposite Matthew's Landing about 20 miles from Woodville and over a rough mountainous road.

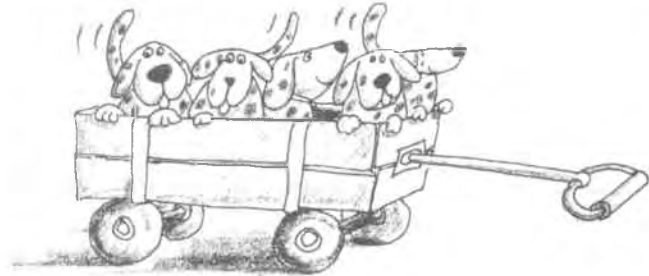
This was the first point on the route where we could get forage and water for our animals and although it was a fatiguing march it was accomplished without a murmur, so eager were the officers and men to accomplish the purpose for which they were sent.

I sent out the same evening of our arrival a strong picket consisting of infantry and cavalry to each of the ferries at Law's

Landing and Matthew's Landing and also a squadron of cavalry under Major Seidel down to Gunter'sville to watch the movements of the enemy, guard the boats and prevent anyone from crossing to give information of our approach.

A courier from Seidel informed me he was apprehensive that they would move their boats from Gunter'sville unless prevented by artillery.

Accordingly I left guards at Matthew's and Law's Landing Ferries and proceeded with the



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command by daylight the next morning to Gunter'sville. I found the town strongly garrisoned by Forrest's cavalry and some independent companies of guerillas and bushwhackers raised in the vicinity. A heavy picket guard was down at the landing guarding their floats and a warehouse filled with forage and commissary stores.

I concealed most of my forces and artillery in a wood a short distance back from the landing and deployed two companies of infantry as skirmishers to reconnoiter the position and ascertain the whereabouts of the enemy at the landing.

True to their bushwhacking mode of warfare, the enemy soon fired on them from their concealed positions and the old buildings on the opposite side of the river.

The fire was returned by our sharpshooters and cavalry pickets and continued for a short time sharply on both sides, when I ordered one piece of artillery to be placed on a high bluff above the landing to command their camp and the town, and the other spaced to command the landing and buildings opposite.

At 7 a.m. we commenced a simultaneous shelling of their camp and the woods on the island above the landing with an occasional round of canister, which soon scattered the astonished rebels in every direction and set them to riding and running in the utmost confusion, and with the assistance of our car-

bines and long-range rifles soon cleared the opposite shore.

The enemy having taken all their boats and skiffs to the opposite shore and concealed them in the creek between the town and the island it was necessary that we should cross the river to destroy them.

Accordingly I set some men to work constructing a raft with some material as we had at our command for the purpose of crossing the river to destroy their boats. The enemy perceiving our

object, gathered in the old buildings opposite and commenced firing on the workmen. I then directed Lt. Chandler to shell these buildings, which he did, and they were soon on fire and the flames spread rapidly and consumed that part of the town.

As soon as the raft was completed Captain Allen of the 15th Kentucky and ten men volunteered for the daring feat of crossing the river in search of the boats. The raft not being large enough to carry more, our brave fellows

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"You know you're getting older when you have more food than beer in the fridge."

Sam Keith

swam the river to assist them. The party crossed safely to the island and proceeded under cover of our guns up along the bank of the creek and found that their boats had just been destroyed and sunk in the creek, all except one large one which laid near the mouth of the creek partially sunk but not destroyed.

This they tried to raise and bring across but the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters rendered it too hazardous and Captain Allen abandoned it and returned safely with his men to the command.

I then ordered one of the guns down to a position below the landing and a few well-directed shells from 7 a.m. to 12 noon from our artillery drove them from their camp and the town to the mountains for safety.

The firing gradually subsided into an irregular skirmish of sharpshooters with long range guns from concealed positions. This was continued until about 6 o'clock in the evening, when, having completed the destruction of their boats and having no sufficient means of crossing, I withdrew all the command except one company of cavalry and one of infantry, which I left on picket at that place to hold

and watch the movements of the enemy.

All this was accomplished without any loss on our side except one man of the artillery slightly wounded in the foot. The loss to the enemy we could not ascertain definitely, but I learned from a citizen who crossed the river the next day that their loss was about 30 killed or wounded. Their camp and town was badly damaged by our shells and about ten buildings, including the warehouse filled with forage and commissary stores were burned.

Their forces at that point and at Law's and Matthew's Landings were variously estimated at from 600 to 1,200, all mounted, with no artillery and is said to have consisted of a battalion of Forrest's companies of guerrillas and bushwhackers raised in the vicinity.

During the night (Monday, July 28, 1862) an attempt was made to cross under the cover of night and get up to our rear,

but by vigilance of Captain Spaulding of the 15th Kentucky and his company were prevented from crossing and compelled to leave their boat with a loss of two killed and several wounded.


The next morning I took a part of my forces consisting of one company of cavalry and one of the infantry with one gun and went to that point and destroyed their boat, also giving them a farewell salute of a few shells in their camp about a mile distant, but what affect we could not ascertain.

"Would a fly without wings be called a walk?"

Jason Troup, 6

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Having previously sent out scouting parties and thoroughly canvassed the shore for boats and ascertained that there were none, at least between that point and Gunter'sville, we proceeded down the river toward Whitesburg and encamped at Cottonville near old Deposit Ferry.

The next morning I sent Major Seidel with a detachment of cavalry on a scout to Fearn's Landing (near the present site of Gunter'sville dam), about four miles below Deposit to ascertain if there were any boats at that place and if necessary to destroy them. I then proceeded with the balance of the command to Vienna and there await their arrival.

"I was so ugly, my father carried around the picture of the kid who came with his wallet."

Rodney Dangerfield

When they came up, Major Seidel reported that he found one large boat on this side of the river at that point and another on the opposite side. He dismounted a part of the cavalry and crossed in the boat lying on this side, and procured the other and brought them both to this shore. We destroyed and sunk them without the aid of the other forces. They then pushed on and joined us at Vienna.

I regret to record that while proceeding with the command near Vienna, one of my men, James Weldon of Company K, Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, was shot and instantly killed by a villain concealed in the thick woods near the

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road. I immediately sent out scouting parties in all directions with instructions to shoot down all persons found in arms and arrest all male citizens in the vicinity.

Only one was arrested. McDonald, a man living in sight of where the man was shot, was the one arrested. He denied all connections with or knowledge of the murder, but I think it almost impossible that he could not know something of it, if he was not actually engaged in it, and I therefore send him to your headquarters for such punishment as you think proper, fully satisfied that to put down bushwhacking, vigorous and severe measurements must be used, and all the citizens in the vicinity where these outrages are committed must be held responsible for them.

During the route we destroyed seven boats, one at Law's Landing; three at Guntersville; one at Deposit and two at Fearn's Landing, but I was hardly satisfied with our operation at Guntersville.

I think that nest of treason and rendezvous of guerillas and bushwhackers should be entirely destroyed and purified by fire, for as long as it is permitted to remain, their facilities for reconstructing their boats and its proximity to the railroad bridges require it to be closely watched.

"Respectfully submitted, Maj. J. W. Paramore, Third Ohio Cavalry."

Oil Well in West Huntsville

from 1923 newspaper

The news that the deep oil well in West Huntsville will again be probed was received as an assured fact at the office of the newspaper today. The committee in charge of the work, who have for the past two weeks been active in securing one hundred names, reported this morning that the subscription list has been overfilled and that a meeting is called for next Thursday.

Selection of officers is next. The sound of the oil man's drill will soon be heard again in West Huntsville and this time we all hope it will bring home a gusher. If it does, there will be a new crop of rich people in Huntsville.

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News from 1923

- An old gentleman by the name of Johnson was run over by his own wagon out on Meridian Pike Thursday afternoon. It seems from reports that Mr. Johnson was walking beside his wagon when an automobile passed and frightened the team of mules causing them to take a dash, knocking the old man down and the wagon running over him. He was considerably bruised and was picked up by a passing automobile and brought to the city hospital where his wounds were dressed and he went on home.

- The Cantrell-Lewter Drug Co. are now giving with each cash purchase at their drug store a coupon which entitles the holder to a chance on five dollars and a box of Whitney's candy. The drawing is held every Saturday night at 9 o'clock. The money was drawn by J. M. Bradford and the candy by Harry Hammons of the Grand Theatre last night.

- A large barn belonging to W. M. Jordan at Jordan's Park was totally destroyed by fire yesterday together with a large amount of hay and other food stuff and two large fine hogs. The barn was a large and costly

one and the loss is very large. The fire occurred between 7 and 8 o'clock and the origin is not known.

- A very perplexing problem faced Mayor Adams this morning in city court when a little 15 year old Negro girl by the name of Louise Henley was arraigned before him on a charge of stealing some clothing from Mrs. Wilson on Adams Avenue. The girl admitted taking the clothing and said that she was living with Rose Edwards. It seems that her mother, who lives on Cruse Alley, has cast the girl aside and does not take any interest in her whatsoever. The mayor fined the girl \$10 and stated that he was sorry there was no place provided to send Negro girls to and that he regretted that he had to put children in the prison.

The goods were valued at something near \$100 according to Mr. Wilson, who appeared in court and said that she felt that he should be paid something as the clothing could only now be sold as second hand stuff. The mayor agreed with him but said that he could not do anything for him along this line and that he would have to take that matter up with the girl or her people. This is the fifth young Negro arrested this year with no home or family to help them. It is hard to blame a child who simply wants clothing.

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Huntsville Heroes

He was a Confederate hero. Born in Huntsville, Alabama, Henry Bolden served in many theaters of the war and saw action in the battle of Nashville. When the Union troops began to overrun his position in bloody hand to hand fighting, Bolden, who did not have a gun, picked up a stick and began swinging it furiously.

When the battle was over, five dead Yankee soldiers lay sprawled about his feet. Later when asked how he did it, his only reply was, "I knocked them in the head."

Henry Bolden was a black man.

Although few people realize it, there were a number of black Confederate veterans in Madison County. These men, all of whom were valued and respected citizens, earned a unique place in Huntsville history.

Essex Lewis, one of the best known and highly respected of these veterans, went to war with his master, Colonel Nick Lewis, and saw action in Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia.

After the war he returned to Huntsville, where he worked as a farmer and as a janitor at the post office. Lewis was "a loyal member of the Egbert Jones Camp of Confederate veterans here in Huntsville. In 1910 he was chosen to represent the Huntsville camp at a Confederate reunion in Richmond, Virginia. When Lewis died at the age of 106, his funeral was attended by an honor guard consisting of ex-Confederate soldiers.

Another Huntsville black who saw service in the Civil War was Matt Gray. "Uncle Matt," as he

was known, always wore an old gray uniform with the bronze "medal of the Confederacy" pinned to his lapel. He also was a member of the Confederate veterans organization here in Huntsville and had the distinction of a "special" chair being reserved for him at the monthly meetings. According to newspaper accounts of the day, the only meetings he ever missed were when he was sick. At his death, the Huntsville newspaper ended his obituary with, "Now Uncle Matt has gone himself to aid with the Rebel yell."

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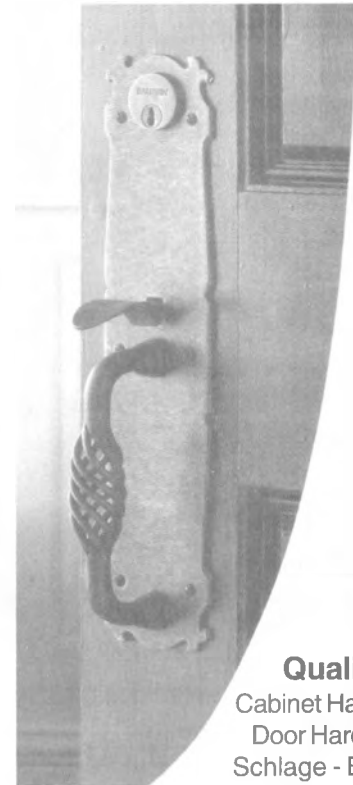


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The Mill Strike

In mid July, 1934, after months of mediation and agitation, nearly 4,000 Huntsville cotton mill workers went on strike as part of a nationwide walkout that quickly ensnared America's entire textile industry.

The strike brought violence to the streets in the form of killings, kidnapping, assaults, shootings, and bombings.

A cloud of fear hung over Huntsville like poisonous vapors seeping into the hearts of the populace. No man, woman, child, home, or business was safe. Living here was dangerous.

Mill owners across the nation refused to negotiate, threatening to hire strike breakers to quell any riotous activity by the strikers.

Then on July 17, the Fletcher Mill opened at the regular hour of 6 a.m., but was forced to close within three hours. Noisy strikers were clamoring in the street outside the mill and it appeared that major violence would erupt at any second. Sensing the severity of the situation, the nonunion employees chose to leave their jobs rather than confront the raucous pickets.

Police and deputies armed with tear-gas rifles and machine guns were called to the scene as the strikers grew more unruly, but the crowd dispersed when the officers arrived.

Merrimack was the next mill to close as strikers, under the leadership of state union organizer Albert Cox, went through the building telling workers to leave. The mill emptied in minutes.

Lincoln and Dallas mills closed that same morning when the night shifts came off duty.

John Dean, representing the United Textile Workers of America, urged strikers to maintain picket lines and prevent the mills from running.

Carloads of strikers, armed with shotguns, pistols, knives, baseball bats, and anything else

that could serve as weapons, cruised the streets shouting and waving their weapons, intimidating anyone who might have had thoughts about going to work.

A meeting of the Dallas Mill workers was held at the old Methodist church on Humes Avenue. Monroe Adcock, president of the Dallas



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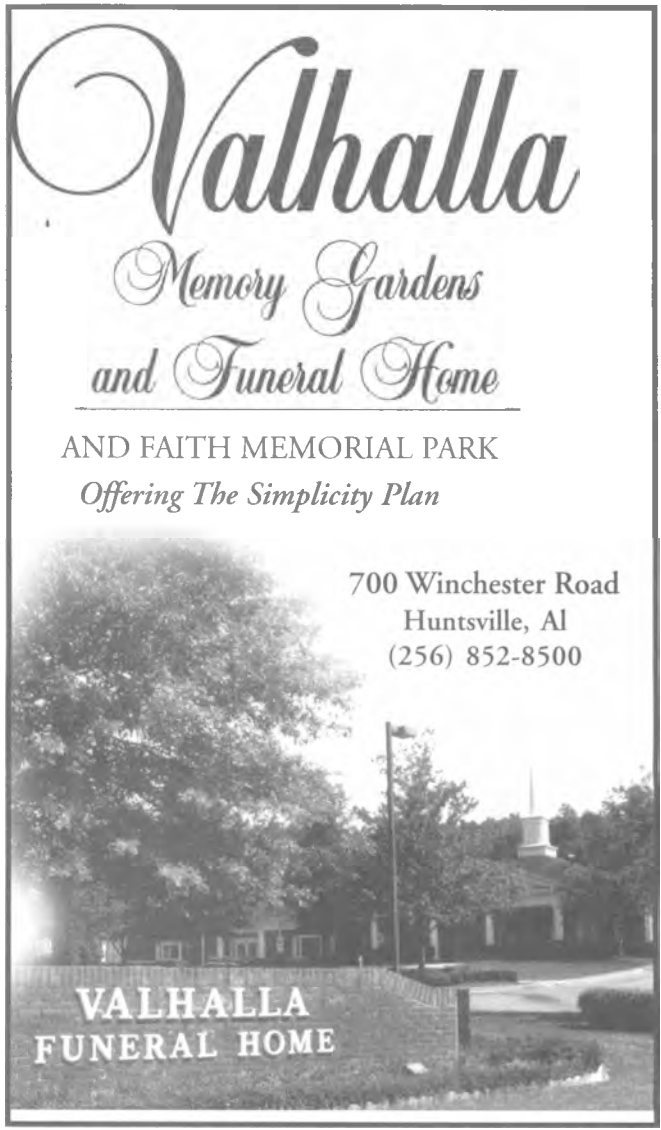
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local union, presided and urged that no destruction of mill property take place during the strike. He also pleaded that all union members refrain from using intoxicating liquors while the strike was in progress.

The following day reports of trouble sent police racing to the Admiral Braid Company. A crowd of a few hundred men had gathered outside the plant when it was reported that an attempt was going to be made to move a load of merchandise. The report was false and the crowd dispersed without incident.

On July 30, special deputies guarded the Tennessee River bridge between Decatur and Huntsville as rumors indicated that a motorcade of more than 500 striking textile workers from Huntsville were enroute to Decatur in an effort to urge the textile workers there to join the strike.

The deputies managed to turn the strikers back but everyone knew that it was just a matter of time before violence would explode.

Earlier in the day, three union men were attacked on a street corner near the Goodyear fabric plant in Decatur. The aforementioned union local head, Monroe Adcock, was shot in the leg, and Isaac Bullard and Bernice Rigby were injured in an alter-

cation with three unarmed men. Special guards were placed around the Goodyear plant.

Early Sunday morning, August 6, John Dean, leader of the strike in Alabama, was kidnapped from his room on the sixth floor of the Russel Erskine hotel by four men and taken at gunpoint to Fayetteville, Tenn. During the ride he was beaten about the head with a pistol. His abductors, in a bizarre move, then registered him at the Pope Hotel where he managed to, according to the porter, initiate a call to his friends in Huntsville. In less than an hour a dozen automobiles, filled with armed men, arrived in Fayetteville to rescue their leader.

Instead of returning to his hotel, Dean went into seclusion at the home of George Davis on F Street in Merrimack Village. Armed guards were placed around the house to prevent further kidnapping.

During the time of Dean's abduction 400 angry men, most of them carrying guns, gathered near the Russel Erskine Hotel. They had heard of the abduction and were seeking the men responsible. The mayor sent a large contingent of police to the hotel, preventing the mob from getting out of hand.

Strikers set up roadblocks at

each road leading into Huntsville. Automobiles going in and out of the city were stopped by strikers brandishing weapons who said they were looking for the kidnapped man, not knowing that he had returned and was in hiding.

The situation was becoming



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serious. Many citizens were afraid to leave their homes. Gangs of armed men roamed the town looking for would be strike breakers and terrifying everyone with whom they came into contact. Sometimes as many as eight carloads of strikers would slowly caravan through downtown.

With strikers demanding that the city take action, solicitor (district attorney) James Price announced that the Grand Jury would meet the following Monday and that a warrant had been issued in the kidnap case. Fearful that the crowd would take the law into its own hands, the sheriff refused to name the persons involved until the arrests had been made.

Monday morning found a large crowd assembled downtown awaiting the day's events. In an act of bravado, Dean drove in from Merrimack and casually breakfasted at the Central Cafe downtown while armed bodyguards patrolled the sidewalks out front.

Meanwhile, the Grand Jury returned an indictment against

James Conner, a mill worker. When word spread that the owners of the cotton mills might have been responsible for Dean's kidnapping, the pent-up fury of the strikers exploded.

Rumors that downtown stores were going to be dynamited caused additional deputies to be brought in, but the day passed without incident.

Threats against the indicted Mr. Conner caused guards to be placed at his home. They were called off that same afternoon when it was realized that Conner had left town for parts unknown.

Cars were not permitted on streets where union leaders lived, unless permission was first obtained from the strikers. Armed guards were maintained throughout the night and augmented the following morning by additional strikers.

The Thomas Mill, forced to shut down when the strike began, reopened despite threats from the strikers.

Before the plant could begin operating at full capacity it was invaded by a gang of strikers from Merrimack Mills and Erwin Mills, despite protests by the foremen.

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The workers were quickly assembled and ordered by their leaders to quit work and leave the building by the spokesman of the strikers.

William Fraser, manager of the Thomas Mill, later identified the leader as Henry Parmlee, the union leader at Merrimack. Fraser said the strikers ignored the "posted" signs displayed at the entrance to the mill.

On August 13, the kidnap charge against Conner was stricken from the docket of the Grand Jury and a lesser charge of "whitecapping" was entered. Whitecapping was defined as a loan act to prevent and punish the formation or continuance of conspiracies and combinations for certain unlawful purposes. "Trial was set for Nov. 28, but was continued until Feb. 19, 1935, when the matter was dropped.

Random acts of violence continued. No one was safe.

On Sept. 3, three charges of

dynamite damaged the grocery store of Mrs. R.W Atkins on Pike Street in Merrimack Village. The explosion brought a crowd to the scene.

Shortly before daybreak, strikers were brought out of their beds by bugle calls and gunshots. Armed strikers rushed into the city from Lincoln Village after being told of trouble at the Fletcher Mill. They returned home when everything was found quiet.

A group of young women decided to ignore the picket line and return to work, but they were pushed to the ground by the angry strikers. Ignoring the girls' screams of protest, the strikers produced a pair of scissors and proceeded to roughly cut their hair.

A short while later, residents of Lincoln watched the strange sight of four bald-headed girls being paraded down Meridian Street.



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The same day, gunshots were fired into the store front windows of businesses downtown who were suspected of being sympathetic to the mill owners. An automobile belonging to a union organizer was burned while it was parked in front of the courthouse.

City officials, frantic by this time, asked that a federal mediator be brought in. Something had to happen. Huntsville could not continue living under a cloud of terror.

Judge Petree, mediator, and his staff arrived in Huntsville and immediately went into a conference with union leaders. After the meeting at the Davis house, where John Dean had established his headquarters, Petree then conferred with the officials of the Erwin Mill, which had been trying to reach an agreement for several days.

On Sept. 22, before the me-

diator could work out a compromise, the great textile strike ended. National Union leaders had reached a settlement.

Almost as quickly as it had began, the violence ended. Thousands of Huntsville textile workers responded to the union leaders and returned to work.

Peace had returned to Huntsville.

No charges were ever filed against anyone for the hundreds of acts of lawlessness committed during the strike. "It was," as one old-timer remembers, "as if Huntsville just wanted to forget."

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Joey Stevens, 7

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Local authorities were powerless to enforce the law.

In one of the most remarkable documents to come out of the Civil War era, Captain Frank Gurley tells, in his own words, of wartime justice in North Alabama

"A friend told me that there was a widow woman living in the river hills and that a man went to her home, assaulted her and her grown daughter, and then killed all the family, including the mother, daughter and four other children. Among the lot was a little fat boy about four years old. The man took this child by one leg and beat his brains out against the fireplace.

"The citizens caught the man and carried him to the jail in old Bellfonte, but he was under the Yank's protection. The Yanks told them that if they did not turn him loose, they would turn him out and put them in the jail.

"When I got there that night. I found the Yanks camped all over the town with a patrol on the street in front of the jail. Two of my men were with me and I was familiar with the town and we took in the situation. We hid our horses in a dense woods close by and crawled up near the jail, where we could see the guard walking his beat. The night was dark and cloudy. I

had dropped men along behind us to protect our rear, and with one man, got close to the guard. When the guard passed us, I left my man and slicked across the pike to the jail and was soon concealed in the shade.

"We knew where the jailor slept, and I got to his window and gave a Masonic tap. He asked me who I was and I told him. He wanted to know what I wanted. I told him I wanted the prisoner. He said the Yanks would kill him. I told the jailor, who was also the sheriff, that I intended to take the prisoner, or him, back with me.

"This was said to impress the other prisoners and to save the jailor from the Yankees when they found the prisoner missing.

"The jailor then got up and asked me if I had a rope. I told him no. His wife told us where there was one. He

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got the rope and he and I went down to the dungeon and tied the prisoner.

When we were ready to go out, I rubbed my pistol against his face and asked him if he knew what it was, he said he did, and I told him if he made any fuss. I would shoot him and then take care of myself.

"The man I had left then joined me. I made the prisoner get down on his knees, and when the guard got in the right place, we all crossed the picket line and were soon getting out of danger.

"In a short time we were on our horses with that big 200 pound prisoner up behind our smallest man. But the load was too heavy for the horse, so I had the man ride up under a nearby tree.

I took a part of the rope the

jail woman gave me and put it around the prisoner's neck and over a limb. Then I rode out.

"The prisoner was so heavy the limb let his feet hit the ground, so I took another part of the rope and tied his feet up so they could not touch the ground. I remained close to him until he quit struggling and then we all rode off."

Shooting in Cocaine Alley

from 1920 newspaper

Shuberta Conley, a woman living in what is known as Cocaine Alley, back of the railroad on Meridian Street, got into an altercation with another woman of the same neighborhood and resorted to gun practice on the other woman, who was quite badly injured. Shuberta is now in jail awaiting the outcome with solidarity and her hearing will come about soon.

"The patient was in his usual state of good health until his airplane ran out of gas and crashed."

Seen on local patient chart



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FROM THE HEART



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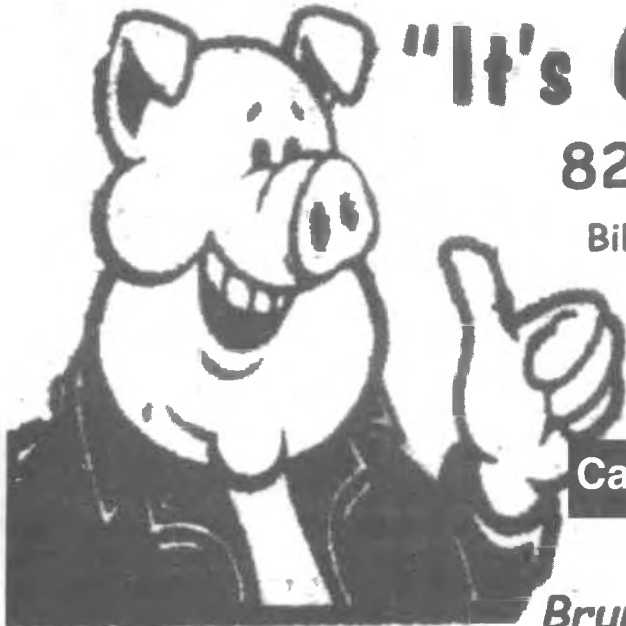
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The Old Home Place

From a 1921 interview with Mrs. Martha Weeden

It is not very often that we are privileged to learn history from the lips of those who helped to make it. Their ranks are thinning most as fast as leaves in the Autumn, and precious indeed are the few we are still permitted to honor here for yet awhile. It is one of these few of which we write - a patrician old lady in an old, old home. Although past the allotted three score and ten, she is very active. Her mind is as clear as it was fifty years ago. She is state historian for her U.D.C. chapter, carries on all her correspondence and does not look to be a day over sixty years of age.

True, her hair is snowy white, but her eyes are beautiful as the eyes of youth, and her exquisite face is like a cameo in its beauty - a beauty that seems to borrow the light. That her life has been one of the Golden Rule, there is no doubt.

Let us now go back to a winter evening in 1832, in Huntsville, Ala., when 'mid all the quiet elegance of that faraway day, Miss Jane Locke Brahan, daughter of General Brahan of Huntsville, became the bride of Robert M. Patton, formerly of Monroe County, Virginia, but then of Alabama.

Much to the delight of friends and neighbors, they made their home in Florence, where Mr. Patton had prepared a lovely house for his bride. Shortly before the marriage, General Brahan's home at Brahan Springs, near Huntsville, was burned.

This house was just above the spring famous for its waters, and

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which even until this day is known as Brahan's spring.

During the summer of 1832, General Brahan visited Florence, and being attracted by the spring there, he purchased it with 42 acres around it. This spring was known in its Indian name, "Succatania," the translation of which is "Sweetwater," and by that name the place has since been known.

General Brahan began to build his residence, and had the brickwork up to the windows on the first floor completed when his large planting interests in Panola County, Miss., necessitated his personal attention. On his return he took a severe cold and on reaching Florence, it developed into pneumonia, of which a few days later he died.

He had appointed Mr. Robert Patton executor of the estate, in the division giving the Sweetwater property to Major R.W. Brahan, oldest son of the General, the sons John and Thomas being given the plantations in Panola County, Miss., where they spent their lives.

Major Brahan's wife objected to living in what was then the

country, so Mr. Patton exchanged his town residence in part payment to Major Brahan for the uncompleted home at Sweetwater.

This Mr. Patton completed in the summer of 1835, moving in at that time. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Patton, all save two were born in this old house, and these two (John B., in 1834, and William S., in 1837) were born in Florence. In this house the "Old Master" died in 1885 and "Old Missus" in 1902 went to join him.

Recently, her reminiscence was so delightful and so full, if that not found in books, it is worth of repetition and recognition by those who would know Alabama when the state was young.

Mrs. Weeden is the daughter of Governor Patton and was born, reared and married in the old home she now resides during

"Dear God: Thank You for the baby brother, but I think you got confused because what I prayed for was a puppy."

Freddy Jackson, Age 5

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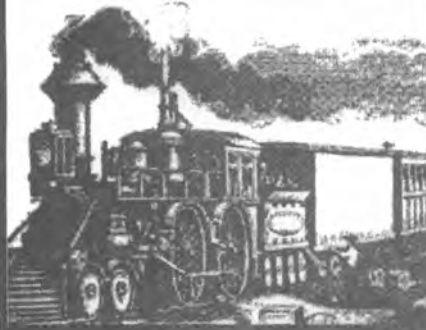
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the summer, and where she spent many years of her happy married life. It is from her lips that we have the story of the house - the house whose walls are 15 inches thick, shutting out summer heat and winter cold.

The oil light fixtures are still there, but have been wired for electricity - the same old fixtures that almost a century ago held the lard that was burned instead of oil, for those were the days before petroleum was known.

A few of the old locks are still on the doors, and the porches are the very same banisters, posts and marble hewn steps, just as they were originally built.

The long walk and driveway to the gates now is well kept, but in the days gone by it was always kept snow white with Mussel Shoals shells taken from Patton Island. The fountain in the center of the driveway is playing now as it played years ago, and getting water from the same spring.

The ringer, as old fashioned as its name, and the giant knobs on the massive front doors are of solid silver. In these rooms assembled guests who came from end to end of the state and who helped to make the early history of the state.

During the war, at one time twenty wounded Confederate soldiers were there sheltered and cared for, the house being centrally located between the Huntsville and Nashville roads. Its broad lawns were used as camping grounds by both armies.

To the right of the entrance

hall is the room where Mrs. Weeden's children were born. The old poster bed - beautiful in its age - has been hers for many years. Originally it was General Brahan's, and is solid mahogany. For a long time this room was Mrs. Weeden's treasure, but now her two little granddaughters have "moved in" too, and all three enjoy the privileges of a room which to at least one of them is memory shadowed.

"I spend my summers here," said Mrs. Weeden. "I love my Huntsville home almost as well as this one, but this one is just a little dearer, for it was our first home - where we all were reared, and all but two of us born there in that old bedroom, for that was Ma's room. Every inch of it is dear to me," and back she drifted to that other day when memories now were realities then, and feet long stilled made merry through the



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"I told the police that I was not injured, but upon removing my hat I found that I had a skull fracture."

Seen on recent accident report

long halls, and over the stairways where now a younger generation is living life under a different regime.

"The other evening we had a party here," said she, "and how it carried me back to hear the music in the old home. For you know in this, as one of the homes of the Southland, guests were always so welcome, and times were never dull. We had two fiddlers on the place, and they were always so pleased and proud to play for the company.

"These rooms were the parlors and were always open. Here we had the best of times - and even the shadows of war were not as long as the shadows that fell over the old home when they carried loved ones from its portals.

I stayed until Ma went, and then I could stay no longer. The house was closed then until my son, Mr. Weeden, decided to make this his home. I was delighted for it is too sacred for strangers' feet - they would not understand.

"So, you see, these rooms have double associations. My mother danced like a fairy; but father never. Something went out of life with the friendship of those olden days - when your trouble was your neighbor's and their joys yours as well something that has never come back with all the present day things.

I have a number of letters written by my father to my mother, and they are so lovely. He wrote her as if she were a fairy queen. Why is it that men do not love women like that these days?

"There in that cellar," said Mrs.

Weeden, "there are seven rooms down there: the wine room, preserving room, pantry, wash room, housekeepers' rooms.

"There were originally 400 acres to this plantation, and the grounds known as the Wilson Dam reservation was at one time part of the estate.

The mistress of the plantation had no position of leisure, she had

to superintend the cutting room - the sewing of garments and dresses for the family."

As she remembered, there in the corner, the old spinning wheel was standing alone - waiting for the one who was gone to return and finish her work.

But, like the guided hands that once worked it, its work was over and its tasks were done.

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News From The Year 1962

News From Huntsville and Around The World

Glenn Orbits Earth

The United States is hailing Lt. Col. John H. Glenn Jr., first American to orbit the earth. Despite heavy rain, tens of thousands turned out in Washington today to cheer Glenn in a parade up Pennsylvania Ave. to the Capitol, where he addressed a joint meeting of Congress.

Glenn's three-orbit flight took place on February 20, after ten delays caused by bad weather and poor sea conditions in the recovery site area.

Glenn's Mercury spacecraft, the Friendship 7, lifted off from launch complex 14 at Cape Canaveral at 9:47 a.m., after a last minute delay caused by a power failure in a computer at Bermuda. An Atlas rocket put him in an orbit 99 miles above the earth 11 minutes later.

On his first orbit, Glenn reported seeing the lights of Perth, Australia, whose residents turned on all their house lights

for the occasion. Completing the first orbit, and experiencing some minor difficulty with the spacecraft's altitude control system Glenn switched to manual control and reported it to be "smooth and easy."

After considering whether the flight should be cut short, Mission Control gave a go-ahead for full three orbits.

The most serious problem occurred just before re-entry, when Glenn was told ground instruments indicated a possible loosening of the spacecraft's heat shield, which might result in incineration of the capsule as it plunged into atmosphere.

A decision was made not to jettison the craft's retro rockets, which slow the capsule for entry. The spacecraft descended safely.

"My condition is excellent," Glenn said as he went aboard the recovery ship.

Ernie Kovacs Dies in Crash

Ernie Kovacs, the cigar chomping comic whose zany TV antics rocketed him to stardom, was killed shortly before 2 a.m. this morning when his station wagon skidded across wet pavement and smashed into a power pole in West Los Angeles.

He had attended a baby shower in honor of the wife of comedian Milton Berle. Kovacs and his wife, singer Edie Adams, left the party in separate cars from the house of their host, director Billy Wilder, to their 17-room mansion, which Miss Adams reached, unaware of the crash. Kovacs, who would have been 43 in ten days, was the father of three children, aged 15, 13 and 2.

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Mafia Head Dies

Salvatore Luciano was 14 when he took his first job as a \$5 a week clerk, but after winning \$250 in a floating crap game, he turned to crime and eventually became head of the U.S. Mafia.

Better known as "Lucky" Luciano, he controlled prostitution, narcotics and gambling rings, was a partner in Murder Inc. and took over most of Al Capone's operations.

Arrested 25 times, Luciano went to prison only twice but was deported from the United States in 1946. Luciano continued to run a highly profitable drug ring from Italy, but died of a heart attack today on his way to discuss a movie of his life with a Hollywood producer.

Dr. Von Braun Voted Top Newsmaker

Dr. Von Braun, of Huntsville, Alabama has once again been voted as the country's top newsmaker for his work with rockets. This is the fourth year in a row he has received the award.

RFK says U.S. Will Stay in Vietnam until Viet Com are Defeated

Robert F. Kennedy, who was in Saigon last week on a month long world tour, said that American troops are committed to staying in Vietnam until the Viet Cong are beaten. But the U.S. Attorney General did not say what his brother's administration intends to do about the internal problems plaguing the South Vietnamese regime itself.

Today, South Vietnam's presidential palace came under non Communist fire when two fighter bombers of the country's own air force subjected it to 50 minutes of bombing, strafing, rockets and napalm, leaving one wing in flames.

Neither the 61-year-old bachelor President Diem nor his close confidantes, his brother Ngo Dinh Diem and sister-in-law Mme. Nhu, were present.

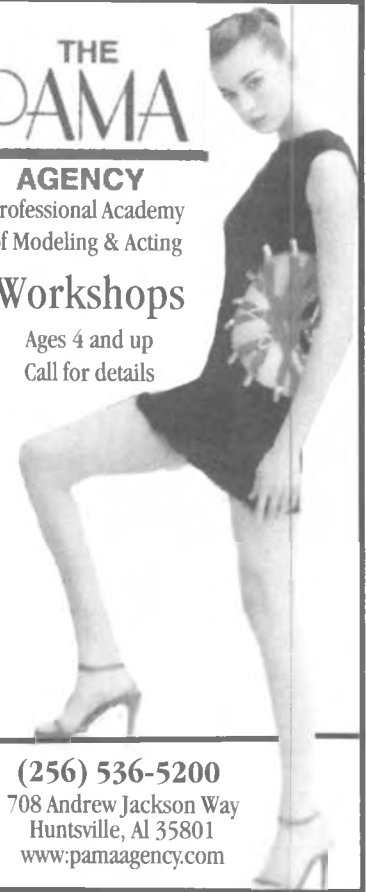
A report that the attack was launched by rebels of the South Vietnam air force stems from the eventual crash of one of the planes, whose pilot was captured.

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Growing up in Merrimack

by Bill Brown

The effects of the stock market crash trickled down throughout the country's economy.

Dad's job and nearly all of our income were gone. He expected to get a job with one of the mills around Huntsville, but none was to be had. There was, suddenly, a surplus of workers. He looked everywhere in and around Huntsville for mill work; many other men in similar circumstances were looking, too...

We moved, for a short while, to poorer housing in Huntsville's "Booger Town". I have sketchy memories of living there, almost in isolation, among people we hardly knew. Daddy soon rented rooms for us some 20 miles from Huntsville where we roomed with a kindly and genteel Miss Dickey. Daddy's small Army pension sustained us. (Daddy was "gassed" by the Germans while in France during World War I.) My earliest distinct memories are of living at Miss Dickie's while our Dad expanded his job search,

traveling over much of the South-eastern States trying to find mill work. He and many other unemployed men looking for work to support their families, "hoboed" on freight trains from town to town looking for work. Those trips were desperate and, in my father's case, unsuccessful.

After several months Daddy found work and village housing --- back in Huntsville at Lowe Mill, a cotton mill and village about three miles from Merrimack. But he always had an eye on Merrimack. When Merrimack Mills had an opening Daddy applied and was re-hired - not as a Loom Fixer, but

as a Warp Hand - a low skill job at low pay. It took about a year for him to get back to being a Loom Fixer.

We waited months before one of the coveted Merrimack Mill Village houses became available, but we got it, at 504 D Street. I was five years old when we moved back. (Unknown to me then, we lived two blocks from 525 D Street, where Clarence and Lennie Holmes and their sweet 5-year-old daughter, Doris, lived.

Dad always had one or more "outside jobs". (Most mill workers were content with their mill work and gardens.) Among other things, Dad collected weekly payments on accounts for Dunnivant's Department Store, the premier clothing store in Huntsville.

The village houses were

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heated and cooking was done on coal-fired grates and stoves. Everyone stored coal in their large concrete storage building behind each house. Those storage buildings also housed the water toilets. There was no plumbing in the houses until the late 1930's. Water for drinking, cooking and washing came from a single faucet in each back yard. Nearly every family had a coal bill which they played weekly. Daddy had coal collection routes for years. For most of the villagers it was a "hand-to-mouth" economy. Mill workers were paid on Fridays. They knew "collectors" would show up on Saturday mornings to collect on coal, insurance, groceries, etc.

The Company paid its workers meager wages, as did the other cotton mills around Huntsville and throughout the Southeast. Most mill companies provided attractive incentives to its workers - some, more than others. Merrimack was the most generous of the companies I knew in seeing to the welfare and morale of its workers, which fostered loyalty and stability. As a consequence there was never a problem getting all the good workers needed to run the mills.

Merrimack Village was owned and tightly controlled by The Company. It provided its employees with superior housing for the time, which could only be rented to a family that included a male employee of Merrimack. (If the male householder died, a female resident could retain the house if she worked for Merrimack). However, I can remember several occasions when a man would lose

his job in the mill usually for alcohol abuse and/or insubordination. The Company showed limited tolerance. If the "fired" employee failed to vacate the Company house in a week or two, the Madison County Sheriff would show up with his deputies and set the family's belongings out on the street.

The Company provided a competently staffed hospital (walk-in clinic) in the village, with limited free medical and dental care for its employees and their families. It had a doctor, dentist and nurses. My family and I went there many times with

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cuts, bruises, tooth problems, etc. Broken bones were set and splinted, teeth were filled and extracted and infrequently, people were there with terminal illnesses. Only villagers requiring long term treatment or major surgery were sent to Huntsville Hospital.

There was a "Hall" on the second floor of a company owned "mini strip-mall". It had an excellent basketball court, dressing rooms for school sport teams (football and basketball), and several all-purpose meeting rooms. Village and school clubs and other organizations conducted business at these company facilities. The Hall had bowling lanes, card, domino and pool tables where available, for a nominal fee.

There were community sponsored celebrations at Christmas, at school-year endings, on the 4th of July and several other occasions. We had picnics at the company's Brahan Spring about half a mile from the village houses. Brahan Spring was a large lake, fed by an artesian well - the source of water for the village (now a part of the Huntsville's water system). It was also a recreation center where, in addition to swimming and fishing, families, school classes, school clubs and village organizations met for picnics, wiener and marshmallow roasts, sporting events and other get-togethers. One bonus I enjoyed on some of those get-togethers at Brahan Spring was escorting Doris Holmes home, frequently after dark. We regarded each other as "good friends." I never got around to changing our relationship and kissing her. The thought crossed my mind, but I just "chickened out".

The Company built, maintained, provided utilities and custodial services for a village school. I attended there beginning in 1933, a year after our return to Merrimack. As I recall, I had perfect attendance for nine of my 12 years there. The school was named Joseph J. Bradley School, in honor of the Company Agent. He was the senior Company resident in Huntsville, living in a mansion in the center of the village. Upon his retirement about 1930, his son, Joseph J. Bradley, Jr., became the Company Agent. As the Company Agent, he exercised broad authority over Company interests in Huntsville. He ran the mills, the village and all other properties of the Company in Huntsville. Joe Bradley School was an accredited part of the Madison County School System.

Most secondary schools in Alabama had seven-month school years in the early 1930's, with fall breaks for cotton picking and other



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farm harvest chores. Joe Bradley School had a nine-month school year, where the latter two months were funded, more by the entrepreneurial efforts of its dedicated principal, Mr. E. F. DuBose, than by the Company.

Mr. DuBose had control of the mobile "Stand Wagon" in the mills which moved along the aisles of the mill machinery, selling soft drinks, sandwiches, snacks and candy to the employees. In addition to the Stand Wagon, Mr. DuBose ran the "Stands" in the school halls which sold similar items to those students fortunate enough to have a little "pocket change" at recess and at the lunch hour. He also ran a community movie theatre in the school auditorium and a Variety Store which sold miscellaneous products to the community. The Variety store housed one of the few available telephones in the village.

There was never any indication that Mr. DuBose personally profited from these enterprises. But it was clear that he was fully in charge of the school, which he ran without assistant principals or administrative aides. He had unquestioned "hiring and firing" authority for the many years he was Principal. He is one of the few great people I have been privileged to know.

School started each day with a Chapel Service for all students. The Bible was read, followed by student body recitation of the Lord's Prayer; singing lively and/or patriotic songs was always on the program.

There was always some special presentation, ranging from classical music, which few enjoyed, to student skits, to magic acts, guest speakers and occasional lectures by Mr. DuBose. One of our favorites was hearing a story told by Mrs. DuBose, wife of the principal and seventh grade home room teacher. She would, without notes, recite a

story, always with a moral, for about 20 minutes. Several hundred students, from 6 to 19 years old would listen in rapt attention to these stories. I have never seen anyone else who could match her story-telling ability to captivate an audience of such a wide age range.

Discipline was strictly enforced. I believe that only in my last two years of school did I avoid corporal punishment. The paddle, "The Board of Education," was wielded with vigor, but not unreasonable force. Punishment at school was not a thing to discuss at home, lest additional punishment should follow. The teachers were held in high regard by the villagers.

The "masculine figure" at Joe Bradley School was Mr. Warren C. (Doc) Moore - the eighth grade home room teacher. He taught all the 8-12 grade boys woodwork

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by Marsha Mathes

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shop, generously punctuated with advice on ethical behavior. He was completely honest, tough, funny and uniformly admired by the boys in the school. Doc was a graduate of Auburn University (then Alabama Polytechnic Institute). As an indication of his impact on his students, all the boys wanted to go to Auburn. Doc assured us - and we believed - that if we genuinely wanted to go to school at Auburn or any other college, we could find ways of making enough money to get by. I went through high school never doubting that I would go to Auburn after graduating from Joe Bradley. All but one of the boys in my 1945 graduating class went to Auburn. All graduated except Herbert Johnson, who was called out of school at Auburn, back into military service during the Korean War. He died a hero; posthumously awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in the defense of his Country.

Mr. Percy Vaughn was the 10th grade home room teacher. He taught physics and chemistry. He was an understanding and gentle man (though he could swing the paddle). While not as close to the students as Doc Moore, Mr. Vaughn was, perhaps, the most intelligent teacher we had. He fired my interest in chemistry and engineering, which turned out to be the road to my professional life as a chemical engineer. I have always counted it a loss that he left before my 11th grade year. He left because he could not support his family on his teacher's salary.

"It's never OK to kiss a boy. They always slobber all over you. That's why I stopped doing it."

Tammy Jordan, age 10

Another teacher who should be noted is Mrs. John Sparkman, the wife of a local lawyer. I was a fourth grader when she left because her husband, Mr. John Sparkman, had been elected to the U. S. House of Representatives. Congressman Sparkman, who as a mem-

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ber of the U.S. House of Representatives, who told us he earned \$25,000 per year, needed her as the social contact for his office. Congressman Sparkman spoke several times on the Joe Bradley School Chapel Program.

Many of his comments greatly influenced my concept and respect for how the National Government worked. He became a powerful Senator, to the benefit of the Nation and very much to the benefit of Alabama.

Through his influence, an airport was established in Huntsville in 1935 or 1936. A Ford Tri-Motor passenger plane came to Huntsville, offering rides over Huntsville for \$1 each.

My brother, Oliver, talked to Mr. DuBose, our school principal, who agreed that it was a "learning experience", and excused Oliver for half a day to ride in the aircraft. (It almost killed me when I missed that ride because I did

not have a dollar nor an excuse to miss school).

Life-long relationships and friendships were established among village residents, which continue to this day. Most of us have kept in touch with our school classmates and many others from the neighborhood. Many, if not most of us, married others from the village.

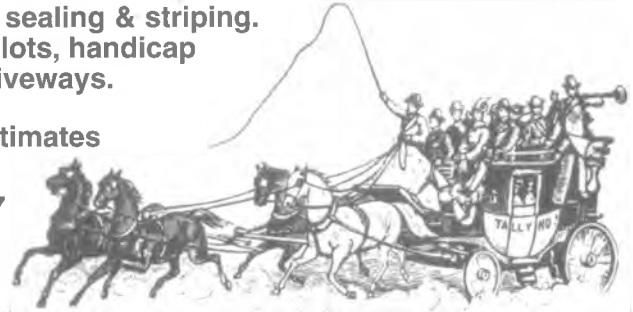
I finally got up the courage to kiss Doris Holmes, that sweet little girl I met years earlier, and six months later we were married.

"I've got all the money I'll ever need, if I die by one o'clock today."
Henny Youngman

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Mayday 1950

by Judy Chandler Smith

As I ride down East Clinton Street and stop to watch the children practicing the Dance of the Maypole, I couldn't help but remember when Anne Walker and I were in Mrs. Baker's third grade class at East Clinton Street School.

We were eight years old, and so excited to be in the class chosen for the Maypole dance. All of the girls had to have dresses made of crepe paper. My dress was pink, my mother's favorite color. Anne's was blue.

Mrs. Baker would get really mad at everyone for talking, especially Anne and me. She would tape our mouths shut. If that didn't work she would draw a circle on the blackboard and we would have to stand with our nose in the circle for a class period, and if that didn't work, she had an eighteen-inch ruler that she would use on your back with the wrath of God.

I prayed everyday that I could keep my mouth shut and be

chosen to go outside thirty minutes before school got out at 2:30 p.m. to dust erasers.

Believe it or not, Anne and I managed to not misbehave and were allowed to participate in the weaving of the crepe paper streamers on a beautiful sunny day in May 1950.

Tips from Liz

* Your birds are starting to build nests for their new babies. Help them out by taking the lint from your dryer and leaving it in your yard - the birds will find it!

* A hatpin can be used for dipping cream candies quickly into chocolate.

* Whiten your discolored cutting boards by rubbing them with lemon rinds turned inside out.

* If you bake cookies, try covering your cookie sheet with foil wrap and a spray of butter-flavored cooking spray. Slide off the foil/cookies when baked and your pan is ready for another batch.

* If the insides of your aluminum pans are discolored, simply boil apple parings in them for a short time to brighten.

* To make sugar coffee, place coffee beans in a covered container with sugar until it has absorbed the coffee scent.

* Add ground cinnamon to your vanilla ice cream!

* Wrought iron will clean up with a few drops of melted paraffin on a soft clean cloth.

* If you wrap your vidalia onions in foil and toss them in the fridge, they will stay fresher longer!

* To chase the blues away, eat 2 bananas a day. They contain serotonin and norepinephrine which helps prevent depression.

* If you don't like some of your plants that are beginning to come up this spring, but hate to throw them away, just dig them up and plant them in another area!

* A very effective make-up remover is Crisco. Just massage it onto your skin and wipe off with a tissue.

* If you have picky eaters, let them help you prepare dishes - chances are, they'll be more likely to try it if they helped make it.

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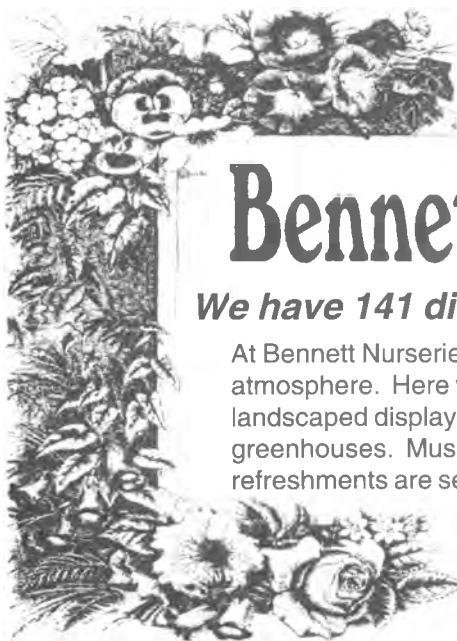
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from 1942 newspaper

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All applicants for the examination must be citizens of the United States, must have completed the eighth grade, and must be physically capable of performing the work of the positions. Female applicants must have reached their 18th birthday and not have reached their 40th birthday. Male applicants

must have reached their eighteenth birthday and not have reached their 50th birthday.

Deferment from military service will not be requested for males selected for these positions.

Persons interested should address a postal card to Personnel Office, Tennessee Valley Authority Wilson Dam, Alabama. The postal card should contain only your full name, complete address, and name of the test, "Chemical Plant Operator-Trainee."

Applicants will be notified when and where to report for the examination.



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Dear Editor

Dear Old Huntsville,

I recently read your story about Mr. Taylor and the ginseng patch and was glad that someone would remember him after so many years.

In the 1920s my father rented a farm near New Hope. He grew some cotton but much of our cash money came from hunting ginseng.

Somehow my father got to know Mr. Taylor and he would stop by the house if he was in the neighborhood and Mama would feed him. Sometimes we would get up early in the morning and Mr. Taylor would be sitting on the front porch waiting for us. He couldn't talk but we could tell he was glad for the company. Some times Mama would find a pair of dressed rabbits hanging from the porch rafters. We always knew where they came from.

I think Mr. Taylor knew we were having a hard time with money. Once when Daddy was worrying about how to pay bills Mr. Taylor took him into the mountains for several days. When they came back Daddy had enough money to pay all the bills.

Mr. Taylor was a good man.

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Segregation Laws and the Mailman

by James E. Taylor

From 1926 until 1-565 took our property in 1990, my parents' home was on Mitchell Drive which was a couple of blocks from Pulaski Pike and West Holmes Street, both of which were predominantly black neighborhoods.

Around 1931 when I was 10 years old, I became fascinated with the black postman (Clarence Powers) who delivered our mail primarily because of his gentle manners and his mode of transportation. He delivered the mail by driving a horse and carriage. The carriage was enclosed much as in the manner of the small enclosed trucks of that day.

After the war, I returned to work at the Russel Erskine Hotel and in 1947 was made manager.

Around 1948 or 49, the local postmaster contacted me and advised that Clarence's fellow workers at the post office wanted to give him a retirement party but didn't know how to get around the state segregation laws. (Remember - in 1948 there was only one post office in Huntsville and not very many postmen). Our blue room would seat 50 persons which was about the number in attendance. In the center of a dividing wall, there was a door to an adjoining room. We removed the door and placed a separate single table for Clarence in the

door to give him the appearance of being the guest of honor, which he was. Thus, we legally beat the segregation laws.

I recall it as being a beautiful retirement party. As I recalled this event in later years, I only regretted that I failed to tell Clarence that I was that young teenager that he delivered mail to in the thirties.

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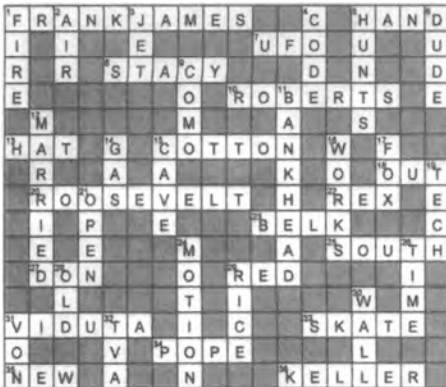
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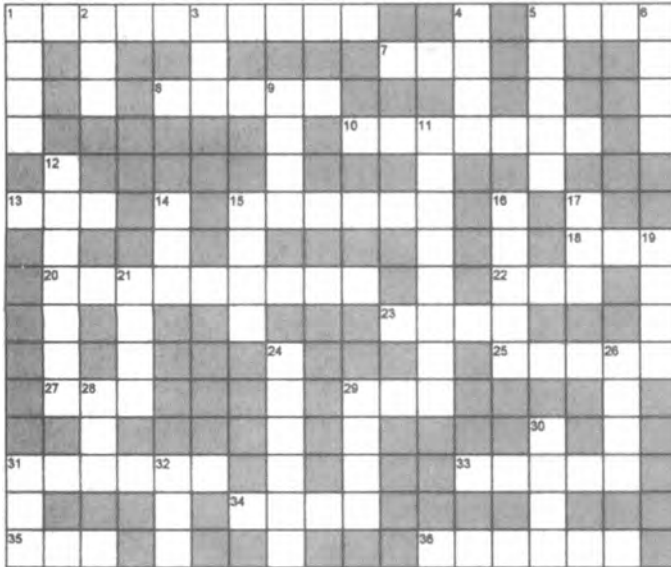
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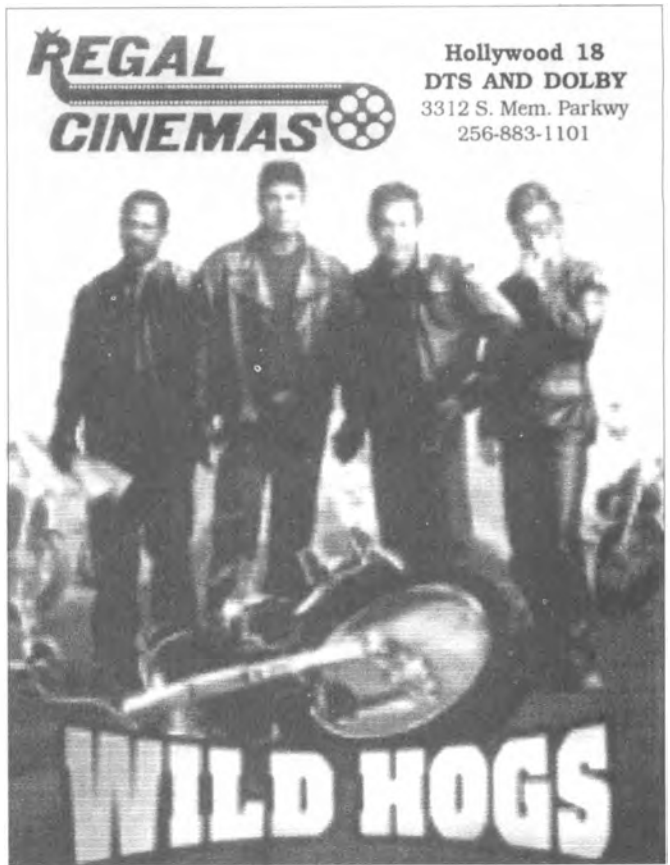
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answers on page 57

Across

1. Notorious outlaw, tried in Huntsville for robbery in Muscle Shoals, 1884
5. Alabama's _____ written Constitution is on display at Early Works Museum
7. _____ sightings were reported all across Huntsville, 1973
8. Huntsville resident, _____ Willis crowned " Mrs. America", 1999
10. Miss Frances _____ organized The Huntsville Historical Society, 1951
13. The "TOP _____ LOUNGE", favorite gathering place for rocket scientists and engineers closed, 1989
15. Huntsville's early growth was attributed to the _____ Industry
18. "Speaking _____ News", Alternative newspaper available in Huntsville
20. Col. Theodore _____ spoke at the Huntsville Depot, 1910
22. _____ Reynolds, Huntsville Police Chief, 2006
23. _____ Hudson Department Store opened, 1941
25. _____ Side Square, Eustis Ave. extended
27. _____ Mincher, local ball player, started with Washington Senators, 1960
29. Huntsville's " _____ - Light" district was shutdown Jan. 1, 1914
31. Former small town on Monte Sano
33. Huntsville City Council approved a _____ - Board Park, 2000
34. One of three who purchased Hunt's Property
35. 109 German Scientists and their families became U. S. Citizens on " _____ Citizens Day" in Huntsville, 1955
36. Name of automobile manufactured on Redstone Arsenal, 1947



Down

1. The Huntsville _____ Department has 17 Stations, 2006
2. The Bon-_____ Motel and Restaurant opened, 1951
3. Construction on the Huntsville/Madison County _____ Port began, 1964
4. First Huntsville Building-_____ established, 1925
5. Miss _____ Private School on Green Street, 1887
6. Monte Sano _____ Ranch opened to public 1940
9. Lake _____ in cavern under downtown Huntsville, 1890
11. 1938 Speaker of U.S. House of Rep.
12. Mark Lee & Jan Davis, First _____ couple to fly in space
14. Several wells drilled in west Huntsville for Natural _____.
15. Shelta _____, "8th Wonder of the World", opened in cavern under Huntsville, 1890
16. The Early _____ Museum opened 1998
17. _____ Hospital on Redstone Arsenal closed 1997
19. Newsweek Magazine named Huntsville as one of the top 10 " _____ Cities" in the U.S., 2001
21. The first _____ Heart surgery performed in Huntsville, 1981
24. The _____ picture " SPACE CAMP" was filmed in Huntsville, 1986
26. The 1955 _____ Capsule was unearthed at the courthouse, 2005
28. _____ Town, One of Huntsville's Historic Districts
29. _____ Rice of Huntsville was crowned Miss Alabama, 1973
30. Jimmy _____, elected to City Council, 1982
31. The _____ Braun Civic Center opened in 1975
32. Gov't Agency bringing sweeping changes to HSV

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