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HUMPHREYS COUNTY, FINE ART

CONTINUED

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Humphreys County

Volume XXVII

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STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Susie V. Powell, State Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 13, 1936

Topic: Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B 1(a & c)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Mrs. Martha Dugger Gregory

A native of Iuka, Mississippi, Mrs. Martha Dugger Gregory received her early education in the schools of the town, where she also studied music. At the early age of eleven years, she was serving as organist in the Baptist Church of Iuka. Among her prized possessions is a music portfolio with which she was complimented by the church for having been its most faithful organist.

She attended Iuka Normal College where she continued her study of music. Included in the course of music at this school was a three year course from the Conservatory of Music at Cincinnati. Mrs. Gregory taught music one year at the College. At Jacinta, Miss. she taught a year, at Cumberlin, Miss. one year, and at Riverton, Alabama, three years. She had private classes at Iuka and Greenville, Miss. for two years each.

Coming to Belzoni in 1905, Mrs. Gregory taught music for two years. She was organist in the Baptist Church where she had a large choir, assisting also with other church choirs of the City. She was an able assistant with any musical entertainment, especially with commencement programs at the close of school.

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

While ill health has prevented Mrs. Gregory from taking an active part in music circles of the town in later years, she still retains an intense interest in her art and enjoys the very best in music.

Reference: Mrs. Martha Dugger Gregory - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Oct. 27, 1936

Topic: Music

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Assignment No. 16

Item No. I-B 1
(a, c & d)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Mrs. Hazel Barge Sorrells, one of the outstanding musicians of Belzoni, began her study of music at the early age of four. Playing the mandolin at six, she began with the violin and at eight started piano lessons.

She was born and reared at Brookhaven. As one of three sisters, who were all talented musicians, her mother's ambition for her girls, Elsie, Frances and Hazel, was a stage career, and for them to be known as the "Barge Sisters". While the mother's dream was never realized each of her girls has made a name in the musical world of which she may be justly proud.

Mrs. Sorrells studied music at Whitworth College under Miss McVoy, Whitworth being an accredited school. She then took up her study of music at a Cincinnati Conservatory of Music under Verde. She spent three years at the Chicago College of Music under Boguslausk. She is known to have "Perfect Pitch" which is rarely found in noted musicians. She has broadcast from W G E S, W G N and Westinghouse Station in Chicago. While in Chicago, Mrs. Sorrells accompanied for Ferry Lulek, and Max Fischel, artist teachers. She was organist and choir director of La Salle Baptist Church in Chicago. Her appearances at Vicksburg, Greenwood, Greenville, Brookhaven and Indianola have always brought high acclaim for her accomplishment.

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In 1925 she came to Belzoni as music teacher and supervisor of Public School music. She was married in 1927 to H. A. Sorrells, Jr. of Belzoni. Until her marriage she was an honorary member of the Music Club. Since her marriage she has served as President of the Music Club.

Mrs. Sorrells has continued teaching music. She has served as organist at both the Methodist and Baptist Churches and is ever helpful whenever called upon, always responding willingly.

Reference: Mrs. H. A. Sorrells - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Oct. 29, 1936

Topic: Music

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Assignment No. 16

Item No. I-B 1
(a, c & e)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Mrs. Robert J. Jackson, with her husband and baby boy, came to Belzoni in 1910.

For many years after taking up her residence in Belzoni, Mrs. Jackson was one of the outstanding musicians of the town. For a time she taught a private class in piano. Being an excellent organist, Mrs. Jackson has served her Methodist Church in this capacity as well as having been long affiliated with the choir.

Mrs. Jackson possesses a splendid alto voice and has upon solicitation of the different denominations, always responded readily with her voice, lending aid of the type that is so essential to perfect choir complement.

Through her deep capacity for friendship, her winsome Christian character and musical talent, Mrs. Jackson has long since made a place all of her own in the heart of her many friends at Belzoni.

References: Mrs. R. J. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.
~~Mamie G. Cartledge, Belzoni, Miss.~~

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Oct. 26, 1936

Topic: Music

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Assignment No. 16

Item No. I - B1
(a & e)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

Outstanding in the musical circle of Belzoni for more than twenty years, Mrs. Mathew D. Alexander, or "Mrs. Mat" as she is affectionately called by her friends, has ever been an active part.

Mrs. Alexander studied voice and piano in Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania. She also studied under Mr. Joe McGee of Charleston, Mississippi and Miss Lelia Jesty (Mrs. Powell) of New Orleans, voice instructors. She has always been an active member of both the Music Club and The Woman's Club of Belzoni.

Mrs. Alexander has taught voice and possesses herself a clear, sweet mezzo soprano voice. She has lead the choir of the Baptist Church, serving also as organist. As a most influential and wholesome Christian character, Mrs. Alexander is loved by everyone, and her very capable leadership in any undertaking is generally recognized.

She says as God has endowed her with this talent, her greatest desire is to use it for His glory.

Reference: Mrs. M. D. Alexander - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.

Nov. 11, 1936

to lend her voice and talents for the entertainment of her friends

Topic: Music Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Florence Owen

Item No. I-B 1(a & e)

Reference: Mrs. Cameron Sevier - Belzoni, Miss.

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Mrs. Cameron Sevier has for several years been numbered among the most gifted vocalists of Belzoni. She began her musical education at the age of seven in her home state, Louisiana. She applied herself to the study of piano through her earlier school days, and when she reached high school age, her talent had so developed that, there being no music teacher in the school, she organized a class with which she was highly successful.

Finishing her high school course and desirous of continuing her studies in her home state, Mrs. Sevier entered Louisiana Tech at Ruston, Louisiana. She completed the courses of voice, piano and art at this college, also specializing in public school music. While there, she also had private voice lessons under Mr. Howard Wilson.

Completing her college work, Mrs. Sevier taught for a time in Louisiana. She then took three years of post graduate work before coming to Belzoni, as Miss Mildred Hill, to assume charge of public school music in 1921. After teaching a year she was married to Mr. Cameron Sevier of Belzoni, one of the county's most capable and well liked young business men.

Mrs. Sevier possesses a vivacious personality. She is active in church and club work, and her likable manner and ever willingness

Lido Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma, for five weeks.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.

Nov. 5, 1936

Returning to Texas, they were the visitors of the Ringside

Club at Fort Worth for two weeks. Then came a request to return to

Topic: Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Florence Owen

Item No. I-B 1(a, e)

of two months followed. Then back in Texas, they were at Amarillo

for seven weeks. Then they returned to Tulsa, Oklahoma, for a

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

return engagement of the orchestra. After spending seven weeks there,

A member of one of the oldest families of Humphreys County, Nancy Hutson received her earlier schooling at her home town, Isola. Finishing high school there, she attended Delta State College, Cleveland, Miss. for two years.

Although Nancy had studied piano for thirteen years, she had never had lessons in voice. Nevertheless, her family had been entertained through the years by her childish treble voice singing the various songs she had heard.

Upon leaving college, she was greatly interested in singing. Putting a wish into effect she was soon a member of the Herbie Holmes Orchestra, which was filling an engagement at the Windmill Club in Vicksburg. Her rendition of popular songs was an immediate success, and Mr. Holmes, himself a delta boy, was quick to see a future for her. Completing a successful two weeks at Vicksburg, the orchestra went to the Colonial Club, Jackson, Miss. So well were they liked, that they remained there for eight weeks. Leaving Jackson, they filled a six weeks' engagement at Dallas, Texas.

At each of the places visited, Nancy's reception fulfilled her wish to thoroughly entertain her audience.

They were next engaged at the Four Hundred Club, Wichita, Kansas for a period of six weeks. Having been asked to play at the

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

Lido Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma, they were there for five weeks. Returning to Texas, they entertained the visitors of the Ringside Club at Fort Worth for two weeks. Then came a request to return to Wichita, Kansas. Being particularly well liked there, an engagement of two months followed. Then back in Texas, they were at Amarillo for seven weeks. The Lido Club of Tulsa, Oklahoma requested a return engagement of the orchestra. After spending seven weeks there, they were asked to play at the Casino of Greenville, Miss. where they are entertaining at the present time. After completing their engagement of from two to four weeks, they will go either to Houston, Texas or Oklahoma City. They are then planning for engagements along the west coast.

It is only natural that Humphreys County, the home county of Nancy Hutson, is justly proud of her achievements. Her friends, upon hearing "Darkness On the Delta", theme song of Herbie Holmes' Orchestra over the radio, are quick to regulate the dial so that they will miss none of the familiar tones of Nancy's voice as she gives her interpretation of their favorite song hits.

To her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fulton Hutson, however, it is doubtful if they are more proud of her now than during the World War, when, as a little four year old girl she entertained the soldiers at Camp Beauregard, Alexandria, Louisiana by clapping and singing "Beautiful Katie".

A young lady of rare beauty, her face always alight with amused pleasure, "our own Nancy" will continue to win her way into the heart of her audiences with her voice.

References: Mrs. F. H. Hutson - Isola, Miss.
Nancy Hutson - Isola, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Oct. 27, 1936

Topic: Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B 1
(a & e)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Outstanding in the realm of music at Louise, Mississippi for the last several years have been Mrs. B. F. Seward and Mrs. J. D. Upshaw, both efficient teachers of music. Mrs. Upshaw is connected with the Louise school as teacher of public school music, piano, voice and expression.

This being a small town, all have worked together in putting on recitals, plays and pageants, both in school and church.

Miss Haywood Belle Stroud, a very talented pupil of Mrs. J. D. Upshaw, will continue her study of music at Belhaven College, Jackson, Mississippi.

Mrs. Melvin Boykin, as instructor of the W. P. A. Music Class at Louise, is regarded as a most interested and efficient teacher. Mrs. C. E. Holaday, Mrs. J. D. Upshaw and Mrs. Boykin are noted for their dramatic talent and success with their plays and other entertainments.

References: Mrs. E. A. Upshaw - Louise, Miss.
Mrs. J. R. Lambeth - Louise, Miss.
Mrs. Melvin Boykin - Louise, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 10, 1936

Topic: Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B 1(e)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Coming to Belzoni about two years ago to assume management of the Southern United Ice Company, it was soon learned that Mr. R. D. Boulton was possessor of a splendid voice. His pleasing personality and willingness to lend his voice for the enjoyment of his friends soon made for him a place among the leading musicians of the town.

A native of Vicksburg, Mr. Boulton there secured his education. He studied voice for three years during his high school course, which constitutes his musical education. As a member of a musical family, his talent is natural. A sister studied music at Wesleyan College. A sister is studying voice at L. S. U. and a brother is in vocal training at Nashville.

Mr. Boulton sang at Capitol Street Methodist Church in Jackson for a year. Since moving to Belzoni he has always manifested a willingness to help in all musical events of the town whenever called upon.

Reference: Mr. R. D. Boulton - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 13, 1936
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 6, 1936

Topic: Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B 1(e)

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B 1(e)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Robert W. Krutz

Robert Krutz or "Bob" as he is affectionately known to his friends was born at Shelby, Miss. but received his education in the schools of Indianola. Her family to Natchez, Louisiana where she lived. A talented singer, he studied voice six months in Memphis. As a paid singer, he was at Union Avenue Baptist Church in Memphis for a year, singing also at Evergreen Methodist Church.

The radio performances of Mr. Krutz include broadcasts over Station W R E C with Mr. Wooten at Corinth, Miss. before this station was opened in Memphis. He has at times been a contributor to programs from W M C Memphis. While in Memphis he was a member of the Appolo Club of protestant male voices. His rich tenor voice was often given in charity when he sang for clubs, The Old Men's Home, The Veterans Home or in church choirs. Since living in Belzoni where he married Miss Mable Higdon, who is also a talented musician and teacher of dancing, Mr. Krutz has taken part in almost every entertainment given. His voice is frequently heard at funerals and in church choirs. He has, with his genial disposition won his way into the hearts of the Belzoni people who are justly proud of him as a citizen and as an ever willing entertainer with his talent.

Reference: Robert W. Krutz - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 6, 1936

Topic: Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B 1(e)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Mrs. Mary Selden Powell

Mrs. Mary Selden Powell was born in Faundale, Alabama, but at an early age moved with her family to Mound, Louisiana where she lived until her marriage to Mr. James Milton Powell. Mr. and Mrs. Powell moved to Utica, Mississippi for a time, and in 1914 came to Belzoni to make their home.

Although gifted with a splendid voice, Mrs. Powell has studied under only one teacher, that being Miss Lelia Jesty, who several years ago had classes of voice at Greenwood and Indianola, but the sweetness of her natural voice has made her one of the outstanding vocalists of Belzoni. Her ready response in helping with any entertainment can always be counted upon. In church, in weddings and funerals her talent has been given to her friends willingly and freely.

At one time The Woman's Club had a department of music in which Mrs. Powell took an active part. Her jolly, sweet disposition has long since won for her a place in the hearts of Belzoni citizens.

Reference: Mrs. J. M. Powell - Belzoni, Mississippi.

Mamie G. Parledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 3, 1936

Topic: Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B e

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Upon inquiry at Gooden Lake as to whether there were artists in the community, very modestly came an answer in the negative. It was the privilege of the writer, nevertheless, to hear a rendition by Mrs. Theodore Bell at the piano, accompanied by Miss Lucile Outlaw in vocal duet, which proved beyond a doubt that the community of Gooden Lake is not without its talented musicians.

Reference: Bettie Brooke - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Parledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Oct. 29, 1936

Topic: Public School Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B 3

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

James Selby Fisher, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Fisher, was born in Belzoni twenty-four years ago. In early childhood he manifested a great love and talent for music. He studied saxophone and piano under Mrs. Clarence Erb and Mrs. Lois Love Bain.

After completing his school work at Belzoni, he entered Louisiana State University where he continued his study of music, being a member of the college band and orchestra, and the Glee Club.

Following his graduation from L. S. U. in 1934, he became a member of the High School faculty at Yazoo City, where he has charge of the school orchestra and has a private class of music.

James Selby's ability in conducting concerts, his orchestra service at the dances and other entertainments, have won for him an enviable place in musical circles over this section of the Delta. He is an ever willing contributor and perfect complement on any program.

Reference: Mrs. R. H. Fisher - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Oct. 29, 1936

Topic: Public School Music

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-B 3

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

As a talented young musician of Belzoni, Robert Pearce, son of Mrs. E. B. Pearce, began his career under the tutorship of Harold Ellard who was at that time a resident of Belzoni. He soon found his way into the orchestras of Mrs. C. Erb and Mrs. Lois Love Bain.

Finishing his school work at home, Robert entered the Military Institute at Tupelo where he directed the school orchestra, thus working his way through college by giving concerts and playing for dances and dinner parties.

Music comes as a natural heritage to Robert Pearce, his entire family being gifted with this talent. His mother studied music at Yazoo City and Whitworth College and at one time conducted a private music class at Belzoni. She is a charter member of the Music Club, having for a time served the club as secretary. During his father's lifetime, he, with his deep bass voice, was a prized member of the Baptist choir.

Reference: Mrs. E. B. Pearce - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 12, 1936

Topic: Painting

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-C 1

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair.

Born and reared at Belzoni, Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair, at the early age of eight, attended school at Grenada. As her education advanced, she entered Woman's College, then located at Oxford, Mississippi where she spent two years. Then back in Grenada, she attended Grenada College where she studied English under Dr. Blanche Colton Williams, a Mississippi educator of note who has since risen to dean of Hunter College, New York City, this being the largest college for women in the world. Dr. Williams is recognized as a foremost authority in many fields of art, including that of writing, and Mrs. Blair looks back with pride on her association with this distinguished teacher.

Through 1908-09 Mrs. Blair was a student at The Art Institute of Chicago where she gave intensive study to oil painting. In 1911-12 she had private lessons in music at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. Here she studied piano and voice and had private lessons in art.

Returning to Belzoni, she organized classes in music and art and was granted by the trustees use of a room in the school building

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M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

for her work. Then followed her marriage to Mr. H. H. Blair of Belzoni. Most of her married life has been spent at Belzoni and although she has manifested an active interest along many other lines, including farming, she has never relaxed her dominant interest in art. As a resident of Yazoo City from 1932-35, she opened a studio and received much recognition and acclaim in her work.

Now back at home, in Belzoni, Mrs. Blair is still active with her art. She is frequently called upon to arrange and judge art exhibits and flower shows. She spent several months as Supervisor of a W. P. A. Beautification Project, and was engaged in beautifying the city with plants and shrubs. This work promised to be most successful had the project not been withdrawn.

The following excerpts from various papers will give, perhaps, a clearer portrayal of the life work of Mrs. Blair as an artist.

In the Yazoo Sentinel of February 3, 1932, appears:

A visit to Mrs. Blair's studio and the inspection of some of her work will convince you that she is a true artist. The

Elsewhere in this issue of the Sentinel, on page 1, appears a very interesting article on Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair and her painting, written by the gifted G. Marion O'Donnell, of Belzoni, the grandson of Mrs. Fannie Hutchens Bell and the late Rev. Martin A. Bell, who was a gifted orator and minister. Marion is also a first cousin of Mr. A. R. Hutchens, of Belzoni, popular chancery clerk of Humphreys County.

After reading this well-written article, it is easily understood that Yazoo City is indeed fortunate to have such a

Humphreys County, Fine Art

talented artist as Mrs. Blair open a studio here. No doubt a large number of adults and school children will take advantage of this opportunity to study art, and have already enrolled as students."

The article:

" LILLIAN SORRELS BLAIR
By G. Marion O'Donnell.

Belzonians should look with ever-increasing pride on the artistic work of their neighbor, Mrs. Lillian Sorrels Blair. Mrs. B. F. Marshal, State Chairman of Art of the Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, declared at Greenwood recently that she had seen nothing better in the state than Mrs. Blair's work, and even went so far as to say that in many respects Mrs. Blair's work compared favorably with that of Woodward, of New Orleans, who is recognized as one of the greatest painters in the South.

A visit to Mrs. Blair's studio and the inspection of some of her work will convince anyone that she is a true artist. The studio, at the rear of the Sorrels home on Jackson Street, has been prepared under the personal direction of Mrs. Blair with little outside assistance of any kind, and it gives evidence everywhere of the artistic touch of its owner. It is set amid flowers and hedges, surrounded by grass plots, and approached from the street by stepping stones or a long curved automobile drive. The building is covered with large, old shingles on the outside, giving it an unusual and romantic appearance. The front door is of colonial pattern, with a tiny glass peep-hole in the center. Entering, one feels as if he has been suddenly transported back a hundred years or so, to

colonial times. The floor is of broad boards which have been stained and waxed, retaining much of the charm of their natural antiquity; the fire-place is of jagged, vari-colored brick, the furniture antique. Light floods the place from skylights overhead, and windows which carry out the colonial atmosphere. Oval rag rugs constitute the floor covering, and everywhere the artist has been faithful to her Colonial scheme of decoration. Mrs. Blair herself charmingly greets the caller. Then she shows him her pictures, explaining them as she goes. Perhaps it is the one entitled "Old Lake", that charming picturization of a scene familiar to those who have lived anywhere in the Delta -- a picture in which she has captured the swampland atmosphere in the most vivid, true-to-nature style. "As this broken-top Cypress stands in all its majesty in the foreground one can almost see a speckled crappie, and perhaps a turtle or two, playing among its 'knees' in its quiet restful solitude." Perhaps, again, she shows "Cabin In the Mountains" in which one looks through an apple orchard, seeing down a valley a fence by the side of the road, and across the road at the foot of a mountain, a cabin in an atmosphere heavy with "pensive sweetness". The smoke is curling out of the little stone chimney in an evanescent, ethereal light as it permeates the air and floats away and melts into the mountains in that rare blue that bespeaks sensitive feeling and a true perception of the blue-glow of the Smoky Mountains. Then, you may see "Little River" where the artist grasps a shimmering silver light as it plays on the water or "Sunny South", a charming example of the celebrated Southern antebellum home --

the red-brick house settled on a sloping hill behind a giant moss-draped oak; or "Southern Drive" with soft blue sky peeping through gray moss-draped trees like lace as they dip over the shadow-splotched drive; or "Down the Mississippi", showing the river at Natchez. In each, Mrs. Blair has demonstrated her true artistic powers--her ability to picture realistically varied scenes and moods, ranging from the sombre tones of "Old Lake" and "Down the Mississippi", to the sparkling, vivacious "Little River".

The artist was educated at various colleges, and at the Art Institute in Chicago, as well as other leading art schools of the country, and has devoted a great deal of time to the study of masterpieces in the great Art galleries of the East. In fact, according to Mrs. Blair, she has been studying art almost all her life, beginning her studies at a very early age. At present she is engaged on several paintings which she hopes to complete before spring, for then she will open her art class, now disbanded for the winter, taking pupils from Belzoni and surrounding towns.

An exhibit of Mrs. Blair's pictures is now en route through the Delta, being demonstrated at various Women's Clubs, and many clubs have asked for the pictures.

No more artistic person can be found anywhere than Mrs. Lillian Sorrels Blair, and Belzoni should indeed, hope that she will continue to live and work here, giving the benefit of her study and experience to her pupils, and her personality to the community. ----
Belzoni Banner."

In 1932 the Greenwood Woman's Club sponsored a most interesting and instructive program on "Books of Art", this program being planned by Mrs. W. L. Craig. Mrs. Blair, with Prof. A. S. McIlwain of the Department of English M S C W, and Mrs. Marie Atkins Hull of Jackson were special guests of the occasion at which an exhibit of Mrs. Blair's own work was displayed. An excerpt from clipping of the Greenwood Commonwealth reads:

"Mrs. Lillian Sorrels Blair, of Belzoni, exhibited a remarkable collection of her own paintings, which were received with much enthusiasm. In all there were twenty paintings displayed. These depicted Mississippi's own beautiful scenery. Some were familiar scenes of the Delta country, lovely views around Natchez and wonderful sketches of the Smoky Mountains and Old Lake and Four Mile Lake. The latter two named places are adjacent to Greenwood. Mrs. Wilton Weaver read a most interesting explanatory paragraph of each painting displayed."

The following article relating to a lecture given by Mrs. Blair on a program of the Greenwood Garden Club appeared in the Belzoni Banner of July 18, 1935:

"MRS. BLAIR IS SPEAKER
AT GARDEN CLUB

There was still another new thought in the brass coffee pot on a table. With art interwoven in her life so naturally and so simply through a background of many years of training in the various fields of art, Mrs. H. H. Blair's lecture and demonstrations were declared the most outstanding program the Greenwood Garden Club has sponsored.

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The audience listened absorbed as she explained flower arrangement, with special reference to design as the artist sees it in painting a picture, designing a building, writing a poem or composing a symphony, proving design to be the essence of all creative beauty. Declaring one must feel beauty in anything and not go after it by arithmetic, she fairly brimmed with the significance she felt to lie behind this when she explained flower arrangement via landscaping and in painting a picture, explaining in choice poetic words the physical, intellectual and spiritual sides of flower arrangement. By special request for zinnia arrangements, her demonstration on glorifying the zinnias was a study in all white zinnias interspersed with thorny fruit-laden lime sprigs, arranged in a long white glazed pottery bowl with a huge brilliant red dahlia in the center overlapping the edge of the bowl, accenting character and style with the one dominant color. To give more white accent to this study, it was placed on a coarsely woven white fringed scarf, artistically draped under the bowl on the table. When she arranged her red zinnias and wild grass in the squatty brown bean pot on a hand woven red plaid scarf, with a string of red peppers, tying flowers, pot and scarf together, one felt she was bidding the observer to pause and listen to the story of old Mexico.

There was still another new thought in the brass coffee pot on a brass tray, as the lacy brown seed pods of our wild flowers spilled out over the spout of the coffee pot as did a bunch of green berries, emphasizing the lines and texture of the pot and forming

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

a happy combination with the brown daisies and yellow zinnias as the top of the pot tilted back giving balance and rhythm.

Another expression of her charm and originality was a flat half-moon arrangement cleverly manipulating zinnias trailing off into small dainty sprays of barberry. This was a study in harmony as she blended these zinnias from the deepest mahogany to the palest pink, beginning with the darkest color in the center, wiring these flowers in a thick crescent shape mat. This she placed in water in a big flat Spode sandwich tray, creating a particularly lovely center arrangement for a luncheon table.

Mrs. Blair closed her program exhibiting an original still life flower study, painted in oil, explaining, as she did throughout her lecture, that it is a matter of self expression and temperament that cannot be standardized, because distinction is to flower arrangement what personality is to people.

The Humphreys County Garden Club is exceedingly fortunate in having one so talented as Mrs. Blair."

Mrs. Blair speaks feelingly of her father, Mr. H. A. Sorrells pioneer settler of Belzoni, whose memory she holds in tender reverence, declaring that it was he who taught her the presence and language of beauty. From the depths of her treasure chest was loaned the following clipping to which she clings as a tie of their sweet relationship:

Reference: Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

" 'In utter need I come to you, dear Father. . . . My eyes are clouded and I cannot see the beauty that is living all about me. . . . The wonder of each flower, each growing tree. . . . God help my heart to rise above its sorrow -- above its weight of poverty and fear. . . . Let me remember words of peace and kindness. Let me remember that Your love is near! Let me think back to days of golden sunshine. . . . Help me to know that hours may still be bright. . . . Let me remember that each storm ends sometime. That stars can gleam across the darkest night. . . . Let me remember cozy things -- hearth fires and tiny threads of music that once played -- Oh, God, I turn to you. . . . In you compassion show me glad paths from which my feet have strayed.' "

In her own words she says:

"As this clipping applies to the Heavenly Father, so it does exactly to my own earthly father. He taught me 'the wonder of each growing tree -- each flower', and my eyes were never so cloudy that he could not make me see the 'living beauty all about me'. And as I grew older, he taught me every step of the rest of this prayer; how, after his death, I could 'think back to days of golden sunshine' with him, and that 'each storm ends sometime', and that 'glad paths are ever open for our straying feet'. Who can ask for more?"

Reference: Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 2, 1936

Topic: Painting

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. I-C

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Mrs. Mamie Campbell Embry of Belzoni was born and reared at Colliersville, Tennessee. Finishing her high school course, she attended Bellevue College there, where she studied pencil drawing and painting. She also studied music, specializing in piano. For a time she continued her studies under a private teacher in Memphis. She then taught a private class in music and art in her home town, Colliersville, Tenn.

More than twenty-five years ago, Mrs. Embry came to teach music in the schools of Belzoni. Through the years following her marriage to Mr. W. H. Embry, she has had pupils in both music and art.

Mrs. Embry is a talented artist and some years ago won first award on a "still life" picture in a district exhibit sponsored by The Woman's Club, taking second place in a State exhibit.

For the past three years she has conducted very successfully an art class under the F.E.R.A. and W.P.A. programs, and the work of her pupils has been recognized as outstanding.

Mrs. Embry is very retiring in her nature and reluctant to admit praiseworthy mention of her work, but she deserves a prominent place in the archives of our county history.

Reference: Mrs. Mamie C. Embry - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Oct. 30, 1936

Topic: Painting - Handicraft

Assignment No. 16

Canvassers: Hattie Trantham
Bettie Brooke

Item No. T-C
Item No. I-A 1 & 5

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

Mrs. John C. Bell.

In an interview with Mrs. John C. Bell of Belzoni we learn quite an interesting story of her life as an artist, she being a talented artist in many lines.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee but spending most of her early life near Little Rock, Arkansas, Mrs. Bell was before her first marriage Mary E. Beattie.

Mrs. Bell, while attending the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, studied drawing and painting, both in water color and oil. She continued her study of these subjects at The Prangs in Chicago. She studied interior decorating in Portland, Oregon, basketry in St. Louis, and pottery in Detroit. In Boston Mrs. Bell studied wood carving in a training class along with eighty-four men, she being the only lady in the group. Her rare proficiency in this line of art is reflected in a beautiful hand carved table of basswood, featured in her own design. In her home may also be found many other attractive and interesting articles which tell the story of her creative ability as an artist and her boundless energy. Among these articles, one's attention

Page Two - Painting - Handicraft
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

is attracted to an electric lamp made of copper, with fancy shade in copper outline showing her own hand carving. A little jewel box of copper, carved and tinted to her own fancy, is most attractive. Other adornments of her interesting home are shown in oil paintings, screens, panels, pottery and other articles made by her. She still does much of this work for her own use and the pleasure of her friends.

Mrs. Bell also studied jewelry making at Chautauqua, New York, and has at different times made pieces of jewelry from gold and silver and sold them.

Spending much of her life as an art teacher, from 1898 to 1902 she was thus engaged in an art school for the deaf at Little Rock, Arkansas. From 1902 to 1914 she taught in a similar school at Flint, Michigan. Moving to Vancouver, Washington where she spent twelve years, she also taught art in a school for the deaf in that city. Among her prized possessions are many pieces of lovely pottery made by her former pupils.

Mrs. Bell has been twice married, being by her first marriage Mrs. Clark. In 1927 she was married to Dr. John C. Bell, prominent physician of Belzoni, and has since July of that year made this her home. She has, through her sincere, winsome personality, endeared herself to a large circle of friends throughout the county.

Reference: Mrs. John C. Bell - Belzoni, Mississippi.

Marnie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 3, 1936

Topic: Handicraft

Canvasser: Hattie Trantham

Assignment No. 16

Item No. II-A
Article 1,2,3,4,5.

SUBJECT: DIVISION OF PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

1. Wood Carving.

(See article on Mrs. John C. Bell under topic of Painting and Handicraft enclosed.)

Upon a visit to the Belzoni Lumber and Manufacturing Company, an up to date cabinet shop of Belzoni, we find that there is no form of wood carving requiring the services of a skilled artist, or other skilled workmen, turned out at this plant.

They offer a complete manufacturing service of such articles as cabinets, furniture, window and door frames and various kinds of interior finishing, these articles being made entirely by machinery. Most of the products of the plant are sold locally and to individuals. Those desiring some unique form of decoration for their homes are able to have their needs well provided for by a visit to this plant.

In connection with the plant, there is a sawmill which supplies the material used, both being owned and operated by Mr. S. P. Azwell, who is one of the outstanding contractors of the county.

Reference: Pat Ware - Belzoni, Miss.
(Employee of Belzoni Lumber and Manufacturing Plant)

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 3, 1936

Topic: Handicraft in Schools

Canvasser: Hattie Trantham

Assignment No. 16

Item No. II-A 2(a & b)
3-c

SUBJECT: DIVISION OF PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Many forms of handicraft are taught among both white and colored in the various schools of the county.

Having no forms of such sports as base ball, foot ball, cotton basket ball and track for their amusement, as do the white schools of the county, the colored schools take a deeper interest in work of this kind.

The work as it is taught, consists of practical instruction in the making of many useful articles. From wood such articles as book-ends, book cases, flower boxes, bird houses, hat racks and etc. are made. In most of the colored schools, each Friday afternoon is devoted to this work.

Among other articles made in these schools, are many varieties of baskets fashioned from stems of the wild honeysuckle, and our native palmetto that grow in profusion over the county. Hat dish mats, rugs, door mats, napkin rings, hats, bedroom slippers and many other small articles are made from corn shucks.

Near the end of each school term an exhibit is held where all of this work is placed on display. Judges are appointed and prizes awarded for the best work. The choice work is then exhibited at a county exhibit where ribbons are awarded for the most outstanding work.

Reference: Augusta Walker - Belzoni, Miss.
(Supervisor of Colored Schools)
Hilma Klans - Sec'y Home Demonstration Agent
Belzoni, Miss.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 4, 1936

A-3. Basketry
Made by whites.

Although basketry work is taught in the schools of the county, there are many individuals who partly earn their living by making cotton clothes baskets from splits of river tree limbs, for which there is usually a ready sale. Many cotton baskets are used in this section as a means of conveying the newly picked cotton to the cotton houses and for other purposes.

Basketry is one of the many types of handicraft taught by Miss Mildred Garrett, County Home Demonstration Agent. Weaving is also included in her program.

These types of work consist of baskets, chair seats, hot plate mats, wall pockets and many other small articles made from the reeds of wild honeysuckle. Some very beautiful hooked rugs have been made under the direction of Miss Garrett, along with many other artistic articles for home decoration.

Very little of this work has been accomplished by the Home Demonstration Department during the year of 1936, however, owing to the expansion of her program on nutrition and foods.

Many forms of weaving, including an upholstery service, is offered by a local shop operated by Mr. Hewett, who follows this line of work as a profession. His replacement of chair bottoms, particularly, is considered perfect as they cannot easily be detected from those bought in the stores.

References: Miss Mildred Garrett, Home Demonstration Agent,
Belzoni, Miss.
Hilma Klaus - Sec'y Home Demonstration Agent,
Belzoni, Miss.

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Humphreys County
H. G. Cartledge, HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 4, 1936

ancestors of the owners, and in many cases handed down through

A-3. Basketry
Made by Indians.

There are no Indians residing in Humphreys County, but they may sometimes be seen traveling through the County and offering for sale many little articles made principally of willow, from which they earn a livelihood.

A-3. Basketry
Made by negroes.

Most of the work of this type is under the supervision of the County Schools. Many of the baskets made are both useful and ornamental. There are also a number of colored men, usually aged, who are most proficient in the making of cotton baskets, clothes baskets and other types for practical use.

A-4 (a, b, c). Weaving

Covered in Articles A-3 (Basketry).

A-5. Miscellaneous

Scattered over the county may be found many interesting articles such as spreads, coverlets, scarfs, etc. which bear evidence of the thrift and artistry of the pioneers and the possibilities of their long discarded spinning wheels and looms. Almost invariably these articles are held as treasured antiques, having been made by

Page Two - Miscellaneous
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

ancestors of the owners, and in many cases handed down through several generations.

References: Miss Mildred Garrott, Home Demonstration Agent
Belzoni, Miss.
Hilma Klauss - Sec'y Home Demonstration Agent
Belzoni, Miss.
Augusta Walker (Supt. Colored Schools)
Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.

Nov. 10, 1936

pale green velvet the state is appliqued from brilliantly colored pieces of silk, each county in different color.

Topic: Handicraft

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

Item No. II-A 5.

Small embroidered dots designate county sites, and rivers are represented with tiny gold thread. Immediately above the state is

a large eagle. SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS. on all

sides of "Mississippi" are stars made of the same material. Ball

Mrs. Sallie Lumbley Miller

fringe adds a note of finish to the tapestry. Although Mrs. Miller

uses Mrs. Sallie Lumbley Miller was born and reared in Yazoo County,

just a few miles from Yazoo City, where she attended the public

schools. Thirty years ago she moved to the little settlement of

Palmetto Home, now known as Silver City. As Mrs. Miller states it

in her gentle, unassuming manner, she lived in Yazoo County until a

line was drawn and she found that she could no longer claim Yazoo

County as her home, but must learn to love the new county, Humphreys.

Or, in other words, instead of her moving to Humphreys County, that the county moved to her.

Although Mrs. Miller did not study art while in school, she has a natural flair for it, as shown in articles exhibited in her home. Slender pine needles, dyed attractive colors, have been used as material for the making of lovely baskets and vases. Crepe paper, twisted to resemble twine, and strips of white cellophane, have also been used in making baskets. A crocheted rug, made of silk stockings, and one made of wool, unraveled from old sweaters, are also prized by her. Her love of beauty leads her to press and preserve flowers and multi-colored butterflies.

In 1904 Mrs. Miller's individuality led to the making of a piece of work, that is, even now, both odd and beautiful. Upon soft,

Humphreys County, Fine Art

Page Two - Handicraft
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

pale green velvet the state of Mississippi is appliqued from brilliantly colored pieces of silk, each county in different color. Small embroidered dots designate county sites, and rivers are represented with tiny gold thread. Immediately above the state is a large eagle, embroidered with gold and silver thread, and on all sides of "Mississippi" are stars made of the same material. Ball fringe adds a note of finish to the tapestry. Although Mrs. Miller uses the article mainly as an Afghan, it can, by means of the rings at the top, be hung as a tapestry.

The same year, 1904, Mrs. Miller made, from white cotton material, a bedspread with Yazoo County appliqued as the center medallion. Across each corner and around the edges, are blue and red stripes and stars. Matching pillow slips were made with the spread. These articles were displayed at Mississippi's first State Fair, and won blue ribbons. Her ideas are all original, she having never seen others like her own articles.

Reference: Mrs. Sallie Lumbley Miller - Silver City, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Page Two - Architecture
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 4, 1936

B. Churches

Topic: Architecture of the many attractive Assignment No. 16 Belzoni,
Canvasser: Hattie Trantham, been successful Item No. II-B-1(a,b&c)

SUBJECT: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

The four brick churches of Belzoni are all well constructed, outstanding in structure and appearance not only in the county, but to visitors from all parts of the State, are Humphreys County court house and jail. Of Greek-Ionic pattern, these buildings were designed by X. A. Cramer and C. A. Lindsey, Architects of Jackson, Miss. Erected by the J. V. & R. T. Burk Construction Company of New Orleans, La. under supervision of E. A. Becroft, the work was completed in June of 1922.

The public school buildings of Belzoni, Isola, Silver City and Louise, all handsome, modern, brick structures surrounded by beautiful shrubbery or shade trees, are among the most ornamental buildings of the county. A bit unique in its Spanish design, the City Hall of Belzoni, with its many ornamental touches of shrubs and flowers presents a their most pleasing appearance. It was erected in 1923 by M. T. Reed Construction Company at a cost of approximately \$16,000.00. As architects, E. J. Hall and E. L. Malvaney of Meridian have often been praised for the plan of this building and its attractive features. A part of the building is used as headquarters for the City Fire Department. bearing an introduction to the public, and its apron of thick green shrubbery, that the community of Gooden Lake is so proud to call its own.

Humphreys County, Fine Art

B. Churches

Justly proud of their many attractive churches, ^{of the county} only Belzoni, Isola and Louise have so far been successful in establishing houses of brick in which to worship.

The four brick churches of Belzoni are all well constructed, modern edifices. The Methodist and Presbyterian Churches were built by Mr. S. P. Azwell of Belzoni and can perhaps be more clearly defined as belonging to the Composite order of architecture. The Baptist Church, as the largest church, is of Greek-Ionic design with a strong Corinthian influence. It was erected by M. T. Reed Construction Company of Belzoni, and is an exceptionally handsome building, with its profusion of rich shrubbery extending over a lawn on the east side.

The newest and one of the most attractive churches of the town is the Episcopal Church, erected also by Mr. S. P. Azwell, local contractor. It is of Gothic design throughout.

All of the above churches are surrounded by beautiful shrubbery, which, with the smoothly cut grass plots, add much to their appearance.

The Catholics have for many years held their services in their own little white frame building on Central Street.

The Methodists of both Louise and Isola and the Presbyterians of Isola have their own attractive little churches of brick. Numbered among the most beautiful frame churches of the county, the passer-by could not help but notice the little white, frame Presbyterian Church with its sunny front, bearing an introduction to the public, and its apron of thick green shrubbery, that the community of Gooden Lake is so proud to call its own.

C. Homes

^{ingenuity in the drawing of some specially desired plan. The draw-}
There are numerous beautiful homes in the County, a large number of which follow the modern trend of various architectural lines. Some of the most modern of these homes may be found surrounded by servants' houses, garages and huge barns on the large plantations. Often before the erection of a modern home, a miniature construction, showing it completely furnished, is submitted for approval by the architect.

Most of the homes of the county are constructed by local contractors, and in workmanship and appearance compare favorably with homes that are found anywhere.

Prominent among the building contractors of the county are:

M. T. Reed Construction Co., Belzoni, Miss., being composed of Maurice T. Reed, Thomas Reed and Freddie Starr.

S. P. Azwell - Belzoni, Miss.

R. L. Edwards - Belzoni, Miss.

W. L. Soloman - Belzoni, Miss.

Ernest Cheatham - Belzoni, Miss.

D. P. Sharpe (colored) - Belzoni, Miss.

2. Architects

Although Humphreys County can boast no professional architects, nevertheless, many original plans are drawn by the local contractors which very adequately meet the needs of the client. Not infrequently
County Supervisor

Page Four - Architects
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

are W. L. Soloman and Freddie Starr called upon to exercise their ingenuity in the drawing of some specially desired plan. The drawing approved, it is soon on its way, usually to Memphis, for the necessary blue prints.

References: Maurice T. Reed - Silver City and Belzoni, Miss.
W. L. Soloman - Belzoni, Miss.
Freddie Starr - Belzoni, Miss.
Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner - Aug. 10, 1922.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Page Two - Landscaping
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.

The grounds of the Nov. 9, 1936 Belzoni are most attractive

at all seasons of the year. It would only be fair to give much
Topic: Landscaping Assignment No. 16

of the credit to the exceedingly careful attention of the high
Canvasser: Hattie Trantham Item No. II-C
school principal, toward, particularly, the grounds of the build-
1, 2, 3.

ing. Some students may remember with sadness their abuse of a
shrub, and if several large animals decided to walk over the
SUBJECT: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

C-1. Parks to their regret. For many years "Uncle William"

Morrison (colored) faithfully weeded the flowers, and the daily
Although interested citizens have several times considered
sound of a lawn mower informed one that he was conscientiously
the erection of public parks in Humphreys County, they have not,
doing his work. The large beds of flaming red verbena on either
as yet, been successful along this line. There are, however,
side of the walk at the elementary school building have caused
many private parks at individual homes, the lovely flowers banked
much favorable comment by the citizens of Belzoni.
among carefully placed shrubs, displaying much thought and effort
on the part of the owner.

C-2. Grounds of Public Buildings recollections to former
students, who, on Arbor Day, earnestly took part in their planting.
a. Schools

Practically all school grounds of Humphreys County are
similar in at least two things: the artistic landscaping, much
of which was under the proficient supervision of Prof. A. B.

McKay of State College, Starkville, Miss.; and their well kept
appearances. The members of the Parent Teachers Association of

the various schools usually supervise the planting of flowers
and shrubs.

The five acre ground surrounding the Humphreys County
Courthouse at Belzoni were beautifully landscaped in 1924 under
the supervision of Prof. A. B. McKay, State College, Starkville,
Louise, Miss. was, however, landscaped by the former principal,
Miss. The flood of 1927 destroyed a large part of the shrubbery.
Robert Ross (colored), graduate of Alcorn College, Alcorn, Miss.
but, again supervised by Prof. McKay, it was soon replaced. For
and agricultural teacher at the school.

Humphreys County, Fine Art

The grounds of the schools of Belzoni are most attractive at all seasons of the year. It would only be fair to give much of the credit to the exceedingly careful attention of the high school principal, ^{Miss Allie R. Martin,} toward, particularly, the grounds of that building. Some students may remember with sadness their abuse of a shrub, and if several large animals decided to walk over the campus it was to their regret. For many years "Uncle William" Morrison (colored) faithfully weeded the flowers, and the daily sound of a lawn mower informed one that he was conscientiously doing his work. The large beds of flaming red verbena on either side of the walk at the elementary school building have caused much favorable comment by the citizens of Belzoni.

Driving up to the slightly elevated grounds of the Silver City School, a lovely row of trees is sure to attract attention. These trees could not help but bring recollections to former students, who, on Arbor Day, earnestly took part in their planting.

b. Colleges

No colleges in Humphreys County. The nearest approach to such an institution being Humphreys County Training School, a colored vocational boarding school, at Louise, Miss.

c. Court House

The five acre ground surrounding the Humphreys County Courthouse ^{and jail} at Belzoni were beautifully landscaped in 1924 under the supervision of Prof. A. B. McKay, State College, Starkville, Miss. The flood of 1927 destroyed a large part of the shrubbery, but, again supervised by Prof. McKay, it was soon replaced. For

the last few years, members of the Humphreys County Garden Club, with workers supplied from the relief programs, have had a part in the up-keep of the grounds. With shrubs placed to the best advantage, a water lily pool and fountain in the center of the front concrete walk and a row of oak trees bordering the lawn, the courthouse could not fail to attract attention.

C-3. Home Gardens

a. Mention owners

Appealing to the flower lovers of Humphreys County, in May of 1932 Mrs. S. M. Hunt of Swiftown, Leflore County, was successful in arousing sufficient interest in a Federated Garden Club to organize a club in Humphreys County. The interest manifested in this club from the beginning has been outstanding, and its accomplishments cannot be questioned.

All members of the Garden Club take a great pride in their lovely flower gardens. Interest in the work of their club is displayed in the variety and arrangement of plants in their gardens. Club membership is limited to twenty-five. At the present time there is a full membership, including officers: Mrs. S. B. T. Jones of Belzoni, president; Miss Hilda Goldberger, Isola, vice-president; Mrs. Willis Pieri, Belzoni, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. John Daniels, Belzoni, corresponding secretary; and one honorary member, Mrs. S. M. Hunt of Leflore County at Swiftown.

There are, in the county, many flower lovers who are not members of the Garden Club, but who, nevertheless, take great pride in their flower gardens. Among the proud owners of lovely

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

gardens are Mrs. V. B. Montgomery, Mrs. J. M. Powell, Mrs. O. J. Turner, Sr. and Mrs. Estelle Cheatham, Mrs. Bessie Watkins, Mrs. J. A. Anderson^{MRS. D.A. MECKLEN} of Belzoni, and Mrs. B. F. Seward, Mrs. Ben Umstead, Mrs. N. D. McDougall and Mrs. B. J. Kern of Louise. The beautiful roses grown by Mrs. F. H. Hutson of Isola have brought much praise.

Twice a year a flower show is conducted by The Garden Club, creating heightened interest as each member is required to contribute their loveliest flowers for the show. Prizes are given for the best arrangement and the most beautiful specimens. A rose show, anticipated with much eagerness, was held on October 15, 1936 in the lobby of The Citizens Bank & Trust Co. The club was, as usual, very successful in their display.

b. Arrangement of Gardens

The arrangement of the many lovely flower gardens in our county are, of course, a matter of personal taste. In some instances only a small corner of a yard is converted into a colorful spot. Larger gardens often have as their foundation aged trees, their bark covered with soft green moss. Scattered over the earth ^{may} ~~might~~ be clumps of blue, lavender and yellow flowers, intermingled with the bright pinks and reds. A white arbor, almost entirely covered with clusters of small pink ^{or red} roses, is frequently seen. The garden is usually found at the back of the house, although in some cases the front or side yard is preferred.

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

A story of the Humphreys County Garden Club activities and its accomplishments would not be complete without mention of Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair of Belzoni, an active member of the club, whose great love ^{of} ~~for~~ flowers, and intensive study of their culture and artistic arrangement has led her into many distant fields of the State as lecturer. As an artist in many lines, Mrs. Blair is recognized not only for her accomplishments, but for her ability to pass along to others a broader vision and inspiration for the development of their own creative ability. She is a true artist, a capable teacher and a very able speaker.

A clipping (no date) from The Jackson Daily News under heading of "Club Notes" reads:

"FLOWER LECTURE

One of the most entertaining speakers of the Mississippi Garden Club Association, will address the members of Jackson Garden Circles, at two o'clock this afternoon in the convention hall of the Edwards Hotel. Mrs. Blair, ^{of} Belzoni, is well known throughout the state for her artistic flower arrangements and will address the club on this subject. She is an artist and her delineation of flower studies is especially instructive. Mrs. C. W. Kittleman, president of the Garden Clubs of Mississippi and Mr. Ben Arthur Davis, Meridian, secretary, will be present for the meeting."

References: Miss Lola G. Sevier - Belzoni, Miss.
Mr. O. C. Shipp - Belzoni, Miss. Mrs. Willis Pieri - Belzoni.
Mrs. S. E. Pepper - Louise, Miss. Mrs. Melvin Boykin - Louise.
Mrs. J. R. Lambeth - Louise, Miss. Mrs. Junius Brown - Belzoni.
Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair - Belzoni, Miss.
Augusta Walker (colored) - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge

(Please substitute this article for write-up on Mrs. Mamie C. Embry dated Nov. 2, 1936.)

**HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 1, 1936**

Topic: Painting

Assignment No. 16

**Canvasser: Bettie Brooke
Mamie G. Cartledge**

Item No. I-C

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Mrs. Mamie Campbell Embry of Belzoni has gained much favorable recognition as County Art Director under the Adult Education Program through both the F.E.R.A. and W.P.A. administrations.

A native of Collierville, Tennessee, after completing her high school course, Mrs. Embry attended Belleview College there, where she studied pencil drawing and painting. She also studied music, specializing in piano. For a time she studied these subjects under a private teacher in Memphis, and then taught a private class in music and art in her home town.

About twenty-five years ago Mrs. Embry came to teach music in the schools of Belzoni. She was married to Mr. W. H. Embry and through the years following her marriage she has had many private pupils in both music and art.

Mrs. Embry is a talented and versatile artist and a very capable lecturer. She has served as art chairman for the Belzoni Woman's Club, sponsored several art exhibits and lectured on art. Her paintings in Still Life have received praise from critics, having won in many contests when exhibited. Some years ago she won first award on a Still Life painting in a district exhibit sponsored by The Woman's Club, taking second place in a State exhibit. She is

Page Two - Painting
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

recognized as a talented landscape artist, being able to portray with ease the elusive effect of atmosphere, light and shade.

Notable among the portrait work of Mrs. Embry is a likeness of President Roosevelt which she completed about two years ago. Above the gray suit, with pink carnation boutonniere, has been captured the same genial, sincere, confident, inspiring expression of countenance as often comes to us on the screen or is so familiar through other reproductions of the living soul. A recently completed portrait is replete with colonial atmosphere. It is for the adornment of a new home along colonial lines of a prominent resident of Oklahoma, who is a thoroughly appreciative patron of Mrs. Embry's work. This portrait of an ancestor, with entrancingly serene, youthful countenance is shown in colonial costume of dark blue on a somewhat lighter blue background. The picture is brought into perfect relief by the soft white frill at the neckline, with its beaded necklace, and the perfect coloring of the face above.

Having conducted very successfully for the past three years an art class under the government programs, the work of her pupils has been recognized as outstanding, as evidenced by a clipping from The Belzoni Banner a few months ago:

"ADULT EDUCATION NEWS

We are justly proud of the Art Class conducted in Belzoni by Mrs. W. H. Embry. We wish more people in other sections of the county would avail themselves of this opportunity of developing their artistic talents as well

Humphreys County, Fine Art

as deriving pleasure from it.

Members of the class have some lovely pictures, and have been highly commended for work entered in exhibits at different times as the following letter will testify. A letter received from Mr. A. L. May, State Supervisor Educational Program, W.P.A., in regards to a picture in the recent exhibit held in Jackson by the Women's and Professional Division:

Dear Mrs. Hairston:

On my return to the office I find your letter of July 3rd and the beautiful picture, along with other things. I want you to know I think this painting is one of the best I have ever seen. Please congratulate Mrs. Chapman for this splendid work. I think all your people up there should know really what is being done in this program.

We shall return it to you after we show it off here in the office.

Sincerely yours,

A. L. May,

State Supervisor Education Program, W.P.A."

On a visit to the home of Mrs. Embry instant attention is drawn to the work of her pupils. The living room of her home, which has been converted into a studio, reveals much of the progress of her work and the individual tastes of her class membership.

Mrs. R. H. Fisher's favorite colors, yellow and blue, dominate her works of art. An outstanding example of her ability to successfully blend these colors is shown in a Still Life study of Iris artistically arranged in a yellow jar fashioned into an attractive fire screen.

Mrs. R. H. Nason's talent for flower painting is expressed in numerous and varied subjects. Notable among her paintings are a purple iris and green jar arrangement; red poppies and Shasta daisies in pleasing combination; and bronze chrysanthemums completely "at home" in a jar of Indian pottery.

Mrs. V. B. Montgomery's talent for both form and color is clearly expressed in a study of bronze chrysanthemums resting in a bowl of hammered brass and in numerous other subjects, all indicative of individuality.

Mrs. Chas. Chapman is developing a latent talent for art which is expressed in various attractive landscapes, one of which drew praise from critics when entered in a State exhibit.

Mrs. John C. Halbrook has achieved some excellent landscapes, and also studies of animals. Her intelligent portrayal of these subjects are interesting and varied.

Mrs. G. M. Barnes' talent for charming arrangement of flowers in bouquet effect is reflected in many of her paintings. A most attractive fire screen in a study of birds of Paradise is among her best work.

Home-like red geraniums resting in a black jar against a dark green background, is one of the many attractive picture of

Humphreys County, Fine Art

Mrs. I. O. Courtney.

A beautiful combination of iris and spirea in vase effect was created by Mrs. J. Q. Smith of Isola, a talented "out of town" member of Mrs. Embry's class.

Mrs. Josiah Crudup and Mrs. Drew Lundy, both talented landscape artists, have achieved some very pleasing effects that add interest to their completed studies of this subject.

Mrs. Paul Townsend, Mrs. Spencer Barrett and Mrs. Cleveland Turner have each much talent which is best expressed in their portrayals of landscapes and flowers.

Miss Elaine Robinson is a pupil of talent in the large class of Mrs. Embry.

While Frederick Turk has the distinction of being perhaps a lonely "young man" in the large class of ladies, his diligence is none the less on this account. Water and Indian scenes seem to be best expressive of his easily recognized talent.

Mrs. Embry is a member of the Mississippi Art Association, and also of the local Music Lovers' Club. She has in time been a member of The Woman's Club. She is very retiring in her nature and reluctant to admit praiseworthy mention of her work, but she deserves a prominent place in the archives of our county history.

Reference: Mrs. Mamie C. Embry - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

SUBSTITUTION
(Please substitute this article for write-up on
Mrs. O. W. Stewart dated Nov. 13, 1936.)

the teaching profession has taught
HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS
Nov. 20, 1936.

At various times since the writing of the pageant Mrs.
Topic: Historian & Miscellaneous Assignment No. 16
Stewart has written, for special occasions, plays, playlets, sketches,
Canvasser: Florence Owen Item No. I-A 2 & 5
poems, stories and poems, many of which were religious.

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

None of these compositions have been published. In writing, she
Mrs. Myrtle Nelson Stewart
has the ability to assemble facts accurately and to present them in

As a small child Mrs. Myrtle Nelson Stewart, a member of one of the interesting families of our county, spent her earliest days in Enterprise, Mississippi. She later attended the public schools of Magee, Hattisburg and Laurel, and after her graduation went to Meridian College, Meridian, Mississippi where she received her degree. Fulfilling the wish to continue her studies, Mrs. Stewart, then Miss Myrtle Nelson, had post-graduate work in modern languages at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana. Returning to Meridian she taught French and Spanish at her Alma Mater for two years, resigning to attend Columbia University where, in 1921, she received her master's degree in English and Comparative Literature.

The following year Mrs. Stewart taught English and Latin in the Belzoni High School. It was during this time that she wrote and ably produced the pageant, "Belzoni". She also wrote a pageant concerning Silver City. The basis of these pageants were historical facts taken from records and from interviews with pioneer citizens of the county at that time, many of whom have since passed away.

In June 1922 Mrs. Stewart resigned her position in order to be married. Upon the death of her husband in 1933, she reentered

the teaching profession, and for the past three years has taught Social Science in the Silver City School.

At various times since the writing of the pageants Mrs. Stewart has written, for special occasions, plays, playlets, skits, pantomines, stories and poems, many of which were religious. A skit on wars, in three scenes, attracted much favorable attention. None of these compositions have been published. In writing, she has the ability to assemble facts accurately and to present them in an interesting manner.

Mrs. Stewart has always been greatly interested in music and literature, having studied music, both piano and voice, for several years. From her experience she finds that they have been of much benefit to her in the composition and appreciation of poetry.

Reference: Mrs. Myrtle Nelson Stewart - Silver City, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

1
HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Feb. 23, 1937

S U P P L E M E N T

Topic: Novelists - Poets

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Florence Owen

Item No. I-A (3)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS

George Marion O'Donnell, Belzoni, Mississippi:

Born Midnight, Mississippi - January 21, 1914
Son of Mart Bell and George C. O'Donnell
Educated public schools - Midnight, Louise, Belzoni
State Teachers' College, Memphis, Tenn. 1932-1934
Vanderbilt University Nashville, Tenn. 1934-1936 -
A. B. 1936 -- Majored in English
Vanderbilt University Graduate School 1936-1937 -
M. A. 1937 -- Majored in English

Mr. O'Donnell is a member of the Nashville Agrarian Group including such distinguished southern writers as John Crowe Ransom, Donald Davidson, Allen Tate, Robert Penn Warren and Andrew Lytle. He contributed in 1936 to the second Agrarian Symposium, "Who Owns America?" He was also a member of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Bread Loaf, Vermont, 1936.

As a contribution from the pen of Mr. O'Donnell, a volume of poetry, "Mirrored Dead", will appear in 1937, published by Alcectis Press in a limited, signed edition, as one of a series of volumes of poetry, including books by Wallace Stevens, William Carlos Williams, John Peale Bishop, Allen Tate and Robert Penn Warren. The volume by Mr. O'Donnell will bear an introduction by John Crowe Ransom, who is generally acclaimed as one of the most distinguished

Humphreys County, Fine Art

Page Two - Novelists - Poets
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

of contemporary poets and critics. In writing of Mr. O'Donnell's work in The Southern Review, Spring Edition - 1936, Mr. Ransom in his article "The Making of a Modern" said in part:

"The poetry of George Marion O'Donnell is rich, genuine, difficult, and unsure. Inevitably the last; the poet has not yet attained to his baccalaureate degree, not yet I believe to his majority. I do not mean that his early success in publication is premature, for the work deserves it. All the better because, publishing at this stage, we can see him experimenting, a little uncertain, not so much of his technique as of his intention, and progressing steadily in the direction called 'modern'. He furnishes us with a study." *****

"Mr. O'Donnell would certainly participate in this disparagement of the popular order of poetry. Yet he is not quite emancipated from his pious and traditionary regard for it; I take it he was brought up on it, and it has meant a great deal to him, as it should. In the poem 'Injured Mind' he treats of this matter; he wants the poet to be faithful to his actual observed world, and not to do the ideas the gratuitous service of supplying them with the usual dress occasions." *****

"He stands on an admirable platform, and yet all the same he has managed to conclude this poem with a burst of heroics; he manages to decorate others in the same way, with the same disclaimer." *****

"Mr. O'Donnell has a metaphysical strain, though it is my belief that he employs it with less than perfect precision.

Page Three - Novelists - Poets
Humphreys County
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Metaphysical poetry might be called the classical pole of our modern poetry, and I suppose Mr. O'Donnell would have to be placed nearer to the romantic pole.

I admire the tone and outline of "Return", but I deprecate some of its detail. Here the general subject of the exile's return is presented under the figure of a very formal occasion demanding a memorial gift."

(From The Southern Review - Spring, 1936)

RETURN

In Mem. M. B. O'D. ob. MCMXXV

George Marion O'Donnell

"In this the decade of my reasoned grief
I would create an image for the time
Against my negligence, for at our door
The beggar Death has lately prayed for alms.

Once generous, and so impoverished now,
The keepers of our house were miserly.
(Forgive this one denial of the poor,
Our Father, since our portion is so small.)

And having come once more into the house
I would create an image, mould a face
From mind and stuff of mind with the mind's hands:
Our early bounty when our store was large.

But that was long ago; and in revenge
The beggar Death has thieved our imaged gift.
I can but thank the keepers of the house
And bless them with my silence into peace.

II

I have come home to my appointed place
In sun-tormented mornings. And I hear
The yellow shrieking music of the heat
At breakfast as I bow to say the grace.

I walk toward noon the dusty graveyard road:
I must recall how time was measured off,
The count in black wood boxes, bits of board
Heading the knotted mounds that grass neglects.

Humphreys County, Fine Art

And here the paralytic afternoon
Lies fingering the grey and splintered boards
Of leaning backyard fences, dying fall
Of yellow sound in primal arrogance.

I can recall our measurement of time,
Our images for day; but still the hour
Lacks fit memorial. I had not meant
So whole a gift, of mind as of the heart.

III

And if I had not come there would have been
No memory of shadow by the glass,
No chase behind the shadow to the dawn.
Yet I shall cry behind the chase and say:

The chase wants living quarry for pursuit.
Holding the shade of a tree in thin hands,
Leaning toward water and bending lips for speech:
Thus marbled in the mind she stood. But now

The marble face erodes with tears, demands
For restoration ampler skill than mine.
I can but thank the keepers of the house
And bless them with my silence into peace.

O courtlier far Amfortas pondering
Upon the fierce catalysis of pain
Before the guiltless fool knelt to adore
And children's voices choired the hall with praise!"

Other published work of Mr. O'Donnell include:

"Faulkner and Insensitivity" (Review), Direction,
Vol. I, No. 3, p. 152 ff., April - June 1935.

"The Rivals of My Watch" (poem), Alcectis: A Poetry
Quarterly, Vol. I, No. 3, April 1935.

"Return of Ulysses" (story), The Southwestern Journal,
Vol. IV, No. 2, p. 10, Spring 1935.

"Expressionistic Drama" (article), Books Abroad, Vol. IX,
No. 3, p. 260, Summer 1935.

"Ancestor", "Aubade for John Sterling" (poems), The
Southern Review, Vol. I, No. 2, Summer 1935.

"The Port as Craftsman: Wallace Stevens" (article), The
Southwestern Journal, Vol. XV, No. 3, p. 17, Winter 1935.

"Elizabeth" (poem), The Southwestern Journal, Vol. XV,
No. 3, p. 29, Winter 1935.

"Ancestral: Letter for the Confederates, For My Grand-
mother" (poems), Poetry: A Magazine of Verse, Vol. XLVII, No. 4,
p. 190, January 1936.

"Return and Other Poems: Return, Mask of Christ,
Injured Mind, Mirrored Dead, In the Delta Remembering, Autumn and
Mrs. Noel, Old" (poems), The Southern Review, Vol. I, No. 4,
Spring 1936.

"Looking Down the Cotton Row" (article), The American
Review, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 47-65, April 1936. Also in Who Owns
America? (Ed. Allen Tate and Herbert Agar, Boston, Houghton-Mifflin
Co., 1936.

"Descent of Leaf" (poem), Poetry: A Magazine of Verse,
Vol. XLVIII, No. 6, p. 322, September 1936.

"Before Dark: Her Distress, That Day, One Mode" (poems),
The Virginia Quarterly Review, Vol. XIII, No. 1, p. 71, Winter 1937.

"Elegie", "Nocturne Four", (poems), Mississippi Verse,
Chapel Hill, Univ. of N. C. Press, 1934.

"Nocturne II" (poem), Kosmos, Vol. XI, No. 3, p. 14,
May-June 1934.

"Three Renderings from Paul Verlaine: La Lune Blanche,
Il Pleure dans mon Coeur, Le Ciel est, Par-dessous le Toit" (poems),
The Observer, Vol. I, No. 1, p. 1, Feb. 1933.

"A Draft of XXX Cantos" (Review), The Observer, Vol. I,
No. 3, p. 1, April 1933.

"A Green Bough" (Review), The Observer, Vol. I, No. 4,
p. 3, Summer 1933.

"Nocturne in Four Movements", "Ariocrates to Neeia"
(poems), The Observer, Vol. II, No. 1, p. 8, October-November 1933.

"Divine Majority" (Five sonnets), The Observer, Vol. II,
No. 2, p. 10, Jan.-Feb. 1934.

"Portrait of A Southern Planter" (article), The American
Review, Vol. III, No. 5, p. 608-629, October 1934.

"Walking Mamie" (short-story), The Oxford Magazine, Vol. I,
No. 3, p. 21-24, November 1934.

"Inscription for the Tomb of a Musician", "Elizabeth Dunn
Anding" (poems), The Oxford Magazine, Vol. I, No. 3, p. 30, Nov. 1934.

Page Six - Novelists - Poets
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

"Selections from 'These Fragments': Martin Anding, James R. Bell, M. A. Bell, F. H. Bell", "Old State Horse" (poems), The Southern Review (Jackson, Mississippi), Vol. I, No. 1, P. 25-27, Winter 1934.

"Such Rest in Bed", "To a Virgin Rocking", "Bishop's Gambit", "No Wisdom in the Grave" (poems), The Southwestern Journal, Vol. XV, No. 1, p. 5, 11-12, December 1934.

"The Tenant Farmer in the South" (article); jt. author with R. C. Beatty, The American Review, Vol. V, No. 1, p. 75-96, April 1935.

"These Fragments': The Eyes of Ancient Portraits, In Memoriam, Overflow, Ebb of Flood, August Afternoon, Lynching at Night, No Rented Lodging, I Shall Not Answer" (poems), The Sewanee Review, Vol. XLIII, No. 2, p. 160-163, April-June 1935.

Among published articles about George Marion O'Donnell may be found the following:

"Asides and Soliloquies", by W. S. Knickerbocker, The Sewanee Review, Vol. XLII, No. 4, October-December 1934.

"The Making of a Modern: The Poetry of George Marion O'Donnell", by John Crowe Ransom, The Southern Review, Vol. I, No. 4, Spring 1936.

"Present Day Tendencies", by Harriet Monroe, Poetry: A Magazine of Verse, Vol. XLVIII, No. 3, June 1936.

See also reviews of Who Owns America? in Scribner's, The Southern Review, etc.

Biographical notes in various magazines.

In addition to the forthcoming volume "Mirrored Dead" and other poems to be published at an early date by The Alcestitis Press, New York, Mr. O'Donnell is now working on two novels, both of them concerned with life in the Delta country: "No More My Lady!" and "Brave Pilgrimage".

Page Seven - Novelists - Poets
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

Reared against a background of plantation life, one recognizes in his article "Portrait of a Southern Planter: 1920-1932" published in The American Review October 1934, an intricate love and knowledge of the Delta plantation in the many typical reflections which imply more than is said. His contribution "Looking Down The Cotton Row" as appears in Who Owns America?, though more intimately detached, is handled with equal ease. His poems, interwoven with a strong thread of mystery and drama, carry emotional depth. Versatile and original, his pen knows no restriction to subject matter and his language is marked with beauty and vivid descriptions.

Possessed of brilliant intellect, engaging personality and a most exemplary character, Marion O'Donnell is loved by all who know him. He has always held the interest of his home people. Even in his early school days he was recognized as a most diligent and aspiring student. Holding always a deep and affectionate interest in family and friends, as well as his native surroundings, he writes often of those around him, amid familiar scenes.

He is a Democrat but belongs to no other organizations. In college he was most interested in dramas. Although not a musician, he is particularly fond of good music. Other interests, aside from writing, are walking, attending the movies, and talking. He makes his home at Belzoni, residing with his grandmother, Mrs. Fannie H. Bell.

Reference: George Marion O'Donnell - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Feb. 23, 1937

S U P P L E M E N T

Topic: Old Portraits & Rare Paintings

Canvassers: Bettie Brooke
Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 16

Item No. I-C(2-a)

SUBJECT: Fine Arts

a. In homes of the County

A great granddaughter of both Randolph Hill of Charleston, South Carolina and Thomas T. Singleton of Lexington, Kentucky, two of the earliest and most prominent pioneer settlers of the lower part of Humphreys County, Mrs. B. W. Smith of Louise gives an interesting account of her forebears.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Singleton came to what is now Humphreys County before the Civil War, purchased some land from the State and began their preparations for a home.

Observing a bit of "good luck" tradition, Mr. and Mrs. Singleton took the leading part in clearing the land. Before any of the slaves were allowed to begin work, the husband and wife cut the first cane from the wilderness. They began the erection of a home which was called "Singleton Hall" because of its spacious hallway. Only the first story of this home was completed before the Civil War. Plans for the home called for a lovely colonial mansion, but at the end of the war it was torn away and replaced with a more

Page Two - Old Portraits & Rare Paintings
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

unpretentious residence in which Mr. and Mrs. Singleton reared their family.

Mr. Randolph Hill, originally of South Carolina, and brother of General D. H. Hill of the Confederate Army, also a great grandfather of Mrs. Smith, located on what has always been known as Hillsdale Plantation. Acquiring wealth, Mr. Hill was among the most influential pioneer settlers of the section. He reared a family of three children. A son, Joe Hill, made an intensive study of medicine both in this country and in France. A daughter, Nannie, married John Calhoun, brother of S. S. Calhoun of Jackson, Miss., and a daughter, Adeline, married Thomas T. Singleton, (Jr.)

In the course of time Mr. Hill returned to South Carolina where he purchased a slave girl. This girl, a dwarf, was a daughter of the chief of one of the South Carolina tribes of Negroes. She was unable to speak English and with her other characteristics was, of course, an unusual type.

At the opening of the Civil War, Mr. Hill, with his family, returned to South Carolina. The little slave was left on the plantation where she soon died. As a result of her death, there was soon in effect a "haunted house" legend that clung to the old homestead as long as it remained standing. The old home was destroyed by fire only a few years ago.

Although like its original owners, Hillsdale may be said to have passed into oblivion, it will be long remembered because of the air of romance and undivulged mystery with which the place has always been surrounded.

Humphreys County, Fine Art

Page Three - Old Portraits & Rare Paintings
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

In the home of Mrs. B. W. Smith there are two prized oil paintings -- one of her great grandfather Mr. Randolph Hill, and the other of her grandfather Mr. Thomas T. Singleton, brother of Mr. O. R. Singleton of Canton, Mississippi. The latter painting is the work of a friend, who presented it to Mr. Singleton upon his graduation from the University of Virginia.

Mrs. Smith knows little concerning the portrait of her great grandfather, Mr. Hill, except that this painting is not the work of a Mississippi artist.

Reference: Mrs. B. W. Smith - Louise, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

S U P P L E M E N T

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
April 5, 1937

Topic: Division of Fine Arts

Assignment No. 16

Canvasser: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. I-A (3)

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

3. Poets

The following poem from the pen of Mrs. W. B. Herrington of Belzoni was published in the Belzoni Banner of March 25, 1937. Much complimentary mention has been accorded this little poem.

PRAYER FOR EASTER

"Lord Jesus, help me!
Help me to hide not my uglinesses --
They are so plain to Thee --
But to lay them out stark and bare,
For all to see;
That I too seeing will despise,
And Not explain away;
That I too seeing with other's eyes
Be shamed by these deformities
To tear them out and cast them far from me,
Nor claim them mine again.
Then, Lord, wilt Thou come into my heart,
Into this torn and bleeding place,
And healing it with beauty
Make it free of pain!"

By
Lillian Herrington

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

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HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
NOV. 17, 1936

Topic: Painting

Canvasser: Bettie Brooke

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Assignment No. 16

Item No. I - C 1

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS.

Miss Darthula Scott:

As a very small child, Darthula Scott, with her family, came to make Belzoni her home. Her father and mother recall that from her earliest childhood, the characteristics of an artist of natural talent were evident.

Feeling that she should study art, during her high school days, Miss Scott became a pupil of Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair of Belzoni. Having finished her high school course, she attended Sunflower Junior College, Moorhead, Miss., for one term. She then entered M. S. C. W. at Columbus, attending one year. Since leaving college, Miss Scott has continued her study of art at intervals under Mrs. Blair.

Miss Scott does sketching, oil painting, water colors, and is quite proficient in map work. Her work along this line has drawn most favorable comment from local engineers. She is now an artist on the W. P. A. Historical Research Project, her work covering forty-one counties, or one-half of the State.

In a student's exhibit of Mrs. Blair at Greenwood several years ago, some of Miss Scott's pictures were included, attracting

Page Two - Painting - Darthula Scott
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

favorable mention. Other specimens of her work at county and district exhibits have created most praiseworthy comment.

Reference: Mrs. J. W. Scott - Belzoni, Miss.

County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 16

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
June 24, 1937

Topic: Drama

Enumerator: Florence H. Owen

Assignment No. 16

Item No. I-A 4

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

Mrs. Eva Craft Crump (formerly Miss Eva Craft).

From The Belzoni Banner of May 3, 1928 was taken the following article:

"BELZONI GIRL, SUCCESS"

"Miss Eva Craft of Belzoni, a graduate in Voice under Miss Mattie Lou Brown, Director of Voice at Mississippi State College for Women, has been the guest of friends at the College for the past few days.

Miss Craft sang over radio WCOG Tuesday night and gave much pleasure to her hearers. She has a dramatic soprano voice of lovely quality and expression and the promise of a brilliant future lies before her.

After a three months course of study with Irene Pavloska, who was Prima Donna for eleven years with Chicago Civic Opera, Miss Craft was presented in recital in Chicago and was given encouraging criticism in papers and musical journals. Maestro Canterbury of New York, Voice Builder at Curtis Institute with Mme. Sembrich gave

Page Two - Drama
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Miss Craft an audition and offered her a scholarship for study preparatory to her debut in Grand Opera.

That she will yet bring fame upon her native state and her capable director of Voice at Mississippi State College for Women, is easy to prophesy.—The Commercial Dispatch, Columbus, Miss."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - May 3, 1928.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Fine Art

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 16

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 30, 1937

Topic: Paintings

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Assignment No. 16

Item No. I-C

SUBJECT: FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

The following is a supplement to the write-up on Mrs. Mamie Campbell Embry as taken from the Belzoni Banner of June 27, 1933:

BELZONI NOTED FOR ITS CIVIC
PRIDE AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

"It is said, 'A thing of beauty is a joy forever'. Belzoni has its share of beauty and attractiveness. Go into the homes now and you will find additional beauty recently created by the productions of art emanating from the art class conducted by Mrs. Mamie Campbell Embry under the auspices of the Government Educational Program for adults.

This class from the beginning has been one of unflagging interest and devotion to work on the part of teachers and pupils. Besides creating love for the beautiful and the part that art should play in one's life, the class has been one of social enjoyment and entertainment. A real and worthwhile work has been accomplished.

Some forty-five pupils have been enrolled and the material value of the work produced would amount to \$1500.00 to \$2000.00 -- the sentimental value far more. Some estimate their pictures to be worth \$50.00 to \$75.00 each.

Page Two - Mrs. Mamie C. Embry
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

The teaching embraces instruction, object drawing, painting in pastel, water colors and oil.

Mrs. Embry announces the class will continue so long as sufficient interest is manifested, or the Government sees fit to close it."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - June 27, 1933.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
MARCH 31, 1936

Topic: Setting for novel fiction.

Canvasser: Constance Embry

Assignment No. One

Item No. 2 (i)

Kilby Lake: Scene of camps during summers, drawing people together from different parts of the United States; beautiful setting; ideal setting for novel fiction.

Four-Mile Lake: Main summer resort for tourists desiring ideal fishing, swimming, and camping.

Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

Belzoni

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Topic: Periodic Festivals and Fairs
with local color

Date: March 25, 1936

Assignment One

Item (f)

NO PERIODIC FESTIVALS AND FAIRS HELD IN HUMPHREYS
COUNTY THAT MIGHT PROVE OF INTEREST TO TOURISTS.

Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
MARCH 31, 1936

Topic: Scenic Beauties
Canvasser: Constance Embry

Assignment No. 1
Item No. 2 (e)

Where located:

Old Lake
Kilby Lake
Four Mile Lake
Tehula Lake
Townsend Lake
Wasp Lake
Wolf Lake
Lake Discovery
Sunflower River
Cold Lake
Along Tehula Highway

Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
MARCH 27, 1936

Topic: Recreational Facilities
Canvasser: Constance Embry

Assignment No. 1
Item No. 2 (e)

- I. Crescent Theatre: Two shows each night; midnight matinee Saturday nights; two afternoon matinees each week, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.
- II. Out-door Camps: Kilby Lake, with two privately owned club-houses, available to the public; Four-Mile Lake, with Tourist Camp located on one side, and privately owned club-house on opposite side.
- III. Recreational activity under W. P. A. Program: Story-telling Hour, Monday and Thursday afternoons; Picnics, Wednesday afternoons; Girl's Club, Friday afternoon or night; Sports--tennis, baseball, basketball, square dances occasionally.
- IV. Shooting Club, Silver City, Miss.; Humphreys County Shooting Club, privately owned, admittance for very small fee.
- V. Red Triangle Club: Club, composed of the men of Belzoni, ~~Miss.~~ for the purpose of sponsoring dances. Organized in the fall of 1935 by Paul Dowd, employee of Turner's Drug Co.,
- VI. Swimming Pools at Louise, ~~Miss.~~ and Belzoni, ~~Miss.~~

Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 1

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Jan. 13, 1938

Topic: Recreational Facilities

Assignment No. 1

Item No. 2 (c)

Please add to paragraph No. 1

STRAND THEATRE -- opened in December, 1937.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

~~3rd Assignment~~
HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 2, 1938

Copy

Topic: County Seat
Canvasser: Mamie G. Cartledge

Assignment No. 3
Item No. 2 (e)
(County seat)

DESCRIPTION OF HUMPHREYS COUNTY COURT HOUSE AND JAIL

X
The Humphreys County Court House and Jail are located on a beautiful five acre lot, being well located. The Court Building has a frontage of 125 feet and extends back 101 feet and 5 inches. The total height is 55 feet, being four stories high. The drive-way continues around the building, making an outlet on all four sides. The building is of strictly fire proof construction, and has six exits. The columns, girders, beams, and floor slabs are of reinforced concrete, while the roof trusses over Court Room are of steel 59 feet long built up of plates.

The exterior of the building is designed in the Greek Ionic, and all columns, cornices, and mouldings have been carefully followed out as to detail and scale. The fronts facing North, East and West, are faced with Indiana Limestone up to the water table, the walls are of buff brick. The building has eight stone columns in front 24 feet high, and stone steps 40 feet wide from ground floor to first floor. All cornices, etc. are of Terra Cotta to match stone.

Entering from the main steps on the East front are three bronze doors. The lobby is very large and is well lighted. The floors of the lobby are of Terrazo, while the wainscot is of Tennessee marble 3 feet high. The walls of lobby are finished in ornamental plaster in rich colors. The stairs are of wrought and cast iron, the treads being finished with non-slip material, making them noiseless and safe.

The ground floor contains large corridors. There are offices

Humphreys County, Fine Art

Page Two
Humphreys County
Description of Court House.

Now occupied by Assessor, Club Agent, County Farm Agent, Health Department, Red Cross, County Library, W.P.A. Sewing Room, and Resettlement Administration. On this floor also is the boiler and fuel room, old record vault, men's toilet, ladies' toilet, and colored toilets.

The first floor contains Board of Supervisor's Room and large room for the public. Adjoining the Board Room is the Chancery Clerk's Office and vault. The East wing contains Sheriff's Office and Tax Collecting Department, with vault. The West wing contains Circuit Clerk's Office and vault, Department of Education Office and Reception Room.

The Court Room is located on second floor and is well lighted. There is a balcony in Court Room for the colored people. The Court Room is also decorated in ornamental plaster. The second floor contains also offices for Judge, County Attorney, Grand Jury, two Petit Jury rooms, Witness Rooms for men and women, both white and colored, as well as all necessary toilet facilities.

The third floor contains Jury Dormitories and kitchen, as well as several offices. The American Legion and the Eastern Star have offices on this floor.

All woodwork, except minor offices, are of select red gum. The panels, doors, etc. are carefully selected and are figured. Finish of woodwork is Circassian Walnut. Furniture was designed by the Architects and all is in accordance with the designs of the building.

Particular attention has been paid to the lighting; every fixture throughout the building has been carefully selected for the

Page Three
Humphreys County
Description of Court House

purpose for which it was intended, and all is of the very best. Plumbing and heating are of the very best and have been carefully designed.

All furniture is of steel finished to match woodwork. The only wood furniture in the entire building is the chairs which are especially built of quarter sawed red gum. The total cost of the building, including lot, furniture and Architect's fee was \$300,000.00.

While this is not the largest Court House in Mississippi, it is by far the best, having cost twice as much money as any other. There is not a building in the State of ~~Mississippi~~ of better material and workmanship. The building was designed and built under the supervision of Kramer & Lindsey of Jackson, Mississippi. The supervision of work being in charge of Mr. J. H. Martin, connected with this firm.

E. A. Beecraft was supervisor of construction. The building was erected by J. T. & R. V. Burkes, of New Orleans, La. Plumbing was installed by G. B. Kidder, Columbus, Mississippi. The heating was installed by Fisher Heating Company, Memphis, Tennessee. The electric wiring by Jones-Johnson Company of McComb, Miss. The plastering and ornamental work was done by Ray S. Long of Belzoni.

Reference: Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner, August 10, 1922.

(Occupants of basement and upper floors being changed to conform with the present ones)

Minnie G. Carledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

Humphreys County

SELECTION OF GROUNDS FOR COURT HOUSE:

Thoughts now turned to a Court House. The lot over-looking the Yazoo River, upon which the Court House and Jail now stand, was purchased from Mr. Steve Castleman, one of the early residents of the County. Ground for the Court House was broken in May of 1921 and the Building was completed in June of 1922. It was presented, and accepted by the County, on July 6th, 1922.

The design is Greek Ionic, all columns, cornices and mouldings carefully followed out in every detail. In connection with ~~this~~ the Court House Building is a most modern and complete Jail. The cost of this property was \$300,000.00, just one-third the cost of the State Capital Building, and although not the largest Court House in Mississippi, it is far the best, there not being one of better material and workmanship.

Reference: E.R.A. History of Humphreys County, compiled by Miss Bettie Brooke in 1935.

Mamie G. Carledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

April 13, 1936

Topic: Historic Art

Canvasser: Constance Embry

Assignment No. 3

Item No. 1 (c)

Humphreys County, being one of the youngest counties in the state, has little to boast of in the way of historic art other than its \$300,000.00 court house and jail which are strictly Ionic in design.

The City Hall at Belzoni erected in 1928 at a cost of approximately \$16,000.00 is of Spanish design.

The Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches at Belzoni are between the Ionic and Greek in design. The Episcopal Church is Gothic.

Reference:

1. Tom Reed, Contractor
2. Freddie Starr, Contractor

Mamie G. Carledge
County Supervisor

SUPPLEMENT TO INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH OF THE ATTACHED POEM

***** Mr. Sorrells represented the local Rotarians as delegate on the first trip of the "Know Mississippi Better" train, this poem being his contribution to the program. Hundreds of copies were printed and strewn along the route of the train.

MISSISSIPPI, STATE OF BLISS
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, THE BEST THAT IS

I was born in Mississippi,
It's the home of my childhood days,
Where I was taught to give honest toil
And be true in all my ways.

I labored there through boyhood,
And into manhood well nature;
I am laboring there now in my declining years
And my labors there will endure.

I love my dear Mississippi,
Not only for the reasons above;
But for her lofty attainments
And her bonds of Christian love.

She is true to her country,
She is faithful to her God,
She is kind to her laborers
Who toil in her sod.

Her asylums, hospitals and churches,
Are in the borders of all her lands,
And her corps of Christian workers
Are ministering to the needs of man.

Her universities, schools and colleges,
Are classed in the highest rate;
And they turn out men and women
Who are numbered among the great.

She gave you J. Z. George,
A man of stately pride;
She gave you L. Q. C. Lamar,
Whose name is nation wide.

She gave you Ben G. Humphreys,
Whose memory is sacred and sweet;
And she gave John Sharp Williams,
Who never knew defeat.

Page Two
Item No. 3 (b)
Humphreys County

I love her for her productive soil,
She has the richest on the map;
She literally pours out her wealth
In the honest toilers lap.

Cotton and corn, small grain and hay,
Grow big crops down our way;
Cabbages, potatoes, peas and beans,
Are the many crops for the farmer's jeans.

Onions and lettuce, and mustard and pep,
Will grow in our soil a peek to the step.
The grape, the plum, the fig, the pear,
Grow in Mississippi, specimens rare.

The apricot, the apple, strawberry and peach
We gather each season, and abundance of each;
The pecan, and the orange that grow on our coast
Are the finest of them all of which we must boast.

Our climate is wonderful,
We are very glad to say;
With our pleasant cool nights
And our mild summer day.

Her health is unequalled,
We mention this with pride;
And we present you these beauties,
As a test which was nation wide.

When the contest was finished
For the highest health rate,
These two girls were the winners
Over all other states.

Yes, these are the jewels
We have brought them this way,
And they are both from Mississippi,
Down South where we stay.

Our laws and regulations
That govern our state
Are constantly improving
At a very rapid rate.

The Illinois Central
The greatest in the land,
Is buying all the railroads
As fast as she can.

Page Three
Item No. 3 (b)
Humphreys County

The capitalists are rushing
With money to burn
To invest in Mississippi
Where good interest can be earned.

Now you can't deny our statements
You know they are true;
For we exhibit to you the goods
That proves it to you.

If you are in search
For a better place to stay,
Join the mighty throng
Now moving our way.

And Mississippi will greet you
With a welcome warm heart,
And ever stand by you
In bearing her part.

By H. A. Sorrels, Belzoni, Mississippi.

Mamie G. Parledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, File A-4

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
April 13, 1936

Topic: Historic Art

Assignment No. 3

Canvasser: Constance Embry

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Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 19, 1936

Topic: Historic Art

Assignment No. 3

Canvassers: Mrs. Hattie Trantham
Miss Bettie Brooke

Item No. 1 (c)

After the erection of Humphreys County Court House, it seemed most fitting that the county should commemorate her dead of the Civil War and the World War with an appropriate monument.

In October, 1922, Members of Humphreys County Chapter of U. D. C., The Arthur Alexander Post of The American Legion and the Woman's Auxiliary of The American Legion petitioned the county Board of Supervisors for a monument in commemoration of the soldiers of the Confederacy, soldiers of the World War and the Mothers of the Confederacy. The petition was readily granted together with an appropriation of six thousand dollars, to be paid in three annual installments of two thousand dollars each, and the contract was let.

At the meeting of the Board of Supervisors in December, 1922, a request was made to rescind the appropriation; but as the contract had been signed, the request was not granted.

Early in 1924 the monument was delivered, but upon inspection of the committee, of whom Cleveland Turner and Tod Forrester were members, and the Board of Supervisors, it was found that the work was not in accordance with specifications, therefore the monument was not accepted. Instead of the World War soldier, a Boy Scout with "R. O. T. C." on his coat had been substituted, hence it was not acceptable, and the date for unveiling of the monument which had been set for May 22nd, 1924, was postponed indefinitely or until the error could be corrected.

Humphreys County, Miss. Fine Art

On July 17th, 1924 the monument was unveiled in the presence of a large crowd with elaborate ceremony, the Boy Scouts and children of the county schools taking a prominent part. Congressman W. M. Whittington was the principal speaker of the day. Of course the loyal women of the county who had made possible the celebration played no small part in the ceremony.

It was a very fitting tribute to the beloved soldiers of the 154th Field Hospital Corps who on July 17th, 1919, just six years before, had come "marching home" with one of their number, Arthur Alexander, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Alexander of Belzoni, having been left on Flanders Field. His remains were later brought to Belzoni and interred in the silent city of the dead. His mother bears the sad distinction of Humphreys County's only "Gold Star Mother".

The Arthur Alexander Post of the American Legion was named in honor of his memory by his comrades.

Hence the unveiling of the monument which stands in the northwest corner of the beautiful, spacious lawn surrounding the Court House was in dual celebration of the return of the soldiers and to the memory of the dead.

The monument, a handsome sculpture of three figures, bears the following inscriptions:

"To the beloved women of the Confederacy and World War".

"Humphreys County tribute to her sons of the World War, 1917 - 1918".

"To the men who wore the grey and were faithful to the end, 1861 - 1865".

On July 17th, 1925 the monument to the confederate veterans,

the World War veteran and the beloved Mothers of the two wars was presented by the Board of Supervisors of Humphreys County to the Humphreys County Chapter of the U. D. C., The Arthur Alexander Post of The American Legion and The Woman's Auxiliary of The American Legion.

References: Belzoni Banners of August, 1922; and October and December, 1922; May, 1924; July, 1925.
Cleveland Turner, Belzoni, *miss.*
Mrs. S. B. T. Jones, Belzoni, *miss.*
Mrs. L. H. Lyon, Belzoni, *miss.*

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, File A-1

Copy

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 19, 1936

Topic: Historic Art

Assignment No. 3

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Miss Bettie Brooke

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Page Two
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

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Page Three
Humphreys County
M. C. Cartledge, Supervisor

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Cleveland Turner, Belzoni, *Miss*.
Mrs. S. B. T. Jones, Belzoni, *Miss*.
Mrs. L. H. Lyon, Belzoni, *Miss*.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Fine Art

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 11, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Florence H. Owen

Item No. III (a, b, c)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- a. Unusual news items.
- b. Unusual social items.
- c. Unusual advertisements.

From the Souvenir Edition of The Belzoni Banner - August 10, 1922 - was taken the following:

"From Volume 1, No. 13, Jan. 24, 1902, of the Belzoni Bulletin, which bears at its mast head, L. Pink Smith, Wm. Hagan editors and proprietors, the following have been taken:

We find advertisements of J. E. Cohn, C. R. Meek, Morris Levy, W. S. Knotts & Bro. as merchants, H. A. Sorrels, real estate. J. A. Wadlington has an ad. stating he is a dealer in staple and Fancy Groceries. Belzoni Bank and Trust Co. with S. Castleman president, G. J. Brantley vice president, and Willis Brumfield assistant Cashier. Wm. Hagan advertising Belzoni Hotel, J. W. McClintock advertising Undertakers' line of goods, W. R. Jenkins, restaurant, M. D. Vincent restaurant and confectionery. Robert Hooker, A. R. Turner and M. Cohn dealers in fine liquors. Whiskey was advertised at from \$5 to \$1.50 a gallon. Case goods, quart

Page Two - Outstanding Editorials
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

bottles, were advertised at from \$1.50 to 50 cents a quart.

Among the items culled from this paper we find the following:

Go to Hooker for Blue Ribbon whiskey.

Try one of A. R. Turner's "Georgia Come Backs."

Drink Hooker's Green Ribbon when you feel blue.

M. Cohn is a big man and pays big prices for cotton.

The Cedar Restaurant has oysters so fat they can't walk.

The Cedar Restaurant is the only place in town to get oysters.

Come to Belzoni for cheap, good big mudholes and good whiskey.

G. W. Meek is the man that gives you much for little.

We have the prettiest girls and the dirtiest streets of any town this side of Honey Island.

W. O. Turnage, manager of the Daybreak plantation, was in town Monday on business.

J. H. Halbert well known citizen of Oak Bayou, was a welcome visitor to the city Monday.

When you feel mean buy something from G. W. Meek and then you will feel meek.

F. H. Hutson of Isola, was in the city Saturday on business and stopped at the Belzoni Hotel.

Lyon & Bain haven't any alligator, but they have "King Gaiter" shoes for \$3.50 per pair, that can't be beat.

M. L. Halbert, one of Oak Bayou's young society men, was a

Humphreys County Press

welcome visitor to our city Monday.

John Parisot, a prosperous young merchant of Palmetto Home, was a welcome visitor to Belzoni Saturday.

A big crowd of Slavs were in town Monday and Tuesday and made business brisk among the liquid refreshment restaurants.

Robt. Bain left on the "City of Greenwood," bound for Yazoo City Saturday morning where he will spend a few pleasant hours driving up the beautiful streets of Bentonla.

We are proceeding rapidly to grow no better fast along the bankruptey line. Two houses "banked up," as one of the kinky-headed causes of the late war put it, "and one opened."

Miss Lena Jackson, the popular Jake Town school teacher, left on board the steamer City of Greenwood to visit her brother, Tobe Jackson of Silver City, returning home Sunday evening.

Mrs. Capt. Pat Holmes and Miss Richardson of Yazoo City, and Miss Ada Bain of Silver City, were passengers on steamer City of Greenwood, Saturday, for 'round trap and took in the sights of our city, while the boat was unloading at the wharf.

Considerable improvement in building circles is going on at present in Belzoni. City Architect F. M. Lawhorn says he has plans perfected for the erection of two large and commodious hen-houses, also will make extensive repairs on a yard fence belonging to the of our wealthiest citizens.

River News

The river has fallen considerably during the last week,

and is still at good boating stage though still falling.

The Elk passed up Sunday night wigh good cargo, and is due down Wednesday night.

The City of Greenwood was up Monday night from Yazoo City and returned Tuesday.

The Emma Francis, plying between Greenwood and Belzoni made her weekly trip on time with good cargo.

The Reese Prichett, running between Greenwood and Vicksburg is due up Tuesday, and will return Friday night.

In Kansas they have a habit of showering shelled corn at the bride and groom. We don't do that way in Mississippi. The groom's friends carry the corn in their hip pockets in a highly concentrated liquid form and to keep one pants leg from "being longer than it really ought to be" they stick a pistol in the other packet and make things howl at the charivari.

In the issue of Vol. 1, No. 20, March 14, 1902, we find that the mayor is T. L. Gilmer, marshall W. N. Regan, Aldermen Dr. J. S. Jackson, M. Cohn and J. B. Daniels. Rev. J. M. Davenport was pastor of the Methodist church. J. F. Gregory pastor of the Baptist church. The Methodist had services twice a month, and the Baptists once a month. A. M. Levy was Chancellor Commander of the K. P. Lodge with T. L. Gilmer reporter. T. L. Gilmer was C. C. and J. W. McClintock clerk.

We cull the following items of interest.

J. Y. Payne of Ezerl, was in the city Tuesday.

Humphreys County Press

Jim Davis, of Honey Island, was in town Tuesday.

Louis Lancaster of Honey Island was in the city Monday.

J. B. Daniels paid a flying trip to Greenville this week.

Esquire T. P. Hasmer, of Honey Island was in the city Tuesday.

S. H. Lusk, a successful farmer of Honey Island, was a welcome visitor to the city Monday.

When you come to town and feel bad go to Robert Hooker's saloon and Jim will fix you up so you will feel better.

Steamer Maggie made a trip up Four Mile Lake Wednesday, returning Friday morning with a barge load of cotton and seed.

Fifty Slavonians in the city Tuesday. Saloons did a good business as empty beer bottles can be seen by the barrels.

The steamer Choctaw, running on the Tallahatchie river, brought down to the Belzoni Oil Mill Wednesday morning four thousand sacks of cotton seed.

C. A. McIntyre of Vicksburg was in the city Monday stopping at the Wabash Hotel and left our city on the steamer City of Greenwood Tuesday.

Several wagon loads of Slavonians left the city Wednesday morning going to Silver City, where they will go to work in their usual line of business making staves.

We learn that L. H. Lyon, member of the late firm of Lyon & Bain that burned out near the depot three months ago, will open up in business again in the store house of J. S. Bowles that was

occupied by M. R. Rorodofsky.

Old man Coon Skin Evans was seen in town Wednesday morning with another bundle of coon skins.

Mr. B. Broadorfsky who was in business here and went into bankruptcy two months ago, has purchased his old stock again and is now packing them up to ship to Rolling Fork, where he will open up again. We hope him success.

The ladies of our little town will give a church supper in the empty store of M. R. Borodofsky on Thursday evening for the benefit of the Baptist Church. Everybody come and bring their girls."

Reference: Souvenir Edition of The Belzoni Banner - August 10, 1922.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County Press

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 4, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Canvasser: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III - b

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

III - b. Unusual social items:

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner of
May 12, 1916:

GOOD ROADS MEETING AND BARBECUE
HELD AT BELZONI, TUESDAY MAY 16

Every Man, Woman and Child In Washington, Holmes,
Yazoo, Leflore and Sharkey Counties Invited
To Be Guests of Belzoni Next Tuesday

"Belzoni will spread herself next Tuesday. She will do it in the good old-fashioned way. She will have as her guests men, women and children from Washington, Sharkey, Yazoo, Holmes and Leflore Counties, and many other places in Mississippi. Everybody is cordially invited to come to Belzoni and get a good barbecue dinner and hear good roads speeches by the greatest bunch of good roads boosters in the whole world.

There is a proposition before the people of Washington County to issue good roads bonds to the amount of \$950,000. The campaign will be opened at Belzoni next Tuesday and will be rigidly prosecuted until June 1, the date of election. Not because there is the least doubt of the bond issue being voted favorably by the qualified electors of Washington County, but in order that the people may become thoroughly

Page Two - Unusual social items
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

acquainted with the bond issue proposition and what is intended to do with the proceeds from the sale of the bonds.

A meeting was held in the City Hall Wednesday morning and the following committees were appointed to look after the entertainment of the visitors:

Finance Committee -- J. M. Powell and J. S. Savage.
Arrangement Committee -- W. S. Knotts, H. H. Alexander and L. H. Lyon.
Program Committee -- J. S. Savage and W. S. Knotts.
Dinner Committee -- J. W. McClintock, T. L. Gilmer and J. C. Hutson.

These gentlemen have been busy since their appointment and will do their best to make the meeting next Tuesday the biggest affair Belzoni ever experienced.

The meeting will be attended by a large number of the largest tax-payers of Washington County, besides citizens of prominent of other counties. Honorable Alfred Stone, a member of the Legislature from Washington County, and one of the largest planters in the county, will be the principal speaker for the boosters. There will be other speakers to tell why they favor the issuance of the \$950,000 bond issue. They will explain the proposition in detail. The gentlemen who will be appointed by the Board of Supervisors as Road Commissioners will be here and will express themselves as to what they intend to do. Not a phase of the proposition will be left unexplained. They will even go into detail as to the increase in taxation, which would be caused by the issuance of these bonds. They will nail some misstatements which are being made.

The opening of the campaign in Belzoni was suggested by the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, of which Mr. R. L. Pritchard is secretary. This organization, one of the liveliest in the State, has advertised the meeting all over Washington County west of the Sunflower River and expect to bring at least one hundred automobiles to Belzoni. The people of Belzoni will be ready to welcome them and will show them the heftiest little city in the whole Delta.

The ladies of Belzoni are requested to cook pies and cakes and salads, and send them to the dinner committee on Tuesday morning, at Green Grove church at the north end of Church Street.

The barbecue and speaking will be held at Green Grove, one of the prettiest spots in Belzoni. It was through the courtesy of the deacons of the negro Baptist church, who own this property, that the meeting will be there. The white citizens of Belzoni express their sincere thanks to the colored citizens for this courtesy and for the readiness on the part of the deacons, in behalf of the membership of the church, to accede to the request for the use of the spot."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - May 12, 1916.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 13, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III (b)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

b. Unusual social items.

From The Belzoni Banner - January 2, 1920 - was taken the following:

"MASONS' INSTALL AND BANQUET"

"Public Installation Witnessed by Large Crowd,
Splendid Talks and a Banquet
That Was Immensely Enjoyed"

"The Masons of Belzoni, together with quite a number of invited friends, had a great and enjoyable time on Wednesday night of this week, when Paul H. Murphy, district grand lecturer, came over and publicly installed the following officers: Dr. D. A. Mecklin, W. M.; Chas. Shapero, S. W.; F. V. Gordon, J. W.; M. Dunn, Treas.; C. Turner, Sec'y.; Sam Shapero, S. D.; S. A. McLain, J. D., and J. C. Maxwell, Tyler. Immediately after the installation, which took place in the lodge room upstairs, the guests were invited to the lower floor where an elegant banquet of 100 plates was given. It was a jolly, jovial crowd, and everyone enjoyed themselves to the utmost.

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A large crowd also witnessed the installation.

Dr. Robinson, who has been in the service for the past two years, was presented with the Past Master's Jewell by Mr. Murphy, who made a splendid little talk, and Dr. Robinson surprised all by the splendid talk he made.

The ladies of the Eastern Star presented Mr. Murphy and M. F. Phillips, the retiring W. M. with handsome cakes.

Good talks were made by several of the gentlemen present.

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - January 2, 1920.

From The Belzoni Banner - March 18, 1926 - was taken the following:

"ROTARIANS HAVE BIG TIME"

"Give Big Banquet And Program to
Rotary Anns And Friends at
High School Friday Night
Enjoyed by All"

"The long anticipated, the eagerly awaited the hoped for day has come and gone. The bombs have exploded, the salutes have been fired, the flags have been unfurled. "Ladies Night" at the Rotary Club has gone but its memory like a sweet scented rose remains with us still. In fact, the bright lights, the brilliant

scenes, the joyous laughter, the happy faces, the carnival of good cheer, the merry music, the bountiful repast,--all will be remembered for a long long time to come. From the time the Rotarians and Rotary Anns, with their guests, marched into the handsomely decorated gymnasium of the high school to the last sound of the gavel in the East, there was one round of uproarious joy and laughter. The old statement so often repeated that men and women are just grown up boys and girls was demonstrated beyond question on this gala occasion.

With Mrs. Downing at the piano the company marched two by two into the gymnasium which was beautifully decorated with the Rotary colors. When all had found places at the table Rotarian Charlton Stewart returned thanks. Everyone then sang, "America," after which each Rotarian presented the flag of a nation which now has Rotary clubs. There are just exactly enough flags to go around. There are twenty-four members of the local club and twenty-four nations which are now represented by Rotary Clubs.

Upon the calling of the roll with introduction of visitors, it was found that there were about one hundred and twenty-five persons present.

The splendid menu which had been planned and prepared by the ladies of the Presbyterian church was interspersed with good, snappy speeches and songs, and music. Mrs. J. M. Powell and Mrs. Matt Alexander in their usual attractive way sang. Their songs were real features of the evening and they may have been there singing yet if they had listened to the encores of the others. Pat

Murphy gave the address of welcome in Pat's own inimitable way. He made everyone feel that the whole affair was just for that particular guest. Miss Brown of the high school gave a reading that was enjoyed by all. In fact, Miss Brown proved herself of such talent that a program of this nature would be incomplete without her. Miss Barge, also of the high school, played an instrumental solo. Miss Barge has unusual talent and her skill found a ready response in the audience who heard her on last Friday.

We were disappointed that Ex-Governor Bilbo, who had been invited to speak on this occasion, was not able to be with us because of illness. President J. W. Broom, of the Delta Teachers' College was also expected to be with us but was held away by business with the legislature. But Victor Montgomery proved himself the master mind and took the place of both Bilbo and Broom and gave to his hearers a discourse which has not often been equaled in any Rotary club. He did a great deal to make the evening a success which we feel sure all felt it was.

A great deal of the success of the night was due to the splendid work of the Presbyterian ladies, to the ladies who took a part in the program, to Bill Allen, generalissimo of the entertainment committee which was composed of Matt Alexander, Hutch Cain, Clarence Miller, Charlton Jones, and Jim Powell. The greatest measure of success however, is due to the fact that everyone entered into the spirit of the occasion and seemed determined to make the other fellow enjoy himself. This is the true spirit of Rotary.

The "Anns" have now had their fling--the Ladies Night of 1926

has been stored away in the treasure house of memory, both the Anns and the Rotarians have survived the ordeal, the play hour is over. Let us now see if we are able to grasp a clearer conception and a brighter vision of our future obligations. Now may we step back into the straight and narrow path of every day affairs that leads up to the long, long trail of Rotary ideals and Rotary service--better prepared for the overcoming of the mountains of indifference, greed, selfishness and petty jealousies that lie in our pathway."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - March 18, 1926.

From The Belzoni Banner - April 8, 1937 was taken the following:

"Belzonians Enter Bridge Tournament"

"World-Wide Bridge Olympic
Played Here At Woman's
Club Wednesday"

"Under the auspices of the Woman's Club, Belzoni turned out in a goodly number last night to take part in the World Wide Bridge Olympic Tournament which took place at 8:01 p. m. The Woman's Club House was the scene of the occasion where nine tables of players assembled to vie for world honors and prizes.

The hands were mailed to the Bridge Olympic Association

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Committee, New York City, to be graded. Every person who entered the tournament will receive an analysis of hands and awards. Bridge emblems will be sent to four highest winners here and world prizes announced. All the bridge hands appeared in today's leading newspapers.

Mrs. Jim Powell was game captain of the tournament here and Belzoni was one of five cities in the state that entered, the others being: Jackson, Clarksdale, Columbus and Hattiesburg.

The following is a list of entrants:

Mrs. Jim Powell and Mrs. Ed Campbell, Mrs. Needham Bryan and Mrs. Cameron Sevier, Mrs. Charlton Jones and Mrs. J. W. McClintock, Mr. Doug Latimer and Miss Tot Kincannon, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Goldberger of Isola, Mrs. H. A. Sorrels and Mrs. Todd Forrester, Mrs. Sam Jackson, Mrs. Ray Shelton and Mrs. Joe Goldberg, Mrs. List Edmiston of Louise and Miss Hilda Goldberger, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Miller, Mrs. R. Kinkead and Mrs. H. E. Covington, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Domengeaux, Mrs. Spencer Barrett and Mrs. W. M. Chapman, Mrs. Matt Alexander and Mrs. Will Solomon, Miss Mildred Garrott and Mr. Milton Marsh, Mrs. Homer Alexander and Miss Nancy Lee Granberry, Mr. and Mrs. James Baird of Baird, Miss."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - April 8, 1937.

The following article, giving the local winners in above mentioned Olympic Bridge Tournament, was taken from The Belzoni

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Banner - May 13, 1937:

"Local Winners In National
Bridge Olympic Named"

"Announcement has been made that Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Baird of Baird, Miss., North and South, and Mrs. W. M. Chapman and Mrs. Spencer Barrett, East and West, have received their bridge emblems as local winners in the Olympic Bridge Tournament held at the Woman's Club Building on April 7th.

The tournament was sponsored by Mrs. Jim Powell."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - May 13, 1937.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County Press

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 13, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Hattie A. Trantham

Item No. III (b)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

b. Unusual social items:

As a valuable employee of the Banner Printing Company, Miss Margie Moore has for the past two years very efficiently filled a position as secretary and social editor. An original column entitled "Howdy Folks", which appears each week on the editorial page, is greatly enjoyed by readers of the Banner.

Typical of the spicy reading to be found in this column is the following as taken from edition of the Banner of November 5, 1936.

HOWDY FOLKS

(By Margie Moore)

"Thursday, Nov. 5th -- Since so many fume and fuss at your reporter, perhaps it would be better if she took a collection from all subscribers who'd pay her NOT to write a colyum... Oh, well, remarks may fly hither and yon, but it usually turns out that the ones who squawk the loudest about publicity love it most....

JOTTINGS FROM A SNOOPER'S BLACK NOTEBOOK: Nancy Hutson has hied hitherward for the winter and was by to see us Monday afternoon with a special invite to come over and see her sometime... She is a-warbling as sweetly as ever at the Casino in Greenville for Herbie

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Holmes and Lads... (Nancy, did you know -- there are two Men About Town who seem to be losing no time WHATSOEVER getting over there?)

From behind an architect's pencil our real estate section notifies us that Dr. Ellis is building out by the CCC camp; the Bill Stones are planning a homestead and Mat Alexander, Jr. is thinking that-a-way too...

Election books report that Mr. June Brown was the first person to vote Tuesday morning and Goldberg Salesman Jones, the last. Feeling terribly left out because Red Solomon did not stop by and say 'hello' -- in fact, it irks your reporter awfully when the eds and co-eds fail to pay our office a visit... JUST a mere tid-bit: it does look like a certain couple COULD stay out of ditches after the third time! ! FROM the Regretful Section: Gone Wilbur Brown, our former printer, to Aberdeen to work... (Hi are you, miss you terribly) REMINDER: Folks, do not forget the China Doll-Tin Soldier Wedding at the school house next Thursday night... IMAGINE: waiting 30 minutes for a 10¢ hamburger at Sevier's! ! OUR hospital list looks almost like a city directory: Dr. Higdon, Mr. S. Van Trantham, Mrs. J. J. Low, Mrs. Lewis Owen, J. W. Jacks, Miss Aylene Milam and at home: Mrs. Johnnie Cerame, Dr. Robert Jackson, the O. J. Turner's boys, Lanier Hudson.

TO Matthew Alexander, Jr.: Want to buy a pig. Come by the Banner office to see you local scribe ... Serious.

Who is the attractive girl with red hair that keeps inquiring at Banner office for T. D. Rice, Jr.? ... PUMPKIN hunters Jack Bridges

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and Vela Dunn later in the night... THANKS to Mrs. Cheatham and Erin McLain for the lovely, lovely roses...UNEARTHED rumors that fill the air -- wedding bells for a Certain school Ma'm in June -- MAYBE...

Girls, if you REALLY want to know if Paul Dowd and Dr. Carroll went to Indianola Sunday -- read LOCAL HAPPENINGS...TIS rumored about that Mrs. Bob Krutz is going to open a reducing school. AND Doc said to the mule, "What are you doing here?" ... POLITIK talk: County Agent Shipp said that he was mad over the election -- he thought that Roosevelt should have carried the other two states! ATTRACTIVE: the new red head health nurse who is a-living at the Blackwood House... SPECIAL invite: to come over and watch Coach Gardner and the "Mrs." churn... RIDING 'round with Natalie Bridgers and Mrs. Parker Ellis in the Shrine pe-rade yesterday... MARY Vincent and Hilda Shapero gloating over the fact that Dr. Carroll had to "Give" when he won the money at Shot's...

Waiting for my landlady to take me riding in her snazzy looking Buick... THE boss remarking where Red Cross Dorsey Boulton can be these days... ADMIRING Lurline Simpson's new red sweater... SHRINER Cleveland Turner hustling around gathering the good old "boys" together to go to Indianola...

Sorry to hear about little Lanier Hudson's accident... I SAY girls, have you met DRAKE? ... What?... Then you must!... NOTATION: to visit Arrah Toney's office since she has put the feminine touch to it... ON hand election day: The ever-courteous Chancery Clerk Hutchens and that ever-ready smile of his.

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Humphreys County
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And so with a contemptuous snort for the GOP Elephant--30."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - Nov. 5, 1936

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Press

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 6, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III -c

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

c. Odd advertisements (floods):

The following articles were taken from the Belzoni Banner of April 28, 1927:

LATEST FROM BELZONI

"BELZONI, Miss., May 2, (1927).-- The editor of The Banner, who is in Memphis getting out his issue of The Banner, received the following wire from O. F. Monk, Postal Telegraph manager, who is still on the job in Belzoni:

'About 36 inches deep in your office. A rise of three-quarters of an inch registered last twelve hours. Falling slowly at Inverness and Isola. Practically all people are safe. Few scattered around Louise and Midnight. Enormous loss of mules and other live stock. From two to twelve feet all over business section. Highest points residential section not covered. Few lives reported lost. Very few women and children are in town.' "

PRINTED IN MEMPHIS

"This issue of the Belzoni Banner is printed in Memphis by the Western Newspaper Union, it being impossible to print it in the Banner

Page Two - Odd advertisements (floods)
Humphreys County
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office on account of the water in the building. We hope and trust ere the passing of another 10 days that the water will be low enough for us to get in the building and straighten things out and begin the publication of this paper. We, like others in Belzoni and the county of Humphreys, have been hit hard, but 'here is a hand for every fate' and we are going to still carry on. We may be knocked down and dragged out, and left by the wayside, feeble and forlorn, but we are not down and out altogether, and with a smile we are going to carry on. Let's all gird our loins for the battle of rehabilitation and go in to win, and we will again come out more than conquerors."

RECORD OF FLOOD

"On the sixteenth day of April, 1912, the Mississippi levee at Beulah broke and it was 11 days before the waters appeared in Belzoni, and it only reached the corner of the street where the Corner Drug Store now stands, but the upper part of the town was deep in water, row-boats plying on the streets, but no water got into the business houses. In 1913, no water to amount to anything showed up here.

In the year 1882, the town was covered with water to a depth of two to nine feet, so some of the old settlers tell us. We had no levees then.

The levee at Stop's landing, at Scott, Miss., broke on the morning of April 21, 1927 at 7:25 o'clock. The day was dark and

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gloomy and the people of Belzoni were in a panic, some of them leaving on the first train out, while others began a mad haste to make boats and mills were kept busy planing lumber for boats. Chaos was everywhere, the citizens were frightened and called for a mass meeting at the city hall. Some 70-odd people met there at 10 o'clock, and W. L. Toney was elected chairman, with T. L. Turner as secretary. It was ordered by the mass meeting that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen be called together to consider the flood situation. They met that afternoon at 3 o'clock, with Mayor Gilmer presiding. The Board, on motion of L. A. Tenhet and seconded by T. B. Craft, decided to go to the flooded area and see what the flood was doing. Meeting that night at 7:30 o'clock. At this meeting, all members being present but J. J. Cain, a motion as follows was made and carried: 'That, owing to the inability to levee the town properly, the Board thinks it inadvisable to attempt to levee.'

On Saturday a mass meeting was held in the office of Alexander Bros., with O. J. Turner, secretary, when it was decided to levee the business portion of town. A. P. Herron was selected as treasurer of the funds. Nine hundred and fifty-five dollars was subscribed at the meeting. J. W. McClintock, R. L. Nelson and Cameron Sevier were appointed a committee to solicit further subscriptions. M. D. Alexander, W. L. Toney and A. Cullander were put in charge of the leveeing, having full charge, hire laborers and secure sacks. Before an hour, a force of laborers was put to work leveeing from the Daybreak road east of the Y. & M. V. R. R. to Vincent corner, the men working night and day.

Quite a number of men, who were in Belzoni at the 1912 break, said they did not think Belzoni would get much water.

On Sunday, 23d, the water was showing up near Indianola, this side of the town. Saturday it began to show up in Isola, by Sunday a strong stream was pouring through the latter town. On Tuesday morning the water was showing up near Belzoni, on Tuesday afternoon it was reported that water was running down Hayden Street.

Monday, 25th, the waters were showing up fast on the Daybreak road. Some negroes going to bed that night and woke up next morning with water covering the floor.

Tuesday, 26th, Daybreak road, the water rose hurriedly and soon it was a raging sea of water. Water began to flow into the Gooden Lake country on Friday, and on Saturday it was very deep. On Tuesday refugees told us the water was seven feet deep in some homes in Gooden Lake.

On Monday morning, 25th, the water began to creep over the Belzoni-Silver City gravel road, at or about where the Y. & M. V. track was washed out in 1922 by the Yazoo high water, and by evening it was impassable for cars to get over. Tuesday, the 26th of April, the water was 18 inches over the Y. & M. V. tracks at Silver City, and Tuesday afternoon it was reported the last train would pass through Belzoni for higher ground.

Tuesday afternoon, over the telephone, we heard the water was over North Haden Street, and slowly creeping up west of the Y. & M. V. depot to the yard tracks.

And so it took from Thursday morning at 7:25, May 21, to

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Humphreys County
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Tuesday afternoon, May 26, to reach Belzoni -- five days. The cause, the break was larger than in 1912, and there were more drainage ditches for it to come down through the delta."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - April 28, 1927

The following article was taken from The Belzoni Banner of May 23, 1929:

WATER CONDITIONS
ARE SERIOUS

Levee at Mounds Landing Sloughing
Off.--Request For One Hundred
Men From Humphreys County
Made Yesterday.

"During the last ten days there has been quite a great deal of uneasiness through the lower delta counties regarding the condition of the levies at Mounds Landing where the break occurred in 1927. It seems for some time that the sand levee completed by the government has been sloughing off, but the condition was not considered dangerous until last week and serious caves were noticed and considerable portions of the levee caved in the river. Steps were immediately taken by the Government Engineers who have charge of the levee to avert any further sloughing however, on Sunday there was another serious cave of about 100 feet on the crown of the levee. Steps were immediately taken to build emergency on box loop around this place and the government tendered 300 convicts to go to the scene of the threatened break.

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

however, the government engineer in charge, Major Lee, claimed that there was no emergency existing and refused the convicts. Chief Engineer J. S. Allen, engineer of the lower levee district contended that an emergency did exist and convicts were needed. Major Lee's contention was that convicts could not be used on public work and therefore refused aid. President Hoover immediately wired waiving a clause that the convicts could be used in emergency. Major Lee still contends that there is no emergency, however, they are conscripting our labor from the plantations in this county. A request for 100 men up on the levee was made yesterday and a large portion of the same have already been recruited and gone to work.

According to reports received from Greenville at 6:00 o'clock Wednesday, the progress of the work is about as follows: A box loop around the slough in the levee is about 60 per cent complete. The mattresses layed on the river to prevent saturation is about 65 per cent completed. The sacking and brushing on top of the levee is about 30 per cent complete and with good weather existing for the next two or three days it is hoped that the same at this point will be completed. One hundred men worked all night on Mounds Levee Tuesday and four hundred worked on the same Wednesday. Additional labor is being recruited from Washington and Humphreys Counties as it will take a very strong force of men to combat with the present rate at which the river is rising.

Senator Percy wired Washington that ^{it} there was nothing short of criminal not using the convicts to help take care of the threatened

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break at this point as all the labor recruited was farm hands and as all of you know on account of the late spring weather and rain they are needed in the crops, however, the planters through the entire delta have shown their willingness as they always have to assist.

The river on the Greenville gauge Wednesday was 50.8, the rise of 0.6. The Vicksburg gauge showed a stage of 52.5, a rise of 0.1. The levee boards predictions will be at crest on June 1st, where the Greenville gauge will be 53 feet and at Vicksburg 55.5 on the 5th of June. Regardless of whether there is any break on Mounds Landing or elsewhere probably all of Issaquena, Sharkey, a portion of Yazoo and quite a large acreage in Humphreys County will be covered by flood waters, however, the stage, were the levee to break at its highest point, would not equal the June rise of 1927, but the back waters will cover a large acreage of land now growing crops.

The general feeling in Humphreys County is very optimistic, although we know there will be considerable lands covered with water. There will be very few places entirely covered, so there will be no total loss in many places as the predicted stage will put practically the same amount of land under water that was in the back water of 1922. The Yazoo is very much lower than it was in 1927 and also the Sunflower ~~which~~ is very much lower. The Yazoo is falling here about 0.2 a day which is relieving some of the low land on Honey Island."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - May 23, 1929.

Page Eight - Odd Advertisements (floods)
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The following article was taken from the BELZONI 23 YEARS AGO column (Taken From Files of Belzoni Journal) - Belzoni Banner of April 16, 1936:

"Levee Breaks Below Beulah: Thousands of acres of the richest land in the Mississippi delta will be overflowed and many towns in danger. The levee at the Lobdel plantation, four miles below Beulah broke at 10 o'clock tonight, April 17, 1913, and a mammoth stream of flowing water came thru a large gap, rapidly flooding the surrounding country. The territory which will be affected most will be Benoit, Dehomey, Beulah, Cleveland, Pace, Shaw, Choctaw, Leland and the country east of Deer Creek, the lower Big Sunflower and Yazoo lower reaches, doubling flood sufferers territory and flooding the richest sections of the Mississippi Delta. It is the first break on the Mississippi side and ends a desperate fight carried on for weeks. An army of men and sent them back to Rosedale." (copied verbatim)

Reference: Belzoni Banner of April 16, 1936.

The following was taken from The Belzoni Banner of February 4, 1937:

BELOW IS A REPORT OF
BREAKS IN MISS. LEVEES

"Much discussion is often made regarding when and where and the size of the breaks in the Mississippi levees since the creation of the two levee boards.

Humphreys County, Press

This report as submitted below is from the official records of the weather bureau at Vicksburg.

Breaks in the levee and overflows are like a bad dream, they are very impressive in spots but soon forgotten. The most destructive break in our levees was the one at Mounds Landing in April, 1927.

With the present improved levee system we feel confident that there will be no break this year.

BREAKAGE IN MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES EFFECTING STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
SUBSEQUENT TO 1882

Locality	Miles Below Cairo	Date	STAGE			
			Max. Width	Mem	G'vle.	V'bg
Austin	--- 298	April 1, 1890	270	35.4	42.8	46.4
Catfish	--- 432	April 4, 1890	1969	35.6	42.6	46.7
Low. Catfish	--- 431	April 4, 1890	3097	35.6	42.6	46.7
Easton	--- 435	March 28, 1890	780	35.3	43.3	46.6
Huntington	--- 438	March 28, 1890	625	35.3	43.3	46.6
Offutts	--- 444	March 18, 1890	860	35.5	43.3	47.5
Miller Bend	--- 474	April 7, 1890	300	35.5	42.2	47.1
Skipwiths	--- 530	March 26, 1890	1260	35.5	43.4	46.8
Robts'ville	--- 354	March 26, 1891	550	35.5	43.4	46.8
Flowerlake	--- 292	April 4, 1897	2020	37.0	44.9	49.2
Sledge	--- 376	March 29, 1897	1030	36.8	46.7	48.8
Sunnywild	--- 380	March 30, 1897	2350	36.8	46.4	49.0
Stop	--- 424	March 30, 1897	1520	36.8	46.4	49.0

Report of Breaks in Miss. Levees continued:

Locality	Miles Below Cairo	Date	Max. width	Mem	G'vle.	V'bg
Deerfield	-- 493	March 28, 1897	1240	36.8	46.5	48.4
Shipland	-- 548	April 21, 1897	1100	35.9	44.0	51.7
LaGrage	-- 480	March 27, 1903	3875	40.1	49.1	51.8
Albemarle	--569	March 27, 1903	1100	40.1	49.1	51.8
Lake Beulah	404	April 17, 1912	2400	45.2	50.8	51.7
Lake Beulah	404	Jan 25, 1913	953	37.5	36.8	40.0
Skipwith	-- 530	April 12, 1913	1161	46.1	47.4	48.8
Mounds Landing	433	April 21, 1927	3047	45.8	54.6	54.7

WEATHER BUREAU OFFICE, VICKSBURG, MISS., JANUARY 26, 1937."

The following article was taken from The Belzoni Banner of April 13, 1916:

"The lightening played pranks in the yard of Mr. J. H. Turnage of this city last Saturday. About five o'clock an exceedingly sharp report was heard and the lightening struck a wire clothes line in Mr. Turnage's yard spreading itself around the yard generally. One of the boys was standing near by at the time with an axe in his hand, and he was literally sparkling with electricity. Fortunately no one was hurt and no damage done."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - April 13, 1916.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Press

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 25, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Emmerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III - c

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

c. Odd advertisements (fires, cyclones, hail and wind storm):

The following article was taken from The Belzoni Banner of September 11, 1924:

BELLGRADE LUMBER CO. LOSE LUMBER

Lumber Yard of Bellgrade Lumber Co., Louise,
Destroyed by Flames, Seen for Miles

"On last Monday night at an early hour the sky was darkened by a heavy cloud and out of it came much wind, carrying destruction in its path to trees of the forests, numbers of them between here and Bear Creek and this side of Gooden Lake were blown down. In Belzoni the wind whisked things around mightly, and over in the cooperage plant sparks from the "hell hole" so named by the negroes, a place where the small pieces of the logs and planks are conveyed and are burned as they fall into the fire beneath, set fire to the mill but the watchman put it out.

Mr. Edmiston, left the plant of the Bellgrade Lumber Company, at Louise, about the time the wind and rain struck the place, and all was O. K. Shortly after he reached home or town it was discovered the wind had whisked embers from the hell hole into a pile of lumber and it was being fanned to a flame by the wind. In a short while the lumber yard was on fire in many places. Help was asked from Belzoni

Page Two - Outstanding Editorials (fires, cyclones, hail and wind storms)
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when Thomas Abernathy and several others loaded three hundred feet of hose on a truck and went to the scene, battling the spectacular fire which was sweeping everything before it. At one time it looked like they had the fire under control, but the shed in which large quantities of dry lumber were under became ignited when the fire fighters pulled in their hose, knowing it was useless to fight any longer. The Y. & M. V. R. R. ran a special train with fire fighting apparatus over to Louise at about 7 o'clock Tuesday morning, but they never unloaded the fire engine from the car, as it was a useless fight. The entire yard of lumber, something about eight or ten acres was entirely consumed, about eight million feet going up in flames. The exact amount of loss is not yet determined but it is understood the loss is partially covered by insurance.

The mill nor none of its equipment was damaged, the wind blowing the flames in an opposite direction.

The President of the Company who resides in Memphis, where the head office is, came down to the scene of the fire.

The fire was a most spectacular one and was seen from a great distance by people who were out, and burned fiercely until Tuesday morning.

The Y. & M. V. R. R. side track lost many of its cross ties, and the loss to this company will also be great from the fact it lost the hauling of the lumber.

In conversation with the officials on Tuesday afternoon they informed us they would keep right on, that the burn would not deter them from carrying on their business."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - September 11, 1924

Humphreys County, Press

The following article was taken from The Belzoni Banner of January 11, 1923:

**A BIG FIRE AT
OUR COMPRESS**

A Compartment at Compress
Burn Saturday Evening
Causing a Loss of 1700
Bales of Cotton

"On Saturday evening at about 2:15 smoke was seen issuing from the northwest compartment of The Peoples Compress Co., and in a few minutes the flames burst through the roof. Then it was the automatic doors leading to this compartment were closed instantly preventing the spread of the fire to other compartments. The loss to cotton will be around ^{Should be \$22,500.00} \$225.00 to the Building about \$15,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

It was an ugly looking fire, and notwithstanding six lines of hose played streams of water on the flames, it looked as if the entire structure with some 15,000 bales would be burned, as the fire was in the northwest corner and the wind was blowing briskly from that direction, throwing the flames over the roof of the building, but water and courage prevailed and the building and contents were saved, something like 100,000 gallons of water being thrown on the burning cotton.

After the fire was under control the west wall and roof fell with a crash, the roof hitting W. L. Toney and T. L. Gilmer, knocking the latter down, but both escaped with only slight injuries. The wall caught three negro men and a negro woman, but only Henry Chaffee, the

colored fireman was severely injured. He had four ribs and a leg broken and was hurt about shoulders and face. Between 1700 and 1800 bales were destroyed, and one compartment of the compress and the roof of the south compartment were burned off.

Sunday morning a salvage corps was on the scene and the burning bales dragged out, fire extinguished and the cotton salvaged. They estimate that they will save about forty per cent of the cotton. Water is still being thrown on the bales not yet removed from the press. Nearly all of the cotton was insured.

The salvage men gave the water plant of Belzoni a great boost the other day when they said they wanted to see the plant that could fight a compress fire and leave a forty per cent salvage of cotton; that usually they found only ashes and baling ties."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - January 11, 1923.

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner of July 9, 1925:

**ISOLA HAS A DISASTROUS
FIRE MONDAY MORNING**

Our Splendid Little Neighbor City Visited by a Disastrous
Fire Monday Morning -- Several Houses Destroyed --
Loss Great with Very Little Insurance.

"At about 9:30 Monday a telephone message was received in Belzoni to send the fire department to Isola as the town was burning up. As Isola has no provisions to fight fire, the fire department of this place would have been just as powerless as the good people of

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Isola, who had to stand and see the fire run its course. Of course there was work done which prevented some buildings from burning. By the removal of three box cars from the siding next to the depot that building was saved.

We were told the fire originated in the pump house which supplied water to many of the stores and some families, and before discovered the building was a mass of flames. A gasoline engine was the power that was used to pump the water into the tank. The hotel caught fire next, and it being a large two story frame building, the heat was intense. Had the wind been in the south it probably would have swept across the street to the two story brick business house of Mr. Hutson and then on up the street. However, the fire was confined to that one block--the hotel and a grocery store in the hotel belonging to Mr. Russell was destroyed. A barber shop, two pressing shops, two servants houses, the pump house, the freight platform, and one or two small outhouses were destroyed.

The heat set fire to three box cars on the siding next to the passenger station and depot, but these were rolled away, two north on the main track, when all three were destroyed, there being no way whatever to fight the fire, as there was very little water obtainable the pump house being the first to burn, and the few fire extinguishers were of no service hardly.

Two of the freight cars were filled with gin material for the E. A. Wright gin, and workmen were to begin installing the morning of the fire. These were a total loss, the cars being moved north of the

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depot to the main track, where they slowly burned, and the track was damaged by the burning of the cross ties, the heavy iron contents of the car falling upon the track, and the two evening trains were delayed for an hour or more on account of it.

The hotel belonged to Mr. M. Gasten, and Mr. Hutson had some property which was destroyed.

E. S. Bradley, agent of the Y. & M. V. R. R. who lived upstairs in the building had his furniture greatly damaged by removal, much of it being pitched out of the second story only to be badly damaged.

Others suffered losses by removal of goods and household plunder.

One or two houses caught fire from sparks from the burning buildings and were more or less damaged.

We understand very little insurance was carried."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - July 9, 1925.

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner of April 28, 1927:

LUMBER COMPANY

"The Y. D. Lumber Company was totally destroyed by fire Wednesday night. The cause of the fire is unknown. On account of the few people in town, being driven out by the flood, the fight to save

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the yard and buildings was not sufficient to stop the blaze."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - April 28, 1927.

The following was taken from the Belzoni Banner of
October 24, 1929:

EARLY MORNING
FIRE DESTROYS
BUSINESS HOUSES

Strickland's Barber Shop and City
Meat Market Burn.---Buildings
Owned by Mrs. T. D. Mechatto.
Are Total Loss.

"About 2:00 o'clock this morning, a fire was discovered in the rear of Strickland's Barber Shop and had gained a great headway before the alarm was turned in, totally destroying the barber shop and the City Meat Market owned by F. D. Watts. The two buildings were owned by Mrs. T. D. Mechatto and were a total loss. The fire was hard to fight owing to the start being in the rear end of the building and two hose lines had to be brought through Nick Carter's Billiard Hall in order to reach the part of the heaviest fire, which was fought for nearly two hours before it was put entirely out. The stock and fixtures in both places were practically a loss and were ruined by heat and water. Strickland's Barber Shop had just been completely overhauled and repainted and brought up-to-date. Watts Meat Market was one of the most complete and up-to-date refrigerated markets anywhere

and all the fixtures were practically new. The losses on the building are estimated \$5000.00, insurance not given. Strickland's Barber Shop, \$2500, insurance not given. Watts Meat Market, \$5750, insurance \$2500 on stock and fixtures. In addition to the losses covered will be heavy on account of coming at this time of the year when business in both lines is at its very best and it will be some time before either could obtain fixtures or get a building to go in.

The fire department was at the scene of the fire almost as soon as the fire whistle blew, and had Belzoni not had an efficient fire department the fire would have been very great.

The fire removed the last building in the business section that have framed petitions and had it been a brick wall, the possibilities are only one building would have been destroyed."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - October 24, 1929.

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner of
July 21, 1932:

DISASTEROUS FIRE SWEEPS LUMBER YARD

Y. D. Lumber Yard and Several
Negro Houses Go Up in Flames
Firemen Fight Stuborn Blaze
Heroically

"After an unbroken record of nearly four months in which no fires of any kind had happened, Belzoni was visited by one of the most

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spectacular and costly fires since the burning of the compress about seven years ago.

About 1:15 Saturday morning an alarm was turned in, and the fire department immediately responded to the fire in the Y. D. Lumber yard, west of the Y. & M. V. depot. The flames had gained large headway before the alarm was turned in, and quite a large portion of the yard was on fire when the fire department arrived and for three hours they fought the hottest fire that has ever been experienced in the history of the town. Large quantities of inflammable matter which was rapidly fanned by the wind created by the heat made it almost impossible for the firemen to get within distance close to pour heavy streams of water on the fire which was burning at several points. Heroic efforts were made, and the office and part of the warehouse were saved. Six negro cabins, directly west and across the narrow street were totally destroyed. These were very old and dry buildings and were kindling for the flames from the lumber yard. Other houses on the north and south were saved, but only by heroic work. The fire burned all day Sunday before it was finally burned out and subdued.

The Y. D. Lumber Company carried full coverage in the Mutual Fire Association and will rebuild as soon as adjustments are made which they hope will be today. Other buildings were owned by Joe Goldberg and Dr. Wallington and carried small insurance. During the fire, five lines of hose played water on the fire which was a burning infernal. The cause of the fire has never been determined."

Reference: Belsoni Banner - July 21, 1932.

The following article was taken from the column BELSONI 1913
23 YEARS AGO (Taken From Files Of Belsoni Journal) - Belsoni Banner
of March 19, 1936:

"DISASTROUS FIRE ON HAYDEN STREET: A fire which proved to be the most disastrous that has visited Belsoni for many months occurred on Hayden Street at three o'clock Thursday afternoon.

The fire originated in the Delta Hotel operated by Mr. T. B. Thornton. This is the place formerly known as the Red Hotel and later as the Wimberly House. When discovered the upper floor was all ablaze and by the time the alarm could be turned in the flames were leaping from the roof and already menacing adjoining property. In ten minutes the fire had spread to the Perkins house on the north and a very few minutes later the Sevier Hotel annex was in a blaze, all three large two story frame buildings. As the flames progressed the residence of Mrs. Lancaster, north of the Perkins House was next to catch and from there the fire spread to the residence of W. L. Toney. All of the buildings were entirely consumed with exception of the Sevier Annex. This building was badly damaged by both fire and water. North of Mr. Toney's residence next in the row, the residence of Mrs. Combs caught and was damaged to about one half of its value. The new residence north of Mrs. Combs, being built by Mrs. Weir, was not damaged although at one time it seemed doomed. On the south of the Sevier Annex Mr. Valliant's residence and that of Mrs. Clark were in danger of destruction but a timely change of the wind drove the heat away and they were saved without damage further than that to the furniture in being removed.

McClintock and Moorhead carried the bulk of insurance on the property destroyed and the loss above salvage will reach \$15,000. The insurance department of the Citizens Bank and Trust Co. carried the loss to the residence of Mrs. Lancaster and that of Mrs. Combs and the two will aggregate about \$3,000. A heavy loss was incurred by the persons living in all the houses burned by having their household goods thrown out and damaged. A number of persons, mostly young men, who lived at the hotels, lost their trunks and all their effects, in a number of cases having not a single thing left but the clothes they were wearing. Various estimates of the total loss, taking no account of insurance, place the cost of the fire at from \$20,000 to \$30,000. Once more the need of more and better fire protection was emphasized. The water pressure was so weak that a stream of water would barely be made to reach the tops of the two story buildings, and when thrown against second story windows failed to break the glass. This added to the fact that the heat was so intense that it was difficult to approach the fire closely, making it a fight against heavy odds, and it must be conceded that it was only by the most heroic work of the men, both white and colored, that the fire was kept within the small district it covered. A number of young men exposed themselves more than was wise and while their bravery is fully appreciated and all honor is given them for their unselfish efforts, yet it is doubtful if the good accomplished would offset the suffering entailed by an accident that might easily have happened at any time or by the pneumonia that may yet develop as a

result of the exposure. If lives are at stake then it is the act of a hero to take any chance regardless of the danger but when it is a matter of mere dollars and cents worth of property a little caution is better part of valor. It is not the duty of any citizen to risk his life in an effort to save property that could and ought to be insured when located in a dangerous place."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - March 19, 1936.

The following article "Antics of the Cyclone" was taken from the Belzoni Banner of January 26, 1922:

ANTICS OF THE CYCLONE

Cyclone on Daybreak Plantation Last Thursday Plays Some Strange Capers with Things

"Thursday of last week at about 5:30 a cyclone passed over Daybreak plantation and did considerable damage as recorded in the Banner of last week.

Within however there were some freaks of the cyclone that is almost unbelievable.

In a garage on the place sat a Ford machine, the wind came along, took the three walls and the roof and scattered the planks and boards to the four winds of heaven, as it were, and the tin Lizzy sat undisturbed through it all just where the owner placed her when driven into the garage.

In another part of the field is a small cotton house, a small enclosure in which the cotton pickers dumped their cotton after weighing. There were a lot of loose corn in the ear in this house, the wind gathered everything but the corn and the floor and blew them so far nothing has been seen of the timber, but the corn was left undisturbed."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - January 26, 1922.

The following article on a hail and wind storm was taken from the Belzoni Banner of May 15, 1930:

HAIL AND WIND
STORM HITS
IN BELZONI

Belzoni and Vicinity Visited By
Hardest Hail and Wind Storm
In History--Much Damage
To Property

"Last Thursday afternoon about 1:30 o'clock, the most terrific storm that has ever visited this section of the country, hit Belzoni and vicinity, doing damage that run far up in thousands of dollars. The direct property loss on buildings in Belzoni alone will run in excess of \$50,000, not to count the damage done to gardens, shrubs, trees and flowers. This loss can hardly be estimated.

The wind reached the velocity of almost cyclone rate blowing down houses, garages, up-rooting trees and tearing off roofs. After

the wind subsided some, a hail storm, the equal of which was never heard of in this country, rained down for a period of 15 minutes. The hail ranging from the size of bird eggs to guinea eggs which destroyed practically all vegetation, stripping the trees of their leaves and in some places the hail whiped the bark off the limbs, leaving them entirely naked.

After the hail there came a rain almost equal to a water-spout. Variously estimated from five to nine inches fell in the space of one hour. The streets looked like the overflow of 1927, flooding a large number of the stores and doing quite a good deal of damage to the stocks of goods. The water in front of this office was eight inches deep on top of the side-walk.

The three school buildings suffered the heaviest losses from the hail, breaking out about 1000 glasses in the three buildings and the rain flooding the school rooms did untold damage to the floors, also ruining the plastering in a large number of the rooms.

All the churches suffered losses by broken glass, in addition to damaged roofs by the wind. Several smoke-stacks at the gins and mills were blown down and Alexander's Lumber Yard suffered from lumber being blown down and scattered.

The school teachers at the school building did a wonderful job in controlling 800 frightened children, as doubtless the bravest would have been frightened while the windows were being crushed out, lighting playing everywhere and water flooding the rooms, however, no one was hurt, just a few badly scared children as well as parents at home who were unable to get to them on account of water.

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There was scarcely a home or building in Belzoni that did not suffer damage from either broken windows or blown off roofs. The crop damage in the vicinity of Belzoni was very heavy, owing to the fact that the hail destroyed all the cotton that was up and necessitating the replanting of thousands of acres. However, everyone was up and and at it Monday morning and it is like the flood of 1927, forgotten, except we are all now wrangling with the adjusters."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - May 15, 1930.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 24, 1937

Topic: Commercial Job Shop
Enumerator: Hattie A. Trantham

Assignment No. 21

Item No. 4

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Aside from the publication of its weekly paper - The Belzoni Banner - the Banner Printing Company does a large amount of job work, such as the printing of circulars and other types of commercial job work.

The contract work of the company includes advertising on a time basis, supplying bound yearly editions of the paper for county record and other publishing incidental to operation of business for the county and individual citizens.

There are bound yearly editions of the Belzoni Banner since 1918, when Humphreys County was created, on file in the office of the Chancery Clerk. These editions are bound by the Mammoth Book Company of Mammoth, Illinois.

A complete line of office supplies are also handled at The Banner Printing Company. Besides Miss Margie Moore, Secretary and Society Editor, there are two other efficient employees.

Reference: Mr. W. L. Toney - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Press

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 18, 1937

Topic: Magazines

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. V

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The School's First Paper:

The first Belzoni High School paper on file is that of the Belzoni Hi-News, November, 1927, published by the students of the high school, with Marion Hicks, Jr., as Editor-in chief. Staff and reporters for the paper are as follows:

"Hi-News Staff

Editor-in-chief-----	Marion Hicks, Jr.,	'28
Associate Editor-----	Eleanor Bridges,	'28
Business Manager-----	Thomas Turner,	'28
Advertising Manager-----	Lucian Wadlington,	'28
Circulation Manager-----	Jeanette Marsh,	'28
Exchange Editor-----	Mildred Pepper,	'29
Humor and Feature Editor-----	Ethel Mae Bryan,	'28
Society Editor-----	Irene Wadlington,	'29
Sports Editor-----	Rodney Culpepper,	'28

Reporters

Milton Bennett,	'29
Elizabeth Doyle,	'29
Louise French,	'30
Bill Powell,	'30
Eva Purvis,	'31
Dick Chandler,	'31
Faculty Adviser-----	Laura Gallaspy"

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News - November, 1927.

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Extent of files kept; - giving dates:

Only two copies of the Belzoni Hi-News for the term 1927-1928 are on file at the school. The date of these papers are November, 1927 and March, 1928.

References: Miss Allie D. Martin - Principal of Belzoni Schools - Belzoni, Miss.
Miss Mildred Copenhaver - Teacher of English in Belzoni High School - Belzoni, Miss.

Local conditions of publication:

The November, 1927 copy of the Belzoni Hi-News was published by the Banner Printing Company. Some later issues of the paper during the 1927-1928 term were mimeographed. Approximate cost for publication of an issue of the paper by the Banner Printing Company was \$25.00. Each copy of the paper carried advertisements of various business houses of the community. Funds from these advertisements, together with money received from the sale of the papers, paid for the printing of the publication.

References: Miss Allie D. Martin - Principal of Belzoni Schools - Belzoni, Miss.
Miss Mildred Copenhaver - Teacher of English in Belzoni High School - Belzoni, Miss.

Publication policy:

The policy of the capable editor of the Belzoni Hi-News was to present to readers a paper made up of articles closely

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related to the life of the school. Deeper subjects were to be interspersed with humor, sports articles and other items of interest.

References: Miss Allie D. Martin - Principal of Belzoni Schools - Belzoni, Miss.
Belzoni Hi-News - November, 1927.

Successors of the Original Publication:

Name of paper	Date said paper published
No record-----	1928-1929
No record-----	1929-1930
Sausage Grinder----- "(Member Mississippi High School Press Association - 1930-1931)"	1930-1931
No record-----	1931-1932
No record-----	1932-1933
No record-----	1933-1934
Belzoni Hi-News-----	1934-1935
Belzoni Hi-News-----	1935-1936
Belzoni Hi-News-----	1936-1937

References: Miss Allie D. Martin - Principal of Belzoni Schools - Belzoni, Miss.
Miss Mildred Copenhaver - Teacher of English in Belzoni High School - Belzoni, Miss.
Sausage Grinder - January 15, 1931.-

Editors in order:

No record for 1928-1929 term.

No record for 1929-1930 term.

Sausage Grinder for 1930-1931 term (From files of G.

Marion O'Donnell):

Editor-in-chief-----Marion O'Donnell

For the October 15, 1930 edition of the paper, additional members of the staff are as follows:

"Associate Editor-----James P. Halbrook
Feature Editor-----Elliott Danzig
Sports Editor-----James S. Fisher
Social Editor-----Mary Vincent
Business Manager-----Melba Alexander
Art Editors-----Agnes Arant
Marguerite Bain
Helen Craft
Reporters: T. D. Rice, Mildred Cohn, Evelyn Posey, Hilda Shapero,
Milton Marsh."

Published by students of the Belzoni High School.

No record for 1931-1932 term.

No record for 1932-1933 term.

No record for 1933-1934 term.

The Belzoni Hi-News for 1934-1935 term (From School files):

"High-News Staff

Editor-in-chief-----Spencer Barnes, '35
Associate Editor-----Kathleen Halbrook, '35
Business Manager-----John Brumfield, '35
Circulation Manager-----Frank Gordon, '35
Exchange Editor-----John Powell, '35
Humor Editor-----Frank Monk, '35
Society Editor-----Martha Ellen Low, '35
Sports Editor-----Herman Woodard, '35
Feature Editor-----John Bradley, '35
Faculty Advisor-----Miss Copenhaver

Reporters

Vera McCarley-----J. C. Bradley

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Joe Watson-----Ann Marsh
Doris Brewer-----Alvin Goldberg
Frances Allen-----Benny Krauss
Madoline Monk-----Keith Hook
Annie Laurie Maxwell-----Kathleen Vincent

Published by students of Belzoni High School.

The Belzoni Hi-News for 1935-1936 term (From School Files):

"Staff

Editor-in-chief-----Bill Allen
Assistant Editor-----Linton North
Business Manager-----Annie L. Maxwell
Sports Editor-----Alvin Goldberg
Art Editor-----Virginia Miller
Joke Editor-----Chester Marshall
Exchange Editor-----David Westmorelan
Faculty Advisor-----Miss Copenhaver
Circulation Manager-----Pat Murphy

Reporters

Seniors-----Janice Bradley
Frances Allen
Juniors-----John H. Gordon
Annet Naron
Sophomores-----Betty Murphy
Malcolm Klauss
Freshmen-----Lula McCoy
Joe Goldberg

Typists

Juanita Courtney-----Johnny Powell
Herman Woodard-----Jimmy Sumrall
John B. Bain-----H. H. Rowell
James Cole"

Published by students of Belzoni High School.

Belzoni Hi-News for the 1936-1937 term (From school files):

"Editor-in-chief-----Eloise Jones
Assistant Editor-----Corinne Solomon
Business Manager-----Natalie Shapero
Club Editor-----Betty Murphy
Sports Editor-----Bubber North

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Joke Editor-----John H. Gordon
Art Editor-----Claudia V. Miller
Sponsor-----Miss Copenhaver

Published by students of Belzoni High School.

The staff for Belzoni Hi-News for 1937-1938 term have been elected as follows:

Editor-in-chief-----Betty Murphy
Assistant Editor-----Thelma Kilpatrick
Business Manager-----Ann Marsh
Club Editor-----Alice Dunn
Sport Editor-----Malcolm Klauss
Circulation Manager-----Frances Heffron
Exchange Editor-----Walton Courtney

The April 1937 issue of the Belzoni Hi-News was under the direction of this new staff.

Published by students of Belzoni High School.

References: Miss Allie D. Martin - Principal of Belzoni Schools - Belzoni, Miss.
Sausage Grinder of October 15, 1930.
Belzoni Hi-News of December 10, 1934.
Belzoni Hi-News of December, 1935.
Belzoni Hi-News of October, 1936.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Press

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 18, 1937

Topic: Magazines

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. V

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The Belzoni High School paper:

From the Belzoni Hi-News of November, 1927 were taken the following articles:

"The School Paper"

"A school paper is the product of its readers and is a success as a medium of exchange of ideas."

This paper is published for its readers' profit and information. It should embody the spirit of the school.

It's prime aim is to be of, for and by the students. It seeks no story that does not affect the school. Our desire is that it be centered upon the little world which constitutes this institution of education.

This paper intends to be a light to guide the student to truth. It wishes to encourage those things which will bring out the best there is in the student and student body and to elevate the thought to a higher plane.

By doing these things the paper can accomplish great things in its limited way and will cause honor to be reflected on the school.

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It is an error to presume that the paper will be edited by the staff members. This organization welcomes any and all contributions from the faculty and any member of the student body."

"Thanksgiving"

"We are nearing a holiday which our forefathers first observed, a day of Thanksgiving, a day when the whole nation thanks God for life, family, home, health, a God who loves and understands all, and for a nation where men may enjoy freedom in the true sense of the work."

"What Chapel Means"

"Chapel! a period of only fifteen or twenty minutes! Yet how much good is derived from this short period!

The work of God is read by a most capable man, Mr. Brooks. He pierces the deepest recesses of the passages which the pupils often find difficult to interpret, and conveys the meanings to them in a language of understanding. He points out the beautiful parts of the most interesting BOOK in the world. He inspires all with a spirit which is endowed with a feeling of reverence and righteousness.

During this period, the students float down the river of Lethe, and relieve their minds of all study and evil thoughts. Instead of meditating upon worthless subjects, their minds turn into another channel, of higher and nobler aspirations.

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This short period of chapel breaks the dull monotony of a scheduled day. It creates ambitions and resolutions to make the classes after chapel better than those before.

Singly, let us think over each letter that constitutes the work chapel and give to each the best meaning possible:

C for the coming of all to the hall,

H for the honor that on us does fall,

A for the amount of good that is given,

P for the purity that will lead us to Heaven,

E for the eternity that life is followed,

L for the love that must ever be hallowed.

All these are found in the chapel period, and chapel should mean all these to every boy or girl. If it means these, the future generation will be of a nobler character.

--E. M. B. '28."

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of November, 1927.

From the Belzoni Hi-News of March, 1928 was taken the following article:

"Friendship"

"A true friend is the grandest thing in the world to have. A great many people will say that there are very few friends in the world today. People, think before you speak. Have you looked the whole world over: Why, there are true friends in every town in the

universe. If you don't find a friend, the only reason is, in your heart, you don't want to find one. For the benefit of these people, we shall tell you what a friend is. A friend is a person who will listen to all of your troubles without complaint, help you in every way he can, be of service to you any time. And love you, no matter what unfortunate thing may happen.

Is there a person who does not want a friend? Surely there is not. "A friend in need is a friend indeed," and those who have true friends will vouch that they are, next to a mother, the most wonderful thing on earth."

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of March, 1928.

From the Sausage Grinder of October 15, 1930 was taken the following articles:

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"DEDICATION"

"To Virgil, the greatest of Roman poets, we, the Virgil class of Belzoni High School, after many pleasant hours in research for knowledge of this great poet who has not been surpassed in refinement of expression and elegant metrical construction, do dedicate these pages on this the two thousandth anniversary of his birth.

-Mary McCoy"

"BIMILLENium VIRGILIANUM"

"Today, October 15, 1930, is the two thousandth birthday of Virgil. Plans have been made to further the Virgilian celebration throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. The purpose of the celebration is to center public attention on the importance of his life and work and the high ideals for which Virgil stands. There has never been an event of greater literary significance and everybody who desires the youth of today to know and love the things that are most worthwhile should lend his support to make this celebration a real success.

Since the American Classical League has begun to work for the nation-wide recognition of the Bimillennium Virgilianum, many high schools over the United States have planned local celebrations. Today in many states of the union the classical teachers are gathering together to celebrate this great poet. At these gatherings, exhibits have been planned including Virgil scrapbooks, models of Roman houses, figures carved from Ivory Soap, etc. - articles made by the different Latin classes over the state.

The Virgilian celebration in Europe is taking even greater steps. Italy especially is honoring her poet. The Italian Forestry Association, presided over by Mussolini, is to inaugurate a park with plants beloved by Virgil. Naples, the burial place of Virgil, and Florence and Milan, places closely connected in his life, are planning celebrations. Monuments to Virgil are to be unveiled in cities throughout Europe and books dedicated to him.

- Lois Moreland"

"Quotations from Virgil"

"Possunt quia posse videntur"
They can because they think they can.

Labor omnia vincit
Work wins everything.

Mens agit at molem
Mind rules the mass.

Quidquid erit, superanda omnis fortuna ferendo est.
Whatever it is, all fortune must be overcome by bearing it."

"VIRGIL AND TODAY"

"Tennyson, one of the most beloved of English poets, knew Virgil and loved him. His love of Virgil influenced his own poetry and is shown in the classical allusions throughout his poems. When he died, the only flowers put over his grave were a sprig of laurel from over Virgil's tomb.

To Virgil
(Written by Tennyson at the request of the Mantuans for the nineteenth centenary of Virgil's death.)

I

Roman Virgil, thou that singest
Ilion's lofty temples robed in fire
Ilion falling, Rome arising,
wars, and filial faith, and Dido's pyre.

II

Landscape lover, lord of language
more than he that sang the Works and Days,
All the chosen coin of fancy
flashing out from many a golden phrase;

III

Thou that singest wheat and woodland
tilth and vineyard, hive and horse and herd;
All the charm of all the Muses
often flowering in a lonely word.

IV

Poet of the happy Tityrus
piping underneath his beechen bowers;
Poet of the poet-satyr
whom the laughing shepherd bound with flowers;

V

Chanter of the Pollio, glorying
in the blissful years again to be,
Summers of the snakeless meadows,
unlaborious earth and carless sea;

VI

Thou that seest Universal
Nature moved by Universal Mind;
Thou majestic in thy sadness
at the doubtful doom of mankind.

VII

Light among the vanish'd ages;
star that gildest yet this phantom shore;
Golden branch amid the shadows,
kings and realms that pass to rise no more;

VIII

Now thy Forum roars no longer,
fallen every purple Caesar's dome -
Tho' thine ocean-roll of thythm
sound forever of Imperial Rome.

IX

Now the Rome of slaves hath perish'd
and the Rome of freemen holds her place
I, from out the Northern Island
sunder'd once from all the human race,

X

I salute thee, Mantovano,
I that loved thee since my day began.
Wieler of the stateliest measure
ever moulded by the lips of man."

"Mr. T. E. Mortimer"

"As this paper is prepared for publication, the Belzoni schools and the entire city is bowed in sorrow. A friend is dead.

T. E. Mortimer was one of the best friends that Belzoni High School has ever had, or ever will have. He was, as president of the Board of Trustees, ever on the alert for an opportunity to improve the service, ever ready to do anything in his power to aid the students or the teachers.

It was largely through his efforts that we secured many of the improvements which we have today, and we pause here to pay tribute to his memory for them.

For years the seniors have received their diplomas from his hands; for years, even this year, he has delivered at the opening of school an address inspirational and helpful and demonstrative of his love for the school. He was never too busy to give of his time and talents to the school system.

We will miss him; his kind voice, his familiar figure, and his friendly smile.

Mr. Mortimer was a learned man, a great lawyer, a true friend, and a noble Christian gentleman.

Nothing can more readily express the feelings which this writer has at his death, however than the words of the poet:

'Thy day has come, not gone;
Thy sun has risen, not set;
Thy life is now beyond
The reach of death, of change,

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Not ended - but begun.
O, noble soul! O, gentle heart!
Hail and farewell!"

Reference: Sausage-Grinder of October 15, 1930.

From the Sausage-Grinder of November 15, 1930 were taken
the following articles:

"A Good Name - - "

"Almost statewide discussion has been created by our use
of the name Sausage Grinder for our publication. We still
contend, however, that both in application and in its illusion
to culinary art the name is appropriate. Therefore: We shall
stick to our name.

The Sausage Grinder grinds things up into small bits, and
many things constitute grist for its hungry jaws. Furthermore,
the products of a sausage grinder are exceedingly delectable.
They are spicy, meaty, enjoyable and even find their way to the
tables of presidents - Mr. Coolidge chooses to eat it we've been
told-and the palaces of kings. What is more to be desired than
fresh sausage for supper on a cold winter night? And for the
name Sausage Grinder - "a good name is better to be desired----"

If sausage is to be honored by presidents and kings,
should not the grinder - which makes it possible - have all the

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more honor.

We've decided we'll stick to our name a little longer."

"The Sausage Grinder editor reads with approval that
the new track at the University of Mississippi has been named the
"Turner Track" in honor of the late O. J. Turner of Belzoni.

Mr. Turner was always a loyal supporter of athletics in
high school and college, and a great admirer of the University."

"Alumni Notes"

"Edwin Hovas, '30, is attending Sunflower Junior College
this year.

Two Belzoni students have recently been elected to the
staff of their respective college papers. Matthew Alexander is
a reporter on the "Georgia Technique," and Lewis Owen on the
"Mississippian."

Marion Hicks has been made Feature Editor of the A. and M.
Annual and recently took a very prominent part in the planning
of the Father's Day celebration at the college.

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Ray Lewis, who is at A. and M. this year, was at home last week. We all enjoyed getting a peep at his shorn locks before they grew back to normalcy.

"Library Notes"

"We have recently received about a hundred new books in almost every field of literature, comprising such varied titles as: "Disraeli," "Microbe Hunters," "Show Boat," "Ramona," Contemporary Dramatists," "Modern Short Stories," "The Oxford Book of Verse," "Mince Pie," Untermeyer's anthologies, Byrd's "Skyward," and Lindbergh's "We," "The Story of Mankind," Conrad's "Lord Jim," "Roman Life in the Days of Cicero," etc.

Several new magazines have been ordered which should be of interest to the students. We want the library to be a place for pleasure reading as well as for reference work. Reading can be just as pleasant in a school library as at home. Get the library habit, and make the library the most pleasant room in the building."

"A Day In B.H.S."

"A.M."

- 7:30 Uncle William opens the building to let Marion Hamberlin get his Geometry.
- 8:10 Everyone in Senior class begins copying Marion's geometry.
- 8:25 Hilda Shapero still ripping seams.
- 8:30 James Porter Halbrook is in favor of having Virgil's head removed.
- 9:00 "Red" Solomon begins to pull bright ones.
- 9:25 B. W. Kirby arrives: Excuse: "Car stopped" or, "Clock froze" - used alternately.
- 10:00 Miss Copenhaver discovers Macbeth is mad - through Edward Hamberlin.
- 10:10 "All right, let us have quiet". So there is quiet.
- ?
- 10:40 "Are there any announcements?"
- 10:40½ Coach begins football talk.
- 11:10 R. C. Gilmer could fly if only he had the will-power; still, he denies it.
- 11:30 Annie still working on trial balance.
- 11:45 Helen rushes down to office to answer phone.
- 12:00 Inmates out for lunch.

P.M.

- 1:00 They're in again.
- 1:02 Miss Martin wants quiet.

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1:30 Helen and Mildred are fighting again.
1:45 Marion O'Donnell - in Geometry - insists that there is no use of proof when you can see that a line passes through a certain point.
2:10 Marion Hamberlin draws another perfect figure - in Geometry.
3:15 Wishing for 3:30!
3:30 One day less to go to school!"

"We Heard This One On Pete Upchurch"

"You say you worked for a circus, Pete?
Yeah, but I quit when the biggest elephant died, I felt so bad.
Why, you didn't own him, did you?
No, but they said I had to dig his grave!"

"Classified ads:

Artist's Model: Experienced, desires employment, preferably with Howard Chandler Christy. Write Annie Marshall.

Wanted: A good husband. None need apply who cannot furnish the price of a limousine and a permanent wave. See Helen Craft."

"Classified Ads"

"Cooking - Two year's experience with the famous Miss Hammons. Would prefer a life-long job as cook with some good man. Apply Mary Vincent.

Lost - One history of United States. Finder please keep silent as no efforts are being made for its recovery. By special request. James Ware."

"Mr. Brooks (in angry tones): Who told you to drive a nail in the wall to hang that picture?

Carl: Miss Martin.

Mr. Brooks: Pretty, isn't it?"

Reference: Sausage-Grinder of November 15, 1930.

From the Sausage-Grinder of December 15, 1930 were taken the following articles:

"Girls' Reserve Entertains Football Team"

"The B.H.S. football team of 1930 was entertained last Friday night by the Girls's Reserve with a banquet held in the cafeteria of the elementary school.

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The spirit of Christmas prevailed in the decorations for the banquet, evidencing itself in the bells and wreaths hanging from the chandeliers; the Christmas tree place cards, and the miniature figures of Santa Claus that adorned the large v-shaped table.

James Selby Fisher, manager of the team, acted as toastmaster. Mr. Brooks, superintendent of the schools, delivered the invocation, and Eva Purvis gave the toast of welcome on behalf of the Girls Reserve. Lawrence Solomon replied for the football squad.

During the first course, Mr. Brooks, Coach McEwen and other notables were forced by incessant applause to rise and receive the plaudits of the "multitudes."

After the first course, Coach F. W. McEwen read his poetic summary of the football season, and Mrs. M. D. Alexander was introduced as "the champion of youth." "Mrs. Matt" read a beautiful toast to the boys and girls, and said that if she could always be referred to as "the champion of youth," she would be content.

Cherry pie with whipped cream formed the dessert course, and after it was finished Miss Blanche Goad, the G. R. sponsor, distributed Christmas wishes coming from the young ladies of the party to the boys.

Those attending were: Mr. and Mrs. B. P. Brooks; Mr. and Mrs. F. W. McEwen; Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Alexander; Miss Blanche Goad, Marion O'Donnell; Lawrence Solomon, Hilda Lee Shapero; J. T. Fleming, Eva Purvis; Luper Cole, Demetra Buck; W. A. Suber, Helen Craft; Fred McCoy, Mary Vincent; Johnny Vincent, Marion Alexander;

Edward Hamberlin, Melba Alexander; Marion Hamberlin, Evelyn Posey; James Selby Fisher, Winifred Watson; Malcolm Hicks, June Erb; Milton Marsh, Melanie Brewer; R. C. Gilmer, Ruth Skipper; Willis Brunfield, Rivers Buck; James McCoy, Marguerite Bain; James Ware, Annie Marshall."

"Mr. Louis Cochran, formerly of Belzoni, will have the first of his trilogy of Delta novels to appear sometime this winter. The book is entitled Flood Tides and will picture conditions in the Delta during the flood of 1927."

"Christmas"

"The Christmas season is always one of the happiest of the year - for then young and old alike get into a spirit of play - a spirit of goodwill and fellowship with man. But to me, the minds of people throughout the world this Christmas should go immediately to one thing. Their minds should harbor, along with thoughts of good will for the next-door neighbor, good will for the neighbor across the world. Mankind should come to a realization that the man in Siberia, the man in Egypt, is as much its neighbor as the man across the street.

When the people of the world come to a general realization

of this important fact, world peace will be an inevitable result. When the jealousies and hatreds caused by an intolerant feeling for the neighbor across the world have died away in every human heart and when the traditional hatreds of centuries have been scrapped along with antiquated relics of a dead civilization, then armies for the defense of these hatreds will become unnecessary and war will be an impossibility.

Perhaps this is a Utopia; but if each individual would make the same effort to overcome his own personal hatreds and jealousies of a nationalistic nature, a great stride would be made toward the desideratum - peace.

So at this Christmas season, I ask you to adopt an attitude of real "Good will to men," never forgetting that the man in a far-off land is as much your brother as the man next door; regardless of color, race, or creed."

"Football Scores" "1930"

Belzoni - 0	Flora	7
Belzoni - 2	Inverness	0
Belzoni - 0	Indianola	25
Belzoni - 0	Leland	6
Belzoni - 0	Greenwood	71
Belzoni - 7	Anguilla	7
Belzoni - 13	Hollandale	7

Belzoni - 0	Rolling Fork	7
Belzoni - 0	Shaw	13
Belzoni - 0	Yazoo City	0"

"Class of 1931 as We See Them"

"Name	Appearance	Occupation	Why They Come To School
Fisher, Jas. S.	Well-starved	Being important	To get some exercise
Marshall, Annie	Dumfounded	Making eyes	Trying to graduate
McCoy, James	Could be worse	Being athletic	To recuperate
Arant, Agnes	Studious	Studying	To learn to be a Latin teacher
Kirby, B. W.	Arrow collar	Disturbing peace	Nowhere else to go
Skipper, Ruth	Puzzling	Shooting bull	To make a big noise
Herring, Abb W.	Harmless	Trying to act the man	Evolution is to blame
Vincent, Mary	Unconcerned	Enjoying herself	To satisfy her curiosity
Suber, W. A.	Just waking	Anything to pass time away	To educate other nine toes
Craft, Helen	Blondie	Watching others talk	To see what everybody else is doing
Gilmer, R. C.	Laziness person-fied	Trying to look serious	Because everybody else does
Cohn, Mildred	Demanding	Just talking	For rest
James Ware	Kinda funny	Laughing when there's nothing else to do	To hear the bells ring
Purvis, Eva	Minnehaha	Doing what Demetra does	To try to outshine the others
Halbrook, Jas. P.	Wait a minute	Learning geometry	To sleep in peace
Buck, Demetra	Weigh what you should	Laughing when there's nothing so funny	Cause L - does.
Vincent, Johnny	Doing things over	Playing football	To have a vocation for Sam
Hamberlin, Marion	Pleasing	Looking for blondes	Ask the girls - they know!

Reference: Sausage-Grinder of December 15, 1930.

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From the Sausage-Grinder of January 15, 1931 were taken the following articles:

"Belzoni High Defeats Jackson"

Members of the B.H.S. basketball team walked the streets of Belzoni with a lordly air last Saturday. And well they might, for only the night before they had defeated the team of Central High School, Jackson, by a score of 25 to 18. The game was the first that Belzoni boys had played this season.

One watching the game in the B.H.S. gymnasium would never have thought at the first of the battle that Belzoni would win. Jackson piled up a score of 7 in the first quarter to Belzoni's 3. In the second quarter, however, Belzoni seized the lead and held it until the end of the game.

As far as the teams themselves and the quality of playing was concerned, neither had an advantage of which to boast. Both teams were fast, and both possessed remarkable players as well as good team work. It would be hard to find better matched contestants.

After the main game of the evening, the Belzoni second team played the Jackson second team with results widely varying from those of the first game. The score was Jackson 27, Belzoni 5.

The lineups were as follows:

Jackson: R. F. - Loflin
L. F. - Armstrong
(substituting - Griffin,
Simpson, and Anderson)
Center - Cannon
Left G. - Cotton

(substituting - Godwin)
Belzoni: Forwards - Cole, McCoy
Center - Fleming
(M. Hamberlin substituting)
Guards - Kirby
J. McCoy"

"Mr. Brooks Appointed Text-Book Commissioner"

Mr. B. P. Brooks, superintendent of the Belzoni schools, will participate this month in the first meeting of the state text-book commission held since his appointment last fall. The meeting of the commission will be held in Jackson on January 23, and at this time mathematics and English texts will be adopted for the next five years.

Mr. Brooks was appointed for the term of five years by the governor, and a new set of texts in one particular field will be adopted each year. The books this year are high school texts."

"Senior Class Entertained During Holidays"

The senior class of 1931 was entertained during the Christmas holidays by Mrs. R. H. Fisher, mother of the class president.

As each person entered, he was served with delicious punch.

The living room and dining room were beautifully decorated in Christmas colors. ~~The living room and dining room were beautifully decorated in Christmas colors.~~ The living room was illuminated by red candles and the lights on the Christmas tree. The trees were in the far end of the room and were loaded down with gifts.

A delicious four course dinner was served, and after dinner everyone joined in merriment. James Selby presented each Senior girl with a very beautiful silhouette, and each boy with a little clay model of the three wise monkeys.

Those attending the party were: Ruth Skipper, Mildred Cohn, Helen Craft, Mary Vincent, James Porter Halbrook, James McCoy, W. A. Suber, B. W. Kirby, Johnnie Vincent, and James Selby Fisher."

"Exchange"

"The following papers have been received:

"Black and Gold," Water Valley; "Pica," Greenville; "Highlander," Aberdeen; "Junior Printz," Hattiesburg State Teachers' College Demonstration School; "Optic," University High School, Oxford; "Picayune Hi Pointers," Picayune; Chamberlain-Hunt "Wild Cat," Port Gibson; "Spotlight," Clarksdale; "War Whoop," Biloxi; "Hi Lights," Inverness."

"Another Blow To Our Pride"
"(An Anonymous Contribution)"

"Sausage Casing"

"I read your Christmas copy
Of the noble Sausage Grinder
And those who think it sloppy
Are coming up behind.
Now as I scan these precious pages
Written by the unseeing sages
I learn things it would require
ages,
Turning through thousands of
Pages.

But OH! dear readers what a name.

It seems to me a sin and shame
For such a moniker to come the same.
But I guess many the worse have bane.
And here I am, a world known donar
Writing lines to fill the Balogna."

"As We See Our Seniors Ten Years From Today"

James S. Fisher: James' destiny is hard to rhyme
He's sporting reporter for N. Y. Times.
Annie Fisher: Sewing buttons on hubby's shirt.
Keep on working; do not shirk.
James McCoy: Just wondering what she would say,
If a touchdown I should make today.

Agnes Arant: I will need no dress of satin,
For I am going to teach my Latin.
B. W. Kirby: Although married, you'll never find him home,
For a "Dizzy Blonde" is making him roam.
Ruth Skipper: She'll skip from one man to another.
It makes no difference whether one or 'tother.
Abb W. Herring: This fortune need never be told,
For she's got him and him she will hold.
Mary Vincent: Tell us the fortune of Mary - Who?
She's cooking the meals for "just us two."
W. A. Suber: Whether waiter, salesman, or sailor,
His aim will always be - aviator.
Helen Craft: Another "Dizzy Blonde" as an artist in Paris -
From the New York Times we shall read:
Madame Craftera arrived today on the Loviathan.
R. G. Gilmer: Whatever he may be, He will not be poor -
To jump at things? - Not he -
He's slow - but sure.
Mildred Cohn: We cannot make a rhyme -
For "Mildred" would not arrive on time.
James Ware: What will he be? Oh, let me see -
Oh, yes, I know. - He'll be the great hero.
Eva Purvis: Yours will be a varied life;
First a teacher, then a wife.
Jas. P. Halbrook: James, a missionary, sad to relate,
Was by the hungry cannibals ate.
Johnny Vincent: Johnny is roaming about the clouds.
"Why doesn't he land?" say the crowds.
(He's thinking of pore old Sam.)
Marion Hamberlin: A second "John Barrymore" of movie fame.
We call him Marion, but what's in a name?
Demetra Buck: At the "weigh" she is going,
For hubby she won't be sewing.-
Luper, you must make her gay -
So for us she will play."

"Mr. Brooks is chief entertainer in physics class. The
other day in making his assignment for the next day he announced:
We have studied diffusion, and for four months we have had confusion,
so let's have fusion for tomorrow."

"Belzoni's Eleven Xmas"
"Ends - Celery and Cranberries
Tackles - Knife and Fork
Guards - Gravy and Dressing
Center - Turkey
Fullback - Sweet Potatoes
Halfbacks - Pumpkin Pie and Coffee
Score - Indigestion"

Reference: Sausage-Grinder of January 15, 1931.

From the Belzoni Hi-News of December 10, 1934 were taken the following articles:

"The School Paper"

"This is the first issue of the new Belzoni Hi-News. It has been several years since our school has had a school paper, and the staff of the present Belzoni Hi-News intends to keep it operating throughout the remainder of the school year. We appreciate the interest our teachers have shown toward us and the interest the town at large had in our paper. We hope that the student body will always be interested in publishing a paper of their own. It has been said by some that this is a Senior paper. The Senior class did originate the idea, but our paper is for the entire student body of B. H. S. We need the cooperation of everyone in the school to make our paper a success. This issue is the fruits of our first labor at journalism. As time progresses, we hope to improve. Pin your faith in our paper."

"Public Affairs Club"

"The Public Affairs Club held its weekly meeting in the History room on Wednesday, November 21, 1934. Bill Allen, the Chairman of the group asked for certain reports to be made each week on some outstanding event of public interest. Such magazines

as "Time, Today, Current History, Literary Digest, Review of Reviews and such newspapers as The Commercial Appeal, Jackson Daily News, and The New York Times are used for references and general reading. It is hoped that an interest in general and wide reading may be stimulated.

It is a well-known fact that in a few years the students of the Belzoni High School will be in complete charge of Civic Affairs and the Sponsor of the Club predicts that the names of some and perhaps all our students will be as prominent on all the front pages as the names of leading politicians and statesmen that are seen there today."

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of December 10, 1934.

From the Belzoni Hi-News of February 15, 1935 were taken the following articles:

"How Belzoni Students Learn By Earning"

"The recent investigation shows that there are twenty-eight students in Belzoni High School who have earned money this year. This is very commendable. It shows that these students have ambition and wish to make something of themselves. A student who works will soon learn the value of money; the sight of these students throwing money away is very rare.

An interesting variety of jobs has been held by the

students this year. The majority of them have worked as clerks in downtown stores. Other jobs held were delivering circulars, service station attendance, popcorn vending, carpentering, mechanics, ditch-digging, tree pruning. One student has held five of the above named: he has been a clerk in a grocery store; he has worked as a mechanic; he has worked as a carpenter; he has dug ditches and pruned trees. In most cases the work appeals to the students who work; this shows that they have gone about it in a whole-hearted way, and have taken an interest in the work.

The average pay received was eighteen and one-half cents an hour although some received as high as seventy-five cents an hour and others as low as ten cents an hour.

The use to which most of the students put their money is very practical. Fifty percent of the money earned was used for necessities. The rest was divided nearly evenly between pleasures and savings. The students using money he has earned himself for necessities is encouraged to take better care of his clothes.

Out of the twenty-eight students who work there are only two who expect to continue in the line of work in which they are engaged after they finish school.

Here is a list of the things the students say that they have gained besides money in their work:

1. Experience.
2. Knowledge of how to carry a conversation.
3. Ability to approach different types of people.
4. Knowledge of the trade.

5. Acquaintance with more people.
6. Improvement in mathematics.
7. Knowledge of value of money.
8. Dependence upon themselves instead of parents.
9. Pleasure.
10. New friends.
11. Better chance to obtain another position.
12. Knowledge of automobiles and gasoline engines.
13. Ability to care for personal belongings.
14. Ability to reason with people.

Students can have many interesting experiences while working. One considers it an interesting experience to get to know the different types and classes of people and also to learn the fundamentals of the work. Another student meant to ring up ninety cents in the cash register and rang up ninety dollars instead. When the check-up was made a slight shortage appeared - a mere matter of \$89.10. A third considers it an interesting experience to wait on foreigners and to listen to them talk. Another observes that people will come in and play the slot machine when they need the money badly themselves. A student who has worked as a carpenter ^{it is} finds that an interesting, although not very pleasant experience, to find sand under his shoes when walking up a steep roof. A student who has sold popcorn finds it interesting to note how many people try to pass slugs off on him for money.

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Odd Advertisement

"RO-JO

DRY CLEANERS

"Come Clean With Us,

We'll Die For You"

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of February 15, 1935.

From the Belzoni Hi-News of December, 1935 were taken the following articles:

"Taking Stock"

"This old year of 1935 is rapidly slipping by and giving way to a new year. This is the season during which bookkeepers balance and close their books, merchandise inventories are taken, and store proprietors estimate their net income.

What about taking stock of ourselves. Let's find out exactly what our net worth has been during this year.

How many resolutions formulated at the beginning of the year have been followed to the best of our abilities?

Have we been living only for what we may get from life, or have we been helpful and beneficial to other persons?

Have our lives been assets or liabilities to this world of which we are a part?

Have we done everything to the best of our abilities, or

just well enough to get by?

Let us be honest in facing the limitations of the year but let us also be fair to ourselves and see things which have made the year worth living."

"Belzoni Completes a Successful Season"

"The Belzoni High Purple and Gold Warriors just completed the most successful football season in the Belzoni High Schools history. They played 11 games of the regular season and on post-season game. Belzoni won 11 games of the regular season with a score of 229 to their opponents 20. Belzoni played Greenwood for the Delta Championship but lost to a score of 27-0. The score did not indicate the closeness of the game.

Accounts of games this season:

Belzoni	15	Grenada	0
Belzoni	19	Water Valley	0
Belzoni	33	Moorehead	0
Belzoni	51	Inverness	0
Belzoni	6	Leland	0
Belzoni	2	Rolling Fork	0
Belzoni	13	Big Creek	7
Belzoni	26	Hollandale	0
Belzoni	33	Indianola	7
Belzoni	13	Drew	0

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Belzoni	19	Yazoo City	6
Belzoni	0	Greenwood	27
Total	<u>220</u>		<u>47"</u>

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of December, 1935.

From the Belzoni Hi-News of February, 1936 was taken the following poem:

("Junior High News")
"Jack-Up"

"The high water is coming,
It's rising fast,
It's covering the ground
And also the grass.
You'd better hurry and grab your
coat.
Go to the hills or get a boat.

There are roads not to be tra-
veled.
Dirt, concrete, and also gravel.
We're going to get it and get
it soon;
So hurry and "jack-up",
While you have room.
---Lura Marshall"

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of February, 1936.

From the Belzoni Hi-News of March, 1936 were taken the following articles:

"Latin Club has Banquet"

"The Latin Club enjoyed a Roman Banquet on Thursday evening, February 13, 1936.

The room was beautifully decorated, following the Valentine motif. Juanita Chapman, president of the club, and hostess, greeted the guests as they entered. Before sitting down everybody sang "My Dear" in Latin.

The meal was served in three courses. There was different kind of wine with each course. The meal began with eggs, and ended with apples as was the Roman custom. The guests enjoyed the privilege of being able to recline at the table as this was also a Roman custom.

During the banquet the following program was rendered:

Dance-----Alice Dunn
Mary F. Hefferon
Accompanied by Mrs. Bob Krutz
Song in Latin-----Mrs. Matt Alexander
Stunts-----Pat Murphy
Violin selections-----Bill Allen
Accompanied by Mrs. Bob Krutz

At the close of the delightful banquet, everyone gave fifteen "rahs" for Miss Land to show their appreciation of her generosity and untiring efforts in preparing the banquet.

The serving was done by a group of waitresses under the capable direction of Miss Lillian Hammonds."

"Band Concert"

"The Yazoo City High School Band recently visited our town and gave two concerts. The band arrived about two-thirty in the afternoon, and the first concert was given in the auditorium of the High School building. The program was music which would especially be enjoyed by school children.

At four-thirty another concert was given in the auditorium of the Elementary School building. Because of bad weather, not as many as were expected came out that night. After the band concert, a short orchestra program was given in which a very attractive young singer featured.

The band was under the direction of one of Belzoni's boys, Mr. James S. Fisher, and indeed was a credit to him.

The uniforms were also very attractive, being made in the school colors, red and black.

Everyone who heard the concert enjoyed it and hope to hear the band again soon."

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of March, 1936.

From the Belzoni Hi-News of October, 1936 was taken the following article:

"Circus"

"Thursday night, October 15, Belzoni witnessed the most spectacular circus ever shown in the community. The students of

the Junior High School were the actors and actresses under the guidance of the teachers of the Junior High.

The attendance was the largest ever entertained in the High School Gymnasium. Everybody ate pop-corn and candy, drank coce-colas, and scrambled for seats.

Before the circus began, the many rare side-shows were open. Trips around the world were only five cents. This opportunity will never be offered to the people of Belzoni again. The faculty's graveyard was the best of all. Why we were even able to find out Miss Martin's age (1 year, 1 month, 1 day). Other rare species such as Madam Fife, the fat lady, and woman breathing under water were to be seen. This has never been witnessed in all of Mississippi before.

Then the grandstand show began. What a performance--clowns, cowboys, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, a negro wedding, and dancing. The animals came from Australia, Africa, and Reno. None of their kind has ever appeared in the United States before. Even the Siamese Twins were there. The climax of the whole performance was the act of the man on the flying trapeze and the rope walking. It made the audience spellbound by such a daring stunt.

The monkey on the side lines was a brave little actor. He sang for the children, let them tickle his chin, and feed him peanuts.

The unusual show was the sole attraction in Belzoni and still is. The Belzoni people breathlessly wait for the Junior

Humphreys County, Press

High School to put on another performance, featuring such brave acts and extraordinary animals."

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of October, 1936.

From the Belzoni Hi-News of December, 1936, was taken the following article:

"Girl Reserve Banquet"

"Despite the difficulties which seemed to arise beforehand, the Girl Reserve's annual Banquet for the football boys was an unqualified, over-whelming success.

Beside all the football squad, the managers and coaches, Mr. Drby Turner, Miss Land, Mr. James Scroggins, Mr. Bob Krutz and Mr. Will Solomon were invited to attend. We were sorry the last three were unable to come.

The meal consisted of cole slaw, spaghetti, chocolate pie, rolls and coffee. The table was attractively decorated with holly and red candies.

The girls sang "Hail to the Warriors" before any one was seated, after which Kathleen Vincent rendered a welcome address. Toastmaster Lilly invoked a few jovial remarks before Captain Eddie Upchurch made his response. After Toastmaster Lilly had presented gifts to the boys, Corinne Solomon accompanied Bernie in rendering a few of our popular songs.

Everyone went home in expansive moods with "Peace on earth, good will towards men" in his mind."

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of December, 1936.

From Belzoni Hi-News of April, 1937 (Junior Edition) were taken the following articles:

"Eighteen Years In Belzoni High School"

"About eight years ago Mr. Brooks first accepted the position of Superintendent of the Belzoni Schools. At that time there was only one building, seven teachers, and an enrollment of about 256. The situation was not very promising to a man of so much energy and capacity for advancement. But he has done a good job. Now that he is leaving we can mark all the notable improvements, he was influential in accomplishing. There are three schools, twenty-seven teachers, and an enrollment of over 700 students, and property valued at \$225,000. In addition to that there is a commendable track and football field, the best equipped elementary building in the state, and a beautiful new gymnasium which was built in 1932.

Mr. Brooks has said of his graduates, "No student has ever graduated from this school and from college with the idea of teaching who has not secured a satisfactory position." This may be easily understood by the excellent advantages the high school offers. Besides the regular academic courses, there are courses in Home Science, Commercial Work and Vocational direction.

Is there any wonder a man who has accomplished so much leave us? He has been a successful teacher, a capable superintendent, and a faithful friend to each and every one of us.

We are sincere in the statement that we shall miss him irreparably. And we feel sure that he is reluctant to leave us too. May the future be as successful to him and may he become a as decisive link among his associations as he has been in Belzoni."

"Coach Lilly Appointed"

"In 1931, the Belzoni High School added to its staff a friendly, amiable young man, Mr. Sale Lilly. In addition to his duties as Math. teacher, he took upon his shoulders the task of coaching our boys ⁱⁿ athletics: football, basketball and track. Through these years that he has served our school, he has made everyone his friend. His agreeable personality won for him a popularity among the students, that has never been equaled in the history of B. H. S.

During Mr. Lilly's work here the athletics have made better records and have gained greater honor than ever before. He is also recognized as a leader in church work and as a Sunday School teacher.

Wednesday, April 21, 1937, the Board of Trustees elected him Superintendent of the Belzoni Consolidated Schools, to succeed Mr. Brooks. The Junior Class wishes to say that it is one hundred for him. We are proud to have him for our sponsor for the coming school year. The whole school is behind us when

we say good luck, Mr. Lilly."

Reference: Belzoni Hi-News of April, 1937.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 21

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 31, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Florence H. Owen

Item No. III (a)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

a. Unusual news items:

From The Belzoni Banner of May 14, 1925 was taken the following:

"THE HOLLOW STUMP WEEKLY ITEM
Published Weekly

Vol. 1 Hollow Stump, Miss., May 7, 1925 No. 1

MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY

There was robbery in Hollow Stump last night in the home of Mrs. W. Swallow. People who were around believe it was the fearful thief, Robert Blue Jay.

A HUGE STORM TEARS HOUSE DOWN
TWO DEAD

A storm came last night tearing down a limb of Hollow Stump. The two babies of Mr. and Mrs. Robin were killed and parents injured. People quickly sent for Dr. Quail who dressed their wounds and put them to bed in the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Bob White.

SPEEDERS BE CAREFUL

Our new marshal Sam Crane says he is going to be on the alert, and every one looks alike to him.

MARRIED. PIGEON-OWL

Miss Pigeon, attractive young lady of Hollow Stump, and daughter of the late O. B. Pigeon, was married to Mr. Owl, a very handsome young gentleman. Wedding took place in the home of the bride.

CONTEST HELD IN CITY HALL

There was a contest held in City Hall yesterday to see who was the

Page Two - Unusual news items
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

fattest baby in Hollow Stump.
1st prize, Miss Annie Chicadee.
2nd prize, Miss Ruthie Canary.

ORIOLE ELECTED CHIEF

Mr. U. R. Oriole has been elected chief of police of Hollow Stump and has been ordered to enforce all of the City ordinances.

OLD STICK IN THE BED PELICAN,
UP AGAIN

Mr. Albert Pelican who has had quite a tussle with malaria and pneumonia is able to be out of bed, and is rapidly gaining strength.

Society People Hold Meeting.

By
DEMOTRA BUCK
Seventh Grade."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - May 14, 1925.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Press

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 21

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 13, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III (c)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

c. Odd advertisements.

From The Belzoni Banner - November 14, 1919 - was taken
the following:

"W R I G L E Y ' S"

"5¢ a package
before the war

5¢ a package
during the war

5¢ a package
NOW

THE FLAVOR LASTS
SO DOES THE PRICE!"

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - November 14, 1919.

Mamie G. Partledge
County Historian

SUPPLEMENT

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 31, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III - c

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

c. Odd advertisements.

" WILL YOU HELP THE TRUST
D E F E A T R O O S E V E L T ?

Literary Digest poll says "Landon leading in race for
President".

President Roosevelt says "Wall Street spending millions to
beat me".

So you can almost know that part of every dollar you spend
with the powerful, rich and vicious trusts will be spent fighting
the Great President who has done so much for you.

Trade with your small Independent Dealers. You not only
save money - you keep your money in Mississippi - and part of every
dollar can be spent to help Elect Roosevelt, not to beat him.

A STARTLING FACT

We will sell you Gasoline, Motor Oils and tires at prices
10 per cent to 30 per cent cheaper than you can buy the same grade
products elsewhere.

Humphreys County, Miss

S U P P L E M E N T

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 31, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III - c

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

c. Odd advertisements.

"WILL YOU HELP THE TRUST
D E F E A T R O O S E V E L T ?

Literary Digest poll says "Landon leading in race for
President".

President Roosevelt says "Wall Street spending millions to
beat me".

So you can almost know that part of every dollar you spend
with the powerful, rich and vicious trusts will be spent fighting
the Great President who has done so much for you.

Trade with your small Independent Dealers. You not only
save money - you keep your money in Mississippi - and part of every
dollar can be spent to help Elect Roosevelt, not to beat him.

A STARTLING FACT

We will sell you Gasoline, Motor Oils and tires at prices
10 per cent to 30 per cent cheaper than you can buy the same grade
products elsewhere.

Page Two - Odd advertisements
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

OUR GUARANTEE

Buy a tank of our Gasoline and in addition to a tremendous
saving in price if you do not find our gasoline as good as the best
you have been buying we will refund every cent you paid us for it.

CAN ANYTHING BE FAIRER?

STAR SERVICE STATION"

Reference: Belzoni Banner - October 22, 1936

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Press

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 21

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 31, 1937

Topic: Magazines

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. V

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The Silver City Criterion

The Four Mile Examiner

At certain times during the years since the organization of the Silver City Consolidated School and the Four Mile Consolidated School, the pupils of each school have edited and published a school paper.

Excerpts from these papers, said papers being published in our county paper The Belzoni Banner, are given in the following article:

THE SILVER CITY CRITERION

From The Silver City Criterion of December 17, 1925 were taken the following:

"Criterion's Staff"

"Director-----Evelyn Hamberlin
Editor-in-Chief-----Miss Dorothy Drake
Editor of Cartoons-----Louise Garst
Editor of Local News-----Lorayne Haskins
Editor of Epigrams-----Chas. Whatley

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Editor of Cafeteria-----Floye Carroll
Editor of Poetry-----Louise Garst and Lewis Owen
Editor of Criticism-----Mr. M. L. Bett
Editor of Questions and Answers-----Evelyn Haskins
Editor of Short Story-----Louise Lemon
Editor of Editorials-----Evelyn Hamberlin
Editor of Jokes-----Mildred Hunter
Editor of Sports-----Miss Ruth Smith
Business Managers-----Hilery Whatley and Marion Hamberlin

"Epigrams"

"Man destroys and turns into useless ashes in a few minutes what it takes God half a century to make.

Iron is stronger than wood, yet it is not as beautiful for it is made by man and wood by God.

A fortune is the reward of the faithful worker, yet the sin of many others.

--Chas. Whatley."

Reference: The Silver City Criterion of December 17, 1925 -
(Published in The Belzoni Banner of December 17, 1925)

From The Silver City Criterion of December 24, 1925 was taken the following:

"Grit"

"Ethel Mae Bryan"

"The world admires a man who never flinches from

Humphreys County, Press

difficulties; who patiently, calmly, and courageously, battles with his fate, and who dies, if necessary, at his post of duty.

Grit is that element of character which enables a man to go through the toils of life, safely, and die victoriously. It is a solid quality which enters into the very soul of man's being. It commands respect, and sustains humanity to an amazing degree. Through sunshine and storm, with a leaky ship, and discouraged, a captain with grit can steer his men, and if he dies, it is with a valiant struggle.

A man does not have to boast, and tell the world that he has grit, for grit will speak for itself. It is a part of man's life and speaks in his every act. It is the man who struggles nobly, burdened by poverty, sickness, and afflictions, who has grit. And when humanity gathers before the great Judge, He will not consider the money a man has made, the fame and fortune that have borne him high in the tide of praise, He will consider the grit, the will-power and the determination with which man has fought his way through life. He will consider the poor wretch who has plodded along against unknown temptations, the poor woman who has buried her sorrow in her silent, aching heart, and served her weary way through life; Those who have been abused in silence, and who were not befriended by their fellowmen; all these are the people whom God will reward.

The secret of so many failures lies in the lack of will-power and grit. What is a man without these two characteristics? A sport of chance, to be tossed about on the mercy of the world.

It is the man with the iron will, the undaunted courage, and the unconquerable grit, who takes the lead in life, and dies victoriously. There is nothing in this pushing crowding, greedy world, for a man who possesses none of these qualities."

Reference: The Silver City Criterion of December 24, 1925 -
(Published in The Belzoni Banner of December 24, 1925)

From The Silver City Criterion of February 18, 1926 were taken the following:

"School Notes"

"Mildred Hunter"

"The past week has been quite an eventful one for Silver City.

Wednesday evening the Silver City Boy's basket ball team won a brilliant victory over the Belzoni second team. The score being 20 - 9. The game was a very interesting one and was enjoyed by all spectators.

Friday evening another basket ball game was played between the Silver City team and Straight Bayou. Silver City walked away with the honor of being victorious. The score was 16 - 9.

Quite a few of the students and teachers have been absent on account of "flu", and we wish for them a speedy recovery.

Sick list: Mrs. C. T. Partee, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Hall, Mrs.

Humphreys County, Press

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Parkinson, Miss Smith, Lorraine Haskin, Evelyn Haskin, Hilery
Whatley, Florence Owen, Hazel Cook, Bob Cook, Singleton Wilkes,
Jack Reed.

Friday night the picture show "Sporting Life," will be
shown at our school auditorium. Also a good comedy."

"Freedom"

Thou beauteous thing so cold so fair,
Hide not thy gaudy wings from me.
Unfurl them to the cool fresh air,
Soar on high, where thou art free.
Thou thing immortal, thou being so
divine,
O, that I like thee might rise with
Care unknown.
But thou scarest high above this fettered
soul of mine.
Guided by that hidden power thou hast
ever known;
Pretty bird, flit not so hurriedly
Linger yet a while, teach me lovely
one,
Make my life like thine, living
Freedom loose my bondage, set me
free.
Let me sip the nectar from the
Flowers,
Let me fly away with thee,
Let me taste life's sweetest powers,
Guide my spirit, set me free
Leave me not to seek to borrow,
From the things that aren't for me.
Alas, a broken wing hath held thee
here.
Bound to the earth, whose destinies
I share.
Where some live carelessly, some in
fear--
May my spirit be guided, my soul be
free,

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M. G. Cartledge, Historian

My bondage gone, my road be clear,
To rise in thoughts oh bird with
thee.
That's all that life has for me.

LOUISE GARST"

Reference: The Silver City Criterion of February 18, 1926 -
(Published in The Belzoni Banner of February 18, 1926)

From a column entitled Silver City, published in The
Belzoni Banner of March 11, 1926, were taken the following items
concerning the school:

"You Cannot Control"

"The length of your life, but you can control it's width
and depth.

The other fellows opportunities, but you can grasp your
own.

The weather, but you can control the moral atmosphere
which surrounds you.

The distance your head should be above the ground, but
you can control the height of the contents of your head.

The other fellows' amazing faults, but you can see to it
that you yourself do not develop or harbor provoking propensities.

Why worry about things you can't control? Get busy
controlling the things that you can.

Humphreys County, Press

"School was dismissed Wednesday afternoon for pupils and teachers to attend the funeral of Major John Quekemeyer at Yazoo City. Quite a number of other people from here also went to see their loved friend put to rest.

There were two basket ball games played on Straight Bayou court last Friday afternoon, between their team and Silver City. The girl's score was 8 - 20 and the boy's score was 11 - 12, both in favor of Silver City.

The operetta, "Cherry Blossom" will be given at the auditorium Wednesday night, March 10th. Admission will be 25¢ and 50¢. We invite all to come for this is one of the best plays that has ever been given here."

"Mr. Bott"

"We, the pupils of the Silver City Consolidated School are sorry to announce that our most esteemed principal, Mr. M. L. Bott will not be with us during the coming session of 1926-1927.

We wish to express our regret in seeing such a fine community worker and school principal depart.

Mr. Bott has been with us three years, during which time he has done more for our school than any other principal in its history. Among his best works for the benefit of our school, besides the less important things, are the library, which is the largest school library in the county, and the annex to our school building.

He has brought forward the progress of a greater and better school and shown interest in his pupils both individually and collectively, striving to help them in every way possible.

Mr. Bott has met with many ups and downs during his terms as principal of our school, but he has fought his way through and won out, fairly and squarely in most every undertaking. Sometimes he won at his own personal expense, but still he never gave up.

He has infused in our school the vital importance of cooperation. Cooperation was his helpmate in building up our school.

We wish him the best of success during his coming years as principal, and congratulate the school that is fortunate enough to secure him."

Reference: Column entitled Silver City, published in The Belzoni Banner of March 11, 1926.

"THE FOUR-MILE EXAMINER"

From The Four-Mile Examiner of December 3, 1926 were taken the following:

"Editor-in-Chief
A. Doris Gallaspy
Assistant Editor
Lurline McDaniels
Editorial Staff
George C. Strickland

Susie M. Barry
Lucile N. Bruce

Our home talent is rehearsing the snappy play "Aunt Jerushy" on the Warpath," which was given last spring. We hope to be able to play it in several schools soon. All proceeds will go to P. T. A. (Better see it - It's a dandy.)

We are adding new pupils every day - also adding pep" to our school.

We are expecting Mrs. Goodwill out Wednesday to give us more interesting instructions. All mothers should be present and join their daughters the day Mrs. Goodwill comes out.

Our school was pleasantly surprised by the gift of one of Zane Gray's books to the library. The interested donator is Mr. Neitherland, of Brookhaven, Miss. All donations heartily received.

The third, fourth and fifth grades have reorganized. The Four-Mile Junior Literary Society. The following are the new officers: President, Marguerite Montgomery, Vice-President, Dixie Strickland, Secretary, Dorothy Strickland, Sentinel, Henry Young, Reporter; Roby Rainey, Critic, Mrs. India Barry.

Reporter"

Reference: The Four-Mile Examiner of December 3, 1925 -
(Published in The Bolzoni Banner of December 3, 1925)

From The Four-Mile Examiner of February 11, 1926 were taken the following:

"We are still here, but in spirit are higher than two months ago and we are one hundred strong now. If you want to hit a peppy school where there's plenty to do and lots to live for, come to our school--Four-Mile Consolidated.

Despite the fact that we are yet young and inexperienced, we teach big things which make us stronger. We played Morgan City a double-header basket ball game January 29th, a tight game. Girls failed to score in last half. Boys lost by ten points. Also played Swifttown a double-header last Wednesday, February 3, on our court. "Red Socks" won by scoring 9 to 5. The tigers were defeated but gave Swifttown a tight play.

The boys "Tigers" have accepted a challenge from Isola team for Wednesday afternoon, and are preparing to win. They have erected a new court with new equipments, and are ready to play any team. Come on!"

"ATHLETIC:--
Four-Mile Tigers are stout and quick;
None can hold them, they are so slick;

When you see them on the court you would think
Just say "boo" and they would sink.
But give one the ball and a center shot,
And they will hit the hole like a pot;
They have the stuff you call "pep"
When back of them they have the "rep".
I will describe them the best I know how,
So just wait and don't raise a row.
The center man they call him "Monk"
Just stick around and watch him jump.
The next man is the right hand pitch
He's strong and fine, they call him "plunk".
Give him the ball and see him duck.
The next man is the main one,
Just give him a smell of the pill
And he is on the run.
Straight at the goal this man throws,
Right through the net the pill throws; *gaa*
With this man, no one has a truse,
For his name is Jasper Bruce.
The next two men keep opponents
From doing their stuff,
These two bullies can sure run the
bluff.
These two guards so quick and
stout,
An opponent sees him coming he says, "I'm out!"
The first one we call him "Bill"
When the opponent bucks he gets the "pill".
The second guard (no need to say!)
When "Hot Shot" gets it, get out of his way!
So this is all of our grand team of five,
Opponents wonder how they get out alive.
When the "Tigers" lick him they
Sure don't kick 'em--
But always make a good drive.
So when you are playing us,
Don't make a fuss--
Just buy a side-saddle and kick up the dust!

Dorris Gallaspy"

Reference: The Four-Mile Examiner of February 11, 1926 -
(Published in The Belzoni Banner of February 11, 1926)

From a column entitled Four-Mile News, published in The Belzoni Banner of March 11, 1926, were taken the following items concerning the school:

"We have enrolled 120 pupils. Another in high school this week. This is more pupils than has ever been enrolled at Four-Mile.

Our little bunch thinned out a little this week on account of an epidemic of "flu".

We are glad to have Mrs. Barry back into school room after several days of illness.

The little boys have organized a "peppy" little baseball team, and are "head-over-heels" at work. They enjoy all sports and are ready to play at any time.

The P. T. A. so kindly and generously helped our basket ball boys by buying their suits. The colors are black and orange, to imitate tigers. The boys surely do enjoy playing in their new suits and appreciate the kindly interest of the P. T. A. We also have a new ball and mean to learn how to use it. Altho' our main player is absent we are going to have just as strong a team as before.

There has been a third section added to our bookcase and four new books put in it. Not only the school folks are interested, several out of the community come in and take out books. The librarian is George Strickland. He keeps an eye on the books and the case.

Humphreys County Press

We have our flag flying. It is saluted by the entire school each morning as they march in. They all do it, practically, and it looks good.

The grammar grades are doing extremely good drawing, demonstrating our state, county and delta. Call in and look it over."

Reference: Column entitled Four-Mile News, published in The Belzoni Banner of March 11, 1926)

From a column entitled Four-Mile, published in The Belzoni Banner of March 18, 1926, were taken the following items concerning the school:

"School Items"

"The patrons of Four-Mile school met on the sixth of March and elected Mr. J. T. Crowell as trustee. Everybody is satisfied. We think as pupils that Mr. Crowell will give us just the cooperation that we and the other teachers need. We think we have three of the best trustees in Humphreys County. They believe in us, why not us believe in them. The other two are Mr. A. C. Strickland and Mr. W. C. Gallaspy.

The above named trustees met on March 13 and elected the following faculty for the ensuing year and school term 1926-1927; Mrs. Eulah Montgomery, of Jackson, was reelected as principal; voice, music and expression, Miss Virgie Newsom, of Bule Mountain; athletic

directress, Miss Myrtle Carson, of Belzoni, was re-elected as primary teacher.

-----"

Reference: Column entitled Four-Mile, published in The Belzoni Banner of March 18, 1926.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Miss

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 11, 1927

Topic: Newspapers

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Hattie A. Trantham

Item No. I (a, b, c,
d, e, f)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The County's First Paper:

From the Souvenir Edition of The Belzoni Banner of August 10, 1922 and from interview with Mr. W. L. Toney, editor and owner of The Belzoni Banner, we gather the following story of the several publications of the county:

In the month of November, 1901 Mr. W. M. Hagan of Belzoni began publication of The Belzoni Bulletin, having associated with him Mr. Pink Smith of Greenville. The Bulletin was printed in Greenville. About a year later Mr. Hagan became associated with Mr. J. C. Polk of Tennessee in the publication of his journal, the paper then being printed by the Southern Newspaper Union of Vicksburg. Although printed in Vicksburg, the paper was returned to Belzoni where it was placed in the postoffice as a product of Belzoni. All job work secured was printed in Vicksburg also. Mr. Hagan was at that time a Justice of the Peace and the proprietor of a local hotel. After running the publication for awhile, he sold the good will and subscription to Mr. S. M. L. K. Turnage. Mr. John C. Maxwell, now of Maxwell Grocery Company, spent several years in the employ of Mrs. Turnage.

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Humphreys County
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Soon after Mrs. Turnage entered the field, Mr. W. S. Knotts, enterprising Belzoni citizen, purchased an outfit and edited a paper. Mr. Knotts was the first to install machinery and type, the first press being a Washington hand press. Mrs. Turnage later purchased the plant of Mr. Knotts' and the two papers were then merged into one publication.

From this time to 1911 records of Belzoni publications are incomplete. Mr. W. S. Knotts had again entered the newspaper business having associated with him as editor a Mr. Travis. Sometime in the interim, presumably about 1906 or 1908, Alva L. Marshall began editing the Belzoni Journal, he having succeeded a Mr. Bell who was forced to retire from the newspaper business on account of ill health.

On April 19, 1912 Hemphill Brothers of Yazoo City purchased the Journal, Mr. J. F. Hemphill serving as editor. An excerpt from his salutatory reads: "The plant having been purchased by citizens of the town, their purpose is to upbuild the town and surrounding territory." On account of ill health of Mr. Hemphill, Mr. J. S. Savage was called from his law office to act as editor. Mr. Savage served only from August 9 to September 27, 1912, his law duties not allowing him to continue as editor. Harvey Hartley and Miller Cresswell then became associate editors with Mr. Hemphill, serving until February, 1913 when Sam P. Perrin became editor.

"We find that on August 8, 1913, Alva L. Marshall, again took hold of newspaper work here, and began the publication of the Delta New Era, which he edited for six months. On January 31, 1914, F. R. Birdsall of Yazoo City bought the New Era from W. S. Knotts and also

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at the same time purchased the Belzoni Journal, Mr. Marshall retiring. Mr. Birdsall consolidated the two, and announced to the world the birth of The Belzoni Banner. Mr. Birdsall with what help he could procure edited the paper and had it printed at Yazoo City until on April 4th, 1914, he secured the services of R. L. Brown of Decatur, Alabama. Mr. Brown took charge of the paper as editor and manager, maintaining a job office in Belzoni, but the paper was printed in Yazoo City, expressed to Belzoni, and then put in the postoffice here. Mr. Brown gave the people one of the best papers ever printed in Belzoni." After a time he was succeeded as manager and editor by Mr. T. M. Diggs of New Haven, Missouri.

On August 18, 1916, T. L. Turner was called from Arkansas, where he was visiting his son, having sold out his newspaper interest in Martin, Tennessee. Times were hard, money was scarce, and Mr. Turner, while doing an average business, did not do as well as if the paper had been printed in Belzoni instead of Yazoo City. He had much to contend with in this respect, as the people stated plainly that they would support the paper better were it printed in its home town. In March, 1917, upon retirement of Mr. Turner, Mr. Diggs again assumed management of the Banner.

"Mr. Turner retired with regret for he had learned to love the people of Belzoni. He liked the town and saw a great future for it. The day he left, while at the depot, a gentleman with whom he had scarcely spoken during his seven months in Belzoni, touched him on the shoulder, just as the signal to go was given, and said, 'Turner, don't you take a job anywhere else, I want you here.'"

In the meantime, Mr. W. L. Toney had become interested in the purchase of the Banner. Negotiations were opened and in late September, 1917 a trade was consummated between Mr. Birdsall and Mr. Toney, whereby Mr. Toney became owner of the Belzoni Banner. Mr. T. L. Turner again returned to the office as editor and manager of the paper. The Banner Printing Company was chosen as the business name, the paper retaining the name of the Belzoni Banner.

When Mr. Toney took over the Banner, he did not purchase the subscription list, just the office and material. Starting with about one hundred names on its subscription list the number was soon greatly increased and by 1922 had reached approximately one thousand subscribers. At the time the Banner was purchased by Mr. Toney, the home of the paper was in a little tin building located where now stands the Robert Prickett Insurance Agency. At that time Mr. N. A. Mott of Yazoo City was editing and publishing the Belzoni Item in Belzoni. Competition was strong and the printing business was at a low ebb, the small amount of cash coming in being barely sufficient to pay the editor a meager salary.

Eventually business began to pick up. The new county fight came on and the Banner held the limelight throughout the affray. Some of its articles greatly antagonized the feelings of the Yazooites from the neighboring county on the south. Following the final decision declaring Humphreys County a reality, there appeared in the Banner the accompanying cartoon by Porter Reginald depicting the little county of Humphreys knocking out the big county of Yazoo. This cartoon was thoroughly enjoyed by Belzonians, many of whom forwarded papers to their Yazoo County friends.

In 1921 the Banner Printing Company moved into its handsome new home on Hayden Street which was declared one of the most attractive and up-to-date printing offices in the state. Equipped with all modern conveniences and the installation of modern machinery for all types of printing, the Banner office was placed on an equal plane with leading printing offices in the state. Under the ownership of Mr. Toney, the Belzoni Banner has always been recognized as one of the best edited and best printed papers in the state. Mr. Toney has taken great pride in giving to his readers a paper that is newsy, clear, clean, and attractive and replete in the heart-throbs of his county. It is strictly a county paper with well set-up departments, and is splendidly localized to represent each section of the county. The editorials of the Banner, and practically all other reading matter, are original.

The Belzoni Banner has long since grown into an eight page edition which is now, as always, eagerly awaited each Thursday by its large list of more than eight hundred and fifty subscribers. Issues of the paper have been retained since 1910, with some earlier scattered editions on file.

Mr. T. L. Turner severed his connection with the paper in 1927, being now Editor of The Ruleville Record. Mr. Toney has since then devoted his time to management of the business. He has associated with him his son, Mr. E. J. Toney as President of the Banner Printing Company, Mr. Toney being still at the helm as manager.

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As an uplifting influence in the community, the Belzoni Banner is without an equal. Its policies are infallible, having always rested upon a foundation of service. Throughout its pages may ever be noted a broad tolerance for the frailty of mankind. The paper is owned by a true patriot, whose spirit of patriotism was clearly reflected in all activities of the community during the great World War. As local chairman of the American Red Cross, the marked success with which all Red Cross and Liberty Loan drives were met during this period of stress, brought state-wide recognition.

Mr. Toney has always manifested a keen interest in the economic development of the county of which he is an ardent "Booster". He is a staunch advocate of clean politics and may always be found lending support to a candidate of high moral standing. Mr. Toney enjoys the distinction of being a Colonel on the staff of Governor Hugh L. White.

References: Mr. W. L. Toney - Belzoni, Miss.
Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner - Aug. 10, 1922

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 6, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials
Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 21
Item No. III (a - c)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- a. Unusual news items.
- c. Odd Advertisements.

The following editorial and advertisements are taken from The Belzoni Bulletin of September 16, 1916; Mr. James T. Simpson, Editor and Publisher; Mr. John M. Simpson, Associate Editor.

EDITORIAL

"The New Name"

"Since this is a local publication, the first concern is to serve its immediate community. It is also desirable that it should bear a name best fitted for the locality it seeks to serve. From now on, this publication will be known as "The Belzoni Bulletin," successor to "The Progressive Torchlight."

The changing of the name does not affect the status of our present advertisers and subscribers. They will continue to receive the best possible service. In fact they will receive better service; because the change of name will directly identify us with this growing community, and thus cause a greater local interest in the publication. "The Bulletin" earnestly solicits a continued patronage and support from the persons and institutions it is dedicated to to serve"

Humphreys County, Press

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Local advertising in above edition includes:

G. J. Brantley & Company's new store - Belzoni.
Samuel Tailoring Company - Belzoni.
Doyle's - "The Busy Store" - Belzoni.
Lyon Brothers Dry Goods Store - Belzoni.
The Belzoni Cafe - Belzoni.
H. Slyman & Company - Dry Goods and Fancy Groceries - Belzoni.
McClintock & Moreland, Agents - Fire Insurance - Belzoni.
Bank of Belzoni - Branch of Grenada Bank - Belzoni.
J. H. Goldberger - General Merchandise - Isola.
Barr-Holaday Lumber Company - Louise.
Goldberg - Fancy Groceries - Belzoni.
Leser Furniture Company - Belzoni.
Peoples Meat Market - A. L. Robinson, Proprietor - Belzoni.
W. Nunn Tailor Shop - Belzoni.
George C. O'Donnell - Dry Goods, Clothing, Groceries, Hardware -
Louise.
Holaday Brothers - General Merchandise & Groceries - Louise.
O. Winn, Undertaker and Embalmer - Belzoni.
City Meat Market - Toney & Watts, Proprietors - Belzoni.
Knotts & Finley - Attorney-at-Law - Belzoni.
V. Saia - Fancy Groceries, Lunch - Louise.
T. E. Mortimer - Attorney-at-Law - Belzoni.

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Dr. J. A. Barnes - Isola.
W. B. Herrington - Optometrist - Belzoni.
J. H. Turnage - Staple & Fancy Grocer - Belzoni.
The Dunn Pharmacy - Belzoni.
Colored Drug Store - Dr. C. O. Buck, Proprietor - Belzoni.

Odd Advertisement:

"YOU MAY TALK TO ONE MAN
But an advertisement in this paper talks to the whole community.
CATCH THE IDEA?"

Reference: The Belzoni Bulletin of September 16, 1916.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Press

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 21 (The Press)

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 9, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorial

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. III (a)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Newspaper

(a) Unusual news items

The following article as taken from the Commercial Appeal is in compliment of the Souvenir Edition of the Belzoni Banner on August 10th, 1922 which followed the creation of the new county in 1918:

PIG EDITION
COMPLIMENTED

Newspapers and Other Speak
Very Complimentary of
Belzoni and Souvenir
Edition of Banner

A Solid and Rich Region

"We have before us a copy of the Belzoni Banner. It is a Souvenir Edition commemorating the opening of the Humphreys County court-house.

Humphreys is one of the new counties in Mississippi. It is in that marvelous region known as the delta. Agriculturally Humphreys is as rich as any other County in the delta.

Humphreys is named for Gen. Humphreys, father of Ben Humphreys.

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distinguished congressman from Mississippi and about the solidest and ablest Democrat in the lower house. The thing that impresses us about Belzoni is the courthouse. It is a very beautiful building. The architect is an artist. The building has in it nothing of the rawness of the new. Most of our courthouses are distressingly ugly, especially the new ones. They are approached in lack of beauty by many of our churches.

Many of our churches that were built in our day of prosperity look like Carnegie libraries.

Go to any town in Mississippi and look at the churches built before the Civil War and those immediately after the war, if they are built of brick and stone, then look at the churches built during the last ten years, you will catch the point. There is a spiritual atmosphere about the old churches that the modern architects sometimes miss.

But Humphreys is a great county and the Banner has certainly published an edition worthy of it.

The people of Belzoni ought to purchase a large number of this edition and mail them to investors and farmers in the north, east and west. We in Memphis know what Humphreys County is and so do the people in the delta, but our friends in other parts of the United States do not know.

Recently The Commercial Appeal printed an elaborate industrial and agricultural edition. We took pains to see that a large number of copies of this edition were circulated north of the Ohio, and in the northwest. The amount of publicity secured was most gratifying to

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us and to our friends who co-operated with us in this work.

-----Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Conditions Down South On The Yellow Dog.

Belzoni is a town in Mississippi, located on the famous 'Yellow Dog' railroad. Belzoni was the terminus of this district of the Y. & M. V. road for a long time, until the line was extended into Yazoo City.

We had forgotten about Belzoni until this Monday when a souvenir edition of its weekly newspaper, The Belzoni Banner, came to the editorial rooms. It contains 14 pages and celebrates the dedication of the new courthouse there. Passing this with comment that it is a handsome structure, impressive of the big Memphis city hall, let's see what we find in Belzoni development!

Twenty years ago Belzoni was in the 'swamps' of Mississippi, buck-shot mud was gloire. S. Castleman was there, so was W. L. Toney. They were the center of Circumference, and still are. They were alert, progressive and possessed the heart of unselfishness that makes small towns larger--wide places in the road develop. They were not tax fighters, but had the conception of things to come in the future. Then came T. L. Turner to the town; when he arrived you could not get into Belzoni via dirt road--there wasn't such an avenue--he got there over the Yellow Dog railroad.

T. L. Turner is a newspaper man--rather he is an editor; he knows what a newspaper may mean to a community. He set to work, and

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worked for Belzoni. He pushed his best efforts and exploited his ideas and ideals of a progressive handful of loyal citizens through the little Belzoni Banner. The climax of his career is signified in his 44 page Souvenir Edition. It is almost unbelievable. Here is a town now that was a cinder pit and log-rolling terminal 20 years ago--just in its very infancy. Today it abounds in schools, municipal buildings, county temples, exquisite homes, and supplied with a pushing forward set of citizens. It lays many other towns further towards the Mason-Dixon line in the shade. It is a monument to the ambitious efforts of a forward people, stimulated and stirred by a newspaper interested in the people above self.

A statement of its bank, opened in 1909 with a capital of \$25,000 and a first-statement deposits of \$29,000 grew to \$504,130 deposits in 1920, and here in 1922 we see it has \$774,380 deposits.

So, the delta wasn't hit so hard after all where the fighting spirit existed--where newspaper helped its share, and where progressiveness developed in advance brought dividends in the future.

Belzoni, down on the Yellow Dog railroad, sets a precedent. We thank the editor of its newspaper to have sent us a copy of the Souvenir Edition, and congratulate Humphreys County on its \$300,000 temple of justice. --- John R. Rison, Jr., in Paris (Tenn.) Parisian.

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Issues Splendid Souvenir Edition

We are in receipt of the Souvenir Edition of the Belzoni (Miss.) Banner commemorating the opening of Humphreys County's new \$300,000, court house. While the county is only a few years old it is far ahead of many of older counties in the matter of public improvements. One of the noticable features of the county is its many handsome school buildings.

The Edition, which consists of 44 pages, is filled with pictures of the county with interesting reading matter descriptive of the many industries of the county. The historical part is well taken care of and shows the remarkable growth of Mississippi's baby county. Every town and community in the county is represented with a picture and descriptive matter.

The printing and typography of the Edition are far above the average. The advertisements, of which the edition has a plentiful supply, are neatly displayed and the text matter and pictures are handled in an artistic manner.

T. L. Turner, formerly editor of the Martin Mail, is responsible for this beautiful Edition of the Banner of which he is editor. Mr. Turner designed the Edition and prepared practically all of the text matter. The Edition is a credit to the ability of Mr. Turner and the progressiveness of Belzoni and Humphreys County. The splendid appearance and the interesting manner in which it is written, also the many illustrations, should make the Souvenir Edition of the Banner a medium to spread to the world the advantages and opportunities of Humphreys County.-- Martin (Tenn.) Weekly Press.

A Creditable Edition

The Post has received a copy of the Special Edition published by the Belzoni Banner when the Humphreys County courthouse was recently opened.

A handsome engraving of the new court house adorns the first page of the Edition.

The Edition is printed in five sections. There is a tremendous lot of interesting matter relating to the past and present of Belzoni and Humphreys County.

There are numerous illustrations of the people, and industries of the county are written up in attractive shape.

All in all it is a very creditable Edition.--Vicksburg Post.

Banner's Souvenir Edition

The Clarion-Ledger is just in receipt of a copy of the Belzoni Banner. This is a Souvenir Edition commemorating the opening of Humphreys County Court House, and is indeed a credit to the new county and the town of Belzoni.

The Clarion-Ledger has said before that the Belzoni Banner is one of the best edited and neatest appearing papers that comes to the Clarion-Ledger. This Souvenir Edition is an improvement over their usual excellent work.---Clarion-Ledger (Jackson).

The esteemed Belzoni Banner, with T. L. Turner editor, got out

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one of the largest weekly papers ever gotten out in the state---44 pages. The issue of August 10, it being in honor of the celebrating the new three hundred thousand dollar court house for Humphreys County.

The Banner is well edited and has numerous pictures of its fine residences, business houses and churches, which gives the town quite a city appearance, and like other good towns, by their papers, ye shall judge them.

Hurrah for Belzoni and Humphreys County! --- Union (Newton Co.) Appeal.

The Souvenir Edition of the Belzoni Banner, commemorating the opening of the Humphreys County Court House, reflects great credit upon T. L. Turner, the editor and manager, as well as a splendid spirit of co-operation among an enterprising and intelligent class of people. With such citizenship led by such a progressive booster, there is little doubt but what Belzoni will soon forge to the front as a city, of which the entire delta section will be proud. The Souvenir Edition would do credit to a city ten times the size of Belzoni, and The Times extends best wishes and congratulation.---Winona Times.

The Belzoni Banner last week issued a Souvenir Edition commemorating the opening of the Humphreys County court house. It contained a large number of photographs of prominent men and women and of beautiful residences and scenes in Belzoni and other towns and communities of progressive young Humphreys County. The articles of a

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historical, descriptive and 'boosting' nature were all well written, and set forth the well founded claims of our sister county as one of the richest agricultural sections of the world, peopled by a progressive and hospitable citizenship and affording unrivaled opportunities for the profitable investment of capital and homemaking by law abiding people from other parts of the world. The Souvenir was a gem typographically--neat, clean and artistic, and Editor T. L. Turner may well feel proud of the success attaining his efforts in this instance.---Lexington Advertiser.

FROM CHICAGO

Illinois Central Railroad Co.
Chicago August 17, 1922

Dear Mr. Turner:

I want to compliment you upon the Souvenir Edition of the Belzoni Banner which you put out August 10. It certainly reflects great credit upon the facilities comprising your newspaper plant, and it also reflects great credit upon Belzoni and the delta country.

I think the Illinois Central System page advertisement was set up most attractively. The article concerning the building of the Sunflower district from Tutwiler to Yazoo Junction was also well displayed.

Thanking you for your co-operation with us and with my best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

H. B. HULL.

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FROM MEMPHIS, TENN.

I have just returned to the city after quite an absence and find your Souvenir Edition on my desk, and have taken pleasure in looking over it. The appearance of your paper is quite attractive, and you have put your city and county forward to good advantage. We are sure that your work will be appreciated by your fellow-townsmen. There is a great deal of work attached to getting up a special edition, and the outcome is always uncertain, and we congratulate you on the results obtained.

Yours very truly,

TAYLOR PAPER CO."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - August 24, 1922.

Note: Great care must be taken not to give J. L. Turner major credit for the Souvenir edition - Please share the credit liberally with W. L. Doney - owner of the Belzoni Banner.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 10, 1937

Topic: Name Papers and Magazines
Down to Date

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. II (a)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(a) Local, civil and political attitude:

The following article was taken from the Souvenir Edition
Belzoni Banner - August 10, 1922:

BELZONI BANNER DAY
AT THE HUMPHREYS COUNTY POST OFFICE

"If you were raised in the county you will no doubt recollect the scene in the village or town post-office the day the paper comes out.

Do you recall the postmaster distributing the copies of the local paper (The Banner in Humphreys County) in almost every glassed face post-office box to be pulled out at the other end by the waiting throng as quickly as a key could be inserted or the combination worked on the post-office box. There stood Mary, Billy, Lucile, Johnny, Harry, Nora, Jimmie and a long list of others and even the married men and their wives eager to seize upon the paper as it was pulled from the box. There were the smaller boys who came before the papers were placed in the post-office, knowing it was 'Banner' day, waiting patiently for his copy, and when it was placed in the box, with a jerk and happy chuckle he grabbed the wished for paper and darted out and down the street for home.

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What a crowd in the post-office, what a clatter, what a bustle, what a commotion. Gee, the noise and the excitement of that busy half hour when the postmaster is 'putting up' the local paper into the boxes of the villagers. The bunch in the post-office is happy, noisy, and there are many standing without waiting for the opening of the window so they can get their paper. Somewhere out on the rural route there sets the demure and buxom maiden, waiting for the postman with the town paper, or perhaps it is the boy in overalls who has been driving old Beck all the live long day plowing, and he too wants to see what's in the paper. There they sit on the fence with the wagon wheel with its numerous rural delivery mail boxes near by, waiting for the postman who seems to be slower than usual. Not only the younger people but the farmer and his wife eagerly greet the rural free deliveryman when he drives up with the county paper.

Those were happy days. To some these days have disappeared forever, and to others they are just coming in, for the towns and villages get their nearby town papers as in days of yore, and they are just as eager to read it.

We, who live in the larger towns, since we have free delivery can never experience the thrill and the pleasure of going to the post-office on paper day and taking the paper out and all reading it before we go beyond the doorsill of the old post-office.

The man or woman who lives in the larger cities have lost a lot of the charm of life by not having the experience of the country man in the little country post-office on paper day, the day his local paper is printed -- taken to the post-office and distributed to the waiting throng. They cannot, and do not, know the charm of the

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beloved little old eight page paper published in the little old town. Everything worth reading is in its columns. 'Listen', cries one, as she reads an item of news, which is met with jolly laughter. Another reads aloud an item, and here and there, in the office and out, the paper is opened and the local news is being devoured with an eagerness that shows on the features of the face.

The old home town paper. What joy it gave, and what sorrow it told. From its pages many a little item has been culled and pasted in a scrap book, bringing up fond, sad or sacred memories in the years to come. The marriage notice of Bettie is clipped out, the birth of baby, the death of father, mother or brother, of wife or husband, or of baby, is all taken from its pages and with tears dimming the eyes is pasted in the scrap book.

Oh, little country paper how we love you. The editor makes it a business to get all the local news he can. The little country paper is a faithful chronicler of everything that goes to make up life -- its joys and its sorrows -- births, marriages, deaths, all faithfully recorded and told in that spirit that shows that the editor knows and is known by the family.

The city man who left his home town long years ago waits and watches for the home town paper, and he glances over the locals, the marriages and deaths, and there he finds in it how his playmates of days long ago are now living, he learns of their joys and their troubles through the little country paper.

Then to make this story of the home town paper more interesting we cull this from the pen of William G. Brogan, vice president of

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The American Press Association.

'You don't get that any more, city man -- you're lost in the mass. You've become a sort of impersonal thing -- a tooth in a gear, spoke in a wheel. Through the whir and noise of the big business machinery the human interests tones to which you were once so close and to which you loved to listen are all gone, lost to you, because you are too far away -- you can't hear them now.

Things are just about the same in the old town, however -- there are more folks there, of course, but the weekly paper is the same enjoyable institution, and there's the same eagerness for it on 'Paper day', and it's read from cover to cover, ads and all, just as it was in the old days. You've moved away, that's all, and you've forgotten all about it. Think back -- visualize the good old town paper and the way the folks 'ate it up'.

You believe your business message reaches the people when you advertise in the cities. Man alive! There are more folks in the country than there are in the cities, and they think more of their papers than they ever did, for the papers are better. If you have something to sell, don't spend your entire appropriation in magazines and city papers. See that a reasonable percentage goes for country newspaper advertising -- get back into touch with the 'old home town' -- get the benefit of the intimate acquaintance with 'Bill', the publisher, has with 'Jack', the local dealer. The publisher will ask the dealer to push the sales of your goods if you advertise in his columns, and the local dealer will help the publisher to show you that it pays you to advertise in the local paper.

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If your advertising manager is a born and bred city man perhaps he may not see anything in the little country paper compared with the big city papers. You can, however, if you will just stop and think a minute -- you'll know that your old town paper carries influence and human interest qualities in its eight pages that are, by the way, very nature of things, forever beyond the reach of big city publications.

The advertiser who overlooks country papers fails to get properly in touch with half the purchasing power of the United States. If you have forgotten the home town paper, Mr. City Man who came from the country, stop and think and you will see to it that your next advertising campaign carries a reasonable appropriation for country newspaper space.

It will pay you to advertise locally wherever you have dealers and distribution. Your city sales may have been pushed to the limit, but you haven't scratched the surface of this small town field. The same sort of intensive advertising cultivation of the country field which you have applied to the big cities will open up a brand new market and yield a harvest beyond your expectations.

Remember this when you plan your next advertising campaign.' "

Reference: Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner - Aug. 10, 1922

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 13, 1937

Topic: Name Papers & Magazines
Down to Date

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. II (a)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

a. Local, civil and political attitude: (An Editorial)

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner
of November 5, 1936:

ELECTION

"The Tuesday election was the greatest landslide ever in the history of the nation, far surpassing Roosevelt's enormous vote of four years ago.

This vote showed that all the states in the Union except two are strongly in accord with Roosevelt's New Deal policy. Notwithstanding the millions of dollars spent by the Republican party and all the speeches of All Smith, Father Coughlin and a large number of sore toed Democrats, the country more than ever endorsed the Roosevelt policy which has brought this country in three years from a state of almost anarchy to one of the greatest points in the finances of this country, and from busted banks to banks overflowing with money seeking loans.

Roosevelt's policies from the first moment of the inauguration were drastic, closing all the banks for thirty days, saving the

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finances of the country, putting a government off the gold standard by forcing all the gold from private individuals, restored the nation's credit. Possibly there were some mistakes when he undertook to feed and clothe the hungry, but at that time it was a matter to protect human life rather than to figure out some economical way to care for the public. All of his major recommendations have been wholly of a beneficial nature to the country and the country very generously reacted to his policies by their vote Tuesday.

Every well minded American is hoping Roosevelt success during the next four years."

"The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips. -- Proverbs 16:23."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - November 5, 1936

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 13, 1937

Topic: Name Papers & Magazines Down To Date Assignment No. 21
Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett Item No. II (a, b)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- a. Local, civic and political attitude.
- b. Quotation from files of papers.

From The Belzoni Banner - January 30, 1920 - was taken the following:

"STOP PUSSYFOOTING"

"Softly we go about the job, and so very slowly are we going that we are not getting anywhere. The people of Belzoni have about as little interest in what we are going to write of in this article as the frontiersman's wife had in her husband's struggle with a bear: she didn't care a cent which one whipped.

This town has many splendid homes, handsome business houses well stocked with the best goods purchasable, and there is something over a million and a half dollars on deposit in our two banks; we have given liberally to everything asked for during and after the war; we bought liberty bonds and W. S. S., but we have no churches. No wonder the people do not go to preaching, but they themselves are to blame. Last Sunday it was cold and disagreeable inside the churches, for they are such ramshackle shells they cannot be warmed. We can build,

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

but we wan't.

We take off our hat and salaam to our Presbyterian brethren. They are not many, but they have erected a pretty house of worship. They are doers, not shirkers. Yet they owe some on it; have not raised sufficient funds to furnish the building, but yet they are plucky. The Baptists need a house of worship; the Methodists ditto, and it is a shame that the people of Belzoni, with the wealth they have will let these "disgraces" stand instead of erecting handsome houses. Let us build, and build wisely this year.

Ineffectual attempts have been made for several years to erect church edifices here. Committees are named; they go to work; some money is subscribed, and some has been raised, and yet there is nothing doing. What is the matter with our church people, Belzonians? Shame on you, men and women. We have shied off as the devil would if pestered with a great protracted meeting, or a foaming mad dog with water pure and simple. Possibly fortune has carressed us so much that she has made a fool of us. We love money--all of us do--and there are men right here in Belzoni today who are smutting their own nose by trying to bite the bottom out of the frying pan. You know what we mean.

Let us build. Let us show forth to the people everywhere that we are not only a business people--first in everything--but a people who believe in "rendering unto Caesar the things that are Caesars and unto the Lord the things that are the Lord's". The Master has blessed this country, He has made it blossom as the rose; it

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has produced and filled our larders, and yet we stay the hand in building to His honor and glory church edifices that will not be a disgrace to any community.

Churchmen, get to work. Citizens get down in your pockets now and let us get busy and erect these two churches, pay for the three and equip them all.

Let's quit pussyfooting."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - January 30, 1920.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 13, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III (a)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

a. Unusual news items.

From The Belzoni Banner - November 7, 1919 - was taken the following:

"Some Swallower"

"While Pate Hutchens, one day last week, was making his way to Belzoni through the mire and muck of a road, driving a Maxwell, he overtook two boys walking a few miles out from Silver City. As they climbed into the car one said to Hutchens, "He's swallowed a dollar." Hutchens almost let his car go into the ditch on account of the startling information. Looking around at the fellow, seeing the tears in the eyes of the boy and the grasping of his throat, he said, "That can't be so." "Yes it is, for it is hung in his throat now." But the boy with the dollar throat said nothing, for he was in misery. "If that is the case, it is a good thing I took you in," said Hutchens, and giving more power rushed the boys on to Silver City and a doctor, only to find the doctor gone. A physician of Yazoo City, being called there to see a patient, was called upon to see the boy, but the rough trip, we

presume, and a long, hard gulp, sent the dollar downward, and when the doctor examined him, said, "You are alright, you have swallowed the dollar; you can now go home and console yourself with the fact that you will never be busted." We did not learn how the boy swallowed the coin, or for what purpose he placed the coin in his mouth."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - November 7, 1919.

From The Belzoni Banner - February 18, 1926 - was taken the following:

"Married In Bank"

"On Thursday afternoon, two bright looking negroes, tho black as the ace of spades, wanted to be united in marriage. Failing to get hold of a minister at the courthouse they sauntered up town, and meeting Rev. Bennett, near the Bank of Belzoni, they informed him they wanted to marry. Stepping into the Bank of Belzoni, with several white people and some five or six negroes, all arranging themselves in a row on the east side of the room, the minister asked some questions and being answered in the affirmative, he asked them to step out a pace from the others, which they did. As the minister was solemnly speaking the words that made them man and wife, Mr. A. P. Herron, who was standing beside a middle aged darkey said to him, "Is that your gal?" The bride overheard him,

and turning, faced Mr. Herron and said, "No sir, not yit." And it almost broke up the wedding. After the ceremony the minister handed the marriage certificate to the bride with this remark, "I give it to you to keep so that you can always keep him straight." The bride said, "I sure will do it, boss." And so ended the wedding, the first ever to take place in the bank, and of course it was somewhat of a novelty."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - February 18, 1926.

From the Belzoni Banner - November 29, 1923 - was taken the following:

CHICAGOANS STIRRED
BY BELZONI BIRD

A Wild Turkey Hunt in the
Streets of Chicago - A Bel-
zoni Turk the Innocent Cause

"Some ten days ago, C. C. Bartlett, foreman of the Banner mechanical department expressed a turkey to his son, who lives in Oak Park, a suburb of the Windy City. The turkey it seemed escaped from its coop just as Mrs. Bartlett was ready to accept it, and the following account of the hunt and trailing of the bird is culled from an Oak Park paper.

WILD TURKEY HUNT

Bird From Mississippi Escapes and
Is Pursued for Two Days--
Ted Duffield Makes Capture.

A turkey hunt in Oak Park, recalling pioneer days, was an event of the week that engaged the interest of a neighborhood and the police and fire departments.

Friends in Belzoni, Miss. sent a turkey in a crate to Mrs. William Bartlett, 213 Marion. The bird arrived on Monday. While Mrs. Bartlett was paying the express charges the bird escaped and flew to the roof of the house, where it surveyed the strange metropolitan prospect calmly, in spite of jars and disturbances of the long journey from southern fields.

Mrs. Bartlett was alarmed and perplexed. Helpful neighbors suggested many things, including the police. She got Chief Magrath on the fone and laid the situation before him as rapidly as possible.

With military decision the chief sketched a plan of attack. He proposed to send the rifle squad, composed of ten crack shots, who would surround the place and bring down the turkey. Altho she expects to slay the fowl, she proposes to do it in an orthodox way with an ax, and the idea of shooting was more than she could endure-- it seemed so inhuman. This let the police out and the chief suggested she call Chief Wolff of the fire department, who as a side line is an expert at rescuing cats from telephone poles and getting into second floor windows for ladies who have lost the key to their homes. The idea of capturing the turkey appealed to Chief Wolff's primitive instincts and in a moment the great ladder truck was tearing toward the scene of action. But as quickly as the firemen hoisted their ladder the bird flew away, more like a hawk than like a domesticated fowl. The creature was pursued off and on by various

individuals and groups for two days, not a single person aiding the wild thing's quest for freedom.

On Wednesday morning Mrs. Bartlett learned that the turkey was in possession of Ted Duffield, somewhat known to fame as a high school football player. On Tuesday afternoon, just as the shades of night were falling, the alert stranger alighted in a tree in the garden of the Duffield home at 215 Forest. Being daring by nature and training, and, withal, cunning, he waited until the weary turkey had fallen asleep. Then he climbed the tree and lifted the bird off its lofty perch. Mrs. Bartlett was delighted and hopes to keep possession of the wayward gift until time for the Thanksgiving feast."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - November 29, 1923.

From The Belzoni Banner - December 10, 1936 - was taken the following:

WEEKLY THOUGHT

"Mine eye also shall see my desire on mine enemies and mine ears shall bear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me. -- Psalms 92:11."

OUR STATE HOSPITAL

"At the recent special session of the legislature two million dollars additional funds were granted to our public schools. To this

granting we take no issue; however, in sight of the capital hall where this bill was passed hundreds of unfortunate Mississippians are suffering from lack of proper attention. Not that the doctors and hospital attendants do not give them all the time that is possible, but the building is over crowded and more patients are assigned to the attendants than should be. If proper funds were provided, more equipment and facilities than are now furnished them could be provided, with adequate instruments and necessary appliances, which would relieve human suffering. The physicians and everyone connected with the hospital do all that is humanly possible for them to do.

Some adequate measure should be taken to provide more funds for the caring of the unfortunate who are compelled to go to this hospital. Those who are able can go to hospitals where they have both adequate operating rooms and their own personal physicians to attend them; but to thousands of those who are not ably situated, they are compelled to fall on the charity of the state. Hundreds of these unfortunates have toiled their lives away and made possible the many improvements in our country, but thru various circumstances are now forced to appeal to the charity of our state.

Take a trip thru the hospital at Jackson and you will see the need of more funds and more adequate appliances for the caring of our needy and sick.

We have lost sight of a great many of the important things in our wild efforts to build large universities and additional college

buildings. It is necessary and our duty to care for our sick who are not able to care for themselves. We do not advocate any additional tax levies or other increase in tax assessments, but we think there should be a retrenchment on our expenditures so as to care for our sick."

SANTA CLAUS

"Nearly every child, regardless of circumstances in life, is now eagerly awaiting Santa Claus and wondering what he will bring.

This country has been enjoying one of its most prosperous seasons in many years and Uncle Sam has been Santa Claus to nearly everyone. During all of our prosperity we should not forget the children who will enjoy Christmas as much as some whose parents are able to give them what Santa Claus thinks they should have.

The whole community should throw its whole soul and body into a community tree and make this one of the crowning events of our past prosperous years and make many little hearts happy."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - December 10, 1936.

From the Belzoni Banner - January 14, 1937 - was taken the following:

WEEKLY THOUGHT

"And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.-- 1 Cor. 13:13."

KIDNAPPING

"In pioneer days the word that drove more fear into the hearts of our forefathers was the word 'fire' which to them meant possible destruction of life and all their earthly belongings. But today the word that strikes fear to all our hearts is the word kidnapping.

With Hauptman's execution a year ago and the recovery of a large portion of the bounty money which he had been paid, it was thought by everyone that kidnapping would be ended. And with the sentence of a number of the Karpis gang, it was believed by everyone that kidnapping had been whipped out, but the year 1937 opens with the most horrible kidnapping crime in the annals of American History.

The death of the Landbergh baby was an unheard of crime but the suffering endured by that baby was incomparable to that of the red blooded American youth who knew the horrors of torture and naturally the dread of death. What suffering this boy went thru no one will ever know. All we know is that his bruised and battered body was recovered after horrible tortures.

There is no doubt in the minds of everyone but that his

kidnappers will be captured, but a great many writers are depicting ~~him~~ ^{them} with a weak mind, insane and otherwise. To us this kind of talk is foolish. A crime carefully planned, perfectly timed and correctly executed without detection shows no weak mindedness.

When they are caught, droves of alienists will rush to ~~his~~ ^{the} rescue to prevent his execution.

Northern papers and writers always comment on the hotheadedness of the South in matters pertaining to horrible crimes. However, we are of the opinion that if not strongly protected when captured the murderers will be taken from the officers and torn to pieces, which in the minds of most people will be the correct thing.

A bill has been introduced into Congress to prevent the payment of rewards for return of persons who have been kidnapped. This, they claim, largely destroys the incentive for kidnapping, which in a way looks reasonable."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - January 14, 1937.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

"Notwithstanding the high water talk, possibility of levee breaks and general overflow, all of these have not had any effect on the sale of real estate in Belzoni which has come to life in the last two weeks.

M. F. Phillips, realtor, reports the following business houses and lots sold and all of these at good prices: Two store buildings,

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

one residence, eight business lots, and three residence lots."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - February 11, 1937.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 7, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III a.

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

a. Unusual news items.

The following editorial and advertisements are taken from The Belzoni Item of Thursday, April 13, 1916; Mr. N. A. Mott, Editor and Proprietor.

EDITORIAL

"The Legislature"

"The Legislature that adjourned last Saturday, was a notable one in many respects. It was notable for its length of fourteen weeks, notable for its conflicts between the "tightwads" and the progressives, notable for its vetoes and overriding vetoes, three at one session, and notable for the constructive measures passed.

Among other measures, it perfected the State banking law that was passed by the last Legislature, it strengthened the prohibition laws of the State, it created a pardoning board and a State Equalization Board, it created a commission to study the financial situation of Mississippi and report to the next Legislature, it created a State reformatory though it left it without means to begin, it authorized the issue of bonds for the proper celebration of the centennial next year, and also to restore the old capitol. Many

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

other good measures were enacted into laws, though there were some bad ones also among the number.

On the whole it was a strong Legislature. It came in for its share of criticism, as all Legislatures do. It is easier to criticize than it is to do constructive work. Any one can criticize, while but few can follow unbeaten paths."

Local advertising in above edition includes:

Improved Express Cotton Seed For Sale - G. W. Meek - Belzoni.

Shapero Brothers - Dry Goods - Belzoni.

The Belzoni Lumber Yard - Belzoni.

J. S. Savage - Attorney-at-Law - Belzoni.

T. B. Davis - Dentist - Belzoni.

Peerless Plumbing & Electric Company - Belzoni.

Belzoni Hardware & Furniture Company - Belzoni.

The Jackson Company - Belzoni.

Reference: The Belzoni Item of April 13, 1916.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 6, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III a.

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

a. Unusual news items.

The following articles and advertisements are taken from The Delta New Era of Friday, August 8, 1913; Mr. Alva L. Marshall, Editor and Publisher.

"The News collapsed some months ago,

The Journal the other day;

But the New Era hangs the latch string
out,

And says we've come to stay."

EDITORIAL

"GREETING"

"The initial number of The Delta New Era is before you. You will do the publisher a favor by reading it carefully, so that you may see for yourself whether or not it is worthy of your approval.

No discussion is needed as to whether Belzoni needs a

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

newspaper or not; the need is expressed openly and daily. But remember, no newspaper, local or otherwise, can live and be a power for good in the community in which it is published, without the financial and moral support of the people to whom it caters.

Constant reference to the past numerous failures in the local field are debilitating. The success of the Delta New Era is assured; the most potent cause of former failures having been removed.

In passing judgment be impartial. You do not compare our little country stores with the large city mercantile establishments with employees running into the thousands. Why should you compare a one-man country newspaper to the metropolititan publication with three hundred printers and writers? All we ask is that you "tote fair." We promise to do so.

The best way to show your approval and pledge your support is to have your name placed on the subscription list. One "big iron" "In God we trust" goes further toward success than many flattering comments and works of praise. The praise may be sincere; the dollar is sure to be.

Alva L. Marshall."

Local advertising in above edition includes:

A. M. Levy & Company, General Merchandise - Belzoni.

Crescent Theatre - First Class Motion Pictures - Belzoni.

Reference: The Delta New Era of August 8, 1913.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 6, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III - a

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS - OTHER PUBLICATIONS

A. Unusual newsitem

The following editorial was taken from the Belzoni Banner of April 28, 1927:

NINETEEN YEARS OLD APRIL 28, 1927

"In an early spring day in the month of April, 1906 there was ushered into the journalistic areas the Belzoni Banner. But history does not tell who owned it, and who edited it. It has been through many trials and tribulations, and today it is facing something that has never come to it before -- a mighty flood of water, which is coming from the break of the Mississippi River levee at Stops' Landing, near Scott, Miss.. We are writing this on a dry floor, April 28, and which promises in a few days to be covered with several feet of water. We do not know what the outcome will be to our town. We do know much suffering will be entailed upon our people. We hope and pray it will not be a disastrous flood as far as human life is concerned; we know that it will be a disastrous one as far as finances are concerned and we feel to know that many will suffer financially which will take years to recover. It is an indisputable fact that man proposes and God disposes, and all the inventions of man is but a straw in strength

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

to the mighty force of water. There is nothing that can combat it; man is a mere pigmy when he tries to harness natural gigantic power. The mighty Father of waters has been held in leash since 1912, but rains everywhere added to his strength and he cruelly wreaked death and disaster to the fair states of Missouri, Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana. The loss in money will never be known; neither will the loss of life; towns in the path of the resistless water were as a 'scrap of paper' and were carried out by the current, and it will take ages for them to recover their pristine glory.

Pardon us from straying away from the theme, but we can but think of the perilous times that are to come and will be ours for the next six weeks or two months; water everywhere; people suffering; death stalking in the wake of the flood.

The Banner, if possible, will carry on. And we would ask that all under the circumstances, not to get panicky, be calm, and when there is work to do, work. For it is now that we do not need shirkers.

We will say that if the Banner and the writer survive the flood that is sweeping down upon us we will heartedly, tho financially hurt; enter our nineteenth year, not down-pessimistic, tho badly damaged, asking the people to remember that 'God acts in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform', and perhaps this visitation will be the beginning of a happier more prosperous life; men and women filled with the divine spirit of love, having been placed on the same level by the flood waters that an Omnipotent and All-wise God

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

let come upon us, and perhaps it will cause us to love each other more, and make us do more for each other. When disaster comes it makes us sympathize with each other.

Yes, we are nineteen years old. August 18, 1916, the first paper ever edited by this writer was printed in a little tin shack standing where the Robert Prickett Insurance agency is now. Then we had about 1,100 people in town, no concrete walks to speak of, no streets, dust in summer and mud in winter, and today we are a city with 4000 people, good concrete and gravelled streets. Verily the town has improved, and the Banner has improved. At the time it was a small affair; to-day it is one of the best offices in the State, and the Banner is second to no paper in the wide domain of Mississippi. It has been the spokesman of the county, of Belzoni, of the people. It deserves your influence and your support. We know when we said this in 1916 we told the truth. Here is what he printed in the first issue he edited in Belzoni.

'In assuming the management and local editorship of the Banner we make but two promises. One is, we will give you the best we are capable of producing. We have been in the field many years and flatter ourselves that we know how to manage and edit a paper, and we believe we can do this to the liking of the people of Belzoni.

We come among you to make our home. We trust so to live as to merit your friendship and patronage. We propose to conduct a clean, readable newspaper -- a paper you can carry into your home and read to your children. Hoping to merit your patronage, your good will, your friendship, and promising we will hold up our end and work for

Humphreys County, Texas

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

the best interest of Belzoni and her people.'

How well we have done this, you know. We have made the Banner a success. You good people have honored the writer in many ways, for which we sincerely thank you. It was through your patronage that the Banner has been established on a firm basis; it was through you and by you that you have honored the writer ^{with} by a seat in the legislature; it was through you and by you we were sent on the 'Know Mississippi Better' train; it was by you and through you that we gained a host of loyal and tried friends. No matter what comes to us, in the future, the writer will ever hold the good people of Belzoni and Humphreys County in the highest esteem.

This was written before the flood waters reached Belzoni, and now while in a room in a home at Yazoo, we pen this last paragraph, and conclude with this 'faint heart ne'er won fair lady', and our good county is the 'fair lady', we now have to toil and work for. Let's roll up our sleeves and go to it."

Belzoni Banner - April 28, 1927 -- Reference.

Mannie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III a.

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

a. Unusual news items.

The following article is taken from The Delta New Era of August 15, 1913; Alvin L. Marshall, Editor and Publisher.

"REPORT OF MONTHLY MEETING TOWN BOARD"

"The regular monthly meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen was held at the Mayor's office in the city hall building, on the night of August 5th, all members being present.

The following accounts were allowed:

L. S. Bradley, Agent	\$ 130 81
L. S. Bradley, Agent	144 27
L. S. Bradley, Agent	75 06
W. E. Watson	2 51
Bank of Belzoni	3 10
Bank of Belzoni	3 10
School teachers	175 00
Frank Parker	15 00
B. L. Cheatham	90
J. J. Sissloff	6 25

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J. J. Sissloff	\$ 9 75
J. J. Sissloff	16 65
Citizens Bank & Trust Company	45 15
G. W. Meek	12 00
Cumberland Telephone & Telegraph Company	3 90
J. A. Finley	1 50
John King	33 93
A. Cullander	34 70
C. L. Primrose	9 75
Southern Coal Company	159 57
George D. Barnard & Company	6 91
Mississippi Printing Company	3 50
Clark & Coats	8 23
Natl Refining Company	41 35
Ahrens & Ott Manufacturing Company	45 51
Crane Company	42 18
Electric Supply Company	185 73
Belzoni Fur Company	12 75
G. W. Meek	33 00
Consumers Ice & Power Company	3 50
L. D. Hamberlin	12 30
L. D. Hamberlin	22 25
L. D. Hamberlin	18 00
Total	<u>\$1407 51</u>

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Humphreys County
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The following accounts presented, not allowed:

Belzoni Fur & Hardware Company	\$ 2 80
Belzoni Fur & Hardware Company	6 05
J. A. Marshall	2 00

Permission was granted the Southern Railroad to lay a track across South Street east of their present river track.

Mayor Knotts submitted his docket report. J. E. Aldrich, C. Mechatto and Sam Cerame asked to have their fines remitted. The docket was approved and the fines permitted to stand.

Water Commissioners D. C. McKelvy and A. Cullander reported a pump needed to repair plant.

A. L. Marshall made proposal to do the Town printing at the following rate: Legal printing, first insertion one cent a word and each subsequent insertion one-half cent a word; five dollars allowed and rejected to be published but annual statement not included. Proposal accepted.

The Mayor was authorized to appoint a man to take a census of the town.

The Clerk was instructed to have the assessment rolls of 1913 ready for the September meeting of the Board.

The Mayor was authorized to appoint a committee to look into the matter of a sanitary cess pool at the school house, and proceed to construct same, at their discretion. Following committee appointed: W. Brumfield, D. C. McKelvy, C. L. Primrose and J. J. Sissloff.

Marshall L. D. Hamberlin tendered his resignation, to take

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effect at once. Accepted.

Mayor was authorized to appoint an officer to serve until the Board shall appoint an officer to serve until Mr. Hamberlin's successor is elected and qualifies.

Board went into executive session to receive preliminary report of Auditor D. D. Ewing.

Meeting continued to Aug. 6th.

Jeff Clark,

Clerk.

Continued meeting of August 6th, 1913:

This being a regular continued meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Belzoni, Miss.

Present, Mayor W. S. Knotts, Aldermen, C. L. Primrose, A. Cullander, Willis Brumfield, R. Jackson.

By a vote of the Board, Mayor Knotts was appointed a committee of one to make an effort to adjust certain claims due the town on securities, as shown by report of the auditor.

William Hagan was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by resignation of Marshall Hamberlin, appointment to continue until Mr. Hamberlin's successor is elected and qualifies.

T. L. Gilmer, R. L. Hollingsworth and J. L. Bain were appointed commissioners to hold a special election August 18, to fill the office of Town Marshal, J. L. Bain to have prepared the ballots to be used in said election.

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Humphreys County
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The following order was passed:

"The qualified electors of the Town of Belzoni, Mississippi, are hereby notified that a special election will be held on the 18th day of August, A. D. 1913, at the Town Hall in the Town of Belzoni, Mississippi, for the purpose of electing the successor of L. B. Hamberlin, resigned, in the office of Marshal of said Town. Said election to be governed by the provisions of Chapter 119 of the Mississippi Code of 1906 and acts of the Mississippi Legislature amendatory thereto, so far as same are applicable.

Polls to open at 9 o'clock A. M. and close at 6 o'clock P. M. This the 6th day of August, A. D. 1913."

Mayor Knotts was authorized to make settlement with D. D. Ewing as soon as he completes work of auditing town books.

Meeting adjourned.

Jeff Clark,

Clerk."

Reference: The Delta New Era of August 15, 1913.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 4, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Canvasser: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III - a

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

III - a. Unusual news items:

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner of February 7, 1914:

SUSPECTS ARRESTED
AND LODGED IN JAIL

Negroes Suspected of Murdering "Uncle Billy" Winn

THE NEGROES LIVED ON PLACE

Tony Franklin, and Foster, Lemuel
and Jones Hatchett Are Now Being Held

"Sheriff Garnett, of Indianola, several days ago arrested a number of negroes charged with the murder of "Uncle Billy" Winn, at his home a week ago last Thursday night, a report of which appeared in this paper at the time.

The crime was a most atrocious one, and was evidently committed for the purpose of robbery. Mr. Winn was known to keep his money concealed about his home or premises, and it is believed that the negroes, who lived in the neighborhood, thought that his money was hidden somewhere about the house, and killed him in the hope of securing it.

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M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Whether they succeeded in their purpose is not yet known. After they committed the bloody deed, which was done by striking him in the head with an axe, the fiends covered the head with a woolen blanket and set fire to the house. When the crime was discovered the next morning, the lower part of the body was charred, but the presence of the wool blanket over the murdered head preserved it from the flames, and thus revealed the manner of his death.

The negroes on the place were questioned closely. One old negro woman, Aunt Vinie Green, who is said to be 107 years old, was the first thought to know something of the affair, as she had lived on the place with Mr. Winn for many years, but she was allowed to go, as nothing was developed to show that she knew anything about the murder.

Other negroes who lived in the neighborhood were Tony Franklin, and Foster, Lemuel and Jones Hatchett, and after keeping them under surveillance for several days, Sheriff Garnett arrested them and lodged them in jail at Indianola, where they will be held pending further investigation.

Mr. Winn lived at Four Mile, ten miles north of Belzoni, and was a bachelor. It is known that he did not keep his money in banks, and it has long been his practice to hide his money somewhere on the place. Whether his murderers discovered the hidden treasure and got away with it is not known, but it is hardly probable that they did, or some evidence of the fact would have been discovered by this time. Probably the secret treasure will never be revealed.

Page Three - Unusual new items
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Mr. Winn's nephew Mr. Sam H. Winn of Jackson (Belzoni), is well known here, and he also has another nephew Mr. O. Winn, who is a resident of Belzoni."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - February 7, 1914.

In conversation with Mr. Sam H. Winn relative to the foregoing article, he says that he doubts if the crime was really committed by these negroes. He, personally, made a thorough investigation of this crime and is of the opinion that it was executed by a white man.

Owing to the prominence of the Winn family, public feeling was for a time very acute.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 6, 1937

Topic: Outstanding Editorials

Assignment No. 21

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. III (a - b)

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS--OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- a. Unusual news items.
- b. Unusual social items.

The following articles and advertisements are taken from The Belzoni Banner of February 7, 1914; Mr. Frank R. Birdsall, Editor and owner.

EDITORIAL

"You Help The Banner: The Banner Will Help You."

"This is the first issue of the Banner under the new ownership and management. While this paper is not all we had hoped to make it, we believe we may be pardoned for saying that it will compare favorable with most papers published in a town the size of Belzoni. It takes time to get any new business in perfect working order, and after we get things systemized, and everything working smoothly, we hope to give the people of Belzoni and surrounding country a paper that will be worthy of the enterprise and progress of the town.

The success of the paper will depend entirely upon the support that is given it. We believe that the merchants and businessmen generally here recognize the potent power of a live

newspaper in building up the town, and the best efforts of the management of the Banner will be directed toward the development of every industry here.

There will be a gradual expansion of the news service of the paper, and to this end, we ask the friends of the paper to telephone in any items of news that they may know. We want to make the Banner essentially a local newspaper, and every item of this sort that we can get hold of will be printed.

A vigorous circulation campaign is being planned, and as soon as the details can be worked out, the work will be started in the confident belief that the Banner will be a visitor to every home in the trade territory of Belzoni. When this shall have been accomplished there will be splendid advertising medium for the local merchants of Belzoni, and they will find it very profitable to use the columns of the Banner to reach the buyers of this section. Two hundred extra copies of this issue are being circulated, and this increase in the list will be maintained, so that local merchants may reach a large buying clientele right now.

Help the Banner, and the Banner will help you. Give us your advertising, subscriptions and job printing, and we will put the money right back into the paper in improved service."

SOCIAL ITEM

"Program Woman's Club, Feb. 4. "

"The Woman's Club held its regular bi-monthly meeting with Mrs. Robert Jackson, on Central Avenue, Wednesday, Feb. 4. One of the important business features was to unanimously elect Mrs. M. A. Toney as an honorary member. She was present at the first meeting of the club when it was organized in 1903. Quickly dispatching all business, the evening was given up to literature and music. Beethoven, the great, blind musician, was the subject of study.

A paper on the "Birth and Childhood of Beethoven" was read by Mrs. Regenal. Mrs. Wadlington took his life up from childhood to manhood, giving education, environment, etc.

Mrs. Knotts discussed his character in a very interesting way.

Mrs. J. S. Jackson had a paper on his compositions, giving the nature, numbers and line of thoughts.

Mrs. Robert Jackson discussed his declining years and death.

The literary work, was interspersed with a vocal duet by Mrs. Higdon and Mrs. Brumfield, entitled "The Hour That Gavest Me You."

Song, "Sweet Genevieve," by Mrs. Payne, was accompanied by Mrs. Robert Jackson. Mrs. Payne also gave an instrumental solo. For an encore she played "Sparkling Gems."

After this the hostess gave a musical contest. Turning the

Humphreys County Press

Page Four - Outstanding Editorials
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

guests from the piano, she played snatches of favorite music, the contestants guessing the names. Miss Gladys Cooper received the consolation prize. The charming hostess then served refreshments, making one of the pleasantest evenings of the many pleasant evenings the club women have spent this winter."

Local advertising in above edition includes:

O. J. Turner - Belzoni. (*Turner's Drug Store*)

The Nelson House - Mrs. J. N. Nelson, Proprietor - Belzoni.

Dr. I. W. Ellis - Veterinary Surgeon and Dentist - Belzoni.

Valliant Hardware Company - Belzoni.

Willis Brumfield - Real Estate & Insurance; Notary Public - Belzoni.

Professional:

N. W. Sumrall - Lawyer - Belzoni.

W. S. Knotts - Lawyer - Belzoni.

John D. Spiller - Accountant; Expert Stenographer - Belzoni.

T. E. Mortimer - Lawyer - Belzoni.

James A. Finley - Attorney-at-Law - Belzoni.

D. A. Mecklin - Dentist - Belzoni.

Montgomery, Birdsong & Montgomery - Attorneys & Counselors at Law; Real Estate - Belzoni.

Reference: The Belzoni Banner of February 7, 1914.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 16, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

SUBJECT: THE BAR

It is said that at one time the Devil, by some trick, demolished the wall between heaven and hell.

This was not pleasing to inhabitants of the better land who insisted that the wall be rebuilt. His Satanic Majesty, however, remained firm in his refusal.

It was finally proposed that a lawyer be retained to institute proceedings against him. But even this could not be done, for, as one member of the blessed abode said, "They are all down there", pointing to the Devil's domain.

Reference: Belzoni Banner - October 18, 1918.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 11, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

SUBJECT: THE BAR

Present Members of Humphreys County Bar:

Victor Bernard Montgomery - *Belzoni, Miss.*
Needham W. Sumrall ✓
Richard Henry Nason ✓
Charles M. Murphy ✓
Lucian Ray Wadlington ✓
John Arthur Mortimer ✓
Hamlett F. Jones ✓
Linton G. North ✓
William D. Womack ✓
Lewis F. Owen ✓
Percy Allen of Isola *Miss.*

NOTE: Although well qualified for the practice of law, Mr. Percy Allen of Isola confines his interest chiefly to farming.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
NOV. 24, 1937

Topic: Lawyers of 1922

Assignment #27

Members of the Humphreys County Bar in August 1922 - at the time the Souvenir Edition of the Belzoni Banner was printed were:

M. G. Blackwell,	Belzoni, Miss.
Jesse D. Jones,	"
C. M. Murphy,	"
V. B. Montgomery,	"
R. H. Nason,	"
W. A. Parsons,	"
N. W. Sumrall,	"
H. F. Jones,	"
John A. Sykes,	"
W. D. Womack,	"
T. E. Mortimer,	"

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Ref: Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner
Aug - 10, 1922

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 10, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

Enumerators: Kate J. Barrett
Mamie G. Cartledge

SUBJECT: THE BAR

V. B. Montgomery - Belzoni, Miss.:

Gifted with a broad and understanding nature, Mr. Victor B. Montgomery renders valuable service to the community through activities that touch not only the business life of the county, but its social and religious life as well. A valuable type of citizen, Mr. Montgomery has, since becoming a resident of Belzoni in 1919, thrown himself wholeheartedly into the development of his home city, his county and this section of the Delta in general. He has not only achieved outstanding success for himself as an attorney, but his effort toward the upbuilding and progress of the county have been reflected in the lives of many of its citizens.

Although not politically inclined, Mr. Montgomery takes an active interest in public affairs. His native gift of foresight and genial, courteous nature have won for him a high standing in his profession, and keep him as one of the people among whom he lives. He possesses a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of law, testimony of his love for his profession being manifested in the splendidly equipped library of law and general literature with which he has surrounded himself.

Page Two - V. B. Montgomery (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Mr. Montgomery is a native of Yazoo, a neighboring County. Born in 1890 the son of W. A. and Sallie Warren Montgomery, he attended the public schools of Yazoo City, graduating in 1906. Supplementing his literary course, he entered Mississippi College from which he received his B. A. degree with honors in 1909. Pursuing his professional training at the University of Mississippi, he finished his law course with the class of 1913, receiving his L. L. B. degree and again winning for himself special distinction. The promise of his student days has been amply justified in the career of Mr. Montgomery.

Upon completion of his law course, Mr. Montgomery began the practice of his profession at Gulfport in 1914. He came to Belzoni soon after the creation of Humphreys County in 1918, and has long since become a definite part of the business and social life of the county.

At Silver City in 1920, Mr. Montgomery was married to Miss Nola Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Campbell, early settlers of Silver City. Mrs. Montgomery is ever a gentle and valuable helpmate to her husband and shares his interest in all social and religious activities. As members of the Methodist Church, the influence of both Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery is widely felt in church circles of the community.

Although an outstanding member of the local bar, Mr. Montgomery does not confine his business interests to the practice of law alone. In 1928 he became president of the Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Belzoni which under his capable direction remained as one of the strongest financial institutions of the State throughout the general

Page Three - V. B. Montgomery (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

business depression of the past several years. Mr. Montgomery is well known in financial circles of the State and enjoys the distinction of being an astute financier.

Fraternally, he has been a member of Kappa Alpha for many years, and is an enthusiastic leader among the local Rotarians. His personality is marked with pleasantness at all times, and his social qualities as well as his professional hold for him a place of high regard in the heart of his home people. He has won fairly his position as a leader in all that pertains to the best interest of this section of the State.

References: Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner - Aug. 10, 1922.
Mr. V. B. Montgomery - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, B. R.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 11, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

SUBJECT: THE BAR

Needham W. Sumrall - Belzoni, Miss.:

Parents --- Joseph and Elizabeth Wilson Sumrall

Birth Date --- Feb. 1, 1875

Place of birth --- On a farm near Hazelhurst in Covich County

Education --- See following article

Began practice --- See following article

Married --- In 1907 (See following article)

Political positions --- Elected to Lower House of Legislature from Washington County in 1907 - serving four years. In 1911 elected as State Senator from Washington County - serving until 1916. Appointed (by Gov. Bilbo) Prosecuting Attorney of Humphreys County in 1918 and elected to this office in 1919. Served as City Attorney for 16 consecutive years. Again elected County Prosecuting Attorney in 1927 - serving until 1932.

Children --- Joseph, Margaret and James Samuel

Church affiliations --- Baptist

The following article was taken from Belzoni Banner of August 10, 1922:

NEEDHAM W. SUMRALL

Prosecuting Attorney

"On February 1, 1875, on a farm in Covich County, near Hazelhurst a red headed youngster was born in the home of Mr. and Mrs.

Page Two - Needham W. Sumrall
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Joseph Sumrall, and the fond parents knowing they would need him in years to come very properly named him Needham, and he bears that name today. When he reached the proper age he was sent to the public schools of Covich County, and then after going as high as the schools of the county would take him, he entered Mississippi Normal College at Houston, where he graduated in the year, 1899 with the B. S. degree. Going back to the place of his nativity he taught the natives the rudiments of an English education until 1902, when he took special work for one year in Mississippi College. After teaching two more years he entered Millsaps College in 1904, and in May, 1905 graduated in law, and at once entered upon the duties that fall to the followers of Blackstone, coming immediately to Belzoni where he hung out his shingle. After remaining in Belzoni for a couple of years he was united in marriage to Miss Lena Jackson, a sister to Dr. J. S., Geo. C. and J. W. Jackson. This same year he became a candidate for the lower house of the Legislature representing Washington County, and was elected, serving the county four years. In 1911 he was called upon to run for State Senator from Washington County, and served until 1916. When the county of Humphreys was created he was appointed Prosecuting Attorney by Gov. Bilbo, and in 1919 was elected to succeed himself. Barring, probably two years, Mr. Sumrall has served in the capacity of City Attorney for about sixteen consecutive years, and has been a great help to the city when questions of a legal nature came up. Mr. Sumrall is well versed in law, knows it, for he has made a study of it, and when asked any legal question he is right there with the

Humphreys County, Bar

Page Three - Needham W. Sumrall
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

right answer. He is no orator when it comes to prosecuting a case,
but he delivers severe and steady jolts, and usually carries his
point."

References: Mr. N. W. Sumrall - Belzoni, Miss.
Belzoni Banner - August 10, 1922

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 11, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

SUBJECT: THE BAR

R. H. Nason - Belzoni, Miss.:

Parents --- Richard Henry and Ada C. Beard Nason.

Birth Date --- August 2, 1893.

Birth Place --- Dubard, Miss. - Grenada County.

Early Education --- Graduated Grenada High School 1912.

Law Course --- University of Mississippi 1912-1917, receiving B.S.
and L.L.D. degrees.

Entered army in 1917 remaining until 1919. Entered as private
and rose to 2nd Lieutenant.

Married --- Willola Parsons, daughter of Hon. and Mrs. W. A. Parsons
of Summit, Mississippi at Edwards House in Jackson in
September, 1917.

Children --- Seven children.

Began practice --- February, 1919 at Belzoni.

Political positions --- Served as County Attorney 1924-1928. Has
been City Attorney for a number of years. Is present Probation
Officer of Humphreys County.

Other business affiliations --- President Board of Trustees Belzoni
High School. Member of Humphreys County Levee Board.

Fraternalities --- 32nd degree Mason and Shriner.

Church affiliations --- Methodist Church.

Remarks --- Mr. Nason is one of Belzoni's most successful attorneys.
Retiring in nature, and a hard worker. He has built up a
splendid practice. *a man of high integrity*

Reference: Mr. R. H. Nason - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Be

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 23, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

Enumerator: Constance P. Embry

Item No. 1, 2, 3.

SUBJECT: THE BAR

Mr. Charles M. Murphy - Belzoni, Miss.:

Mr. C. M. Murphy, well known member of the local bar, engaged in practice at Belzoni, and a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee, is a son of Paul H. and Cornelia P. Murphy of Holmes County. He was born August 23, 1891 at Durant, Mississippi.

Mr. Murphy obtained his elementary schooling in the public schools of Mississippi, in which are included Clarksdale, Durant and Pickens. After finishing high school at Memphis, he completed his literary course in a preparatory school at Evanon, Tennessee. He received the degrees of B.S. and LL.B. from the University of Mississippi, passing the state bar examination in 1917.

Beginning practice at Lexington, Miss., in 1919 Mr. Murphy moved to Belzoni where he became associated with Judge J. M. Cashin, continuing until January 1st, 1921 at which time the partnership was dissolved. For fourteen years Mr. Murphy practiced law alone, being joined in 1935 by Lucian R. Wadlington, who is still a member of the firm.

Fraternally, Mr. Murphy is affiliated with the Masonic order, being also a member of Kappa Phi. Until 1927 he was a member of the

Page Two - C. M. Murphy (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

local Rotary Club. He is a member of the Methodist Church and a steward of the Belzoni church of that denomination.

In 1918, Mr. Murphy was married to Miss Rose Gwin Durden whose death occurred on March 30, 1931. His second union was with Miss Lelia Mae Baker on June 21, 1932. Mr. Murphy has four children: ^{Chas. M.} (Pat.) Jr.; Betty; Paul Baker; and Patricia Ann.

Mr. Murphy possesses a keen intellect and ability of the highest order. His acute mind, coupled with power of analysis, enables him to present a cause before the court and jury with clearness, logic and force. Mr. Murphy is well regarded among his fellowmen and enjoys a large practice in this section of the Delta.

Mr. Murphy is affectionately known to his friends and the majority of his clients as "Pat". Gifted with an inspiring personality and keen business acumen, he stands high in the confidence of all who entrust to him the handling of their legal affairs.

As is often the case, a bit of humor found its way into the court-room several years ago when Mr. Murphy was representing a local Jewish merchant. In the course of the trial, the prosecuting attorney ^{had} on cross examination hemmed the Jew in to the point of irritation. When appealing glances in the direction of Mr. Murphy failed to bring the desired relief, the witness in a moment of desperation, cried out: "Pat, vy don't you said something?"

Reference: C. M. Murphy - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

(See following sheet)

Humphreys County, Bar

Page Three - C. M. Murphy (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner of
January 27, 1927:

C. M. MURPHY APPOINTED
SPECIAL JUDGE BY GOVERNOR

"On Sunday of this week Attorney C. M. Murphy, of the local bar, was appointed special circuit court judge in the fifth judicial circuit, when the case of H. H. Hamberlin, charged with murder will be tried before him. The case is set for today in Grenada, Judge Bruce D. Newsom being disqualified. Attorney Murphy left early this morning to assume the responsibilities of the judge in this case.

The many friends of Mr. Murphy congratulate him on the honor bestowed upon him by Governor Whitfield, and feel to know that it is a merited one, for Mr. Murphy knows the law thoroughly, and is competent to sit as a judge upon any case."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - January 27, 1927

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 23, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

SUBJECT: THE BAR

Lucian Ray Wadlington - Belzoni, Miss.:

PARENTS: James A. and Hallie Eckford Wadlington.

BIRTH DATE: October 15, 1910.

BIRTH PLACE: New Orleans, Louisiana.

EARLY EDUCATION: Graduated Belzoni High School in 1926.

LAW COURSE: University of Mississippi, receiving B.S. and LL. B. degrees in 1934.

BEGAN PRACTICE: In Belzoni with W. D. Womack for four months. IN 1935 became a partner of C. M. Murphy also of Belzoni. Still associated with Mr. Murphy.

MARRIED: No.

FRATERNITIES: Sigma Chi Fraternity.

CHURCH AFFILIATIONS: Member of Baptist Church of Belzoni.

REMARKS: Mr. Wadlington, member of pioneer family, although the youngest member of the local bar, has already enjoyed much success in his profession. His future gives every assurance of being a most promising one, for he possesses those qualities which invariably pave the way to a successful career. *A model young man - retiring in manner but energetic and keen.*

Reference: L. R. Wadlington - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Miss.
Bare

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 23, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

Enumerator: Constance P. Embry

Item No. 1, 2, 3.

SUBJECT: THE BAR

Hamlet F. Jones - Belzoni, Miss.:

Mr. H. F. Jones was born and reared in Louisville, Winston County, Mississippi. He attended the high school of Louisville, then entered Millsaps College, and studied law under his father at Louisville.

Mr. Jones was married to Mrs. Alice Semmes Taylor of Sardis, Mississippi in 1909, whose charming manner and vivacious personality have won for her many friends.

Having taken a stenographic course, the first two or three years after passing the bar examination Mr. Jones held clerical positions. Locating first at Greenwood, Mississippi as an attorney, he formed a partnership with Hon. L. M. Southworth, later joining his father in legal practice at Louisville. He came to Belzoni in 1918, about the time of the creation of Humphreys County, forming a partnership with W. S. Knotts, who was actively engaged in the practice of law and was at that time in the legislature of Washington County. Mr. Knotts was largely instrumental in creating the county, and Mr. Jones formed a partnership in time to lend aid in furthering the creation and organization of the new county. The firm represented the

Page Two - H. F. Jones (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

county in the fight ^{with} against Yazoo County, ^{which followed creation of} and it was through Mr. Knotts and Mr. Jones that the question of finances was settled with Sunflower, Yazoo, Holmes, Sharkey and Washington Counties.

Mr. Jones was attorney for the Board of Supervisors of Humphreys County during the years 1918, 1919 and 1920, being succeeded by Mr. V. B. Montgomery, who still holds this position.

Mr. Jones has neither held nor desired political positions, but instead devoted his entire time to the study and practice of law. He has enjoyed a good practice for thirty-five or thirty-six years, the majority of which time he has practiced alone, and has won many verdicts favorable to the interests of his clients. Mr. Jones is retiring in his nature and regarded as an exemplary citizen.

Reference: H. F. Jones - Belzoni, Miss.

W. S. Knotts - Wisner, Louisiana:

Mr. H. F. Jones pays a glowing tribute to Mr. W. S. Knotts, former Belzoni attorney and his beloved associate in the practice of law at one time.

Mr. Knotts, who gained for himself an enviable position in both professional and civic circles of this community, first came to Belzoni as a bookkeeper. He later studied law and passed the bar examination. Thoroughly familiarizing himself with the fundamental

Humphreys County, Bzr

Page Three - W. S. Knotts (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

principles of law enabled him to further both business and civic activities for the development and betterment of Humphreys County which took up the best portion of his life.

Mr. Knotts being of Scotch-Irish descent, no doubt, played an important part in his being able to accumulate property and become financially independent. In 1920 he retired from the legal profession, entering the cotton business. It was during this time that he and his associates bought a large tract of land in Peck, Louisiana. Because of declining health, Mr. Knotts was compelled to retire from active duties, leaving Belzoni to reside in New Mexico for awhile.

Later he and his family moved to Wisner, Louisiana where his sons, Ted and Walter, now have management of his large planting interests.

Mr. Knotts was a devoted member of the Belzoni Methodist Church, his public and private life were exemplary of sterling citizenship. Mr. and Mrs. Knotts are still held in affectionate regard in the hearts of their large circle of old friends in Humphreys County.

Reference: Mr. H. F. Jones - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 11, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

SUBJECT: THE BAR

L. G. North - Belzoni, Miss.: (*Linton G. North*)

Parents --- Royal E. and Kate M. North

Birth Date --- May 14, 1893

Birthplace --- Vicksburg, Miss.

Early Education --- Vicksburg, Graduated High School 1911

Literary Course --- Mississippi State College (Then Mississippi A & M)

Law Course --- Passed Mississippi State Bar in 1930 (No professional *college* training)

Began practice (when and where) --- 1930 at Belzoni

Political positions held (when and where) --- State Senator 1928 to 1932 Humphreys and Sunflower Counties

Church Affiliations --- Baptist

Fraternities --- Masonic, Knights of Pythias, Elks, Member Beta Tau Chapter Kappa Alpha at Mississippi State College

Married --- Miss Allie Mai Darden, daughter of H. A. Darden and Mary Nannie Darden of Blanton, Mississippi

Children --- Two boys, Linton Darden and Royal Early North II

Other business connections --- Was engaged in general insurance business from 1915 to 1930 with sidelines of farming and sawmilling. Secretary and Business Manager of Mississippi State College from 1930 to 1932.

Humphreys County, B&E

The following article appeared in the Belzoni Banner of
July 10, 1930:

HON. L. G. NORTH APPOINTED

"Hon. L. G. North, State Senator from this county, was appointed Secretary of A. and M. College. This was one of the richest plums that could have been plucked off the financial allotment as issued by Gov. Bilbo and Mr. North's many friends congratulate him in the appointment to this office.

Mr. North has been a consistent and energetic supporter of Gov. Bilbo, and he was entitled to one of the juicy plums. Mr. North has not yet made any definite arrangements regarding his business at this point, however, he will move to Starkville in the very near future.

The position in which Mr. North was appointed is one of the most important offices at A. and M.."

Reference: Belzoni Banner of July 10, 1930

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner of
August 7, 1930:

ADMITTED TO BAR

"At a recent meeting of the State Bar Examiners, in Jackson, Hon. L. G. North and John Arthur Mortimer were granted license to practice law. Their many friends congratulate them."

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 15, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

SUBJECT: THE BAR

Willie David Womack - Belzoni, Miss.:

"Willie David Womack of Belzoni, Humphreys County, Mississippi, was born February 5, 1887, in Meadville, Franklin County, Mississippi, the son of William Hayes and Celia (Kyle) Womack, the former having reached the age of sixty-eight years, and the latter was the daughter of Robert Monroe Kyle, a native of Copiah County, Mississippi. Her demise occurred in 1901, when she was thirty-five years old. The paternal grandparents were David Daniel and Polly Hayes Womack, who were of Irish descent and who lived in Franklin County, Mississippi. David Daniel Womack served the entire period of the Civil War with credit to himself and to the south.

Mr. Womack received his elementary education in the public and high schools of Franklin County, Mississippi, and attended Millsaps College at Jackson, Mississippi, from which he was graduated in 1912, with the degree of LL. B. He began the practice of law at the Brookhaven, Mississippi, bar in the same year and practiced continuously until 1917, when he enlisted in the United States navy for service in the World War, and served in the navy until after the close of the war. He joined the navy as a hospital apprentice, second class. His ability and integrity being recognized by his superiors, he was

Humphreys County, Bar

Page Two - Willie David Womack (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

promoted from time to time until he attained the high and responsible position of special agent, and was serving in that capacity at the close of the war. After being discharged from the service of the government he located for the practice of his profession in Belzoni, Mississippi, in 1920.

As a lawyer his ability is recognized by the bar and the bench and he enjoys a lucrative practice and the esteem and confidence of the people, is eminently successful in his profession and is recognized as one of the leading lawyers of the state.

Mr. Womack, in addition to his profession as a lawyer, has been and is engaged in railroad and highway construction work with his brother, and planting interests claim a portion of his attention.

Mr. Womack has held public office, representing Lincoln County in the legislature of Mississippi from 1912 to 1916, and attended three sessions of that body. As a legislator his ability was soon recognized as a leader and he is the author of some of the most important laws that we now have upon our statute books. While serving in that body he was one of three members elected by the house of representatives to interview the president of the United States. In every public trust he has proven himself efficient, honest and faithful. Mr. Womack is a man of firm convictions and broad vision and is possessed of that high character which designates a true southern gentleman.

Mr. Womack was married to Miss Irene Williams of Brookhaven, Mississippi, and is the father of five children: Eunice, Hazel, Lura,

Page Three - Willie David Womack (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Harlie Kyle and Willie David, Jr. He is affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and is connected with the Woodmen of the World, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Masonic order and ^{was at one time} is commander of the local American Legion post. He enjoys the esteem of all who know him, and his career, much as it holds of accomplishment, is still rich in promise."

Reference: Mississippi The Heart of the South - Vol. IV, page 122.

NOTE: Mr. Womack still practices successfully his profession at Belzoni. His health, however, has been very bad for the past two or three years.

Mammie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Be

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 23, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

SUBJECT: THE BAR

Assignment No. 27

Lewis F. Owen - Belzoni, Miss.:

PARENTS: Charles F. and Florence Hutchens Owen.

BIRTH DATE: February 20, 1910.

BIRTH PLACE: Belzoni, Mississippi.

EARLY EDUCATION: Graduated Belzoni High School in 1928.

LITERARY COURSE: Attended Ole Miss for three and one-half years
(University of Mississippi.)

LAW COURSE: Passed Mississippi State Bar in 1931 before his
graduation.

BEGAN PRACTICE: In Belzoni with V. B. Montgomery.

MARRIED: Miss Gladiola Branscome ^{of Duck Hill, Miss.} in February, 1935.

CHILDREN: None.

CHURCH AFFILIATION: Member of Baptist Church of Belzoni.

REMARKS: Mr. Owen, member of a pioneer family, is a rising young
attorney. He has many friends, who speak of him in terms of high
regard, and possesses many qualities which insure success in the
legal profession.

Reference: Mr. Lewis F. Owen - Belzoni, Miss.

Following on page two is an article taken from the Belzoni
Banner of September 10, 1931.

Page Two - Lewis F. Owen (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

YOUNG BELZONIAN ADMITTED TO BAR

"Lewis Owen, Belzonian, was notified Tuesday by the State Board
of Law Examiners that he had successfully passed all examinations
requisite to his admission to the practice of law.

Mr. Owen, 21 years old, is a native of this section, a graduate
of Belzoni High School, and a student at the University of Mississippi.
Both in high school and college he has been known as a student of the
first rank, and his admission to the bar even before graduation from
law school is a tribute to his intense study and application. In
college, he has been active in debating and public speaking activities,
thereby fitting himself for the court room or trial scenes that make
up one of the most interesting and important parts of an attorney's
work.

In addition to his legal studies at the University of Mississippi,
Mr. Owen, during the past few months has read law in the office of
V. B. Montgomery, prominent local attorney.

Mr. Owen intends to complete his University education before
entering into active practice of his profession."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - September 10, 1931.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Bar

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 16, 1937

Topic: Lawyers of the
Past

Assignment No. 27
Item No. 1

SUBJECT: THE BAR

Thornton E. Mortimer (deceased) - Belzoni, Miss.:

Thornton E. Mortimer, son of Arthur and Laura Ann Byrd Mortimer, was born June 3, 1877, ^{a few miles west of} near Winona, ⁱⁿ Carroll County, Mississippi. After proper preparatory discipline, he entered Mississippi College, Clinton, and graduated in class of 1899, receiving his B.S. degree. He was principal of Blue Mountain Academy for four years, after which he entered Millsap's law department, graduating in June, 1904 with the degree of Bachelor of Law. Being admitted to the bar in February, 1904, a few months later Mr. Mortimer came to Belzoni and began practice. On July 5, 1905, he married Miss Virginia Bowles, daughter of John S. and Edmonia Rutherford Bowles of Sandy Hook, Virginia, and pioneer settlers of this section.

Mr. Mortimer served for one term as District Attorney, representing Washington, Sunflower, Holmes and Leflore Counties. He proved to be one of the leading attorneys of this section of the Delta, until he met his untimely death by accident.

Reference: Mrs. Virginia Bowles Mortimer - Belzoni, Miss.

Page Two - T. E. Mortimer (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

HON. T. E. MORTIMER
DIES SUDDENLY

Hon. T. E. Mortimer Died
Suddenly At His Home About
1:30 O'Clock This Morning.

"Hon. T. E. Mortimer died suddenly at his home about 1:30 this morning.

Mr. Mortimer had been slightly indisposed for about a week, having suffered severely from the kick of a mule some days ago, but no one thought that he was in a serious condition. This morning about 1:30 when the fire whistle blew he was awakened and was in a very nervous condition and died before any of the physicians could arrive.

Mr. Mortimer has been a resident of Belzoni for 27 years. He was District Attorney for this district for one term and has been more or less politically active. He was one of the leading members of the Baptist Church and has been Superintendent of the Sunday School for years.

Mr. Mortimer was married to Miss Virgie Bowles a number of years ago.

He is survived by his wife and six children.

Up to the present, no funeral arrangements have been made, awaiting the advice of relatives.

A full write up will be given in next weeks issue of the paper."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - October 9, 1930.

Humphreys County, Bar

Page Three - T. E. Mortimer (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

FUNERAL SERVICES
FOR T. E. MORTIMER

Funeral Conducted For Hon. T. E.
Mortimer, Sunday Morning at 10:00 O'Clock From
Baptist Church.-- Masons In Charge

"Last Sunday morning, the funeral of Hon. T. E. Mortimer, who died early Thursday morning, was held from the Baptist Church. The auditorium was filled to its capacity. The service was as follows: Song by the choir after which there was an invocation by Rev. C. A. Pharr, pastor of the Presbyterian Church. He was followed by Rev. S. H. Caffey of the Methodist Church who read the 90th Psalm. Prof. B. P. Brooks paid a glowing tribute to his friend with whom he had been associated for twelve years. During this time Mr. Mortimer was one of the trustees of the school. He spoke of his untiring and unlimited efforts to build up and improve the schools, and also his association with him in various other civic and religious organizations in the city. He was then followed by Hon. Charles E. Mortimer of New York City, brother of the deceased, who paid a glowing tribute to his brother, reciting his life from his childhood through the hard and strenuous years that he put in to get an education. With the many hardships he encountered before he obtained the same. After Mr. Mortimer's remarks, Dr. Crudup read from Mr. Mortimer's Mother's Bible, passages that he had written on during his life time and seemed to know his character in life. Following a special song by Mrs. M. D. Alexander and Mrs. J. M. Powell, Dr. Caswell offered a prayer after which the remains were taken in charge by the Masons and a Masonic funeral was conducted.

Page Four - T. E. Mortimer (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Mr. Mortimer was born 54 years ago near McCarley Station in Carroll County. He had been a resident of Belzoni for the past 27 years. He was married to Miss Virginia Bowles about 26 years ago and to this union they have had seven children which are as follows: John Arthur, T. E. Jr., Mateele, Gladstone, Frances and Charles, and Bowles, deceased. He is also survived by two brothers, Charles of New York. ^{now deceased} Dave of Clarksdale, and one sister of Helena, Ark., all of whom were in attendance at the funeral.

Mr. Mortimer was member of the Belzoni Lodge No. 547 F. and A. M., a 32 degree Mason and belonged to the Delta Consistory at Greenville, also Shriner belonging to the Wahabi Temple at Jackson.

The entire community extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - October 16, 1930

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Ark

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 23, 1937

Topic: Lawyers of the
Past

Assignment No. 27

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. 1, 2, 3.

SUBJECT: THE BAR

James Madison Cashin (deceased)

"James Madison Cashin, whose work on the bench won for him high encomiums, is accorded a position of distinction in the ranks of the legal fraternity of Greenville and has a high conception of the dignity and responsibility of his profession. He was born in Montgomery, Alabama, April 4, 1873, a son of James and Virginia (Emerson) Cashin, also natives of that state, and comes of Irish lineage in the paternal line, while his maternal ancestors were natives of England.

The early education of James Madison Cashin was acquired in his native city and at Louisville, Kentucky, he completed his high school course. He attended the University of Louisville and continued his studies in the Law School at Memphis, Tennessee, from which he won the degree of LL. B. He has engaged in the practice of law since 1899 and before coming to Greenville was connected with railroad operations in Louisville and Memphis. In 1909 Mr. Cashin was called to the bench, becoming judge of the fourth circuit court district of Mississippi, over which he presided until 1912. His decisions were strictly fair and impartial, based upon a comprehensive knowledge of the law and the equity in the case, and were sustained by the higher courts upon

Page Two - J. M. Cashin (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

appeal. Judge Cashin is now engaged in the private practice of law and the reputation which he established as a jurist has brought to him an extensive and representative clientele.

In Greenville, Mississippi, on January 17, 1905, Judge Cashin was married to Miss Eugenia Campbell, a native of Canton, Mississippi, and a daughter of R. B. and Lucy (Daggy) Campbell, also natives of the Bayou state. The former was born in Kosciusko, while the latter was born in Canton, and for many years they have been residents of Greenville. The Judge is affiliated with the Baptist church and gives his political support to the democratic party, while his fraternal relations are with the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. For a quarter of a century he has devoted his talents to the interpretation of the law and his professional colleagues and the general public unite in bearing testimony to his high qualities of mind and heart."

Reference: Mississippi Heart of the South, Vol. III, page 496.

DEATH OF JUDGE J. M. CASHIN.

"Last Friday evening at the King's Daughters Hospital, after a short illness of pneumonia, Judge Cashin died. Judge Cashin was for a number of years one of the outstanding lawyers in the Delta bar and was appointed Judge by Governor E. F. Noel which position he held for a number of years. Judge Cashin was a resident of Belzoni for several years, but returned to Greenville several years ago where he has been

Humphreys County, B&E

Page Three - J. M. Cashin (Lawyer)
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

practicing law. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Eugenia Campbell Cashin, two brothers and one sister. His funeral was conducted Sunday afternoon by the Baptist minister of which church he was a member.

Judge Cashin was leader in the Men's Sunday School Class and was considered one of the best versed men on the Bible in Greenville."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - October 3, 1929.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 23, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

SUBJECT: THE BAR

In the Belzoni Banner of August 21, 1930 appeared the following:

FORMER BELZONIAN AUTHOR
OF SEVERAL BOOKS

LOUIS COCHRAN
By
G. Marion O'Donnell.

"In the Jackson Daily News, a few weeks ago, there appeared a very flattering comment on a young Mississippian who has recently been gaining a reputation in the literary world -- Louis Cochran.

Residents of Belzoni should be especially interested in Mr. Cochran, and in his work, because of the fact that, for several years, he was a resident of this place, practicing law.

Last winter, after several earlier publications in various magazines, Mr. Cochran burst into literary prominence with a collection of fairy tales called 'The Story of the Lowly Gnome'. This thin little volume is entertaining to young and old alike, containing vivid bursts of descriptive power, interesting narrative, and subtle, whimsical, humor, proving that the author is the possessor of an extremely vivid imagination, and a gifted pen.

'The Story of the Lowly Gnome' has been enthusiastically received by the critics throughout the world, one comparing the author to

Humphreys County, B&E

Page Two - Louis Cochran
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Heywood Brown, who happens to be one of the most whimsical and famous of the modern American Authors.

But it is in the forthcoming works of Mr. Cochran that Belzonians should be more closely interested. Mr. Cochran is engaged on a trilogy of novels dealing with Delta life, the first of which will reach the public sometime in the autumn or early winter. It is to be called 'Flood Tides', and will deal realistically with life during the flood of 1927, touching, however, on other phases of Delta life. The scene is laid in the imaginary town of Lauderdale, of the approximate size of Belzoni, and located in this section of the state.

The second novel of the series is already in manuscript and is to be called 'Delta Rat'. It contains approximately ninety thousand words dealing with a type familiar to all residents of the Delta -- the share-cropper. Perhaps Mr. Cochran will make the Mississippi share-cropper as vivid a traditional character as the North Carolina Mountaineer, or the Louisiana Creole.

'Buccaneer', the third novel, will deal with still another Delta type -- the large planter. It is named for the leading character. Mr. Cochran says that 'the Buccaneer' is 'large in holdings, large in bulk, large in heart -- in fact, a pretty big fellow, lovable at times, ruthless at others'. He is doubtless a composite of the numerous planters with whom Mr. Cochran has come in contact, and of whom he has heard.

Mr. Cochran is the possessor of a wealth of material on Delta life from his residence here, and he is a quick observer -- a deep and ready thinker, from whom we may well expect worthwhile productions. He

Page Three - Louis Cochran
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

may well make the Mississippi Delta a locale as distinguished in literature as the Louisiana marshes, or the 'Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia'.

I have long held the opinion that Mississippi writers should utilize local color instead of going far afield for material, and Mr. Cochran has done just what I have often thought should be done. He has painted, in his three forthcoming novels, an adequate picture of life in our native section of Mississippi.

Louis Cochran, like William Alexander Percy, Greenville poet, has combined literary work with an active law practice, and in both fields of activity, he is one who reflects great credit on his native state, and on the South.

Belzonians, and all Mississippians, should await his forthcoming books with great interest."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - August 21, 1930.

Mr. Cochran came to Belzoni in 1925, forming a partnership with Hon. Percy Bell of Greenville for local practice. He was engaged in the practice of law at Belzoni for several years, during which time he was successful in ^{his profession} ~~the practice of law~~ as well as working his way into the literary field. Mr. Cochran has since leaving Belzoni, enjoyed much success as a writer and many local citizens hold as a prized possession copies of his various books.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, B&B

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 27

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 1, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

Enumerator: M. G. Cartledge

SUBJECT: THE BAR

John Arthur Mortimer - Belzoni, Miss.:

PARENTS: Thornton E. and Virginia Bowles Mortimer. The maternal grandparents of Arthur Mortimer were J. S. and Edmonia Rutherford Bowles originally of Sandy Hook, Virginia but who came to this section from Louisiana. Mr. Bowles first settled at Blue Sack Landing, a point on the Yazoo River near Silver City and became engaged in the mercantile business with Col. R. V. Powers of Silver City. He later came up the river and settled at Fiskville, which landing being located near the Mortimer home, was later called Belzoni Landing. From this boat landing has grown the town of Belzoni. Mr. Bowles soon opened a little store and distinguished himself as the first merchant of Belzoni.

BIRTH DATE: December 3rd, 1907.

BIRTH PLACE: Belzoni, Miss.

EARLY EDUCATION: Belzoni Public Schools. Graduated at B. H. S. in 1926.

LITERARY COURSE: Mississippi College.

LAW COURSE: Studied law under father who was a leading attorney of Belzoni, and passed Mississippi State Bar Examination in 1930.

BEGAN PRACTICE: Immediately in Belzoni, being associated with his father, T. E. Mortimer.

MARRIED: January, 1929 to Miss Evelyn Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Thomas of Yazoo City. One child T. E. Mortimer III.

CHURCH: Baptist Church.

LODGES: Affiliated with Masonic lodge. Rotarian.

Page Two - Lawyers
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

POLITICAL POSITIONS: Prosecuting Attorney of Humphreys County since 1932.

REMARKS: Mr. Mortimer is an exemplary young man and notwithstanding his age of only 30 years, has acquired considerable influence. He has, not only the responsibility and management of his own affairs, but is of invaluable aid to his Mother, Mrs. Virginia Bowles Mortimer, in the handling of her business. Mr. Mortimer also has extensive farming interests of his own.

References: Mr. J. A. Mortimer - Belzoni, Miss.
Mrs. V. B. Mortimer - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, B. R.

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 27

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 9, 1937

Topic: Judge

Assignment No. 27

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Subject: THE BAR

The following Autobiographical sketch of the life of Judge S. F. Davis was taken from the Belzoni Banner of August 10, 1922.

Judge Davis succeeded Judge H. H. Elmore as Circuit Court Judge of the Fourth District, including Humphreys County, in 1920 and has been continuously elected to the office up to the present time.

JUDGE S. F. DAVIS

"We wanted to interview Judge Davis, and he got right down into a talkative mood and here is what we culled:

To begin, I was born Friday afternoon at 3:30, July, 12th, 1874, one mile due west of Cedar Bluff, Clay County, Miss., on top of a hill situated near the geographical center of eighty acres of the poorest land in the United States, where I continued to reside until I had past my eighteenth birthday. I entered the public school at Cedar Bluff when I was four years old and was a regular attendant there for the next fourteen years; that school and I grew up together, when I entered it for the first time, it was a one room log cabin affair presided over by one teacher, and when sometime toward the later part of May, 1892, when I had acquired all the information they had to offer there, it had been elevated to the dignity of a high school and was housed in a nice two story building with an annex. My father was a

Page Two - Autobiography of Judge Davis
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

physician, which carries with it the implication that he was a very poor man, and in addition to having ten children of his own, he had taken in two extra ones, one orphan girl, and a neice of his, and I was faced with the proposition, that if I wanted any more education, or anything else the world had to offer an ambitious boy of my age, I would have to go to work and make the money to pay for it with. I borrowed five dollars and spent three dollars and twenty-five cents for a railroad ticket to Baird, Miss., where I dis-embarked, and from there I walked to a place a few miles west of Belzoni, and went to work in a stave camp for fifty cents a day and board, to get money to go to school on. I made staves in what is now Humphreys County, Washington and Sunflower Counties for the next five years and stored away every dollar I made until I had enough to start to school on; September, 1897, I entered what was then the Lexington Normal College and attended school there during that session and the session of 1898, I then came back to Sunflower County and took a job as stave inspector, commonly known among stavemakers as 'culler'. I held this job one year and then bought some timber near Inverness and went into the stave business for myself. It took me another year to work up this tract of timber, and at the end of that time, I had decided to sell my outfit and go back to school again, but after I had converted all of my goods and chattles into cash, I decided to go to Indianola, rent me a room do light house keeping if necessary, and study law, all of which I proceeded to do, and during the three years I studied law before I was admitted to the bar, I worked at various things, anything that came my way that would help feed me until I got license to

Humphreys County, Bae

Page Three - Autobiography of Judge Davis
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

practice law. I was admitted to the bar on the 30th day of May, 1906, the following day, I borrowed \$25.00 to pay my privilege license with, bought some law books on credit, and flung my sheet iron sign to the wind, proclaiming to the world that another lawyer was in the midst; luck seem to favor me from the start, for I soon found myself possessed of a good practice. I have never known why the people patronized me as liberally as they did, and have often wondered whether it was out of a spirit of charity, or whether it was out of that well known trait common to all men, to want to gamble on something new and untried, but whatever it was, I always tried to give them value received, and whenever they intrusted me with any business that I knew that I did not have sense enough to handle, I forthwith employed the best lawyer I could find, even if I had to give him all of the fee, to handle it for me, and by so doing, I usually got very satisfactory results. After I had been in my office for fourteen years, my health began to fail me, and the doctors told me that I must have a change, then it was that I became a candidate for the office of circuit judge, luck favored me again. I have gained something over twenty-five pounds in weight since I have been in office; am in perfect health, have a brand new set of teeth, both uppers and lowers, which fit me like the paper on the wall, and am feeling fine.

And the Banner editor will add that Judge Davis has and is still making an ideal judge. Being well versed in the law he is fully competent to hold the position the people elected him to. He shows no partiality, but always tempers justice with mercy. Truly a good judge."

Page Four - Autobiography of Judge Davis
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Reference: Belzoni Banner - August 10, 1922.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Tex

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 27

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 30, 1937

Topic: Lawyers

Assignment No. 27

SUBJECT: THE BAR

C. M. Murphy - Belzoni, Miss.:

Please add to Mr. Murphy's write-up the following as taken from the Belzoni Banner of September 5, 1935:

"Pat" MURPHY
WHITTLES AND
WHITTLES AND --

"If you ever want to find out whether C. M. 'Pat' Murphy, of Belzoni, is in town, here's how to do it.

Just make the round of the hotels, starting with the Robert E. Lee, and look for a pile of fine shavings. If you find the shavings, 'Pat' isn't far.

'Pat' is the dapper and genial Irish secretary of the democratic state executive committee. For sartorial elegance he is unsurpassed and the smile of Erin just won't wipe off his face.

Everywhere 'Pat' goes, so goes his whittling stick. At this season it is a hefty club of red cedar--that is it was a hefty club until he got in a good day's whittling on it.

Mr. Murphy just will whittle. He keeps a pocket knife with a razor edge and the object of his whittling is to ascertain just how

Page Two - C. M. Murphy
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

thin and fine he can cut the shavings. If he stops for as much as five minutes in one place, he invariably leaves a pile of shavings.

'Pat' says whittling is just a mild form of insanity, but he keeps everlastingly at it. You can take his hat, his coat, his wallet or even the records of the state executive committee, but ~~none~~ ^{he} ever try to get away with 'Pat's' whittling stick. That's his most cherished possession. -- Clarion Ledger."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - Sept. 5, 1935.

Mannie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, B. R.

5

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 22, 1937

Topic: Yellow Fever

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. II - 1 (a)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Through the summer and fall of 1878 a dreadful epidemic of Yellow Fever raged through the gulf states taking a heavy toll in many of the towns of Mississippi.

Belzoni at this time was only a boat landing and the surrounding lands scarcely more than a wilderness, so the epidemic did not reach this immediate section. However, cases of the disease appeared at both Greenville and Yazoo City, and as Humphreys County was later taken from the counties of which these two towns form a part, the anxiety of the residents of more open sections of the county may be easily imagined.

There was a recurrence of the disease in some sections of the State in 1897, 1898 and 1899, appearing in a milder form as compared to the epidemic of 1878. However, owing to the strict quarantine regulations, the disease was held under control and not allowed to spread. Again a general unrest was strongly felt in this section, but there is no record of fatality from the pestilence in the section now embraced as Humphreys County.

Reference: Dr. J. A. Wadlington - Belzoni, Miss.
Mr. Abe Cohn - Belzoni, Miss.
"Mississippi The Heart of The South" - Vol. II

Mannie G. Partridge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 20, 1937

Topic: Small Pox

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. II - 1 (b)
& 3.

SUBJECT: HEALTH

II - 1 (b) Small Pox, 1900-1901
3. Elimination of Small Pox.

There is an interesting little story as to the origin of small pox in this immediate section:

About the year 1900, one of Belzoni's most prominent citizens, Mr. S. Castleman, was visiting in New Orleans. A number of cases of small pox had appeared in the city. Mr. Castleman noticed one day some broken out places on his arms and hands. Realizing that if he did not leave New Orleans immediately he would be placed under quarantine, a boat was chartered, and in a short time he had reached Vicksburg. There his own boat awaited to bring him to Belzoni.

When it became known that Mr. Castleman was returning to Belzoni via his private vessel, a large percentage of the people of the town made it a point to be at the boat landing when he arrived. It was soon evident that he had reached home none too early for the full fledged case of the disease which followed. The germs of the small pox, previously contracted by Mr. Castleman, were, naturally, easily spread. It was in this manner that the disease was introduced to the part of the delta now known as Humphreys County.

During the epidemic only a few white persons in and around

Page Two - Small Pox
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Belzoni contracted small pox, but among them was Dr. J. S. Jackson, ^{at Belzoni} well known physician of the town. No fatalities were noted. The disease was, however, much more prevalent among negroes of this section, it being the cause of many deaths among them.

At this time, 1900-1901, a number of cases of small pox appeared on Honey Island, located across the Yazoo River from Belzoni. A larger percentage of negroes suffered from the malady than whites.

A concrete illustration of the disastrous effects of the disease may well be given. Mr. T. F. Durham had in his employ a young man by the name of Mr. McBride. Mr. McBride's father, living a short distance away, was stricken with small pox and sent for his son. The young man hesitated to go to his father as he was the sole dependent of his family. Mr. Durham advised him to go if he wished, and assured him that he would arrange for necessary food. Groceries were placed at a pre-arranged location, being later secured by a member of the stricken family and carried to their home. This seemed advisable in order that germs might not be scattered. However, the disease was fatal to both father and son.

Although the disease has since appeared from time to time, it has finally by vaccination become almost extinct in the county. Much credit for its ultimate elimination is due to the tireless efforts of Dr. J. F. Slaughter, County Health Officer for a period of time, and other measures, such as the following ordinance passed by the Board of Aldermen in 1921, which although later declared null and void, had in affect an awakening of the public to the unnecessary existence of this pestilence:

Humphreys County, Health

"HEY, THERE, YOU SMALL POX"

"City Dads Tire of Small Pox and Pass Ordinance To
Stop Spread---Other Sanitary Orders"

"Small pox carriers, or victims---no matter which you call it---have been brought to a halt by the city dads at a special meeting held last Friday night in the city hall, at which all officials were present, when a strenuous small pox and sanitary ordinance was passed.

Quite a number of ladies, viz: Mrs. J. M. Cashin, Mrs. J. M. Powell, Mrs. Willis Brumfield, Mrs. J. A. Wadlington and Mrs. A. N. Tims appeared before the board and asked for a sanitary officer, which the board agreed to appoint for the next two months, and Messrs. Dunn and Savage were appointed a committee to select and hire the proper person.

The Banner is glad to know of these two moves by the mayor and board of aldermen. There is no doubt but that the small pox danger could have been lessened if action had been taken months ago, but what's the use to lock the door after the horse has been stolen, say some. Another gentleman said "what's the use. I believe no restrictions should be had. Let everyone have it, so that after a while the disease would end its own course." This may appear logical to some; however, we have pretty near done that here. As to the health nurse and sanitation, we should have had these for months and months---in fact, all the time. The town has no sanitary officer,

had one a short while, and there should be one elected by the board---same pay as the board and meet with the board regular---and whose duty it would be to see that the town is kept in a clean and sanitary condition. It should not be kept any other way.

In this connection we call the attention of the town, and the people in general, to the fact that Gov. Lee Russell has issued a proclamation call for a clean-up week campaign, naming the week of April 3rd to 9th. We hope the town of Belzoni will get in the procession and see to it that the town is cleaned. Not only Belzoni, but other towns in the county should get in on this movement. There is room for improvement.

Since the above was put in type we received information from Mayor Gilmer that this meeting of the board was improperly called, hence the two ordinances referred to are null and void."

References: Mrs. J. A. Wadlington - Belzoni, Miss.
Mrs. Mamie E. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.
Mr. T. F. Durham - Belzoni, Miss.
Belzoni Banner - March 31, 1921.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 20, 1937

Topic: Influenza

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. II - 1 (c)
& 4.

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Epidemics of the disease known as "Spanish Influenza" have visited the United States since about 1647, the first outbreak being brought to this country from Valencia, Spain. Since the first appearance of the malady, there have been a number of epidemics in this country. In 1889 and 1890 there was an outbreak in the Orient. The disease spread to Russia, and from there to practically every civilized section of the world. Three years later it again appeared. Both epidemics were wide-spread in the United States.

Although the epidemic of 1918-1919 was given the name "Spanish Influenza", some writers who made a study of the question believed the disease to have been brought from the Orient. Appearing in an unusually severe form in 1918-1919, at the first signs of an epidemic in Humphreys County Dr. J. F. Slaughter, then County Health Officer, issued, by means of the local paper, instructions for combating the disease. He stated that it was particularly important to limit the spread of influenza at that time as a good number of local men were fighting overseas and persons working at home should put forth every effort to remain in the best of health. Careful instructions were given for safeguarding against contraction of the disease.

Page Two - Influenza
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

In early October, 1918, Dr. J. F. Slaughter, the health officers of Belzoni, and Professor T. D. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, issued, in accordance with orders of the State Board of Health, a statement to the effect that all schools, churches and theatres in Humphreys County would be closed, and all public gatherings discontinued until the influenza epidemic was under control. Although there were then only a few cases, they felt that precautions should be taken in due time. Doctors requested that children remain in their homes and not gather together for play. It was made clear that no alarm need be felt over the epidemic, but that, if contracted, the disease should be given immediate attention.

A few weeks later request was issued to citizens of the county that the telephone should be used as little as possible. About three-fourths of the employees of the telephone company were ill, and it seemed best that it be used only when absolutely necessary.

Despite all precautions, the disease continued to spread and was soon taking a heavy toll all over the county. It is sad to think of the distress and heartaches of the people at the time of this epidemic of "Spanish Influenza". Illness, and in many instances death, were being witnessed at home. Abroad, the soldiers boys were in daily contact with bombardment from foreign guns, fighting for the preservation of their country. This was indeed a time that called for high courage and brave determination on the part of the citizens of our county.

On November 3, 1918, churches were again opened for regular

Humphreys County, Health

services, the ravages of influenza having been to some extent abated. Public gatherings, including schools, were again permitted after the 4th of November, except in communities where it seemed best that they remain closed for a longer period. Such were the orders of County Health Officer Dr. J. F. Slaughter. Services were not held at the churches, however, until November 11, 1918, the schools opening the following Monday. A moving picture was shown at the local theatre on November 9th, the first picture shown during a period of five weeks.

The feeling of Humphreys County citizens at the close of the epidemic needs no explanation. Relief and gladness was felt by everyone, although there could not be complete happiness in the homes until the World War was over and loved ones again crossed the sea, this time to be re-united with their families.

References: Dr. J. A. Wadlington - Belzoni, Miss.
The Belzoni Banner - Oct. 4, 1918.
The Belzoni Banner - Oct. 11, 1918.
The Belzoni Banner - Oct. 18, 1918.
The Belzoni Banner - Nov. 1, 1918.
The Belzoni Banner - Nov. 9, 1918.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 19, 1937

Topic: Health

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. II - 3, III,
IV, V, - 1, 2, & 3,
VI, VIII.

SUBJECT: HEALTH

The following is the annual report covering period from July 1, 1936 to June 30, 1937 as given by the Humphreys County Health Department:

"HUMPHREYS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

J. W. Barkley, M. D., Director

To: U. S. Public Health Service

Subject: Annual Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1937.

The personnel of the health department at present consists of a medical director, a sanitation supervisor, one public health nurse, and a clerk. For the last six months of the period another nurse was added; and a second sanitation supervisor and a third nurse were added to the staff for a short time due to the flood in the spring of 1937.

This report will simply set forth what has been done from July 1, 1936 to June 30, 1937, and is still being done to promote and protect the public health. These services are essentially educational and preventive. No actual medical treatment is given except cases of indigents with venereal diseases who have been referred to the health department by family physician.

Humphreys County, Health

In general the work of the county health department falls into the following main divisions: (a) communicable disease control, (b) maternity and infant hygiene, (c) preschool hygiene, (d) school hygiene, (e) sanitation, (f) vital statistics.

Communicable disease control. All health department activities are an outgrowth of efforts at communicable disease control, and this remains one of our major problems. Enough of the nature, methods of spread, and means of control and prevention is known to eliminate such diseases as smallpox, diphtheria, and typhoid fever, but because of difficulties in applying this knowledge we still have them with us.

In the first six months of this period six persons were known to have had typhoid fever. All cases and contacts were visited to control the spread of current cases and to determine source of the disease. The source of the disease was determined on two of the cases. They had contracted the disease from a typhoid carrier. A typhoid carrier is one who carries typhoid germs in his intestinal tract but is himself apparently healthy. Typhoid carriers, combined with improper excreta disposal, are known to be the source of many cases of typhoid fever. Such individuals are a real menace to the health of the community.

Eight cases of diphtheria were reported with one death. Eight cases of a dangerous disease, every one of which probably could have been prevented. That the preschool child is in the greatest danger of diphtheria is emphasized by the fact five out of the eight were under five years of age. This is sufficient proof that all

children should be immunized before they are a year old.

All cases and contacts were released on two negative nose and throat cultures taken at least twenty-four hours apart.

Malaria in 1936 was a major cause of illness and death. It ranked sixth as a cause of death. Eleven deaths in this county were attributed to malaria. The cause is well known as are the measures for prevention, but until all mosquito-breeding places are eradicated and all people who are infected are adequately treated, malaria will continue to exist.

Through the W. P. A. approximately 16,000 linear feet of new ditches were dug or old ones cleaned out or straightened as advised by the health department. Before the work was discontinued in April, several acres of swampy land were drained.

The health department has been instrumental in getting over three hundred tenant houses screened.

In the control of tuberculosis a diagnostic chest clinic was conducted in March, 1937 in the health department by Dr. Wm. D. Hickerson of the State Sanatorium. A chest examination and X-ray were made only on those cases referred to the clinic by the physicians. A total of 41 cases were examined. Six were found to have active tuberculosis of the childhood or adult type and five others were classed as suspicious tuberculosis.

The only means available at present of controlling tuberculosis in Humphreys County are early discovery and education of the cases and contacts as to the necessary precautions and isolation of

the cases. To assist in the care of the cases two portable tuberculosis cottages were constructed by the Medical Auxillary of Humphreys County.

Summary of Communicable Disease Activities:

Cases of acute communicable diseases under care	41
Field visits to these cases	125
Medical consulting service	29
Persons immunized against typhoid	5310
Persons vaccinated against smallpox	1035
Children under 5 immunized against diphtheria	493
Children over 5 immunized against diphtheria	119
Schick Test	372
Malaria specimens examined for diagnosis	794
Typhoid specimens examined for diagnosis	261
Diphtheria specimens examined for diagnosis	374

Maternity Hygiene. Maternity conferences are held monthly in the four principal towns of the county. Patients are sent to the conferences by their midwives, nurses, and physicians. The expectant mothers are given a thorough medical examination, including pelvic measurements, urinalysis, wassermann tests, malaria test, and taking of blood pressure. The patients having abnormal pregnancies are referred to their family physician.

Regular routine visits are made to the prenatal and post partum cases. Other visits are made according to the requirements of the cases. The nurses question the patients for any symptoms and

signs of danger that may have appeared and obtain other information that might bear on the progress and outcome of the pregnancy. The cases are instructed in the simple matters of diet and exercise and urged to carry out the orders of their physician. The prospective mothers are taught how to prepare for the delivery, providing the necessary equipment and materials for the mother and infant.

Over two thirds of the births in the county are of the negro race, and this proportion of births is delivered by midwives. There are at present around fifty midwives in the county organized into four clubs under the supervision of the health department. The nurses visit the midwives at their homes to inspect their bags and instruct them in cleanliness of person and equipment.

Summary of Maternity Activities:

Expectant mothers under care	274
Nursing visits to antepartum cases	255
Visits to postpartum cases	119
Urine specimens examined	431

Infant and preschool hygiene. Medical and nursing conferences are held in various communities throughout the year. Children of preschool age, the children from one through five years of age, have been called the neglected group. The type of care the child receives during this period may determine the physical and mental status of the child for life. During this period, which included the dreaded second summer, the members of the health department are able to render a valuable service. Mothers are advised as to proper diet,

Humphreys County, Health

habits, and general hygienic care for these children and especially to protect them and their food from filth carried by the fingers and flies.

Besides the physical examination and general instructions given the mothers, each child was immunized against diphtheria and typhoid fever and vaccinated for smallpox.

Summary of Infant and Preschool Activities:

Infants admitted to medical & nursing service	227
Preschool children admitted to medical & nursing service	499
Nursing visits to infants	243
Nursing visits to preschool children	539

School. Each year the children in the first, third, fifth, and seventh grades are examined routinely by the health officer. The standard school record is made on each child, and the status of the immunizations of the child is noted on school record. Reports of the examination are sent to the parents.

The school children in the alternate grades are inspected routinely by the health officer and nurses. This inspection includes defects of skin, nutrition, oral hygiene, and any other condition that may need investigating. An opportunity to be immunized against typhoid fever, diphtheria, Schick Test, and smallpox is offered each school term to all children in the schools.

A dental hygienist, employed for a period of three months, spent a large part of the time in the county schools examining the mouths of 1,815 children and giving dental prophylaxis to 338 school

children. The remainder of the time was spent in home visits, school talks, and demonstration of correct method to brush the teeth.

Health charts showing the status of the children's physical defects and immunizations are posted by the nurses in the classrooms of the schools. As the defects are corrected and immunizations are met, stars are placed after the names of the children.

Summary of School Activities:

School children examined	402
Inspection by physician & nurses	1015
Inspection by dental hygienist	1815
Prophylaxis by dental hygienist	338
Nursing visits to school children	119
Classroom health talks	98

Sanitation. This service is one of the most important services of the program of a county health department. If properly developed and promoted, sanitation will probably do more to prevent diseases than any other single activity of the health department.

The outstanding sanitary needs of Humphreys County now are safe excreta disposals for every home, protected water supplies, and screening of every home. Work has been done towards this ideal. One hundred and thirty-one sanitary privies were built in the county during this period. Twenty-seven homes have been connected with sewers and 1,480 visits for inspection of water supplies, excreta disposal, and screening of homes were made. Three hundred and nine homes have been completely screened, and 16,000 linear feet of minor

Humphreys County Health

drainage have been completed, eliminating thirteen anopheles breeding places.

Sanitary drinking fountains and washing facilities have been built in many of the schools and other public places to replace the pitcher pumps, dippers, and other insanitary drinking facilities. Three hundred and seventy-five inspections and re-inspections were made to food and milk handling establishments for the protection of consumers against diseases spread by dairy products and other foods.

Summary Sanitation Activities:

New water connections	52
Approved drinking fountains, installed	17
New sewer connections	27
New privies and septic tanks, installed	131
Premises registered for sanitary supervision	767
Field visits to private & public premises	1546
Homes mosquito-proofed	309
Minor drainage, linear feet	16000
Field visits to food handling establishments	375

Vital statistics: Vital statistics has been called the bookkeeping of public health. It is by means of reported births and deaths and of the different diseases that the problems are determined and the method of attack outlined. A satisfactory visualization of the situation is impossible without complete reporting of all births and deaths and of all the most important diseases.

Summary of Vital Statistics for 1936:

Birth rate per 1,000 population	22.3
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live births	68.2
Death rate per 1,000 population	8.5
Infant death rate per 1,000 live births	76.2
Puerperal death rate per 1,000 live births	1.6" (unquote)

Reference: Dr. J. W. Barkley - Public Health Officer - Belzoni, Miss.

Mammie G. Cartledge
 County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 14, 1937

Topic: Health

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. II - 3,
III, IV, V - 1 & 2, 3,
VI, VIII.

SUBJECT: HEALTH

The following is a report given by Humphreys County Health Department for the period July, 1935 to June, 1937:

"HUMPHREYS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT"

Introduction

Humphreys County is located in the Yazoo Mississippi Delta in the mid-western portion of the state. It was one of the last counties in the state to be formed. In 1918 this county was made up of portions of Holmes, Sharkey, Sunflower, Washington and Yazoo Counties, comprising an area of 408 square miles.

The United States Bureau of Census lists the population of the county as 19,192 in 1920 and 24,729 in 1930, an increase of 5,537 or 28.8 percent. With this rate of increase the population at the end of June 30, 1937, was approximately 27,742. Racial distribution of the population in 1937 was 35 percent, white; and, 65 percent, negroes.

Agriculture is the principal source of income in the county, cotton production predominating. Farming is done on the plantation-tenant system, a large majority of the tenants being negroes. Among the tenant group there is a great deal of changing of location about the first of each calendar year.

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

In 1936 the total assessed valuation of the county was \$6,060,761.

Organization

As a part of the general scheme of flood relief in the Mississippi Valley following the inundation in the spring and summer of 1927, a full-time health department was organized in Humphreys County. The organization prior to the establishment of a full-time county health department on August 1, 1927, consisted of a part-time health officer and a full-time public health nurse. Health department activities have been carried on uninterruptedly since that time. At the beginning, the staff consisted of a medical director, a public health nurse, and a sanitation supervisor. The staff at present consists of a medical director, a sanitation supervisor, one public health nurse, and a clerk. The sanitation supervisor was added to the staff April 1, 1936. For the last six months of this period another nurse was added; and, a second sanitation supervisor and a third nurse were added to the staff for a short time due to the flood in the spring of 1937.

Program

It has been the policy of the department to carry on an effective general health program. The aims and objectives of which are to render the most good to the most people and to

Humphreys County, Health

perform a service that would at all times conform to ethical preventive medicine. The activities may be divided and discussed under the following heads: (1) public health education; (2) communicable disease control service; (3) malaria control; (4) child welfare and maternity hygiene, covering prenatal, preschool, and school work; (5) sanitation.

Education. Practically every activity in a health department has some educational value. However, there are certain things that should be done which aim directly at educating the public along health lines. The methods used by this department in public health education are lectures, both school and public, newspaper articles, educational literature, distribution of health bulletins, hygiene classes and demonstrations by nurses, personal conferences, and correspondences. However, a majority of the educational work has been done through the school children, teachers, personal contact in the home, and at the prenatal, infant, and preschool conferences. Citizens of the county are encouraged to visit the office and the health centers in the county.

Communicable Disease. Today, the control and prevention of communicable diseases are two of the major activities of the health department. The communicable disease control service comprises the following main features: (a) effort to locate and control current cases; (b) epidemiological investigation of sources of the diseases; (c) isolation and quarantine of cases and contacts

to certain diseases, according to the rules and regulations established by the State Board of Health; (d) immunization of contacts and the general population against those diseases for which efficient and practical immunizing agents have been developed; (e) treatment clinics for cases of venereal diseases referred by family physicians; (f) follow-up visits by nurses to instruct individuals in the homes in order to prevent further spread of the diseases and to instruct other members of the family in the care of the cases and to bring in for examination contacts to certain diseases, notably tuberculosis and venereal diseases; (g) diagnostic service is provided for private physicians. This service naturally interlocks with all other services that are included in the public health program.

Everything that is done in the health department aims at preventing diseases, those that are communicable or of another nature, in the present or future life of the citizens of the county.

In the interest of tuberculosis control diagnostic clinics were conducted in April 1936, and March 1937, in the health department by Dr. Hickerson of the State Sanatorium. A chest examination and X-ray were made only on those cases referred to the chest clinic by the physicians of the county. In these clinics sixty-eight patients were examined. Twelve were found to have tuberculosis of the childhood and adult type, and of this number ten were found to be suspicious of tuberculosis.

Immunizations. Typhoid vaccine is freely available to all persons in Humphreys County. During the biennium there were 8,132 persons who received the approved dosage.

Smallpox vaccination is available at all times to those who desire it. Special efforts have been made to vaccinate all white school children. This service has been offered each school term in these schools. Vaccination has been given in negro schools rather freely. From July 1, 1935 to June 30, 1937, there were 1,901 persons successfully vaccinated against smallpox.

According to the health authorities, the minimum number of children under five in Humphreys County to be immunized for diphtheria for the biennium is 675. Eight hundred and thirty-three infants and preschool children and one hundred and eighty-two school children were given the immunizing agent. The Schick Test was given to 798 preschool and school children.

Malaria Control. The table below shows the malaria control activities as promoted in Humphreys County during the biennium. This work was made possible through the W. P. A. program and the cooperation of the towns and the plantation owners.

Minor drainage, linear feet	26,129
Anopheles breeding places, eliminated	17
Number of houses mosquito-proofed	342

In addition to the drainage project and the screening project executed by the department, larvicide and crude oil were

furnished by two towns in the county to spray all stagnant collections of water not possible to drain. The labor was furnished by the towns under the supervision of the health department.

Prenatal. The prenatal service is developed through the cooperation of the public health nurses under the supervision of the county health officer and the private physicians.

The nurses contact the prenatal cases in various ways. In most instances, the midwives report their prenatal cases to the nurse. Often interested neighbors report cases to the health department. Many times interested prospective mothers request the supervision of the public health nurses. In a few instances the physicians report cases to the health department.

Over two thirds of the births in the county are of the negro race, and this proportion of births are delivered by midwives. There are at present around fifty midwives in Humphreys County organized into four clubs under the supervision of the health department. The nurses visit the midwives at their club meetings and in their homes to inspect their bags and instruct them in cleanliness of person and equipment. The midwives are required to see that their cases report to one of the four prenatal conferences held monthly in the four principal communities of the county.

Regular routine visits are made to the prenatal and post partum cases. Other visits are made according to the requirements of the cases. The nurses question the patients for any symptoms

Humphreys County, Health

and signs of danger that may have appeared and obtain other information that might bear on the progress and outcome of the pregnancy.

The nurses collect specimens for urinalysis and report findings to physicians. Also blood pressure readings are taken on all patients. A specimen of blood is collected at the first conference visit of the patient for wassermann and malaria. The cases are instructed in simple matters of diet and exercise and urged to carry out the orders of their physician. The prospective mothers are taught how to prepare for the delivery in providing the necessary equipment and materials for the mother and infant.

Infant and preschool. This service is developed through the cooperation of the nurses, the health officer, and the private physician. This part of the health program consists largely of the examination of infants and preschool children, pointing out any physical defects that may be found to the parents, and urging that the children be taken to the family physician for confirmation of the defects noted and their correction. The parents are instructed in the general care of well children. Standard record forms provided by the State Board of Health are filled in for the examination of each infant and preschool child at the medical and nursing conferences.

The nurses follow-up these examinations and urge the correction of defects that have been pointed out and see if instructions given by physicians are being followed. The nurses

visit the infant routinely as often as the program will permit. Usually three visits are made to the infant during the first six weeks of life. Subsequent visits are made every two to three months according to the needs of the particular case.

Parents of all children not protected against diphtheria and smallpox are urged to see that their children receive this protection during the first year of life. Typhoid vaccine is advocated during the second year of life or earlier if indicated. All discussions relative to typhoid vaccine are utilized to point out the importance of environmental sanitation.

The nurses instruct the mothers in such matters as preparing the food, in whole or in part, in cases of artificial feeding; how to bathe infants; and how to prepare separate trays to be used for the infants. The mothers are instructed in the importance of boiling the water the infants drink, providing a well-screened place for the infant to sleep and play. The follow-up of these examinations by the nurse is very important. Not many corrections will be made unless follow-up visits are made.

School. There are seven white schools and fifty negro schools in the county. The approximate number of white students enrolled is 1,750 and negro students, 4,000.

Each year the children in the first, third, fifth, and seventh grades are examined routinely by the health officer, assisted by the nurses and teachers. The standard school record, as provided by the State Board of Health, is filled in for each child, and the status of the immunizations of the child is noted.

The children in the alternate grades are inspected routinely by the health officer and nurses. This inspection includes defects of the skin, nutrition, oral hygiene, and any other condition that may need investigating. An opportunity to be examined and immunized against typhoid fever, smallpox, and diphtheria is offered to all children in the schools.

Health charts showing the status of the children's physical defects and immunizations are posted by the nurses in the classrooms of the schools. As the defects are corrected and the immunization requirements are met, stars are placed after the name of the children.

Sanitation. This service is one of the most important services of the program of the county health department. If properly developed and promoted, sanitation will probably do more to prevent diseases than any other single activity of the health department.

This service in Humphreys County is comprised of the following: (a) to establish sanitary methods of excreta disposal at rural and urban homes; (b) to make safe water supplies for potable purposes in towns and rural area; (c) to provide an inspection service and to control the production and sale of raw milk; (d) to make municipal inspections and secure improvements in food vending establishments, and barber shops; (e) the correction of nuisances; (f) to control malaria by minor drainage, screening and larvicide.

For the accomplishments of the sanitation activities of the department, the reader is referred to the statistical report for the biennium.

Conclusion

It is felt that a great deal of worth while work has been accomplished during this period, with wonderful cooperation of all civic organizations, schools, physicians, dentists, newspapers and all public agencies, both town and county.

A statistical report of the activities of the department for the period of July 1, 1935 to June 30, 1937, may be found in the statistical report of the full-time county health departments."

Reference: Miss Maxine Brewer (Secretary, Humphreys County Health Department) - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. J. W. Barkley (County Health Officer) - Belzoni, Miss.

Mannie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 21, 1937

Topic: Health

Assignment No. 24

The following report for the year 1936 made by the Humphreys County Health Department was taken from The Belzoni Banner of May 13, 1937:

HUMPHREYS COUNTY DEATHS BY CAUSE AND AGE FOR THE YEAR 1936												
Cause of Deaths	All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 64
All Causes - Total	239	48	6	1	2	1	8	2	18	25	25	59
Typhoid Fever	3									2	1	
Influenza	17	3	2			1			2		2	4
Dysentery, Bacillary	1											1
Lethargic encephalitis	1											1
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	1								1			
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	11								3	3	1	4
Syphilis	6	2								1	1	2
Malaria	11	1			1		3	1	1		1	2
Cancer, All forms	9									1		6
Pellagra	4						1				1	2
Diabetes, Mellitus	1								1			
G. Hemorrhage, Emb. & Thro.	11									1	2	3
Heart Diseases	15										3	8
Bronchopneumonia	8	6										1
Pneumonia	11	2							3	1		4
Other Respiratory	1											1
Diarrhea & Enteritis, under 2	8	6	2									
Appendicitis	1								1			
Hernia, Intestinal obst.	3											1
Cirrhosis of Liver	4									1	2	1
Nephritis	13										2	9
Other Genito-Urinary	3			1						1	1	
Puerperal Causes	1									1		
Congenital Conditions	14	14										
Senility	5											5
Homicide	5								1	2	1	1
Automobile Accidents	5									3		2
Other External	9	1			1		1		2	1		1
Ill Defined & Unknown	50	13	2				3		2	3	6	12
Dis. of Thyroid & Parathy	1									1		
Leukemias & Pseudoleukemias	1											1
Gen. Paralysis of the Insane	1									1		
Epilepsy	2									1	2	
Dis. of Pharynx and Tonsils	1								1			
Peritonitis, cause not specified	1								1			

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

NOTE: Although only 5 deaths by accident are shown on the foregoing report, there were really 11 deaths by accident in Humphreys County during 1936. Six of these deaths occurring at border line locations, they were reported from other counties. Although there were only five burial permits issued for these deaths in Humphreys County, the state record for accidental deaths as occurring in the county is eleven, which is correct. All of these deaths were from automobile accidents.

References: Belzoni Banner - May 13, 1937
Miss Maxine Brewer (County Registrar) - Belzoni, Miss.
"Motor Vehicle Deaths, Mississippi - 1936"

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 3, 1937

Topic: Personnel of County
Health Department

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Assignment No. 24

Item No. III - a

Miss Maxine Elliott Brewer, Secretary Humphreys County Health
Department and County Registrar - Belzoni, Miss.:

Maxine Elliott Brewer, daughter of V. S. and Alma Irene
Brewer of Carroll County, Mississippi, was born July 24, 1911. Her
literary education was received in the public schools of West Point,
Greenwood, Clarksdale and Belzoni.

In 1929 Miss Brewer entered Bowling Green Business University,
Bowling Green, Kentucky, from which she was graduated in May, 1930.

As she became a part of the business world, her first employ-
ment was with Robert Prickett Insurance Company of Belzoni, which
position she filled as secretary for a time. She then spent two
years in capable management of the local Walthall Hotel, a business
previously owned and operated by her mother, Mrs. Alma Brewer. Alert
and ambitious, Miss Brewer has since held a number of responsible
secretarial positions.

In 1934 she became affiliated with the Humphreys County
Health Department as Secretary. In this, a work well suited to her
talents, Miss Brewer soon acquired professional ability. By no means
has she confined her interest and energy to her secretarial duties
alone. She has, instead, become not only well knowledged in various
phases of the work and research of the Health Department, but most

Page Two - Miss Maxine Elliott Brewer
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

proficient in the application of her knowledge.

On January 1, 1936 Miss Brewer became County Registrar of
such vital statistics as birth and death registrations.

Maintaining a keen interest in her work, she leads an active
and useful life. She is possessed of a charming personality that
has won for her a wide circle of friends. Her sterling worth in the
guidance of her four younger sisters and brothers, left orphaned at
the death of their mother, is generally appreciated. She fulfills
with rare tact all responsibilities imposed upon her in both her
private and professional life.

Reference: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Miss Maxine Elliott Brewer - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 21, 1937

Topic: Sanitation

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. IV (a, b,
c, d)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

A Sanitation Supervisor was added to the staff of the County Health Department on April 1, 1936, and this service is now recognized as one of the most essential, being rendered by the Health Department. Since the institution of this service, Mr. S. S. Dale, formerly of Prentiss, Miss., has carried on in a most creditable manner all work under his direction, as evidenced by the following semi-annual report covering period of January 1st to June 30th, 1937, inclusive:

J - GENERAL SANITATION:

J-1.	Approved individual water supplies installed	19
J-1a.	Pressure water supply system installed	10
J-1b.	New water connection	15
J-1c.	Approved drinking fountains installed	2
J-1d.	Approved handworking facilities	1
J-1e.	Sewer connection	10
J-2.	New privies installed	77
J-2a.	New privies installed, urban	23
J-2b.	New privies installed, rural	54
J-3.	New septic tanks installed	6
J-3b.	New premises registered for sanitary supervision	556
J-4.	Private premises	1193
J-4a.	Complete inspection of public buildings	7
J-5.	Camp sites	10
J-6.	Barber shops and beauty parlors	9
J-7.	Schools	8
J-12.	Homes mosquito proofed	271
J-13.	Minor drainage, linear feet completed	7450

Page Two - Sanitation
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

K - PROTECTION OF FOOD AND MILK:

K-1.	Foodhandling establishments registered for supervision	72
K-2.	Field visits to foodhandling establishments	148
K-3.	Dairy farms registered for supervision	2
K-4.	Field visits to dairy farms	2

L - Laboratory:

L-1.	Water - bacteriological	35
L-3.	Milk or milk products	2

Reference: Mr. S. S. Dale (Sanitary Inspector) - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
April 20, 1937

Topic: Sanitation

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. IV - c

SUBJECT: HEALTH

c. Excreta disposals:

The following article as taken from The Belzoni Banner of July 8, 1937 is a statistical report of the activities of Humphreys County Health Department for the month of June, 1937:

"HEALTH DEPARTMENT
MAKES REPORT

The health department regrets to lose the services of one of its nurses, Miss Alma Hart, beginning the first of July. It is the aim of the department to secure enough from the county and other sources in the near future to have the services of a second nurse.

One nurse can not render adequate nursing service in a county with an estimated population of 28,000 people. A much better service can be rendered to the people of the county with a second nurse. With two nurses more than twice the number of people can be contacted and twice the number nursing visits made due to less area to be traveled.

The WPA Sanitation Program is still making good progress in the county. Twenty concrete privies were installed and completed on one plantation the first of the month. Now, the manager of the plantation is having all twenty of the houses screened under the

Page Two - Excreta disposals
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

supervision of the health department.

Another privy building program was started about the middle of the month on a plantation near Lamkin. All material has been obtained by the manager for the construction of about forty sanitary privies at the tenant houses on this plantation. The concrete forms have been poured for 11 of these privies.

Several other persons in the county have requested the health department to install sanitary privies at their houses.

The screening program is still making progress but not to the extent of last month due to field work. The labor on our screening program has been furnished by the managers of the plantations on which the screening has been done.

On all material cases admitted to medical and nursing service, a blood smear for malaria is obtained at the time a blood wassermann is taken. Of the forty-one cases admitted to these services, seven cases were infected with malaria. Each case was advised to see her family physician at once for medical treatment.

In visiting antepartum cases, the nurse gave demonstrations in the preparing of layettes, paper pads, abdominal binders, and other necessary articles for delivery.

The following is a statistical report of some of the activities of the health department for the month of June:

Visits to:

Communicable disease cases	12
Infant and preschool	103
Tuberculosis cases & contacts	50
Antepartum cases	37

Humphreys County, Health

Post partum cases	33
School children	49
Treatment administered to venereal disease cases	58

Persons immunized against:

Diphtheria	12
Typhoid fever	32
Smallpox	0

Sanitation:

Premises inspected for sanitary conditions . . .	253
New excreta disposal systems installed . . .	25
New water supplies installed	8
Food handling establishments inspected	45
Homes Mosquito Proofed	40

Laboratory specimens examined for:

Malaria	83
Syphilis	86
Diphtheria	16
Typhoid	12
Urine	60
Others	20
Total	277"

Reference: Belzoni Banner - July 8, 1937.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 20, 1937

Topic: Child Hygiene and Public
Health Nursing

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. V - 3

SUBJECT: HEALTH

3. Mouth Hygiene
a. what is being done along this line in county

At various times during the past two years, July 1, 1935 to June 30, 1937, a dental hygienist has been employed by the Humphreys County Health Department. A large part of her time was spent in the schools of the county, examining the mouths of students. Records reveal that, during this two year period, the hygienist made a total of 130 visits to the schools. There were 3,441 pupils inspected, and of this number 325 visited a dentist for correction of defects. These children were given a certificate by the dentist showing that this work had been done. The certificates were in turn presented to the Health Department.

The hygienist has given 213 instructive lectures to a total of 8,104 interested persons during the period of two years. She, herself, cleaned the teeth of 338 girls and boys.

The advantages in the employment of a dental hygienist by the County Health Department is easily recognized in the work which has been accomplished during these intermittent visits of the past two years.

Reference: Miss Maxine Brewer (Sec'y Humphreys Co. Health Department)
Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 2, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X - a

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. D. A. Mecklin - Belzoni, Mississippi

Dr. D. A. Mecklin, a native Mississippian, son of D. R. Mecklin and Elizabeth Creath Mecklin, was born at French Camp in 1878. Dr. Mecklin received his early education in the schools of French Camp, completing his studies at French Camp Academy in 1899. He then entered Tulane University at New Orleans from which he was graduated in 1904, receiving his D.D.S. degree.

Bearing the distinction of pioneer dentist of Humphreys County, Dr. Mecklin began practice at Belzoni in 1905 on the old river street known as "Greasy Row". In the spring of 1906 he moved into the Jackson building which had been erected in the new business section of the town. Here his practice was continued for twenty-eight years.

During the early part of 1934, Dr. Mecklin, along with the majority of other doctors of Belzoni, moved into the Alexander building in which a clinic was to be housed. In March, 1937, being affiliated with the clinic, he again transferred his office to the new Sevier building in which is now located the Humphreys County Clinic, where a completely equipped laboratory has been provided. In addition to his dental practice, Dr. Mecklin, with the assistance of Mrs. Gladys Hutchinson, Laboratory Technician, has charge of all X-Ray work.

Page Two - Dr. D. A. Mecklin
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

A resident of Belzoni since 1905, Dr. Mecklin has always been an interested and active worker in all affairs for the advancement of his town and county. A man of versatile talents, he has never allowed his private interest to monopolize his full attention, a portion of his time being always reserved for civic duties. His personality inspires confidence and he has long since become a definite part of the community where his worth is generally acknowledged.

His activity in medical, civic and religious circles has led him into all sections of the Delta, where he enjoys a wide circle of friends. A consistent member of the Presbyterian church, he was instrumental in the establishment of his church at Belzoni, as well as the erection of the present brick building. He is at present an Elder of the local church. Dr. Mecklin is also a member of the County Board of Education. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masonic Order, being a 32nd degree Mason, and Worshipful Master of the local lodge.

Genial and kind always, Dr. Mecklin has made a success of his chosen profession. A man of high ideals, he has made a place for himself in both his social and professional life.

Reference: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. D. A. Mecklin - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 22, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X - a

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. L. I. Watkins - Belzoni, Miss.:

Dr. L. I. Watkins, son of the late Charles H. and Josephine Gurley Watkins, was born at DeKalb, Mississippi. He received his public school education at Mt. Nebo, near DeKalb. He graduated from Atlanta Dental College in the Class of 1912, receiving his D. D. S. degree. He began his practice at DeKalb, where he remained four or five years. In 1917 at the outbreak of World War, he received his commission as First Lieutenant in Reserve Dental Corps and saw service in France. He entered active service in 1918, receiving his discharge on March 26, 1919. He came to Belzoni in April, 1919 and again began his private practice of dentistry. He was married to Miss Bessie Spidell on August 10, 1925, who for several years had been connected with the city schools as teacher. Dr. Watkins possesses a pleasing personality and has built up a nice practice in Humphreys County, where both he and Mrs. Watkins enjoy a large circle of friends.

Reference: Dr. L. I. Watkins - Belzoni, Miss.
WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Partledge

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 26, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X (a)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. L. C. Carroll - Belzoni, Miss.:

Dr. Lloyd Charles Carroll, successful dentist of Belzoni, brings to the practice of his profession youth, courtesy and a thorough knowledge of the most up-to-date ideas in dental surgery.

He was born in Ackerman, Mississippi, September 9, 1909, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Carroll. Dr. Carroll obtained his elementary education in Moorhead, Mississippi, later attending high school in Eupora, Mississippi, graduating from the latter in 1929. He then entered the University of Mississippi, Oxford, remaining through the years 1929, 1930 and 1931, during which time he became a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. In the fall of 1931 he transferred to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, graduating from that school in 1935 with a D. D. S. degree.

In September, 1935, Dr. Carroll located in Belzoni. Since that time he has built up a large and steadily increasing practice. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge. Owing to efficient work and the advancement he has already made in dental surgery, the future of Dr. Carroll seems most promising.

Reference: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. L. C. Carroll - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Partledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 26, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County
Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24
Item No. X (a)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. J. W. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.:

Dr. James Word Jackson, practicing physician of Belzoni, was born in Aberdeen, Miss., February 9, 1898, the son of the late Ben F. Jackson and Mrs. Minnie K. Green Jackson.

Dr. Jackson received the basis of his education in the public educational institutions of Mississippi, graduating with honors from Aberdeen High School in 1917. His studies were continued at Transylvania College, Lexington, Kentucky, where he received military training with the Student Army Training Corps, and at Tulane University, New Orleans. He then entered, as a medical student, the University of Tennessee at Memphis, from where he was graduated in 1924, receiving his degree as Doctor of Medicine. His student internship was served with the Memphis General Hospital during the years 1924-1925. While in college he took an active part in athletics, varsity football, in particular.

In the year 1925, Dr. Jackson began in the city of Hollywood, Tennessee what has proved a most successful professional career. He served citizens of that community until November, 1925, leaving to continue his work in Longwood, Mississippi, where he remained until December, 1930.

Page Two - Dr. J. W. Jackson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

On October 24, 1929, Dr. Jackson was married to Miss Mary V. Crider, daughter of Mr. Lou W. Crider and Mrs. Katie Williams Crider, prominent citizens of Bradford, Tennessee.

In December, 1930, Dr. Jackson moved to Belzoni, where he has built up a large practice as a general practitioner. He is a prominent, progressive citizen, always taking an active part in the civic affairs of his community. Dr. Jackson is a Fellow of the Mississippi State Medical Association, the Southern Medical Association and the American Medical Association. His church affiliation is listed with the Christian Church membership of Aberdeen, Mississippi.

Dr. Jackson is a scholar and a gentleman. He is kind, sympathetic and always ready to extend the hand of understanding and charity to worthy institutions and individuals. As a physician, he is well-knowledged and entirely capable. Dr. Jackson renders valuable service in the relief of suffering humanity. His hobby is his profession, and he enjoys making and keeping friends, among whom there are many in Humphreys County.

Reference: Mr. R. L. Rice - Biloxi, Miss. - Editor "Physicians of Mississippi".

Historic Research Staff, Belzoni, Miss.

Marnie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 26, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X (a)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. J. R. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.:

Although young in years, Dr. James Robert Jackson has already won recognition as a capable physician in his home town, Belzoni.

Dr. Jackson, son of Walter and Wray Morrison Jackson, was born in Belzoni, August 6, 1906. He received his early education in the schools of Belzoni, completing the outlined curriculum of work in 1924. His studies were continued at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, during the years 1925-1926. In 1927 he entered the Medical University of Tennessee, Memphis, from which he was graduated in 1931 with a degree of Doctor of Medicine. Dr. Jackson spent the following year, 1932, as an interne in the Indianapolis City Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana.

In 1933 Dr. Jackson returned to Belzoni to begin the practice of medicine. The fact that he would be successful soon became apparent. He was married to Miss Ann Bagwell of Murphreesburo, Tennessee and Daytona Beach, Florida on June 19, 1935.

His practice has progressed rapidly since his return four years ago. In March, 1937, he became a member of the Belzoni and Humphreys County Clinic. The local public has full confidence in his

Page Two - Dr. J. R. Jackson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

skill and ability to diagnose a case, as evidenced by their staunch support of his work. Having made such a marked beginning, it is to be expected that the future holds much for Dr. Jackson.

References: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. J. R. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 28, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Assignment No. 24

Item No. X (a)

Dr. J. A. Wadlington - Belzoni, Miss.:

Dr. James A. Wadlington, a native of Carroll County and son of A. B. Wadlington and Julia Ann (Ray) Wadlington, was born in 1876. Beginning his practice of medicine at Belzoni in 1911, Dr. Wadlington has long since become one of the leading physicians in this section of the Delta. He received his early education in the public schools of Carroll County and then attended Houston College at Houston, Mississippi.

Choosing for his life work the medical profession, Dr. Wadlington attended Medical College in New York. He later entered Tulane University, New Orleans, from which he received his M. D. degree in 1911. Soon afterward Dr. Wadlington had taken his place among other well established physicians of Belzoni.

Years of experience and study have brought to Dr. Wadlington thorough knowledge and skill in his work. He has kept in close touch with the forward march of his profession. Through devotion to his work, he has built up a large practice and he enjoys the full confidence of not only his own clientele, but that of the entire community. Dr. Wadlington is a man of high ideals and is possessed of a charitable disposition. His religious affiliation is with the Baptist Church.

Page Two - Dr. J. A. Wadlington
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Dr. Wadlington was married to Miss Hallie Eckford, native resident of Belzoni community, and to this union were born two sons and a daughter: James Eckford, now a prominent physician of Florence, Mississippi; Lucian Ray, a rapidly rising member of the Belzoni Bar; and Irene, now pursuing the study of art in New York.

A public spirited family of culture and intellect, they are among the few remaining representatives of the earlier pioneers of the county. Loyal and useful citizens, the growth and progress of their town has been to them a matter of personal pride.

Upon receiving his M. D. degree from the University of Tennessee in 1931, Dr. James Eckford Wadlington began his practice of medicine at Belzoni, being associated with his father. For two years a successful partnership continued. Because of his pleasing personality and thorough training, Dr. "Eckford" enjoyed well deserved popularity in both his social and professional life. After two years of successful practice at Belzoni, he entered government service for a time. He is now engaged in private practice at Florence, Mississippi, where he is making rapid advancement in his profession.

References: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Mrs. J. A. Wadlington - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 26, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X (a)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. G. M. Barnes - Belzoni, Miss.:

Dr. George McMaster Barnes, son of Sam M. Barnes and Sallie Armanda Bland Barnes, was born at Myles, Mississippi on February 22, 1888. Dr. Barnes secured his literary education at Mississippi College, Clinton, Mississippi and at Millsaps College, Jackson.

He then entered the Memphis Hospital Medical College, Memphis, Tennessee, from which he graduated in 1908. He received his license for the practice of Medicine from the Mississippi State Board of Health in 1908, being the youngest physician ever to obtain a license in the State of Mississippi. At the time of his graduation, Dr. Barnes weighed only 110 pounds and was told that he had secured his M. D. degree only to die himself. That, however, was not his idea for the future.

Choosing as his first location Rocky Springs, Mississippi, one of the highest and healthiest points in the State, Dr. Barnes remained for more than a year, building up his practice, having a good time and regaining his health.

His next location was at Red Lick, Mississippi. There he met and wooed Jane Spencer, youngest daughter of the late W. H. Spencer and Mary Barker Spencer, whom he married on August 10, 1910. To this union has been born two splendid boys, Spencer and Roy.

Page Two - Dr. G. M. Barnes
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

From 1920 to 1924 Dr. Barnes was connected with the State Hospital at Natchez, Mississippi as both assistant and House Surgeon. During 1924-1925, he was located at McComb, Mississippi where he was engaged in surgery and general practice, being also connected with the King's Daughters' Hospital.

In 1925 Dr. Barnes came to Belzoni in "the heart of the Delta" where he has built up a splendid practice and soon became easily a part of the community. In 1934 he took a post graduate course at Tulane University, New Orleans. In 1935 he became Camp Surgeon at C. C. Camp P-73- Co-4425 Belzoni, Mississippi serving until removal of this camp early in 1937.

Dr. Barnes is a member of the Methodist Church, and the Masonic Lodge. He is also a member of the State Medical Association and the Delta Medical Association, having served as both president and vice-president of the latter.

Reference: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. G. M. Barnes - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 2, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. X - a

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. John C. Bell - Belzoni, Miss.:

Among prominent physicians of Belzoni, Dr. John C. Bell, native Mississippian of Pontotoc County, was born July 8, 1874. He received his public school education at Pontotoc, Mississippi, then attended the University of Arkansas from which he was graduated in 1894.

Choosing for his life work the Medical profession, Dr. Bell received his M.D. degree from the Medical Department of University of Tennessee, Nashville, in 1899. His professional studies were further pursued with a post graduate course at Tulane University, New Orleans.

Dr. Bell began his practice of medicine at Frayser, Tennessee in 1899. In 1900 he moved to Memphis, where he remained until 1919. During his residence in Memphis, he filled a responsible post as Secretary of the City Board of Health. He also served as Health Officer of the City of Memphis.

Coming to Belzoni in 1919, Dr. Bell was soon successful in establishing a large practice. He served as Health Officer of Humphreys County for two years.

Years of experience and study have provided Dr. Bell with a comprehensive knowledge of his profession, in which he not

Page Two - Dr. John C. Bell
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

infrequently displays rare wisdom. He is notably successful in his treatment of pneumonia, in which his professional ability is generally recognized. He is well versed in the technicalities of his profession and ably applies his knowledge to the needs of his patients.

In 1927 Dr. Bell was married to Mrs. Mary Beattie Clark of Van Couver, Washington. Both Dr. and Mrs. Bell are public spirited and being always on the alert to aid in any movement for the good of their town and county, they have long since become useful and influential members of the community.

Of social inclination, Dr. and Mrs. Bell have a wide circle of friends in Humphreys County among whom they enjoy much popularity.

References: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. John C. Bell - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 27, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Assignment No. 24

Item No. X (a)

Dr. J. W. Barkley (County Health Officer) - Belzoni, Miss.:

Possessed of the ability and desire to ably perform required duties of a County Health Officer, Dr. James Wesley Barkley has aptly filled this position in Humphreys County during the four years he has been in charge of this office.

Dr. Barkley was born in Cotton Plant, Mississippi, August 6, 1898, the son of J. B. and Mary Tommie Wells Barkley, eminent citizens of Cotton Plant. His early education provided by Mississippi Heights Academy, Blue Mountain, Mississippi. He was graduated with a high school diploma in the year 1919. He then entered the University of Mississippi, from which school he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1924. Completing this course he enrolled as a medical student at the University of Tennessee, Memphis, and was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1927. During the period 1927-1928, Dr. Barkley was an interne in the City Hospital of Memphis, after which he moved to Ripley, Mississippi, where he began his professional career in August, 1928. His work as general practitioner continued until February, 1929. At that time he began his work as specialist in public health with the Mississippi State Board of Health, and served as Public Health Officer for both Tishomingo and Copiah Counties.

Page Two - Dr. J. W. Barkley
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

On March 22, 1928, Dr. Barkley was married to Miss Iva Powell, daughter of C. D. and Bettye Garrett Powell, well known residents of Chalybeate, Mississippi. They have three children: James Harry, born February 9, 1930; Gene Alben, born September 1, 1932; and William Donald, born March 28, 1936.

Dr. Barkley began his work in Humphreys County during the year 1933. He serves as health specialist and officer for the county, residing in the City of Belzoni. His college fraternity is the Theta Kappa Psi Medical. He also holds membership in the American Public Health Association, the Mississippi Medical Association and is an honored Fellow of the Delta Medical Society, serving as vice-president for the present term. He is associated with the Baptist Church and a member of the Masonic Lodge.

Dr. Barkley is a man of the highest character, an authority on public health and sanitation and a well-knowledged, efficient physician. For recreation, he finds no sports more interesting than fishing and reading.

Reference: Dr. J. W. Barkley (County Health Officer) - Belzoni, Miss.
WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 26, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County
Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24
Item No. X (a)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. W. B. Herrington - Belzoni, Miss.:

Now in the seventeenth year of his practice of optometry in Belzoni, Dr. William Bingham Herrington has established for himself a reputation of skilled, proficient work.

He was born near Hazelhurst, Mississippi in 1877, son of William Giles and Mary Etta Foster Herrington. Dr. Herrington acquired his early education in the public schools of Mississippi, graduating from the Port Gibson high school in 1895. The reading of articles in a technical magazine led to his desire for entering the field of optometry. As a boy, he had lived next door to the owner of a merchantile and drug business. Observing Dr. Herrington's interest in the drug department, he allowed him to aid in some experimental work. While employed in the store Dr. Herrington studied chemistry and physics under a graduate chemist from Germany. He then took extension work under a Dr. Brown of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and, later, under Dr. Hugh Connelly of Detroit, Michigan. His work was further pursued by study with the Drs. McFatritch of Northern Illinois College of Ophthalmology, now known as Northern Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago. He also completed a course in commercial training in Grenada, Mississippi. Dr. Herrington finished

Page Two - Dr. W. B. Herrington
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

his apprenticeship as watchmaker in 1900, after three years of work under a skilled workman, W. E. Smith.

As a boy eager for knowledge, the path for acquiring same was by no means easy for Dr. Herrington. It was necessary for him to work at many different tasks in order that he might pursue his studies, as he had no means whatsoever outside of the fruits of his own labor. Only his intellect and a strong sense of determination enabled him to overcome obstacles and work steadily toward the goal of his ambition.

Dr. Herrington came to Belzoni in 1903, and was in the employ of Mr. Steve Castleman as bookkeeper for several years. He then entered business for himself which he continued until 1914. In 1915-1916, however, he took post graduate work in Kansas City, Missouri. During the World War, he traveled for a wholesale optical firm in New Orleans.

In the year 1920, Dr. Herrington began the active practice of optometry in Belzoni. Since that time he has ably served the people of Humphreys County with his professional knowledge along this line, and is most successful in his chosen field of work.

He is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church and the Masonic Order, being a 32nd degree Mason. Dr. Herrington enjoys to the fullest extent the esteem and confidence of his fellow men.

References: Mrs. Lillian Herrington - Belzoni, Miss.
WPA Historic Research - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 4, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Assignment No. 24

Item No. X - a

Dr. T. J. Barkley - Isola, Miss.:

Now a valued physician of Isola, Mississippi, Dr. Thomas Jefferson Barkley, son of J. B. and Mary Tommie Wells Barkley, prominent citizens of Cotton Plant, Mississippi, was born December 22, 1902.

Dr. Barkley received his elementary education in the public schools of Cotton Plant, and graduated from Mississippi Heights Academy at Blue Mountain in 1920. He then entered the University of Mississippi, where he was graduated in 1924 with B.S. and M.D. degrees. While attending "Ole Miss", Dr. Barkley was a member of the Medical Club and president of the Junior Medical Class. An excerpt opposite the name of Thomas Jefferson Barkley from the 1924 "Ole Miss" Annual reads:

"Behold the incarnation of Chaucer--minus the poetry. A more popular and good-natured man was never beheld. An indispensable supporter of the School of Medicine, a basketball man of renown and one of the most successful students we have known. He will be missed when he has gone away."

Completing his studies at the University of Mississippi, Dr. Barkley continued preparation for his practice of medicine at the University of Tennessee, completing the course in June, 1927 with a M.D. degree from that institution. He is a member of the

Page Two - Dr. T. J. Barkley
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Theta Kappa Si Medical Fraternity. He received his training as an interne at the T. C. I. Industrial Hospital, Fairfield, Alabama, this being the Employee's Hospital of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company.

Dr. Barkley began his active practice of medicine at Isola, Mississippi in July, 1928, and it was soon evident that he was destined to become one of the leading physicians of the county. Well qualified by preparatory study, and an ardent devotee to his profession, advancement has been rapid and he has long since established a large practice.

Early in his professional career, Dr. Barkley was married to Miss Lois Cleo Randle, daughter of J. W. Randle of Blue Mountain, Mississippi. Two children have been born of this union, a son Jare Lyons and a daughter Janice Lorene Barkley.

Dr. Barkley is identified with the Baptist Church. He is a member of both the Delta Medical and the Mississippi State Medical Societies. His interests are thoroughly allied with those of the Isola community and he enjoys complete confidence and esteem among both his professional colleagues and his large clientele of the community. Affable always, Dr. Barkley possesses all the qualities of a useful and desirable citizen.

References: Dr. T. J. Barkley - Isola, Miss.
"Ole Miss" Annual, 1924
Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.

Mammie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 3, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X - a

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. W. S. Taylor - Isola, Miss.:

Dr. William Samuel Taylor, son of James K. and Annie Elizabeth Wright Taylor, was born August 17, 1877 near Carrollton, Mississippi.

Dr. Taylor received his elementary education in the public schools of Carroll County, graduating from the Carrollton High School in 1896. He continued his literary course at Tula Normal Institute in Lafayette County after which he taught school for five years at Carrollton, his home town.

Deciding on a medical career, Dr. Taylor entered Memphis Hospital Medical College in 1907. While in his Junior year of college, he began his practice of medicine at McCarley, Mississippi. He returned to college in 1911 and received his M.D. degree as an honor student in 1912. Resuming his practice at McCarley, he continued there until 1917 at which time he moved to Isola, in the northern part of Humphreys County.

In 1903 Dr. Taylor was married to Miss Annie Diggs, daughter of W. J. Diggs of Carroll County, and to this union was born one son, G. F. Taylor.

Upon taking up his residence at Isola in 1917, Dr. Taylor

Page Two - Dr. W. S. Taylor
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

soon established himself as one of the leading physicians of the county. He was for many years engaged in the drug business in which he was most successful.

His activity in all affairs for the betterment of his community soon won for him recognition as a progressive and influential citizen. This led to his election in 1931 as Supervisor of Beat Two. ^(served one term) Dr. Taylor is not only a man of splendid professional ability, but a prominent factor in the up-building of his town. He is engaged also in farming, being recognized as one of the most successful planters in the northern section of the county.

In religious faith Dr. Taylor is a member of the Methodist Church. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic Order, being a 32nd degree Mason, his membership being listed with the Greenville, Mississippi lodge.

Dr. Taylor fills an important place in the life of his community and enjoys the esteem and admiration of many friends.

Reference: WPA Historic Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. W. S. Taylor - Isola, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 22, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. X - a

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. W. A. D. James - Midnight, Miss.:

Dr. W. A. D. James, practicing physician of Midnight, was born at Alva, Webster County, Mississippi. He obtained his early education at French Camp Academy, French Camp, Mississippi. Completing the course there, Dr. James began study at the University of Tennessee, receiving his A. B. degree from that school. He then entered Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, receiving his degree of Doctor of Medicine from that school. Following this study he was an interne in the Vicksburg Hospital, Vicksburg, Miss. for one year, after which he moved to Midnight where he has been practicing medicine since that time.

In 1917 Dr. James was sent across the seas as Captain in the Medical Corps, serving until the end of the war in 1919. He then returned to Midnight to resume his former practice.

During the years 1926-1927 he served as County Health Officer. He is an able physician, his sterling characteristics having justified the respect and confidence in which he is held by Humphreys County citizens.

Reference: Dr. W. A. D. James - Midnight, Miss.

Mamie G. Partledge
County Historian

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 20, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. X -a

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. G. S. Bryan, ^{Silver City, Miss.} son of A. L. and Mattie Holaday Bryan, was born on March 12, 1886 at Aberdeen, Mississippi. He attended the schools of Monroe County and after his graduation entered college at Hamilton, Mississippi. He then attended Memphis Medical College, receiving his M. D. degree in 1910.

Dr. Bryan began his practice of medicine at West Point, Mississippi in 1910. In 1912 he moved to Starkville, where he remained the following four years. During this time he was married to Miss Mary Frances McGraw. To this union one daughter was born in 1915.

In 1916 Dr. Bryan came to the Delta locating at Moorhead, Mississippi, where he was engaged in practice until 1920, at which time he moved to Silver City where he spent the following seven years. For a time he lived at Thornton, Mississippi, and due to ill health he spent some time in south Mississippi. In 1933 he returned to Silver City, where he is now actively engaged in his chosen profession and enjoys a lucrative practice among his many friends.

Reference: Dr. G. S. Bryan - Silver City, Mississippi.

Mamie G. Partledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 27, 1937

Topic: Nurses in County

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X (b)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Mrs. Ruby Mae Aycock (County Health Nurse) - Belzoni, Miss.:

Ruby Mae Cox Aycock, daughter of J. A. and Ida Johnson Cox, was born at Vaiden, Carroll County, Mississippi on July 23, 1904. She received her literary education in the public schools of Carroll County.

After finishing high school, Mrs. Aycock entered training at Charity Hospital, Jackson, Mississippi. She later entered the Jackson Infirmary, from where she was graduated in 1925. She began her career as nurse in Jackson, spending four months in private duty.

In October, 1925, she received an appointment with the U. S. Public Health Service at Mobile, Alabama, where she remained for two years. She again returned to Jackson and engaged in private duty for several months.

Always on the alert for advancement in her chosen profession, Mrs. Aycock in 1928 took a two months special training course at the Rockefeller Training School which was held at Indianola, Mississippi. She then became connected with the Leflore County Health Department, where she worked for a short time.

In June, 1928 she came to Belzoni to assume her duties as County Health Nurse, which place she has filled most successfully.

Page Two - Mrs. Ruby Mae Aycock
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

On May 11, 1930 she was married to Mr. Clint Brooks Aycock, and to this union has been born one son, Clint Brooks Aycock, Jr.

Mrs. Aycock is known to be very proficient in her line of work. She has gained wide recognition for both her thorough training and her devotion to duty. With her quiet, gentle manner and sympathetic understanding, she is not only popular with her friends, but well liked by everyone for her many admirable characteristics.

Reference: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Mrs. Ruby Mae Cox Aycock - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 26, 1937

Topic: Nurses in County

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Topic No. X (b)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Mrs. Hazel Raney Stephenson - Belzoni, Miss.:

Mrs. Hazel Raney Stephenson, daughter of J. D. and Carrie McEachen^r Raney, was born January 21, 1910 at Carrollton, Mississippi. In the acquirement of an education, she attended the schools of Carroll County, graduating from the J. Z. George High School of North Carrollton, Mississippi in 1926.

She entered training at Grenada Hospital, passing the State Board examination in 1930, receiving her R. N. degree. Her first position as registered nurse was at Parchman, Mississippi, under Dr. W. P. McDavid. She remained at Parchman one year, then after the death of her mother, came to Belzoni where she has made her home with her aunt, Mrs. Mary Norwood. Since then, she has been engaged principally in private duty in Humphreys and adjoining counties. For a time she was connected with the County Health Department under Dr. J. W. Barkley, County Health Officer.

On November 3, 1935 Miss Raney was married to Mr. M. G. Stephenson of Belzoni and Lexington, Mississippi. They have made Belzoni their home where Mrs. Stephenson has continued her profession.

A young lady of sterling worth, Mrs. Stephenson has gained wide recognition in this section of the Delta as a splendid nurse.

Page Two - Mrs. Hazel Raney Stephenson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Her gentle, refined manner easily marks her as a young woman of culture and charm. In both her social and professional life, she enjoys the admiration of a large circle of friends.

Reference: WPA Historic Research Staff
(Hazel Raney Stephenson)

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 27, 1937

Topic: Nurses in County

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Assignment No. 24

Item No. X (b)

Mrs. Mary V. Crider Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.:

Mrs. Mary V. Crider Jackson, wife of Dr. J. W. Jackson of Belzoni, is an able nurse, interested in the welfare of local persons.

She is the daughter of Lou W. Crider and Katie Williams Crider of Bradford, Tennessee. Mrs. Jackson was reared at Bradford and Stephens, Arkansas. She finished her high school work at Bradford in April, 1927, and, in July of that year, began the nurses' training course at the King's Daughters' Hospital, Greenville, Mississippi, where she remained until August, 1929.

On October 24, 1929, she was married to Dr. James Word Jackson of Longwood, Mississippi. Dr. and Mrs. Jackson moved to Belzoni in December, 1930, where they have since made their home. During these years, she has nursed a number of local citizens through periods of illness. She often nurses cases whom her husband is attending. Mrs. Jackson is well known as an efficient and capable nurse.

Reference: Mrs. J. W. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.
WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 3, 1937

Topic: Nurses in County

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Assignment No. 24

Item No. X - b

Oxavana Johnson (Colored) - Belzoni, Miss.:

Well deserving of mention among the relief agencies of human suffering around Belzoni, is Oxavana Johnson, colored practical nurse, who has gained much recognition of efficiency in the capable and conscientious performance of her duties.

She is a native of Leflore County, but came to Belzoni in 1921, as the wife of Ezell Johnson, now a well known porter of Maxwell Grocery Company.

For some time prior to 1931, Oxavana had been occasionally called upon to lend her aid in cases of illness, and because of her aptness for this work, she had become interested in better fitting herself for more responsibility. In 1931 while visiting her mother at Vicksburg, she found her way into the Charity Hospital, where she was quick to seize upon an opportunity to broaden her knowledge in professional nursing. She not infrequently boasts of the fact that she stole her training from the Charity Hospital at Vicksburg. At any rate, she has become well established as a practical nurse.

Gifted with intelligence, she is very attentive to her

Humphreys County, Health

Page Two - Oxavana Johnson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

patients, and has become quite adept in the handling of her charts and her ability to carry out instructions of the physician in charge. Being dependable and amenable to suggestion, she is well regarded by local physicians.

Reference: WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.
Exell Johnson - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 26, 1937

Topic: Clinic in County

Assignment No. 24

Emumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X (c)

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Humphreys County Clinic - Belzoni, Miss.:

To Dr. James W. Jackson goes major credit for the up-to-date Clinic, now available to the residents of Humphreys County. Since coming to Belzoni in late 1930, Dr. Jackson has, in addition to building up a general practice, concentrated his attention upon the establishment of a completely equipped clinic. In this undertaking, progress has been his watchword, and it is now with much pride that Dr. Jackson and his able associates can look upon the establishment of a modern clinic in which no detail has been overlooked.

In March, 1937 the Humphreys County Clinic became housed in the new Sevier Building which had been designed to meet its individual requirement. Offices of the following affiliated doctors are also maintained on the same floor of the building: James W. Jackson, M. D.; James R. Jackson, M. D.; and D. A. Mecklin, D. D. S. and X-ray technician. On July 5, 1937 Mrs. Gladys Hutchinson assumed her duties as laboratory technician.

Organizing and equipping a clinic has been a gradual but progressive undertaking. The purpose of this organization is to provide additional services, both individually and collectively, such as here-to-fore had to be obtained in other cities and towns.

Humphreys County, Health

Page Two - Humphreys County Clinic
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Complete confidence and full appreciation of the people of Belzoni and the surrounding county have been anticipated during the initiation and consummation of a plan whereby they can avail themselves of certain laboratory tests and X-ray examinations that serve as an aid to their physician in making more definite and conclusive diagnosis, and which may determine proper treatment.

A fully equipped laboratory is now efficiently operated by Mrs. Gladys Hutchinson, who is well experienced in her line of work. In addition to routine blood counts, malaria examinations, and urinalysis, such examinations as blood chemistry tests, for blood sugar, non-protein nitrogen determinations, metabolic tests and gastric analysis, are made. Dr. Mecklin will be assisted by Mrs. Hutchinson in conducting the X-ray work.

A modern X-ray unit was installed on July 10th. Accurate examinations of the bones, teeth, lungs, heart, gall bladder, kidneys, stomach and intestines are now possible. Movements and functions of certain organs can now be studied by use of the pluroscope.

In connection with the clinic, services of Miss Valcia Harris, who is a D. O. student in laboratory technique cannot be over estimated. In addition to handling telephone calls, directing patients, etc., she is every body's assistant.

Let it be understood by all physicians of Humphreys and other adjoining counties, and their clientele, that both the laboratory and X-ray facilities of the Humphreys County Clinic are available

Page Three - Humphreys County Clinic
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

for their individual use through contact with the Laboratory Technician, Mrs. Hutchinson.

References: Dr. J. W. Jackson, M. D. - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. J. R. Jackson, M. D. - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. D. A. Mecklin, D. D. S. - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 3, 1937

Topic: Clinic

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. X - c

SUBJECT: HEALTH

The following article was taken from The Belzoni Banner of
July 29, 1937:

LOCAL DOCTORS INSTALL
LATEST X-RAY MACHINE

Equipped To Give Service Of Any Kind
With New Machine Installed

"Drs. J. W. Jackson, J. R. Jackson and D. A. Mecklin have purchased and installed the latest type of X-Ray machine and are thoroughly equipped to make any type of X-Ray pictures. This machine is one of the most powerful types and latest model of machine with a fluroscope attachment which makes it possible to study the heart and all other internal organs and easily watch the action of medicine. This machine is entirely shock proof as all working parts are balanced in oil. This machine can take pictures of the very smallest parts of the entire body.

These physicians have employed a technician, Mrs. Hutchinson, who has had six years experience with Dr. Parsons of Vicksburg and one year with Dr. White at Greenville, and they are thoroughly equipped to do any kind of diagnosis such as blood tests, consumption analysis that any up to date physician is equipped to do.

Page Two - X-Ray Machine
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

There is no reason ^{why} people in this county should go to other hospitals for X-Rays or diagnosis when local physicians are thoroughly equipped."

Reference: The Belzoni Banner - July 29, 1937

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 2, 1937

Topic: Old Family Physicians

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. XI

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. J. S. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss. (Deceased):

On October 26, 1933 a life dominated by charitable impulses and intelligent thinking was ended when Dr. James Samuel Jackson, prominent physician of Belzoni for many years, passed away. Courteous always, he was truly a man to be associated with the old school of Southern gentlemen.

Dr. Jackson was born near Tupelo, Mississippi on October 16, 1864, and his death occurred directly after his sixty-ninth birthday. He was the son of James H. and Margaret Thomason Jackson. The former was a native of Georgia, and a planter during his entire life, except for the time of his service in the Confederate Army during the War between the States. His commission was that of lieutenant in the Second Mississippi Regiment, practically all of his service being with the army in Northern Virginia under General Robert E. Lee. He died in 1901. The mother of Dr. Jackson was a native Mississippian.

Dr. Jackson received his early education in the schools of Pontotoc County. These studies completed, he entered the Memphis Hospital Medical College, graduating from that institution in 1893 with a degree of Doctor of Medicine. He immediately began practice on Bell Prairie Plantation in Yazoo County, remaining there two years.

Page Two - Dr. J. S. Jackson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

In 1895 Dr. Jackson came to Belzoni. Because of his thorough preparedness to serve those in need of medical attention, he soon established for himself a reputation of skill which resulted in a large practice. His service to suffering humanity covered a wide range of this immediate section. Day and night by horseback or buggy, he responded to a call for the relief of his many patients. It is said that several horses each year went the way of uselessness, many dying from over-taxed energy, in meeting the demands of his large practice. Evidence of devotion to his profession is further shown by a post-graduate course at the New York Polyclinic School of Medicine in 1903. At all times Dr. Jackson endeavored to keep aligned with the new discoveries in the field of medicine.

On November 11, 1897 Dr. Jackson was married to Miss Mamie Eckford of Belzoni, member of a prominent pioneer family of this section. Mrs. Jackson has very capably carried on all affairs of business since the death of her husband.

Although Dr. Jackson was actively engaged in the practice of medicine for more than fifteen years, his energies were by no means confined to his medical practice. Extending largely to the development of what is now Humphreys County, much evidence of his progressive ideas will long remain. In 1909, he, with several of his associates, organized the Citizens' Bank & Trust Company, taking over the Belzoni Trust & Banking Company which had become extinct. For a number of years he was in active charge of the Bank, and its rapid growth into one of the foregoing financial institutions of the Delta is concise

Humphreys County, Health

Page Three - Dr. J. S. Jackson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

proof of his ability as a financier. Failing health led to his retirement from this enterprise.

When the county was created in 1918, Dr. Jackson was appointed member of the Board of Supervisors from Beat One. Upon organization of the Board, he was elected to serve as president. His able performance of the duties of this office led to his re-election for the succeeding term. During the time that he held this office, the county finances were expertly handled. It was during his administration as president of the Board, that the present courthouse and jail were constructed.

A member of the City Council of Belzoni for a period of years, Dr. Jackson was instrumental in the construction of the steel bridge across the Yazoo River at Belzoni. When the bridge was built the north bank of the river was in Washington County and the south bank in Holmes County. It was his influence with members of the Board of Supervisors of these counties, that led to the appropriation of funds for construction of the bridge.

During the World War, Dr. Jackson held the rank of Captain. He volunteered his services to his country and was held in the Reserve Corps at Camp Greenlief, Georgia for a period of months.

As previously mentioned, Dr. Jackson made notable progress in the science of medicine. His friends and patients knew and loved him. He was never too tired or ^{too} busy to relieve suffering if it was within his power. Retiring in his nature, he did not care for publicity, but it was his custom to contribute materially to any worthy cause.

Page Four - Dr. J. S. Jackson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

His generous nature and kind, sympathetic disposition won for him friends who remained loyal during his entire life.

The local paper of December 19, 1919 carried a notice of his retirement from the practice of medicine. Ill health and other business interests led to this announcement. Nevertheless, so complete was the confidence of his patients in his knowledge and diagnosis of their ailments, that they would not consent to consult other physicians. His advice was given freely, and not infrequently was he found at the bedside of a sufferer -- he could not refuse their requests.

Although a loyal member of the Democratic party, Dr. Jackson never aspired to public office. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic Order. His religious affiliation was with the Baptist Church.

The death of Dr. Jackson left in Humphreys County a vacancy that will never be refilled. On the day he was laid to rest, the flag at the courthouse was flown at half mast. All business houses were closed for one and one-half hours in further testimony of the respect and esteem in which Dr. Jackson was held by the community. He will be long remembered as a splendid physician and as a man courageous -- unselfish in both thought and deed.

References: "Mississippi" - Vol. III (Southern Historical Publishing Association - Atlanta, Ga.)
Belzoni Banner - Dec. 19, 1919
Belzoni Banner (Souvenir Edition) Aug. 10, 1922
Belzoni Banner - Oct. 26, 1933
WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 28, 1937

Topic: Old Family Physician

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. XI

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. W. H. Baptist - Belzoni, Miss. (Deceased):

A Virginian by birth, Dr. W. H. Baptist is remembered as the first physician of Belzoni and perhaps the first doctor in the county.

Dr. Baptist was a very learned man, being a graduate of the University of Virginia and of Tulane University, of New Orleans. He also held degrees from a School of Medicine in Philadelphia and at Belvue Hospital in New York. It was while serving as an interne at Belvue Hospital that Dr. Baptist was called to enter service in the War between the States. He responded to the call, serving as surgeon through the entire five years of strife.

In 1870 Dr. Baptist came to what is now Humphreys County. He opened a little office on the Yazoo River near the home of Mr. W. M. Morris, where he began his practice of medicine. When Mr. J. S. Bowles opened a store on the river, and established a Post Office, which was given the name of Belzoni, Dr. Baptist moved into the little settlement, where he lived until his death in 1896.

Dr. Baptist was married to Mrs. Ella Eckford in 1884, mother of Mrs. Mamie E. Jackson and Mrs. Hallie E. Wadlington, lifelong residents of Belzoni. Dr. and Mrs. Baptist built a home overlooking the river, where the new Post Office building will soon be located.

Dr. Baptist was a man of very strong character and a splendid

Page Two - Dr. W. H. Baptist
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

physician. His practice covered a large scope of the country surrounding Belzoni, and owing to the wooded density of the section, his mode of travel was usually on horse-back.

It is remembered by older residents of Belzoni that Dr. Baptist was always active and influential in any undertaking toward the up-building and progress of the little settlement of the early eighties that has grown so rapidly into our city of today. Sharing his office for a school room, donating a lot for a school building, and advancing the establishment of his church, are memoirs that insure for him a place of reserve in the annals of our county history.

Practical, and well versed in the principles of life, many of his sayings have been handed down which bear testimony to his high ideals and genuine worth.

Reference: Mrs. Hallie E. Wadlington - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 22, 1937

Topic: Old Family Physicians

Assignment No. 24

Emumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. XI

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. J. C. Higdon - Belzoni, Miss. (Deceased):

Prominent in medical circles of the Delta and a practicing physician of Belzoni for thirty years, Dr. J. C. Higdon passed away in December, 1936.

Dr. Higdon was a native of Copiah County, where he began the practice of medicine after graduating from Tulane University at New Orleans. He came to Belzoni about 1906 where he rose rapidly in his profession and soon endeared himself to the people of the county. "Doc Joe", as he was affectionately known, numbered his friends by his acquaintances. His smile, a pleasant word and his sympathetic understanding in suffering, inspired in his patients a confidence that built for him a large practice in this section of the Delta.

Dr. Higdon's prominence in the medical fraternity was not limited to Humphreys County. He was a member of the Tri-State Medical Association, which he always attended whenever possible. He was also one of the organizers of the Delta Medical Society, having served as president.

Dr. Higdon was affiliated with the Baptist Church, having held membership in the local church for a number of years. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge.

Page Two - Dr. J. C. Higdon
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Possessed of many noble traits of character, his memory will be always held dear by those who knew him best. He was of charitable disposition and gave freely of his time and medical skill to those whom he could so serve.

Recognized as a perfect dresser, whenever possible, he always wore a bright red rose. This, as often remarked, was emblematic of his character. The memory of Dr. Higdon will linger long in the heart of his many friends throughout the county.

Reference: Belzoni Banner - Dec. 17, 1936.
WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
July 22, 1937

Topic: Old Family Physicians

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. XI

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. J. F. Slaughter - Silver City, Miss. (Deceased):

Dr. J. F. Slaughter, one of the best known and well liked physicians of the Delta up until his death several years ago, was born at Edinburgh, Mississippi on February 25, 1887. His earlier schooling was received in his native state, Mississippi. Upon completion of these schools, he choose to further his education at the University of Kentucky, located in Louisville. He was graduated from this institution in 1902. A two year period of internship was served at the General Hospital in Louisville. Dr. Slaughter attended Tulane at New Orleans for post-graduate work in medicine, and, after leaving the school, selected the little town of Midnight for first practice in his chosen field of work.

Dr. Slaughter's easy and friendly manner endeared him to all residents of the community, and made for him friends that were to remain loyal for his entire life. In 1903 he was married to Miss Lena Lumbly, member of a well known family in this district.

During his practice of medicine in Midnight, Dr. Slaughter had as his partner for a number of years, Dr. J. N. Mecklin, now of Louise. After Dr. Mecklin moved to Louise, Dr. W. A. D. James located in Midnight and became a partner with Dr. Slaughter in the medical practice.

Page Two - Dr. J. F. Slaughter
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

In 1920 he moved to Silver City to make his home. Success in his chosen profession continued. Dr. Slaughter was always interested in the affairs of his home town and county. He was a 32nd Degree Shriner Mason.

Up until the last few weeks before his death, Dr. Slaughter, although he had been in failing health for several months, continued his practice of medicine. On October 20, 1934 he passed away.

Humphreys County was deprived of a loyal citizen when Dr. Slaughter died. His memory will remain bright in the hearts of persons who knew and loved him.

Reference: Mrs. Lena Slaughter - Silver City, Miss.
The Belzoni Banner - October 25, 1934.
WPA Historic Research Staff - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 24

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 9, 1937

Topic: Doctors in County

Assignment No. 24

Enumerator: Constance P. Embry

Item No. X - a

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. J. N. Mecklin - Louise, Miss.:

Indispensable to a large circle of patients in the southern portion of the county, Dr. J. N. Mecklin has served as physician at Louise and the surrounding territory since 1900. That section, which has since become a part of Humphreys, was then included in Yazoo County. Dr. Mecklin recalls that there were very few white citizens in the vicinity of Louise at that time.

Born on August 28, 1876 at French Camp, Choctaw County, Mississippi, Dr. Mecklin's father, A. H. Mecklin and his mother, J. I. Mecklin, were old and prominent residents of the town. He received his early education at French Camp, graduating from French Camp Academy in 1896. His literary education was continued at Southwestern University, then at Clarksville, Tennessee. In the acquirement of his medical training, he attended the medical department of the University of Tennessee at Nashville, Tennessee and the Memphis Medical College at Memphis, receiving his M.D. degree. He served his internship at the Vicksburg State Hospital. Dr. Mecklin has since taken post graduate work at Tulane University, New Orleans.

Page Two - Dr. J. N. Mecklin
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Conditions have been much changed since Dr. Mecklin came to the section now embraced in Humphreys County. During the thirty-seven years of his residence, there has been a material increase in the white population of his community. He has witnessed the culmination of many forward gestures by progressive citizens of the county.

In 1903 Dr. Mecklin was married to Miss Willie Smith, daughter of W. J. Smith of Midnight. Dr. and Mrs. Mecklin became the parents of two splendid boys. In religious faith they are affiliated with the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Mecklin is in point^{of} residence the oldest living Doctor in the county. He is a physician of broad experience and well knowledged in the science of his profession. He enjoys a large practice in his section of the county, and as a man possesses many splendid traits of character which hold for him a large circle of friends. Aside from the handling of his large practice, Dr. Mecklin is also engaged in farming.

References: WPA Historic Research - Belzoni, Miss.
Dr. J. N. Mecklin - Louise, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 24

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 25, 1937

Topic: Old Family Physicians

Enumerator: Kate J. Barrett

Assignment No. 24

Item No. XI

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Dr. C. B. Holmes (Deceased) - Silver City, Miss.:

Dr. C. B. Holmes, for forty years engaged in the practice of medicine at Silver City, and one of the oldest and best loved physicians in the Delta, met a tragic death on July 21, 1932, being drowned in Atchafalaya Lake about two miles south of Silver City.

On the morning of his death, Dr. Holmes and a negro boy had gone to the lake fishing. Having very little success, the negro boy had been sent to the bank with a dip net for larger minnows, when Dr. Holmes, in trying to disentangle his fishing line from a log, fell backward into the lake and was drowned.

The untimely death of Dr. Holmes came as a great shock to his large circle of friends in Humphreys County. He had been a practicing physician at Silver City for forty years, during which time he had been a prominent figure in all affairs for the betterment of his town and county. Dr. Holmes enjoyed, and was a great promoter of athletic sports. As a citizen and physician, he held always a place of high regard among people of the county. He was never known to fail in response to any call, even though he knew he would receive no recompense; and to thousands of his patients were given medicine,

Page Two - Dr. C. B. Holmes
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

even though he knew they would be unable to pay for it.

Dr. Holmes was a native of Yazoo County and was sixty-eight years of age at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Thursa Holmes, and one daughter, Mrs. Mattie Whatley, of Jackson. As a beloved pioneer of the county, the death of Dr. Holmes was grieved by all who knew him.

Reference: Belzoni Banner - July 21, 1932.

Marnie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 24

HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 30, 1937

Topic: Doctors

Assignment No. 24

Emumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. X - a

SUBJECT: HEALTH

Belzoni has at numerous times been host to medical conventions of the Delta, and because of the ample facilities for large gatherings offered by the Humphreys County Courthouse and the interest and hospitality of the people of the town and county, Belzoni has proven a very desirable location as a place of assembly.

From the Belzoni Banner of April 12, 1928 is taken the following:

DOCTORS HAVE BIG TIME
HERE WEDNESDAY

Delta Medical Association Hold
Convention at Courthouse
Wednesday.--Banquet at
Methodist Church

"The Delta Medical Association met at the Court House at 2:00 P. M. Wednesday afternoon and was called to order by the President, Dr. R. M. Donald of Moorhead. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Dr. R. C. Finley of Greenville, who is Secretary. There were about one hundred doctors present and quite a number of visitors.

The program opened as follows: Malariaology by Dr. Paul S. Carley of Belzoni, who showed the rapid progress made by science in the eradication of Malaria and his article was well received and was also discussed by other physicians. Paper Number 2, by Dr. L. C. Davis of

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Greenville, Miss., on Eye, Nose and Throat was read and went into details of the general practitioners relative to the handling of cases by specialists who are equipped to handle and treat these kind of cases. The paper on Bronchial Pneumonia by Dr. Booth was not presented, as Dr. Booth wired he was detained by a case of serious illness. The paper on Compound Fractures by Dr. J. A. Crawford was thoroughly discussed and the details of all this was gone into by various visiting Doctors and Surgeons. Dr. Harry Hill of Memphis, then followed with moving picture slides showing pictures of fractures and injuries to bones, dealing especially on compound fractures, and these pictures showed some wonderful results of careful handling in hospitals. Dr. R. C. Finley followed with moving pictures slides on the infection of the hands. All of which were well received. Dr. Joe Hume of New Orleans wired that it was impossible for him to be at the meeting on account of cases of serious illness.

After a general discussion of various papers read, the meeting adjourned until 7:30 to the Banquet Hall at the Methodist Church, where the following program was carried out:

PROGRAM

Toastmaster -- Louis Cochran.
Solo -- Mrs. J. M. Powell.
Duet -- Misses Elizabeth Doyle and Evelyn Posey.
'Welcome Doctors' -- Mayor Dunn
Solo -- Bob Krutz
Address -- Dr. Donald, Moorhead, Miss., President of the Ass'n., on 'An Antilitical Dissertation of the Biological Aspects of the Progress of Evolution as Observed in the Inhibitions of the Amæba.'
Address -- Dr. Hugh Gamble -- 'Come Out of the Kitchen'.
Duet -- Meslames J. M. Powell and M. D. Alexander.

Humphreys County, Health

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Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Address -- Dr. Martin of Indianola, 'When I Got Religion'.
Address -- Dr. McClain, 'A Pathological Interpretation of
the Osculatory Instinct, and its Ramifications'.
Address -- Dr. W. L. Howard, 'How to be a Successful Doctor'.
'Goodbye, Come Again' -- Dr. G. M. Barnes.

Startling and scintillating impromptu speeches were made by
Dr. Baskerville and Dr. Dickens who spoke instructively and enter-
tainingly on 'Love Germs'. Dr. Paul Carley spoke entertainingly on
'How They Do the Black Bottom in China', and Dr. Higdon gave an
instructive talk on 'Rocking Chairs'. The feature of the evening,
however, was the solo by Dr. M. F. Rayner.

Miss Lois Love and her High School Orchestra furnished many
excellent renditions, and proved themselves the best little orchestra
in the State. Many were the compliments they received.

The four course dinner was served by the Parent-Teachers
Ass'n., the grammar school teachers acting as waitresses.

Upon motion of Dr. Baskerville of Greenwood, seconded by Dr.
Martin of Indianola, Toastmaster Louis Cochran was elected 'the
perpetual Toastmaster of the Association'.

Below is a partial list of the doctors that attended the
meeting:

R. D. Yates, Greenwood
J. E. Williams, Benoit
R. Curtis Smith, Drew
W. S. Taylor, Isola
B. J. Furr, Glen Allen
A. G. Payne, Greenville
R. M. Donald, Moorhead
W. P. Shackelford, Hollandale
S. L. Lane, Hollandale
E. R. Noble, Rosedale
J. B. Westmoreland, Isola
Harry T. Hill, Memphis
S. P. Wells, Duncan
A. M. Winn, Meridian

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L. F. Ferguson, Greenwood
U. S. Wasson, Moorhead
F. M. Sandifer, Greenwood
J. A. Alexander, Indianola
T. B. Holloman, Itta Bena
S. P. Newell, Inverness
B. H. Higdon, Sunflower
B. C. Smyth, Greenville
E. C. Overstreet, Shaw
W. B. Martin, Indianola
W. A. Smith, Pantherburn
Thomas A. Nelson
J. S. Sanders, Leland
E. Giles, Avondale
H. A. Gamble, Greenville
W. P. McDavid, Parchman
D. C. Montgomery, Greenville
C. P. Thompson, Greenville
L. C. David, Greenville
T. M. Acre, Greenville
T. D. Allen
W. E. Day, Duncan
W. A. Scudder, Mayersville
B. D. Harper, Itta Bena
W. W. Diamond, Jackson
W. B. Dickens, Greenwood
Geo. Basterville, Greenwood
C. W. Patterson, Rosedale
J. W. Lucas, Moorhead
L. B. Otken, Greenwood
Lee K. Mayfield, Greenwood
G. Y. Gallaspy, Jr., Greenville
E. R. Shirley, Money
J. W. Jackson, Longwood
W. T. Buford, Glenn Allen
E. R. McClain, Cleveland
J. B. Darrington, Yazoo City
H. P. Rankin, Greenville
J. A. Crawford, Greenville.

There were a number of others whose name we were unable to
obtain."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - April 12, 1928

Mannie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Health

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HISTORIC RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
August 25, 1937

5

Topic: Organizations

Assignment No. 29

Enumerator: Constance P. Embry
Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. 1

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

History of Belzoni Chapter of the O. E. S., No. 143:

On March 21st, 1918, at the Masonic Hall, Belzoni, Miss., District Deputy Grand Matron, Mrs. Mary H. Stigler of Lexington, Miss., assisted by Mrs. Lena Hiner and Dr. Don Mecklin, instituted the Belzoni Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, No. 143. Seventeen (17) were present.

The following officers were elected:

Lena Hiner	---	Worthy Matron
Charles Shapero	---	Worthy Patron
Mary Sue Bradley	---	Secretary
Blanche Day	---	Treasurer
Mamie Higdon	---	Conductress
Hannah Cohn	---	Associate Conductress

Meetings to be held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

On April 2nd, the first regular meeting of the Chapter was held, the charter presented and business conducted. It has been said that this chapter was the only chapter organized in 1918 in the State of Mississippi. At the close of the year 1918 twenty-eight members answered to roll call.

On July 14th, 1920, our chapter was visited by Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Pleasants, who brought many helpful suggestions for the good of the Order. Each year reports made to Grand Chapter show

Humphreys County, Organizations

donations given and efforts continued to promote all good causes adopted by Grand Chapter.

On June 30th, 1922, our chapter was visited by Sister Lillie McCullough, Grand Worthy Matron, and Sister Ina Graham, District Deputy Grand Matron.

At a stated meeting on June 19, 1923, Brother Mecklin, Worthy Patron, presented the chapter with five tables (which he made himself) and for which the chapter was badly in need. For his labor of love, Brother Mecklin was given a rising vote of thanks.

The chapter was visited on the evening of Nov. 30th, by Sister Boothe, District Deputy Grand Matron, and Sister Nora Suttle, Worthy Grand Matron. The Secretary, Sister Pieri, presented the chapter with two small Bibles. They were gratefully received and Sister Pieri given a rising vote of thanks.

Belzoni Chapter held its first school of instruction on Oct. 7th, 1924 with Sister Tommie Foster in charge. Twenty-five members and visitors attended this meeting.

On the evening of Feb. 17th, 1925, Brother Horace S. Stansel, Worthy Grand Patron, visited our chapter in regular session, and a most instructive lecture was given by him. On May 5th, 1925, the regular meeting was opened with Worthy Matron, Sister Phillips in the chair for the opening ceremonies. After this, the Ceremonies of Initiation were exemplified by the Inverness Chapter, No. 158. Sister Edna Hart, Grand Electa, a member of the Inverness Chapter, was present, and the splendid manner in which she instructed us, inspired all to increase our endeavors for the future.

On January 5th, 1926, the Charter was draped in memory of Sister Willie Lyon. During this year a visit was also made us by Sister Gussie Evans, Worthy Grand Matron.

The outstanding work for 1926 was the raising of funds for a piano for the chapter room. Sister Hutchens, Worthy Matron, and her co-workers for this year are due much credit for their untiring efforts in this bug undertaking. During this year the chapter lost two of its members in death: Sister Mary Sue Bradley, on May 4th, and Sister Inez Bain, on Dec. 7th. The charter was draped in their memory.

April 5th, 1927, Sister Effie Neil, District Deputy Grand Matron, and Sister Nellie McGowan, Worthy Grand Matron, held a School of Instruction. This school was attended by members of Greenwood Chapter.

Throughout the years of service, each Worthy Matron with her officers endeavored to carry forward thw work which was fostered by her predecessors. Laboring to promote peace and harmony, a better understanding of our laws, to impress the duty of learning the beautiful lessons embodied in our teachings and sacredness of our obligation.

The report sent to Grand Chapter in 1929 shows an enrollment of seventy-seven members. In regular meeting, the charter was draped in memory of our brother, Past Worthy Patron, Charles Shapero, who died Jan. 2nd, 1929. Each year has had its share of constructive accomplishments due to the combined efforts of its members. Social events have added much pleasure to our meetings.

A special meeting was held Nov. 19th, 1931, the occasion being the official visit of Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Ruth Young, Sister Pogue, District Deputy Grand Matron, and Brother Pogue, Grand Patron.

Appropriate services were held at the stated meeting March 1st, 1932, the charter being draped in memory of Sister Mamie Bradley, who died Feb. 27th. Ways and means of making funds for the chapter that year were discussed, resulting in the Order sponsoring a Fiddlers' Contest and a Baby Show. Cash donations of \$2.50 were sent to the Masonic Home, Columbus, Miss., also to the Home at Meridian.

Many distinguished visitors have been introduced and welcomed into our midst. On September 7th, 1934, a School of Instruction was held in the Woman's Club Building with seventy-two members and guests present. Among these there were none more distinguished or more deserving of honor than our Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Horne; Sister Inis McMillian, District Deputy Grand Matron; Sister Fannye Goldstein, Worthy Associate Matron. A splendid address of welcome was extended by Sister Jessie Vincent. The address was responded to by Sister Fannye Goldstein. A plate lunch was served by the hostess chapter at the noon hour, during which a splendid musical program was given. At the afternoon session, Sister Horne, Worthy Matron, and Sister McMillian, District Deputy Grand Matron, were unanimously elected honorary members of Belzoni Chapter, No. 143. Representatives from Rolling Fork, Moorhead, Benoit, Greenville, Leland and Yazoo City Chapters were present. Much credit was due Sister Ollie Abernathy, Past Matron, for the success of this School of Instruction. She is ever willing and ready to do her share of the work of the chapter, be it as officer or dishwasher.

The report sent to Grand Secretary at the close of 1934 showed a total of fifty-two members, dues paid in full. The increase in membership has not been large, but we feel confident that the growth in the Order of the Eastern Star spirit has been most gratifying. We must never forget that the usefulness and perpetuity of our Order does not depend so much upon numbers as upon the character sustained.

Several of our members have served as Grand Representatives, namely:

Sister Hannah Goldberger	Grand Ruth
Brother Thomas Abernathy	Grand Sentinel
Sister Mittie Lou Perkins	Grand Repres. of Missouri
Sister Zelotta Cohn	Grand Section Chairman

The following officers were elected at the December meeting for 1935:

Sister Beatrice Fry	Worthy Matron
Brother Don Mecklin	Worthy Patron
Sister Zelotta Cohn Zlotnick	Associate Matron
Sister Kathleen Hutchens	Treasurer
Sister Mildred Cohn	Conductress
Sister Hazel Cerame	Associate Conductress
Sister Lillian Brumfield	Secretary

The chapter continued along with characteristic advancement through 1935 with the following officers:

Beatrice Fry	Worthy Matron
Don Mecklin	Worthy Patron
Zelotta Cohn Zlotnick	Associate Matron
Thomas Abernathy	Associate Patron
Lillian Brumfield	Secretary
Mildred Cohn	Conductress
Hazel Cerame	Associate Conductress
Kathleen Hutchens	Treasurer

On June 18, 1936 a school of instruction was held at Leland.

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Worthy Matron Agnes Reed representative of Belzoni Chapter, responded to the welcome address.

On June 19, 1936 Belzoni Chapter was hostess to all chapters in the Ninth District at a picnic on Kilby Lake, which proved to be a most enjoyable outing.

The following officers were elected for 1936:

Agnes Reed	Worthy Matron
Thomas Abernathy	Worthy Patron
Erselle Webb	Associate Matron
Joe Rogers	Associate Patron
Lillian Brumfield	Secretary
Mildred Cohn	Conductress
Eunice Rogers	Associate Conductress
Kathleen Hutchens	Treasurer

On January 17, 1937 Sister Teague passed away. A resolution of the loss was passed and adopted.

On March 16, 1937 an official visit was made by Sister Emma M. Davidson, Deputy Grand Matron of the Ninth District. Sisters Ruth Fortenbury and Ollie Oliver of the Leland Chapter and officers of other chapters were welcomed. Refreshments followed the rendition of a beautiful musical program.

Officers of 1937 are as follows:

Erselle Webb	Worthy Matron
Thomas Abernathy	Worthy Patron
Estelle Cheatham	Associate Matron
Joe Rogers	Associate Patron
Lillian Brumfield	Secretary
Hazel Sorrells	Conductress
Mattie Horn	Associate Conductress
Kathleen Hutchens	Treasurer

Sister Lillian Brumfield has served as Secretary of the Chapter since 1927. She is a Charter Member and to her active and untiring effort, the Chapter owes much of its success. Her interest

in the building up of Belzoni Chapter has been expressed in usefulness. Sister Brumfield is recognized as a most capable and inspiring leader in any undertaking, and she merits her place of esteem among the members of Belzoni Chapter.

As we bring this history of our Belzoni Chapter to a close, we leave this thought: In the building of a strong fraternity we are building character into lives that will live forever, and we should not only point out its beautiful teachings, but live its ideals, and be guided by them.

PAST MATRONS AND PAST PATRONS OF O. E. S., No. 143

Lena Hiner	1918	Charles Shapero
Mamie Higdon	1919	Lindsey Bradley
Hannah Goldberger	1920	Don Mecklin
Blanche Raynor	1921	Don Mecklin
Blanche Day	1922	Don Mecklin
Lillian Brumfield	1923	Don Mecklin
Jane Marsh	1924	Don Mecklin
Florence Phillips	1925	W. B. Herrington
Kathleen Hutchens	1926	W. B. Herrington
Grace Alexander	1927	Thomas Abernathy
Rose Lyon	1928	Thomas Abernathy
Lena Turner	1929	Thomas Abernathy
Mittie Lou Perkins	1930	Thomas Abernathy
Ollie Abernathy	1931	Thomas Abernathy
Cora Pearce	1932	Thomas Abernathy
Josie Frank Winn	1933	Joseph Rogers
Ernestine Ware	1934	Thomas Abernathy

CHARTER MEMBERS

Lena Hiner	Don Mecklin
Mary Powell	J. M. Powell
Mary Sue Bradley	Virginia Mortimer
Hannah Cohn	Charles Shapero
Sadie Shapero	Blanche Day
Hattie Young	Mamie Higdon
Frances Anderson	Lindsey Bradley
Blanche Raynor	Mary Abernathy

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Florence Phillips
Lillian Valliant
Roy Hiner
Lillian Brumfield
Adah Maxwell

(Names of Charter Members Con't)

Signed by committee:

Lillian Brumfield
Jessie Vincent
Eunice Rogers.

References: 1. Article written in 1935 in History of Humphreys
County by Miss Bettie Brooke (Information given by
Mrs. Lillian Brumfield and Mrs. Jane Marsh)
2. Mrs. Lillian Brumfield - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 4 (Wars)

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Jan. 17, 1938

Topic: Agencies & Organizations
Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Assignment # 29

AMERICAN LEGION
ARTHUR ALEXANDER POST

The Arthur Alexander Post (Belzoni Post) of the
American Legion was organized in 1920. There was in existence
a Post in 1919, but no membership dues were collected until 1920.
Although all veterans were considered members of the Legion in
1919, the actual organization of the local Post did not occur until
1920. Mr. H. E. Bradley was the selected Commander of the Post in
1919. With due organization of the Belzoni Post, the following
officers have been at their post of duty through the years 1919 to
1938 inclusive:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>	<u>ADJUTANT</u>	<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>
1919	H. E. Bradley		15
1920	Cleveland Turner		64
1921	C. M. Murphy	C. M. Murphy	68
1922			31
1923	J. J. Cain		25
1924	W. D. Womack	H. T. Prots	43
1925	R. H. Nason	Edwin Williams	41
1926	A. M. Stigler	R. A. Hale	50
1927	R. A. Hale	A. M. Stigler	43
1928	Louis Cochran	A. M. Stigler	55
1929	E. A. Blount	A. M. Stigler	25
1930	Cleveland Turner	A. M. Stigler	62
1931	M. D. Miller	G. M. Selden	66
1932	M. D. Miller	G. M. Selden	67
1933	G. M. Selden	L. R. McMurphy	80
1934	R. H. Nason	Cleveland Turner	

Humphreys County, Organizations

Sheet Two - American Legion
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Historian

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>COMMANDER</u>	<u>ADJUTANT</u>	<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>
1935	L. R. McMurphy	Cleveland Turner	72
1936	S. J. Speed	Cleveland Turner	56
1937	Eddie W. Williams	A. M. Moore	75
1938	Eddie W. Williams	S. J. Speed	61 to date

Reference: Mr. Robert D. Morrow - Jackson, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 6, 1937

Topic: Social, Cultural, etc.

Assignment No. 29

Enumerators: Mamie G. Cartledge
Constance E. Embry

Item No. 2

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

Woman's Club:

From the Belzoni Banner of October 16, 1930 was taken the following history ^(in part) of the Belzoni Woman's Club:

BELZONI WOMAN'S CLUB
PROGRESSES

The Belzoni Woman's Club Has
Accomplished Much Since Its
Organization In 1903.----
Has New Club Home.

"On February 11th, 1903, Mrs. Janet Haire was elected President and Miss Virginia Bowles, Secretary.

Constitution written and adopted with nine charter members, two of whom are dead. The work of the Club, to establish a public library, literary and social culture for its members. Mrs. Haire was a charter member of the largest Woman's Club in Chicago, and established the club in Belzoni. Mrs. ^{Willis} Brumfield served as secretary after Miss Bowles resigned.

On February 17th, 1904, Mrs. Haire was again elected President and Mrs. J. C. McLain, Secretary.

The war between Russia and Japan was in progress. The history of both countries was reviewed and progress of war followed, story of the states taken up later.

Humphreys County, Organizations

On February 11, 1905, Mrs. Haire was re-elected President, Mrs. Ingram, Secretary.

American writers was the subject of study.

Committee appointed to secure pledges and a lot for club room, and library, several hundred dollars was pledged. Wednesday afternoon was designated as Club day. A Lyceum course sponsored by the club, a nice selection of books was ordered for the library, also a book case ordered for them.

Mrs. Haire, died December 10th, 1905, and buried in Northern Michigan. To her memory we give respect and love.

March, 1906-1907, Mrs. G. W. Meek was elected President, Mrs. L. H. Lyon, Secretary.

Bay View Course of France, Spain and Portugal. Mrs. J. H. Turnage was a delegate to Crystal Springs, the State Convention. The state dues were one dollar. Another book case ordered. The circle of readers extended to include town people, who paid two dollars a year dues.

On February 27th, 1907-1908, Mrs. J. A. Wadlington, president and Mrs. J. S. Jackson, secretary.

Bay View Course on English Literature and English Life. Five dollars was sent to help purchase a gift for Mrs. Jones, the retiring State President.

On February 9th, 1908-1909, Mrs. J. S. Jackson, President, Mrs. M. L. Turnage, Secretary.

Bay View Course on History of the U. S. A. and Life. A room in Jackson building was rented for the Library. Rugs, chairs and tables

bought for same, but was found inconvenient and expensive, so was abandoned, furniture was sold to Mrs. Bradley. A New Year's party was given by Mrs. Brumfield at the McCoy plantation home.

On February 11th, 1909-1910, Mrs. Hannah Cohn, President, Mrs. L. S. Bradley, Secretary.

Bay View course continued. A pleasant social year is recorded.

On October 28th, 1910-1911, Mrs. L. S. Bradley, President, Miss Beatrice Durham, Secretary. Mrs. Bradley went to Brookhaven to State convention.

On February 11th, 1911-1912, Mrs. M. H. Spencer, President, Mrs. L. S. Bradley, Secretary.

Shakespeare was the subject of study. State Federation instructs club to take more interest in local public schools. State convention met in Holly Springs, but owing to the flood, no representative sent. We had a message of sympathy from State convention. Five dollars was sent Carrie Ramsey of Hazelhurst to help pay for Annie Peyton's portrait that hangs in the Hall of Fame.

On November 6th, 1912-1913, Mrs. Robert Jackson, President, Mrs. L. B. Cheatham, Secretary.

Bay View course on South America and Mexico. A Lyceum Course was put on by the Woman's Club.

On October 1st, 1913-1914, Mrs. J. A. Wadlington, President, Mrs. J. S. Jackson, Secretary.

American writer was the subject of study. Lyceum Course was still to be put over. Reception at Mrs. Finley's for husbands of Club members. Books placed in a store down town to give free access to the public.

Page Four - Belzoni Woman's Club
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

On October 14th, 1914-1915, Mrs. Mamye Higdon, President, Mrs. Perritt, Secretary.

History of Italy and France. Mrs. Crane who had traveled extensively abroad, lectured on her travels and gave music from different nations.

On October 7th, 1915-1916, Mrs. L. S. Bradley, President, Mrs. J. M. Powell, Secretary.

German Musicians. Mrs. Higdon went to McComb to State Convention.

On January 12th, 1916-1917, Mrs. Mary P. Crane, President, Mrs. J. A. Wadlington, Secretary.

Wagners Operas. Representatives sent to State Convention at Greenwood.

On January 3rd, 1917-1918, Mrs. Fred Reginold, President, Miss Estelle Crane, Secretary.

Elbert Hubbard's book 'Little journeys to the homes of great painters' / The Club women began to knit. Delegates to State Convention at Meridian reported that every thing was centering on war preparations. Y. W. C. A. wanted one hundred dollars for protection work at Camp Shelby, it was sent. Food conservation outlined by State was pledged by the Club. Club co-operated with Red Cross in taking charge of sewing room. A French orphan was sent thirty-six dollars and fifty cents for support for a year.

On March 1918-1919, Miss Estelle Crane, President, Mrs. W. S. Sullivan, Secretary.

Page Five - Belzoni Woman's Club
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Southern Literature was the subject of study. On November 18th, 1919, the club lost a son at Bouilly, France, Arthur Alexander.

The Club endorsed League of Nations.

In the year 1919-1920, Mrs. L. H. Lyon, President, Mrs. Will Gilliam, Secretary.

Subject of study, 'Peace movements, ancient and modern, Citizenship and civic improvements, and child welfare'. Mrs. M. D. Alexander served as President during the continued absence of Mrs. Lyon, who lost her Mother.

A public health program by City Physicians. Fifty dollars was given a Sanatorium patient from Belzoni. Delegates sent to Gulfport to the State convention. Thirty-five dollars sent to France to the orphan we were supporting.

On October 10th, 1920-1921, Mrs. W. S. Smith, President, Mrs. B. L. Cheatham, Secretary.

American Literature, varied with music, subject studied. Fifth District entertained in November, 1920. A chairman appointed for each department; Child welfare, public health, citizenship, music and courtesy committee, civic improvement.

In the year 1921-1922, Mrs. N. W. Sumrall, President, Mrs. S. E. Robinson, Secretary and Treasurer.

A varied program. Community improvement stressed. Armistice Day observed. Citizenship discussed before the club by some of the leading lawyers of Belzoni. Red Cross roll call put over by the Club. Public health program given. Mrs. B. F. Saunders lectured on the Eugenic Marriage Law, January 31st, 1922. The establishing of a County

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health unit. The club library was given to the public school. Dr. Underwood lectured on Child Welfare, April 25th. A scholarship to M. S. C. W. was given a Belzoni girl.

In March 1922-1923, Mrs. W. B. Harrison, President, Mrs. P. L. Domengeaux, Secretary and Treasurer.

No records found.

In the year 1923-1924, Mrs. J. S. Jackson, President, Mrs. John Bridges, Secretary.

American Writers, course studied. Art exhibit at City Hall for the public. Resolutions of respect to Hon. B. G. Humphreys. Report from the convention at Greenwood. Belzoni girl given a scholarship to M. S. C. W. by the Club. Memorial service for Woodrow Wilson at the Court House, February 6th, 1924. The dentists of the city give free service to school children. Garden week observed.

In the year 1924-1925, Mrs. Willis Brumfield, President, Mrs. W. S. Smith, Secretary.

Program varied. Memorial tree planting at High School for the world war dead, five in number. Public Christmas tree at the Court House. Conservation stressed.

In the year 1925-1926, Mrs. M. D. Alexander, President, Mrs. W. P. Pieri, Secretary.

Program divided as last year into departments. May 27th, 1925, Club entertained zone rally. Celebrated 'plant a tree week'. Public health program held at the Court house. Examination of school children by Physicians and milk was supplied for the undernourished. On February 24th, 1926, the question of owning a Club house was decided upon.

On March 5th, 1926-1927, Mrs. J. A. Anderson, President, Mrs. W. S. Smith, Secretary.

Short Story writers of America, Art and Music. Club was incorporated. The building committee gave Mr. S. P. Azwell, the contract for building the club house. On March 30th, 1927, our lot was given by Mr. S. Castleman.

The club won in the contest of the Fifth District for the best Club Year Book. The delegates were at Jackson State Convention when the levee broke at Mounds Landing. The heroic work of rescue men from Gulfport, and the services of Mr. T. L. Gilmer, Mayor of Belzoni, Mr. J. J. Sisloff, Sup't of Power and Light Company, who operated the plant day and night for fourteen days having to pump the water out of the power plant hourly to keep the plant in operation, the Red Cross and the co-operation of our citizens will always be remembered by the Woman's Club of Belzoni, during the trying time of the flood.

In the year 1927-1928, Mrs. J. C. Stewart, President, Mrs. L. I. Watkins, Secretary.

Short stories continued, and songs. A drastic plan of economy." ^(see attached supplement) 1

Mrs. D. A. Alexander was elected President for term 1928-1929. Husbands of Club members were honored with a banquet. Members were urged to plant shrubs and flowers to beautify the city. Delegates were sent to Clarksdale to District Convention.

On September 18, 1929-1930, the club entered into its 27th year of club work with an able corps of officers: Mrs. J. M. Powell, President; Mrs. B. P. Brooks, first vice-president; Mrs. C. N. Chilton,

The address of the afternoon. His subject was 'Our Days Through the

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second vice-president; Mrs. Sam Winn, Recording secretary; Mrs. A. A. Lyon, Treasurer; Mrs. T. D. Rice, corresponding secretary; Mrs. J. S. Jackson, historian; Mrs. Sam Jones, parliamentarian. Some new and interesting features for work of the new year followed under the following department heads: Mrs. H. H. Blair, Art Chairman; Mrs. Lamar Parker, Music Chairman; Mrs. J. A. Anderson, Literature Chairman; Mrs. W. A. Suber, Better Homes; Mrs. M. D. Alexander, Conservation; Mrs. Ward Fisher, courtesy; Mrs. L. I. Watkins, public welfare; Mrs. J. S. Jackson, citizenship; Mrs. C. N. Chilton, civic and community; Mrs. B. P. Brooks, extension.

An outstanding feature of the year's entertainment was the Mother's Day program presented at the club home in weekly session on May 7th with Mrs. T. B. Craft and Mrs. O. J. Turner, Jr. as hostesses.

At conclusion of the well rendered program, prizes were given to "the oldest mother present, the one having the most grandchildren, the one having the greatest number of great grandchildren, the one having the most children and the youngest grandmother, who were respectively Mrs. Duncan, who is Mrs. A. B. Jones' mother; Mrs. McCall, Mrs. John Halbrook's mother with 18 grandchildren; Mrs. Nellie Wade, whom we all know with 4 great grand children; Mrs. Bridges mother of Mrs. John T. Bridges having had 13 children, and Mrs. A. B. Jones, the flapper grandma".

Another high-light in the year's work was the impressive Armistice Day program in which "Last but not least, Mr. Cleveland Turner, who is one of our leading citizens, and a veteran of the World War, gave the address of the afternoon. His subject was 'Our Boys Through the

War'.

From enlistment to dismissal, he touched on the high lights of the war, as lived by our boys. Sometimes pathos, then again the jolly bunch of boys. 'Cleve', as he is affectionately called, gave a vivid portrayal of the varied and sundry joys and sorrows, journeys and buildings and many other things which was most interesting, and a fitting climax to Armistice Day program."

For the term 1930-1931, Mrs. Clarence Erb was elected president and Mrs. J. A. Anderson 1st vice-president. Among enjoyable social events of the year was a visit as guests with the Louise Club in April when 45 members of the two clubs shared jointly the pleasure of the afternoon.

On March 12, 1931-1932, the following officers were elected at the annual meeting: Mrs. J. M. Powell, President; Mrs. B. P. Brooks, 1st Vice-president; Mrs. C. N. Chilton, 2nd Vice-president; Mrs. S. H. Winn, Recording Secretary; Mrs. W. A. Fisher, Treasurer; Mrs. Charles Craft, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. J. A. Anderson, Historian; Mrs. S. R. Cooley, Parliamentarian.

When the club members re-assembled on September 16th, having disbanded through the summer months, the fact that this was the last year to clear the debt on the club home was brought before the club and given serious attention. A very successful benefit bridge party in April, 1932.

The 1932-1933 session of club activity was marked by an open social meeting held at the club house on September 21, 1932 under the

direction of the president-elect, Mrs. J. A. Anderson. Guests were greeted by Mrs. J. M. Powell and Mrs. M. D. Alexander. Refreshments dispensed by Mrs. Tom Jackson and Miss Sarah Turner.

"The supreme event of this gala occasion was the presentation of the following program at Belzoni Woman's Club Opening Meeting, Sept. 21st by Voice Pupils from Nina Hayes McGuire Studio of Yazoo City, Miss., with additional Piano solos by Misses Frances Love and Amy Wise of Yazoo City." A large number of visitors enjoyed the hospitality of the club.

The club met in regular session on October 5th, with Mrs. M. D. Alexander as hostess, and it was during the business session that the members stood in silence for a minute in respect to the memory of Mr. Steve Castleman. The Club elected two new members; Mesdames C. B. Box and Chester Nixon.

Officers-elect for 1933-1934 were installed as follows: Mrs. S. H. Winn, president; Mrs. B. P. Brooks, first vice-president; Mrs. C. L. Parker, second vice-president; Mrs. J. M. Powell, recording secretary; Mrs. O. J. Turner, Jr., corresponding secretary; Mrs. G. M. Barnes, treasurer; Mrs. B. P. Brooks, parliamentarian. The Club cooperated with Christmas Community Club in all activities.

For the year 1934-35, Mrs. J. D. Vincent was elected president.

Officers for the year 1935-36 were as follows: Mrs. J. M. Powell, President; Mrs. T. B. Craft, First Vice-president; Mrs. J. T. Fleming, Second Vice-president; Mrs. John F. Bridges, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. M. D. Alexander, Recording Secretary; Mrs. D. A. Alexander, Treasurer; Mrs. J. D. Vincent, Parliamentarian; Mrs. O. F.

Monk, Historian. Remaining members were Mrs. J. A. Anderson, Mrs. S. H. Winn, Mrs. Enoch Haga and Mrs. Clarence Erb.

For the year 1936-1937, the officers and members are the same as in the foregoing year 1935-1936.

No outstanding activity during the last two years.

- References:
1. Belzoni Banner - Oct. 16, 1930 (Woman's Club Edition giving history of the club).
 2. Belzoni Banner - Sept. 12, 1929.
 3. Belzoni Banner Jan. 8, 1931.
 4. Belzoni Banner - March 12, 1931.
 5. Belzoni Banner - Sept. 10, 1931.
 6. Belzoni Banner - Sept. 22, 1932.
 7. Belzoni Banner - May 25, 1933.
 8. Belzoni Banner - Nov. 23, 1933.
 9. Records of Woman's Club.
 10. Mrs. J. M. Powell, President.

ADDITIONAL NOTES FROM MINUTES OF THE WOMAN'S CLUB:

In 1920 Mrs. J. A. Wadlington was elected Fifth District President at the Convention held in Belzoni, Mrs. J. M. Powell to serve as Secretary.

Mrs. J. M. Powell served as Recording Secretary of the State in 1920 under Mrs. Sam Covington, Summit.

In 1922 at the Fifth District Convention held in Greenwood, Mrs. J. A. Wadlington made a resolution to create the McClurg Scholarship fund in memory of Mrs. Helen McClurg, Greenwood, which is the outstanding accomplishment of the Fifth District.

In 1923 at the convention in Greenwood, Mrs. Willis Brumfield was elected First Vice-President of the Fifth District.

On March 30th, 1927 a lot was given by Mr. Steve Castleman to the Woman's Club and the building committee was elected: Mrs. J. A. Wadlington, Chairman; Mrs. Willis Pieri, Treasurer; Mrs. J. M. Powell, Mrs. J. A. Anderson, Mrs. M. D. Alexander and Mrs. J. S. Jackson. The contract was given to S. P. Azwell for \$4,000.00 in early 1927. \$1,000.00 cash, \$3,000.00 borrowed from building loan. Club paying \$55.00 per month for six years. Finished paying for club house May 17, 1934. The Club held its first meeting in the Club House, July, 1927.

In 1927 Mrs. J. M. Powell, Belzoni, was elected Fifth District President and Mrs. M. D. Alexander, Secretary of Fifth District.

At the Fifth District Convention in Greenwood in 1923, Mrs. J. A. Wadlington asked the privilege of the Belzoni Woman's Club to give an intermediate cup in the music contest each year in memory of their first President, Mrs. Jeanette Haire, to be known as the Haire Cup. Each year it was given until 1929 when it was given for an art prize, there being no music contest. In 1930 and 1931 it was given as a scholarship medal in Belzoni High School.

Medal given by Club	Medal given by Mrs. M. D. Alexander
1930 Agnes Arant	Elliot Danzig
1931 Katie Maie Hampton	Marion O'Donnell

Finished paying for piano January 1st, 1936.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

1929-30 ***** May 28th, 1930.

"The year, since I was made your president, has flown on swift wings, for it has been a year filled with interest, responsibility and opportunity for service.

It has been a joy to work with and for the Belzoni Woman's Club. Your consideration, your loyalty, has been a constant source of inspiration. Many lovely characters have been revealed to me.

To my efficient executive board members, I wish to pay high tribute. They have, in every way, supported and upheld the efforts of the President.

Your president has attended and presided at 34 meetings, having been absent 3 times. I attended one zone institute, and the district and state conventions. I've taken part in nearly every benefit given to make funds for the building and piano funds.

I think the most outstanding accomplishment for the year is the fact that each of the 45 members have made good their \$14.00 pledge to the building fund, making a total of \$630.00; besides, there has been \$397.75 raised for the piano fund.

Including \$5.00 dues per member, our club has raised \$1252.75 this year.

I am proud that our dreams of a piano have been realized and hope that it will inspire us to greater things.

We have paid \$22.50 federation dues, \$5.00 to Hebron Scholarship, \$5.00 to Lee Memorial, \$5.00 to Rad Reed Memorial at Magee,

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\$11.25 to McClurg Scholarship, \$12.55 to a special collection for crippled children, a \$5.00 scholarship medal was given to the girl in high school who made the best grades, and a like scholarship was given by one of our members, under like conditions, to a high school boy.

A box was collected for the Old Ladies' Home by the courtesy committee, which valued at \$60.00, and Christmas were sent to Columbia Industrial School valued at \$25.00.

We bought a Steinway Grand Piano for the club home, paying \$500.00 cash and \$39.64 insurance on same; paid \$660.00 on the club home.

We won first place in the essay contest at the district convention.

We won zone institute certificate.

We exchanged programs with the Yazoo City club, sponsored several home talent shows, also a 'spelling bee' --- Belzoni Woman's Club versus the Rotary Club.

We held a local cotton style show, entered the winners in the Cotton Festival at Clarksdale and won 2nd prize, \$10.00.

We observed 'Better Homes' week last May with a model home, which was visited by 1500 people.

We assisted the Girl Reserves in entertaining their district conference, planted three living Christmas trees on the court house lawn, entertained our husbands at a banquet.

We had full representation at the district and state conventions.

Our club endorsed Mrs. D. H. Foresman for president of the state federation, Mrs. J. M. Yeager for 1st vice-president of the same,

and Miss Gennevieve McCall for the Hebron Scholarship---each being elected.

At the close of this year of service, I am more than ever filled with appreciation of the sincerity of purpose and consciousness of responsibility of the Belzoni club women. The president's report is a record of their achievements, and not her own.

To the succeeding administration, we hand on the task that they, too, may know, as we have 'The Bliss of Growth, the glory of action and the splendor of beauty of accomplishment'.

For your confidence, your co-operation and your loyalty, I thank you and ask that it be extended to your next president.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Selden Powell, President
Mrs. Sam Winn, Secretary."

ORGANIZED 1903

FEDERATED 1906

THE BELZONI WOMAN'S CLUB
Belzoni, Mississippi

COLORS
Purple and Gold

FLOWER
Violet

MOTTO
"Progress Is The Law Of Life"

Every Wednesday Afternoon

Member General Federation Woman's Clubs
1925-1926

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Page Sixteen - Belzoni Woman's Club
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

2nd copy

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 13, 1937

Topic: Social, Cultural, Etc.

Assignment No. 29

Enumerators: Mamie G. Cartledge
Constance P. Embry

Item No. 2

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

Music Club: (Now "The Music Lovers' Club")

Organized 1924

Federated 1925

CRESCENDO MUSIC CLUB

BELZONI, MISSISSIPPI

MOTTO:

"To Afford Talent Opportunity"

COLORS--Purple and Silver

FLOWER--Sweet Pea

Member National Federated Music Clubs

Meetings Every Other Friday

Among treasured clippings of Mrs. E. B. Pearce, a member of the Club, is the following unsigned article which appeared in the Commercial Appeal several years ago:

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MUSIC.

"Kosciusko, Miss.

To The Commercial Appeal:

Music is love in search of a word. Music is the hidden soul of harmony. Music's golden tongue flatters to tears. Music is the sunshine of our soul, and floods the heart with a perfect June. Music is the vapor of art. Music is the flying vision that merges with the tender air and whose image melts in shy misty shadows. Music is the medicine of a breaking heart. Music is called abstract beauty. Music compels the heart to yield to treasure of love. Music will steal easily into many a spot to which words stiffly articulated will be coldly refused admittance. The harmony of sound is so necessary to man that every situation upon earth has its singing birds and all over the globe they discover an instinct which attracts them to the habitation of man.

Music is God's best gift to man, the only art of heaven given to earth, the only art of earth that we take to heaven. Music is poetry in sound and poetry is music in words. All deep things are song, the heart of nature is music. **** "

There seems to be no available club record from which to compile an accurate history of the Music Club, but the Belzoni Banner of November 20, 1924 gives the following account of its organization:

MUSIC CLUB ORGANIZED

Ladies of Belzoni Organize
Music Club with Mrs. J. Vincent
As President-Starts with Ten

"On yesterday the Banner was handed the paper below anent the organization of a music club in Belzoni. We are glad to hear this. The Banner has made many references to the organization of a Symphony or Music Club in Belzoni, for there is no other town in the state that has such an array of musical talent as has Belzoni. It has ladies and gentlemen far above the average in musical lore, and we are sure that after the organization has been in good working order for a few weeks, it will give Belzonians and the county some rare and enjoyable musical entertainments. We have talent here for orchestra and band, and we would be glad that we had both. Of course the school has an orchestra, and about as good as any in the state, and there is room for one among those who are pupils of the school.

Following is what was handed us yesterday for publication:

On Saturday afternoon a group of enthusiastic ladies met at the hospitable home of Mrs. Willis Brumfield for the purpose of organizing a music club.

Realizing the greater part of the time of most of us is given up necessarily to material things and those elements are needed which can inspire and lift the mind above sordid things, we are sure that this inspiration and pleasure can be largely supplied by good music.

After interesting discussions, organization was begun with a membership of ten, and Mrs. J. Vincent was elected President.

Committees were appointed and plans begun for an interesting year.

After a serving of dainty refreshments we adjourned to meet at the home of Mrs. H. H. Blair, Friday, Nov. 28, at 2:30 o'clock."

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Nine of the charter members of the Club are remembered as:
Mrs. Willis Brumfield, Mrs. Robert Jackson, Mrs. Clarence Erb, Mrs.
H. H. Blair, Mrs. J. D. Vincent, Mrs. E. B. Pearce, Mrs. Enoch Haga,
Mrs. E. Fleming, and Mrs. Noah S. Wiley.

The next recorded meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Clarence Erb on January 23, 1925, the subject of study being "The Beginning of American Music", such early composers as Francis Hopkinson and William Billings being under discussion.

On Friday, November 27, 1925, the Club met in the home of Mrs. E. H. Fleming, the subject of study being Ethelbert Nevin. Notable contributors to the program at this meeting were Mrs. N. B. Leggitte, who gave a sketch of his life and Mrs. Roger Shackelford, whose contribution was Venetian Love Song. The names of Mesdames Leggitte and Shackelford appearing for the first time at this meeting.

On March 13th, the Club met with Mrs. Robert Jackson, the subject of study for the afternoon being Charles Francis Gounod, composer of the famous opera "Faust". The names of Mrs. R. H. Nason, Mrs. Henry Warmack and Mrs. Hunter White seem to have been added to the Club membership.

A splendid program on Negro music was rendered at a meeting with Mrs. Shackelford in early April when several new names -- Mrs. Amos Tims, Mrs. J. J. Cain, Mrs. T. M. Macbeth -- appear as contributors to the program.

The first week in May being National Music Week, members of the club were urged to co-operate in every possible way to successfully fulfill the Club objectives falling under the general program.

Perhaps one of the most enjoyable meetings of those early days ~~of the Club~~ was held on Goat Hill Plantation in early June with Mrs. T. M. Macbeth as hostess. Members of the Club were delightfully entertained on the lawn underneath two large pear trees. The subject of the afternoon was Henry Thatcher Burleigh's spirituals.

Following the above meeting 15 Club members and 3 guests assembled at the home of Mrs. Henry S. Warmack at Lankin on June 26th when an interesting program on Folk Songs held forth.

On August 28th the home of Mrs. Willis Brumfield was graciously opened to 15 members of the Club and, characteristic of her usual hospitality, there were 10 invited guests. Selected study of the afternoon was Japanese Music.

At a meeting with Mrs. J. D. Vincent on Friday Sept. 11th, Edward Greig was the object of study for the program.

On Sept. 25th, the Club assembled at the court house for their first annual meeting, the purpose of this meeting being for the selection of new officers and arrangement of a program for the ensuing year. (new officers not given.)

At a meeting on Oct. 26th with Mrs. Lamar Parker, the 10 members and 2 guests were delighted with a program study of Lito Solupa.

Other recorded meetings through the fall of 1925 were held with Mrs. Clarence Erb, and Mrs. Enoch Haga. Subjects of study for these two meetings were Florence Turner Maley and Victor Herbert.

The last meeting of 1925 was held in the home of Mrs. A. L. Heidelberg, as hostess at Silver City. Fourteen members and 2 guests being present. The Club voted a prize of \$2.50 to the school of the

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county having the best Christmas Chorus on Christmas Eve night.

Subject of study at this meeting was the opera Mignon. The following officers were installed for the new year: President, Mrs. Noah Wiley; Vice-president, Mrs. E. B. Pearce; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Willis Brumfield; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. James Vincent.

On Jan. 22nd, 1926 the Club held an enjoyable meeting with Mrs. E. B. Pearce. A splendid program being given on Galli-Curci.

Mrs. Noah Wiley was hostess to the Club on Feb. 19th with 12 members present, each answering to roll call with mention of some current musical event. And on Feb. 26th, the Club met with Mrs. Brumfield.

The ladies' parlor at the court house was the appointed place for the meeting of March 12th. Officers elected for the ensuing year were: Mrs. Cameron Sevier, President; Mrs. Enoch Haga, First Vice-President; Mrs. Todd Forrester, Secretary and Treasurer; Mrs. Lamar Parker, Corresponding Secretary. Mrs. Brumfield was elected president to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Noah S. Wiley who was leaving Belzoni to make her home in Ferriday, Louisiana. Much regret was felt by the Club over the loss of Mrs. Wiley as a faithful member. Mrs. Cameron^{Sevier} was selected as the delegate to attend a meeting at Brown's Wells, with Mrs. Haga as alternate. Mrs. Lamar Parker was hostess to the next meeting which fell on March 26th.

An interesting account of the organization of the Junior Music Club as taken from the Belzoni Banner of April 1, 1926 reads:

"Junior Crescendo Music Club was organized under the auspices

of Crescendo Music Club by Mrs. Willis Brumfield, in the home of Mrs. Cameron Sevier last Friday afternoon. Mrs. Sevier representing the Crescendo Music Club. Seven girls were present, each showing a great amount of enthusiasm and a desire to study and learn all they can about music. The following officers were elected: Lois Bain, President; Mildred Bradley, First Vice-president; Evelyn Posey, Secretary and Treasurer; Ruth Skipper, Reporter; Marion Alexander, Corresponding Secretary; June Erb, Chairman of Music; Melba Alexander, Courtesy Committee; Mrs. C. Sevier, Sponsor. They will meet the first and third Fridays in each month. Next meeting April 2nd in the home of Marion and Melba Alexander."

Mrs. T. M. Macbeth was hostess to the Club in the home of Mrs. H. S. Warmack at Lamkin on May 14th. The program on Russian music led by Mrs. Erb proved most interesting and enjoyable to the 11 members and three visitors.

Again in this hospitable home the Club met on June 14th with Mrs. Warmack as hostess with a delightfully rendered program on Brahms, the pianist.

The teaching of public school music was at this time being greatly encouraged by the Club for the appreciation of Grand Opera.

Taking up in earnest their Club duties in the fall of 1926, the stamp of Club endorsement was placed firmly on "Public School Music", "Music in every home" and "Better Music".

One of the early meetings of the season was with Mrs. H. S. Warmack in her lovely plantation home at Lamkin on Oct. 1st with a study of American Music. Mrs. Warmack was assisted by her mother, Mrs. Janes, and Mrs. T. M. Macbeth in dispensing her usual hospitality.

On Oct. 8th, the study of American Music was continued with Mrs. A. L. Heidelberg of Silver City as hostess.

The Club met with Mrs. Enoch Haga on Oct. 22nd, with Mrs. A. R. Hutchens as leader. Meetings with Mrs. E. Fleming on Nov. 5th and Mrs. A. R. Hutchens on Nov. 26th are also recorded as very enjoyable to the Club.

Again in the late fall of 1926 announcement was made of a \$2.50 prize which would be given by the Club to the school presenting the best Christmas Carol program at the court house on Christmas Eve. A Christmas tree with "lots of fun" was promised and every school in the county was urged to enter the contest.

With Mrs. Brumfield, as hostess, nine members and four visitors were delighted with the study of John Sebastian Bach under the leadership of Mrs. Shackelford at a meeting in January, 1927.

Mrs. Clarence Erb was hostess to the Club on Feb. 4th, and following Mrs. Erb were meetings with Mrs. Shackelford on March 11th, and Mrs. Todd Forrester on April 1st which are mentioned as most enjoyable to the Club.

From the Belzoni Banner of April 7, 1927 was taken the following account of State meeting held at Hattiesburg:

CRESCENDO MUSIC WINS AT THE MEETING

The Crescendo Music Club of Belzoni
Wins High Honors at State Meeting
in Hattiesburg Last Week

"The Mississippi State Federation of Music Clubs held its annual meeting at Hattiesburg on March the 17th and 18th, with a good number of officers and delegates present.

The first day's business session was presided over by the State President, Mrs. J. C. Tompkins.

Reports of the various chairmen as well as those of the different clubs were read and approved.

The resolution on public school music presented by the Crescendo Music Club of this place was adopted unanimously.

The Crescendo Music Club also won the \$10.00 cash prize for federating the most clubs.

A telegram of sympathy was sent by the federation to Mrs. Whitfield.

A lovely luncheon as well as a turkey banquet was tendered the officers, delegates and visitors at Hotel Hattiesburg.

Mrs. J. F. Hill, the district president and president of the Beethoven Club of Memphis. The Hon. T. Webber Wilson, and Mrs. Tompkins, State President, were the outstanding speakers of the day.

The second day was given over to contests in voice, piano and violin. Mrs. Leo Martin, chairman of contests, presided.

The musicianship of some of the contestants was astounding.

The entire meeting was intensely interesting and inspiring. Mississippi is progressing musically."

All Club activities of the county were abruptly suspended with the advent of the flood in April of 1927. Nevertheless, characteristic of the underlying courage and diligence ever to be found in the people of the county - where progress is weighed in the balance - soon there was a resonant hum of activity that seemed to bind members of the Music Club into a stronger bond of service.

The first meeting of the Club in the fall of 1927 was held in the home of Mrs. Chester Nixon on Sept. 9th with a complete and enthusiastic membership. At this meeting, the Club voted to sponsor a free scholarship in piano lessons. The winner of the first scholarship was Miss Louise French. The program of this meeting was given on the Edison, records being chosen from modern composers.

The officers for the coming year (1928) were: Mrs. Cameron Sevier, President; Mrs. T. M. Macbeth, Vice-President; Mrs. E. B. Pearce, Secretary and Treasurer. At the next meeting held with Mrs. H. S. Warmack at Lamkin, Mrs. R. H. Nason and Mrs. E. B. Pearce presented a Spanish program. Although the Club remained active, there is little of record concerning their study through the greater part of 1928. The Belzoni Banner of November 8th carried announcement of an Armistice Day program to be rendered by the Club. Another short notice which appears in the Banner of November 22nd announces a meeting of the Club to be held in the home of Mrs. E. B. Pearce, with a study of Schubert.

On Feb. 14, 1929 the Club met in the Board of Supervisors room at the Court House for a round table discussion of the Study. The subjects were Counterpoint, Imitation and Fugue. Mention of the next meeting to be held with Mrs. H. A. Sorrells, with a program on Grieg, is noted.

Then followed a meeting with Mrs. Baggett. The study on "Form and Design in Music" being led by Mrs. Paul Carley.

In early March Mrs. Carley was hostess to the Club when an interesting program on Tchaikowski was rendered.

The following officers for 1929-1930 were elected: Mrs. Paul Carley, President; Mrs. Clarence Erb, Vice-President; Mrs. Enoch Haga, Secretary and Treasurer; Mrs. Sam Jones, Corresponding Secretary.

Mrs. R. H. Nason was hostess to the Club on March 22nd at which meeting the members and their invited guests enjoyed a program of Sacred music.

In early April at a meeting with Mrs. Cameron Sevier the Club had as an interesting subject of study "Acoustics in Music". The next meeting being held with Mrs. Carley with a program on Mendelsohn led by Mrs. Robert Jackson.

A later Meeting in April found the Club in the hospitable home of Mrs. C. E. Nixon at Midnight, roll call being answered with names of vocal and piano compositions dealing with nature. The next meeting which was with Mrs. Josiah Crudup was most interesting with a study of "Famous Composers Living in the United States".

On Saturday May 11th the Club held a most enjoyable meeting with Mrs. Clarence Erb. The eleven members and sixteen visitors found much pleasure in the handkerchief shower tendered Mrs. Carley. A musical cartoon contest was also a feature of this, which seems to have been about the last, meeting of the Club before disbanding for the summer months.

Resuming their course of study, the Club held its first meeting in the fall of 1929 on October 12th in the home of Mrs. Newt Baggett. Taking the form of an indoor picnic, this was a most enjoyable occasion. Study of the new year opened with an invitation to all members for

Humphreys County, Organizations

suggestions. A following meeting with Mrs. R. H. Fisher was announced.

Mrs. Melton was hostess to the Club on November 1st in the home of Mrs. C. Erb. Plans for a Womanless Style Show were discussed with Mrs. H. A. Sorrells appointed as chairman of arrangements. The subject of study was Carmen.

Mrs. R. H. Nason was hostess to the Club at its first meeting in 1930.

On Feb. 14th the Club held their meeting at the Woman's Club home enjoying an informal Valentine party.

A splendid Guest Day program held in the grammar school auditorium on Friday Feb. 28th was an outstanding feature of club activity during early 1930. "Music from Many Lands" was the program topic being illustrated by living pictures with picture background and costume in harmony. Tempting refreshments concluded this enjoyable program.

At a regular meeting with Mrs. H. A. Sorrells, Jr. in March, Mrs. Clarence Erb was elected a delegate to the State Federation of Music Clubs which met in Clarksdale on April 3rd, 4th and 5th. Subject of study of the afternoon was the composer Liszt.

Election of the 1930-1931 officers was a feature of the annual meeting held with Mrs. J. A. Anderson as hostess on March 21st. The officers elected were Mrs. H. A. Sorrells, Jr., President; Mrs. C. E. Nixon, Vice-President; Mrs. L. I. Watkins, Secretary and Treasurer; Mrs. J. A. Anderson, Corresponding Secretary. ^{+ Mrs. C. B. Boy, Parliamentarian} At this meeting a few changes were voted in the constitution and by-laws of the Club. On March 28th Mrs. Allen Perisho was hostess to the Club in the home of Mrs. Josiah Crudup. An Easter program was featured. Mrs. Paul

Townsend was next hostess to the Club at which meeting two of the pupils of Mrs. Lewellyn Bain - Bill Allen and Jaunita Chapman who were contestants at the field meet in Clarksdale - delighted the members with a number on the program.

Friday, April 24th, the Club met with Mrs. A. M. Spencer and plans for the annual guest luncheon on May 8th were made.

At the appointed time the Club entertained with an elaborate luncheon at the Woman's Club home in celebration of Friday of Music Week. A special feature of the event being the artist guest, Mrs. Lane Busick of Clinton, who delighted the assemblage with a series of beautiful selections sung in French, Italian and English.

This marked the close of a very successful Club year, the members feeling that much had been accomplished.

On Friday afternoon Sept. 11, 1931 the Club held their opening meeting for the new season in the home of Mrs. J. A. Anderson with Mrs. Paul Townsend, Mrs. Nash Love, Miss Elizabeth Love and Mrs. Anderson as co-hostesses. Held on the beautiful lawn of the Anderson home, the meeting took the form of a garden party. The Club colors were especially most artistic in design, when reaching the punch table, flowers frozen into a large block of ice held attention. The 110 guests were delightfully entertained by a splendid program rendered by artist guests from neighboring cities -- Mrs. Heard of Itta Bena, Mrs. Little, Dr. Caswell and the talented accompanist, Mrs. Prosser, all of Greenwood delighting their audience. Mrs. H. A. Sorrells, Jr. of Belzoni also added much zest to the program.

Humphreys County, Organizations

Meeting on Friday, October 8th, in the ladies' parlor of the Methodist Church, the Club had as their guests members of the Woman's Club. The program consisted of Modern Italian, Spanish and Portugal music, a sketch of the composer's life being given with each number.

At a meeting with Mrs. M. D. Alexander on October 23rd, the Club voted to sponsor the "Dancing Creations of 1931" to be given on November 13th at the Elementary School Auditorium. A sacred program to be held at the Methodist Church was also arranged for November 15th, proceeds of the free will offering to be given to the local chapter of the American Red Cross. A program on Modern French music and composers followed. Meeting with Mrs. H. A. Sorrells, Jr. on November 6th, English music was the topic study for the afternoon.

Perhaps because of the high water situation that became prevalent in early January of 1932, the first recorded meeting of the new year was held with Mrs. Ora Suber as hostess on February 12th. Mississippi Composers held the attention of the Club at this meeting.

One of the outstanding entertainments given by the Club in 1932 was the "Manless Wedding" presented at the Elementary School auditorium on June 7th. With the 65 charming young ladies in the cast and a splendid program of nuptial music, the event was most successful. This marked the close of the Club's activity through the summer months.

On October 7th the Club opened their new season in a meeting with Mrs. R. H. Fisher as hostess. Victor Herbert's best known numbers provided a most enjoyable program. At the next meeting which was with Mrs. Macbeth, the Club voted to co-operate with schools and other clubs in observing Educational Week. Nov. 17th found the Club with Mrs. Enoch Haga as hostess.

On Dec. 2nd the Club was hostess to the Junior Music Club at the Court House with Mesdames Jno. Halbrook and Melvin, hostesses. The work of Mrs. Nason as leader of the Junior Club received much complimentary mention.

The Club held an interesting meeting with Mrs. M. D. Alexander on January 13th, 1933, this being the first recorded meeting of the new year. A most enjoyable Johannes Brahms program was rendered.

Mrs. R. H. Nason was hostess to the Club in late January at which time it was decided to change the Club name from "The Crescendo Music Club" to that of "The Music Lover's Club". It was also agreed that the Club would sponsor a guest matinee of the coming picture, Boccini's "Madame Butterfly" on March 24th.

The new season began at a meeting of the Club with Mrs. Enoch Haga as hostess on Sept. 15th. Sixteen members and five visitors enjoyed a varied program. The next meeting of record was held with Mrs. R. H. Nason on November 10th when a program on "Patriotism" was given. A meeting with Mrs. Paul Townsend on November 24th had as its program topic "Thanksgiving". At a meeting with Mrs. Lewellyn Bain on December 8th again "Mississippi Composers" was the subject of study.

The Club met in the home of Mrs. Spencer Barrett on January 5th for the first meeting of 1934 to enjoy a varied program.

Through the spring of 1934 the Junior Music Club was very active. They met regularly and their splendidly arranged programs give a most interesting insight to their earnest study and thorough enjoyment in their club work.

Humphreys County, Organizations

At the annual meeting of the Music Lover's Club in the home of Mrs. J. R. Elkins on March 2nd, (1934) the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. O. F. Monk; Vice-President, Mrs. Paul Townsend; Treasurer, Miss Lorraine Hughes; Secretary, Mrs. Ward Fisher; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. A. M. Spencer; Study Chairman, Mrs. Enoch Haga; Reporter, Mrs. Melton.

On Friday, April 27th the Club held an unusually interesting meeting in the home of Mrs. J. H. Goldberger of Swiftown. At this meeting definite plans were made for the entertainment of the Vesper Choir of Mississippi State Teachers College at Hattiesburg which was to be in Belzoni one night during Music Week. A splendid program on Edward McDowell was rendered.

Although the Club remained active, no farther record of club activities appears in the Banner until the opening of the Club year for 1935-1936 on October 11th, when Mrs. W. A. Fisher was hostess to the Club. With Mrs. O. F. Monk as leader for the afternoon, a delightful program on Italian Music was rendered.

At a regular meeting in early December, Mrs. Crudup was hostess to the Club. A splendid program was rendered on Oriental Music with studies of the following countries -- India, Turkey and China. The next meeting of the Club was with Mrs. Paul Townsend on December 13th.

Again there is a lapse of Club activities which runs to opening of the Club work in the fall of 1936. Then comes an announcement of the Club's first meeting held at the Woman's Club home on September 18 with Meslames H. A. Sorrells and Clarence Erb as co-hostesses.

Plans and programs for the ensuing year received full attention and the new year books, which were most attractive, were given out.

Twenty-four members and a number of invited guests enjoyed the hospitality of Meslames M. D. Alexander and E. Haga as co-hostesses in early October at a regular meeting of the Club. As a topic study an interesting program on Early American Music and Early American composers was given.

The Belzoni Club was an honor guest at a Matinee Musicale, with a beautifully appointed luncheon held in the Confederate Memorial Building which opened the 1936-1937 season of the Greenwood Music Club in mid-October. Mrs. D. C. Lea, of Hattiesburg, State President of the Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs, was also an honor guest of the occasion. A splendid program by members of the Belzoni Club was given at the conclusion of the four course luncheon.

Mrs. R. H. Fisher entertained the Club at a regular meeting in late October when a splendid program on Modern American Music arranged by Mrs. Jno. Halbrook was rendered. The following meeting of the Club was held at the country home of Mrs. John Bridgers with Mrs. Bridgers and Mrs. W. B. Baker as hostesses on November 6th. A later meeting in November was held in the home of Mrs. Will Solomon with Miss Corinne Solomon and Mrs. Cohron Bryan as co-hostesses. The topic subject of the afternoon being "The Pales in Music" on which Mrs. O. F. Monk gave a most interesting paper.

A delightful meeting of the Club was held with Mrs. Crudup and Mrs. Spencer Barrett as hostesses in early January, 1937, German composers being the theme of the afternoon. The next meeting which

Humphreys County, Organizations

was held in the home of Mrs. Harold Crump with Mrs. J. A. Anderson as co-hostess was most interesting with a study of Franz Schubert.

At a meeting with Mrs. Ora Suber in late February a most interesting subject of study was the life of Carrie Jacobs Bond followed by a splendid program.

In the home of Mrs. Paul Townsend in early March, the Club held their annual election of officers, the following being chosen to pilot the Club through the current year (1937): President, Mrs. Ward Fisher; Vice-President, Mrs. Jno. Halbrook; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Spencer Barrett; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Paul Townsend; Treasurer, Mrs. R. H. Nason. These officers were elected to serve two years.

On March 19th with a full attendance and several guests the Club assembled in the Woman's Club home for a meeting with Mesdames Parker, Ellis and Cameron Sevier. The study of the afternoon was the Opera "Aida" by Verdi.

The Club has remained active on through the current year. Many enjoyable and instructive meetings have added to the pleasure and zest of their club life. As a most fitting culmination of their activity for the calendar was a most beautiful Christmas program, as taken from the Belzoni Banner of December 23, 1937:

MUSIC LOVER'S CLUB PRESENTS
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

"One of the loveliest Christmas entertainments of the year was the program given for the enjoyment of their members and guests by the Music Lover's Club at the Baptist church on Friday night, December 17.

Mesdames C. Sevier, J. C. Halbrook, C. Erb, R. Nason, Joe Carr, H. A. Sorrels, R. C. Bryan and W. Brumfield, Sr., were hostesses for the occasion. The guests assembled in the main auditorium which was decorated with lights and greenery mixed with red berries. The following program was beautifully rendered:

Organ Prelude--Mrs. H. A. Sorrels; Carols--Chorus; Quartet--Silent Night--acapella--Mesdames Alexander, Pepper, Townsend and Sevier; Scripture--Rev. W. B. Baker; Prayer--Dr. Josiah Crudup; Piano Solo--Mrs. James Slaughter; 'Hark, What Means Those Holy Voices'--Chorus; Organ Solo--Mrs. H. A. Sorrels; 'Christmas Chimes'--Chorus; 'Brightest and Best'--vocal duet--Mesdames Cohron Bryan and Allen Pepper; Organ and Piano Duet--Mesdames H. A. Sorrels and Joe Carr; Mrs. Crump--'The Other Wise Man', Henry Van Dyke; Organ and Piano Duet--Mesdames H. A. Sorrels and Clarence Erb.

At the conclusion of the program Dr. Crudup extended the invitation to the basement of the church where the hostesses served the one-hundred and twenty-five guests a plate consisting of chicken salad, cherry pie, pickle, crackers and tea."

Reference: Belzoni Banners - from 1924 to 1937, inclusive.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Organizations

S U P P L E M E N T

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 8, 1937

Topic: Social, Cultural, etc.

Assignment No. 29

Enumerators: Mamie G. Cartledge
Constance P. Embry

Item No. 2

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

Woman's Club:

On Page Seven, paragraph five, please add to the club year 1927-1928 the following accomplishments as taken from minutes of the Woman's Club:

"A drastic plan of economy is practiced because of debt on Club House. The Club House ready for occupancy. Husbands give fifty chairs to the Club House. District convention entertained in October, 1927. Miss Susie V. Powell, State President, and Mrs. J. M. Yeager of Drew, President of Fifth District, were among distinguished guests. Mr. Robert Prickett had the picture moulding put up, also a table and desk given the Club House. Cullander Machine Company gives a heater. The Club celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, February, 1928.

In the year 1928-1929, Mrs. M. A. Alexander, President
Mrs. B. P. Brooks, Secretary.

The program subjects are drama, music and art. A tea in honor of Mrs. J. C. Stewart, retiring President, August 14th, 1928. A delegate to Clarksdale convention, October 23rd and 24th. Membership

Page Two - Belzoni Woman's Club
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

of Club is now forty-five members. A public art exhibit by Miss Dismuke, November 16th, 1928, was given in the Club House, tea served.

An effort to get natural gas piped to Belzoni from Louisiana fields through Greenville has been launched this year.

The Club celebrated its twenty-sixth birthday celebration.

Mrs. Mamie E. Jackson,
Historian. "

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Organizations

S U P P L E M E N T

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 27, 1937

Topic: Social, Cultural, etc.

Assignment No. 29

Enumerator: Constance P. Embry

Item No. 2

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

Woman's Club:

From the Belzoni News-Enterprise of December 15, 1905 was taken the following article:

DEATH OF A NOBLE WOMAN

"Mrs. Janet McLean Haire, wife of Capt. R. A. Haire, died Sunday December Tenth at her home on Central Street.

Our entire community and countless friends elsewhere mourn the death of her whose life has been a splendid fabric of kindly, noble deeds. Her charming social qualities and blameless christian life endeared her to all with whom she came in contact. There was a rare combination in her of power, breath of mind and intellect, humility and love.

Her's was a lingering illness which taxed to the breaking point all the courage and fortitude of the human heart. With courage sublime and an unfaltering faith in Providence she submitted to two agonizing operations. Her heroism during the trying ordeals challenged unstinted admiration.

In spite of her suffering, which was continuous, she ever had

Page Two - Death of Mrs. Janet McLean Haire
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

words of cheer for all, and unfailing words of encouragement and love for those of us whom she called 'her children' whom she loved only less than she did those who were bound to her by ties of kinship. Even on her last day on earth her thought for the little club, of which she was the organizer and president, testified more than human words could express the love she felt for them. A great sorrow sits enthroned in hearts of this little band, whose inspiration and guiding spirit she was. But in the irremediable darkness of the gloom caused by her death we can look back and see the reflected beauty of thoughtful acts and deeds of gracious charity and gentleness which makes us believe that all is well with her who is away. While we miss her yet we would not wish her back to her bed of suffering.

And the thought that if she could send a message, it would be 'Rise, comfort yourselves, sorrowing ones, in services for others for your loved one's sake' comes to each of those who knew her well, while tears will rise unbidden, they are not bitter tears of hopeless sorrow.

'The Spring time of her childish years had never lost their fresh perfume'. Her sunny nature not only filled her own life with precious blessings, but enriched and beautified the lives of those about her; now there is no shadow to mar the sweet memories which crowd upon us like a benediction, and we know that God does not mean to break the strand between the 'Here and There' nor to forget the sacredness of our sorrow. She with our other beloved dead form an angel guard about our earthly pathway and as the arms of the Savior were outstretched to receive her so, He awaits with her our own coming, when we shall see

Humphreys County, Organizations

Page Three - Death of Mrs. Janet McLean Haire
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

again the same dear face glorified.

May the angel of dawn guide her sweet spirit to the realm of painless rest and perfect peace in the land that lays beyond the hills of time in which she is 'face to face' with the King in all his beauty. May He whom she so faithfully served pour balm on the sore and aching hearts of devoted relatives. May he in His tender mercy comfort the lonely heart of the bereft husband, for only the merciful Savior with his infinite wisdom can measure the depths of his sorrow.

The 'earthly tabernacle' of this gentle Christian woman was laid to rest by the side of loved ones in the cemetery at Traverse City, Michigan, where it was accompanied from here by her husband who was joined at Chicago by her son and other relatives.

'Sleep well brave heart beloved of Christ and crowned,
God gives thee rest,
The wide world's love enwraps thy slumber round,
God gives thee sleep,
His angels smile, His stricken children weep,
Yet smiles nor tears shall break thy blessed sleep.' "

Reference: Belzoni News-Enterprise - Dec. 15, 1905.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 29, 1937

Topic: Social, Cultural, etc.

Assignment No. 29

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. 2

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

For many years one of the most active organizations of the county was the Merry Maids, who were a band of young ladies affiliated with the Belzoni Methodist Church. Much good was accomplished by these young ladies, who with their untiring energy usually in the end found their purposes hung with laurels. Their influence for the betterment of the community was far reaching and it is with regret that ^{this} their organization cannot be mentioned as one of continued activity. Much pleasure was afforded by these young ladies from time to time in such community gatherings as the following taken from the Belzoni Banner of October 20, 1927:

MERRY MAIDS GIVE
ORGAN RECITAL

Large Crowd Hears Adolph Steuterman
at Organ Recital Tuesday Night
at Methodist Church

"The Pipe Organ Recital at the Belzoni Methodist Church Tuesday night by Adolph Steuterman of Memphis, under the auspices of the Merry Maids, an organization of ladies of the Methodist Church here, was one of the best recitals or entertainments that has been given here in a long time. The church was crowded long before Mr. Steuterman took his place at the organ. Extra chairs were brought in and they were all

Humphreys County, Organizations

Page Two - Merry Maids
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

filled with people eager to hear and see. Mr. Steuterman, who is organist and choirmaster of the Calvary Episcopal Church of Memphis, was introduced by B. P. Brooks, superintendent of the Belzoni schools. Mr. Brooks has his own way of introducing speakers, organists and others at gatherings, and he was at his best along this line Tuesday night.

Mr. Steuterman's program consisted of thirteen numbers, selected from some of the greatest composers the world has ever known. Mr. Steuterman had the reputation before he came to Belzoni, of being the greatest organist in the south, and he upheld that reputation at the Methodist church here Tuesday night. He is undoubtedly all that had been said about him in advance, and at the conclusion of the recital he was roundly congratulated.

The recital was given for the benefit of the pipe organ fund, the organ being purchased and turned over to the church by the Merry Maids, who have assumed the obligation of paying for the organ. No admission fee was charged, but a free will offering was taken and a neat sum was realized. The audience was liberal, and the sum realized from the recital will go quite a ways toward paying off the indebtedness on the organ. The Merry Maids have worked hard that they might get the organ, and now they are acting as janitors in the church in order to get the money to finish paying for the organ.

It is hoped by these good ladies that they might be able to bring Mr. Steuterman back to Belzoni for another recital at some future date. His recital was something that will live in the memory of his

Page Three - Merry Maids
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

audience for a long time, for it was inspiring to see a master such as Mr. Steuterman get so much music out of a pipe organ, but the real inspiration came from the music itself."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - October 20, 1927

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Organizations

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 10, 1937

Topic: Daughters of Confederacy

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Assignment No. 29

Item No. 4

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

From the Belzoni Banner of September 21, 1922 was taken the following organization of the Humphreys County Chapter of U. D. C.. The Chapter was for a time very active, but interest has, within the last few years, seemed to be altogether on the wane. No doubt this is because of the fact that there are now no surviving veterans of the Confederacy in the county.

DAUGHTERS OF CONFEDERACY

A. U. D. C. Chapter Organized in Belzoni
at Court House by Mrs. Holmes, of Hattiesburg.

"The Banner is under obligations to the Corresponding Secretary of the U. D. C., Mrs. C. B. Box of Midnight, for the following interesting article concerning the organization of the Humphreys County Daughters of the Confederacy.

On Wednesday, Sept. 13th, ⁽¹⁹²²⁾ at the Humphreys Court House, Mrs. Madge H. Holmes of Hattiesburg met quite a number of ladies of the county for the purpose of reorganizing the U. D. C. Chapter. Mrs. Holmes explained that it would cost quite a sum for reorganization and suggested that we organize as a new Chapter. This was agreed on, and the following ladies enrolled as charter members.

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Mesdames Mary S. Powell, Lena J. Sumrall, Ros~~E~~ W. Lyon,
Mamie E. Jackson, Hallie E. Wadlington, Jennie H. Wright, Lee C.
Hutchens, Sarah E. S. McCormick, Hattie E. Tou^(Jensen)senau, Modie J. Jones,
Mattie H. Box and Misses Lola Sevier, Earl Jones, Evie Smith and
Fannie Jackson.

The usual method of nomination and election was gone into and the following officers elected: Mrs. Hallie Wadlington, President; Mrs. Mary Powell, 1st Vice-President; Mrs. Mamie Jackson, 2nd Vice-President; Miss Lola Sevier, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Mattie Box, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Ros~~E~~ Lyon, Treasurer; Mrs. J. C. Gibson, Honorary President; Mrs. L. J. Clarke, Honorary Vice-President.

The latter two being confederate mothers hold their offices for life and are to receive the attention and sweet thoughtfulness of the members.

The Chapter was given the name 'Ben Humphreys County Chapter', and the meeting day was fixed as the last Friday in each month at 3 p. m. at the court house. Quite a bit of enthusiasm prevailed, and we are expecting to draw quite a number into our circle before the next meeting day, which will be September 29th.

All ladies eligible are earnestly urged to be present at this meeting and join with us in helping to make bright the lives of those who did so much for us and to commemorate those who gave their lives to the cause."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - September 21, 1922.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Mississippi

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 28, 1937

Topic: Civic

Assignment No. 29

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. 3

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

From the Belzoni Banner of July 4, 1929 was taken the following article:

HUMPHREYS COUNTY
IZAACK WALTON LEAGUE

Izaak Walton League Organized
Friday Night (29th) With a Charter
Membership of Sixty-Three.--
Mr. Davis Delivers Address

"On last Friday night at the Court House, the Izaak Walton League of Humphreys County was organized with a charter membership of 63. This league was the outgrowth of a temporary organization which was started sometime ago by the hunting and fishing club. The following officers were elected: S. R. Strickland, President; W. L. Toney, Vice-President; J. D. Lundy, Secretary and Treasurer. Prior to the organization of the club, Mr. Henry P. Davis of Memphis, who is now the writer on game life, delivered an address and also put on a picture show of three reels of pictures of various phases of game life and methods of preserving fish and restocking of streams which was very greatly enjoyed by everyone. Mr. Davis stressed the necessity of game and fish preservation as at the present rate of destruction the game in this county would be a curiosity to our children in a very few years. He spoke of methods of conservation that are practiced in the Eastern and

Page Two - Izaak Walton League
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Central states where they have far more game than we, although with less natural game reserve methods. Being a representative of one of the largest powder companies, he expressed to the audience, the fact that he was not speaking for any type or class of people as naturally they wanted game propagated. After Mr. Davis' address there were several impromptu speeches but no definite plans were outlined and will not be until the next regular meeting. The regular meetings will be held in the court house every second Friday night in each month and the annual meeting will be held on the second Friday night in November each year. Everyone is cordially invited to attend each monthly meeting and it is hoped that the league will be made one of the largest in the state as Humphreys County is one of the finest natural fishing places in the state and with proper conservation there will be no trouble for anyone to have plenty of nice fish."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - July 4, 1929.

At a meeting of the Izaak Walton League in October, 1929, it was decided to offer three prizes to the school children of Humphreys County. Three sets of prizes were offered under each grade -- High Schools, Grammar Schools and Junior Schools. These prizes were offered for the best essay on the subject "The Conservation of Wild Life in Humphreys County" not exceeding 750 words in length. The winning essays were to be entered in the National Contest subject to awards of both a medal and cash remuneration. (No record of winners)

Reference: Belzoni Banner - Oct. 17, 1929.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Organizations

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 17

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 30, 1937

Topic: Horticulture

Assignment No. 17

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. IX - d

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE-HORTICULTURE

d. Garden Club Activities.

With further reference to the Humphreys County Garden Club, mentioned in Assignment No. 17, may be added the following account of the first county-wide flower show as taken from the Belzoni Banner of May 23, 1935:

HUMPHREYS COUNTY GARDEN
CLUB COUNTY-WIDE FLOWER
SHOW IS STAGED IN BELZONI

Hundreds of Spectators Attracted To City By First Outdoor
Flower Show To Be Staged in County; Many Attractive
Exhibits Displayed; Prizes are Awarded

"The Flower Show held in the Hayes Blair garden was not only a delight to the layman's eye, but a really historical event; first, because it was the first big outdoor show ever held in the South, and second because the ladies of the Humphreys Home Demonstration Clubs laid aside all rivalry and cooperated most beautifully with the Garden Club; and last, because it was the first State show to be planned and executed as an artistic whole.

At the suggestion of the leading spirit of the Staging Committee, who was inspired by the foreign club study programs, the deep rambling

Page Two - Garden Club Flower Show
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

transformed into charmingly gay flower booths in a blaze of living color, symbolic of France, Spain, Holland and many other countries. These booths were presided over by members of the clubs dressed in keeping in the costumes of the Old World.

There was plenty of atmosphere portraying the Italian's love of the open as evidenced when one walks from the studio into the outdoor living room and besides the outdoor living room there was the flagstone patio with pot plants, Spanish moss, Spanish daggers and many other accessories complimenting the Spanish treatment and lending the much desired semblance of age and romance.

The Mexican side-walk-market-place, staged on the front steps under a Spanish awning, lent gorgeous color and brought many dollars to further the cause and push fertile gardens for bigger and better exhibits.

The happiest feature of the day, as observed by the writer, was the delightfully nonchalant atmosphere as the hundreds of guest strolled along the flower-bordered pathways, feeling blissfully detached, and as they were served Coca Cola from the red-checked tables in the patio there was no unhealthy tendency shown toward leaving too early or too late, which so often characterizes more formal gatherings. In any case, it showed up the chaos of most heterogeneous flower shows and proved how well the commercial angle could be disguised.

GARDEN CLUB AWARDS

Winner of Gold Ribbons
Most Outstanding Flower Entry -- Mrs. J. M. Powell.
Most Artistic and Unique Display -- Mrs. H. H. Blair.

Humphreys County, Organizations

Specimens

Red Roses -- First, Mrs. G. M. Selden; second, Mrs. S. B. T. Jones.
White Roses -- First, Mrs. O. M. Blackwood; second, Mrs. O. M. Blackwood.
Pink Roses -- First, Mrs. Paul Townsend; second Mrs. O. M. Blackwood.
Varigated (Talisman) -- First, Mrs. C. Sevier; second, Mrs. Chas. Hendrix.
Tamarix -- First, Mrs. A. A. Gore
Dahlia -- First, Mrs. G. M. Selden.
Hydrangia -- First, Mrs. J. J. Sisloff.
Gladiola -- First, Mrs. S. A. Dunlapp; second, Mrs. Owen Royce.
Iris (Container of Two) -- First, Mrs. Nash Love; second, Mrs. Nash Love.
Iris (Container of One) -- First, Mrs. G. M. Barnes.

Display of Mixed Flowers

Snapdragons -- First, Mrs. J. T. Fleming, Sr..
Sweet Peas -- First, Mrs. Paul Townsend; second, Mrs. C. Sevier.
Larkspur -- First, Mrs. G. M. Selden; second, Mrs. Geo. Hairston.
Poppies (Double) -- First, Mrs. John Bell; second, Mrs. W. A. Hendrix; honorable mention, Mrs. J. H. Goldberger.
Poppies (Single) -- First, Mrs. Will Solomon; second, Mrs. Chas. Hendrix; honorable mention, Mrs. S. L. Tharp.
Verbenia (Mixed Variety) -- First, Mrs. A. C. Switzer; second, Mrs. L. C. Outlaw.
Verbenia (One Color) -- First, Mrs. C. Sevier; second, Mrs. C. Sevier.
Phlox (Mixed) -- First, Mrs. W. M. Howell.
Pansies -- First, Mrs. J. W. Sorrells; second, Mrs. N. W. Sumrall.
Hydrangia -- First, Mrs. S. B. T. Jones.
Salvia -- First, Mrs. J. W. Sorrells.
Althea -- First, Mrs. Nick Carter.
Cape Jessamine -- First, Mrs. Owen Royce.
Lantana -- First, Mrs. Owen Royce.
Hollyhocks -- First, Mrs. Chas. Hendrix.
Callendula -- First, Mrs. G. M. Selden.
Gillardia -- First, Mrs. June Brown.
Magnolia -- First, Mrs. T. M. Reed.
Wildflowers -- First, Mrs. J. W. Sorrells.
Spirea -- First, Mrs. O. A. Bell.
Nasturtiums -- First, Mrs. G. M. Selden; second, Mrs. C. H. Owen.
Zennias -- First, Mrs. O. J. Turner; second, Mrs. F. H. Sorrells.
Chrysanthemums -- First, Mrs. Eugene Webb; second, Mrs. S. B. T. Jones.
Cornflowers -- First, Mrs. C. Sevier; second, Mrs. J. M. Sorrells.
Mixed Flowers -- First, Mrs. A. A. Gore; second, Mrs. W. Pæri; honorable mention, Mrs. H. E. Covington.

Pinks -- First, Mrs. T. B. Craft; second, Mrs. John Daniels.
French Daisies -- First, Mrs. Bert Regan; second, Mrs. Will Solomon.
Petunias -- First, Mrs. C. M. Murphy; second, Mrs. C. M. Murphy.
Dahlias -- First, Mrs. S. L. Tripp; second, Mrs. J. A. Anderson; honorable mention, Mrs. J. T. Fleming, Sr.
Iris -- First, Mrs. Richard Kinkead.
Gladioli -- First, Mrs. S. A. Dunlapp; second, Mrs. Owen Royce.

Collection of Roses

Polyantha Roses -- First, Mrs. J. W. Sorrells; second, Mrs. Charlton Jones.
Talisman Roses -- First, Mrs. T. M. Reed.
Rambler Roses -- First, Mrs. John Bell; second, Mrs. O. W. Bell.
Red Roses -- First, Mrs. Geo. Hairston.
Pink Roses -- First, Mrs. J. H. Goldberger.

Best Display of Lillies

Water Lillies -- First, Mrs. J. H. Goldberger; second, Mrs. Richard Kinkead.
Madonna Lillies -- First, Mrs. J. H. Goldberger.
Amaryllis Lillies -- First, Mrs. W. Henry; second, Mrs. S. B. T. Jones.

Miscellaneous

Cactus -- First, Mrs. John Daniels.
Strawberries -- First, Mrs. Geo. Hairston.
Pot Plants -- First, Mrs. O. M. Blackwood.

Garden Hats

Made by Mrs. W. M. Chapman -- First, brown and orange hat; second, rose and brown hat.

Wall Vase

First -- Mrs. Richard Kinkead.

Shadow Boxes

First -- Mrs. A. A. Gore; second, Mrs. Will Solomon.

Members of the Garden Club will open their gardens to the public for inspection on Sunday, June 2nd. Everyone is cordially invited to visit these gardens."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - May 23, 1935.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County Organizations

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Jan. 4, 1938

Topic: Masonic Lodge

Assignment No. 29

Enumerators: Mamie G. Cartledge
Constance P. Embry

Item No. 1

SUBJECT: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

Masonic Lodge:

Belzoni Lodge No. 547 -- F. & A. M.. Stated communication held on second Monday of each month.

Formed under Special Dispensation - November, 1913.

Charter - March 7, 1914. Organized under Geo. F. Nixon - D.D.G.L., Tchula, Mississippi.

CHARTER MEMBERS

O. L. Savage	J. S. Savage
E. R. Smith	T. B. Thornton
W. S. Smith	C. E. Downing
J. A. Anderson	T. E. Mortimer
Willis Brumfield	F. J. Smith
E. S. Bradley	S. H. McClintock
M. F. Phillips	F. V. Richards
A. Cullander	G. E. Watson
Aaron Jacobson	T. C. Pepper
J. A. Finley	R. E. North
E. L. Robertson	R. H. Commander.

First officers appointed while under Special Dispensation:

O. L. Savage	-	W. M.
E. R. Smith	-	S. W.
W. S. Smith	-	J. W.
E. S. Bradley	-	S. D.
M. F. Phillips	-	J. D.
R. H. Commander	-	Tyler Pro-tem
J. A. Anderson	-	Treas.
W. Brumfield	-	Sec'y.

Page Two - Masonic Lodge
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

P. H. Murphy - D.D.G.L., Lexington, Mississippi present at first meeting to instruct Lodge in its work.

Memorandum of first meeting carries a resolution of thanks to Rev. O. L. Savage and E. R. Smith for their good work in getting the Lodge started.

First meetings were held in the old City Hall.

Present meetings held in Masonic room at Court House.

From "One Hundred Nineteenth Annual Communication - Grand Lodge of Mississippi F. & A. M., 1937" was taken the following:

"Belzoni No. 547 - Belzoni, Humphreys County.

Stated Communications held on the second Monday in each month.

Officers for 1937

Don Augustus Mecklin	-	Master
Thomas Smith Abernathy	-	Senior Warden
Bennie Wade Barton	-	Junior Warden
Ward Anderson Fisher	-	Treasurer
Willis Brumfield	-	Secretary
Albion Claude Eastman	-	Senior Deacon
Mahmood Moalem	-	Junior Deacon
Olin Blackwood	-	Tyler

Officers 1936

Albion Claude Eastman	-	M.
Bennie Wade Barton	-	S. W.
Morris B. Zlotnick	-	J. W.
Don Augustus Mecklin	-	P. M., Treas.
Willis Brumfield	-	Sec'y.
Thomas Smith Abernathy	-	P. M., S. D.
J. D. Sudduth	-	J. D.
Olin Blackwood	-	Tyler

Past Masters

Bradley, Everett Stumph	Phillips, Moses Franklin
Brooks, Burrow Penn	Rice, Thurman Davis
McLain, Sherman Allen	Robertson, Edward Lafayette."

Humphreys County, Organizations

The Masonic Lodge, has since its organization in 1913 been a substantial force for the well-being growth of the county. The Lodge had gained prior to the financial depression of 1929, approximately 140 members. This number has been reduced to about 100.

Outstanding in faithful membership may be mentioned Mrs. Willis Brumfield, who since the organization of the Lodge has given freely of his time and influence in the administration of his various duties. Dr. D. A. Mecklin, Mr. T. S. Abernathy, and many other members of long standing are to be commended also for their faithfulness in behalf of their Lodge duties.

References: Records Masonic Lodge
Mr. Willis Brumfield - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
April 29, 1937

Topic: Activities in Connection
with Industry

Assignment No. 20

Canvasser: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. D (2)

SUBJECT: INDUSTRY

Business & Professional Women's Club:

Before considering definite facts about the B. & P. W. Club, let us first learn what the Federation is. The National Federation of B. & P. W. Clubs, Incorporated is "A nation-wide, self-governing group of business and professional women, representing a cross section of all business and professions."

The B. & P. W. Club of Belzoni was organized on November 13, 1931. The Board of Supervisors room, located in the courthouse, was the scene of the first B. & P. W. meeting in Humphreys County. Miss Vivian Cook, State President of the Mississippi B. & P. W. Club, presided over the meeting.

Fourteen interested and enthusiastic business women were present for the organization of the club, these persons having the distinction of being charter members. Officers elected were as follows: Mrs. Bessie Watkins, president; Miss Lola G. Sevier, vice-president; Mrs. Lela Long, secretary; Mrs. James Scroggins, treasurer.

A word in regard to the general aspects of the National Federation of B. & P. W. Clubs, Incorporated. Shortly after organization in 1919, investigation in Europe revealed that there were no B. & P. W. Clubs on that continent. In 1928 a Goodwill tour of Europe

Humphreys County, Organizations

was decided upon by leading business and professional women for the purpose of encouraging the establishment of the Federation abroad, thus making it an international organization. Interest in the matter was awakened, and grew until at the present time eighteen countries are affiliated with the Federation.

Since the organization of the B. & P. W. Club in Belzoni, it has progressed steadily through the years. New members have been added. The public has been made more aware of its existence. Officers at this time are: Miss Lurline Simpson, president; Mrs. Maude Taylor, recording secretary; Miss Bettie Brooke, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Beatrice Fry, vice-president; Mrs. Dovie Low, treasurer; Miss Ruby Shaw, parliamentarian. Membership is county-wide; it consists of twenty-eight persons. The Belzoni club is known as an honor roll club.

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club, Incorporated have as their objectives: the elevation of the standards of women in business and professions; the promotion of the interests of both business and professional women; to establish a feeling of cooperation among the business and professional women; to extend to business and professional women an opportunity for education.

Members of the Belzoni B. & P. W. Club have put forth earnest effort to carry out these objectives to the best of their ability. They are also loyal to their four word platform, which is: non-partisan, non-sectarian, self-governing and self-supporting. In regard to membership in the B. & P. W. Club, the National Federation requires that at least seventy-five per cent of the members are business and professional women. Our local organization upholds this

rule. The following slogans of this national organization are held uppermost in the minds of all its members: "Better Business Women for a Better Business World", and "At Least a High School Education for Every Business Girl". The latter slogan does not apply only to club members, but to all women of the business world.

The theme of the Belzoni B. & P. W. Club for the year 1936-37 is "The Business Woman as a Citizen in Her Community". Efficiently planned programs rendered at club meetings, held twice a month, emphasize points of importance. Among ideas stressed by this worthy club are education, legislation, an extension of the aims and accomplishments of the club and cooperation with the developments of the community.

"A Collect for Club Women", given below, is in constant use by members of the local B. & P. W. Club. Written by a member of the National Federation of B. & P. W. Clubs, Incorporated, it has an added significance. (Quote)

A COLLECT FOR CLUB WOMEN

"Keep us, oh God, from pettiness;
let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.

Let us be done with fault-finding
and leave off self-seeking.

May we put away all pretense
and meet each other face to face --
without self-pity and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment
and always generous.

Let us take time for all things;
make us to grow calm, serene, gentle.

"A Collect for Club Women" Continued:

Teach us to put into action our better
impulses, straightforward and unafraid.

Grant that we may realize it is
the little things that create differences,
that in the big things of life we are at one.

And may we strive to touch and to know the
great, common woman's heart of us all,
and, oh, Lord God, let us forget not
to be kind!"

-- Mary Stewart

Issued by
The National Federation of Business and Professional
Women's Clubs, Incorporated

"The Independent Woman", published by the National Federation
of B. & P. W. Clubs, is a dependable guide for club members. Each
member receives this magazine upon payment of dues. A more complete
and condensed description of this publication could not be given than
the one taken from the magazine itself and quoted below:

"The Independent Woman will serve as a forum for women in the
new social order, in line with the Ten Year Objective of the National
Federation of B. & P. W. Clubs, it will present constructive ideas,
aiming toward social justice as well as news of women's contribution
in many fields. Widely varying viewpoints will be published, upon
which readers comment is invited."

Our community is fortunate in having such an active organiza-
tion as the B & P. W. Club. It is ever willing to cooperate with

other organizations in carrying out a plan. A large ornamental pool,
located on the courthouse lawn, was sponsored by the club. A commu-
nity Christmas tree, held by the club has brought delight and cheer
to many children. The club also gives two awards yearly to the two
girls receiving the highest average in the commercial department of
the Belzoni High School.

Each year the club prepares a scrapbook, which is entered in
a state contest. The organization has the honor of having won, at
one time, the Mildred Galloway Membership Award. One of our local
members, Mrs. James Scroggins, has served as chairman of the fifth
district for one term. Another member, Mrs. C. B. Fox, attended th
1935 National Convention of B. & P. W. Clubs in Seattle, Washington.
Mrs. Bessie Watkins is, at the present time, First Vice-president of
the State Federation of B. & P. W. Clubs. During the past she has
served as State Treasurer for one year and as State Program Chairman
for two years. The Belzoni club was honored by the holding of a
district meeting of the B. & P. W. Clubs in our city several years
ago.

The yearly banquet of the organization is always an event to
be anticipated with much pleasure. Miss Lola G. Sevier, efficient
Circuit Clerk of Humphreys County, has served as Public Relations
Chairman since the organization of the Belzoni club, and has been very
active in arrangement of the banquets. For the two banquets of the
years 1935 and 1936, the club was proud to present as the speaker of
the evening, Mrs. Eudora Ramsey Richardson, National Field Secretary.

Humphreys County, Organizations

Page Six - Belzoni B. & P. W. Club
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

It is the belief of members of the organization that a deeper general appreciation for the underlying precepts of the club and more recognition of their advancement will be felt during the coming year. They are, of course, working toward this aim. It is to be hoped and expected that future activities of the Belzoni B. & P. W. Club will be as successful as those in the past.

References: Mrs. Bessie Watkins (1st Vice-president of the State Federation) - Belzoni, Miss.
Mrs. Maude Taylor (Recording Secretary of Belzoni B. & P. W. Club) - Belzoni, Miss.
Miss Lola G. Sevier (Public Relations Chairman) - Belzoni, Miss.
"Handbook of Federation Procedures" published by The National Federation of B. & P. W. Clubs, Inc. N. Y.
"To Business and Professional Women" published by The National Federation of B. & P. W. Clubs, Inc. N. Y.
The Belzoni Banner - Feb. 23, 1933
The Belzoni Banner - Nov. 19, 1931.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
April 15, 1937

Topic: City and County
Chambers of Commerce

Assignment No. 20

Canvasser: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. D (1, 2, 3)

SUBJECT: INDUSTRY

Chamber of Commerce - Humphreys County:

A few years after the creation of Humphreys County in 1918, a Chamber of Commerce was organized in which for a time much local interest was manifested.

In 1933 a new organization was effected, being sponsored by Messrs. Enoch Haga and J. D. Lundy. The first officers of this, the present, Chamber of Commerce were: Enoch Haga, President; and J. D. Lundy, Secretary and Treasurer.

The purpose of the organization is to forward the progress of the county. Many questions affecting the interest of the community at large are brought before the organization in which their voice and judgment are a saving grace. The organization is county-wide with a present membership of twenty-three. A regular meeting is held the second Tuesday of each month, the present officers being Messrs. R. D. Boulton, President and J. C. Higdon, Jr. Secretary and Treasurer.

References: Mr. R. D. Boulton - Belzoni, Miss.
Mr. Joe C. Higdon, Jr. - Belzoni, Miss.
Mr. J. D. Lundy - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Organizations

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
April 22, 1937

Topic: Activities in Connection
with Industry

Assignment No. 20

Canvasser: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. D (2)

SUBJECT: INDUSTRY

Belzoni Rotary Club:

MY CLUB

"They do not slap my back, and shout
A rah, rah, welcome when I come.
There is no bluster, no false sense
Of fellowship to make things hum.

But calmly do they take me in,
And call me Bill, or Bob, or Hank,
In natural way, and with no sneer
At dignity, respect, or rank.

They do not overdo the thing,
No artificial shout of song.
They take me for whatever I am
And make me happy to belong.

They like each other, I can see;
They know true fellowship and such;
A friend's reality they know
Without a superficial touch.

I feel with friends when I am there,
I feel the warmth of proffered hand.
They do not probe, dissect, or cut;
They merely seek to understand.

-- Henry T. Praed, Rotarian" (The Rotarian March 1937)

"Let's see. Rotary. Rotary means to rotate; rotate means to
set in motion; motion means activity; activity means strength;

Page Two - Belzoni Rotary Club
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

strength means power; power means might; might means ability; ability
means efficiency; efficiency means service; and service means success."

As a result of several conferences held between local business
and professional men who, with the assistance of the International
organization of Rotarians, first conducted a survey of the resources
and possibilities of the community to determine whether or not a
Rotary Club would be of service, the Belzoni Rotary Club was organized
on Friday night April 26, 1923. The linking of our section with the
famous International Association of Rotary Clubs, established primarily
for the purpose of development along the idea of practical service, has
meant much to our community through the following years.

"Rotary represents simply the idea of service -- the chief
pledge of its members being to see that they shall consider 'service
above self', and that by their example and by their work for the
community, their business or profession, and toward individuals, they
shall give practical demonstration of the fact that 'he profits most
who serves best'."

The charter membership of the Belzoni club was composed of the
following progressive business men:

John A. Sykes -- President
O. J. Turner, Sr. -- Vice-president
Charles Moore -- Secretary
N. B. Leggitte -- Treasurer
T. L. Gilmer -- Sergeant at Arms
J. A. Anderson
H. H. Alexander
M. D. Alexander
B. P. Brooks
J. J. Cain
Joe Goldberg
Howard Jones
J. C. Lore
T. E. Mortimer

Names of charter members continued:

J. W. McClintock
C. E. Miller
J. M. Powell
H. T. Proetz
Rev. S. G. Pope
Kane Reed
Charles Shapero
Sam Strickland
Amos Tims
W. L. Toney

The officers and Messrs. J. M. Powell and J. A. Anderson composed the Directors.

Outstanding in activity since their organization in 1923, the Rotary Club has continued along with characteristic progress and hospitality, adapting their activities to local conditions and local problems.

Activities of the club have also included much social concourse in which the "Rotary Anns" have taken a prominent and enjoyable part.

The club has long since extended its membership to other sections of the county. The present membership of thirty meet in assembly each Friday at 12:05 P. M. where they enjoy their weekly luncheon with a "talk around the table". Club members lend every effort possible in any worthy undertaking toward betterment of local conditions and civic improvement. The Belzoni club contributes annually to the Memphis Cripple Adult Hospital.

Present officers are: J. A. Mortimer - President; O. J. Turner, Jr. - Vice-president; W. L. Soloman - Secretary.

Quoting from The Rotarian of March, 1937, the following excerpt from an article "A Japanese View of Rotary" by S. Sheba, member of the Rotary Club of Tokyo, is remarkably expressive of the underlying precepts of the Rotary Club as interpreted by this member in the Orient.

"It is in a Rotary Club that we are enabled to cast aside the artificial barriers to fellowship. No matter where one travels, one finds a friendly atmosphere prevailing among Rotarians. Rotarians can fraternize without ceremony or slightest reference to nationality or creed. The Rotary badge is an international passport, a hundredfold more useful than a government passport. It is a promissory note of friendship which is negotiable anywhere and at all times.

I like to think of a Rotary Club as a piece of brocade, rich with varied colors as personalities are, yet harmonious withal. Attendance at weekly meetings is the warp, the vocational classification scheme is the woof of the fabric. And individual members are the weavers.

Rotary's stress constantly comes back to the individual. A Club is but the sum of its members. It behooves us, as Rotarians, not only to select for new members men of intrinsic quality, but ourselves to be ever alert to express in action the ideals of the movement. Rotary should not be taught by empty words; it must be sought through good deeds.

'But what,' we Rotarians of Japan often are asked, 'does Rotary stand for?' In our language, it is not easy to translate the concept of Service. Very often I respond to such a query with an

Humphreys County, Organizations

Page Five - Belzoni Rotary Club
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

ancient proverb, drawn from the anonymous wisdom of our race. In Japanese it looks like this (below); translated into English it would read:

What we do for self does little for self.
What we do for others does much for self.

So expressed, the idea is understood by the Japanese." *****

"But high ethical standards based on 'Service above self' must not stop with our vocational relationships. Logic drives us to apply them to all phases of our existence. Just as within a Club we learn to see the view-point of our neighbor across the table, so as we grow in Rotary we come to understand our neighbor across the seas. Knowing him, we begin to appreciate his character, his psychology, his response to his stresses and strains that bear heavily upon him.

The East is East and the West is West, but the twain shall ever meet in perfect understanding -- when the way is paved by fellowship."

It is to be expected that the Belzoni Rotarians would feel a keen pride in their affiliation with the International Rotary Association now represented in more than seventy countries. At given periods representative Rotarians from these countries gather at a common meeting place. At these conventions men of many ~~many~~ nations, races and creeds assemble to discuss not only means of Rotary advancement but problems of the various nations. Although they advocate no quick panacea for problems of the world, it is their firm belief that 'some

Page Six - Belzoni Rotary Club
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

of them will vanish like mist in sunlight when business men of the nations sit together and, warmed by fellowship, discuss their problems".

References: Belzoni Banner - Sept. 7, 1923
Belzoni Banner - April 26, 1923
The Rotarian - March, 1937
Mr. W. L. Soloman - Belzoni, Miss.

Marnie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Organizations

S U P P L E M E N T

HISTORICAL RESEARCH
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
May 3, 1937

Topic: Activities in Connection
with Industry

Assignment No. 20

Canvasser: Kate J. Barrett

Item No. D (2)

SUBJECT: INDUSTRY

Belzoni Rotary Club:

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner
of April 29, 1937:

BELZONI WINS TROPHY AT ROTARY MEETING

"At the 16th district of the Rotary Convention which was held in Memphis at Hotel Peabody in a three day session which ended Tuesday, Belzoni was awarded the trophy for the best attendance of clubs which traveled the greatest distance to the convention. Belzoni is 160 miles from Memphis.

The following attended the Rotary Convention: President and Mrs. J. A. Mortimer, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Turner, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Lew Bain, Mr. and Joe Goldberg, Messrs. Eddie Williams, Will Solomon, T. M. Macbeth, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Nason, Prof. B. P. Brooks, C. E. Miller. Mr. M. T. Macbeth is the newly elected president, going into office this July."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - April 29, 1937

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Organizations

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
March 24, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerators: Mamie G. Cartledge
Bettie Brooke

(Please combine this write-up with the Manuscript in Assignment
No. 3, Item No. 3 (b). This being a poem by Mr. H. A. Sorrells
submitted by his daughter, Mrs. H. H. Blair)

H. A. SORRELLS, SR.

Mr. H. A. Sorrells is remembered as one of the early prominent
citizens of Belzoni. A native of Yazoo County, Mr. Sorrells in his
early life moved near Wasp Lake, which was then a part of Washington
County, where he rented a small farm and with one mule made his first
crop of cotton, realizing a good profit.

Possessed of much energy and a man of splendid business ability,
Mr. Sorrells very soon increased his farming operations and bought a
half interest in a saw mill business on Wasp Lake, which he combined
successfully with a general timber and logging business for several
years. In only a short time after moving to Wasp Lake, Mr. Sorrells
had purchased and paid for eighty acres of land. He later disposed of
his saw mill, but continued his farming and timber business and became
also engaged in the handling of real estate.

In the spring of 1898 Mr. Sorrells moved his family to Belzoni
where he ~~soon~~ entered the mercantile business, together with operating
a real estate agency. After about two years of merchandising he sold
the business and devoted his energies to farming, real estate and cotton

Humphreys County, Mississippi
Professional &
Civic Leaders

Page Two - H. A. Sorrells, Sr.
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

buying. Gradually increasing his farm property to 3000 acres, the plantations of Mr. Sorrells were all considered well improved.

About 1907 Mr. Sorrells organized The Farmers' Gin & Seed Company at Bellewood, just north of Belzoni, of which he was elected president, operating for some time a public ginnery and seed business. His next business venture was the purchase of a large block of stock in the Whittle-Stigler Hardware Company of Belzoni, of which he was elected vice-president, this being one of the largest hardware firms in what was then Washington County. In all of his various business enterprises during his long residence at Belzoni, Mr. Sorrells seemed to walk hand in hand with prosperity in each undertaking.

Mr. Sorrells passed away at his home in Belzoni in 1927. A man of keen intellect and steadfast purpose in all that he undertook, he will always be remembered as a most useful and influential citizen. He was a true christian and labored untiringly to promote the interest of the Belzoni Methodist Church of which he was a faithful member to the end of his life. Mr. Sorrells was a public spirited citizen and gave unstintingly of his time to bring into his town and state the prosperity that he felt to be their natural heritage. *An enthusiastic*

An enthusiastic Rotarian, Mr. Sorrells represented the local club as delegate on the first trip of the "Know Mississippi Better" train. with the following original poem as his contribution to the program. Hundreds of copies of this poem were printed and strewn along the route of the train.

MISSISSIPPI. STATE OF BLISS
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, THE BEST THAT IS

(Follow with poem in former manuscript)

Page Three - H. A. Sorrells, Sr.
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

References: 1. The Greenville Times, Greenville, Miss.
Souvenir Edition (no date)
2. Mrs. Lillian Sorrells Blair, Belzoni, Miss

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civil Leaders

2nd copy "COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
March 24, 1938

Topic: Professional &
Civic Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

A. A. McLAIN

Mr. A. A. McLain, for many years one of the most progressive planters of this section, purchased from Mrs. Mary P. Crane in 1904 the 3800 acres of land embodied in Daybreak plantation. The property was then a part of Washington County.

A scion of pioneer stock, this section of the county gained a splendid citizen when Mr. McLain left his home in the truck growing section of southwest Mississippi, near the little town of Gloster, and responded to the call of adventure in the Delta. His parents and grandparents were among the early settlers of the state, having blazed their way through the virgin forests, fighting the Indians and suffering all of the privations and dangers of the pioneer settlers.

As a student of the farm, Mr. McLain came well armed with the knowledge and experience necessary for building up the badly run-down farm that awaited him. With a generous outlay of both money and labor, he soon restored it to one of the most improved pieces of planting property in the county. Although Mr. McLain did not remain to make Daybreak plantation his permanent home, he continued his farming operations successfully around Belzoni for many years.

Broadminded on all public questions and charitable to a fault, Mr. McLain won the admiration of all who knew him and was considered

Page Two - A. A. McLain
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - County Historian

a valuable citizen. He was a brother of Hon. F. A. McLain who was for several years the able congressman from the Sixth Congressional District.

Mr. and Mrs. McLain reared a splendid family of ten children, the majority of whom are numbered among the substantial citizens of Belzoni. Notable in the realm of their family life is the fact that Mr. and Mrs. McLain gave to the World War five sons, all of whom after active service, returned to the home circle.

Reference: Mrs. Estell McLain Cheatham, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

2nd copy

SUPPLEMENT OF CORRECTION - HUMPHREYS COUNTY

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

JOHN SAMSON BOWLES

On Page Three of the above article on John Samson Bowles,
please change the death of Mrs. Bowles to read "in the
winter of 1915. (She died sometime in December instead
of that spring). Thanks.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

"COMPILED"

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Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
March 7, 1938

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

MRS. HALLIE ECKFORD WADLINGTON

It is the privilege of few persons to claim lifelong
residence in this section of the county, and to look back over a
panorama of years so filled with changing conditions as those which
make up the history of Belzoni. The town has always been noted for
its rapid growth and, although blessed with a background of natural
resources that make for permanent growth and progress, the elements
that go into the making of splendid citizenship and usefulness in life
have too been strongly exemplified in the character as well as the
advancement of the town. The citizens of Belzoni, particularly the
pioneer citizens, hid not their talents under a bushel of procrastina-
tion, but set early to the task of developing the mere boat landing
of less than sixty years ago into our city of today.

Notable among those who have contributed much to the civic
and cultural development of the town is Mrs. Hallie Eckford Wadlington,
wife of Dr. J. A. Wadlington, prominent physician of Belzoni. On her
maternal side, as the daughter of Mrs. Ella Baptist, Mrs. Wadlington
is a granddaughter of Colonel M. W. Bland of Louisiana who settled in
the northern part of the county in 1854. Her father, Henry P. Eckford,
was a veteran of the Confederacy. The paternal grandfather, James
Eckford, was the first banker of Columbus, Miss.

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Although a representative of two of the oldest families of the state, Mrs. Wadlington has well merited her title as a true "daughter of the south" through a medium of her own efforts. Capable and resourceful, and possessed of inherent civic pride, she has since girlhood given freely of her time and talents toward every phase of social and civic advancement which began in the little village of her childhood. This responsibility did not fall upon her lightly. For many years - or until failing health decreed a less active interest - it assumed the proportions of a sacred duty.

Through her natural tact, her deep sincerity of purpose and a native gift of leadership, Mrs. Wadlington has always been able to put into effect the appreciative interest that she holds in all matters tending to promote the general welfare of her town and county at large. Her personality is marked with gentleness and graciousness and she is never unminful of any opportunity that falls within the range of her broad human sympathies.

Holding a deep interest in the social and cultural side of life, Mrs. Wadlington has had an active part in the organization of many of the outstanding clubs and civic orders that have contributed so materially to the advancement of the county, in all of which she has at different times served as president. Among the organizations which owe much to her untiring energy are:

The Woman's Missionary Society
The United Daughters of the Confederacy
The Parent-Teachers Association
The Woman's Club
The Cemetery Association
The Civic Improvement Association
Fifth District Federated Clubs - comprising 11 counties -
President four years.
Chairman of Public Health - Fifth District
Chairman of Scholarship - Fifth District
County Chairman Woman's Department of American Red Cross

It was during the World War that into this latter service Mrs. Wadlington threw the entire strength of her being. And the wonderful record of accomplishment that fell to the county in each department of Red Cross activity is a matter of universal pride among citizens of the county.

The influence of Mrs. Wadlington has been far-reaching in both civic and religious circles. As a devoted member of the Baptist Church she is an exemplary christian character of lifelong standing. In her own words she gives a most interesting sketch of the Belzoni of yesterday:

THE GROWTH OF BELZONI

"Those of you who enjoy the modern conveniences of our city today can hardly realize what Belzoni was fifty years ago when I first came here to live. I was born on my mother's plantation near Isola in 1880. My father died in 1881, and the high water of 1882 that covered the Delta from hill to hill forced my mother to abandon her home and go to her people in Louisiana. Four years later she was married to Dr. W. H. Baptist of Belzoni and we all came here to live. Dr. Baptist build a home on the lot where now stands the new post-office, and we lived there until my mother's death in 1904.

For years Belzoni had no side-walks, street lights or running water conveniences. The water supply was a serious problem with the early residents of the town as it was very difficult to strike a good stream of water. In contrast to the driven pump now commonly used in outlying districts, the old fashioned dug well about four feet square and thirty to forty feet deep was in general use. For many years most

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Four - Mrs. Hallie E. Wadlington
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

residents of the town got their drinking water from a well that stood on the present residence lot of Mr. J. M. Powell. I mention the water because it was our most serious problem. Much of the illness was attributed to the drinking water.

I think I got my civic pride along with my education. Belzoni was then known as the "dark corner of Washington County" so we all had a keen desire to clear the slate of that name. My first effort in civic work came about at Christmas time while at home for the holiday season the first year that I attended college. Apparently, the significance of the season had settled upon everyone, as a genuine Christmas spirit seemed prevalent everywhere. In passing through the towns on my way home, I was greatly impressed with the bright decorations, which at that time were very different from those of our present day. Allowing my imagination full play, my lifted spirits soon settled into a resolution. I reached home by boat about midnight and found the night dark and starless, and although I was conscious of the thick, heavy mud at almost every step, I somehow managed not to lose my vision of a community Christmas tree. Once I had started a public subscription, I soon realized that my plan was finding its way easily into the heart of everyone. People came from many miles around Belzoni and we managed to have a gift for everyone. I still think of that as the best and most enjoyable Christmas tree I ever got up.

The side walk need was another problem with early residents of the town. Our first side walks were built by the property owners, being of only two wide planks with a space between. Then came the early street lights which were only oil lanterns supplied also by the property owners, who often forgot the oil. So until we finally secured

Page Five - Mrs. Hallie E. Wadlington
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electricity, we knew little of lighted streets. After Belzoni was incorporated as a town in 1900, the lights, side walks and water system quickly followed.

For years the responsibility of caring for the cemetery rested entirely upon the women of the town. In 1904 we organized a Cemetery Association. The land had to be cleared as any other new-ground by cutting the trees and removing the stumpage. Several hundred dollars went into our first attempt to provide a suitable cemetery for the fast growing town. Most of the money was raised by such festive affairs as May-day celebrations, egg hunts and any other scheme that we could think of to finance the project.

The street sprinkler was one much needed improvement that the women of the town helped to promote. After much persuasion, the Board of Aldermen finally made the necessary financial allowance. The Mayor, however, objected to purchase of the sprinkler. But the women just made a point of bringing the matter before him so often that he finally became weary with insistence and sought relief in buying the sprinkler. This, I think, has added as much to the welfare of the town as any other one improvement.

The school cafeteria is another reality for which the women of the town fought hard. One can hardly realize now that only a few years ago in our Junior High School the children were eating their lunch in a room with a dirt floor. Imagine the unsanitation caused by flying dust with thirty or forty children present. We worked hard until the dirt floor was replaced with concrete and then concentrated our effort on the establishment of our school cafeteria to which we can now point with pride.

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Six - Mrs. Hallie E. Wadlington
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

Much credit for the splendid work of the Red Cross in our county falls to the women. During the World War the Red Cross work of our citizens throughout the county stands out as a fitting tribute to the fine spirit of cooperation that is so characteristic of our people in a time of great need. Since that time the Red Cross has continued to function systematically through various disasters. In the great storm that struck with such violence in the vicinity of Inverness and Isola several years ago, when so many people were killed or wounded, we hastened to their aid, giving freely of our time and money. I helped to prepare several of the bodies for burial. I recall the body of one victim particularly as it required almost the entire night to remove the splinters from her body. That was the worst disaster I ever witnessed. The flood of 1927, with its loss of property and live stock stands clearly impressed upon my mind. We then needed the help and we received it.

We should not neglect to give praiseworthy mention to The Woman's Club which was organized in 1902, as the club has stood for civic improvement since its organization. Many of the most outstanding permanent benefits to the county were started by The Woman's Club. Our Public Health Department and the Home Demonstration Agency are among its list of worthy contributions to the county. When Dr. Underwood first spoke here to a handful of women, only four counties of the state had a health unit. That was about 1920 while I was Chairman of Public Health of the Fifth District. We now look back with pride to one particular clinic which we held in the beginning of our county health work. With a surgeon, several nurses and all of the local physicians present, in one day we removed the tonsils of twenty children. Many of those children would

Page Seven - Mrs. Hallie E. Wadlington
Humphreys County
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never have had the operation otherwise.

We worked for the establishment of our Home Demonstration Agency side by side with our Public Health Department. It so happened that I took the petition before the Board of Supervisors to secure the permanency of both departments. The president of the Board refused to bring it before the body because there were not enough signers. I asked him how much time he would allow me to meet this requirement. He told me that the Board would meet again in four days. I appeared at that meeting with almost the entire county signed up.

I must not close without mention of our trees. As Belzoni was built in a cotton field, give credit for relief from the scorching heat of summer to the women of Belzoni who went before the city council and finally interested them in the planting of trees along some of the principal streets of the town. Many of these trees are now a joy to behold.

It is interesting to recall how Belzoni has grown since 1886 from a small settlement of one store and three dwellings into our thriving little city of today. And it is with a mingled feeling of pride and satisfaction that I look back over the stretch of years so filled with faithful endeavor - and oftentimes sacrifice - of the many loyal citizens of the county in whom a true spirit of public welfare has been manifested in active service."

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

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HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
March 11, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

JOHN SAMSON BOWLES

Mr. J. S. Bowles who merits recognition as the first permanent white settler of Belzoni, may be designated as the founder of the town. Born in Palmyra, Virginia on December 17, 1844, Mr. Bowles was a mere boy at the outbreak of the Civil War. Nevertheless, at the first call for volunteers his loyalty to the south was promptly expressed in his offer of aid and he was enlisted with the Third Richmond Howitzers, Hardway's Battalion. He served with the Confederacy throughout the war.

At the end of the war, Mr. Bowles resided in Alabama for a time. He returned to his native state where he was married to Miss Edmonia Rutherford of Sandy Hook, Virginia, a member of one of the oldest families of the state. Following his marriage he came to Mississippi in the early seventies and settled at a point on the Yazoo River near Palmetto Home known as Blue Sack Landing. There he entered the mercantile business with Colonel R. V. Powers.

After spending about six years in the vicinity of Palmetto Home, Mr. Bowles came on up the Yazoo River and opened a store at Burtonia, about one mile south of the present town of Belzoni, where a thriving little settlement had grown around the original boat landing. An unfortunate tragedy which occurred in the settlement soon after the arrival of Mr. Bowles brought about the decision to move his business

Page Two - J. S. Bowles
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

farther on up around the bend of the river.

It was about 1878 that Mr. Bowles erected the first little store at Belzoni Landing, which bore the name of the plantation originally owned by Alvarez Fisk, a wealthy planter of New Orleans. As residents of the Burtonia settlement began drifting to other parts, he soon gained a substantial patronage and gradually worked his way to a position of independence and prosperity.

Recognizing the value of the Delta lands, Mr. Bowles invested extensively, not only around Belzoni Landing, but anywhere that he could find a bargain. He owned all of the land on which the original town of Belzoni along historic old "Greasy Row" was built, and a large section of residential property which was annexed to the town as "Bowles Addition" some years later. He also acquired valuable plantation property in the vicinity of Bellwood a few miles north of Belzoni.

Mr. Bowles built a beautiful home overlooking the river near the site of the original boat landing in which he reared his family and in which he lived many years to enjoy the splendid progress and development of the town. The large two-story building, in its beautiful setting of trees and shrubbery, remained the home of his daughter, Mrs. Virginia Bowles Mortimer, until it was torn down in 1937 and replaced with a modern bungalow. In the building of the new residence much material of the old home was used, and although the modern hand has done much to transform the outside appearance of the place, the interior of the home is replete with colonial atmosphere, as the new home has been literally built around a mass of beautiful old furniture that includes many odd and interesting designs of the early days.

To the end of his life Mr. Bowles was closely identified with

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Three - J. S. Bowles
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

the town in all stages of its growth, and he always held a keen interest in all public matters tending to promote the general welfare of the town.

From an appreciative estimate of the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Bowles as related by old friends, theirs was a gentle and guiding influence for good that is indelibly interwoven with the history of Belzoni from its early beginning as a settlement on to the end of their lives. Mr. Bowles passed away on April 15, 1914 and Mrs. Bowles followed her husband in death in the ^{winter} ~~spring~~ of 1915.

Mr. and Mrs. Bowles were the parents of two children, Mrs. Constance Bowles Ray, who became the wife of C. E. Ray, an old Belzoni citizen, and Mrs. Virginia Bowles Mortimer, wife of the late Thornton E. Mortimer, prominent attorney of Belzoni for many years. Mrs. Mortimer still resides at the old home site where she has spent her entire life. Mrs. Ray passed away many years ago.

Reference: Mrs. Virginia Bowles Mortimer, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Jan 4, 1938

Topic: Professional and Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31
Item No. 2

Physician -- Dr. J. S. Jackson (deceased).

As one of the outstanding professional and civic leaders of the county.

See article on Dr. Jackson -- Assignment No. 24, Item No. XI, and in this article some of the following may be added:

DR. J. S. JACKSON

"In the recent death of Dr. J. S. Jackson, Belzoni and Humphreys County lost a citizen of real worth and merit; one who had contributed much to the development of the county from a wild swamp to the fertile fields and beautiful homes of this county and city.

Dr. Jackson belonged to a different generation -- he was of the splendid type of old Southern gentleman; of the old school who helped to make the early history of this country.

Forced on account of ill health some years ago to retire, he tried to give up the practice of medicine which he loved above all things, and also to give up his attention to many other interests. His many friends would not let him quit--when sick they called him; when other troubles came they consulted him, begging his advice and many are the hard trips he made for these friends when only God knows the suffering it caused him.

After thirty-seven years of intimate association with him, this writer has memories of him that are sweet. Quiet in manner,

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Two - Dr. J. S. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

efficient, modest and courageous, true to his friends and to any trust that was given him in all matters that concerned him, his most careful and undivided attention was given. His love and loyalty to his friends was pathetic; his cordial and pleasing personality won the love and affection of most everyone with whom he came in contact. He thought more of helping others in their trials and troubles than in storing up this world's goods. In his passing the community has lost a friend that cannot be replaced."

Under RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT in Belzoni Banner of November 9, 1933 was taken the following two paragraphs:

"WHEREAS, he was a man possessed of the highest public and community pride and spirit, devoting a large part of his time and effort to the upbuilding and progress of this section of Mississippi, being ever willing to give of his time and money to any movement that would build or help this community; and,

WHEREAS, the late Dr. J. S. Jackson was one of the chief founders of Humphreys County and was the first president of the board of supervisors of Humphreys County, Mississippi, and in such capacity left a fine and high and honorable record for the fair, honest and efficient administration of the affairs of this county." Etc. etc.

References: Belzoni Banner - October 26, 1933
Belzoni Banner - November 9, 1933.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
January 27, 1938

Topic: Civic & Professional
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

B. A. HOLADAY, Louise, Miss.
A. R. Hutchens, Belzoni, Miss. (Deceased)

Please place among Civic & Professional Leaders the above two public spirited citizens of the county on whom a former write-up was sent to the State Office under Assignment No. 3 - Item No. 3 as Officials and Ex-officials.

To the original article on Mr. Hutchens has been added a couple of supplements since his death.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Two - Dr. J. S. Jackson - Belzoni, Miss.
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

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Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
January 27, 1938

Topic: Civic & Professional
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

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Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 25, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

AUSTIN R. TURNER

Among the prominent pioneer settlers of Belzoni was Mr. Austin R. Turner, a native of Alabama, who came as a permanent resident in the early nineties.

Entering business circles of the town, Mr. Turner was soon recognized as one of the most enterprising and successful business men of Belzoni. He always took an active interest in all public matters, particularly those pertaining to local government. Mr. Turner is remembered as being possessed of a most charitable disposition, as it was his habit to contribute liberally to any worthy cause. In his religious faith he was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Turner was born on August 8, 1852, his parents being James and Mary (Presswood) Turner of Alabama. He received a good common school education in the schools of his native state, in which he grew to manhood. He was twice married. On March 19, 1878 Mr. Turner was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ellison, a daughter of James and Martha (Wilks) Ellison of his native state. Two children were born to this union, Mary E. and Henry H., both of whom passed away several years ago. The first wife died on October 16, 1883 and on March 10, 1886 Mr. Turner was married to Miss Rebecca Ellison, a

Page Two - Austin R. Turner
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

sister of his former wife. Mr. and Mrs. Turner became the parents of six children, only four of whom are now living these being. Mrs. Susan J. Williams of Vicksburg, Mrs. Allie Strawn of Memphis, Tenn., Mrs. Sarah A. Turk and Mrs. Bertha Carter of Belzoni. Mrs. Carter is the wife of Mr. L. M. Carter, the present Sheriff of Humphreys County.

Mr. Turner passed away at Belzoni on June 4, 1905. Mrs. Turner survives and, although she spends much of her time in Vicksburg, she is still numbered among the honored pioneer citizens of Belzoni.

Reference: "Mississippi" - Vol III by Dunbar Rowland.
Mrs. H. B. (Sarah A.) Turk, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 24, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

OSAMUS WINN

A son of Samuel D. Winn who, with his father, settled at Jaketown in 1871. Mr. Osamus Winn was for many years one of the most prominent business men of Belzoni. He grew to manhood in the old settlement of Jaketown in the northern part of the county which was originally settled by his grandfather, Osamus Winn Sr.

The father of Mr. Winn served in the Confederate army during the Civil War, first with the Texas troops and later with the Mississippi troops under General N. B. Forrest. He was wounded during the siege of Vicksburg. He died in 1904, having spent the latter thirty years of his life near Belzoni. The mother of Mr. Winn, Elizabeth Taylor Winn, was a native of Milledgeville, Georgia. Mr. Winn was born at LaGrange, Texas and was only a small child when his parents came to live at Jaketown. He received his education in the private and common schools of the community.

Mr. Winn spent his early years around the then thriving settlement of Jaketown where he assisted his father with management of the gin and sawmill operations. He later conducted a general repair business of his own. He came to Belzoni in 1901 where he became superintendent of the oil mill which had been erected with the advent of the railroad into Belzoni. He easily took his place among the most enterprising business men of the town. He became vice-president

Page Two - Osamus Winn
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Co. Historian

of the furniture and undertaking business of which Mr. J. W. McClintock was president. At the time of his death in 1919, Mr. Winn was still engaged in the undertaking business.

Mr. Winn is remembered as a thoroughly public spirited citizen. He at one time held the office of city marshall, and served the town also in the capacity of alderman.

In September 1897 Mr. Winn was married to Miss Carey Sergeant, a native of Louisa County, Virginia. A young lady of charm and culture Mrs. Winn was among the earliest and most efficient teachers in the schools of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Winn reared a family of three children, Gilmer J. of Belzoni, Mrs. Corinne S. Pearce of Gadsden, Alabama, and Osborn of Greenville, Alabama.

Mr. Winn was prominent in fraternal circles of the town, being an active member of the Knights of Pythias, in which order he filled all the chairs in service. He was also a devoted member of the Baptist church, this being the faith of his mother.

A truly enterprising type of citizen, Mr. Winn acquired valuable real estate holdings within the city and purchased a plantation near Belzoni, which is now under the management of his capable wife.

Reference: "Mississippi" Vol. 111 by Dunbar Rowland
M.D.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
March 14, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

FULTON H. HUTSON

Among the first settlers of the town of Isola was Mr. F. H. Hutson, who in 1899 purchased from J. B. Baird, the original owner, all of the land then known as the village of Lake Dawson which later became the town of Isola. Although there was at that time little land in cultivation, the fertile lands surrounding the settlement soon began to attract the attention of buyers, Mr. Hutson himself investing extensively in timbered lands.

Holding a deep interest in the development of the settlement, Mr. Hutson saw a great future for the little village, and the town of Isola can boast no citizen who has ever contributed more to its commercial advancement or taken a more active interest in its civic or social affairs than Mr. Hutson. Because of the entire confidence and deep respect of all who know him, Mr. Hutson's influence has been widely felt through all stages of the town's development. He is a broad guaged business man whose integrity is an accepted part of his personality.

As planter and merchant Mr. Hutson has enjoyed splendid success. He is said to raise as much cotton to the acre as anyone in his section of the county. He has extensive planting interests. At one time he conducted one of the largest general merchandise stores in Isola, drawing a liberal patronage from the surrounding territory.

Page Two - F. H. Hutson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

In the early fall of 1899, the year that Mr. Hutson settled at Lake Dawson, he contracted with the Y. & M. V. Railroad Company to extend their line one mile south of the little settlement. The contract also carried a stipulation for the erection of a depot, and it is around the depot that the present town of Isola has grown. With the means of transportation assured, Mr. Hutson immediately built the first cotton gin in the settlement which was operated several years before being replaced with a complete Manger System ginnery, and finally the modern electric plant now in use at the original location.

Although not politically inclined, Mr. Hutson has given liberally of his time in public service. His qualifications and ability as a public official was early realized by the people of his community in their choice of Mr. Hutson as first Mayor of Isola. He served for a time as Justice of the Peace. His name was then placed before voters of the ~~xxx~~ county ^(Washington Co.) ~~xxxxxxx~~ as a member of the Board of Supervisors of his district to which position he was unanimously chosen. Since organization of the Belzoni Drainage District, ⁽¹⁹¹⁰⁾ Mr. Hutson has represented his section of the district as a member of its Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Hutson was born near the now famous Cooper's Wells in Hinds County, Mississippi in the year 1863. It was there that he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the common schools of the county. He came to the Delta at the age of twenty-eight years and the following year was married to Miss Katherine Sevier of Thomastown, Miss., a native of Leake County and a member of an old southern family, she being a ~~direct~~ descendent of John Sevier, the first Governor of Tennessee. It is to his wife that Mr. Hutson gives credit for much of his success in life. Mrs. Hutson passed away several years ago.

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Two - F. H. Hutson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

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Although not politically inclined, Mr. Hutson has given liberally of his time in public service. His qualifications and ability as a public official was early realized by the people of his community in their choice of Mr. Hutson as first Mayor of Isola. He served for a time as Justice of the Peace. His name was then placed before voters of the ~~new~~ county ^(Washington Co.) ~~as a member of the Board of Supervisors of his district~~ to which position he was unanimously chosen. Since organization of the Belzoni Drainage District, ⁽¹⁹¹⁰⁾ Mr. Hutson has represented his section of the district as a member of its Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Hutson was born near the now famous Cooper's Wells in Hinds County, Mississippi in the year 1863. It was there that he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the common schools of the county. He came to the Delta at the age of twenty-eight years and the following year was married to Miss Katherine Sevier of Thomastown, Miss., a native of Leake County and a member of an old southern family, she being a direct descendent of John Sevier, the first Governor of Tennessee. It is to his wife that Mr. Hutson gives credit for much of his success in life. Mrs. Hutson passed away several years ago.

Page Three - F. H. Hutson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

Mr. and Mrs. Hutson became the parents of two children, Katherine, now Mrs. E. A. Blount, and Fulton Sevier Hutson, both of Isola.

Mr. Hutson is definitely what may be termed a self-made man. He has utilized every opportunity to render service in all matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of his community in which he is now an honored pioneer citizen.

Reference: Souvenir Edition of The Greenville Times
(no date)
Miss Lola G. Sevier - Belzoni, Miss.
Mr. F. H. Hutson - Isola, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 22, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders.

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

MRS. LILLIAN THOMSON BRUMFIELD

No review of the civic life of the county would be complete without mention of the progressive spirit of Mrs. Lillian T. Brumfield that has found expression in the social and cultural activities of the county for many years.

Possessed of that rare gift, leadership, Mrs. Brumfield has long been recognized as a personality of proven ability in bringing others together in a spirit of real cooperation. She has always manifested a keen interest in all movements connected with the development of the social conditions of her community, in behalf of which her efforts have been far reaching and remained a beneficial force for good.

Mrs. Brumfield was born at Yazoo City, Mississippi on September 10, 1885. Her parents, Frank and Kate Thomson, moved to Greenwood, Mississippi when she was a small child. There at an early age she entered the public schools where she received her literary education. She cast her membership with the Methodist church in childhood, in which she has ever remained a devoted and earnest worker. She was the first woman in this district to serve as Methodist Steward, and is a charter member of the Belzoni Methodist Missionary Society.

During the more than thirty-five years that Mrs. Brumfield has been a resident of Belzoni, hers has been a rich and useful life in

Page Two - Mrs. Lillian T. Brumfield
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - County Historian

service to her community. As a member of the Womens' Federated Clubs she has taken an active and influential part in the organization of many of the outstanding clubs and civic orders of the county. While serving as first **Vice-president** of the Fifth District of the Federated Clubs in 1935, Mrs. Brumfield won the loving cup for having federated the greatest number of clubs in her district. About 1923 she organized **The League of Women Voters**, of which she became **President**. She was the first woman to be placed as manager on the **Election Committee** in Humphreys County.

The activity of Mrs. Brumfield is not confined to the social work of her own community. She has served as **County Chairman** and **Vice-president** at large of the **Old Ladies' Home** at Jackson for the past twenty-five years, working faithfully for the up-keep of the institution. Her sympathetic understanding of problems which confront the unfortunate wayfarers of life is one of her most admirable characteristics.

When the United States entered the World War, the loyalty and patriotism of Mrs. Brumfield was promptly expressed in service, and hers was an untiring labor in every call that could be met in home duty. Possessed of a magnetic personality, Mrs. Brumfield enjoys a wide circle of friends. She is a woman of splendid address and many times has been accorded the honor of introducing a visiting speaker of prominence. She maintains a youthful outlook on life and is deeply interested in the educational progress and development of the schools of the community.

In 1902 at the home of her sister, Mrs. R. J. McCoy of Belzoni, Mrs. Brumfield was married to Mr. Willis Brumfield, who is numbered among the early and most prominent citizens of Belzoni. Mr. Brumfield

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Three - Mrs. Lillian T. Brumfield
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - County Historian

having always taken an active part in fraternal circles of the town, particularly the Masonic Lodge, Mrs. Brumfield was instrumental in organizing the local chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star to which she has given freely of her time and energy.

Mr. and Mrs. Brumfield have reared a splendid family of six children, Frank, a successful planter of Inverness, Mrs. Agnes Coulter of Tunica, Mrs. Pauline Coker of Bradley, Arkansas, Catherine, a successful teacher of the Inverness schools, and Willis and John of Belzoni.

Although a busy mother and civic leader, Mrs. Brumfield has found an outlet for much of her energy in the realm of business. She has been active and very successful in the handling of real estate for the past ten years.

Reference: Mrs. Lillian T. Brumfield, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 7, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

S. P. SPARKS, Isola, Miss.

One of the oldest pioneer citizens of the county, Mr. S. P. Sparks, who was born at Eureka Springs in Panola County in 1864, has been identified with the town of Isola since the early days of its settlement.

Mr. Sparks came to Isola in 1892, joining his brother, J. B. Sparks, who had preceded him by two years. Known at that time as Lake Dawson, Mr. Sparks found what later became the town of Isola a mere clearing with few settlers. He soon was engaged in farming and was a resident of the little settlement for eight years before the Y. & M. V. Railroad was extended as far south as Lake Dawson.

As one of the most substantial citizens of Isola, Mr. Sparks has always been affiliated with the best interests of his community and for twenty-two years, at intervals, has served the counties of Washington, Sunflower and Humphreys as Deputy Sheriff and Constable, always giving to the office which he held a splendid administration.

In 1894 Mr. Sparks was married to Miss Annie Dunn, daughter of James D. Dunn who was also a pioneer settler of the Lake Dawson community. Mr. and Mrs. Sparks have reared a family of seven children, all of whom are living and most of whom are residents of their home town, Isola.

Reference: Sparks, S. P. -- Isola, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
March 16, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

MORRIS COHN

In about 1880 Mr. Morris Cohn followed Mr. J. S. Bowles as the second permanent white settler and as second merchant of Belzoni.

Mr. Cohn was born and reared in West Prussia where he received his education and grew to manhood. He was married early in life to Miss Zelotta Fulekar, also a native of Prussia, with whom he lived happily until her death in 1904.

Stories of wealth and opportunity in the new world had reached the ears of Mr. Cohn, and, as a young man of energy and ambition, this quickly brought about his decision to come to America. It was during the French and Prussian war that Mr. Cohn, with his young wife and two children, landed at New York where they lived for several years.

Meanwhile, Mr. Cohn had decided to seek his fortune farther to the south where stories of still greater opportunity had come to him. As his family by that time had grown to four children, it was thought best that his wife and children should return to Europe to await such time as he was able to find a desirable location and to provide a suitable home for them. Many years passed before Mr. Cohn again saw his wife and children. His journey to the south finally let him to Yazoo County and, after spending some time at Yazoo City, he came on up the Yazoo River where he was quick to grasp the opportunity that awaited him at Belzoni

Page Two - Morris Cohn
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

Landing which was surrounded by the large plantation owned by the family of Alvarez Fisk, and known as Belzoni Plantation. There was at that time only the one store operated by Mr. J. S. Bowles who had preceded Mr. Cohn by only about one year.

Mr. Cohn opened the second store at Belzoni Landing in partnership with a man by the name of Lincoln with whom he had come south. Although very successful for a time, the business finally went into the hands of a receiver at which time the partnership was dissolved. Mr. Cohn, however, re-entered the mercantile business to enjoy a far greater measure of success as by that time other settlers were rapidly coming in.

During these years the family of Mr. Cohn had remained in Europe. In 1885 his eldest son, J. D. Cohn - familiarly known to every one as "Mr. Jake" - came over from Europe to join his father. Three years later, in April of 1888, Mrs. Cohn and the other three children arrived at Belzoni to share the home which Mr. Cohn had provided for them. Theirs was a happy reunion, and Mr. and Mrs. Cohn lived for many years to enjoy the prosperity that had finally come through the long years of separation. The home in which they spent the remaining years of their life and reared their interesting family still stands on the west corner of Church and Castleman Streets, and although it has undergone some changes in remodeling, it bears much the likeness of the original plan.

With the passing of the years, during which time the town of Belzoni enjoyed much progress, Mr. Cohn, with the assistance of his two capable sons, Messrs. Jake and Abe Cohn, continued to operate very successfully a large general mercantile business. Mr. Cohn had in the meantime become engaged also in planting. Having a firm faith in the

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Three - Morris Cohn
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

future of the town, he invested much of his capital in real estate which with the years greatly increased in value. His business affiliations extended to many lines of activity in which he always displayed initiative, foresight and splendid management. A man of broad experience and keen business acumen, Mr. Cohn was an influential factor in the early commercial life of the town. As President of the Cohn Mercantile & Planting Company; The Belzoni Building & Loan Association; and Vice-President of the Castleman & Brumfield Insurance Agency; The Belzoni Oil Mill, and a Director in the Bank of Belzoni, these and many other business enterprises of the town were able to benefit by the constructive counsel of Mr. Cohn.

Mr. and Mrs. Cohn reared a family of four splendid children all of whom have remained to make Belzoni their home. Besides Messrs. Jake and Abe Cohn, formerly mentioned, there were two daughters. The elder daughter, Frieda, became the wife of S. Davidow, a pioneer Belzoni merchant, and Pauline, the younger daughter was married to Stephen Castleman, a close business associate of her father who entered the employ of Mr. Cohn when he was only nineteen years of age. Of the four children of Mr. and Mrs. Cohn only Mrs. Castleman and Mr. Abe Cohn survive. Mr. Cohn was twice married, his last wife being before her marriage Miss Hannah Solomon of Greenville. To this union was born one son, Morris Jr., now of Memphis, Tenn.

Mr. Cohn passed away in 1910. As one of the Fathers of Belzoni, he will always be remembered as a citizen of substantial worth.

Reference: Mrs. Pauline Castleman, Louise, Miss.
Mr. A. M. Levy, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 17, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

GEORGE C. JACKSON

In the ranks of Belzoni's pioneer citizens, Mr. George C. Jackson is still spoken of as the veteran Postmaster of Belzoni. Although Mr. Jackson was not the first Postmaster of the town, he can lay claim to a period of twenty-three years of continuous service, which is a record seldom equaled.

Mr. Jackson came to Belzoni in 1898 and was first employed as bookkeeper and clerk. He entered upon his service as Postmaster of the town in 1902. In 1906 he was re-appointed, the office in the meantime having attained the rank of a third class office. A singular coincidence in connection with Mr. Jackson's long period of service presents itself in the fact that he is a staunch Democrat in his political views, and has always held to the principles of his party. His long service as Postmaster therefore was not a reward for political support, but came to him naturally because of his fitness for the position. Possessed of an obliging nature, Mr. Jackson found great pleasure in serving the residents of the town in many ways other than those that fell under the duties of his office. He holds an enviable record in the annals of public service. In 1925 he was succeeded as Postmaster by Mrs. Mary Norwood.

Mr. Jackson is the type of citizen who takes an interest in everything that touches the welfare and advancement of his community.

Upon his election as Mayor of Belzoni

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

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Reference: Mrs. Pauline Castleman, Louise, Miss.
Mr. A. M. Levy, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 17, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

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Upon his election as Mayor of Belzoni

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Two - Geo. C. Jackson
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Co. Historian

As Mayor of Belzoni from 1934 to 1936, he gave to the town a splendid administration. He stands deservedly high in his religious life, being a devoted member of the Baptist faith. He is senior deacon of the Belzoni Baptist Church, having served continuously as a deacon since 1902.

Born on a plantation near Pontotoc, Mississippi on October 23, 1867, Mr. Jackson received his early education in the public schools of his native county. He later attended Sherman College at Sherman, Mississippi. His father, James H. Jackson, a native of Georgia, served in the Confederate Army, holding the rank of lieutenant in the Second Mississippi Regiment. Most of his service was under General Robert E. Lee in the Army of Northern Virginia. The mother of Mr. Jackson, Margaret E. Thomason, was a native Mississippian.

In 1897 Mr. Jackson was married to Miss Bessie Lancaster of Livingston, Alabama. The union was blessed with four children, James Louis, who now resides at Calion, Arkansas, Mrs. Ethel M. Cartwright of Silver City, Mrs. Myra Louise Stewart of Jackson, and Mrs. Bessie Foss Smith of Midnight, Mississippi.

Mr. Jackson was twice married, his present wife being before her marriage Miss Luda Harper of York, Alabama.

Reference: Mr. George C. Jackson, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 9, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Emumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

T. L. GILMER, Belzoni, Miss.

Among those who have been most useful in pushing forward the wheels of progress in the county is Mr. T. L. Gilmer, whose residence in this section covers a period of almost fifty years.

Although a native of the neighboring County, Yazoo, Mr. Gilmer came to the Delta from Madison County in 1886, taking up his residence at a river point known as Huey's Landing, just a few miles south of what later became the Humphreys County line. This point has since become known as Bommer's Ferry.

Mr. Gilmer came with his father to make his home on Callao Plantation about ¹⁸⁸⁹1888. This plantation is one of the oldest in the county, being located along Sunflower River west of Belzoni. He remained on Callao until the death of his father..

At that time Palmetto Home, which later became Silver City, was one of the most thriving settlements along the Yazoo River in this section of the Delta. Mr. Gilmer took up his residence at Palmetto Home but remained only about one year, returning to Belzoni where he has since made his home and where he has literally lived with the town through each step of its growth. Public spirited and loyal to his home town, Mr. Gilmer has always devoted his best interests and talents to the up-building of Belzoni in which he feels a personal pride.

The private career of Mr. Gilmer has been replete with varied

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

business activities in which he usually emerged successful. He has been affiliated with the establishment of some of the foregoing industries of the county, being one of the organizers of the Peoples Compress Company, which is now known as the Belzoni Compress & Storage Company. He is also connected with the Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Belzoni as vice-president and director.

Although not politically inclined, Mr. Gilmer's business life has been punctuated with many years of service in public office. It was during his administration as second Mayor of the village that Belzoni was incorporated as a town in 1900. Mr. Gilmer first served the town as Mayor from 1899 to 1903. He was again elected to the office in 1915 serving continuously until 1922. He became Mayor again in 1924 filling the office for one term. In 1927 his election as Sheriff of Humphreys County followed and he assumed active duties of the office in 1928. Mr. Gilmer is conscientious and a fearless advocate of law and order. He has always given to each term/a splendid administration which has been marked by impartiality.

Retiring in nature, Mr. Gilmer is nevertheless a man of influence and is known for his high integrity and charitable disposition. A zealous christian man, of Baptist faith, his devotion to the duties of his church is among his most admirable characteristics. At the recent dedication of the Belzoni Baptist Church, Mr. Gilmer was accorded the honor of burning the last semblance of indebtedness on the handsome edifice that he has been largely instrumental in establishing.

At Silver City in 1902, Mr. Gilmer was married to Miss Lula Parisot, daughter of Mr. Amandus Parisot one of the earliest settlers of the Palmetto Home settlement. To this union was born three children,

Miss Jennie Dean, now a valued employee in the office of the local Chancery Clerk; Thomas Priestly, who died in infancy, and R. C. Gilmer of Belzoni, who is an assistant to his father in his planting interests.

Reference: Mr. T. L. Gilmer, Belzoni, Miss.
Mamie G. Cartledge, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 15, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders.

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

WILLIAM LEE TONEY

There are few names connected with the printing trade in this section of the state more widely known than that of W. L. Toney, owner and editor of The Belzoni Banner. Although Mr. Toney has been an able factor in the up-building of Belzoni since he became a resident in 1895, he has wielded a distinct and beneficial influence in the progress of his district since 1917, when he became owner of The Belzoni Banner.

As editor of "The Banner", Mr. Toney has not only devoted the columns of the paper to recording the commercial and social activities of the people of the county, but he has sought to inspire civic pride and keep alive the true community spirit. A man of broad views and progressive ideas, he has welcomed many opportunities to lend assistance in raising both the standard of living and education in his county. Mr. Toney knows his county, and the needs of its people. He keeps in close touch with the advancement of the surrounding territory and is ever on the alert to take the initial step in any progressive movement.

Mr. Toney was born in Nashville, Tennessee on October 4, 1871, and was the son of Thomas W. and Mrs. A. M. Toney. He came to Belzoni in early manhood and entered the sawmill business, through which he soon became identified with the large lumber trade which was at that time the leading industry of this section. By nature energetic, and possessed of keen perception, Mr. Toney was quick to step through the open door of opportunity into larger circles of the lumber trade. He became president

Page Two - W. L. Toney
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - County Historian

of The Valley Log Loading Company of Memphis, Tennessee, remaining at the helm of the business for twenty-two years. He was also associated with the J. W. Dickson Company of Memphis, mill owners and lumber dealers, retaining a partnership in the business for twenty-one years. As the lumber business fell into decline, Mr. Toney naturally turned his attention to other fields of activity in which, characteristic of a man of his talents, he continued along successfully.

Interested always in the affairs of his adopted town, Mr. Toney in 1909 became Mayor of Belzoni, filling the office for two terms. He was a member of the City Board of Aldermen for six terms, and his administration was always productive of much good to the municipality. Mr. Toney is a staunch adherent of the Democratic party and takes an active part in the campaigns of his party. He is an ardent advocate of clean politics and lends his support only to such local campaigns as are conducted upon a high standard of merit. This, no doubt, has won for him a large measure of the confidence and esteem that he enjoys among his home people which he so richly deserves. Mr. Toney holds a high conception of the dignity of his editorial responsibilities as is evidenced by his position as a Colonel on the staff of Governor Hugh L. White.

In July 1901, Mr. Toney was married to Miss Jessie L. Trantham of Baird, Miss. Mrs. Toney is a woman of intrinsic worth, and although her interest centers in her home, in which the welfare of her family is her first consideration, she is deeply conscious of the welfare and progress of her community, and shares with her husband a wide circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Toney are the parents of three children.

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Three - W. L. Toney
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M. G. Cartledge - County Historian

Edgar Julian, and Arrah Louise, both of whom reside at Belzoni. A
third child, William Lee, died in infancy.

Reference: W. L. Toney, Belzoni, Miss.
Mamie G. Cartledge, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
January 14, 1938

Topic: Professional &
Civic Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Bettie Brooke

JAMES HARVEY TURNER

Included among the substantial pioneer settlers of the
county was James Harvey Turner, a native of Alabama who came to
Palmetto Home in 1879.

Soon after taking up his residence at Palmetto Home, Mr.
Turner met Miss Telitha Vashti McKee, a native of Arkansas. They
were married in 1880 at the home of Mrs. Alice McKee who had settled
at Palmetto Home in 1878.

Mr. Turner moved to the Henry Rosenthal place near Palmetto
Home where he became engaged in farming. He lived on this property
until 1885 when, with his wife and four children, he came to Belzoni,
where he was to spend the rest of his life.

At that time, Belzoni was little more than a boat landing,
with very few settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Turner nevertheless entered
wholeheartedly into the social and business life of the community and
soon became a helpful force that was to continue for many years on
through the up-building of the village into the town of Belzoni,
whose growth has been second to none in the Delta.

The kindly personal interest manifested in each new-comer,
and the inherent civic pride with which both Mr. and Mrs. Turner seem

Humphreys County, Professional &
Civic Leaders

to have been blessed, held them always as a definite part of the community. Mrs. Turner is affectionately remembered for her many noble christian characteristics. She was often spoken of as an Angel of Mercy among the ill and unfortunate people of the town in those early days.

Mr. Turner was engaged in many business enterprises during his long residence at Belzoni. For a time he operated a livery stable, a business which is now entirely extinct. Merchandising and farming were also included in his business activities. Of rugged pioneer type, Mr. Turner held a deep love of the open spaces, and in his younger days he reveled in the abundance of wild game that awaited the sportsman at every turn. He was a great hunter and became quite adept in the trapping of bears and other vicious animals. His death occurred in 1930.

Only four of the ten children of Mr. and Mrs. Turner survive, these being Cleveland Turner, Mrs. Jane T. Marsh and Jim Turner of Belzoni, and Mrs. Lucile T. Miller of Minter City, Miss.

Reference: Mr. Cleveland Turner, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
February 3, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

STEPHEN CASTLEMAN

"The Builder of Belzoni"

January 4, 1862

September 25, 1932

"The evil that men do lives
after them; the good is often
interred with their bones; so
let it be"

How often those words of his beloved Shakespeare fell from his own lips in life, yet no narrative relating to the history of Belzoni would be complete without mention of the busy life that threaded its path of progress for more than fifty years.

Stephen Castleman was born and reared in an old log house which stands on the bank of the Yazoo River about three miles south of Belzoni. His father, Stephen Castleman, a German by birth and a native of Virginia, had in his early youth walked from his state to Mississippi. His mother, Maria Louisa Moss, was twice married, being the widow of George Dawson when she became the wife of Stephen Castleman. Both father and mother of Mr. Castleman were among the earliest settlers of this section. At the death of his father in 1864, during the War between the States, Mr. Castleman was only about two years of age. He often recalled as his earliest recollections the

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

fervid terror that he held of the "Yankees." Once a Federal gun-boat had been halted near his home and the crew replenished their supply of fuel by taking away the fences around the house.

The story goes that the distinct elements of a "born trader" were evident in Mr. Castleman before he had thrown off his small clothes. Whether or not that is true, he was distinctly what the world acclaims as a self-made man. As the son of a widowed mother, he was denied the advantage of a common school education. Nevertheless, by sheer determination and hard study he managed to acquire an enviable literary education, and he was recognized as one of the best read and best posted men, on all subjects, to be found. His forceful, yet pleasing manner impressed definitely his personality upon all with whom he came in contact.

That he never saw inside of a school room, was the proud boast of his life. Yet, he lived intimately with such leaders of thought as Shakespeare, Chaucer, Macaulay, Oliver Goldsmith, and held an appreciative knowledge of their life and work. Mr. Castleman derived much pleasure from everything classic, it mattered not in what form it was found, and was especially fond of classic poetry which he was able to quote fluently. Among his favorites was also Emerson, whose volume of essays was always close at hand. He often chose as a subject of conversation Emerson's essay on "Compensation." He held to his belief in the law of compensation and frequently remarked that "the law of compensation holds good in everything." His leisure hours were spent in reading and the quest for knowledge continued to the end of his busy life.

During his boyhood, Mr. Castleman often left home in search of

work, and it was his delight to exhibit to his mother on his return pockets well filled with money. He once left home to join the navy, but thoughts of his mother soon drew him again to her side. He held a tender reverence for the memory of his mother that was in some manner reflected in the tube rose, which, as her favorite flower, he often made an effort to grow.

During early manhood Mr. Castleman followed various occupations and by thrift and close economy he managed to save a little money. One of his first business ventures was the purchase of a boat line in partnership with Captain W. D. Pugh, which was successfully operated between Vicksburg and Greenwood for a number of years. He soon became identified with every important movement toward progress in this section, which was then only a remote portion of Washington County, and he never failed to enlist the interest and aid of others in any undertaking that fell under his leadership.

In 1895, when Belzoni was a mere river point with a population of only 113 persons, Mr. Castleman made a visit to Governor John M. Stone and secured his official signature to a proclamation declaring the little settlement a village, with his own appointment as its first Mayor. And, except for the period between 1899-1903 when succeeded by Mr. T. L. Gilmer, he remained Mayor of Belzoni for the following thirteen years. Nor was he satisfied until the incorporation of the village as a town followed in 1900.

With G. J. Brantley, Morris Cohn and J. B. Daniels, Mr. Castleman in 1906 organized the old Belzoni Bank & Trust Company which he operated until it was merged with the present Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Belzoni. It was he who started the movement toward the establishment of

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

factories and the construction of railroads into Belzoni.

In 1900, when the Y. & M. V. Railroad was completed as far south as Isola, Mr. Castleman made a trip to Chicago for the purpose of assuring officials of the Company that on condition they would immediately extend the railroad on to Belzoni, he would guarantee the company a certain tonnage of freight, placing a bond for the guarantee of the business assured. In less than three months after opening of the road, the amount of business guaranteed had been more than doubled. Moreover, before construction of the railroad into Belzoni was completed, he had organized the Belzoni Oil Company and erected one of the largest oil mills to be found in the Delta at that time.

In the meantime, Mr. Castleman and Morris Cohn organized the Belzoni Land Company and purchasing the Briley tract of land on which stands most of the business section of Belzoni. It was laid out in city lots which were sold rapidly. Later on he organized the Consumers Ice Company which he operated until a few years before his death when he disposed of his interest to the Southern United Ice Company.

About 1910 Mr. Castleman was successful in interesting the Federal Government in the matter of a drainage system for this section. Major Kipp, with years of experience in the Everglades of Florida, was sent by the government to lay out the present drainage system of the Belzoni Drainage District.

At the suggestion of Mr. Castleman, during his incumbency as Mayor, a movement was started by the city council toward the construction of the old water and light system which is now a part of our local system. He was also instrumental in securing the assistance of Washington and Holmes Counties in the construction of the bridge across the Yazoo River at Belzoni, replacing the old ferry that had been in

operation for nearly half a century.

Through all the years that marked the struggle for the creation of Humphreys County, Mr. Castleman was a tireless worker, giving freely of his time and effort to that end. And he always pointed with pride to the handsome court-house, so soon erected after the victory, as a fitting climax to what he considered the finest display of citizenship in the state.

Soon after the creation of Humphreys County, Mr. Castleman, with W. S. Knotts, W. L. Toney and T. L. Gilmer, organized the Peoples Compress Company of Belzoni, and under his direction was erected one of the largest and most modern compresses in the Delta. He was considered one of the ablest financiers in the state and held always an optimistic outlook for the future. One of his favorite expressions was "Don't worry, the sun will rise in the morning." Interested and active always in every move for the advancement of his town and county, his business activities touched practically all parts of trade and were far-reaching and beneficial in their results.

Mr. Castleman was for a time one of the largest property holders in the Delta, but not unlike many others in this section he suffered severe losses during the flood of 1927, and the financial depression which came on toward the end of his life also greatly reduced his holdings.

An unusual character - in appearance dignified, in manner commanding - Mr. Castleman was often misunderstood and thought by those who did not know him well to be possessed of a peculiar personality. This impression was no doubt due largely to his view of religion which so few people understood and shared. Mr. Castleman acknowledged in all due reverence the existence of a Supreme Being as ruler of the Universe, and he held a profound admiration for all religious creeds for the

Humphreys County, Mississippi
Professional &
Civil Leaders

wholesome influence exerted on society. He often remarked that the underlying precepts of the christian religion, as generally accepted, was a wonderful thing. But he was inclined toward the opinion that the relationship between heaven and earth was, in the main, through process of natural law. In his general perusal of knowledge, he had made an intensive study of the Bible and many of his religious views were well supported with scripture. His, however, was an open mind on the subject of religion and he always encouraged his family in all religious activities. As ever-ready topics of conversation, "land" and "religion" were among his favorites and could always be depended upon to gain a measure of his well filled time.

Once while in the midst of an important business transaction - when by custom he permitted himself no interruption, and usually took no account of time - a strange Negro drifted into his office. For perhaps an hour the Negro employed every known tactic to gain attention. Failing to do so, he finally became so conspicuous that Mr. Castleman, glancing up, fairly thundered the usual query, "Well sir?" The Negro stammered out that he wanted "to see" him. Mr. Castleman commanded him to look to his heart's content, adding that he was too busy to talk with him then, and continued his work. But the Negro, unwilling to be put to flight, stood his ground. After a time Mr. Castleman became annoyed and told the Negro to leave his office. But still the Negro insisted that he wanted "to see" him. Finally when Mr. Castleman inquired curtly as to what he wanted to see him about, the Negro somehow managed to find the word "land." Immediately everything was dropped and Mr. Castleman's attitude toward the black became almost deferential. When the Negro left his office he had contracted for the

purchase of a farm in the lower part of the county.

Many substantial donations came through the generosity of Mr. Castleman in the up-building of Belzoni. The lot on which now stands the Catholic Church, the lot for the Woman's Club home and a plot of ground for the Belzoni Colored School are but a tangible portion of the real interest contributed by Mr. Castleman toward their establishment.

Mr. Castleman was charitable, but not in a sense that most people recognize charity. The tender spots of his nature were always carefully concealed under a mantle of gruff indifference. Although he contributed regularly to many worthy causes, there was always a tendency toward concealment of the fact. Nevertheless, his sympathy ran deep and sometimes came to the surface in all but a burst of emotion.

Once during the illness of a young girl who had been the bread winner of her family, Mr. Castleman received from her a check in payment of an ice bill. The check was returned by the bank unpaid. He immediately wrote the young lady a beautiful letter filled with sympathy and encouragement bidding her to tear the check up and forget it. Nor did he forget that ice was a necessity of that household. His nature held an undertone of sympathy for any woman with dependents who was forced into the position of bread winner, and it was his often expressed opinion that it mattered not what serious trouble might befall the lot of womankind, the cause was always directly traceable to the influence of some man.

Although usually inert, Mr. Castleman possessed a keen sense of humor and always enjoyed a good joke, particularly when the brunt of the joke fell upon himself. He found much pleasure in relating a little

Humphreys County, Mississippi
Professional &
Civil Leaders

Page Eight - Stephen Castleman
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge - Co. Historian

quip that once came to him from his friend Mr. A. B. Perry, of Grenada, for whom he held a deep attachment. They had happened upon each other while enroute to New Orleans by train. Soon lost in pleasant conversation, Mr. Perry rather surprised Mr. Castleman by remarking that there was no telling how long most anything could be used if well cared for. Naturally given to the same opinion, Mr. Castleman heartily agreed. Pretty soon Mr. Perry dropped out a runner-up on the subject. Mr. Castleman again agreed, but fell to wondering at what seemed an obsession of thought with his friend. Later when Mr. Perry brought up the subject of economy, stressing the importance of good care, Mr. Castleman inquired as to why the frequent reference. Mr. Perry explained that the first time he had seen Mr. Castleman, thirty years before, he was wearing the same black string tie, and he heartily commended him on the excellent care that it had been given.

In early September 1900, at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Mr. Castleman was married to Miss Pauline Cohn, daughter of Morris Cohn one of the pioneer settlers of Belzoni with whom he had been associated in business for many years. To this union was born four children - Mrs. Helen Louise Korndorffer of Natchez, Stephen Jr. of Vicksburg, Bernard of Belzoni and Mrs. Zelotta Reid of Louise, Miss. Mr. Castleman was devoted to his family and was often spoken of in terms of admiration for his thoughtful indulgence as a husband and father.

As a man of achievement, Mr. Castleman left an indelible mark on the life of the community in which he spent his entire life, and in which he held always a sublime faith.

Reference: Mrs. Pauline Castleman, Louise, Miss.
The Belzoni Banner, September 29, 1932
Mamie G. Cartledge, Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

"COMPILED"

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
January 26, 1938

Topic: Professional & Civic
Leaders

Assignment No. 31

Emmerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

DR. R. V. POWERS

As a pioneer settler of the central section of the county, the name of Dr. R. V. Powers is inseparably associated with the history of the early settlement, Palmetto Home, which later became the town of Silver City.

According to the account of Silver City as an early settlement as related by the late Sterling H. Lusk, Dr. Powers entered the settlement in 1873 when he came to Palmetto Home from Vicksburg and opened a little store near the Indian mound. Formerly engaged in the drug business, he had acquired the title of "doctor" by which he soon became known around the little settlement. He was also frequently spoken of as "Col. Powers" but it is not known just how he obtained that title.

It is said that Dr. Powers had very little money when he came to Palmetto Home, and that an improvised bed on a counter of his store served as his first resting place. Nevertheless, within a few years his ultimate success as a large land owner became evident. He continued to accumulate property at a rapid rate and eventually became one of the largest property holders in this section of the state. At the time of his retirement in 1904, he is said to have owned approximately ten plantations extending virtually from Silver City to Midnight.

Of rugged pioneer type, it is said of Dr. Powers that in the clearing of much of his land, he himself stood in the water and rolled

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

in the logs while the Negroes stood on the ground and sawed them into lengths for plantation use. As it became generally known that Dr. Powers was ever on the alert for the energetic, resourceful, trustworthy type of employee, whom he could reward accordingly he naturally acquired a strong corps of assistants. It is said that he often remarked that it was not he, but his men, to whom the credit for his success was due. No matter how great the press of work, Dr. Powers, it is said, never encouraged his men toward tardiness at mealtime.

Among his most valuable holdings was the famous Midnight Plantation, so rich in legend, which he purchased from Mr. Jefferson Montgomery in 1897. Following the purchase of this plantation, it was leased by the Hutchens-Powers Company, composed of F. M. Hutchens, Z. T. Hutchens and Dr. Powers himself. Having also purchased the store of Mr. Montgomery, this being the first store opened at Midnight, they soon had in operation a large mercantile business. Mr. F. M. Hutchens, who is remembered as "Uncle Marion", had for many years been a valued assistant to Dr. Powers in his large planting and mercantile interests. He had lived on the Midnight Plantation in his early youth and there is still standing on the property - now owned by Mrs. C. B. Box - a log house in which Mr. Hutchens lived as a small boy, this being his first home.

It is recalled that in about 1880, Dr. Powers, who had even at that early date acquired much property in this section, caught the vision of a new county and undertook to renew the fight which had been carried on in former years by Colonel James R. Powell, owner of the Daybreak Plantation near Belzoni. After two valliant but unsuccessful efforts

before the Legislature, Dr. Powers, too, gave up the task as hopeless.

Dr. Powers remained a bachelor until he was well along in years, but finally married a Miss McWillis of Jackson, Mississippi. He sold his large planting interests and became a resident of Jackson about 1904. It is said that under the influence of his wife he became very charitable and provided before his death a large sum of money in the form of a Foundation endowment under which his charity work is still being carried on. This great act of beneficence will no doubt stand to perpetuate the memory of Dr. Powers for many years to come.

The following article taken from The Jackson Daily News of December 4, 1936 gives in effect much of the good that has been accomplished by the R. V. Powers Foundation since the passing of this public spirited citizen, whom it is often recalled made his entire fortune while a pioneer resident of what is now Humphreys County:

"BOB LAKE IS NAMED

Directors of the R. V. Powers Foundation chose wisely and well when they named Robert E. Lake to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Richard Green. He is a good business man and a humanitarian. Trustees of the body serve without pay.

Dr. R. V. Powers passed away a goodly number of years ago - one of the most gracious and kind-hearted gentlemen who ever lived. He bequeathed in his will approximately \$400,000. to be spent on dependent and under-privileged children in Jackson and vicinity.

Present members of the trusteeship are Chief Justice Sidney Smith, H. V. Watkins, Dr. W. E. Noblin, and Robert E. Lake.

It may interest you to know that the R. V. Powers Foundation has

Humphreys County, Mississippi
Professional & Civic Leaders

been so successful in handling the bequest that more than six hundred dependent and under-privileged children are now attending the public schools in Jackson, aided wholly or in part by the R. V. Powers Foundation. It is quite beyond calculation to state the value of that.

Being named a trustee of the R. V. Powers Foundation means that you accept a public service of great distinction."

Reference: Mr. Sterling H. Lusk, Silver City, Miss.
(Deceased)
Mrs. Fannie H. Bell, Belzoni, Miss.
Mr. George C. Jackson, Belzoni, Miss.
Jackson Daily News - Dec. 4, 1936

Note:

The foregoing account of Dr. R. V. Powers does not represent the sentiment felt by the citizens of Humphreys County as a whole. To be sure there are many people who exploit the merits of Dr. Powers, but there are many others who seem to harbor a deep resentment in the fact that after accumulating a vast amount of wealth in this immediate section, he invested its benefits elsewhere. Therefore, although there is certainly every indication of his being a very public spirited man, that part of his story does not apply particularly to this county from which he actually accumulated his fortune. - Co. Historian.

Mannie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
April 7, 1936

SUPPLEMENT

Topic: Citizens of Note

Canvasser: M. G. Cartledge

Assignment NO. 1

Item No. 2(h)

M. D. Alexander	Planter
S. P. Azwell	Contractor
J. L. Bain	Undertaker, Planter
G. M. Barnes	Physician
John C. Bell	Physician
Charles Craft	Belzoni Provision Co.
Mrs. O. M. Blackwood	Hotel
Rev. F. M. Bradley	Methodist minister
J. A. Bridgers	Supervisor Beat 1
T. Bridgers	Planter
L. M. Carter	Sheriff
W. M. Chapman	Wholesale Grocer
Abe Cohn	Cotton Buyer
Jake Cohn	Manager - Variety Dept. - Goldberg's Store
O. C. Shipp	County Agent
H. B. Covington	Manager of Oil Mill
Charles Craft	Belzoni Provision Co.
Rev. Josiah Crudup	Baptist minister
A. Cullander	Cullander Machine Co.
Mrs. J. A. Anderson	Planter
Mrs. M. S. Daniels	Planter
Mrs. Carey Winn	Planter
Mrs. Laura Dunn	Planter

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Two
Humphreys County
Item No. 2(h)

(cont'd)

Dr. I. W. Ellis	Veterinarian
R. P. Ellis	Cashier - Bank of Belzoni
R. H. Fisher	Manager of Crescent Theatre
W. H. Gary	Lumber
A. A. Gore	Office Deputy Sheriff
Enoch Haga	Cullander Machine Co.
John C. Halbrook	Planter
Joe C. Higdon	Bookkeeper - Citizens Bank & Trust Co.
J. W. Jackson	Physician
R. J. Jackson	Physician
Walter Jackson	Grocer
A. B. Jones	Planter
L. H. Lyon	Coal
W. A. Pepper	Postmaster
Tom Reed	Contractor
J. I. Bartley	County Health Officer
R. C. Shelton	Chevrolet Dealer
J. N. Bryan	Ford Dealer
O. C. Shipp	County Agricultural Agent
J. J. Sisloff	Water and Light Supt.
H. A. Sorrells	Planter
A. M. Spencer	Feed Store
E. C. Sample	Supt. of Education
John Bridges	Tax Assessor
Cleveland Turner	Standards Oil
S. R. McClintock	Filling Station

Page Three
Humphreys County
Item No. 2(h)

(cont'd)

J. W. McClintock, Jr.	Insurance
Irby Turner	Planter
E. W. Williams	Cashier - Citizens Bank & Trust Co.
Sam Winn	
W. D. Womack	Attorney
John C. Maxwell	Grocer
Rev. O. M. Cokerham	Presbyterian minister
T. C. Pepper	Dry Cleaning Plant
Willis Brumfield	Planter
Mrs. Mamie E. Jackson (Mrs. J. S. Jackson)	Planter

Supervisor

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
April 7, 1936

SUPPLEMENT

Topic: Citizens of Note

Canvasser: M. G. Cartledge

Assignment NO. 1

Item NO. 2(h)

M. D. Alexander	Planter
S. P. Azwell	Contractor
J. L. Bain	Undertaker, Planter
G. M. Barnes	Physician
John C. Bell	Physician
Charles Craft	Belzoni Provision Co.
Mrs. On M. Blackwood	Hotel
Rev. T. M. Bradley	Methodist minister
J. A. Bridgers	Supervisor Beat 1
T. Bridgers	Planter
L. M. Carter	Sheriff
W. M. Chapman	Wholesale Grocer
Abe Cohn	Cotton Buyer
Jake Cohn	Manager - Variety Dept. - Goldberg's Store
O. C. Shipp	County Agent
H. E. Covington	Manager of Oil Mill
Charles Craft	Belzoni Provision Co.
Rev. Josiah Crudup	Baptist minister
A. Cullander	Cullander Machine Co.
Mrs. J. A. Anderson	Planter
Mrs. M. S. Daniels	Planter
Mrs. Carey Winn	Planter
Mrs. Laura Dunn	Planter

Page Two
Humphreys County
Item No. 2(h)

(cont'd)

Dr. I. W. Ellis	Veterinarian
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John C. Halbrook	Planter
Joe C. Higdon	Bookkeeper - Citizens Band & Trust Co.
J. W. Jackson	Physician
R. J. Jackson	Physician
Walter Jackson	Grocer
A. B. Jones	Planter
L. H. Lyon	Coal
W. A. Pepper	Postmaster
Tom Reed	Contractor
J. I. Barkley	County Health Officer
R. C. Shelton	Chevrolet Dealer
J. N. Bryan	Ford Dealer
O. C. Shipp	County Agricultural Agent
J. J. Sisloff	Water and Light Supt.
H. A. Sorrells	Planter
A. M. Spencer	Feed Store
E. C. Sample	Supt. of Education
John Bridges	Tax Assessor
Cleveland Turner	Standars Oil
S. R. McClintock	Filling Station

Humphreys County, Mississippi
Professional & Civic Leaders

Page Three
Humphreys County
Item No. 2(h)

(cont'd)

J. W. McClintock, Jr.	Insurance
Irby Turner	Planter
E. W. Williams	Cashier - Citizens Bank & Trust Co.
Sam Winn	
W. D. Womack	Attorney
John C. Maxwell	Grocer
Rev. O. M. Cockerham	Presbyterian minister
T. C. Pepper	Dry Cleaning Plant
Willis Brumfield	Planter
Mrs. Mamie E. Jackson (Mrs. J. S. Jackson)	Planter

Supervisor

S U P P L E M E N T
(No. 2)

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.

Topic: Citizens of Note

Canvasser: Constance Embry

Assignment No. 1

Item No. 2 (h)

L. G. North, * Attorney;
Dr. W. B. Herrington, * Optometrist;
Dr. L. I. Watkins, * Dentist;
A. V. Jackson, * Planter;
W. H. Day, * Mgr. A. & P. Tea Company;
T. D. Rice, * Former Supt. Education /1918 - 1936/;
John Daniels, * Planter;
Mrs. V. B. Mortimer, * Planter;
Mrs. Sadie Shapero, * /Former merchant - dry goods/;

M. G. Carledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Professional & Civic Leaders

S U P P L E M E N T
(No. 2)

*Copy
Sub-2*

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.

Topic: Citizens of Note

Assignment No. 1

Canvasser: Constance Embry

Item No. 2 (h)

L. G. North - Attorney

Dr. W. B. Herrington - Optometrist

Dr. L. I. Watkins - Dentist

A. V. Jackson - Planter

W. H. Day - Mgr. A. & P. Tea Company

T. D. Rice - Former Supt. Education (1918 - 1936)

John Daniels - Planter

Mrs. V. B. Mortimer - Planter

Mrs. Sadie Shapero - (Former merchant - dry goods)

M. G. Carledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Civic Leaders

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT No. 3

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 15, 1937

Topic: Officials and
Ex-officials (b)

Assignment No. 3
Item No. 3

The following article was taken from The Belzoni Banner of
August 12, 1937:

A. R. HUTCHENS
PASSED AWAY
SUNDAY NIGHT

Chancery Clerk Beloved And Mourned
By Entire County; Buried Tuesday Morning

"Once more Fate wrote on the Scroll of Time the name of
Humphreys County's most prominent and beloved citizen when A. R.
Hutchens, Chancery Clerk, passed away peacefully to the Great Beyond
at the Baptist Hospital in Memphis last Sunday evening at 6:45.

Mr. Hutchens had been in the Memphis hospital for three weeks
following an operation and was expected to return to his office Monday.
He had made all preparations to leave the hospital when a number of his
friends were advised that he had had a slight stroke, but were stunned
Sunday evening when notified of his death.

Mr. Hutchens was one of the few remaining type of southern
gentlemen who thought of his friends more than himself. The weather
was never too wet, too cold or too hot and the hour was never too early
or late for him to go to the assistance of anyone in trouble. He
always met every one with a pleasant smile and a hearty handshake.
Nothing gave him more pleasure than to assist some distressed and
needy person.

Humphreys County, Officials

Mr. Hutchens studied the welfare of his county and was always on the lookout for anything for the betterment or upbuilding of his county and fought hard and unceasingly to maintain the school funds to keep our schools open the full 8 months term. What ever he went at he went at whole heartedly and his entire energy behind any move that he undertook.

When this county was organized he was appointed by Gov. Bilbo as Chancery Clerk which office he held up until the time of his death. Mr. Hutchens was recognized as one of the most able and efficient chancery clerks in the state and had the reputation of never letting any business in his office of any importance remain over until the next day.

Mr. Hutchens was born July 11, 1879, and on July 5th, 1905 he was married to Miss Katie Phillips of Bell Prairie Plantation on Yazoo River. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchens had one son who died when he was a small boy. After his marriage Mr. Hutchens was engaged in the planting business and later moved to Midnight and took charge of the Hutchens-Powers Store and books. About 28 years ago he moved to what is now Louise and entered the drug and mercantile business which business he maintained until he was appointed Chancery Clerk.

Mr. Hutchens was an active and devout member of the Baptist Church and was largely instrumental in clearing the indebtedness of this church which was recently dedicated. He was charter member of the Rotary Club and was one of the most efficient members as he always prided himself on attending all meetings. He was a 32nd degree Mason

with his membership in Delta Consistory in Greenville and was an active member of the degree teams. He was a member of Wahabi Shrine at Jackson.

Mr. Hutchens is survived by his wife, Mrs. Katie Phillips Hutchens; a brother, C. P. Hutchens of Belzoni, and two sisters, Mrs. Harry Foss of Memphis, and Mrs. C. F. Owen of Belzoni; and one aunt, Mrs. Fanny Bell, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Mr. Hutchens' funeral was held from the Baptist Church Tuesday morning at 10 a. m. with Dr. Edward J. Caswell, pastor of the Baptist Church in Greenwood, officiating, since the local pastor, Dr. Josiah Crudup, Baptist minister, was out of the city. After the funeral services at the church, his remains were carried to Yazoo City where they were interred in the Glenwood Cemetery. He was buried with a Masonic funeral.

The banks of flowers deeply spoke of the love and esteem with which Andrew Hutchens was held by all his friends all over the state. Sympathy is extended to the brokenhearted wife and other relatives."

Reference: Belzoni Banner - August 12, 1937.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

S U P P L E M E N T

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 24, 1937

Topic: Officials and
Ex-officials (b)

Assignment No. 3
Item No. 3

The following article was taken from the Belzoni Banner Of
November 11, 1937:

A. R. HUTCHENS
MEMORIAL SERVICES

Nov. 9 - 1937
"Tuesday night, the Belzoni degree of the Delta Consistory conferred the 27th degree to members of the class that was being initiated. The following composers came from this place.

T. S. Abernathy -- Venerable Mastery; W. H. Fisher -- Sub. Master; R. L. Bass -- Hospitala; W. B. Herrington -- Preceptor; W. A. Pepper -- First Lieutenant; J. L. Bain -- Chaplain; Cleveland Turner -- Captain of Guard.

After conferring the above degrees a memorial service was held by the entire lodge for A. R. Hutchens who has always been a member of the degree team since the origin of the Delta Consistory years ago. The chair previously occupied by him was left vacant.

In honor of Mr. Hutchens the class that had been initiated in the 32nd degree named their class the A. R. Hutchens Memorial Class."

Reference: Belzoni, Banner - Nov. 11, 1937

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
April 2, 1936

Topic: Officials and Ex-officials

Assignment No. 3

Canvasser: Constance Embry

Item No. 3

In 1895 the population of Belzoni had increased to one-hundred and thirteen persons. Then, upon petition, it was declared a village by Governor John M. Stone. Stephen Castleman was appointed by Gov. Stone as first Mayor of Belzoni. His Board of Aldermen consisted of Morris Cohn, L. D. Pepper and Geo. W. Meek. So earnestly did these faithful citizens and their successors in office labor for the public welfare, and so rapidly did the village grow, that in 1900 it was incorporated as a town. Then, in 1920 Belzoni, with a population of 2277 became a city. George J. Brantley was appointed by Gov. Stone as the first Marshall of Belzoni, serving only a few weeks when he offered his resignation, being succeeded by L. H. Bain.

The first officials of Humphreys County ^{by appointment} were as follows:

C. J. Turner, Sheriff.

W. P. Shackelford, Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Dr. J. S. Jackson, J. G. Hargraves, R. A. Holaday, E. E. Barr, and W. D. Richards, Supervisors.

T. D. Rice, County Superintendent of Education.

Watt H. Turner, Coroner and Ranger.

J. M. Powell, Levee Commissioner.

J. R. Lambeth, Levee Commissioner.

R. N. Sandling, Treasurer.

W. H. Day, Tax Assessor.

H. W. Sumrall, County Prosecuting Attorney.

W. H. Brewer, County Surveyor.

A. R. Hutchens, Clerk of the Chancery Court.

Humphreys County, Officials

Of the original county officials under appointment of Governor Bilbo in 1918, A. R. Hutchens, Clerk of the Chancery Court, and R. A. Holaday, Supervisor of Beat 5, are still at their respective posts of duty.

(a) County Records:

When Registrar W. F. Shackleford opened up the registration books on June 17, 1918, Sheriff O. J. Turner was first to register, followed immediately by F. M. Pepper, Rev. J. T. Lockhart and Rev. W. A. Sullivan.

On September 2, 1920, shortly after the registration of the ladies was ordered, Mrs. A. M. Jones, wife of Attorney H. F. Jones, was first in the county to register. Then followed as second, Miss Lola Sevier, for many years, now, Clerk of the Circuit Court, succeeding Mr. W. F. Shackleford by appointment at his death in Nov. 1924, and elected to this office in January 1925 and still at her post of duty. As third to register came Miss Esther Davidow, with Mrs. Willis Brumfield as fourth. The first marriage license issued in the new county was that of Hugh Warren and Miss Mary Lee Burton.

(b) Manuscripts. (See letter of J. W. Duggan with this assignment)

(c) Historic Documents of Note:

1. In 1895 S. Castleman went to Jackson to make an official call upon Governor Stone. When he left the Governor's office he had in his pocket the Governor's official signature to a charter of the village of Belzoni with his own commission as its first mayor. A Board of Aldermen composed of G. W. Meek, Morris Cohn, and L. D. Pepper stood with him for every enterprise, looking to the advancement of Belzoni.

Copy of Document:--

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

"To all to whom these presents shall come, 'Greeting' ".

Whereas, a petition signed by two-thirds of the electors residing within the limits proposed for the village of Belzoni, in the County of Washington, in this state, has been presented to me, setting forth the metes and bounds of said village, and stating the number of inhabitants to be 113, and praying the incorporation, and the said petition having been posted in three public places, in said village for three weeks as required by law:

Now therefore, I, J. M. Stone, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do issue this my proclamation and do hereby declare the said village incorporated with limits and boundaries as follows: "To Wit": Beginning at townpost in the Bank of Yazoo River in the Northwest, quarter of section two, Township 15, Range 3, West, then 960 yards north to Township line between Townships 15, Range 3 West, and Township 16, Range 3 West to iron post, there 940 yards due west in said township lines to iron post in section 3, township 15, Range 3 West. Then south 1040 yards, striking the Yazoo River at corner of S. A. Mims lot in section 3, township 15, Range 3 West. Then up the Bank of Yazoo River with its meanderings at low water mark, to point of beginning in NW 14, section 3, township 15, Range 3 West. The name of the said village is hereby fixed as the village of Belzoni.

In testimony whereof, I have here-unto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed, due at the City of Jackson, this the 12th day of March, 1895.

By the Governor

George M. Goran
Secretary of State

(Signed) J. M. Stone

Humphreys County, Official

2(c). Historic Documents:

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
VILLAGE OF BELZONI

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen in session at its first regular session March 20, 1895, the following municipal officers present:

S. Castleman,	Mayor
Morris Cohn,	Alderman
L. D. Pepper,	Alderman
Geo. W. Meek,	Alderman

The following order was passed unanimously that the office of Clerk and Treasurer be filled by one and the same person who shall also act and be Registrar of said village, James W. McClintock being unanimously elected to fill said position until his successor shall be elected and qualifies.

S. Castleman
Mayor

By 1900 a census was taken by the municipal authorities which gave the town a population of 317 inhabitants. On the 17th day of July, 1900, Governor A. H. Longino issued a proclamation changing the name from the Village of Belzoni to "The Town of Belzoni" and declaring it a town.

3 (c)

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

"To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come, 'Greeting' ".

Whereas, the municipal authorities of the Village of Belzoni, in the County of Washington, this State, have caused a census to be taken of the inhabitants of said village, and have certified their approval

(cont'd)

of the same, and it appearing from said census that the population of the Village of Belzoni has increased to the number of three hundred and seventeen, (317), thereby taking the said municipality out of the class to which heretofore it has belonged:

Now Therefore, I, A. H. Longino, Governor of the State of Mississippi by virtue of the power in me vested by the constitution and laws of the State, do issue this my

PROCLAMATION

changing the name of the Village of Belzoni, in the County of Washington, to that of the name of "The Town of Belzoni", and it shall hereafter be known as the Town of Belzoni and shall hereafter exercise all the rights and powers conferred by Chapter 93 of the Code of 1892, and amendments thereto.

The Great Seal
of
Mississippi

By the Governor

J. L. Power
(Sec. of State)

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed. Done at Capitol, in City of Jackson, this the 17th day of July, in year of our Lord, 1900.

A. H. Longino

The United States census of 1910 gave Belzoni a population of 1,069. In 1913 a census of the town was taken by the town officials looking to the establishment of Belzoni as a city instead of a town. The census, which is regarded as official, gave the town^a population of 1,900, falling short of the required number of two thousand by only one hundred people.

When the census of 1920 was taken it was found that there were 2,272 people living within the corporate limits of Belzoni. A few months after this fact was ascertained the governor of the state issued a proclamation declaring Belzoni a city. Since this census was taken the growth of the town has been more rapid than ever before, the 1930 census giving to Belzoni a population of 2735.

Resolution of Mayor and Board of Aldermen forwarded to Governor Russell on June 7, 1921:-

On motion of J. S. Savage seconded by M. Dunn all present voting yea, the following order with reference to classifying the Town of Belzoni to that of the City of Belzoni, was adopted, and the Clerk was instructed to Certify and Forward ~~and~~ Copy of the order to the Governor together with a list of the present Municipal Officials.

A Resolution of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Belzoni, Humphreys County, Mississippi, Classifying Said Town As a City, To Be Styled the "City of Belzoni".

NOTE: Could not locate Governor's proclamation.

Assignment No. 3
The original Board of Aldermen of the City of Belzoni, Mayors and City Clerks in due order are as follows:

In 1898 the population of Belzoni had increased to one-hundred and thirteen persons, it was declared a village by Governor Russell. His Board of

Succeeding Mayors:

S. Castleman - Mayor
Morris Cohn - Alderman
G. W. Meek - Alderman
L. D. Pepper - Alderman
S. Castleman - Appointed 1895
T. L. Gilmer - 1899 - 1903
S. Castleman - 1903 (Special election)
S. Castleman - 1905 - 1909
W. L. Toney - 1909 - 1912
W. S. Knotts - 1912 - 1915
T. L. Gilmer - 1915 - 1922
I. W. Ellis - 1922 - 1924
T. L. Gilmer - 1924 - 1927
M. Dunn - 1927 - 1929 (Monroe Dunn)
A. C. Bradley - 1929 - 1934
George C. Jackson - 1934 - 1936

City Clerks: Rice, County Superintendent of Education.

Watt H. Turner, Sheriff and Ranger.
J. W. McClintock - Appointed 1895 - 1901 (by election)
J. M. Powell, Justice Commissioner.
J. R. Lambeth, Justice Commissioner.
W. S. Knotts - 1903 - 1905
Willis Brumfield - Appointed 1905 - 1909 (election)
Jeff Clark - 1909 - 1915
F. M. Pepper - 1915 - 1934
A. C. Bradley - 1934 - 1936
A. R. Hutchins, Justice Commissioner.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
April 2, 1936

Topic: Officials and Ex-officials

Assignment No. 3

Canvasser: Constance Embry

Item No. 3

In 1895 the population of Belzoni had increased to one-hundred and thirteen persons. Then, upon petition, it was declared a village by Governor John M. Stone. Stephen Castleman was appointed by Gov. Stone as first Mayor of Belzoni. His Board of Aldermen consisted of Morris Cohn, L. D. Pepper and Geo. W. Meek. So earnestly did these faithful citizens and their successors in office labor for the public welfare, and so rapidly did the village grow, that in 1900 it was incorporated as a town. Then, in 1920 Belzoni, with a population of 2277 became a city. George J. Brantley was appointed by Gov. Stone as the first Marshall of Belzoni, serving only a few weeks when he offered his resignation, being succeeded by L. H. Bain.

The first officials of Humphreys County ^{by appointment} were as follows:

O. J. Turner, Sheriff.

W. P. Shackelford, Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Dr. J. S. Jackson, J. G. Hargraves, B. A. Holaday, E. E. Barr, and W. D. Richards, Supervisors.

T. D. Rice, County Superintendent of Education.

Watt H. Turner, Coroner and Ranger.

J. M. Powell, Levee Commissioner.

J. R. Lambeth, Levee Commissioner.

R. N. Sandling, Treasurer.

W. H. Day, Tax Assessor.

N. W. Sumrall, County Prosecuting Attorney.

W. H. Brewer, County Surveyor.

A. R. Hutchens, Clerk of the Chancery Court.

Page Two
Humphreys County
Item No. 3

Of the original county officials under appointment of Governor Bilbo in 1918, A. R. Hutchens, Clerk of the Chancery Court, and B. A. Holaday, Supervisor of Beat 5, are still at their respective posts of duty.

(a) County Records:

When Registrar W. P. Shackelford opened up the registration books on June 17, 1918, Sheriff O. J. Turner was first to register, followed immediately by F. M. Pepper, Rev. J. T. Lockhart and Rev. W. A. Sullivan.

On September 2, 1920, shortly after the registration of the ladies was ordered, Mrs. A. M. Jones, wife of Attorney H. F. Jones, was first in the county to register. Then followed as second, Miss Lola Sevier, for many years, now, Clerk of the Circuit Court, succeeding Mr. W. P. Shackelford by appointment at his death in Nov. 1924, and elected to this office in January 1925 and still at her post of duty. As third to register came Miss Esther Davidow, with Mrs. Willis Brumfield as fourth. The first marriage license issued in the new county was that of Hugh Warren and Miss Mary Lee Burton.

(b) Manuscripts. (See letter of J. W. Duggan with this assignment)

(c) Historic Documents of Note:

1. In 1895 S. Castleman went to Jackson to make an official call upon Governor Stone. When he left the Governor's office he had in his pocket the Governor's official signature to a charter of the village of Belzoni with his own commission as its first mayor. A Board of Aldermen composed of G. W. Meek, Morris Cohn, and L. D. Pepper stood with him for every enterprise, looking to the advancement of Belzoni.

Humphreys County, Officials

Copy of Document:--

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

"To all to whom these presents shall come, 'Greeting' ".
Whereas, a petition signed by two-thirds of the electors

residing within the limits proposed for the village of Belzoni, in the County of Washington, in this state, has been presented to me, setting forth the metes and bounds of said village, and stating the number of inhabitants to be 113, and praying the incorporation, and the said petition having been posted in three public places, in said village for three weeks as required by law:

Now therefore, I, J. M. Stone, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do issue this my proclamation and do hereby declare the said village incorporated with limits and boundaries as follows: "To Wit"; Beginning at townpost in the Bank of Yazoo River in the Northwest, quarter of section two, Township 15, Range 3, West, then 960 yards north to Township line between Townships 15, Range 3 West, and Township 16, Range 3 West to iron post, there 940 yards due west in said township lines to iron post in section 3, township 15, Range 3 West. Then south 1040 yards, striking the Yazoo River at corner of S. A. Mims lot in section 3, township 15, Range 3 West. Then up the Bank of Yazoo River with its meanderings at low water mark, to point of beginning in NW 14, section 2, township 15, Range 3 West. The name of the said village is hereby fixed as the village of Belzoni.

In testimony whereof, I have here-unto set my hand and caused the great seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed, due at the City of Jackson, this the 12th day of March, 1895.

By the Governor

(Signed) J. M. Stone

George M. Goran
Secretary of State

2(c). Historic Documents:

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
VILLAGE OF BELZONI

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Morris Cohn,	Alderman
L. D. Pepper,	Alderman
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The following order was passed unanimously that the office of Clerk and Treasurer be filled by one and the same person who shall also act and be Registrar of said village, James W. McClintock being unanimously elected to fill said position until his successor shall be elected and qualifies.

S. Castleman
Mayor

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3 (c)

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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Whereas, the municipal authorities of the Village of Belzoni, in the County of Washington, this State, have caused a census to be taken of the inhabitants of said village, and have certified their approval

Humphreys County, Official

(cont'd)

of the same, and it appearing from said census that the population of the Village of Belzoni has increased to the number of three hundred and seventeen, (317), thereby taking the said municipality out of the class to which heretofore it has belonged:

Now Therefore, I, A. H. Longino, Governor of the State of Mississippi by virtue of the power in me vested by the constitution and laws of the State, do issue this my

PROCLAMATION

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The Great Seal
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Mississippi

By the Governor

J. L. Power
(Sec. of State)

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed. Done at Capitol, in City of Jackson, this the 17th day of July, in year of our Lord, 1900.

A. H. Longino

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Resolution of Mayor and Board of Aldermen forwarded to Governor Russell on June 7, 1921:-

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A Resolution of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Belzoni, Humphreys County, Mississippi, Classifying Said Town As a City, To Be Styled the "City of Belzoni".

NOTE: Could not locate Governor's proclamation.

Humphreys County, Official

The original Board of Aldermen of the City of Belzoni, Mayors
and City Clerks in due order are as follows:

S. Castleman	-	Mayor
Morris Cohn	-	Alderman
G. W. Meek	-	Alderman
L. D. Pepper	-	Alderman

Succeeding Mayors:

S. Castleman	-	Appointed 1895
T. L. Gilmer	-	1899 - 1903
S. Castleman	-	1903 (Special election)
S. Castleman	-	1905 - 1909
W. L. Toney	-	1909 - 1912
W. S. Knetts	-	1912 - 1915
T. L. Gilmer	-	1915 - 1922
I. W. Ellis	-	1922 - 1924
T. L. Gilmer	-	1924 - 1927
M. Dunn	-	1927 - 1929 (Monroe Dunn)
A. C. Bradley	-	1929 - 1934
George C. Jackson	-	1934 - 1936

City Clerks:

J. W. McClintock	-	Appointed 1895 - 1901 (by election)
Willis Brumfield	-	1901 - 1903 (resigned)
W. S. Knetts	-	1903 - 1905
Willis Brumfield	-	Appointed 1905 - 1909 (election)
Jeff Clark	-	1909 - 1915
F. M. Pepper	-	1915 - 1934
A. C. Bradley	-	1934 - 1936

References:

1. Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner August 10, 1922
2. Records City Hall (Minute Books etc.)

Mamie G. Parledge
County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Officials

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
April 8, 1936

Topic: Unusual Geological Formation

Assignment No. 3

Canvasser: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. 2 (d)

Humphreys County, located within 69 miles of Jackson, 67 miles of Vicksburg, and 150 miles south of Memphis in the very heart of the Alluvial Empire, known locally as the Yazoo Delta, is noted, not so much for its unusual geological formation, but for its fertile lands. The soil of the county is within itself worthy of being termed unusual, being of an alluvial deposit formed at the mouth of rivers which have in time changed their course, leaving the soil as fertile as the far famed land of the River Nile. The geological location of the county is ideal for business enterprise, being surrounded by other fertile lands, which gives it an enviable opportunity for advancement.

"The alluvial deposits which underlie the county to a depth of 150 or 200 ft. include beds of sand and gravel that contain great quantities of water, which is under little or no artesian head, but which is readily obtainable by means of bored or driven wells equipped with ropes or buckets or with pumps, and at most places the water table is so near the surface that suction pumps can be used. Water under artesian head is contained in many of the layers of sand that in part compose the series of Eocene beds beneath the alluvial deposits, and flowing wells 300 to nearly 1,400 ft. deep, which derive their supplies from these sands, have been drilled at or near Isola, Belzoni, Midnight, Louise, Silver City, and Craig."

"Detailed information in regard to the dip, strike, and thickness of the several formations that compose the series of buried Eocene beds is lacking, but a rough attempt has been made to determine the

Page Two
Item No. 2 (d)
Humphreys County

formations or groups to which the principle water-bearing beds penetrated in the wells belong; the basis for these determinations is an assumed uniformity of the dip and thickness of formations from their area of outcrop, westward beneath the alluvium."

From Reconnaissance Geologic Map of Mississippi, prepared by U. S. Geological Survey and Mississippi State Geological Survey - compiled by L. W. Stephenson - the soil of Humphreys County is characterized: "Loam, sand, gravel, and clay."

The Yazoo River, a navigable stream runs through the eastern portion of the county. Lakes in Humphreys County are numerous, there being twenty-five or more in number.

While the principal crop on the fertile plantations of Humphreys County is cotton, the soil being especially adapted to growth of the long staple variety, there is also raised food products of all kinds. Records of 1935 give the county a total percentage of 65.7 acreage in an improved state of cultivation of which 60,500 acres were grown in cotton; corn 36,288 acres; oats 329 acres; potatoes 1,216 acres; soy beans 1,000 acres; hay 8,397 acres; with a goodly percentage of vegetables for market, fruit and annual legumes. The county abounds in native pecan trees, and many fine orchards of paper shell pecans are to be found over the county. The climate and the land is said to be such that anything grown anywhere in the entire south may be grown in Humphreys County.

Through the County Agricultural Agent, O. C. Shipp, and his able staff of assistants, scientific methods of farming the fertile lands are being kept up to a high standard of production. Agricultural interest is being centered more and more on variety of products, abundant yield and marketing.

Humphreys County, Official

When Humphreys County was created in 1918, it fell heir to nine and one-half (9½) sixteenth sections of school land. At that time less than twenty-five percent of the land was in a good state of cultivation. There were many long time lease contracts to run. Under a progressive improvement program of the Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent of Education, T. D. Rice, who served from the creation of the county in 1918 on through 1935, the total revenue of these lands has been raised from \$7,850.00 in 1922, four years after the creation of the county, to \$14,000.00 in 1935, there being fifty-one percent of the land now in a good state of cultivation - an increase of twenty-six percent in fourteen years.

- References:
1. Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner August 10, 1922
 2. Ground Water Resources of Mississippi pp. 219-225
 3. Reconnaissance Geologic Map of Mississippi
 4. Records County Agricultural Agent
 5. Records County Superintendent Education

Mamie G. Partledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
April 13, 1936

Topic: Officials and Ex-officials (b) Assignment No. 3
Canvasser: Constance Embry Item No. 3

First Officials of Humphreys County by election in August, 1919 were as follows:

- O. J. Turner - Sheriff (Dead)
- A. R. Hutchens - Chancery Clerk
- W. P. Shackelford - Circuit Clerk (Dead)
- J. D. Purvis - Tax Assessor (Dead)
- N. W. Sumrall - County Attorney
- T. D. Rice - Supt. of Education
- Supervisors:
 - J. S. Jackson - Beat 1 - President (Dead)
 - B. A. Wright - Beat 2
 - C. H. Reed - Beat 3
 - A. M. Payne - Beat 4
 - B. A. Holaday - Beat 5

- Others:
- A. A. Gore - Office Deputy (sheriff)
 - Sam H. Winn - Deputy Sheriff of Belzoni
 - J. C. Young - Deputy Sheriff of Isola
 - G. H. Barnes - Deputy Sheriff of Louise
 - H. G. McMaster - Jailor
 - Lola G. Sevier - Deputy Chancery Clerk
 - Earl Jones - Deputy Chancery Clerk
 - M. H. Brewer - County Surveyor

Present County Officials (1936)

Board of Supervisors:

B. A. Holaday - President - Beat 5 - Louise
J. A. Bridgers - Beat 1 - Belzoni
R. P. Hamaker - Beat 2 - Isola
B. E. Reed - Beat 3 - Silver City
Webb McRaney - Beat 4 - Belzoni
V. B. Montgomery - Attorney for Board
C. E. Miller - Engineer for Board

Sheriff:

L. M. Carter - Sheriff
A. A. Gore - Chief Deputy
D. M. Upchurch - Deputy
Gilmer Winn - Jailer

Chancery Court:

A. R. Hutchens - Chancery Clerk
Beatrice^A Fry - Deputy Chancery Clerk (Chief)
Jeanette Marsh - Deputy Chancery Clerk
Jennie Dean Gilmer - Typist

Circuit Court:

Lola G. Sevier - Circuit Clerk

Tax Assessor:

John F. Bridges - Tax Assessor
Thelma Castleman - Secretary

Supt. of Education

E. C. Sample - Supt
Melanie Brewer - Secretary

(cont'd)

County Health Dept.

Dr. J. W. Barkley - County Health Officer

Maxine Brewer - County Registrar

Ruby C. Aycock - County Nurse

County Agricultural Dept

C. C. Shipp - County Farm Agent

R. A. Byars - Assistant County Agent

Mrs. Ernestine Ware - Secretary

County Home Demonstration Dept

Reference: Mildred Garrott - County Agent

American Red Cross

Joe Goldberg - Chapter Chairman

Mrs. E. M. Cheatham - Executive Secretary

Present City Officials (1936)

George C. Jackson - Mayor

A. C. Bradley - Clerk

Mervin Regan - Marshall

W. B. Bain - Night Marshall

Eunice Rodgers - Deputy City Clerk

Aldermen:

W. M. Howell

Joe Goldberg

W. L. Solomon

C. A. Chapman

Joe C. Higdon, Jr.

County Supervisor

Humphreys County, Officials

Cont'd.

J. J. Sisloff - Supt. Water & Light Plant
Thomas Abernathy - Asst. Supt. Water & Light Plant
W. A. Hopkins - Engineer, Water & Light Plant
R. H. Nason - City Attorney

References:

1. Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner August 10, 1922
2. County Records - Office Chancery Clerk
3. City Records - City Hall

Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. THREE

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
June 12, 1936

Topic: Officials and Ex-officials (b)
Canvasser: Florence Owen

Assignment No. 3
Item No. 3

MISS LOLA GRADY SEVIER
CIRCUIT CLERK OF HUMPHREYS COUNTY

More than twenty-one years ago, Miss Lola Sevier was born in Canton, Mississippi, being the daughter of the late Thomas and Martha D. Sevier. In 1900 she moved to the delta with her parents and braved the hardships of this section which, at that time, was largely undeveloped. With her parents she lived on Sunflower River at Callao and Rhodawald for about three years. They then moved to Belzoni, and from Belzoni to Itta Bena in 1905, returning to Belzoni in 1907. Her parents were in the hotel business both at Itta Bena and Belzoni. Miss Lola, as a young woman, began work as hotel clerk in her parents' hotel, and here she acquired the splendid efficiency which she has always exemplified in any kind of clerical work. She continued to serve as hotel clerk until 1914 when the business was purchased by the late A. C. Davis.

Miss Lola has performed clerical services at Browns Wells; in the office of the old Belzoni Grocery Company; Cullander Machinery Company; the late firm of McClintock & Moreland, Insurance, and also in the Bank of Belzoni. She was such a splendid clerk that one position led to her promotion to another, and when Humphreys County was created and Mr. Hutchens became Chancery Clerk,

Humphreys County, Officials

Page Two
Miss Lola G. Sevier
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

he soon was attracted to the fine personality and splendid clerical ability possessed by Miss Lola and, accordingly, acquired her services as Chief Deputy in the Chancery Clerk's office.

Everyone who had any business with the Chancery Clerk's office soon came to know and to love Miss Lola Sevier for her kindly, pleasing personality and her unusual ability to quickly, accurately and most thoroughly perform any of the duties of that office. In fact, her efficiency became so well known that when the Circuit Clerk of the county died, her friends went to the Governor of the State and had her appointed as Circuit Clerk of Humphreys County. Since her appointment as Circuit Clerk, she has been re-elected at every election and the people of the county are very proud of their efficient Circuit Clerk.

Miss Lola is possessed of a very pleasing personality, and her capacity to attend to business quickly, accurately and efficiently is so well known that no comment is necessary. The people of this section trust that Miss Lola Sevier will long continue to serve them as Circuit Clerk of Humphreys County.

Reference: Written by Mr. V. B. Montgomery of Belsoni, Miss.,
(Attorney for Board of Supervisors of Humphreys Co.)

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. THREE

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
June 12, 1936

Topic: Officials and Ex-officials (b)

Assignment No. 3

Canvasser: Florence Owen

Item No. 3

ANDREW R. HUTCHENS

CHANCERY COURT CLERK

HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

In the little country community, known as Bentonia, in Yazoo County, Mississippi, there came into existence on July 1st, 1879 a son of Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Hutchens. They named this son "Andrew" and, as most boys do, he spent his early years in this country community. When he was about ten years of age, he went with his parents to a farm near Silver City, but this was a city in name only, as it, too, was just a prosperous little country community.

Mr. Hutchens was reared on this farm near Silver City, where he remained until he was 23 years of age, when he went to Midnight to work for the mercantile firm of Hutchens-Powers Company. He worked for this firm until he entered the mercantile business with his father at Midnight. Later, Mr. Hutchens went to Louise where he went into the drug business for himself, being also appointed Assistant Post Master.

By this time, having become one of the outstanding business men of this section, Mr. Hutchens believed that it would greatly promote the general public welfare if a new county, embracing this section which was largely undeveloped, could be created.

Humphreys County, Officials

Page Two
Andrew R. Hutchens, Chancery Clerk
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Supervisor

Accordingly, with others Mr. Hutchens went to work to bring this about, and was so prominent in the formation of the county that he was appointed as first Chancery Clerk of the county by the Governor of the State.

When Mr. Hutchens was 26 years of age, he was married to Miss Kathleen Phillips of Belle Prairie, Mississippi, and Mrs. Hutchens, as Mr. Hutchens readily admits, has been largely responsible for his successful career.

Mr. Hutchens is a man of highest christian character. He is very active, energetic and capable. Being possessed of a bright mind, he is always able to do whatever is best under any situation. Such a loving, genial, winsome personality is his that to meet him is to love him. It is only natural that he has endeared himself to the people of this section, and with the passing of the years, the friendship of the people toward him has grown stronger and stronger. Not only has Mr. Hutchens been re-elected at every election since the county was created, but his last election was his most popular one. He recieved more votes than in any former election.

Everyone knows that when a friend is needed, Mr. Hutchens will be the friend if it is humanly possible. Everyone knows that he is generous and accomodating to an almost unbelievable degree. Naturally, his friends believe in him and stand by him. It is hoped that Mr. Hutchens will long continue to serve the people of the county in his pleasant, courteous and efficient manner.

Reference: Written by Mr. V. B. Montgomery, Belzoni, Miss.,
Attorney for Board of Supervisors of Humphreys County.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Supervisor

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. THREE

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
June 12, 1936

Topic: Officials and Ex-officials (b)

Assignment No. 3

Canvasser: Florence Owen

Item No. 3

B. A. HOLADAY

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Mr. B. A. Holaday is a native of the State of Ohio, having been born at New Vienna, in that State on June 6, 1879. In this native home, he entered school, as other boys, and received a common school education. Of course, a man has no choice as to where he is born, but when he becomes of age, the question then presents itself as to where one's life will be spent.

And so it was in 1901, Mr. Holaday made two momentous decisions. On November 10th in that year, being twenty-two years of age, he married Miss Lillian Thompson. The next month, in December of the same year, he and his bride decided that the South was the most inviting field in which to locate. They thought it would be most advantageous to cast their lot in this country, and grow up with the general progress and development which they felt would be sure to come to this section. So, in December, 1901, Mr. Holaday and his bride packed their belongings and came South to the good old State of Mississippi. They decided that this section was the most promising section of the state and, accordingly, located at Isola, which was then in Washington County. The country was covered with virgin timber and, with his usual keen business insight, Mr. Holaday decided

Humphreys County, Officials

to go into the lumber business.

For ten years he made his home in Isola and then decided to move the lumber mill to Louise.

Mr. Holaday has been living in Louise since the Barr-Holaday Mill was moved from Isola to Louise. It is superfluous to say that Mr. Holaday has been eminently successful both in the sawmill business and also in the farming business. He is possessed of splendid judgment, tremendous energy, splendid character and a keen insight into any business in which he engages.

He has such a winsome, pleasing personality that he is naturally held in high esteem by all who know him, and his very presence engenders confidence and good will. His genial personality naturally draws everyone to him and he is widely known for his good fellowship, friendliness and kindness to all.

Mr. Holaday early realized that it would promote the welfare of this section of Humphreys County could be created and he went to work in earnest to bring this about. His prominence in the new county movement resulted in his being appointed by the Governor as one of its Supervisors, and at the very first election after the formation of the county, he was elected by the people to this office. Mr. Holaday is a man ^{who} ~~that~~ is conservative and yet is progressive. His judgment as to the best thing to be done is almost uncanny. This has been plainly exemplified by the splendid manner in which he has handled both his own business and that of the County. At all times, he has been ever diligent to promote the best interest of the county and its people. It is only natural, therefore, that the people of

Beat Five have re-elected him at every election since the county was organized and the members of the Board of Supervisors from other Beats have placed Mr. Holaday in the President's chair.

Mr. Holaday is one of the truly outstanding men of this section of the State and the people of Humphreys County are proud that he lives in this county.

Reference: Written by Mr. W. B. Montgomery, Belzoni, Miss., Attorney for Board of Supervisors, Humphreys County.

Mamie G. Partledge
County Supervisor

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
April 13, 1936

Topic: Officials and Ex-officials (b) Assignment No. 3
Canvasser: Constance Embry Item No. 3

First Officials of Humphreys County by election in August, 1919
were as follows:

O. J. Turner - Sheriff (Dead)
A. R. Hutchens - Chancery Clerk
W. P. Shackelford - Circuit Clerk (Dead)
J. D. Purvis - Tax Assessor (Dead)
N. W. Sumrell - County Attorney
T. D. Rice - Supt. of Education
Supervisors:
J. S. Jackson - Beat 1 - President (Dead)
B. A. Wright - Beat 2
C. H. Reed - Beat 3
A. M. Payne - Beat 4
B. A. Holaday - Beat 5

Others:

A. A. Gore - Office Deputy (sheriff)
Sam H. Winn - Deputy Sheriff of Belzoni
J. C. Young - Deputy Sheriff of Isola
G. H. Barnes - Deputy Sheriff of Louise
H. G. McMaster - Jailor
Lola G. Sevier - Deputy Chancery Clerk
Earl Jones - Deputy Chancery Clerk
M. H. Brewer - County Surveyor

Page Two (b)
Humphreys County
Item No. 3

Present County Officials (1936)

Board of Supervisors: - County Health Officer

B. A. Holaday - President - Beat 5 - Louise
J. A. Bridgers - Beat 1 - Belzoni
R. P. Hamaker - Beat 2 - Isola
B. B. Reed - Beat 3 - Silver City
Webb McRaney - Beat 4 - Belzoni
V. B. Montgomery - Attorney for Board
C. E. Miller - Engineer for Board

Sheriff: - County Agent

L. M. Carter - Sheriff
A. A. Gore - Chief Deputy
D. M. Upchurch - Deputy
Gilmer Winn - Jailor

Chancery Court: (1936)

A. R. Hutchens - Chancery Clerk
Beatrice^A Fry - Deputy Chancery Clerk (Chief)
Jeanette Marsh - Deputy Chancery Clerk
Jennie Dean Gilmer - Typist

Circuit Court: - Deputy City Clerk

Lola G. Sevier - Circuit Clerk

Tax Assessor:

John F. Bridges - Tax Assessor
Thelma Castleman - Secretary

Supt. of Education

E. C. Sample - Supt.
Melanie Brewer - Secretary

Humphreys County, Officials

(cont'd)

County Health Dept.

Dr. J. W. Barkley - County Health Officer

Maxine Brewer - County Registrar

Ruby C. Aycock - County Nurse

County Agricultural Dept.

O. C. Shipp - County Farm Agent

R. A. Byars - Assistant County Agent

Mrs. Ernestine Ware - Secretary

County Home Demonstration Dept.

Mildred Garrett - County Agent

American Red Cross

Joe Goldberg - Chapter Chairman

Mrs. E. M. Cheatham - Executive Secretary

Present City Officials (1936)

George C. Jackson - Mayor

A. C. Bradley - Clerk

Mervin Regan - Marshall

W. B. Bain - Night Marshall

Eunice Rodgers - Deputy City Clerk

Aldermen:

W. M. Howell

Joe Goldberg

W. L. Solomon

C. A. Chapman

Joe C. Higdon, Jr.

Cont'd.

J. J. Sisloff - Supt. Water & Light Plant

Thomas Abernathy - Asst. Supt. Water & Light Plant

W. A. Hopkins - Engineer, Water & Light Plant

R. H. Nason - City Attorney

References:

1. Souvenir Edition Belzoni Banner August 10, 1922
2. County Records - Office Chancery Clerk
3. City Records - City Hall

Mamie G. Partridge
County Supervisor

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT NO. 28

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Jan. 10, 1938

Topic: Nomenclature

Assignment No. 28

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. IV (b)

SUBJECT: NOMENCLATURE

IV - Family names

(b) Old family names, prominent in early history of the county.

Please add to the above the name of Abe Huffstickler.

Also Fisk - Stewart W. Fisk and Alvarez Fisk of New Orleans, Louisiana and Natchez, Mississippi.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Nomenclature

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 3, 1937

Topic: Family Names

Assignment No. 28

Enumerators: Mamie G. Cartledge
Constance P. Embry

Item No. IV (a & b)

SUBJECT: NOMENCLATURE

Unusual Family Names:

Sevier -- Cameron Sevier, Belzoni Druggist and Lola Grady Sevier,
Circuit Court Clerk Humphreys County.

Among Notable Southern families is included the name of the Sevier family. In a history of this family compiled by Zella Armstrong, member Tennessee Historical Commission: Chairman Historical Research Department, Tennessee, Federation of Women's Clubs, appears the following early history of the Sevier family:

"The Sevier family name, originally Xavier, had its earliest history in the Kingdom of Navarre, an independent monarchy until its sovereign, Henry III, succeeded to the throne of France as Henry IV. He ruled Navarre and France in a romantic period and as Henry of Navarre is one of the best known characters in history. The 'White Plume of Navarre' was a rallying cry and is one of the famous phrases of history and literature.

Navarre lay on two sides of the Western Pyrenees. The territory is now in Spain and France; it is now the Spanish province of Navarra and a part of the French Department of Basses-Pyrenees. Pampõna is the capitol of Navarre.

Page Two - Sevier Family Name
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

Henry IV, (Henry III, of Navarre) was born in Castle Pau, Bearne, in 1553. He was the third son of Antoine de Bourbon and Jeanne d'Albret, daughter of Henry II of Navarre and Margaret, sister of Francis I, of France, and succeeded to the throne of France through Margaret, after Francis' grandsons had died without heirs. Henry III had married his cousin Margaret of France, grand-daughter of Francis.

This brief understanding of Navarre and its rulers is necessary to the story of the Xaviers, as they were prominent in the history of the country and intimate friends and kinsmen of the royal family.

The first mention I have seen of the Xaviers in the time of King Jean III, known as Jean d'albret, King of Navarre. One of his counselors was Don Juan de Jassu. Don Juan married, doubtless with the King's full approval and assistance, the King's ward, the orphan Marie de Xavier and Azpileuta. This young girl was sole heiress to the houses of both her father and her mother, Xavier and Azpileuta. The Xavier castle and estate lay in what is now Spain. At that time both estates were of course in Navarre.

It is frequently said in family traditions and records that the Xaviers were close kin to the reigning family and that they were of Bourbon descent through Charles of Orleans. That is indication of very close kinship and the loyalty of the family through a long and stormy period of time is proof that a close tie of some sort certainly existed.

In later years a King of France had among his several names Xavier. Louis Stanilaus Xavier, Count of Provence, became King of

Humphreys County, Nomenclature

France as Louis XVIII, but I think it is possible that he was given a complimentary name of Saint Francis de Xavier, perhaps however, partly because Saint Francis was a kinsman.

Marie de Xavier, heiress of that name and title, who was also heiress of the Spanish name Azpileuta, was a matrimonial prize in the court of Navarre in the latter part of the fifteenth century. Don Juan de Jassu, upon his marriage to her, assumed her titles. The marriage took place about 1485. When a large family was born to them, one half the children took the name Xavier and one half Azpileuta. It is said that the eldest children assumed Azpileuta and the youngest children Xavier, from which I conclude the Spanish name was more important and that probably the fortune was larger, since the eldest born children took it.

Among the children born to Marie and Don Juan Xavier and Azpileuta whose names we know are:

Phillip de Xavier.
Miguel de Xavier.
Juan de Xavier.
Valentine de Xavier.
Francis de Xavier.
Magdalen de Xavier, a nun in the convent of St. Clare and Gandia.

These all took the name de Xavier and were therefore according to history and tradition among the younger children.

Among the youngest, and said by many to be the youngest child, was Francis de Xavier. He was born April 7, 1506, and it is by his birth that I predicate the probable marriage of his parents, since he was the youngest or nearly the youngest of a large family. It is shown on the above list that at least five sons were born in the

"younger half" of the family since these five took the name of Xavier. Francis Thompson's Life of Loyola mentions Esteban and Diego d'Equia as first cousins of Francis Xavier.

Francis was born, as were his brothers and sisters, in the Castle de Xavier, eight leagues from Pamplona, the capitol of Navarre.

Francis studied for the priesthood and became one of the greatest missionaries of the world. He was subsequently pronounced a saint by the Catholic Church. As Saint Francis de Xavier he is the best known member of his family with the exception of his many times great nephew John Sevier, First Governor of Tennessee.

Francis de Xavier was born April 7, 1506, in the Castle de Xavier, eight leagues from Pamplona, close to the little village of Sanguesa. His full name was Francois de Jassu de Xavier, which shows that for a generation the children used their father's name with their mother's. His mother was sole heiress of the Spanish House of Azpileuta and her father was heir to the house of Xavier, or Xavarro. She herself was an only child and much sought at the Court of Navarre. The King of Navarre was her guardian and over-lord and doubtless by his wish she was betrothed to his chief Counselor of State, Don Juan de Jassu.

Upon his marriage Don Juan dropped his name which does not appear again in the family annals except in the first name, Juan which in the Anglicized form of John is many times repeated.

Francis de Xavier is said by many to be the youngest child of the couple, while all historians concur in saying he was one of the

youngest. I conclude that all the children who took the Azpileuta name were born in the latter part of the fifteenth century 14____, and that some of the Xaviers were also born in that century. The history of St. Francis de Xavier is interesting and dramatic and is given in full in the Catholic Encyclopedias. Many biographies have been written also, and from his life, details of his family history can be gathered.

'From his infancy he was of a complying, winning humor, and discovered a good genius and great propensity to learning to which of his own notion he turned himself, whilst all his brothers embraced the profession of arms', is a quaint quotation from one Life of Saint Francis." *****

"After many years of evangelical work in India and Japan, Francis de Xavier turned to Sancian, an island off the south Chinese coast, to wait for a favorable moment to enter China to pursue his missionary work. He died there December 2, 1552, before he had made his entry into China. A shrine has been erected to his memory on this island where he died. It is an interesting fact that recently (March, 1924) American Catholics have been given charge of the Island of Sancian and the little shrine, devoted to the memory of Francis de Xavier.

Announcement was made in March, 1924, from Rome that the French priests of the Paris-Foreign Missions had relinquished the island to the care of the Catholic Foreign Missionary Society of America. The island was made a 'prefecture apostolic' at the same time. The chief point of interest on the island is the shrine of St. Francis." ****

"Valentine Xavier, the Refugee from France, we will call Valentine Sevier I because he is really the first of the English and American family as we know it and because he was first to assume the English form of the name Sevier, although he was perhaps the fourth or fifth Valentine in direct line.

Having arrived in England and having assumed the name Sevier, Valentine married Mary Smith about the year 1700."

The relationship of Miss Lola Grady Sevier and Cameron Sevier of Belzoni to Governor John Sevier of Tennessee comes through his brother Robert Sevier.

Robert Sevier, son of Valentine Sevier and Nancy Dinwiddie Sevier was born October 13, 1807. He was educated at West Point. He entered West Point in 1824 and graduated in 1828 in the class with Jefferson Davis. He served for some years in the United States Army and participated in the Black Hawk War in 1837. He died in Missouri. He married Ann Hopkins Sibley.

Their oldest son, Charles, in turn became the father of Thomas Sevier who was the father of Miss Lola and Cameron Sevier, prominent citizens of Humphreys County.

The late Mrs. K. S. Hutson, wife of Mr. F. H. Hutson, and mother of Mrs. Katherine Hutson Blount and Fulton Hutson of Isola, was a direct descendant of Gov. John Sevier of Tennessee being a great, great granddaughter. Mrs. Hutson died several years ago.

Humphreys County, Tennessee

Page Seven - Family Names
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

References: Miss Lola G. Sevier - Belzoni, Miss.
NOTABLE SOUTHERN FAMILIES - The Sevier Family - by
Zella Armstrong.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 1, 1937

Topic: Family Names

Assignment No. 28

Enumerators: Mamie G. Cartledge
Constance P. Embry

Item No. IV (a & b)

SUBJECT: NOMENCLATURE

Unusual Family Names:

Domengeaux, P. L. -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Operator of Belzoni Service Station.

Sisloff, Joe -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Sup't Belzoni Water & Light Plant.

Lilly, Sale -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Sup't Belzoni Schools (1937-1938).

Rice, T. D. -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Public Welfare Worker. (Former Sup't City Schools and for many years Sup't of Education.

Boult, R. Dorsey -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Sup't Southern United Ice Co..

Shellabarger, Paul -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Ass't Undertaker, Bain Funeral Home).

Turk, H. B. -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Farmer & Service Station.

Outlaw, Mrs. Lena C. -- Gooden Lake, Miss. -- Mrs. Outlaw was a relative of the late President Woodrow Wilson.

Mayerhoff, L. -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Farmer.

Zlotnick, Boro -- Belzoni, Miss. - Russian Jew -- Farmer and merchant.

Wise, Meyer -- Belzoni, Miss. - Jew -- Belzoni merchant.

Hykel, Mack -- Belzoni, Miss. - Syrian -- Merchant.

Pallas, Pete -- Belzoni, Miss. - Greek -- Owner Belzoni Cafe.

Mechatto, Mrs. Mary C. -- Belzoni, Miss. - Italian - Owner Royal Cafe.

Rusche, W. C. -- Belzoni, Miss. -- Employee Coca Cola Bottling Works.

Weissinger, Herbert -- Louise, Miss. -- Druggist.

Humphreys County, Nomenclature

Page Two - Unusual Family Names
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

McDougal, N. D. -- Louise, Miss. -- Planter.

Domino, Sam -- Midnight, Miss. -- Merchant.

Nixon, C. D. -- Midnight, Miss. -- Wealthy Humphreys County Planter.

Mortimer -- Thornton E. Mortimer, deceased, prominent Belzoni attorney, whose wife, Mrs. Virginia Bowles Mortimer - daughter of J. S. Bowles, pioneer settler of Belzoni, survives with their family of six children. The name of Mortimer being one of old English nobility is mentioned in the works of William Shakespeare.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 29, 1937

Topic: Indian Names

Assignment No. 28

Enumerators: Mamie G. Cartledge
Constance P. Embry

Item No. II (a)-3,
and (b).

SUBJECT: NOMENCLATURE

The Yazoo River which flows through the eastern portion of the county is formed by the junction of Tallahatchie and Yalobusha Rivers in Leflore County. It flows in a southerly and southwesterly direction for about 189 miles and enters the Mississippi River at Vicksburg. The river was given the name of the Yazoo Indians, the several tribes comprising the Yazoos, lived in the vicinity of the mouth of the river to which their name was attached. It is said that to the Indians the Yazoo River was known as the "River of Death". Because of its rugged bottom which caused a treacherous current, great numbers of Indians were drowned in an attempt to cross the river by means of a canoe. Considering its heavy muddy waters and the sinking of so many steamers that plied the river in the days of steamboat transportation, the Indian legend as chosen was a very fitting one.

References: Extract from ANNUAL REPORT 1936 CHIEF OF ENGINEERS -
War Dep't - Washington.
MISSISSIPPI THE HEART OF THE SOUTH.

Atchafalaya River:

The Atchafalaya River bearing this unusual Indian name and according to legend, called by the Indians the river of swift running water, originally had its source from the Yazoo River some little

Humphreys County, Nomenclature

distance east of Silver City. At one time it was an outlet for much of the flood waters of the Yazoo, but a dam at the head of the Atchafalaya now protects thousands of acres of farm lands to the south, and is a source of much controversy between the Delta counties during times of high water. The dam causes the head waters of the Yazoo River to swell more rapidly and thus endangers and sometimes floods land as far north as Tallahatchie County. A similar dam was built at the entrance of the Yazoo River into what is known as "Little Atchafalaya" or Atchafalaya Bayou, between Belzoni and Silver City. During periods of high water when the river is at flood stage, both dams are heavily guarded to prevent destruction as it has many times been severely threatened.

References: Mr. John F. Bridges (County Assessor) - Belzoni, Miss.
Mrs. L. Bates - Belzoni, Miss.

Sunflower River (Topic: Miscellaneous - Item No. V):

Origin of the name by which the Sunflower River is called remains unknown. The name probably originated from the wild sunflowers that follow the course of the river. Although the river has its source in Mud Lake, Coahoma County, it is said that its waters were clear prior to the entrance of various drainage canals and other streams which have been turned into its channel. As the Sunflower River originates in Coahoma County and flows about 240 miles in a southerly direction, entering the Yazoo River about 44 miles above its mouth, it is composed of none other than Delta waters.

Under the present existing project authorized March 2, 1907, an improvement program of the Sunflower River called for the construction of the lock and dam which was completed in 1918. It is located at what was originally Little Callao Landing, once a popular steamboat stop on the river. The principal features of the lock and dam are as follows:

"Number: 1
Location: Little Callao Landing, Miss.
From nearest town: 11 miles (Belzoni)
Above mouth of river: 62 miles
Lock: Width of lock chamber, 36 feet; greatest available length for full width of lock, 160 feet; lift at low water, 16.9 feet; depth of miter sill at low water, 5.1 feet; gates, wooden miter; character of foundation, piling in sand.
Kind of dam: Movable, Poiree needle.
Type of construction: Concrete.
Completed and opened to navigation 1918.
Actual cost: \$402,288.40.

The project proposes to obtain a channel at low water from the Mouth of Big Sunflower River to the mouth of the Hushpuckena, a distance of 171.4 miles, with an average width of about 100 feet and a least available depth of $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet."

The lock and dam has never served to any special local advantage other than perhaps to reduce the freight rates on cotton temporarily by the railroad about the time of its completion. Comparatively few steamboats have plied the Sunflower River since 1918, so there has been little actual rail and water competition of consequence.

Sunflower River in the vicinity of the lock and dam offers splendid fishing to the sportsman and is often the scene for a party of gay picnickers.

For the past several years at intervals much consideration has been given to a proposal for dispensing with the lock and dam and

Humphreys County, Nomenclature

Page Four - Indian Names
Humphreys County
M. G. Cartledge, Historian

building a bridge across the river at that point, thus shortening the distance between Belzoni and Greenville.

NOTE: Some of the foregoing data has been included in Assignment No. 4 - Watersheds.

References: ANNUAL REPORT 1936 CHIEF OF ENGINEERS - War Dep't - Washington.
Mr. John F. Bridges (County Assessor) - Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Nov. 30, 1937

Topic: Historical Names
Freak Names

Assignment No. 28
Items No. I and III

SUBJECT: NOMENCLATURE

Plantations of the County:

Truly interesting are the romantic names that have been applied to the various plantations of the county. And a singular coincidence presents itself in the fact that although this immediate section of the delta is little more than a hundred years old, direct origin of the majority of these names seems to be unknown.

In many instances a name no doubt originated with the same casual irony as accounts for the name given to the place known as "Easy Money" in the vicinity of Gooden Lake community, now owned by Dr. Synott of Winona, Mississippi.

Clearing of the land on this particular farm was going forward under the direction of Mr. A. A. Lyon, then a resident of Belzoni, who had a large number of negroes at work in an unusually dense section of the woods. The weather was sultry and as the sun had gone under a cloud, the negroes - eager for an excuse to discontinue work - seized on the idea that a storm was approaching. In the course of an argument to the contrary, Mr. Lyon assured them that they should make good use of the opportunity to earn that "easy money". The negroes accepted the suggestion in a spirit of humor and after a hilarious uproar, the work went along as usual.

Humphreys County, Nomenclature

In their conversation they began referring to their work in "Easy Money deadening", and the name has since become a definite part of the plantation.

Daybreak Plantation:

As one of the oldest and most interesting plantations of the county, Daybreak, located about two miles west of Belzoni, still holds a place all of its own. Once owned by Col. James R. Powell who at sometime prior to 1870 conceived the idea of a new county and carried the proposal before the Legislature for something like 12 years before he died. He fought the battle practically single handed and for many years after his death the idea seemed to have passed into oblivion.

There is a legend in effect that the plantation was early in its existence won in a poker game at the hour of daybreak, this being, in fact, the accepted theory as to the origin of the name. It is now owned by Mr. T. Bridgers who up until 1937 made his home on the plantation. The negroes on the property point with great pride to their residence on Daybreak plantation.

Midnight (Town and plantation):

According to Legend, the plot of ground where now stands the little town of Midnight was wagered and lost in a poker game at midnight, the principals being a party of travelers who chanced to make

camp in a small clearing surrounded by giant trees. The settlement which followed was thus given the name of Midnight, the story being given in detail in narrative of the town as an early settlement - Assignment No. 3.

What is known as Midnight Plantation, being composed of a large acreage adjacent to the town is owned by Mrs. C. B. Box.

Hidi and Lodi:

Hidi and Lodi plantations located in the lower eastern portion of the county, both bearing unusual names, were originally among the oldest plantations of Yazoo County before becoming a part of Humphreys County. Origin of these names are as yet unknown. It is possible, however, that they were imported from Virginia by George and Christopher Roberts original settlers on the property.

Fort Plantation:

The Fort plantation in vicinity of the Lodi and Hidi plantations was likewise one of the oldest of Yazoo County. It is now owned by John Sharpe Williams III. No origin of this name has come to light, but as it is located along the Yazoo River also, it is possible that during the war between the states, some means of protection against the Yankee prowlers who meandered up the river may have been responsible for its name.

Humphreys County, Nomenclature

Blue Ruin:

The depressing name given to Blue Ruin plantation which is located near Midnight on Highway 49W is frequently a subject of discussion. From whence the name originated or what could have inspired this unusual name is still an unsolved mystery. It is supposed that this place, once located in the overflow district, acquired its name from the very natural reason of complete crop failure. It was formerly a part of Yazoo County and is said to be one of the oldest farms in the county. It is owned by Mrs. Fannie Hutchens Bell of Belzoni, having been owned by her for many, many years.

Callao Landing (Sunflower River):

Once a popular landing on the Sunflower River, to the west of Belzoni, three plantations known as Big Callao, Middle Callao and Little Callao acquired this unusual name, the origin of which is unknown. Big Callao is now owned by Dr. Ewing, Middle Callao by Mr. W. W. Gary and Little Callao by Messrs Guy Malone and W. M. Mathews. There is a legend of hidden treasures connected with these properties as they are also included in the oldest open land of the County.

Bellwood Plantation:

A thriving mercantile store stands on Bellwood plantation at a convenient location to the railroad stop also known as Bellwood. Origin of the name given the station and surrounding plantation has

not been learned. The property is owned by Mr. J. A. Mortimer and Bank of Belzoni.

The plantation surrounding the old settlement of Jaketown, so named for an early settler, Jake Halder, is also owned by Mr. J. A. Mortimer.

Silent Shade:

Silent Shade plantation owned by Mr. J. L. Miller is replete with solitude in its quiet setting suggesting all that its name implies. It is located in the northeastern part of the county.

Random Shot, Famosa and Winter Quarters:

The above three plantations located on Honey Island and once a part of Holmes County are properties of the Pepper family of Lexington. This section of the county was only as recently as a few years ago practically inaccessible through the winter season, being a part of an isolated section surrounded by water. Proper drainage and good roads have done much to improve living conditions on these plantations and they now rank among the foremost farms of the county. The place so named "Winter Quarters" no doubt received its name from a very natural source -- namely existing conditions.

Humphreys County, Mississippi

Hope-On:

Hope-On plantation owned by Mr. A. B. Jones of Belzoni acquired the name of the old Yazoo River stop known as Hope-On Landing. A large warehouse for the handling of freight for surrounding plantations during the days of steamboat transportation once marked this point with outstanding activity. Many of the early settlers in the vicinity of this river landing were forced to retire to other locations on account of the flood of 1882, so perhaps the name of Hope-On originated from sheer courage on the part of some resident settler.

Lone Star:

Lone Star plantation also located on Honey Island is owned by Wise Brothers of Yazoo City. Origin of name unknown.

Coon Corner:

Another unusual name attached to one of the plantations of the county is "Coon Corner". The name itself is suggestive of the origin. Situated at a remote location, it is owned by several parties.

Roseneath:

Although owned by the Alf Key estate, being Negroes, the name of this plantation is suggestive of beauty and romance. Origin of the name is unknown.

Holly Mound:

This plantation, situated in the eastern part of the county, no doubt received its name from the several Indian Mounds which are still in evidence. One of the Mounds has been altered for a residence site, but few relics were encountered. The property is now owned by Mr. S. W. Gardner.

Mayfield:

This plantation owned by J. W. Scott and Paul Townsend. Origin of name unknown.

Carroll:

The Carroll place is named for the owner - W. H. Carroll.

Belle Prairie:

This is one of the oldest plantations of this section, being situated in the extreme southeast end of the county. It is now owned by the Federal Land Bank. This plantation was formerly owned by Mr. W. H. Phillips, father of Mrs. A. R. Hutchens. ^{of Belzoni} Mrs. Hutchens spent her girlhood on Belle Prairie plantation.

Refuge
Island Side

Refuge and Island Side plantations are owned by the W. E. Jones Estate. The place known as Refuge lies within the boundary of Eagle Lake, thus taking the form of a horseshoe and being almost surrounded by water. The Island Side place which lies adjacent to Refuge evidently acquired its name from the fact that Refuge is virtually an island within the borders of the one plantation.

Fouche:

The plantation known as "Fouche" bears the name of the owner.

Tullula:

Origin of name unknown - owned by W. A. Roberts and S. H. Lusk Estate.

Jordan:

Owned by Messrs Wister Henry and Homer Martin - Origin of name unknown.

Allendale:

Owned by Mr. T. M. Macbeth, former member Board of Supervisors. Origin of name unknown.

Oxmead:

Owned by W. E. Campbell Estate. Origin of name unknown.

Hardcash:

Owned by Parker Estate and Mrs. Kimbrough of Greenwood. Mrs. Nan B. Parker died recently (November, 1937) in Yazoo City. She was considered one of the best business women in the delta and handled successfully for twenty years the large estate left by her husband. Hardcash plantation is situated about 3 miles south of Belzoni on Highway 49W.

Pluck:

The Pluck plantation is included in the estate of the late O. J. Turner. Origin of name is unknown. It is considered one of the most prolific farms of the county, which under "Turner" management is only a natural consequence.

Glen Mary:

This property is owned by J. W. Bass and the Campbell Estate.

Wilderness
Mistletoe

Wilderness plantation is owned by the estate of the late C. B. Box and the Love Estate.

Mistletoe is owned by the C. B. Box Estate. Origin of names unknown.

East End:

This plantation is also owned by the Love Estate.

Hillsdale:

This, one of the oldest plantations of the county, originally developed by Mr. Randolph Hill of Charleston, S. C., one of the earliest and most prominent pioneer settlers of this section of the Delta. Mr. Randolph Hill was a brother of Gen. D. H. Hill of the Confederate Army and became in time one of the wealthiest and most influential settlers of what was then ^{Washington} Yazoo County. A detailed account of this family and the plantation which was given the name of "Hillsdale" will be found in Assignment No. 16 - "Fine Arts" - Item No. 1-C (2-a).

Sleepy Hollow:

There is nothing in connection with the position or appearance of this well located farm to suggest its unusual name. This plantation, which is owned by Mrs. Earl Sledge, lies along Highway 49W beginning only a short distance south of Louise.

Although origin of the name applied to "Sleepy Hollow" seems to be unknown, its being situated in the vicinity of some of the older farms of the county gives the impression that the name perhaps preceded the plantation as a clearing and is no doubt the original name given.

Anchorage, West Bank and Goshen:

On these three plantations has been gathered more authentic historical data than any other lands of the county. A detailed account of the early settlement of all three plantations will be found in a former article entitled "Recollections of Early Days of Washington, Yazoo and Issaquena Counties" as told by William H. Lambeth and forwarded to State office in Assignment #3, Item No. 3 (c) under date of May 6, 1936.

All three of the above plantations are now in Humphreys County.

Anchorage plantation acquired its name from the Anchor that was thrown out by Col. Bennett from the steamboat which conveyed the party up Silver Creek in 1841. This plantation is now owned by Messrs H. H. Stoner; Jack Barrack of Yazoo County and Lawrence and Gus Mecklin of Louise (Humphreys County).

The West Bank plantation originally settled by Dr. William Lewis Lambeth in 1841 remained a possession of the Lambeth family through three generations. This plantation is now owned by the Bank of Belzoni et al. These plantations were at that time a part of Washington County, but were later incorporated in Issaquena. Still later they became a part of Yazoo County, and eventually fell to Humphreys County at its creation in 1918.

Goshen plantation, being the land originally settled by Christopher Morris, still bears the original name given by its early settler.

Humphreys County, Nomenclature

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Bright Bank:

This well improved plantation, owned by T. F. Cartwright, is splendidly located along either side of Highway 49W, a short distance south of Louise. One of the early plantations cleared around the old settlement of Palmetto Home, which later became Silver City, it was for many years owned by I. N. Gilruth of Yazoo City, who operated it with the assistance of an over-seer. The main dwelling on the property, evidently built before the Civil War, now serves as the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright. This old house built of hewn logs which are grooved together has been remodeled into a most comfortable and attractive home, being left in its original setting facing near-by Silver Creek. Although there is, of course, some evidence of the modern hand, great care was taken to preserve as much of the old charm of the place as was possible.

(Reference: Mr. Geo. C. Jackson, Belzoni, Miss.)

Reference: Mr. John F. Bridges (Assessor Humphreys County) Belzoni, Miss.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISS.
Dec. 3, 1937

Topic: Freak Names

Assignment No. 28

Enumerator: Mamie G. Cartledge

Item No. III

SUBJECT: NOMENCLATURE

Sweetmeat - Goldust - Thousand Dollars:

Among the many unusual names and nick-names borne by Negroes of the county, one family stands out alone in the selection of unique names. The choice is truly significant of the superstition for which the race is noted. The mother in the family is known by the name of "Sweetmeat". Two sons, now grown, bear the unusual names of "Goldust" and "Thousand Dollars" these being the real and only names of the two boys.

A Negro man of the county bears the name of "Petunia". Not only his name, but his appearance markshim as an unusual type. His ebony black skin, prominent ears, white teeth with characteristic red gums, with flashing, intelligent eyes and quick movements attract instant attention.

Mamie G. Cartledge
County Historian

Humphreys County, Nomenclature