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Lamar County

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Lamar COUNTY

CHAPTER I

Formation

Organization

The DEmarcation Line, an old landmark of Lamar County , surveyed by engineers representing the United States Government and Spain in 1798, along the 31st parallel of north latitude, marked the boundary of the territory ceded by Spain to the United States, Spain retaining all the territory south of this line, and the United States taking that part north, which the state of Georgia had asserted its claims for. Most of that part of the territory now called Lamar County lies north of the Demarcation Line.

A portion of the territory belonging to Georgia was set aside as the Mississippi Territory, and winthrop Sargeant was appointed governor. Under his governship, three counties were established-first, Adams and Pickering, April 2, 1799, and then Washington, June 4, 1800. From these, other counties have been formed.

Wilkinson was created from a part of Adams, January 30, 1802, Amite, from Wilkinson, February 24, 1809, and Wayne from Washington, December 21, 1809, at the same time another part of Adams was made into Franklin. From these three- Wayne, Franklin, and Amite- Greene and Marion were created, December 9,1811. Marion County was divided into two judicial districts by an act of the legislature, approved March 6, 1888. On February 19, 1904, Lamar was created from the Second Judicial District - the ea stern half of Marion- including a small part of northern Pearl River County that had originally been a part of Hancock County, and which was a small section of the territory below the Demarcation Line that was obtained by the treaty of Ghent at the close of the war with England in which Spain was involved, 1812-1815. (1)

(1) Lowry & McCardle, History of Mississippi, Chap. VI — VII

The County which was named for the illustrous L. Q. C. Lamar, was instituted and began to function April 1, 1904, following the proclamation of Gov. James K. Vardaman on March 30, at which time the governor appointed officers for the new county as follows: G. W. Holliman, sheriff and tax collector; C. V. Hathorne, clerk of the chancery court and circuit court; T. W. Davis, superintendent of education; J. T. Carley, county treasurer; J. W. Holliman, coronor and ranger; E. McD. Nichols, surveyor; and J. W. Treen (president), D. C. Camp, Willie Powell, T. I. Cameron, and P. M. Bynum, board of supervisors. J. R. Cowart, A. S. Hinton, and E. C. Thompson were appointed election comissioners by the State Board of Election Comissioners, and the county was divided into five districts by these comissioners (1) This appointment stood until an election was held in the following May.

Shape, Size, and Boundaries

Lamar County is almost a perfect rectangle, except for the northeast corner and slight irregularies on the southern boundary. The county contains 495 square miles, or 316,800 acres. The boundariesare as follows: On the north by Jefferson Davis, Covington, and Forrest; on the east by Forrest and Pearl River; on the south by Pearl River; and on the west by Pearl River and Marion. (2)

County Seat

PURVIS, the county seat, with a population of 1000 (1936) is located seventeen miles south of Hattiesburg on U. S. Highway 11.

(1) Records & Maps, Lamar County Courthouse

(2) E. Malcolm Jones, Soil Survey of Lamar County

In 1883, where Purvis now stands, there was a huge forest of pine trees with very few inhabitants, but plenty of wild game-deer, turkey and squirrel (1). No towns existed in this section until the construction of the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad, about the year 1883, when villages began to spring up. Among these was Purvis, named by the railroad officials after Thomas Melville Purvis, who left greene County in 1871 and homesteaded 160 acres of land on which the town is now located. (2)

The Legislature of 1888 incorporated Purvis as a municipality, and the same legislature provided for an election on the first Monday in May, 1888, to determine whether Lumberton or Purvis would be the county seat of the Second Judicial District of Marion County. The election resulted in favor of Purvis.(3)

John B. Purvis, son of Thomas Melville Purvis, was the town's first Mayor, and W. H. Polk, the first marshall.

The first meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Marion County, Second Judicial District, was held in the courthouse in this new municipality, June 30, 1890. Those present were: Mr. Hartfield, J. A. McNeace, N. A. Silverstein, B. B. Lewis, and J. N. Rankin, president of the board; and M. J. Cowart, sheriff, I. C. Magee, deputy sheriff, A. G. Webb, clerk, and C. C. Mayson, deputy clerk were also there. (4)

In sSeptember 1892, the position of health officer was created, and Dr. J. J. Dearman was appointed.

In August 1892, an insurance policy was written on the frame courthouse for $2000, and in September a contract was awarded the Manley Manufacturing Company of Dalton Georgia, to build a jail for the sum of $2,945. J. T. Carley and W. H. Magee

were appointed
(1) Mrs. Anna Bufkin, Purvis, Miss.
(2) T. W. Davis, Purvis, Miss.
(3) Lowry & McCardle, Mississippi History
(4) Board of Supervisors, Minutes

as comissioners to examine and inspect the new jail. In 1893, J. D. Cain was paid $30 for planting thirty shade trees on the courthouse yard.(1)

Before the creation of Lamar, while this territory was yet the Second Judicial District of Marion, the following officers served at the new county seat during the term mentioned: 1896-1900- B. B. Lewis (president), N. L. Ball, W. T. Morris, J. W. Rankin, W. M. Hartfield, supervisors, C. C. Mayson, clerk, W. H. Magee, deputy clerk, and M. C. McLelland, sheriff; 1900-1904- -N. L. Ball (president) J. L. Dobson, W. T. Morris, D. N. Milling, C. E. Pigatt, supervisors, J. A. Ball, sheriff, G. W. Holliman, deputy sheriff, L. C. Wellborn, clerk, and C. V. Hathorne, deputy clerk; 1904 until the appointment of officers for the new county of Lamar-- J. B. Dale (president), J. L. Dobson, W. N. Forbes, J. J. Herring, J. W. Treen, supervisors, I. O. Magee, sheriff, G. W. Holliman, deputy sheriff, L. C. Wellborn, clerk, and C. V. Hathorne, deputy clerk.

Following the appointment of officers, (see page 2), an election was held May 1904, and the board of supervisors were elected as follows: J. W. Treen (president) D. C. Camp, D. D. Stanford, John Whiddon , Sr, and T. W. Lott. (2) A special meeting of this board was held in January, 1905, for the purpose of letting a contract for a new courthouse to be built in Purvis for the sum of $43,516 to P. H. Weathers, architect, Jackson, Mississippi. Before the year was over a beautiful two-story courthouse of brick and stone was completed, and during the same year the mayor and board of alderman declared the town to be a separate mujicipal school district and in 1906 issued bonds to erect a large two-story brick school building.

(1) Records, Lamar County Courthouse

(2) Board of Supervisors, Minutes

On April 24, 1908, the town of Purvis was practically destroyed by a cyclone. A citizen relates her experience in the storm and thereby gives a clear idea of the damage it did in the county seat:

"On April 24, 1908 about 3:15 P. M., I saw a huge black funnel-shaped cloud approaching from the southwest. It looked as if it were boiling on the ground. I called my three children into the house and asked my husband not to go to the store where he worked. We got on a bed, wrapping up in quilts, putting a cotton mattress over us. The cloud was roaring; it was terrible. We were not in the straight path of the cloud, but three distinct whirls caught us. Some of our furniture was whirled straight toward the storm. The top of the house was torn off and then the walls fell in on us. We began to get out by the time the last whirl was gone. It took four men to pull the springs we were on apart to get the mattress and quilts out. We had a cedar bucket that was found on the floor turned over a chicken. Our pantry was blown about one-fourth of a mile from the house with the pans and other things it contained still in it just as I had put them. It was nearly dark for about four minutes while it lasted. The earth rocked, and rain poured in torrents. After the clouds passed, roaring on into the northeast, carrying before them all that stood in their path, for a moment there was silence; then, with the light, came pitiful crys , groans, and screams that arose on all sides. People were dying; others hurt and still frightened beyond control. Mr. W. B . Allsworth and F. J. Calhoun rode on horses to Richburg, which is about ten miles from Purvis to tell of the disaster. A special train was sent from Hattiesburg by the N. O. & N. E. Railroad Company, reaching town before dark. On this train was Doctors, H. L. McKinnon, L. W. Bayne, B. F. Mosley, W. W. Crawford, and Leo H. Martin and several rescue workers. Wreckage and disaster lay before them

on every hand. The courthouse was used as a morgue and hospital. Its roof had been blown away, but the walls remained. The new town clock had stopped at exactly 2:15 P.M. The hands remained in this position for many years afterward, then started. It was never known to keep correct time. Within twenty-four hours the Red Cross, the army, the navy and other organizations had relief agencies on the ground. Governor Noel sent military tents and hospital equipment. Groceries and mattresses were sent from Hattiesburg Red Cross Aid arrived from Washington and Philadelphia. The two Hattiesburg hospitals were filled with injured. The body of James Moffett, city Marshal, was found transfixed with a piece of timber. It had to be sawed off before the body could be removed. There were sixty-five persons killed, around 340 injured, and nearly 2000 left destitute in Purvis. We had to start cleaning up and building again. In about eight months homes had been rebuilt, crops were made, churches and schools were under construction" (1) After the school building was rebuilt, the town remained a separate school district until 1931, when special consolidated school districts were established. Today one school is especially consolidated and constitutes forty-one percent of the county enrollment; the other is a large school accommodating all students up to the eighth grade, thus making educational facilities excellent in Purvis. (See Chap. 13 Education)

In the professional realm, there are seven lawyers, two doctors, and one dentist. (See Chap. 18, The Bar and Chap 20, Health.) The business enterprises (see chap. 15 Industry) which constitute the present town (1936) are: several home-owned

(1) M. Russell, Sumrall, Miss.

mercantile stores, two drug stores, three meat markets, two hotels, three barbershops, and two modern gins that run their full capacity during the ginning season. There ~~are six~~ are six public buildings - four churches and two schools. (See chap. 12 Religion.) The town affairs are now in the charge of the following officers; J.T. Carraway, Mayor; Forest Phillips, marshal and tax collector; Miss Betty Cook, clerk; E.F Filer, C.E. Wilson, Leon Howard, Burton Barrett, Robert Slay, alderman; Miss Katie Thomas, treasurer. Purvis has a lower tax rate than any other town in the county, with no bonded indebtedness and is still in the process of formation, developing into a prosperous little city (1) The county affairs are in charge of the following officers; Cazzie Entrekin, sheriff and tax collector; S. E. Watts, chancery clerk; Lacy Lott, circuit clerk; H.C. Broadus, tax assessor; Z. A. Foshee, superintendent of education; and E. W. Clinton, representative. (2)

Early settlements

Before the white settlers came, The Choctaw Indians roamed through the heavy pine timber that grew in abundance over the county. There was an ancient Indian settlement in the extreme northwest and of the county, and there was an Indian Village about ten miles from Sumrall on Black Creek, where the Russell Bridge now spans the creek. (See chap. 5, Indians.) (3)

About the time the battle of New Orleans was fought abd won by Andrew Jackson, a large tide of immigration poured into the southern section of the present county, principally from the Carolinas. New people were attracted by low-priced lands that could be homesteaded, by the mild climate, the luxurious range for stock, and

(1) J. C. Carraway, Purvis Miss
(2) T. W. Davis , Purvis, Miss
(3) Taylor King, Sumrall, Miss

the cheap living afforded by an abundance of wild game - such as turkey, ducks, geese, and deer, (see chap 4, Flora.), and the corn that could br grown there. (See chap. 6. Indians and chap. 5, Agriculture .) Sheep and cattle raising was their main insudtry. They settled at vantage points, always having an eye for market facilities (1) .

At this time it was the privilege of any who cleared and cultivated a piece of the earth to prove his rights to ownership by constant improvement and living on it sufficiently long to make the title good.

Prominent among those early settlers were the Dearmans, Landrums, Bounds, Slades, Rouses, Baxters, Stanfords, Hickmans, Fillingames, Fords, Boones, McCloskeys, all coming the later part of 1700 or in the early part of 1800.

First to come was Felix Ford and family from N. Carolina. He was a wealthy stock raiser and brought his stock with him to the wide ranges and plentiful water supply that South Mississippi afforded at that time. Then came Hezekiah Slade, who was also a stock-raiser from North Carolina. Following him were the Stanfords and Baxters from Ireland, who too, were stock-raisers looking for good range.

These first settlers went through many hardships, building their homes of logs clearing the land, and seeing after the stock,as at that time wolves and bears roamed the woods and devoured the lambs and calves. The nearest trading post to that section was Mobile, Alabama, where beef cattle and wild game were carried once a year on wagons and sold. Trips were made about once a month for supplies, while lonely housewives would make the most of the clothing at home, spinning the thread, then weaving it into cloth by hand on a home-made, very crude spinning wheel, thus taking days and days

(1) H.C. Yawn, Lumberton, Miss.

of toil and patience to make enough clith fpr even one pair of pants.

These folks had courage and labored on and soon gained a livelihood. They began to think of schools and located their first one near Baxterville, naming it the Hugh's school. (1)

About fifty years after these people came the northern part of Lamar County was settled. Among the first pioneers to settle there were; Lucky Broome, 1860; Watts Lott, Bear Martin, Zebb Pace, and Bill Pace in 1865; and Billy King , Rayford Russell, Dan Sumrall. and Acy Carter in 1866. These old settlers are not known to have been the first to settle the northern part ofthe county, but they are the oldest ones known by thepresent inhabitants. It is not known where they originally came from, but most of them moved to Lamar from nearby counties. They all farmed, and each farm or plantation was equipped in such a way that only two or three trips a year had to be made to a trading post. Most of them traded at Pass Christian, Mississippi, a distance of about ninety miles. The trips were made in ox-wagons and required about eleven days in good weather . There were no trading posts or settlements within the county until about 1870. The oldest houses remaining that were a part of these earlY settlements are only about fifty-five years old. (2)

LUMNERTON, formerly an Indian village is the oldest settlement in Lamar County of which any knowledge is available. It was settled by a Mr. Proctor, who is said to have been the first white man to locate in this section. He caught and marked wild cattle that roamed the forest. Soon after him came a Mr. O'Bannion, then Eli Dearman, who built a log cabin just west of the present site of the railroad station. (3)

The city's present location - that is, on the 31st parallel of north latitude, embracing parts of sections one and two, township one south, range 15 west;

(1) Nathan Courtney, Purvis, Miss

(2) Edward Leggett, Tom Sumrall, M. Russell, Sumrall, Miss

(3) Sam Slade, Lumberton, Miss. and Z. T. King, Sumrall, Miss.

parts of sections 30 and 31, township one north, range 14; and sections 25 and 36, township one north, range 15 west - was embraced within the boundaries of Pearl River County, established February 22, 1890. The boundaries of Marion county were later extended south to the 31st parallel, thus embracing the above sections 30, 31 and 25, and 36, leaving a part of the town in Pearl River county .(1)

After Lumberton was incorporated as a village in 1895, the division by the demarcation line occasioned some trouble among the county's political division. Election day gives an illustration of their interest in politics. At the Dearman precinct, six votes were cast, and after the polls were closed the ballot box was entrusted to a man who rode on horesback to Columbia, the county seat of Marion, forty miles away - prior to the formation of Lamar. He was instructed to stay until he could secure election returns from the entire county, which required several days. The voters would celebrate the reportwith a shooting match, using their ancient flintlocks. (2). There had always been rivalry between Lumberton and Poplarville in Pearl River county, even after a part of Lumberton was embraced by Marion county. During the fall of 1903, when there was an epidemic of smallpox, Lumbertln authorities quarantined the town and employed guards at an ecpense of $200 pr $300; but later, when Pear; River county was requested to reimburse the town on the authority of the board of supervisors to pay the bill, they declined to do do. This refusal so disgruntled the Lumberton people tjat tjey asked to be permitted to become a part pf the recently created county of Lamar; threrupon an amended bill was introduced in the legislature, known as Senate Bill no 291 and in this bill the Lumberton territory became a part of Lamar County.

(1) Heningway, Annotated Mississippi Code, 1930, Sec. 39 33

(2) John A. Yeager, Lumberton, Miss.

Lamar county. However, not until May 5, 1927 was Lumberton located and organized as a city (1)

SUMRALL, or the present town site of Sumrall, was located one hundred years ago by watts Lott, who never entered clain for the land. He reared a large family, and when hr died, his sons settled and cleared the land. His son, Arthur Lott, built and maintained a water mill,which was located on a road now called Highway 42. He later sold this mill to Daniel Sumrall, who built a gin; a postoffice was also established, taking the name, "Sumrall."

In 1891 the J J. Newman Lumber Company bought this water Mill and gin and built a large sawmill. The Mississippi Central Railriad came through about that time, and a small depot was constructed. The work of building a town, railroad, and sawmill occupied the people.

Italians and Philippino negroes were employed to build the "dummy" lines, or branch lines, of the railroad that ran into the woods where the timber was cut. Most of the labor was done with picks and shovels.

The first merchandise was brought in a box car and sold to the people from the doors of the car, where it was dide-tracked on the railroad.

All the excitement of a big lumber camp was once in this peaceful little town. Wages were high, and trains begun running on regular schedule; the mill began operation, employing two shifts-a-day and a night crew. The twon grew rapidly and soon had a population of over 3000. The merchants, doctors, and mill foremen formed the most select social group of the town and set the standards of living. (2)

In 193 2 when the timber was all cut, the mill closed.People began drifting away to find employment elsewhere, and the population decreased to about 1500. Now, with its few business houses, postoffice,two gins, and several grist mills, this little town depends entirely upon agriculture. (3)

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(2) Ruth Altman, Lamar County History
(3) W.J. Hatten &M Russell, Sumrall, Miss

TALOWAH is located six miles nprth of Lumberton on the New Orleans and Northern Railroad. It was settled by Jimmie Bounds, who came from North Carolina to this section during the latter part of 1700. He settled his first home on the place now owned by Wilmer Griffen, called the Jimmie Bounds place, located on Black Creek, between Purvis and Brooklyn. He was a farmer and stock-raiser - the crops being corn, sweet potatoes, and rice, and the stock horses, cattle and sheep.He was noted for hunting wild game and fishing. When he killed wild deer, he would cure the meat, and dry the hides, and sell them at the nearest trading post, Mobile, Alabama, making the trip in an ox wagon. About 1860 he move to what is now Talowah and settled the place , locating where the cemetery is now located. (1)

In 1882 the railroad came through and made it a flagstop; in 1915 a group of seventh Day Advestists came and still reside there, having their own school and shurch.

Okohola is a flagstop six miles north of Purvis on the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad, settled by the Boones, about1860. It is surrounded by farm homes, with a school as the center of the community. Near it is a historical Indian Mound is located. (See chap. 5, Indians).

mOLAH is a village on Northwestern part of Lamar county, settled about 1865 by the Collins family after the War between the States. They have a church and a school thers.

PURVIS, or the present town site of Purvis, though larger, but nos as lod as the four previously discussed, was homesteaded by Thomas Melvin Purvis in 1871. Mr. Purvis' family consisted of his wife, Abney, two sons, John B. and Oliver S., and two daughters, Susan, who married Plummer Ladner, and Katherine, who married W. Henry Fillingame. He and his family were, during the early period of settlement, progressive, substantial and leading citizens of the

(1) Gilliam Bounds, Talowah, Miss

town and county.

His pioneer home was a two room log cabin, with a large open fireplace in one roon, which was uded for cooking as well as for heating purposes. Later his family ran the first boarding house for fifty men working on the NEW Orleans and Northwestern Railroad.

Long before the railroad was put through, he owned a large plantation portion of that section of the county and sold the land for the right-of-way to the railroad company. When the town sprang up, it was named for him. In 1884, the railroad was completed, and was known as the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad, being changed later to the Southern. It was Mrs Anna Bufkin's privilege ro be a member of one of the first families to live in the section house, as her husband was one that helped grade and build this part of the railroad.

There wasn't enough water tosupply the section families, so they got water from a commom spring just across the railroad that had been used by "Grandpa Purvis" (Melvin Purvis). Other than the section houses, the place was sparsely populated. Right behind the section houses were two small houses;Andrew Hartfield's family occupied one, and a Dr. Brial the other. Dr. B.N. Ainsworth lived out on the place now known as the county fram. There wasn't a dwelling house from the section houses to wjere John Carley lived. His home was one of the first section houses built in Purvis after the railroad was put through in 1883. The lumber for the house was sawed and hauled from his old mill near Columbia, thirty-five miles away. (1)

Houses were built before the timber was cut and cleared away, and the only wayfares were narrow foot-paths leading from house to house. As the people began to move in. the need of religious contact was felt; so, church services were held in the open, with logs for seats.

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(1) Mrs. Anna Bufkin, Purvis, Miss

A church was built in 1884, for the use of all denomincations. It was also used for a school house with A.M. Carley from Columbia as teacher. In 1885 the Methodists built a small church, and in 1886 the Baptists did likewise.

John Portman's mill, located two miles northeast of Purvis, was the first in the county. (1) However, about the year, 1885, Ed and John Fairley established one in Purvis, locating it in the hollow below the place where Mr. Carraway now lives and operated it fpr several years. After the Fairleys discontinued operating their mill J. T. Carley established one that eventually James Hand took over, establishing a larger one in its stead on the railroad just north of the depot, which he and F. H. Jordan operated for a long time, helping the city's growth. (2) (See county seat. p.2)

Piatonia is a flag stop, one mile north of Lumberton, supposed to be named for the Indians. It was settled by John B. Harris in 1883. In this same year a small depot was built by the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad Company, who planned to build a large town here; but this plan did not materialize, because the Camp and Hinton Brothers located a sawmill in Lumberton and defeated the hope of a town at Piatonia (3)

Oak Grove is a small settlement in Lamar county, six miles west of Purvis. Elijah Ladner settled there in 1884 with a large herd of sheep and cattle. Later he sold his interest to a Mr. Mucklewrath, who was followed by other settlers. It is identified by a school, church and small store.

Richburg is a flag station on the New Orleans and Northeaster n railroad, six miles south of Hattiesburg. It is named for Charlie Rich, who operated a swamill here in 1888. He built a typical little sawmill town

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(1) Z. T. Sumrall Sumrall, Miss

(2) Mesdames Fillingame, Bufkin and Purvis, Miss. and Records Lamar county courthouse.

(3) Dave Waltman, Lumberton, Miss .

with a school, church, etc. but after the sawmill closed, Richburg shrank back to its former state.

Baxterville a village in the western ½ast pf Lamar, was dettled in 1890 by Thomas Baxter, a farmer and cattle raiser, who, originally from Ireland, emigrated to Virginia in 1648 and later same to Mississippi. He was soon followed by the Byrds. These men reared large families and soon built a school. When the sawmill industry was at its zenith, Baxterville became the center of one of two mills. After these closed, the town settled back into a quiet little village, with the descendants of the first settlers as its only citizens.

They have a school, church, post office, and one store (1)

Seneca, is a small flag stopfour miles north of Lumberton on the New Orleans and Northeastern railroad. In 1910 a band of German Catholics bought a large tract of land there and erected a church and school. This colony, although handicapped by poor land, has prospered by truck farming and fairying. (2)

Davis was a postoffice located in Pine Grove Community years ago, but is now extinct.

Prominent Pioneers

Hezekiah Slade came from North Carolina in the year of 1700, married Helena Victoria Taylor and settled a place on Black Creek,. He was very illiterate, but after awhile a learned man came to board with them and taught Mr. Slade and his wife to read and write. In just a short time Mr. Slade was able to transact his own business affairs, successfully. He and his wife both are buried in an old out-of-the-way place known as Choctaw Fork (3)

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(1) Dempsie Baxter, Baxterville, Miss.

(2) Sam Slade, Lumberton, Miss.

(3) Nathan Baxter, Baxterville, Miss.

"Grandfather" Stanford came from Ireland in 1820 and settled a place on Clear Creek four miles west of Baxterville, that grew and became known as Clear Creek Community. He reared a large family that became a prominent citizen of Lamar county. (1)

Daniel Boone, originally from Kentucky, came to this part of the country from Tennessee during slavery time and settled a place, now belonging to Tatum Lumber Company, called the Boone Community or Boone Cemetery, located on Black Creek in the Okohola Community.
Mr. Boone reared a large family, the oldest living descendant being a grandson, Daniel Boone, ago 80, who lives with a daughter at Tatum Camp. (2)

Arthur Stewart, grandfather of R.A. Stewart, about one hundred years ago lived un what was "Stewart's Settlement," the place now occupied by Tom Cagle in the Pine Grove Community. When he died on a return trip from Columbia, Mississippi, he was buried on Perkins' Creek, and around his grave a large cemetery, called Graham Cemetery, has grown.

John Lott , according to deed records of Lamar county, entered a tract of land from the U.S. Governmenr in 1840 that is now owned by Mrs. Frank Burkhaulter, located in the Rockybranch Community that was originally known as the Lott Settlement. Mr. Lott is the grandfather od Ira John, and Alvin Lott of Rockybranch. During the time of his settlement, there was little land in that settlement that was not owned by the Federal Government. (3)

William Landrum came to Mississippi from the state of Alabama at the age of nineteen years. Having been reared in a farm, he settled a place eight miles east of Lumberton, where Forest, Lamar, and Pearl River counties now join. He reared a large family of children, all having long passed away. (4)

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(1) Ex-superintendent A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.
(2) Daniel Boone, Tatum Camp, Miss.
(3) Deed Book, Lamar County Courthouse
(4) Elisha Landrum and Tom Ladner, Lumberton, Miss.

p. 17, C. 1, Lamar

John A. Mcleod, who now lives in Hattiesburg, was among the first settlers of Purvis. About the time construction of the railroad began, McLeod came and erected a small, log store building and engaged in grneral mercantile business, which was profitable. He soon erected a large brick store building and organized a corporation, called McLeod and Company, which operated at Purvis until about 1914; although he had moved to Hattiesburg, where he also conducted a mercantile business.

Charlis Slade moved to Purvis during the time the railroad was being constructed, erected a boarding house, and opened a beer shop.

J.T. Carley came to Purvis soon after the railroad was built and engaged in the mercantile business, and when Lamar County was established he was elected as the first treasurer and served until 1918. He took a prominent and leading part in the developments of the town and community.

W. J. and J. B Calhoun, moved to urvis with their families about the year 1888, and established a turpentine still and continued in business there until 1898.

Geroge Northope came to Purvis about the time the railrpad was completed and engaged in Mercantile business.

H. V. Waits, coming from Georgia in 1904, is a merchant and a farmer and Sumrall's oldest and best loved living citizen. His family also is outstanding in the little town of Sumrall, in Lamar county. and in the state of Mississippi. (See chap. 6, Antebellum Days).

Histroical Names

Choctaw Fork, a fork-shaped level between two reed-brakes, is located two miles mortheast of Lumberton. It is said by old settlers that a band of Choctaw Indians camped here, thus giving its name.

p. 18, C. 1, Lamar.

Lost John was a flag stop on the Gulf and Ship Island railroad three miles west of Baxterville, so named for a negro named John who became lost here and c here and couldn't be found (1)

Coal Town, was a small commumity located four miles southwest of Purvis on Purvis and Oloh road. Years agp, older people say, every family in this community burned charcoal to sell, that they might buy food for their family, giving the community the name of"Coaltown".

Burnt Bridge Community about ten miles northwest of Purvis. One night the bridge that spanned Black Creek, a creek that runs through that territory, burned, and thereafter the community was known by that name.

Snuff Ridge, is a small community ten miles west of Purvis. Years ago there were a lot of frolics guven un this community when almost everyone dipped snuff.(2)

Pea Ridge is a small community thirteen miles west of Purvis . Years ago, older people say, a man in this commnnity planted more peas than any other other farmer near him (3)

Bennett's Memorial Park, located in the town of Purvis, near the depot is named for R.L. Bennerr, who was cashier of the Lamar County Bank for a number of years and is now deceased. (4)

Military School and Military Church, two miles south of Sumrall on Jackson's Military Road, get their names from the road that is named in honor of Andrew Jackson.

Yawn School, located five miles north of Lumberton, is named for Honorable H. G . Yawn, a public spirited man, a leader, and a statesman, who was instrumental in establishing the school.(5)

(1) T.W. Davis, Sr, Purvis, Miss.
2,3,& 4 Ibed

(5) Wilmer Caten, Lumberton, Miss.

Unusual Names

Devil's Backbone is the name given to the rugged hills near Baxterville that has the appearance of a backbone.

Hub Hill, located on the Purvis and Columbia Road, about three miles west of Baxterville, was named for the village of Hub.

Black Creek Hill, is located on U.S. Highway 11, seven miles south of Purvis near Black Creek.

Sand Hills, obviously where sans if thick and soft, is located in Pine Grove Community. An old lady was hired once, long ago, to burn some of the sand from these hills to go on the railroad rails to keep the train from slipping in rainy weather.

Red Hills, located in the Pine Grove Community, were so named for their beauty. The dirt on the hill is a very dark red.

Moss Lake, located three miles west of Purvis, is called Moss lake because all the trees around are covered with moss.

Little River, a small stream that flows through the northwestern part of Lamar county, was named by early settlers for its size.

Sawed Horn Springs is located seven miles south of Purvis, named for Sawed Horn Sam Slade, who settled the place and discovered the Springs. He attained the name, himself, in the Battle of Shiloh, when he was shot through the nose, giving it the appearance of a horn that had been sawed from an ox. (1)

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(1) T. W. Davis Sr., Purvis, Miss.

Baxter, Dempsie	Baxterville, Miss
Baxter, Nathan	Baxterville, Miss.
Boone, Daniel	Tatum Camp, Miss.
Bounds, Gilliam	Talowah, Miss.
Broadus, A. Q., Ex-Supt	Purvis, Miss
Bufkin, Mrs. Anna	Purvis, Miss.
Caten, Wilmer	Lumberton, Miss.
Courtney, Nathan	Purvis, Miss.
Davis. T. W.	Purvis, Miss
Davis, T. W. Sr.	Purvis, Miss.
Fillingame, Mrs.	Purvis, Miss.
Hatten, W. J.	Sumrall, Miss.
King, Taylor	Sumrall, Miss.
King Z. T.	Sumrall, Miss
Ladner, Jan	Lumberton, Miss.
Landrum, Elisha	Lumberton, Miss.
Leggett, Edward	Sumrall, Miss,
Purvis, Mrs	Purvis, Miss
Russell, M.	Sumrall, Miss
Slade, Sam	Lumberton, Miss,
Sumrall, Tom	Sumrall, Miss.
Sumrall, Z. T.	Sumrall, Miss .
Waltman, Dave	Lumberton, Miss.
Yawn, H. C.	Lumberton, Miss.
Yeager, John A.	Lumberton, Miss.

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Lowry & McCardle History

Source material

Mississippi was under French dominion from 1730 to 1763 and under English dominion from 1763 to 1781; but it was a Spanish province from 1781 until 1798, when it became a part of the United States.

The Spanish authorities were greatly disturbed by the action of the Georgia Legislature in the year 1785, in establishing the county of "Bourbon" in what Georgia claimed to be her territory. This county of Bourbon was established with the following well defined boundaries: "Beginning at the mouth of Yazoo river, where it empties into the Mississippi River, thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of the said river until it shall intersect the northern-most part of the thirty-first degree of north latitude; south by a line to be drawn due east from the determination of the line last mentioned in the latitude of thirty-one degrees north of the equator as far as the lands reach, which, in that district have at any time, been relinquished by the Indians; thence along the line of said relinquishment to the said river Yazoo; thence down the said river to the beginning; and the said county shall comprehend and include all lands and waters within the said description."

The county of Bourbon comprehended all the territory embraced in the present counties of Warren, Claiborne, Jefferson, Adams, Franklin and Wilkinson. ~~[illegible]~~ (pp. 137-138

Ten years previously the state of Georgia, claiming the entire territory had established the county of Bourbon, extending from the mouth of the Yazoo river to the thirty-first degree of north latitude, and embracing all the territory now comprised within the limits of the present counties of Warren, Claiborne, Jefferson, Adams and Wilkinson. (p. 140)

In 1789, the state of Georgia, acting through the legislature, determined still further to assert her authority over the territory she claimed, and sold 5,000,000 acres to the South

Spain claimed to own the disputed territory by virtue of her treaties with France and England, while the native Indians, the Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws and Chickasaws, claimed it by inheritance. But the Indians were powerless, and looked upon the struggle for their God-given heritage with stoical indifference.

The purchasers of these lands, however, alarmed by the numerous adverse claims, and the opposition of the United States, the Indian tribes and the Spanish authorities, refused to meet their payments, and the legislature rescinded the contracts. Georgia was annoyed, irritated and disgusted by this constantly recurring interference with her boundaries, as well as with her title,.and determined to demonstrate, not only her c nfidence in the assertion of her rights, but to remove the obstacles to the settlement of her territory. With this purpose in view, the legislature, on the 7th of February, 1795, passed an act, by which, for the sum of $5,000,000, she sold twenty-one million five hundred thousand acres, to four companies, composed chiefly of her own citizens. Anticipating, it would seem, the howl of opposition this measure would arouse, the act of sale had a preamble which contained a declaration of the rights of Georgia in the premises. In this preamble it is declared:

"That by the articles of confederaion each state was to retain its own territory. That by the treaty of 1783, commonly called the treaty of Paris, the boundaries of Georgia and of the other States were confirmed. That they were consistent with all the former legislation of Georgia, and with the action of the Convention between Georgia and South Carolina in 1787. That the State had the right of redemption and full territorial jurisdiction. That the treaty made between the president and McGillevray, was in contravention of the rights of Georgia, and that grarantees made by the president to the Indians were without authority and invalid; and that Georgia had the fee simple in and to all her lands, and would dispose of them, to individuals or companies, at her own pleasure."

Nicholas Long, Thomas Cumming, A. Gordon, Thomas Glascock and others, formed another company, and for one hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars, these gentlemen bought all the land comprised within the territorial limits of Greene, Perry, Marion, Pike, Amite, Wilkinson, Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Copiah, Simpson, Smith, Jasper, Clarke, Lauderdale, Newton, Scott, Rankin, Hinds, Warren, and Claiborne counties in Mississippi with a small slice of three counties in Alabama.

The act was repealed as the "Yazoo Fraud" in 1796

"All these proceedings," says Claiborne, referring to them, "directly affected the Spanish authorities of Louisiana. The state of Georgia had sold the very ground occupied by her garrisons on the Mississippi. The companies who bought would bring in thousands of colonists with arms in their hands. The president had brought the matter before Congress, and plainly manifested a disposition to occupy the country. An agent of Georgia, General Mathews, protected by the usages of diplomacy, had arrived at Natchez, to reassert the claim of that state. Badgered and worried at every point, Spain, proverbially dilatory, obstinate and punctilious, at length gave way, and on the 27th day of October, 1795, a treaty was signed at Madrid, by which it was agreed that the southern boundary of the United States should be the line of the thirty-first degree of north latitude, from the Mississippi to the Chattahoochie; thence down the middle of the river to its junction with the Flint; thence to the head of St. Mary's river; thence down that river to the

Atlantic. That all Spanish posts north of this line should be removed within six months, and American posts and inhabitants living south of it should be removed within the same period. That the navigation of the Mississippi, should, through its whole length, be free for the commerce of both nations; that both would co-operate to cultivate peace with the Indians; and that before six months a joint commission should run out the line of boundary, under the protection of the two powers."

Under the stipulations of the treaty, by which Spain ceded to the United States a large portion of the territory now included within the limits of Mississippi and Alabama, it was provided that the southern boundary between Spain and the United States should be established by a joint commission composed of a representative of each government, within the period of six months, Spain, in the meantime, retaining possession until the boundary line should be formally established. Under this provision, Andrew Ellicott, a native of Pennsylvania, and an astronomer of some repute, was appointed on the part of the United States to perform this duty. But it was not until February 24th, 1797, that Mr. Ellicott arrived at Natchez with his twenty-five woodsman.(pp 140-147

Captain Guion says in a letter to a personal friend in North Carolina:

"On the 30th of March 1798, the Spanish garrison evacuated the fort (Natchez), nothing having occurred since my arrival to interrupt our friendly relations."

A few days after the Spanish forces evacuated Natchez, the same ceremony was performed at the Walnut Hills,(now Vicksburg) where Fort Nogales was turned over to Major Kersey, who with a detachment of United States troops, took immediate possession.(p. 158-159)

The work of establishing the boundary line between the possessions of Spain and the United States, was, after the retirement of Gayoso, on the part of Spain, conducted by Don Stephen Minor, as commissioner, and Sir William Dunbar, as astronomer, with a surveyor and a military guard. The American part of the commission consisted of Andrew Ellicott, as astronomer, Major Thomas Freeman, as surveyor, the necessary axmen, and a military guard under the command of Lieutenant McCleary, of the United States army (p. 162)

On April 7th, 1798, the Mississippi Territory was established by an act of Congress

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

July 27, 1937

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #2

Formation of County

I. SUMRALL

About 100 years ago Watts Lott moved to the section in which Sumrall is now located. He reared a large family, but never entered his claim for the land. When he died his sons settled the land and cleared it. His oldest son Arthur Lott built and maintained a water mill and grist mill, which was located on a road now called Highway #42. He later sold this mill to Daniel Sumrall, who built a gin. Two years later a post office was built, this was in 1890. It was named Sumrall for Dan Sumrall.

In 1891 the J. J. Newman Lumber Company bought this water mill and gin. They built a large saw mill here. The Mississippi Central Railroad came through about that time and a small depot was built. The town grew rapidly and soon had a population of over 3000. In 1932 the mill closed. Since then the population has been about 1500 citizens. It has a post office, two gins, several grist mills and several garages and business houses.

This little town depends entirely upon agriculture. It is located in the extreme northern part of Lamar County and covers 100 square miles.

2. BAXTERVILLE

Baxterville is a village, located in the western part of Lamar County. It was settled in 1890 by Thomas Baxter, a farmer and cattle raiser, who came from North Carolina. He was soon followed by the Byrds. Both men raised a large family and

built a school house for them. When the saw mill industry was in boom, Baxterville became the center of one or two mills. After these closed, the town settled back into a quite little village, with the descendants of the first settlers as its only occupants. They have a school, church, post office and one store.

3. RICHBURG

Richburg is a flag station on the New Orleans and North Eastern Railroad, 6 miles south of Hattiesburg. It is named for Charlie Rich who operated a saw mill here in 1888. He built a typical little saw mill town, with a school, church, etc. After the saw mill closed, Richburg shrank back to a small village.

4. PIATONIA

Piatonia is a flag stop, one mile north of Lumberton on the N. O. and N. E. Railroad, supposed to be named for the Indians. It was settled by John B. Harris in 1883. In this same year a small depot was built by the N. O. and N. E. R. R. Company, who planned to build a large town here. This plan did not materialize, because the Camp & Hinton Bros. located a saw mill in Lumberton and defeated the hope of a town in Piatonia.

5. SENECA

In 1910 a band of Germans, of the Catholic Religion bought a large tract of land near what used to be Slabtown. They built a church and school house 4 miles north of Lumberton, on the N. O. & N. E. Railroad. This small flagstop was called Seneca.

The colony, although hampered by poor land, has prospered by trucking and dairying.

6. TALOWAH

Talowah is a flagstop 6 miles north of Lumberton on the N. O. and N. E. Railroad. It was settled by Gillum Bounds in about 1860. He raised stock and farmed. In 1882 the N. O. & N. E. Railroad came through Talowah and made it a flagstop. In 1915 a group of people, whocalled themselves Seventh Day Adventist came here and settled. They are still there, with their own school and church.

7. OKAHOLA

Okahola is a flagstop 6 miles north of Purvis on the N. O. and N. E. Railroad, settled by the Boones, in about 1860. It is surrounded by farm homes, with a school as the center of the community.

8. OLOH

Oloh is a village in North western part of Lamar County. It was settled by the Collins' after the Civil War in about 1865. They have a church and school there.

9. OAKGROVE

Oak Grove is a small settlement in Lamar County, 6 miles west of Purvis. Eliga Ladner settled here in 1884 with lots of sheep and cattle. Later he sold out to a Mr. Macklewrath who was followed by other settlers. There is a school, church and small store.

Town of Sumrall and first Watermill

Over 100 years ago in the northern part of this county (Lamar) this little town was settled.

Watts Lott over 100 years ago moved to this section and settled. He reared a large family of boys and girls and never did enter the land, but lived reared a family and died on public lands. His sons settled the land and cleared it. His oldest son Author Lott built and maintained a water mill and grist mill which was located on a road now high was 42. It was located in Sumrall, Miss He later sold this mill to Danial Sumrall, who built a gin. Two years later a post office was built near the gin some time in the 90's. This was Sumrall's first post office.

About 1091 the J. J. Newman Lumber Company bought this water mill and gin. He built a large saw mill and Lumber Company here just below the water mill.

The Mississippi Central rail road came through about that time and a small depot was built on the site which bore the name of Sumrall Mississippi.

The town grew very fast and soon had a population of over 3000 people. In 1932 the mill after cutting the great forest of timber at Adjecent closed. Since then the town has about 1500 bone fide citizens.

Written

Canvassers
Evangeline Lee
Pauline Slade
Mildred Hendrick

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

ASSIGNMENT # 4

1/ WATER-SHEDS

a. Lamar County has no rivers, but embraces within the confines of its boundry - in part the water sheds of Pearl River on the west and Leaf River on the east.

The county has a well defined natural drainage system chiefly consisting of,(1) Big Black which rises in the north west part of the county and flows southeastward through the county in its confluence, toward Dead Lake in Jackson County into which its waters flow. '2) Little Black flows from the source of its origin from the foot hills near Baxterville, flows southeastward through the county toward its converging point with Big Black,- south of Camp Danzler in Forest County. (3) Red Creek flows from the spring heads of the Rayborn Hills in the central eastward part of the county. Southeastward part of Lumberton merging its waters with the aforesaid Dead Lake in Jackson County. Thence into the Fabled waters of the Pascagoula River.

By what names these streams were indentified by the Indians we do not know. Their waters are tinted by soil erosion and vegetable extracts, hence their names. The principal tributaries of these streams within the boundry of Lamar County are: Big Black, Colter Creek, Turkey Creek, Monroe, Forkers, Perkins, Boar Bay, Mill Creek,

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Sandy Run, Nixon and Black Tom. Little Black, Boggy Hollow, Beaver Dam and Spring Branch. Red River, Dry Branch, Carters Creek.

The original adventurious settlers knew something of the art of farming but, were mostly skilled in raising cattle and sheep, selected settlements convenient to the above tributaries, hence their names with but few exceptions as that of Dry Branch, Boggy Hollow, Sandy Run and Beaver Dam which names reflect the reason there for. Two other creeks in the extreme northern part of the county; Tick Creek so named because infected with the insects, Big Creek supposed to get its name in comparison to adjacent creeks. In the northwestern part of the county is Upper Little Creek and its tributaries are Herrin Creek and Polk Creek, Lower Little Creek and its tributaries are Gully, Beaver Dam, Hurrican Bay, Half Moon, Burnt Reed Brake, Spice Pond Creek, Grantham and White Oak. Middle Fork flows southwestward into Pearl River County.

(c) The above mentioned streams and their tributaries afford excellent drainage system for the entire county. Dr.J. N. Mason, County Health Officer, attributes the excellent health record of the county to its drainage which prevents stagnant water and miamic ponds. In some places the drainage is excessive, this necessitates terracing to hold the soil.

11. ELEVATION

(a) The highest point of elevation in Lamar County is at Baxterville in the western part of the county, 404 feet.

(b) The lowest point of elevation in the county is at Okohola on Black Creek in eastern part of the county, 232 feet.

(c) In most cases the bottom lands along the small drainage days having a width of 50 to 100 yards, there are some swampy areas along the larger streams but of small extent.

(d) There are no prairie lands or flat wood regions in Lamar County.

(e) In the western part of Lamar County is a very rugged or hilly section known as the "Devil's BackBone". This extends into Marion County.

111. LAKES MARSHES BAYOUS

(a) Not having any lakes, marshes or bayous in Lamar County there is no effect.

IV. SPRINGS WELLS AND MINERAL WATERS

Through out the county are numerous small springs which supply a constant flow of waters to the smaller streams, other than these we have only one spring of note, Sawed Horn Spring in the southeastern p rt of th county, so named for Mr. Sam Slade who homesteaded the land and who was wounded in the Battle of Shiloh by being struck with a spent minnie ball on the nose between the eyes which gave him the appearance of a sawed horn steer. This is verified by citizens who knew Mr. Sam Slade from the time he received the wound.

(b) Wells.

Artesian water has been found at Sumrall a little city on the Mississippi Central Railroad and at Sumberton at the Junction on the New Orleans and North-Eastern Railroad.

1. Almost every farm h ouse has a shallow well either bored or dug which supplies the family with necessary water.

2. Each town of note has a deep water well with water running nearly to the surface which requires pumping to force it into tanks.

(c) Mineral Waters.

There ar no mineral waters in Lamar County.

Mrs. Ella Crook.

Supervisor Historical Research Project.

Camvassers:
Pauline Slade
Mildred Hendrick

Written Copy
Little Written
Incomplete

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY
ASSIGNMENT # 4

1. WATER-SHEDS

Lamar County has no rivers within its boundry but it occupies the divide between the Pearl River on the west and Leaf River on the east.

Reference: Soil Survey of Lamar County.

The county as a whole has a well established drainage system in three main creeks and t eir tributaties are Black Creek, Little Black and Red Creek.

(a) Black Creek in the northern section of the county, Little Black in the central and Red Creek in the southern section are all named from the tint of their waters. We have no other record of the origin of their names. Tributaries of Black Creek are Monroe, Parker, Perkins names originated from first settlers on these creeks, so handed down through generations. Sandy Run from its sandy bed. Little Black origin of name from color of water. Two other creeks in extreme northern part, Tick Creek, so named because infected with these insects, and Big Creek, supposed to get its name in comparison to other adjacent creeks. Tributaties of Little Black are Boggy Hollow, so called from the miry nature of its soil and cows would bog easily ~~they~~ but when they would go there to drink water. Little Beaver Creek, so called from the many beavers that inhabited it once. Dry Branch just south of Lumberton is a tributary of Red Creek, so called because it never runs dry,

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY
ASSIGNMENT # 4

a very swift stream and drains so well the southern section of the county and the Bass Pecan Nursery. In the north western part of the county is Upper Little Creek and its tributaries are Herron Creek and Polk Creek, named for the first settlers. In the western part is Lower Little Creek and its tributaries are Gully, Beaver Dam, Hurrican Bay, Half Moon, Burnt Reed Brake, Spice Pond Creek and Grantham. In the southwestern part are White Oak, Middle Fork, Dry and Clear Creeks.

(b))Black Creek flows in a southeasternly direction, Little Black in an easternly direction and Red Creek in a southeasternly direction, all three ultimately flowing into the Pascagoula River. Big Creek and Tick Creek in the northern part of the county flow in a northeastern direction into Bonie River. In the north western and western Upper and Lower Little Creeks with their tributaries flowing westward into Pearl River. In the southwestern part of the county White Oak, Middle Fork, Dry Creek and Clear Creek flow westward into Pearl River.

Reference: Dr. Mason.

(c) This network of streams and their tributaries afford an excellent drainage system for the entire county which gives a good health record and a salubrious climate. The County Health officer, Dr. Mason, attributes the excellent health record of the county to its drainage which prevents stagnant waters and miasmic ponds, the presence of which is detrimental to the health of the people.

The drainage and rain fall also carries disease breeding debris away where it is less harmful.

In some places drainage is excessive, this necessitates terracing to hold the soil.

11. ELEVATION

Reference: Soil Survey of Lamar County.

(a) The highest point in Lamar County is at Baxterville in the western part of the county 404 feet.

(b) Thel lowest point in Lamar County is at Okahola in the eastern part of the county 232 feet.

(c) In most cases the bottom along the small drainage ways having a width of 50 to 100 yards, are poorly drained and swampy and there are some swampy areas along the larger streams but such areas are of very small extent.

(d) There are no prairie lands or flat wood regions in Lamar County.

(e) In the western part of Lamar County is a very rugged or hilly section known as the Devils Backbone.

111. LAKES-MARSHES-BAYOUS

(a) ~~Not having any~~ There are no lakes, marshes or Bayous in Lamar County to ~~there is no effect.~~ affect health conditions in any way.

IV. SPRINGS, WELLS, AND MINERAL WATERS

(a) Scattered throughout the county are numerous small springs which supply a constant flow of water to the smaller streams other than these we have only one spring of note, Sawed Horn Spring in the south eastern part of the county, so named for

Mr. Slade who homesteaded the land and ~~who~~ was wounded in the Battle of Shilo by being struck with a spent minnie ball during the battle of Shiloh. The bullet struck the nose causing a deformity which ~~resembled~~ made one think of a sawed horn steer, hence it is said the spring derived its name ~~from~~ from this source. ~~of numerous citizens who knew Mr. Slade from the time he received the wound.~~

(b) We have no wells of note in the county.

1. Almost every farm house has a shallow well either bored or dug, which supplies the family with necessary water.

2. There are no over flowing artesian wells in the county, but in each town of note there is a deep well with water rising nearly to the surface which requires pumping to force it into tanks.

(c) There are no mineral waters in the county.

lw

Mrs. Fannie Gaver
Supervisor Historical Research
Project Lamar County.

(1)

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT # 7

MINERALS

(3)

Reports that anhydrite has been penetrated in a well being drilled for oil in Lamar County, ten miles from Purvis, by the Sun Oil Company were received by Dr. W. C. Morse, director of the State Geological survey of University, Miss.

"Outside of the actual finding of oil or the encountering of oil salt in a well, the discovery of anhydrite is the most important discovery made in the search for gas and oil in the state, "he said.

A rock salt dome was encountered Saturday in the Sun Oil Company's deep test well in Lamar County at a depth of slightly more than 2400 feet.

The salt strata, first ever discovered in a Mississippi test well, showed up underneath more than 800 feet of anhydrite an anhydrous sulphate formation of granite-like character.

Aug. 14. Sunwell, Miss.--Salt water and mud came up in another drill stem test completed at midnight in the Sun Oil Company's Tally number three well in Lamar county.

The test was made yesterday after about two feet of oil sand had been encountered Thursday night in a core which was cut in the black shale formation.

The first oil sand, saturated with asphalt was found 5,643 feet. The same formation lasted for 152 feet after which came white sand and then black shale.

The asphalt formation found was gummy in character and jet black in color.

A Schlumberger survey was made in the Sun Oil Company's

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Tally three well in Lamar County. Results of the survey was not divulged. For five or six hours work the Company charged $700.

Sunwell, Miss. Aug. 16. The Sun Oil Company's Tally number well was below 6,000 feet today after a week-end spent in coring and reaming. Reaming continued today.

The formation was described as a brownish-black shale. The depth of the hole was reported at 6,028 feet. Experts are frank to say that they are puzzled by the strangeness of the log on this hole in which asphaltic-oil, sand, anhydrite, salt water, black shale and other formation have been encountered.

It is probable that the well will be drilled to 10,000 feet or deeper unless producing sand is discovered at some higher level.

A new well is to be drilled a mile and half from Purvis, operations starting no later than Sept. 1.

Ref. Hattiesburg, American.

Ella Brook
Historian

Canvassers
Pauline Slade
Mildred Hendrick
Helen Entrekin

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY
ASSIGNMENT # 7

1. SOILS

Let us give as much credit as we can to the original thinkers of the past and present Administration in that they have discovered for themselves the urgent need of soil conservation.

Farmers by the thousand have had their minds upon the subject of soil recovery and maintenance for a century or less. The Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Station have done praisworthy work on this subject.

Soil is a mixture of rock particles and organic matter capable of supporting plant life. The formation of soil is classed as physical or chemical.

Lamar County lies within the Gulf Coastal plain province and in the Long Leaf Pine region of Mississippi, locally called the "Piney Woods" country.

1. The upland soils of the county are derived from two main classes of coastal plain materials; (1) Beds of sandy clay, and (2) beds of heavy clay.

2. There are in Lamar County 20 different types, exclusive of Swamp.

1- A. Ruston fine sandy loam is a grayish soil type, to slightly brownish-gray on the surface with a subsoil of either a dull-red or yellowish-red fine sandy clay. With moderately friable

subsoil. The surface is undulating to rolling, and the drainage is good. It is the most extensive soil type in the county.

2- B. Orangeburg fine sandy loam is a grayish-brown to brown surface with a subsoil of red fine sandy clay. The subsoil being friable. The surface in general is hilly or broken, with some small, gently rolling areas. The drainage of both the surface and underground is good.

3- C. Susquehanna fine sandy loam is grayish on the surface with a subsoil of either a yellow clay or red clay. (impervous subsoil, plastic heavy subsoil). The sufface is rolling to gently sloping or comparatively smooth. Owing to the subsoil the underdrainage is imperfect, but where the type is rolling the surface is usually good.

4- D. Norfolk fine sandy loam has a gray surface with a subsoil of yellow fine sandy clay. The subsoil is friable. The surface is flat to gently undulating. Most of it has good drainage.

5- E. Thompson fine sandy loam has grayish surface with a subsoil of yellow fine sandy clay. The subsoil is friable. The surface is level or flat, interrupted by occasional slight depressions. The drainage is not very good.

6- F. Kalmia fine sandy loam has a gray to dark-gray surface. The surface is level but in low lying areas there are depressions and the level surface is somewhat interrupted. These depressions are poorly drained but the drainage of the rest is fairly good.

7- G. Bibb fine sandy loam has a gray surface of light-gray or bluish-gray. The subsoil is level, except for occasional slight

depressions and a few swells and hubbocks. It has poor drainage.

8- H. Cahoba fine sandy loam has a brown to light brown surface. With a subsoil of reddish yellow fine sandy clay. This subsoil is friable. The surface is a smooth to gently sloping toward the streams. Both surface drainage and under drainage are generally good.

9- I. Caddo fine sandy loam has a gray to brown-gray surface. A subsoil of yellow fine sandy clay. This subsoil is plastic sandy clay. The Caddo occupies level to flat areas and on slopes drainage is imperfect.

10- J. Ruston sandy loam has a gray, brownish-gray or light brown surface. The subsoil is a reddish-yellow to yellowish red sandy clay. The subsoil is friable. The surface is gently rolling and undulating. Both the surface and subsoil drainage are satisfactory.

11- K. Orangeburg sandy loam has a grayish-brown to brownish surface with a subsoil of red sandy clay. The subsoil is friable. The surface is hilly and broken. The drainage in most places is excessive.

12 L. Susquehanna silt loam has a grayish to light brownish surface with a subsoil of mottled red, yellow and gray clay. The subsoil is plastic. The surface is gently sloping to undulating with the areas low lying. Both surface drainage and under drainage is imperfect.

13- M. Plummer silt loam has a bluish-gray and brownish surface with a subsoil of gray to bluish-gray and pale yellow clay. The subsoil is silty. This series occurs on low flats and slopes. The drainage is poor.

14- N. Myatt silt loam is light gray on the surface with a subsoil of mottled yellow and gray clay. The subsoil is silty. The surface is flat or nearly level. The drainage of both surface and underground is imperfect.

15- O. Kalmin loam is gray to brownish-gray on the surface with a subsoil of pale yellow loam under lain by a pale yellow sandy clay to silty clay. It is somewhat plastic. The surface is generally flat, the drainage poor.

16- P. Norfolk loam is gray to light grayish brown on the surface. The subsoil is yellow with some gray fine sandy clay. The subsoil is friable. ~~The subsoil is friable.~~ The surface is flat to gently undulating. The drainage is fairly good.

17- Q. Caddo loam has a brownish-gray to gray or light brown surface with a subsoil of yellow or pale-yellow fine sandy clay. The subsoil is friable. The surface is flat to gently undulating areas, the drainage poor.

18- R. Ruston fine sand has a gray to brownish-gray surface. The subsoil is light gray or yellowish-gray sand. The subsoil is loose and fine. The surface is hummocky with occasional short, steep slopes facing in a southerly direction. The drainage is good to excessive.

19- S.Kusten gravelly sandy loam has a grayish surface. The subsoil is reddish-yellow to dell-red. The subsoil is plastic clay. This soil is found on slopes, knolls and sharp ridges; the drainage is good.

20- T.Susquehanna clay has a gray surface with a subsoil, of red, mottled gray and yellow clay. The subsoil is heavy plastic clay. The type represents eroded areas of Susquehanna fine sandy loam and Susquehanna silt loam, the drainage is imperfect.

The Classificorian swamp includes low first bottoms which are continually wet, it consists of a mingling of various soil types.

3. There are eleven soil series in Lamar county , the Kustem, Norfolk, Orangeburg, Susquehanna, Plummer and Caddo are upland series. The alluvial soils of the county are grouped in five series. There are two divisions- terrace soils, the Kalmia, Myatt, and Cahaba soil and first bottom soils the Thompson and Bibb soils. The upland soils are residual in orgin and the terraces and first bottom soils consist of alluvium deposted during overflow.

4. Seventy-five percent of all cultivatable crop land in Lamar County is the Kuuston fine sandy loam and the Kouston sandy loam. These types grow all crops in Lamar county, especially truck farming. It is good for grazing on open range but makes only fair permanent pasture. It is excellent for growing Long Leaf Yellow Pine.

The Kuston has fine sand, no value as to crop growing or grazing and the only timber that will grow on it is oak. The Kuston gravelly sandy loam is poor for crop raising and grazing, it is excellent for building material.
The Norfolk fine sandy loam and Norfolk loam is about 5%.
The Orangeburg fine sandy loam and sandy loam is about 15%. It is excellent for grazing and timber.
The Susquehanna consist of 1 to 3 in gray silt loam. The Kalmia, Caddo, Cahaba, Thompson and Bibb are fine sandy loam made up of 5% of the crop land under cultivation. They are good for grazing. The Susquehanna clay and Susquehanna silt loam has no value for crops, are very good for grazing. The Kilmia loam has very little value also the Myatt silt loam.

11. Minerals
1. Metallic Minerals
)a) Iron, None

1. Bessemer ores-none.
2. Non-Bessemer ores-none

(b) Aluminum None
1. Kind of ore. None
2. Non Metallic Minerals.
)a) Cement Resources. None
(b) Lignite. None
(c) Clays, kinds (Such as red or brick clay, white clay.) None.
(d) Special Clays. None
(e) Bentonite. None
(f) Other minerals (1) Silion (2) Ochres. None
(g) Sands, for glass manufacture and pottery. None
(h) Mineral Waters. None

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

(1) Oil and Gas.

No oil or gas has been found in Lamar County~~, but two wells have been drilled about two miles from Purvis. With complications setting in and the wells have had to be abandoned.~~ There is a well under construction now near Victory. The people of Lamar County believe ~~there is oil and are hoping~~ that oil will be found obtained ~~that in the near future it will be found.~~

Mrs Ella Crook
Supervisor Historical Research Project
Lamar County.

Canvassers
Pauline Slade
Mildred Hendrick
Helen Entrekin

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

ASSIGNMENT # 8

FOREST

One of the most beautiful and impressive scenes to the tourist coming through the county is the tall stately pines in the forest of Lamar County. The large oak trees that are nearly ever-green are seen on the streets and are an attraction to every one. The numerous other trees in the forest which one delights to look upon, their color and they pause to wonder as the perfume of the Magnolia blossoms and many other native flowers fill the air.

In the late seventies when Lamar County began to attract attention on account of the great pine forest, private owners bought up the land, and for twenty-five years saw milling was the chief industry, but only served to prove that out native pine forest were quick to put on a second growth. There are many acres of land in Lamar County which could be more profitably used for timber growing perhaps than for agricultural purposes. Lamar County affords opportunities for men who are looking for a place to engage in profitable occupation which Mother Nature has placed here. Mississippi climate and soil particularly favor the rapid growth of trees and the forest of the state have been in the past and should be in the future, one of the states most important sources of economic advancement.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

1. FOREST RESERVES

a. National--None

b. State Parks--None.

c. Forest Nurseries--None.

2. FOREST TREES AND FOREST TYPES

a. Conifers (Trees bearing cones)

1. Pine-- The Long Leaf Yellow Pine. The most distinguish ing characteristic is its size-stateliness, its long needles and dark brown, rough bark. As for lumber, fuel, turpentine, rosin, pine oil, powder and even the needles are used for basket making.

2. Short Leaf Pine. These pines do not grow as tall and a as amooth as the long leaf pine, it has a short body, swaying, likber and short needles.

3. Cypress--- is not so extensive in Lamar County but is found in the larger swamps, the needles are short. The cypress is used in ship building and for furniture, coffins.

b. Hardwoods:

1. White Oak and Red Oaks are extensive in Lamar County and are the most commercially important of any hardwood.

2. Black Jack Oaks have large divided leaves, are not so valuable.

3. Water Oaks nearly ever-green, leaves wedged shaped.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

4. Post Oak--- leaves thick and rough, branches rough and stout, is of minor importance, is generally fit, only for post or fuel.

5. Pin Oak--is hard to distinguish from red oak, is seldon found away from deep rich soil.

6. Live Oak -- is not so extensive in Lamar County, has thick low branches, thick leaves that are ever green, has no ecomomic value.

7. Hickory --distinguishing characteristics being its tall stately body, leanrlong. This tree us used in wagon buildinng.

8. Black Gum-- distinguishing characteristic, the growth of the lower branches at right angles to the trunk. Is the first tree to show its fall coloration, a bright scarlet on the upper surface. The larer logs are used for furniture, the small for ox yokes, wooden wheels, on account of extreme toughness.

9. Dogwood-- is cut for shutters, small handles and novelty stock.

10. Poplar-- white, tall and slender, grows in swampy places economic value for lumber.

11. Magnolia --distinguished by large leaves green on top, brwon beneath. The magnolia is some times used for furniture building. This tree is noted for its large white fragrant blossoms.

12. White Bay--Similar to the magnolia has white leaves, is of lesser importance.

13. Sweet Bay-- also similar to the Bay, of no economic value.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

14. Maple--red, is common on low wet flats and in swamps is usually too poor for lumber.

15. Red Bud-- not so common, is found on some upland ridges, is hardly ever cut except for fuel or fence posts.

16. Holly--is very extensive in swamps of Lamar County, seldom cut only for handle stocks, used for Christmas trees.

17. Paw-Paw-- is confined to loamy ridges, rarely reaches tree size, is common as shrubbery, undergrowths.

18. Sasafras-- is confined to loamy ridges, used for posts.

19. Sycamore-- not extensive.

c. Fruit bearing trees; how used.
1. Persimmon-- very common in old fields, is cut for golf club heads, shutters and novelties.

2. Cherry --is found in old fields, very little economic value.

3. Huckleberry--never grows so large, no economic value.

4. May-haw-- grows in ponds, the fruit is very mellow, is used for jellies.

5. Crab Apple-- trees do not grow so large, fruit used for jellies, very sour.

6. Chinquapin--has no economic value.

3. LOCATION AND EXTENT OF WOODLANDS.

Lamar County has 277,236 acres of timbered, uncultivatable land, some being in each Beat. The total acreage in Lamar County of cut-over land is 316,800 partly covered with young pine.

4. ECONOMIC VALUE OF FOREST.

a. b. Trees improve and build up the soil, the sleaves and small twigs decompose and form a dark layer of colored vegatable mold which enriches and stores up moisture.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

(b) By means of this moisture layer of mold the binding of the soil by the roots of the woods prevent floods, gulling, or destrpying the land by erosion.

c. Forest trees serve as shelter for live stock, as a wind break for buildings and a shade against extreme temperature.

d. The home forest will supply the farm needs for buildings fences, fuel, repairs of all kinds and the surplus can be sold in the forms of standing timber, saw logs, posts, poles, crosaties, pulp wood, fuel wood, and blocks.

5. PRODUCTS FROM THE HOME FOREST: Kind and Amount.

Lumber for buildings, repairs, fence posts, saw logs, fuel wood, rosin, turpentine, poles, cross ties, pulp wood and blocks. Amount being according to the acreage of forest.

6. REPORT ON METHODS OF CUTTING & HANDLING TIMBER ON YOUR FARM

The farmer sells his timber to the small mill owner in this county. Sometimes he sells it standing and at other times he cuts it himself. The timber is cut into logs by two men with a cross cut saw. Trucks haul the logs to the mill, which is located as near to the timber as possible. At the mill the logs are made into lumber and sold to different customers by the mill owner.

7. MARKETING FARM TIMBER: Local prices, cooperative marketing (as by carloads) Kind sold, to whom, and where shipped.

If the timber is sold standing, it brings the farmer from $3.00 to $6.00 per log. If he cuts it and hauls it himself, he gets from $7.00 to $10.00 per thousand for it.
The mill owner sells the lumber to people in the county and also ships or hauls it in trucks to all the interior cities. He receives from $10.00 to $30.00 per thousand for it.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

8. PROTECTING THE WOODS: Against, fire, fungi, insects, waste etc. Forest Rangers - any other method used for protection. CCC Camps.

There is no organized method ofor in Lamar County for the protection fo woods. The large land owners often has men posted to guard and watch. If a fire breaks out he goes for help and puts it out. The farmer often burns the woods around his place to kill snakes, and other harmful insects.

9. IMPROVEMENT AND REPRODUCTION OF HOME FORESTS.

Improvement in Home Forestry is not so extensive in Lamar County, can be done by cutting out the inferior kind,as dead and dying trees, deformed trees, that shade the better one ones, also the less valuable kind. Very little reporduction has been done in Lamar County.

10. STREET AND HIGHWAY TREES- Kinds, planting and care of:-

Trees used and best suited to Lamar County on the streets in the towns of the county are Water Oaks and White Oaks. The kind that can be used are Live Oaks, Pecans, Walnut, Magnolis, Tung Oil, and Cedar. The highways of Lamar County are bordered by a natural growth of trees,as above mentioned.

11. WILD FLOWERS.

Honey seckle--growing in rich flats near water, have pink flowers that are very fragrant.

Yellow Jessamine--grows on vines near creeks, yellow fragrant flowers that bloosm in spring.

Golden Rod-- most generally found in old fields along fence rows, weed like, are covered in yellow flowers, bloom in fall.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Sweet William-- are found on the hills, bloom in spring, grow to be about two feet tall.

Daisies-- grow in hollows, bloom in spring, has white petals with yellow centers.

Violets-- bloom in spring on the hills, and in damp places. Purple violet is usually found on hills and whtie violets in damp marshes.

S Mrs Ella Crook
Supervisor Historical Research Project

LAMAR SOIL IS IDEAL FOR TUNG OIL TREES
Climate in This Section Assures Abundant Crop from Cultivated Trees; Possible that $95.00 Per Acre Profit Can Be Made.

Will Lamar County Mississippi, take advantage of its natural endowment in climate and soil to reap its share of this wealth? Tung oil in Mississippi is no longer the speculative hazardous undertaking it was five years ago. The crop of this year, and for years to come, can be carries to market and sold for cash.

Small plantings of ten acres can be made to yeild more per tree than large planting, because more individual attention can be given in connection with correlative crops on the same ground.

To the far-seeing Mississippi farmer would it not appear that perhaps one hundred man hours of labor per year, invested in $5.00 per acre land, and yielding $100.00 per acre per year, without other investment, and with only a five-year wait for results would be a thoroughly sound investment.

In five years time some thousands of acres of tung trees, planted about 100 trees per acre, have come into bearing. These trees were carefully tended, plowed and harrowed, but not necessarily fertilized, for the first three years. No plant diseases or pests have yet been known to attack tung oil trees. Authorities cannot say why, but the fact remains. Perhaps it can be attributed to the poisonous or nauseating nature of the oil.

The interested reader should not draw the conclusion from this artivle that all he has to do to raise tung oil is to stick a seed in the ground and let it grow. It would probably grow a few inches and stop. Rather follow this procedure: Write your State Plant Board at Starkville, Mississippi, where the chief field surpevisor is located, and ask his advice as to the selection of proper soil and care of young tung trees. Then, purchase selected pedigreed nursery stock from your local growers who can guarantee growing stock with a history of heavy production. Do Not be afraid to pay a fair price. Then follow instructions and put in at least ten hours per acre per year in intensive cultivation on each acre planted.

Before closing this article it is well to consider a few pertinent facts as to competition and demand. First, let us state without reservation that demand for tung oil will increase in America faster than the supply. This can be assured because the vast paint industry is now willing to advance the applications of tung oil to its formulae because it can in a few years see independence from an uncertain Chinese supply.

Contrary to common opinion tung oil is still just as indispensible to China as it has alway bee, according to Mr. L. Ching Hee, the largest Chinese exporter of tung oil.

Lamar Co. #8

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BIG TUNG AND PLANT FARM OPENED.

The Vickers Plant Farm, consisting of 1000 acres, 500 of which is being used for raising truck plants, such as tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, etc. located 12 miles northwest of Purvis on the Purvis & Oloh road, is n is now in the midst of its busiest season. Approximately 300 employees are busy gathering and packing plants for shipment to customers all over the country.

The plant farm was only recently cleared up from cut-over land, and this is the first season they have shipped plants. 500 acres are being cleared and planted with tung oil trees. It is developing the tung oil orchard, but the vegatable plant feature of the farm is being developed by the manager, Mr. Vickers.

From Special Edition Progressive Citizen, Weekly Lumberton paper. 1935. Writer unknown.

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LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #8 FOREST AND FAUNA

During the period of time that we are writing of, what now comprises Lamar County was covered with a great belt of virgin pine timber. One could not see anything except the giant trees. This was the time that all people who had taken homesteads were beginning to make some cash on selling the timber to many Lumber Companies that came to buy it. If one of the pioneer men were alive today, it would be a great thing for him to tell of the first saw mill, and how they were carried on.

Lamar County has had some of the largest mills that could be found in the southern part of the state.

MEN WHO OWNED SAWMILLS IN LAMAR COUNTY:

a. Ed and John Farley operated the first saw mill in Lamar County in the year of 1884 until 1890. The mill was located in Purvis, employed about 20 men, at a wage of $1.00 a day. They paid the local people $1.25 per acre for their timber. Selling price for the lumber was on an average of about $35.00 a thousand feet, sold to northern markets.

b. Charlie Rich operated a saw mill at Richburg, then the largest town in Lamar County. This was in the year of 1888 to 1898. He paid from $1.25 to $2.00 an acre for timber, employed 150 men at $1.00 per day, sold lumber to northern markets at a price of from $35.00 to $75.00 a thousand feet.

c. In 1885 the Camp and Hinton Bros. purchased from the government a large track of timber, 1200 acres, at the price of $1.25 per acre. This was located in the vicinity of what is now Lumberton, Miss.

In 1886 a small saw mill was put in operation by the Camp and Hinton Bros. who were as follows: Herbert A. Camp, John H. Hinton and H. A. Hinton from Jackson County, Georgia. The mill was located in the present town of Lumberton near Piatonia. They worked about 25 or 30 men in the mill at a wage of $1.00 per day. Two years later they built a bigger mill. In 1901 the mill burned and they erected a still larger mill. This mill employed at least from 300 to 400 men per day. The pay-roll was about $15,000 a week. In 1906 the town of Lumberton was in its "hey-day". There were three large saw mills running, two of them going night and day, all of them owned by the Camp & Hinton Co. They also owned a large turpentine still. They bought all the available timber in the country. Homesteaders were paid from 75¢ to $1.50 an acre for standing timber. First grade lumber brought amarket price of from $75 to $125 per thousand. The average price for the other was $35 a thousand. The lumber was sold to northern markets, also to New Orleans, and exported from there to foreign markets. Some of it was bought by the South African Gold Mining Co., shipped from New Orleans to South Africa and carried on ox teams 350 miles into the interior to the mines. It was nothin unusual for a tree to bring $70.00

The highest price that was ever paid to ahomesteader for timber was $2.50 per acre.

In 1907 the saw mill of Camp & Hinton Co. went into the hands of the reciever, George Robertson of Meridian. In 1911 the Wells Lumber Co., from St. Louis took over the mill. They employed from 150 to 200 men a day. The pay-roll was considerably less than that of former days. Closed in 1915.

In 1917 Edward J. Hines bought the mill. He worked about 500 men with a payroll of about $9,000 a week. He shipped or sent by train carloads of lumber to northern and foreign markets. It was about the same price as quoted above. In 1930 Hines moved his mill and left Lumberton stranded without employment for the men. The Banks went broke and a depression hit the town.

There were many mills in the surrounding territory. At one time, Uncle Sam Slade states that 17 mill whistles could be heard on a still morning from his home in Lumberton. Some of them were:

Garrison's Mill owned by John Garrison, in 1886. He employed about 30 men at the salary of $1.00 a day. His lumber brought from $25 to $50 a thousand.

d. Pearson Lumber Company began to operate in the year of 1898. The mill was located three miles north of Lumberton. The location was known as Slabtown, on the N. O. and N. E. Railroad. The timber was bought from Camp & Hinton Co. They employed 50 men and the payroll was an average of $350 a week. The lumber was shipped to all parts of the U. S. and to South America, Europe, and to the Panama Canal. This mill operated until 1908 when the mill was moved to Enlo, and sold to Camp and Hinton Co.

e. Baxterville Mill owned by Alec Hinton and Leeke Lumber Co.

George Bilbo's Mill, near Baxterville.

John P. Davis's Mill at Redtop.

f. J. J. Newman operated a saw mill in the town of Sumrall, Lamar County, in the year of 1905 to 1930. He employed 500 men, paid $1.25 to $2.00 per acre for timber to local people, most of the timber was bought from Edward and Susan Lowe. The daily payroll was $1,000 and the monthly one was about $26,000. The average selling price for lumber was $125 per thousand feet for the best grade, sold to Northern and foreign markets and shipped into different foreign ports.

Here is a clipping from a newspaper:

A BIG TREE

Mayor John W. Watson of Seminary, one of the World's Fair Comissioners for the district, has made arrangements to send to the St. Louis exposition a sample of Mississippi's short leaf pine. The tree, which was cut on the J. J. Newman land, four miles from Sumrall, in the new county of Lamar, measured 20 feet in circumference at the stump and 6 feet, 8 inches in diameter, its entire height being 160 feet. Seventy-five feet from the butt of the tree measured 10½ feet in curcumference and 3 feet, 4 inches in diameter. The top and the end of a 16-foot cut measures 14½ feet in circumference. Mr. Watson will also ship for exposition a 1,000 pound block of rosin, put up by Lieut. Governor Carter at his turpentine still at McCallum.

The Columbian
Columbia, Marion County, Miss.
Thursday, April 28, 1904

Carrouth Bros. operated a saw mill at Coral, in Lamar County in the year of 1906 to 1912. Employed 100 men with a wage of $2.00 a day. They bought timber from

the local people for $1.25 an acre and sold lumber to northern markets at a price of from $35 to $75 per thousand.

Major and Sowers operated a saw mill at Epley in Lamar County from 1907 to 1914, paid from $1.25 to $2.00 per acre for standing timber, employed 125 men at an average of $2.00 per day. Sold lumber to northern markets at a price of from $35 to $75 and some at $125 per thousand feet.

Lamar Lumber Co. operated a saw mill at Clyde, in Lamar County in the year of 1910 to 1915, paid from $1.25 to $2.00 an acre for timber. They employed 150 men at the mill and in the logging woods at $2.00 a day. Sold lumber to northern markets at $35 to $125 per thousand. Sold out to Helen White Lumber Co. in the year of 1915.

John Porterman operated a saw mill at Porterman Switch in the year of 1888 to 1898. Paid $1.25 per acre for timber employed 50 men at $1.00 per day. Sold lumber to northern markets for $35 up to $75 per thousand.

Collins Lumber Co. operated a saw mill at Oloh in the years from 1905 to 1909. Paid $1.25 per acre for timber, employed 25 men, at $2.00 a day. Sold lumber to northern markets at the average price, $35 to $75 per thousand.

g. Hand Jordan Lumber Co. began to operate in the year of 1900, the mill was located in Purvis. It was one of the first large mills to operate in this section of the county. They bought most of their timber from Otto Peck, Co.from New York. This company bought most of the timber from Meridian to New Orleans along the New Orleans and North Eastern Railroad, Co. Was not allowed to buy any timber along their right of way, so this company bought all of the

timber and sold to local Lumber Companies at $1.25 per acre. This mill employed about 125 men and woods hands. The lumber was sold to different firms over the U. S. Some of the lumber was shipped to New Orleans, then from there to the Panama Canal. In building the canal there was a certain grade of timber that could be used, so this company was fortunate to sell their timber to the Panama Canal. They paid $5.50 per 100 feet for the lowest and from $7.50 to $9.50 for the best grade.

This mill was destroyed by the cyclone of April 24, 1908, and most of their timber was blown down.

Helen White Lumber Company bought the Major and Sowers mill in 1914 and operated until 1920. They employed 150 men at $2.00 per day, sold lumber to northern markets at an average of from $35 to $75 per thousand feet.

Bay Creek Lumber Co. was composed of the following men: Jordan, Lancaster, Slay and Edwards. They began to operate in the year of 1916 and closed in the year of 1919. They bought their timber from local farmers around Purvis and surrounding communities. Employed 150 men at $2.50 per day. They shipped the lumber to different parts of the United States, and some to foreign countries.

The Forrest Lumber Company composed of the following men: D. W. Slay, I. H. Jordan and T. W. Davis. This company had a cash capital of $125,000. They purchased 12,000,000 feet of timber from Mr. Hood of Purvis, Miss. They began operating in 1924, located in Purvis.

h. Neut D. Smith operated a saw mill south of Purvis in the

year of 1924 to 1928. He bought timber from local people and paid an average price of from $1.25 to $1.50 per acre. At one time he bought 1400 acres of timber from C. C. Kamper of Meridian. The mill employed 166 men at $2.00 to $2.50 per day. He sold lumber to the northern markets at from $35.00 to $75 per thousand.

The above list are the main mills that did away with the timber of Lamar County. There were probably many more minor mills over the county of which we have not found a record.

These mills were the beginning and end of real money making in Lamar County. Under their influence Lamar County was settled and towns were built. They gave work to hundreds of men, who spent their money as fast as they made it. When the timber was all cut, the mills moved away leaving bare cut over land and people who had nothing to do.

VICKERS PLANT FARM

i. The Vickers plant Farm, located Southeast of Oloh is a tract of 1000 acres of cut-over land, rented from Ross J. Beatty of Chicago by H. J. Vickers of Forest County. He has planted about 500 acres in tung oil trees and is planning on planting the entire 1000 acres in tung oil trees.

FRUIT ORCHARDS IN LAMAR COUNTY:

j. On almost every farm in Lamar County there is a number of fruit bearing trees. The trees to be most extensively found are: Peach,-all varieties, pears, plums, grapes and

some apples, apricots, quince, scuppernongs.

Houston Bass of Lumberton has the largest peach and pear orchards in Lamar County. He has forty acres in pears, and 30 acres in peaches. In 1936 he sold 7,000 bushels of pears to trucks from Texas, Louisana, Arkansas and Mississippi. Three carloads were shipped to Iowa. He sold 3,000 bushels of peaches, three carloads with 1500 bushels to the car went to Memphis, Tenn, two carloads to northern markets. This fruit is a cash crop.

k. Mr. Jim Fillingame of Oloh, has 6 acres in Elberta peaches. This fruit is sold to local market in Columbia, Miss. Last season the fruit from these trees netted Mr. Fillingame the sum of $500. This orchard furnishes a cash crop for the owner and when canned or dried is also of economic value.

l. Mr. J. T. Tannehill of Purvis has 1½ acres in pears and 2½ acres in peaches, all varieties. Like the other orchards this one means a cash crop to the owner.

In checking our files -ASSIGNMENT #8 Forest and Fauna we find that we omitted the following trees from our fruit bearing trees of the Forest.

m. 1. Wild Mulberry-found around old fields-no economic value.

2. The Hickory--bears a very palatable nut, are very extensive(the economic is listed with hardwood.

3. Black berries--grow on vine is extensive in Lamar County. The fruit is used for jams and jellies.

4. Wild Plums--are found in Lamar County around old fields. They are valuable for preserves and jellies.

5. Wild Locust--grows around old fields, bears a bean like fruit, has no economic value.

n. Mr. Alfred Thompson of Pine Grove Community, 7 miles west of Purvis, Mississippi has a Youngberry Vineyard. The vineyard consists of two acres and has quite an interesting history. Mr. Thompson went to visit one of his cousins that lived in the Rio Grande Valley and on his trip he saw quite a number of youngberry vineyards. He asked if the berries would live in other sections of the country. A man explained how they could be cultivated and marketed. When he returned home the first thing that he did was to clear a place for a vineyard in an old pond in the field, because the place was damp. The berry plants are set out in the fall, three feet apart, fertilized with a good grade of fertilizer and wound around a wire frame that goes from one end of the row to the other end. The berries get ripe the first of May. The berries are gathered when ripe and placed in pint cups and quart cups. He sells them to local markets and some to northern markets. One year he recieved a cash profit of $500 from these berries.

References:

a. Jim Hand, Purvis, Miss.
b. A. Q. Broadus, Lawyer, Purvis, Miss.
c. Sam Slade, Lumberton, Miss.
Dave Waltman, Lumberton, Miss.
d. J. C. Pearson, Purvis, Miss.
e. Sam Slade, Lumberton, Miss.
f. A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.
g. Jim Hand, Purvis, Miss.
h. Neut Smith, Purvis, Miss.
I. Hilbert Broadus,

Lacy Lott, Purvis, Miss.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

References(continued)

j. Houston Bass, Lumberton, Miss.

k. Jim Fillingame, Sumrall, Miss.

l. J. T. Tannehill, Purvis, Miss.

m. From Extensive Bulletin 27, Trees of the Yazoo, Miss. Delta and their Economic Value, adapted by D. E. Lauderburn, Extensive Forestry.

n. Alfred Thompsen, Purvis, Miss.

Ella Crook

Ella Crook, Supervisor Historical
Research Project Lamar County

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

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SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #8

Forest & Fauna

WILD FLOWERS

Butter Cups--a yellow cup-like flower, grows in damp marshy places, blooms in the spring.

Johnny Jump Ups--a small blue flowers, to be foand in fields and on roadsides, blooms in the spring.

Mountain Laurel--a pink and white flowering bush, grows in the edge of branches, blooms in the summer.

Granson Graybeard--sometimes called the "Fringe Tree", because of the fringe-like, white appearance. Blooms in the spring, grows on the edge of creeks and branches.

Bear Grass--a prickly bush, with a cluster of bell shaped white flowers. Grows in old fields.

Black-eyed Susan--a yellow daisy with black center, grows in old fields and on the roadside.

Wild poppies--a dark rose colored flower, blooms in the summer in the woods, cup shaped.

Snap-dragons--multicolored, grow in the woods, bloom in the summer.

Lilies--water lilies, grow on ponds and in still pools of water, a delicate white flower with yellow center, floating on top of the water. They bloom in the spring and summer.

Blue bells--blue, bell shaped flower, growing wild, blooms in summer.

Salvia--small red flower, blooms in summer.

Wisteria--lavender or orchid colored , fragrant flower, grows as a bush or vine.

Poison Ivy--pink, blooms in summer, grows in swamps.

Flowering Bay-- grows in creeks and low places, resembles the magnolia blossom.

Maple--a small bush, yellow blossoms.

Red bud--a small bush with red bud flowers, blooms in spring.

Flox--different colored flowers, grows in woods, blooms in late spring.

Cat tails--two varieties, a grass and a long stemmed yellow topped variety that grows in the water.

Daffodils--yellow, fragrant flower, blooms in spring.

Indian pipes --a small white flower, shaped like a pipe, very sweet.

Baby Breath--small dainty white flower.

Wild Iris or flag--all colors, bloom in spring.

Yellow Jasmine--bush and trailing small yellow flower, fragrant odor, bloom in spring.

Primrose--shaped like a single rose, all colors, bloom in spring.

May-pop--a vine that grows in fields, white and blue flowers.

Lupines--grows on a stem with blue, bell shaped flower.

Wild Asters, a purple flower, blooms in the autumn.

Wild pinks, blooms in the fall.

Blue Gentian, Dutchman Breeches, Bleeding Heart,

Wild Rose

Ferns, Yaupon, wild Verbena, Devil Wood, Mayhaw, Sloe, Cosmos.

Ref. Mrs. J. O. Williams, Lumberton

Ella Crook.
Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY April 26, 1937

SUBJECT: TREE SURVEY

Assignment #25

In Lamar County there are many trees, none of any unusual size or historical value. The pines, oaks, blackgum, poplar and magnolia trees grow larger than any other. The County was once called the "Piney Woods" as this was a forest of large pine trees. In any community on the creeks, all over the county , can be found oaks that measure from 9 to 11 feet. The average pine tree in the county at the present time is from 5 to 8 feet in circumference. These are mostly short leaf pines and grow in old fields and swamps. Black gum, sweet gum and poplar average from 5 to 9 feet. Magnolia is the largest flowering tree that grows in the county. The average size being from 5 to 8 feet.

1. Historic Trees.

a. Just outside the corner of Bay Creek cemetery stands a red oak tree that measures 11 feet in circumference 4½ feet above the ground. The people of this community used to hold elections under this tree. The place was called "The Oaks".

b. Near Myrtle Grove church in the Baxterville Community, Lamar County, is an average sized Black-haw tree(these trees never grow large). This tree was planted by Mrs. Rebecca Standford, a lady with whom Govenor Longino's wife spent the night enroute to visit relatives in Lawerence County. Mrs. Longino was riding horse back and carried this switch to coax her pony along. On leaving she left the switch. Mrs. Standford found it and out of curiosity planted it out and to her suprise it lived and turned out to be a black-haw tree.

2. On the old Daniel Slade place in the Yawn Community, there is a live oak tree about 85 years old, this tree has low swinging limbs, measures 11 feet in circumference 4½ feet from the ground. The top is some 50 feet broad. This tree was planted from an acorn brought from Pass Christian by Daniel Slade, settler of the place. On this same place there are a number of large oak trees, one red oak that measures 12 feet 6 inches, 4½ feet from the ground.

Another measures 11 ft. 3 inches, 4 feet from the ground.

b. In the year of 1884 Mr. John Carley who had just built a new home on Main Street in Purvis, had a man who was in the lumber industry in Marion County, now Lamar to look out for some water oak trees to set out in his yard. One day Mr. Alfred Bufkin was having some pine trees cut in Holidays creek and he noticed that there was five tiny water oaks. He dug them up and brought them to Mr. Carley. When Mr. Bufkin reached Purvis he noticed that the leaves on the trees were all withered and almost dead. He told Mr. Carley that he was sorry about the trees looking so dead, but the other man said what difference does it make for an oak tree, for it will live just the same.

They set the oak trees out on the front yard about fifteen or more feet apart. Today these trees measure the following,

4½ feet above the ground.

10 feet and four inches.

10 feet and 2 inches.

8 feet and 10 inches.

10 feet and 2 inches.

These water oak trees are 43 years old. They afford a very pretty shade for the home. The new concrete side walk is near the trees and afford a beautiful street scene in Purvis.

c. Fifty-two years ago Mrs. Mary Hendricks set out a water oak tree on her grounds in Purvis. Later when Dr. S. E. Reese and family lived in this home he built a shed around the tree for his children to play in. Today the tree measures 13 feet and 10½ inches 4½ ft. above the ground. The tree is the property of Mrs. Lee Dixon.

d. Following is two clippings showing the size of trees that have been in the county. Nothing is being done to preserve trees in Lamar County.

A BIG TREE

Major John W. Watson of the Seminary one of the World's Fair Commission for this district, has made arrangements to send to St. Louis exposition a sample of Mississippi's short leaf pine. The tree, which was cut on the J. J. Newman land, four miles from Sumrall, Miss., in the new county of Lamar, measured 20 feet in circumference at the stump and 6 feet, 8 inches in diameter, its entire height being 160 feet, 75 feet from the butt it measured 10½ feet in circumference and 3 feet 4 inches in diameter. The top end of a 16 feet cut measures 14 and one eighth in circumference. Mr. Watson will also ship for exhibition a 1000 pound of rosin, put up by Lieut. Govenor Carter at his turpentine still at McCallum.

HUGE DOGWOOD LOG CUT

e. A dogwood, unusually large for that kind of tree, was cut near Purvis, Miss. in Lamar County by Mr. H. M. Blye, manager of the Meridian Bank Mill. The log measured 8 feet

and 9 inches in diameter at the top. It will be shipped to the Public Museum in Denmark. Mr. Blye states he ships an average of 25 carloads of dogwood blocks from South Mississippi to Europe each year.

Reference:

1. a. Benard Saucier, Baxterville
T. L. Williamson, Purvis
M. Entrekin, Lumberton
b. Joe Baxter, Lumberton, Miss.
2. N. E. Slade, Lumberton
b. Mrs. Anna Bufkin, Purvis
c. Mr. James Hand, Purvis.
d. The Columbian, April 28, 1904
e. The Booster, 1930 Edition.

Mrs. Ella Crook.

Ella Crook, County Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUBJECT: TREE SURVEY Assignment #25

I. 1. Historic Trees. Lamar County

Black-haw Tree--located near Myrtle Grove Church, Baxterville Community.

Red Oak--near Bay Creek Church.

2. Largest Trees.

1- Red Oak--on old Daniel Slade place--Yawn community.

2. Live Oak on Daniel Slade place--Yawn Community.

3. None in County.

4- Magnolia--on Black Creek.

5. Five water oak trees--Mrs. Carley's home in Purvis, Miss.

6. Water Oak tree-located on Lee Dixon's place, Purvis, Miss.

Mrs. Ella Brook.
County Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

ASSIGNMENT # 9

INDIANS:

1. Early Inhabitants

a. Choctaws and Chickasaws.

b. The Choctaw Indians were a friendly tribe. They made baskets and traded them to the white people for meal. Many of these baskets are still in use in this county. One of the oldest settlers of the County, Mr. Sam Slade, says that he remembers seeing the log with notches cut into it where the Choctaw Indians beat corn into meal for bread. We still call our red corn "Indian Corn" and the bread "Kind Bread". All indications show that long before the Civil War the place where Lumberton now stands was once an Indian village, also a small tribe of Choctaw Indians remained here for a long time after. In fact, Indian Bill spent his life here. He went from place to place working for white people and is said to have been a good hand. He was buried on Red Creek near where the tribe used to camp.

c. None.

d. There is an Indian Mound on the North Bank of Black Creek about half way between the bridges on the Jackson Highway and on the Richburg Road. The Mound is about 25 feet high. It was built close to the bank of the creek in the flats or lowlands. At the present time

there are several large white oaks, red oaks, magnolia trees and several pine trees have been recently cut and removed from the Mound. A visit to the Mound shows that at different periods there have been explorations made into it but so far as the writer knows nothing of interest has ever been discovered or removed from the Mound.

e. None.

2. NONE

Research Work Of T. W. Davis, Sr.

An Indian Relic bearing date 1771--five years before the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the American Colonies---151 years before that in which it was found, was on Wednesday deposited in Lamar County Bank, by W. I. Boone, father of Ray Boone, the nine year old lad who picked it up, near his home Saturday, March 4, 1922.

When the lad brought the relic for his father's inspection, the implement--a minature tomahawk--was seemingly an old piece of iron. Its form, that of a "George Washington Hatchet", attracted sufficient attention to prompt Mr. Boone to examine it closely. He soon discovered that he had a rare relic and this was confirmed when Dr. E. J. Murphy had applied tests to prove that the implement was made of gold and silver alloy with inlaid figures and mountings of pure silver of artistic design and carvings.

The jeweler who designed and manufactured the relic followed closely the idea of a "tomahawk" a weapon of warfare. Manifestily, however, the trinket was meant for use as a pipe. Suggestion has been made, that it may have served as a "pipe of peace--or perhaps was the cherished solacer of some Indian Chief, who smoked the "weed" to sooth his spirit after a chase of deer or bear or when resting from battle in which his tribe had participated.

Irrespective of any conjecture as to the history of

the relic, it is an interesting find, and the little golden pipe made in the form of a weapon--may prove of great ethnological value, suggesting possibly, to those who decipher hieroglyphics, much of interest relative to the now extinct tribe of Natchez Indians. R. L. Bennett, has been given custody of the relic and authorized by Mr. Boone to correspond relative to its intrintic and historic value.

In a letter to Smithsonian Institutions, Mr. Bennett said, "It may interest you to know that I now have the custody of what local connoisseurs declare to be a valuable relic of Spanish artcraft, made, evidently for some Indian chief and possibly at one time serving as a servitor of peace between warring tribes.

"The relic was picked up here March 4, 1922--151 years after the date, 1771, inscribed thereon in Roman numerals. It is nothing less than an Indian tomahawk, composed of gold and silver alloy with pure silver mountings and a steel bar serving as the blade of the tomahawk. It was manifestly not meant as a real weapon of offense unless perchance the strong native tobacco used by the tribal head was "offensive" to the "ladies" of the wigwam as some indolent son of the forest lazily dozed while he used the relic as his solacing pipe. The head or "pole" of the implement is hollow and cylindrical and an openning into the "eye" of the blade appears to have conveyed tobacco smoke into the stem for which the eye served as an opening.

A local metallurgist stated that the implement

is composed of silver and gold alloy in about the prpportions of two-thirds gold and one-third silver.

The principal figure made by silver inlay and carved radials is evidently meant to suggest the artists idea of a Sun-God. Another carving is the letter R crossed transversely with double lines which descends and terminates in the form of a pipe bowl."

The above is taken from the Thursday, March 9, 1922, edition of the Booster.

Mrs. Ella Brook
Supervisor Historical Research
By Lillian Waltman

LAMAR COUNTY HHISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

OLD HOMES ASSIGNMENT # 15

THE BERL BOUNDS HOMESTEAD

On the farm of J. J. Norris of Talawah, Miss. stands an old log building. This building was erected by old Uncle Berl Bounds, one of the pioneer citizens of the county in the year of 1880. This building was on homestead land. There is nothing unusual about this house as it was built on the same plans as all other buildings of that day.

The house consisted of two large rooms, a porch on each side On the south end of the house there was a large dirt chimney about 6 ft. wide. The four windows had wooden shutters. The frame was of the rich pine logs of the forest and were hewn by hand. The floor boards were also hewn by hand. The kitchen was a mall one room building about 6 ft.from the house in the back yard with a porch om each side and a walk from the house to the kitchen. Families who ived in this house were as follows: Berl Bounds, Henry Bounds, John Bounds. Then J. J. Norris the present owner. Mr. Norris tore away the old log kitchen an and build a small room of lumber on each side of the house wher the porches were, thus making four rooms. He also put a btick chimney instead of the irt one and put small glass windows instead of the shutters also screened them. He used this asma tenant house, it was occupied in 1936 by C. E. Stewart but is vacant at the present time.

Reference: J. J. Norris, Talawah, Miss.

Canvasser LAMAR COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Helen Entrekin

ASSIGNMENT # ~~14~~ 15 ?? OLD HOMES

Lumberton boasts one of the most beautiful old southern homes in Lamar County. It is owned by Hon. Fleet Hathorne and is located on Main Avenue, near the Southern Railroad Station. The white colonial home consists of about eighteen rooms including bathrooms and Butlers pantries. Running through the center of the first floor is a long hall 16' by 56' . At the end of the hall is an unusually interesting stairway leading to the upper floor. The French doors and windows ex-tending to the floor, the wide porch extending from the sides across the front, with huge stately colonades and the spacious grounds and gardens, stamp this house a truly southern colonial home.

This house and site has a colorful history. The land was first homesteaded by a Mr. Proctor, over 100 years ago. He did not keep the place long, but sold to Mr. Vann Obannion, who in turn sold to Mr. Elle Dearman in 1885. Mr. Dearman built a double pen log house, with a hall and two side rooms. Mr. Dearman lived here and reared a large family. In 1904 he sold the house to Mr. H. A. Hinton(better known as Ham Hinton) for $400 when it was worth $5000.

Mr. Hinton contracted the building of a new house to Mr. Monroe Jenkins, who together with Willie Cobb and Will Evers tore down the log house and built the large colonial house now standing. Useing this as a summer home Mr. Hinton and family spent the winters in New Orleans, La. until in 1907

he left the town and turned the house over to the First National Bank. The bank sold the home to Edward Hines who was operating a saw mill in Lumberton at that time. He had the house repaired and renovated throughout for his mill Superintendent Mr. F. W. Pettibone to live in. He lived here until 1932, then the house was sold to Roy Bridges who eventually turned it over to the bank on a mortgage debt. The bank auctioned it to Mr. Hathorne who is having it restored to its original beauty.

SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

CANVASSER
MILDRED HENDRICK

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY

A SECTION [illegible] #14 OLD HOMES

The home of Mr. Ben Hearn of Purvis, Miss is one of the oldest and prettiest. The house is set back 150 ft. from the road with a frontage of about 200ft. There is a concrete walk leading up to the house and around the side to the back. The lawn has an iron fence and a hedge around it. On the lawn are oak, pecan, camphor and pear trees. Flowers are planted on each side of the walk and wisteria and shrubs are planted around the house. The house which is Z shape is built of air-dryed lumber and is painted white. This home was built in 1908 by Mr. W. E. King who was the contractor. The porches are 8ft. wide with brick pillars supporting wooden columns. Scroll work is all around the top of the edge of the porch. The foundation on the house is [illegible] of birch. There are nine rooms and a bath. The smallest bedroom is 12 ft. by 25 ft. and the largest 18 ft. by 25 ft. The ceilings are 12 ft. high. There has never been any repair done on this house other than the roof being replaced. and The house withstood the cyclone which swept away practically every other house in Purvis, it is braced all around.

Lamar County Historical Research Project. Supervisor

Canvasser-
Pauline Slade
Lucy Morehead

3

CHAPTER OUTLINE ON ASSIGNMENT #15

SUBJECT: Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics.

I. INTRODUCTORY

There are very few Old Homes still standing in Lamar County. When this part of the county was being settled, it was then Marion County. The first old homes have been torn down, destroyed by fire, by cyclones. The first homes were from the period of 1857-1860. The few that are standing have been repaired or changed. Those that we have found during our research, that are still standing are owned by the unprogressive type of people.

II. THE OLD HOME:

(a) The Johnson Home.

This place was settled in the year of 1859, in the South eastern part of Marion County. It was located on the banks of Little River. Today the place is in the southwest part of Lamar County, just west of the village of Baxterville, Miss. The man who settled this place was Mr. Silas Johnson. At the time Mr. Johnson settled the land belonged to the government. If a man cleared and cultivated some land for a number of years and proved out the homestead, the place was his until he left, or it went back to the Government.

Mr. Johnson made all of the buildings on the place of logs, and covered them with boards, made from large pine trees, or logs. At this time the land was covered with a great belt of virgin pine timber, there was plenty of wild game, deer, ducks,

turkey and geese. A family could live from the wild meats, and with the corn they made for they didn't know much about the cotton and other crops.

After Mr. Johnson finished his buildings, he decided that he would make a mill down by the river, selecting a place just behind the house as it was built near the river. He made the mill pond by cutting large pine logs and laying them in the water, he built the logs out above the water by putting some sand and grass to hold the water back in the pond. For the mill he used four large pine logs to make the foundation for the shed and used four for the top, covering it with pine boards. This was the only mill for many miles, so, he did not worry about his customers. Often some of the people who went to mill lived so far that they would be on the road for several days, going to and from the mill.

During the war all the men and boys who were old enough to be in the war were gone from home. One day Mrs. Johnson and her children were in the field hoeing corn when she heard a noise in the house. Looking in that direction she saw a man coming from the house with something in his arms. The man was a deserter who was hiding in the Little River Swamp. When he saw Mrs. Johnson and the children coming, he ran toward the mill. When the children went to the mill they found some corn meal and eggs that that the other men had stolen from Mrs. Johnson while this man was in the house and yard looking for someone. Often at night they could hear men in the yard looking for some

and boys talking around their house. This was men who were hiding in the swamp and at night they could come to the house looking for something to eat.

Another story related by the Johnson generation is real "ghosty". One night Mrs. Johnson had a little child that was sick. She had to go on the back porch after some water to cool the babys fever. Before she opened the door of the bedroom she heard some one walking in the hall. When she opened the door there stood a man with something white covered all over him. Of course when she saw this it frightened her so that she closed the door. Just as she closed the door she saw something dressed in white in her bed room. Can you imagine how she felt when she saw all these white things. Just about this time she began to scream for help, and of course there was no men or boys at home except the little boys. When she screamed for help the white thing began to walk closer to her bed, at last she knew it would be useless to scream again, so she braced her nerves together and asked, "Who stands there? " At this time she heard a weak voice saying "I want some bread, I want some bread". She said, "If you do not tell me who you are, what you want and how came you in my room, I am going to shoot you". When she said this the man told her that he was a deserter from the army and was hiding in the river swamp, and that he came in her house that evening while they were in the field. He said "Lady, if you will give me something to eat, I will not harm you or the children". She told him to open the door and get out of the room before she shot him. By this time, Mrs. Johnson had forgotten about the baby being sick. The next morning when she went into the

kitchen to cook her breakfast, she saw that the man had gone in and eaten all the cold meat and bread. From then on when she was gone into the field, she would lock her doors.

There is a walnut tree on this place, that was bearing fruit in the year 1863. Last year about one bushel of nuts was gathered from this tree. The first house that was built on this place was burned. The next house was torn down. The present house is a small frame building, owned by Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Cox. The mill is still in operation, but there has been several sheds built over the mill. The same rocks that the Silas Johnson family used is still used b y the Coxes.

(b) Sumrall's Oldest Home.

Mr. H. V. Waits moved to Sumrall, Lamar County from Georgia in 1904. This was the year that Lamar County was created. He built his home this same year. It is a wood building of the old Southern style, consists of eight rooms, with large screen porch on side, the walls and floors still have a beautifull finish even though they are old. Some of the rooms are papered, the others painted. The majority of the furniture in the house was bought when the house was built. There are large water oaks at the front and back of the house, a fence is around the house to protect the flowers and shrubbery. To the right of the house is a beautiful flower garden that has kept up by Mrs. Waits since 1905. Mr. Waits has been a merchant and farmer every since he came to Sumrall, he is Sumrall's oldest and best loved citizen and his family considered to be the most outstanding in the town of Sumrall.

(c) The John Lee Home.

This house was built by John Lee, better known as Monkey John, Lee, as he was dubbed, owing to his quick active movements resembling that of the monkey. The house was built of logs, there is no unusual architecture, it consists of three rooms and a small porch. There are two doors and no windows. A large dirt chimney adorns the east end of the house and is almost as wide as the room. The roof is of boards, split by hands and the floor is split from logs. The house was put up in about the year 1891.

The life within the home was congenial enough it seems. Mrs. Lee was said to be very illiterate, finally her mind became very vague, she didn't seem to care what came or went. Mr. Lee could read and write. He was said to be honest. He had a bunch of"Longhorn" cattle and a bunch of"rake-straw" hogs. He did a little farming, such as corn and potatoes. He also had a shop where he repaired wagons, plows, etc. and earned enough to keep tobacco and snuff. It is said that the old Man had money, as he often sold some cattle which cost nothing to raise on the wide open range, that this county afforded at that time. Their clothing was of the very plainest homespun, they never thought of appearance, clothing was to cover the body. They lived on the simplest fare, mostly meat, bread, milk and honey. The cost of living was so little, they surely saved what little money they got.

The most of the furniture in the home was home made, consisted of two beds, an old desk, chairs with cow-hide bottoms, a cup-board, and table. The cooking was done on

the fireplace up until the 1900's.

There were only two children born to the Lees and they are of the very illiterate type. The home is still in use, has never been vacant, has never been repaired, although much in need of it. The furniture has never been changed or moved, the same old chairs are still in use, with the cow hide bottoms, although worn down very low. In fact the same old furniture is still in use, the same old log house, stable and smoke house are still in use as well as the rail fence around the field and a picket fence around the garden. There is a border of garlic around the inside of the garden. There is a pear tree, a peach tree and some plum trees that still bear fruit. These trees were put out when the place was first settled. By the yard gate is a large cape Jasmine that still blooms. This was put out when the house was first occupied. This house is now occupied by the daughter of the Lee's. She is now 58 years, married while she was young but never left her parents. Since they have both passed away, she is now owner of the place and still carries on in the same old way. They cannot ~~grow~~ raise cattle, hogs, etc. as easily as the parents did, yet they exist the taxes are always paid, they are honest and seem to be happy.

III. Antiques and Relics.

1. A Book. Goodrich New Third Reader, Edited by Noble Butler, A. M. Louisville, Ky. John P. Morten & Company.
This book is in the possession of Mrs. Lucy A. Morehead.
Her grandf ther gave her this book, it was used in 1870.

2. The Holy Bible.

This Bible is a large one, covered with brown leather It was given to Lucy Morehead by her grandmother, Mrs. Angeline Blackburn. It was Mrs. Blackburn's grandfather. He was a Baptist preacher, and read and preached from this book. It is estimated that the book was bought in 1812, so therefore the Bible is 140 years old.

3. Catholic Candlesticks.

The candlesticks are made of heavy white china. Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Blackburn bought the candles from a man who traveled the country selling the Catholic people the prayer beads, rosary and candlesticks. They were bought in 1870 and are 67 years old.

4. Vegetable platter.

The platter is of white china with a blue border. Was given to Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Blackburn when they started housekeeping. They traded chickens to a man who operated a boat up Pearl River for the platter in the year 1869.

5. The Coffee Mill.

The coffee mill was used to grind coffee in the War Between the states. The mill is of an odd design. It will hold a pint half pint of parched coffee. It is estimated that the mill is 78 years old.

6. Mixing Bowl.

The mixing bowl is of cream colored china, eight inches in diameter. It was bought by Mrs. Sarah Stringer, Marion County in 1855. It now belongs to Mrs. Morehead, Purvis.

7. A quilt

Mrs. Fannie Blackburn has a quilt that was made in 1865. All of the material was made at home. The top is dyed in indigo dye, the lining is a light gray. The cotton was grown at home, the seed taken out by hand and then carded by hand. The thread was made and dyed blue. Mrs. Blackburn's grandmother made the quilt.

8. A Pair of shoes.

Mrs. Fannie Blackburn has a pair of shoes that was bought for her to learn to walk in. They have brass tips on the toe and ½ inch heel. They are brown leather oxfords, 55 years old.

9. Dinner Horn.

Mr. Farris L. Morehead has a dinner horn that was used by his great, great uncle to call his slaves from the field before the Civil War. His wife would blow this horn when she saw Yankees around the place.

10. There is an old home made bedstead, made over a hundred years ago. It is now located in the home of Adolph Slade, Purvis, Miss.

Reference;

I. Pauline Slade, Lumberton, Miss.

II. a. Mrs. C. W. Cox, Baxterville, Miss.

b. Mrs. H. V. Waitts, Sumrall, Miss.

c. Mrs. G. W. Sumrall, Purvis, Miss., Rte. 3.

III. 1-9 Lucy A. Morehead, Purvis, Miss.

10. Mrs. Adolph Slade. Purvis, Miss.

Ella Crook.
Supervisor Lamar County, Historical Research Project

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #15 Old Homes

Home of W. W. Thomas, Purvis, Miss.

The home of W. W. Thomas is a large Ivory and green Stucco, ten room house. It is located on the north end of Main Street in Purvis. This house was first built of lumber and in 1924 the house was remodeled and made a very attractive home. The color scheme for this house is ivory and green. The windows and doors are trimmed with green.

As one enters the house through a small porch, around which is iron frame work, one sees large ferns and other potted plants. The living room is in the frontof the house, on the right side of the living room is the guest bedroom, another bed room. Every room in the house except the kitchen has a door leading into the living room. Between the living room and dinning room are french doors.

The house is surrounded by shrubbery and flowers.

Ref. Lucy Morehead

Ella Brook

Historian

Canvassers-

Pauline Slade
Lucy Morehead
Helen Entrekin

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

ASSIGNMENT #18

SUBJECT: Revised Assignment #5; WARS

WORLD WAR

I. ARMY UNITS FROM LAMAR COUNTY:

a. None

b. None

c. 155th Regiment information.

During the World War the National Guard or the 155th Regiment were mustered into Federal Service at 1 o'clock, March 27, 1917. Adjutant General called upon Colonel Hoskins and issued an order calling the Regiment into Federal Service again. In less than ten days the Regiment was on duty, in Jackson and remained on duty in Jackson until they received War orders to guard the public utilities of the United States. Troops were sent to different points of the state. During the latter part of 1917 the 155th Regiment did Guard duty in Cato Parish, La., guarding the oil fields. They went from there to Beaureguard, La., went through a series of intensive training. The 155th Regiment went overseas with the 39th Division and was made a replacement outfit, in November 1918, and was placed with a Regiment of the 41st. Division.

This 155th Infantry was disbanded on Nov. 11, 1918 as casulities and went to head-quarters of the 41st. Division and was assigned for duty, and still stands as the 155th Regiment.

II. NAMES OF ENLISTED MEN:

a.

1. 52nd Field Artillery AEF
   Private C. F. Namie--served six months over seas on front. He was gassed, Champaigne, during the time of St. Mihiel offence and Argonne Woods.
2. 6th Field Artillery AEF
   Private McRae McGriffin, B. Battery 1st. Regiment. He was in every major battle the Americans fought, but would not give details.
3. Company F, 1st. Division
   Private Gillem S. Byrd--served over seas from the 4th month 1918, to the 8th month, 1919. He went over the top four times, was in battles, Mounted Nayon, Assine Maaie, St. Mihielm Muse Argonne, Army of occupation.
4. Coast Artillery. Battery B.
   Corporal Samuel T. Shelton AEF
5. 305 Machine Gun Co. Division 77
   Private Preston Lane AEF
6. 8th Company 4th Battalion 162 Depot Brigade.
   Captain D. Pitts Hinton--remained in U. S. A.
7. Medical Corps
   Private W. W. Cayten U. S. A.
8. Aviation Corps
   Private Chester Carroll U. S. A.
9. Baker Co. No. 8
   Private Drue Bowen U. S. A.

10. Privates who remained in U.S. A. of which we have no record.

Glover Harvey	Doc Byrd	C. H. Bishop
J. C. Smith	Jake Byrd	
Julius Smith	C. E. Baxter	
U. S. Diamond	Jack Johnson	
George Bounds	Leland Slade	
Tillus Lee	Dolph Smith	
Buford Slade	N. E. Thompson	
Clarence Davis	Joe Brinkman	
Laroff Alexdria	H. L. Swann	
M. D. Pierce	Sollie Rayborn	
Lucius Davis	Jim Rutledge	
George Holston	Aubrey Thomas	
C. S. Hohnson	Jessie Jone Freeman	
Jake Johnson	Poley Lee	
Jimmie Jones	Vardie Whiddon	
Albert Rayborn	Ike Morange	
Mark Rayborn	Edd Stuart	
Algie Tunnison	Ernest Entrekin	

11. U. S. Navy Ships--Alert, Fredrich, Obrian
    John A. Johnson
    Tom McCann--was on Convoy duty 133 trips across, combat with German Submarines.
    Richard Polk--Santiago. Was on board when the ship sank.
12. U. S. Navy--not other record

Jay Cook	G. D. Pylant	Howard Shraeder
Weldon Tyner	Oscar Bond	

Carl Moore L. C. Bridges

George Robertson Will Jacobs

Hugh Jacobs Gillem B. Bounds as S 2 C F. 3-c 720

13. U. S. S. Chagine, American Counsil, Tampico, Mexico.
Private Eddie Williamson

14. 138th Field Artillery Battery C. A.
Sargent R. W. Worster

15. Co. A. 10th Engineers
M. O. Blackburn

16. Company Y 49th Inf.
Private Floyed Brazeale AEF

17. 116th Inf.
Private Willis McNease
Private Will Avery

18. 29th Co. 29th Transportation
L. D. Fullmer
Private Hub Hartley. He was also in Co. C. of 28th Inf.
1st. Division AEF

19. 117 Ammunition Train
Private Albert Elliott--was in the following battles. Cahmpa Nare Defensive, Epides North to Cherry Chartusen, Toul Sector, Aug. 30 to Sept.11, 1918. St. Mihiel offensive Sercheppy, Sept. 12, to 16, 1918. Toul Sector, Sept. 16 to Oct. 1, 1918. Meuse Argonne, offensive, Oct. 3, to Nov. 11, 1918.

20. Co. 50 Ambulance
Private Harvey Beall U. S. A.

21. 155th Inf. Machine Co.

Private Cap Timmerman AEF

Sargent Ed Coleman AEF

1st. Lieutenant W. A. Carrouth--Replacement Troops

Sargent Leon Dulin --- " "

Homer Watts--Students Training Camps, Hattiesburg.

Co. D. 1st. Miss. Regiment

William O. McCann, Private	Elisha L. Bond, 2nd Lt.
Lester V. Scarborough, Corp.	Marcus Mitchell, Priv.
John B. Bynum, Corp.	Joe Pittman, Priv.
Henry D. Moore, Corp.	Levi Renfro, Priv.
Clifford Messer, Corp.	Arthur Runnels, Priv.
Luther Ruble, cook	Ellett Sanders, Priv.
Orey Brewton, Priv.	Lawerence Sandford, Priv.
Grady Dulin, Priv.	Ellis T. Scarborough, Priv.
Marshall Hollifield, Priv.	Seymour Slade, Priv.
Clarence Holoman, Priv.	W. J. Tisdale, Priv.
Hatten Messer, Priv.	Dewey Welborne, Priv.
William J. Messer, Priv.	

Co. G. 1st. Miss. Regiment

Rowan S. Barefoot, Private	Arthur Dubose, Private
William E. Stuart, Private	Jessie P. Thompson, Priv.

Co. K. 1st. Miss. Regiment

James L. Lee, Private
Andrew J. Hatte, Private
Jewell McLendon, Private.
Leland Ray, Private

Machine Gun Co. 1st. Miss. Regiment

John D. Bethea, Private

Willie D. Cobb, Private

Otho E. Rouse, Private

Co. A. 1st. Miss. Regiment

Homer Hudson, Private

Ben T. Rawles, Private

Co. L 1st. Miss. Regiment

I. P. Moragne, Private

James E. Watts, Private

22. Co. B 152nd Inf. 38th Division

Private Dennis Whitsett

23. Co. A Supply Co. Division AEF

Private George Legg

24. 317 Field Artillery AEF

Scott Slimp

25. Co. B 151st. Inf. 38th Division AEF

Private A. M. Millstead

26. 168 Inf. 42nd Division AEF

Private Albert Beck

27. Co. E 128 Inf. AEF

Private M. Millstead--Muse Argonne, Sector

28. Students Training Camp--Hattiesburg, Miss.

A. B. Cook	George Boone
Obed Pace	Chick Polk
Ellis Patterson	Julius Slade
Emmett Allsworth	Forest Williamson
M. L. Crook	George Cain
Red Tunnison	

Co. L. 1st. Mississippi Regiment

Private D. C. Darcy

30. 61st Artillery H. C. Ogrs. Co. AEF

Private Ava Williamson

31. 145th Field Artillery

Private Ted Lee AEF

32. Co. A 306 Engineers 81st Division

Private Osma Whitsett AEF

33. 137th Field Artillery, Battery "F"

138th Regiment Cyclone Division

Private Edgar Slade AEF

34. Served overseas--no other record.

Private	George Russell	Priv.	Eugene Sumrall
"	Albert Sumrall	"	Seaborn Sumrall
"	I. W. Thompson	"	George Rayborn
"	Richard Rayborn	"	John Avery, Auree Advance
"	Luther Hatten	"	Charlie Kee
"	Charlie Bounds	"	Joe Cagle, Battle of Meuse Argonne Sector
"	Ben Shraeder		

35. 334 Field Artillery, Band Headquarters

D. D. Bounds, Private

36. Troops G. 1st. Miss. Calvary, 39th Div.

John D. Davis

37. 150 Inf. 38th. Div. Miss. Corp.

John Cleveland Jacobs, Private

38. Co. 17 Officers Training School U. S. Army

Will Pigford, Private

39. Battery F. Field Artillery

Van Cook, Private

40. Co. E G 114 Amunition Train

Chalmers Smith, Private AEF

B. Records and Exploits of Individuals.

Willis McNease, Private 116th Inf.

Mr. McNease went "over the top" seven times, was never captured or wounded, but has gassed lungs. He states that the nearest he came to being wounded was when crawling in "No Mans Land" and his over coat collar was shot off. He served ten months and nine days overseas. Mr. McNease and twenty comrades spent four days ina a dugout in the trenches almost to their knees in mud and water. He was in one hand to hand fight that lasted three minutes, and at one time they buried thirteen soldiers in one shell hole and they had no more than covered them up when a German shell blew them out again.

During the Battle of Verdun, Mr. McNease kept his clothes on 21 days and nights, after the battle they walked 12 miles to the village of Verdunne and had a few days rest.

Hub Hartley, Private, 29th Transportation Corps 29th Co., also Co. C, of 28th Inf. 1st Division AEF.

He states that his company arrived on the war scene in June 1918. This Company was the first of the American to go "over the top". They captured Cantigney. This was a day-light battle. The attack being made at eight o'clock May 28, 1918. The company was supposed to be relieved in 14 hours, but were not relieved until 72 hours of hard fighting They had captured 300 prisoners, forcing 250 out of a tunnel.

Dead Germans and Americans were all over the ground. Mr. Hartley states that at 4 o'clock that same afternoon, as several of the officiers were killed and wounded, he took an officiers place and helped to reinforce the dead and wounded. On June 12, 1918 he was wounded by a shot through the right thigh. His buddy, Garner Herrin was killed. 2

(3) Preston Lane, Private, Machine Gun Co. 305, Division 77. Mr. Lane states that he was in the field under 72 hours Barrage in Battle of Muse Argonne. Saw actual fighting. The whole Company was mustered gassed, in Less Lettes. Mr. Lane states that this Co. really suffered for food, their supply being attacked by Germans. As the Germans were on retreat they lost a number of loaves of bread in the mud and that the Americans picked this bread up and ate it with wild sugar beets.

C. Citations and medals.

Hub Hartley--private 29th Transportation Corps, 29th Co., also Co. C of 28th Inf. 1st Division AEF, won two medals--the Purple Heart for being wounded and a Silver Star for gallantry.

Gillem S. Byrd, Co. F 1st Division. Won the Purple Heart for being wounded.

D. Men in 155th Regiment. (for record Page 5-6)

Private Cap Timmerman

Sargent Ed Coleman

W. A. Carrouth, 1st Lieutenant

Leon Dulin, Sargent

Homer Waitts, Private

William C. McCann, Private
Lester V. Scarborough, Corp.
John B. Bynum, Corp.
Henry D. Moore, Corp.
Clifford Messer, Corp.
Luther Ruble, cook
Orey Brewton, Private
Grady Dulin, Private
Marshall Hollifield, Private
Clarence Holoman, "
Hatten Messer, Priv.
William J. Messer, "
Rowan S. Barefoot, "
William E. Stuart, Private
James L. Lee, "
Andrew J. Hutto, "
Jewell McLendon, "
Leland Ray, "
Elisha L. Bond, 2nd Lt.
Marcus Mitchell, Priv.
Joe Pittman, Priv.
Levi Renfro, Priv.
Arthur Runnels, Priv.
Ellett Sanders, Priv.

Lawerence Sandford, Priv.
Ellis T. Scarborough, Priv.
Seymour Slade, Priv.
W. J. Tisdale, Priv.
Dewey Welborne, Priv.
Arthur Dubose, Priv.
Jessie F. Thompson
John D. Bethea, Private
Willie D. Cobb, "
Otho E. House, "
Homer Hudson, "
Ben T. Rawles, "
I. P. Moragne "
James E. Watts, "

III. LETTERS FROM THE FRONT:

Savenay, France

Savenay, France

Dear Mother:

It will not be long now before I come home to you, the same pure boy that I was when I went to war. I am longing to get back to the states, so we can have a home once more. I am so sorry that you are so sick, will help nurse you. Will not write you much this time, just send this clipping. Keep it for me. You will see what we have here yet. I am still at this hospital helping the Doctors and nurses.

H. H. McDonald

The clipping is as follows:

SICK AND WOUNDED HAVE VALETS ON TRIP HOME

Twenty-five kilometers from St. Nazaris at the top of a hill over looking the broad lazy river, which makes that town possible as a base port, are 9000 members of the AEF ticketed "to the states without delay".

But G. H. Q. wouldn't think of sending them without valets, for these men can't be bothered with baggage, or packs or rifles, or any of the trying incidents in connection with the trip homeward. For them the winter weather, not even the chow lines of the embarkation camps hold no terrors. They will be shown places in a train at their present station and with perhaps an overnight stop at Kerhon, if they leave France by way of Brest, they will go directly aboard a transport.

They are the wounded doughboys and casuals, honored men of the AEF, and they are now at Savenay, which is unknown except for the fact that is the largest and finest clearing house for all those who have been unfortunate enough to stop a piece of metal flung over by the enemy, or unlucky enough to get so sick that they are slated for the states. The trip across the Atlantic will develope into a palatial ocean voyage. There will be privates and lieutenants, even Captains to spring to their commands for steamer rugs when they loll in the sun. Three meals will be brought to them each day if they only say,

"Boy I am ready to eat".

Eight hospitals go to make Savaney the greatest medical center in France today. Hundreds of motor ambulances, trucks and touring cars ply in and around the building 24 hours every day. All with one purpose to speed up the transportation of the wounded to the states.

34,000 enlisted men, 500 nurses, together with many officers are required to keep the center moving. Besides theis number there are 8 00 casuals who are eagerly waiting to be assigned as valets for these returning men. Also there are approximately 140 officers designated "chiefs of Convoys" who will perform this same function.

With the American Expeditionary Forces

February 9, 1919

To Dear Brother Matthew:

I take much pleasure in writing you a few facts about myself. I am now in the Ordinance Department, this is a branch of the Army that supplies the soldiers with all the property that is used by a man in uniform.

The regulations number of men in a regiment is one Sargent, one Corporal and six privates on detached service from Division Ordinances. I am with the 103rd Infantry Ration Cloths, and my quarters are with the supply Co., this makes it easy for me to handle the property that comes to this regiment.

We have one Private man in the Hospital and one Corporal is in the States, he was gassed on St. Mihiel front.

I have seen many wonderful things which is impossible

to explain in a letter. You cannot realize what a war consists of until you serve your time in the line. I will certainly be proud to get back in the good old U. S. A., where I will be a free man again.

You cannot imagine the prices of things over here, for the French are scarce of money as well as food and clothing. Fruit is out of reason, a small orange costs ten cents, grapes are $2.50 per lb. A small can of sardines costs 50¢.

The French take the Americans to be millionaire and make paupers of them, some times I wish that a soldier didn't have to buy a thing of them, for they just rob us in every possible way. Ninety per cent of the money paid to the American soldier is spent with the French, the remaining ten percent with the thievish Y. M. C. A.

There is over a million American soldiers sleeping in barns when French will permit it, the officers take up all of the vacant rooms in town.

You can talk with any one who has been in the trenches and "over the top". They will tell you that an Infantry man has to contend with. Going "over the top" is not as easy done as said, neither is it a dream or a joke, both sides catch hell. Well I can tell all about that when I get home, now is no time to talk.

I have a good many friends in this Division, yet I get lonesome.

Priv. W. D. Cobb
103rd Inf. Ord. Dept.

IV. INTERVIEWS:

a. Richard "Cotton" Polk--(deceased)-U. S. A. Navy, on ship Santiago.

In talking with friends and comrades of "Cotton" Polk we learned that he was on Ship Santiago 22 months and was on it when it was torpedoed by German Submarines. He was afloat seven hours in the ocean, his clothing was so heavy that he pulled it all off and the sun blistered his back. When they were almost exhausted, they were sighted by an areoplane from New York, which sent a ship to thier rescue.

Mrs. Polk, his mother, is old and feeble and could hardly give the information clearly. She has no record of his service.

On interviewing Gillem S. Byrd, a World War Veteran. He refused to give any of the facts concerning his life "over there", other than his discharge record. He said that he wears a no. 8 shoe and while in service he was given a No. 11. This was what probably kept him from "running away". He was wounded in his right eye, some stitches haveing to be taken. Although he went over the top four times he refused to give any details. So many others could tell such lurid tales, often made up, that he was afraid his wouldn't sound convincing.

c. Most of the veterans did not wish to talk. Some of them have been gassed and are too nervous to give information as memories of their past experiences in the war make them go "to pieces.". Very few relatives remember correct dates

and names. Only a few had letters or papers. The general attitude is to forget what happened "over There".

V. DISTINGUISHED COUNTY SOLDIERS OR OFFICERS:

None.

VI. ORGANIZATIONS THAT DID WORK AT HOME:

a. During the World War Lamar County people enlisted with heart and soul into the several activities for sustaining the armies and economizing the nations reserve power as no one knew but what the War would last a very long time. In each town of the county were formed branches of the American Red Cross in connection with which men, women and children gave of their time and money in providing Hospital comfort, supplies for the soldiers, and looking after the welfare of families left behind.

Lamar County farmers gave more effort to their farms and gardens. More food was produced, harvested, canned and preserved for home use.

The people did their part by subscribing to Liberty Loans, etc.

c. The following men served as the local draft and Advisory board.

T. C. King, Purvis, Miss. (deceased)

Dr. S. E. Reese, (deceased)

A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.

T. W. Davis, Purvis, Miss.

John A. Yeager, Lumberton, Miss.

J. T. Garraway, Purvis, Miss.

J. E. Cooper, Purvis, Miss.

J. W. Shanks, Sumrall, Miss.

T. E. Salter, Purvis, Miss.

CIVIL WAR

I. BATTLES AND SKIRMISHES IN LAMAR COUNTY:

None.

II. NAMES OF FIGHTING UNITS FROM COUNTY:

a. None

b. None

c. 155th Regiment information.

In March 1861 the first call for Mississippi troops for the impending war was given. These troops were designed to Pensacola. Twenty companies were forwarded late in March, accompanied by Gen. Charles Clark as commander. From these companies were organized the ninth Regiment, Col. J. R. Chalmes, and the tenth, Col. S. M. Phillips, the Colonel's commissions bearing the date of April 11th. These regiments, though the first in the Provisional Army were numbered as they were, to follow the sight regiments being filled at home for the Army of Mississippi.

III. NAMES OF ENLISTED MEN FROM LAMAR COUNTY:

a. Company A.

1. S. G. Burdette--23rd Ga. Regiment(under Capt. B. G. Poole)

2. David Leander Kirkland 36th Ala. Inf. Enlisted from Sumpter Co. Ala. Served under Col. Bob Smith, Capt. C. S. Henegan and 1st. Lieut. Turner D. Bell.

3. John K. Murphy 1st Miss. Calvary under Capt. Reynolds.

4. J. T. Bennett 22nd. Miss. Regiment under Capt. J. S. Prestage and Col. Barnum--didd in Ga. during the battle of Peachtree Creek.

5. Abner Walker 3rd Miss. Regiment under commander Col. James McCray, Capt. Enock Ramsay.

Company "B"

1. J. D. Bryant 7th Miss. Battallion under Commander Cullin Terrell, Capt. Wyatt Baylis.

2. Francis Mavin Clark Co. B Stubbs H & Ln.

3. F. M. Graham 47th Miss. Battallion under Col. Siars and Capt. Dick Magee.

4. F. M. Graham 46th regiment Capt. Dick Magee and John C. Pemberton, Lieutenant.

5. Andrew Hartfield, 7th Battalion Ala. under Major Snude and Capt. John Paitmont.

6. Hosen E. Holley 18th Ala. under Col. J. T. Haltzclaw, served in same Co. until surrender of Miss. Ridge Oct. 23rd. 1863 command surrender Spanish Fort near Mobile, Ala. was a prisoner at Rock Island, Ill.

7. W. T. Lacy, enlisted from Talapoochia Co. Ala., 6th Ala. Calvary, under Capt. Calvin and Capt. Voar.

8. Cl Lott 46th Battallion Miss. Co B. under Capt. Dick Magee.

9. N. J. Lott 46th Miss. Co. B under Capt. Dick Magee Commander surrender Greenville, N. C.

10. John T. McGrew 27th Miss. Inf. Co. B

11. Charles A. McDade 35th Miss. regiment Co. B, under Capt.

J. E. Cooper, Purvis, Miss.

J. W. Shanks, Sumrall, Miss.

T. E. Salter, Purvis, Miss.

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5. Abner Walker 3rd Miss. Regiment under commander Col. James McCray, Capt. Enock Ramsay.

Company "B"

1. J. D. Bryant 7th Miss. Battallion under Commander Cullin Terrell, Capt. Wyatt Baylis.
2. Francis Mavin Clark Co. B Stubbs H & Ln.
3. F. M. Graham 47th Miss. Battallion under Col. Siars and Capt. Dick Magee.
4. F. M. Graham 46th regiment Capt. Dick Magee and John C. Pemberton, Lieutenant.
5. Andrew Hartfield, 7th Battalion Ala. under Major Snude and Capt. John Paitmont.
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9. N. J. Lott 46th Miss. Co. B under Capt. Dick Magee Commander surrender Greenville, N. C.
10. John T. McGrew 27th Miss. Inf. Co. B
11. Charles A. McDade 35th Miss. regiment Co. B, under Capt.

G. W. Ogden. A prisoner on Ship Island.

12. John G. Pace Co. B 6th Miss. under Commander Carnell Balfer, Capt. Dick Magee.

13. Rayford Russell, 46th Miss. Company B under Capt. Dick Magee, Lieut. George Buchanan.

14. John T. Wielder, 4th Ala. Batallion Co. B, Commander Snottgrass and Capt. Hawkins.

15. John Slade, 7th Miss. Company B. Capt. Jim Atkinson Rankin and Anderson Commanders.

16. George Thomas, enlisted from Mobile Co. Ala, 56th Ala. regiment under Col. Baillis Capt. Martin.

17. J. R. Yancey 26th Ala. regiment under Capt. Nelson and Col. John McDowel.

Company "C"

1. B. N. Alsworth, enlisted April 1862 Cantin Madison Co., Miss. under Capt. O. R. S. Ingleton and Col. Burt, Co. C 18th Miss. regiment.

2. Richard P. Clark, Co. C, 18th Miss. , Capt. Hugh Love.

3. Jepth N. Cole, 8th Miss., colunteers. Col. John C. Wilkerson, Capt. H. W. Crook.

4. George S. Cook, 6th Batallion, 2nd regiment, Co. C. under Gen. Woods and Capt. N. C. Baines.

5. James R. Grist, 15th Calvary Col. Harry Morris, 15th CSA, Calvary, Capt. Barlow.

6. Calvin Hoyt, Private & Sargent. Col. S. R. Pinkus Co. C. 12th Ala. Inf. C. S. A. Capt. Stikes. Wounded May 2, 1863 at battle of Chancellorsville, Va. His name appears on a list of prisoners of war surrendered April 9th, 1865 at Appomatox,

Va., St. Collins, 21st. Tennessee Volunteers under Capt. J. D. Laten, Lieut. Gibbs and Bill Spinks, 1st. Lieut.

Company "D"

1. Samuel W. Avery, 35th regiment of Miss. Volunteers under Capt. A. S. Rich. Major Thomas Holms was active in siege of Vicksburg.

2. Leonidus J. Adams, 13th Miss. volunteer Company under commander William Barksdale and Captain Peter Bozerman.

3. S. W. Giles, under Col. Veason.

4. John C. Hansberry, 14th Battallion enlisted from Burnwell County, S. C. under Capt. J. W. Reed and Sargent E. Booker.

5. Ned Merriweather, 2nd Ala. Calvary under Commander Gen. Ferguson and Captain Regces.

6. Jacob Pope 38th Miss. under Capt. Frank White and Col. Adams.

Company "E"

1. Andrew Jackson Cooper, 35th Miss. volunteer under Capt. H. M. Walsh.

2. Henry Boyd Freeman, 37th Miss., Commander O. S. Holland, Capt. Tom House.

3. Albert G. Graham, 21st Miss. Commander J. E. Johnson, Major Upton.

4. Benjamin F. Graham, Weathers Artillery

5. Willis C. Melvin, 5th Ga. Regiment under Commander George P. Harrison, Capt. John L. Fowler and Capt. Green Bass.

6. James S. Murray, 39th Miss. under Capt. Chas. Banks.

7. Rayford Russell 46th Miss. 38th Miss. Regiment under Capt. White.

8. John Whiddon, 7th Miss. Batallion under Command Gen. Brandon and Capt. John Giles.

COMPANY "F"

1. Gabriel F. Blackborn, 14th. La. Regiment. Entered war Nov. 6, 1863 werved under Capt. Mills and Col. Cage.

2. B. L. Burkhaulter, 27th Miss. Commander Gen. Mauhault, Capt. J. R. Baw.

3. Colon Breeland under Capts. Col. Miller and Ben Stephens.

4. Silas Bagett, 4th Miss. regiment Inf. under Capt. Baldin and Capt. Lee.

5. William J. Calhoun, 4rd. Ala. regiment, under Commander Archibald Grayson.

6. Labor F. Freeman, 11th Miss. regiment under Col. Moore and Capt. Geo. Noel.

7. John McCullon Hartfield, 7th Miss. Battallion, Capt. Gillis.

8. Wiley Williamson, 27th Miss. regiment, Capt. Hugh McLain.

COMPANY "G"

1. Richard B. Carroll, 23rd. Ala. Inf. under Gen. Bragg.

COMPANY "H"

1. Valney H. Anderson. Enlisted April 24, 1864, Capt. Stafford.

2. Henry Collins, 40th Miss., Regiment, under Capt. Sharp and W. B. Colbert.

3. Williams S. Davis, 37th Miss. regiment under Capt. Frank Loper, Col. O. S. Holland.

4. John Green Lewis, 2nd. Ala. Reserves, Capt. Neut Shuttles.

COMPANY "I".

1. Thomas Beech, served under Gen. Braggand Capt. Colbert.

2. Harry Durham, 24th. N. C. Regiment under Capt. Ira Woodall.

3. Christopher Eddings Davis--Lieut. Guy

4. James Albert Luper, 38th Miss. under Capt. A. F. Foxworth: Press Brunt. Was killed July 14th, 1864 in Battle of Harrisburg, Miss.

5. C. Hudson, 12th Regiment under Capt. Nicholson, was on parole from prison at Richmond, Ca.

NO COMPANY GIVEN:

1. G. M. Bryant Woods--Capt. Jay Faton.

2. G. W. Byrd, 7th Miss. Batallion-Capt. Jack Leggett.

3.A. A. Broom--Capt. Nathan Burnes.

4. George W. Bounds, 3rd. Miss. Capt. Dale, Green, and John Saucier.

5. Irving A. Blackburn, 3rd. Miss. under Flen Adams and Capt. Foxworth, John Applewhite, 1st. Lieut. 7th Miss.

6. William Arthur Barrett, 36 Miss. Inf. Capt. Oglestree, Col. Witherspoon.

7. Cephus Bond, 3rd. Miss.

8. W. J. Beasley, 33 Commander McInnis, Capt. Smith.

9. John M. Broome, Capt. Melvin Ferelle

10. James D. Bailey--under Lieut. Butler, Pink Patterson.

11. Bill Barnes, 7th Batallion under Capt. Nathan Barnes.

12. Flan T. Barefoot under Capt. J. M. Stephens and Lieut. Simon Barnes.

13. L. G. Bird, 1st. regiment, Commander Col. Joe B. Griffin, Capt. Jack Thompkins.

14. J. D. Bryant --under Capt. Virgil Wyatt Bayliss.

15. William Cooper, Capt. Virgel Varnado.

16. Bryant Cameron, Sletes Batalion.

17. Grief Carroll, 27th Miss. under Commander Hays and Capt. Brunner Griffin.

18. J. Wellsley Cowart, Co. Reserve Corps.

19. George Clinton-under Capt. John Gilles and Lieut. John Denham.

20. G. S. Cook-under Capt. N. C. Barnes.

21. Andrew J. Cooper, 35th Miss. Col. W. M. S. Barry, Capt. H. W. Walsh.

22. Samuel I. Collins, J. D. Latin, Capt.

23. W. M. A. Chandler, Capt. J. T. Jones, J. M. Green, 1st. Lieut. and Gen. Lowe.

24. Andrew J. Cooper, 1st. Miss. 60 day Troops Commander W. S. Patters and Capt. Walsh.

25. Phillip McRainey under Capt. Mixon.

26. Rutherford J. T. Daniels under Lieut. Harrison, Confederate States Gunboat Morgan.

27. J. B. Easterling Company 27th, Miss. under Gen. Walthal and Capt. McLemore.

28. Jessie Parve Steeds, Battalion and Miller Co. under Capt. James Miller.

29. Winston R. Graham, under Wiley Johnson and Tom Russell, 1st. Lieut.

30. George Allen Thomas Gunter, Capt. Ben Bartt and Jim Bayliss and Barclay.

31. I. C. Hudson enlisted from Coffee County, Ala. served under Capt. Wood Lieut. Samuel Suttles.

32. John Wesley Holloman, 9th Regiment Calvary Capt. Miller. He was drilled at home one year before drawn for service in

in Hancock County, Miss.

33. J. M. Hartfield under Capt. Gillis

34. George Macon Haynes, enlisted Catabba County, N. C. under Capt. Bost and Lieuts. Rowe and Hoover.

35. Absalom Slade, Co. B 7th Miss. Batallion under Capt. Wyatt Baylis, Gen. Price and Gen. Vandorn. He was killed Oct., 1862 at Corinth, Miss.

36. W. J. Howell, 16th Miss. regiment Col. Lowery, Capt. Enoch and Lieut. Puckett.

37. B. F. Hartfield, 7th Miss. Batallion Co. 4 under Capt. Sibbs.

38. F. R. Housley, enlisted from Marion County under Capt. Gillis.

39. Daniel Johnson, enlisted Neuton Co. , Miss. Capt. Crumpton, Lieut. Gibbs, Bill Spinks.

40. J. M. Jones, Steds Batallion, Capt. Stephens.

41. Wade H. Kelly, enlisted Attaln Co. Miss. under Capt. Berry, Hood and Pemberton.

42. John D. Kendrick, enlisted Neuton Co. Miss, under Capt. Thames.

43. Samuel S. Love, enlisted Randolph Co. Ala.

44. Thomas Lott, 46th Batallion Co. Carmol Sears Capt. Dick Magee 1st. Lieut. George Buchannan.

45. D. W. Morrow, 5th Miss. regiment Capt. W. I. H. McBeth.

46. Waltus L. Maddon, Baro Artillery Commander Gen Johnson. Willis C. Melvin, 47.

48. William Jasper Mucklewrath, Capt. Jim Enoch and Col. Bob Lowery.

49. Jno. K. Murphy, 3rd. Miss. regiment, Capt. Reynolds.

50. Samuel S. Slade, 7th Miss. Infantry, Col. F. J. Goode, Capt. Mayson.

51. David Saunders Salter, 40th Miss. Reg. Capt. Latimer, Col. Cobert.

52. Lewis Turner, enlisted Edgefield District S. C., Col. John V. Moore, Capt. Robert H. Thompson.

53. James Warden Stuas Batallion Commander, Napoleon Moutte, 1st. Lieut. Capt. Jim Miller.

54. James W. Rowell, Capt. Wesser Co. Pass Christian, Miss.

55. J. L. Reed, 6th Miss. Commander Col. Robert Lowery, Capt. William Thompson.

56. William Slade, 21st Miss. Commander J. F. Johnson, Capt. Wyatt Baylis.

57. James E. Marshall, 37th. Miss. Regiment. Capt. T. Honoze, Col. O. S. Hollan

58. Benjamin Franklin Myatt, 15th Regiment, Forest Cobb, Capt. Sam Culley, Col. Foote, Lieut. Duke Floyd.

59. Eldon Nobles, Ellisville InVincibles, Capt. Dasin.

60. Seaborn Morris, under Gen. Sneed and Capt. Barnes.

61. Thomas C. Patterson, Capt. Vare.

62. L. A. B. Pace under Capt. Cowans and Wearthersby Artillery.

63. Matthew Overstreet, Pace Capt. Nathan Brnes, 1st. Lieut. William Brases.

64. William Jasper Mucklerath, Capt. J. Enoch, Bob Lowery

65. Jno K. Murphy, 3rd. Miss. Regiment, Capt. Reynolds.

66. L. F. Merritt, 3rd. Battallion Cavalry, William Clark and William Easterlingg.

67. John D. McMichel under John Henry Banks and Capt. David Cochran

68. Ben Whiddon, enlisted Marion County, Miss. Capt. Jim Rankin, Col. Goods.

69. Mike Wall, enlisted Jasper County, Miss. under W. M. Brame, Capt. Walter Acker.

70. George Hanson Robertson, Baltimore Light Artillery Nov. 15th 1844, died Aug. 30th., 1899.

71. John Kendrick

72. Steve Johnson, served under Capt. Ryan as home guard.

73. Ebenezer Slade died of measles in Army hospital at Vicksburg Miss. while in service.

74. D. S. Entrekin, Co. Ala. regiment.

75. Rayford Hudson, served as Sargent at Vicksburg. He once told of the seige of Vicksburg during the war. He had charge of the supplies and stated that they lived in caves dug in the cliffs and ate mule flesh, some times they had dry peas to go with the meat.

c. None.

IV. LETTERS FROM FRONT AND FROM WAR PRISONS:

Columbus, Mississippi
April 12, 1862

My Dearest Companion:

I will write you a few lines this morning to let you hear from me since I left Dexete. We arrived at the new camp the morning after we left Dexette and are staying in an old house until we can get out tents and Camp ground fixed up. I am very well satisfied here, the only thing that I dislike is that we have been guarding some prisoners that is here and they are fine looking young men. There is some where about 24 Union men that we took on suspicion and about 14 prisoners.

B. A. Cates.

Saltille, Mississippi
September 5, 1862

I wonder just how all the family is getting along. All the men in our camp is getting along as well as could be expected. I have not slept in the tent but two nights since we came here. As I do not know anything else to write I will close until the morning and I will ask the Captain if you can come to visit me here.

Just as I was asking the captain if you could come to see me, a funny thing happened to all the camp. There was an alarm raised an all the men got their guns and got into line and then we marched to the brigade drill ground which is nearly a mile from where we sleep. When we got there the Colonel said for the Captain to take charge of their Companys and take them to their quarters.

Two men in our camp have died, they died at Columbus. The first man was Lawson Sellers, he died in the tent hospital. I was one of the men that dug his grave. He was a fine young man and I think that he is in a better world. The other man was a Knight. He was very wicked and there is little hope for him. It looks like that all the Soldiers would be Soldiers of the Cross as well as soldiers of the country.

B. A. Cates
37th. Regiment
Co. F

Saltille, Mississippi
September 26, 1862

My dearest Companion:

I wonder how all are getting along, We had a fight with the Yankees on last Friday and went to Baldwin and I was almost past going. I was sent to this place where they put me in a camp with a hundred and fifty other sick men. Quimmley was killed on the battle field. There is no accomadations here for a sick man. So some of the men have to do their own nursing.

I think we will be sent to Enterprise in a few days to another camp. Brisè's Army left Baldwin this morning but I did not know where they will be sent from here.

Your husband,
B. A. Cates.

Vicksburg, Mississippi
April 19, 1863.

My dearest Companion:

It is with pleasure this Sabbath morning that I write to you once more, for when I write I do not know how long it will be until I am killed, which I hope may never be my fate. I drawed $69.00 and in the money was a $50.00 bill. I sent this to you, do not worry if you do not receive this money. I want you to see if that letter you received April 17th, was broken or not. I did not say a word about the money in the letter that I sent you, if you are lucky to receive the money I want you to spend it as you need things.

I hope that I will soon be able to come home on a furlough, but from the way things are looking here now it will not be long until we will have to fight the Yanks.

As ever your husband,
B. A. Cates.

Vicksburg, Mississippi
May 18, 1863.

Mrs. Sarah Cates:

I seat my self this evening to communicate to you the sad and heart rendering intelligence of the death of your very dear husband. Mr. B. A. Cates had been unable for some time and finally taken the fever which confined him to his bed. He had the fever for several days before he left here. He left here the 8th of May and died the 11th of May at Vicksburg, Miss. The Dr. said that he was going to send him home, or try to do so but he never got any further than Vicksburg. When Mr. Cates left here he had $29.00 in his pocket. You must write to me tellingme if you ever received the money or not.

Your friend,
Jacob Cates

II

V. INTERVIEWS:

Gabriel Francis Blackburn was a soldier in the Confederate War. He entered the war from Marion County, Columbia, Miss. He was in the 14th Louisana Regiment, Co, F. Captain Mills and Colonel Cage were the officers. He entered the war Nov. 6, 1863.

It was cold and raining when the company left Columbia, when they left there they did not know where they would ever live to come back or not. The Soldiers were not equipped to fight like the soldiers in the past World War. They carried their guns, shot bags and their blankets were tied into a pack and this carried on their backs.

An interesting story that he told his grand children is as follows: One day the Company had been marching from one camp to another when night began to come on the men. They were about 19 miles to the next camp. The Captain was a very fine man, not like a lot of other captains. He told his men to stop and rest a while for he knew that the men could not march to thejother camp. One of the men asked the captain what they would do if it began to snow. He said, "We will take out ourblankets and spread them on the ground and cover up, then if the snow ill fall long enough we will spend the night here. Just about this time it began to snow. The men were glad to see it snow for they were tired of marching. The Captain asked who would like to count the men and see just how many blankets they had in their Company. One man did. When he had finished counting the men they took out their blankets and spread them on the ground. They would spread four blankets and then spread four more and so on until they all had their blankets on the ground. "Now men get on your knees and ask God to send a big snow, so we can spend the night here." All this time it was snowing very fast. By this time the men were all on their blankets and beginning to cover with the other blankets. They

put their guns under the blankets with them. The snow lasted until late in the night. When they were awakened the next morning they could not see anything for they were covered with the snow. All the men ahd a nice time that night sleeping under the snow. The next morning they were rested and did not dread marching to the other camp.

He related this story just a few weeks before he died. He died in April, 1931.

When he was coming home on a furlough he saw a crowd of Yanks rob a farm home of every thing that they could use. When they left you could hear the people crying for they had stolen all the meat, etc. that the family had saved for winter use.

VI. BRIEF HISTORY, WITH WAR RECORD, OF ANY DISTINGUISHED INDIVIDUALS

None

VII. STORIES OF RAIDS UPON HOMES.

You must remember that at the time of the Civil War what now comprises Lamar County was Marion County and there were very few families here, but we still hear stories told by our forefathers of the raids upon the homes during the Civil War. They would tell of how the Yankees would drop in on a home and exchange their tired and worn out horses for the families only plow animal. They would drive away the best cattle. The people on learning that the Yankees were close would drive their cattle and other animals away to some hiding place and leave them there until they passed on. But they were generally there before anyone knew it; they would go into the homes and order the housewives to prepare a good meal for them. If they refused the Yankees would threaten them with their lives. They took

anything that they wanted. The people would bury the money that they had on hand if they kept it at all.

(b)During the Civil War the Yankees came through this part of the country clear to the coast. They invaded the homes and robbed the people. In one instance they came to my Grandmother's and took everything they had. It seemed as if all the stock came up on purpose to be taken. They took 100 head of cattle and seven fine horses, leaving nothing to plow with. There were eight fat hogs in the pen. They cut their heads off and took them, leaving the heads lying in the pen. Taking axes, they split open the bee gums and took all the honey. Not being content with this they went into the house and emptied all the feather beds but one, taking the ticks with them. They opened the trunks and took out letters and read them, hunted and found all the jewelry and valuables and took them, and rode away.

Being left without anything except the hogs-heads my Grandmother and those left with her took the heads and boiled them and ate them without salt. As no one could obtain any salt they dug up the dirt in the smoke houses and boiled and strained it for the salt.

This county was troubled with jayhawkers during the Civil War. Jay-hawkers were groups of southern men,who taking advantage of the troubled times and condition of the Country robbed and stole from the people. Stealing all the horses they could find they congregated on Honey Island. The people in the County banded together and suprised them, taking back their horses.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

VIII. HOME CONDITIONS DURING WAR.

As the men were away fighting for their rights the women and children were at home working hard, trying to keep up the homes under very hard conditions. At this time this section of the county was very thinly settled. The nearest trading post was 90 miles away, the trip had to be made with ox wagons over the very rugged trails and they could expect to be robbed by the Yankees any time. On the whole they lived a very miserable life.

SPAINISH AMERICAN WAR

I. None

II. NAMES OF FIGHTING UNITS FROM LAMAR COUNTY:

a.None

b. None

c. Men in 155th Regiment.

The First Regiment Mississippi Volunteer Infantry consisted of ten companies. Was mustered in at Camp Port Henry and left for the United States Army Camp at Chickamauga Port in May, 1898. Its Colonel was George M. Gova; Lieutenant Col. H. O. Williams.

III. NAMES OF ENLISTED MEN FROM COUNTY:

a. Names of all veterans.

1. B. C. D'arcy 1st Miss. Regiment Co. L Private-no battles.

2, C. H. Rich, 1st Volunteer Co., served in Florida and Cuba.

3. Charlie Evers,-Now in Isane Asylum, no information could be gotten.

4. Homer Jones, Enlisted in Florida and was paid $340 for 40 days service. This sum was paid to all soldiers who enlisted from that State

5. Corporal Samuel T. Shelton, private Infantry Volunteers, enlisted August 19th, 1899 discharged June 30th 1900, served in Cuba.

c. Men in 155th Regiment.

B. C. D'Arcy, Private--no battles.

IV. V. VI. VII. NONE

VIII. Home conditions were not altered in Lamar County.

Lamar County has no record of Mexican War, War of 1812, and Revolutionary War.

REFERENCES:

WORLD WAR

I. a. Lawyers John A. Yeager, Ed Coleman and T. W. Davis.

b. Same as above.

c. Mississippi the Heart of the South. Volume 2, page 862.
Ed Coleman, Purvis, Miss.

II. a. Discharge Records, Grave Markers and The Veterans.
b. Willis McNease, Sumrall, Miss.
Hub Hartley, Lumberton, Miss.
c. Hub Hartley
d. Official and Statistical Register of Mississippi, Dunbar Rowland-pages 662-715.

III. a. W. A. Cobb, Lumberton, Miss.
Mrs. Ella Crook, Lumberton

IV. Mrs. Melinda Polk, Lumberton, Miss.
Gillem S. Byrd, Lumberton, Miss.

V. Pitts D. Hinton, Lumberton, Miss.
John A. Yeager, " "
Edd Coleman, Purvis, Miss.

VI. a. Edd Coleman, Purvis, Miss.
Pauline Slade, Lumberton, Miss.
Pitts D. Hinton, Lumberton, Miss.

References: Civil War

I. A. John A. Yeager, Lumberton, Miss.
T. W. Davis, Purvis, Miss.
Ed Coleman, Purvis, Miss.

II. a. Records in Chancery Clerks Office, Purvis, Miss.
b. None
c. Mississippi The Heart of The South, Vol. I, pages 846-47

III. a. Records in Chancery Clerks Office, Purvis, Miss.
b. None
c. Miss. The Heart of The South, Dunbar Roland

IV. Letters from B. A. Cates to his wife, written during Civil War--Lucy Morehead, Purvis, Mississippi

V. Mrs. Fannie Blackburn, Purvis, Mississippi

VI. None

VII. Mrs. Fannie Blackburn, Purvis, Mississippi
Marshall Entrekin, Lumberton.

VIII. S. E. Slade, Lumberton, Miss.

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

I. a. T. W. Davis, Purvis, Miss.
b. John A. Yeager, Lumberton, Miss.

c. B. C. D'Arcy, Purvis, Miss.
John A. Yeager, Lumberton, Miss.
M. Russell, Sumrall, Miss.
Samuel T. Shelton(deceased)

Mrs Ella Crook.
LAMAR COUNTY SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT.

Mrs. Beulah Summers
Canvasser

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Supplement: Revised Assignment #5, Wars; World War

ASSIGNMENT #18.

Letter From France

The following letter was copied from the "Booster"(Lamar County) Purvis, Miss., October 31, and was written by Butler V. Avery, Company "A" 315 F.S.B.A.E.F., Wednesday, Sept. 11th, and Saturday, Sept. 14th, 1918, to the folks at home:

Dear Folks:

Had to pinch myself this morning to see if I was altogether. Last night we got orders about eight o'clock to pack up and move out. Knew we were going closer to the front but not exactly how far. As it happened we come seven kilometers leaving us only two Ks. from the square-heads line.

The seven ks. mentioned above had about as much to them as one would care to take part in, all the way up the roads were blocked with tropps of every description. Shelling was very frequent. It took us from nine to 2:30 a. m. to make this short distance, our time being spent dodging shells mostly. Often while our truck was stopped for them to finish a place in front a shell would hit just in the rear, at the side, etc.

They gave us a warm reception upon our arrival here, also about the time we finished unloading out sets, packs, etc., they started in, darned if I don't believe till yet the first one scraped my helmet. They poured them to us by the dozens, hitting in every direction. All of us were brand new in the burg and didn't know anything at all about where the dugouts

were, we located them pretty pronto, however. I am certainly anxious for our artillery to open up on that bunch for I am sure of the outcome.

The few of our bunch that was with me kept unusually calm, of course that kept me down quite a bit but I think all of us pretty nearly had to think of a story I once heard of Mutt and Jeff while they were on the border. Probably you have heard it, too.

They continued their shelling off and on all last night. Even sent us over a few for dinner today. I don't mind them any more though. We are located in an especially made shell proof room, walls and top are very thick of logs and stone. Have a telephone, electric lights and is fixed up in a pretty decent way. Our banks are here and we have two messengers.

I am anxious to see the ball start rolling because I know how easily we can walk over them. I didn't know there was so many vannon in the world as I have seen coming up here for the last week or so,-will wait until fater the show to finish this. If I don't finish it you will know I wasn't here at the end.

Saturday 14th.

Haven't had time to touch this. Entirely too much going on, and work, Boy Howdy, we have made a peach of a drive and have had thing going our way from the start. A race horse and a mule is a good comparision.

At one o'clock to the minate and the morning of the 12th our barrage started, some barrage, the earth fairly shook. We were behind the light artillery but the heavy was behind us and in fact all around us, some of the naval guns was as far as five

and six kilos to our rear.
In my station we all knew six hours ahead when the fireworks would start and I went off duty at 8 o'clock went to sleep, but told the op to be sure and wake me up a little before one. He was too busy I guess to wake me but about three seconds after one I was wide awake. I don't want to hear any prettier music than the sound of those guns, I knew old Fritz was getting a little further up the road.
One's imagination who has never seen a barrage can't compare with the reality. It's worth risking your life to be in a drive. The whole sky was in flames, our guns fairly shook the earth. From our guns in the rear you could hear the shells go over and could easily distinguish the gas shells from the common explosives, and at first could see them explode on the Germans, but they soon took to their heels. Fritz returned our shots for hardly an hour then he was as quiet as a dumb person-you know that is pretty quiet. Five o'clock was the appointed time for our boys to go over the top, of course, at that time we were all on our toes, a fellow couldn't help but wish he was a dough-boy and going over with them. Some of our men who were near the front("C" Co. men) did volunteer and go over with them. One of my best friends in that co. went over with the infantry and got killed. Such as that is what makes a fellow's block boil and makes him want to discard the headgear of a wireless set, a thousand miles from action, grab a musket and get into the thick of the thing.
Starting where I left off, just before five o'clock our barrage, as was expected got speedier and sounded like

machine gun fire. It was certainly interesting to watch after the boys went over, about every fifteen or twenty minutes you would see a certain rocket go up to notify our artillery to raise their barrage, meaning of course that the Germans were retreating at a good clip, what is more interesting, still is the fact that they have been on the run to this hour from the time we started after them.
At nine o'clock of the morning we started the drive we had reached our objective for the whole day, about 9:30 the prisoners came rolling in. Saw one bunch of 900. Looked like a whole army coming down the road. There were men of every description. Some looked to be boys of 13 or 14 and some about 50 or 60, while some were in their prime. They all seemed to be glad they were captured. A few that could speak English said they were tired of the war and saw they had no chance of winning. They seemed to be afraid of the American fighting and from the looks of this battle it pays them to be. We were in a fine position to keep up with the whole thing. During the battle everything is sent in the clear. There is no time to incode and decode messages. So we kept up with the other division also.
Went up to "No Man's Land" yesterday morning. It was certainly a sight. You could hardly walk without stepping on the dead. There was by a large number more Germans than Americans. I saw lots of things that if I had read in a paper I would have taken it for a Sunday's morning story.
The boys coming back with the prisoners, etc., have some awful tales to tell. One told me he captured several German boys that looked to be under 14, chained to their artillery guns.

Said they were just standing there nearly frightened to death and not trying to fight.

I could write on this a year and not finish. I am not allowed to tell you where I am but refer you to the Times-Picayune of Sept. 13th and 14th and you will know exactly. If they print it like the Paris Herald they certainly have it straight.

Love,

Butler V. Avery, Co. A. 315 F. S.
B.A.AEF

Reference: "Booster", Oct. 31, 1918.

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #18.

HE FOUGHT IN FOUR WARS AN AGED VETERAN WHO BREAKS ALL THE RECORDS.

Uncle Billey Johnson of Purvis, Miss, William Johnson, familiary known as "Uncle Billy" is a well known farmer living near Purvis, Miss. There are several hundred farmers residing in the same section. But what distinguishes Uncle Billy from his neighbors is his extreme old age, and the fact that he is a veteran of four wars, something which can hardly be said of any other living man. He is 91 years of age, and is looked up to with great reverence by all the inhabitants of Marion County. A commercial representative who visited Purvis in his travels recently got from the old

gentleman a sketch of his war record with some of the incidents that occured during his military life, which cannot but prove interesting reading. It is best told in his own language.

"My first military service was in the war between the United States and Great Britian, in 1814. I was quite yound then, reckless and full of vigor. The first battle of any consequence that occurred after my enlistment was the one which saved the city of New Orleans from destruction at the hand of the British and which brought Gen. Jackson to the front and landed him in the Presidents chair. This is all well known history and I will not dwell upon it.

"The next military service I saw was the Florida Indian War, Away back in the thirties. This war occurred here among our home people and it is all familiar history, but what I want to tell you about is the war between the United States and Mexico, the horrors and the true history of which has never been fully known in the United States. How well I do remember that memorable day that we stormed the Heights of Chepultepec and virtually ended the war. The morning of the battle opened still and calm, with a hot sun pouring down upon us, The greasers had fortified themselves and planted heavy batteries on top of the walls. Immediately in front of the wall was a ditch twelve feet wide and sixteen feet deep in water. You can well imagine what terrible odds our small army had to contend with. We made the attack early, but were repulsed with a terrific fire from the big guns on the walls/ Again we reformed our lines and charged, but each

but each time met that deadly fire. Our commander, Gen. Scott, saw that if we kept up our charge in the hope of storming the heights without first silencing the guns we would all have been unmercifully butchered and left a prey for the buzzards and wolves upon the battlefield.

" A council of war was held and it was decided to offer a reward of $5,000 to any man who would suggest a plan to silence the batteries of the Greasers. I immediately volunteered my service to accomplish the task, without any reward, but my plan was ridiculed byy the commanding officers. I insisted that it be tried, at last before being condemed Gen. Scott, after a few minutes of deep thought, drawled out "Well young man , if you have the nerve we'll try it but you will certainly be killed. I hurried off to my pack mule and procured the uniform of a Mexican Major, which I had captured on a former battlefield and put it on over my regular blue uniform. After providing myself with rat-tail flies and a hammer I returned to Gen. Scott, who ordered that the lines be reformed. Riding in front of the line on a white steed, the General doffed his hat and requested the chaplain, a short, heavy-set man with a few scattered chinchalla, as the boys, to make the BLESSING OF THE DEITY. The Chaplain, who hailed from Texas was a natural born fighter and he carried a musket on the battlefield and conducted religious services at night. He laid down his gun and stepping forward a few paces, raised his hands heavenward and delivered a prayer that a great many of the boys claimed gained the victory for us. As near as I can

remember, his closing words ran something like this, "Oh, Lord, Thou art all powerful and can control the destinies of all men. We implore your blessings and ask forgiveness for any misdeeds that we may have committed. We are now about to join battle with vastly superior numbers of the enemy and Heavenly Father we would like mightly for you to be on our side and help us; but if you can't do it for heaven's sake don't go over to the Greasers, but just lie low and keep quiet and you will see one of the toughest fights you ever saw in all your natural life. Amen"

The patriotic invocation was met with a yell from our soldiers that shook the foundation of the mighty wall where the Greasers were fortified. We charged at a double quick and when some distance from the parepet, I started on my desperate plan(It makes me shudder now to think of it). I dashed away from our lines for the big battery which was causing all the trouble. Several of our soldiers fired a volly over my head, while a number of others gave chase. While the astonished greasers on the wall were watching the exciting race yelling at me in Spanish every step. They forgot to reload the guns and in a few seconds more I had cleared the ditch at a bound, scaled the wall and was right among the enemy, and got in my work by spiking the fuse holes of the guns before they caught on to our ruse. But it was too late, just as I was spiking the last gun a villainous looking gun wiper made a savage thrust at me with a saber, but our brave boys clearing the wall saved my life by running a bayonet through his body. I came out of the War with a slight flesh wound.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

"General Scott offered me the money but I declined. I afterwards received letters from President Polk and the Secretary of War asking that I accept the reward, but I refused. I afterwards received a gold medal ofr bravery, which was stolen by Federal soldiers during the late War. I served two years in the confederate army and would have carried a musket aal through the conflict, but I was taken sick with swamp fever near Vicksburg in 1863 and sent home."

Mr. Johnson's War record is well known history in South, Miss. During the lifetime of Jefferson Davis, Uncle was a frequent and welcome visitor at the Beauvior Mansion. He was drawing a pension from the Nation Government for his service in the three wars in which he followed the Stars and stripes and he lived comfortably and enjoyed life on his farm, six miles west of Purvis.

He was tall, slender and well kept for a man of his age, he was quite retiring in his nature, he had a terror for notority and this is no doubt the cause that led him to settle in the lonely pine forest.

He still retains the letters from President James Polk and Gen. Scott commending his bravery and it took hard work to pursuade the old gentleman to allow the reporter to get a glance at the documents.

Reference: Lumberton Head Block, August 6, 1890.

Mrs Ella Brook
Supervisor.

Canvasser-
Mildred Hendrick

1

Sap. 5

LIBERTY BONDS
LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

During the World War thrift stamps were sold at the Post Office. After a person bought $5.00 worth of these stamps they were exchanged for a war savings stamp. These stamps were sent to the Postmaster, and were sold to the people.

Liberty Bonds were sold through the banks by a County Committee, headed by Mr. R. L. Bennett, then the cashier of Lamar County Bank of Purvis.

These records are not available, as to the amount of Bonds sold during the war. We are proud to say that Lamar County sold more than their quota. Application was made at the bank for bonds, paying for it if the person so wished, or as they wished. I heard one man say that this was when the installment plan started.

Ref. T. W. Cooper, Purvis, Miss
C. E. Wilson, Purvis, Miss.

Canvassers
Pauline Slade
Evangeline Lee
Mildred Hendrick

Copy

3

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY
ASSIGNMENT # 5

1/ WORLD WAR
(a)

During the World War Lamar County hadwhat was called a local Draft Board, The duty of this board was to pass on the prospective men who were to be drafted. Serving on this board were, Chairman T. C. King,(deceas d) Dr. S. E. Rees, (deceased), and A.Q.Broadus. All citizen of Purvis, Miss.

The Legal Advisory Board was composed of the lawyers of Lamar County, they were, Chairman T. W. Davis, Purvis, Miss., John A. Yeager, Lumberton, Miss. J. T. Garraway, Puvis, Miss., J. F. Cooper, Purvis, Miss. J. W. Shanks, Sumrall, Miss., A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss. T. C. King, Purvis, Miss.(deceased), T. E Salter, Purvis, Miss. (Deceased)

In asking these veterans who took an active part in the battles of the World War, to tell of their exploits, very few will tell anything as they seem to be looking on the war as a bad dream that they want to forget.

Those who took actual part in the battles are:
1. C. F. Mamie, Private, 52d. AEF. Artillery. Six months actual service overseas on front. Gassed Champaigne during the time of ST. Mihiel offense and Argonne Woods.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

2.McRae McGriffin, B.B.Battery, 6th Field Artillery, 1st, Regiment. He was in every major battle the Americans fought in but would not give any of the details.

3. Willis McNease, Private, 116th Inf. He went "Over the Top" seven times, he was never captured nor woulded, but has gassed lumgs. He states that the nearest he came to being wounded waswhen he was crawling in "NoMan's LanD" and his over coat collar was shot off. He served ten months and nine days. Mr/McNease and 20 comrades spent 4 days in a dugout in the trenches almost to their knees in mud and water. He was in one hand to hand fight that lasted three minutes. He states that at one time they buried 13 soldiers in one shell hole and they had no more than covered them up when a German shell blew them out. During the battle of Verdune Mr. McNease kept his clothes on 21 days and nights. After this battle they walked 12 miles to the village of Verdune and had a few days rest.

4. Will Avery, Private, took active part in the following battles, but wouldn't give the details. 1. July 25th to Sept. 23, 1918, defensive of Centor Haute Alsace. 2. Oct. 8, 1918, battle of Malborough Hill. 3. Oct. 1918, Mellivale Corn. 4. Oct. 11, 1918, attack on Baisod Government. 5. Oct. 16, 1918 battle of Grande Montain. 6. Oct. 23attack on Bois Bellieu.

5. Oscar Black, Corporal, Chemical Warefare Service. He s stated they manufactured gas 52 times stronger than mustard gas.

They were required to sleep in their gas masks, the danger from this gas was greater than being on the front. In the beginning of the war 300 men were in the Department, and when the Armistic was signed there were only 50 mustered out.

6. Hub Hartbey, Private, 29th Transportation Corp, 29th Co. also Co, C. of 28th Inf. 1st. Division. AEF. He states that his company arrived on the war scene in June 1918. This company was the first of the Americans to go "Over the Top". They captured Cantginey. This was a day light battle. The attack being made at eight o'clock May 28, 1918. The company was supposed to be relieved in 14 hours but were not relieved until 72 hours of hard fighting. They had captured 300 prisoners forcing 250 out of a tunnel. There were dead Germans and Americans all over the ground. Mr, Hartbey states at four o'clock that same afternoon as several of officers were killed and woulded, he took an officers place and helped to reinforce the dead and wounded. On June 12, 1918 he was wounded by a shot through the right thigh, his buddy Garner Herrin was killed. Mr, Hartley won two medals, the Purple Heart for being wounded and a Silver Stat for gallantry.

7. Albert Elliott, Private, 117 Ammunition Train, was in the following battles. 1. Champaign Marne Defensive, Epides North to Cherry Chartuser Toul Sector, Aug. 30 to Sept. 11, 1918. 3. St. Mihiel offensive, Seicheppy Sept. 12, to 16, 1918. 4. Toul Sector, Sept. 16, to Oct. 1, 1918. 5. Meuse Argonne offensive, Oct. 3 to Nov. 11, 1918.

8. Samuel T. Shelton, Corporal, Battery B. 64th Coast Artillery AEF.

9. Preston Lane, Private, Co. 305 Machine Gun, Division 77 AEF.

10. George Rayborn, Private, AEF.

11. Richard Rayborn, Private, AEF.

12. Carl Strahan, Sargent, Headquarters Area Corp.

13. Dennis Whitsette, Private, 38th Division, Co. B. 152Inf.

14. George Legg, Private, Co. A, Supply Co. Division. AEF.

15. Scott Slimp, Private, 317 Field Artillery. AEF.

16. A. M. Milstead, Private, Co. D, 151 Inf. 28th Division AEF.

17. Johnny Avery, Private, Auree Advance. AEF.

18. Albert Beck, Private, Co. 168 Inf. 42 division. AEF.

19. Joe Cagle, Private, Co. E. 138 Inf. Meuse Argonne Sector.

20 M. Milstead, Private, Meuse Argonne, AEF.

21. L. D. Fulmer, Private, 29th Transportation Corp, AEF.

22. Ed. Coleman, Sargent, 138 Field Artillery, Battery C. AEF.

23. R. W. Worster, Sargent, 138th Field Artillery, Battery C. AEF.

24. M. O. Blackburn, Co. A. 10th Engineers, AEF.

25. Floyd Breazeale, Private, 49th Inf. Co. Y, AEF.

26. Cap Timmerman, Private, 155 Inf. Machine Gun. Co. AEF.

27. Jake Byrd, Private, Replacement Troops.

28. W. A. Carruth, 1st. Leittenant, 155 Inf. AEF.

29. Leon Dulin, Sargent, 155 Inf. AEF.

30. Luther Hatten, AEF.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

31. G.W. Russell, AEF.
32. Eugene Sumrall, AEF.
33. Albert Sumrall, AEF.
34. Seaborn Sumrall, AEF.
35. J. W. Thompson, AEF.
36. D. D. Bounds, AEF.
37. John D. Davis, AEF.
38. D. Pitts Hinton?, Capt. 8th Co. 4th Battallion 162 Depot Brigade. Remained in USA.
39. W.W.Cayten, Private, Medical Corp.
40. Chester Carroll, Avaition Corp.
41. Drue Bowen, Private, Baker Co. No. 8. USA
42. O. E. Rouse, Private, AEF.
43. Glover Harvey, Private, USA.
44. J. C. Smith, Private, USA.
45. Julius Smith, Private, USA.
46. H. L. Swan, Private, AEF.
47. U. S. Diamond, Private, USA.
48. Charlie Bounds, Private, AEF
49. Charlie Kee, Private, AEF
50. G. S. Byrd, Private, AEF.
51. George Bound, Private, USA.
52. Tillis Lee, Private, USA.
53. Buford Slade, Private, USA.
54. Clarence Davis, Private, USA.
55. Lovoff Alexandria, Private, USA.
56. M. D. Pierce, Private, USA.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

81. John A. Johnson, US Navy, Ships Alert, Fredrich andO'rian.
82. Tom McCann, Convoy duty. 13 trips across, combat with German Submarine.
83. Jay Cook, US Navy, Overseas.
84. G. D. Pylant, " "
85. Weldon Tyner, " "
86. Oscar Bond, " "
87. Carl Moore, " USA
88. L. C. Bridges," "
89. George, Robertosn, USA Navy
90. Will Jacobs, " "
91. Hugh Jacobs, " "
92. Jessie Cowan, Private, AEF

(b) SPANISH AMERICAN WAR.

1. C. D'Arcy, 1st. Miss. Regiment, co. L. Private. No bttles.
2. C. H. Rich, 1st. Volunteer Co. Served in Florida and Cuba. No other information could be given.
3. Charlie Evers, Mr. Evers in Insane Asylum. No information available.
4. Homer Jones, Enlisted in Florida and was paid $340.00 for 40 days service, this was paid to all soldiers who enlisted from this state.
5. Samuel L. Shelton, Private, Infantry, Volunteer. Enlisted Aug. 19, 1899 discharged June 30, 1908. Served in Cuba.

(c) WAR BETWEEN STATES.

1. Claudus Hudson, 12th Ala. Regiment. He was in battle of Richmond, Va. and Shenddoah Valley. Captured in Shenadoah Valley and remained in prison until the war was over. He is 91 years old.

2/ John Hendrick, Too old and feeble minded to give any information.

3. Steve Johnson, Served under Bill Conn in Calvery at Columbus, Miss. No battles.

4. Mike Wall, Served under Capt. Rain as Homeguard.

5. J. D. McMichael, Homeguard. Too Feeble Minded to talk. Served under Capt. Ryan.

(d) MEXICAN WAS. NONE

(e) WAR OF 1812. NONE

(f) REVOLUNTIONARY WAR. NONE

4/ War of 1812.

In January 1813 was begun the organization of the First Regiment of Mississippi Territory. Cowles Mead was first commissioned as Colonel and Joseph Carson as Major; but Mead soon resigned and Carson was named Colones.

Mexican War.

Under the Congressional Act of May 13, 1846, Mississippi's quota of troops for the war was fixed at one regiment of Infantrymen or Riflemen. On the first of Hune, Govonor Brown called for ten companies to make up Mississippi's regiment of the 17,000 volunteers provided by the act. Only those companies were accepted that were complete and organized. About the middle of June the men of the ten accepted companies balloted for a Colonel. Jefferson Davis was elected, A. K. McMlung elected Lieut. Colonel and A. B. Bradford Major. When Jefferson Davis learned of his election he insisted that his men be armed with rifles instead of muskets. These rifles which were made in Connecticut were first used by the Mississippians and have always been known since as the Mississippi Rifles. The Regiment also took the name of Mississippi Rifles.

War between the States.

In March 1861 the first call for Mississippi troopers for the impending war was given. These troops were designated to Pensacola, Florida.

Twenty companies were fo warded late in March, accompanied by Gen. Charles Clark as Commander. From these companies were organized the 9th Regiment, Col. J. R. Chalmers in command, loth Regiment with Col. S.M. Phillips. These regiments, though the first in the Provisional Army were numbered as they were to follow the 8th Regiments being filled at home for the Army of Mississippi.

Spanish American War.

The First Regiment of Mississippi Volunteer Infantrymen of ten companies was mustered in at Camp Port Henry and left for the United States Army Camp at Chickamauga Park in May 1898. Its Colonel was George M. Gowan; Leiut. Col. E.O. Williams.

World War.

On the 18th day of June 1916, President Wilson inssued his call for troops to quell the Mexican border troubles. In response to this call, Mississippi offered for service five independent battalions and several companies of the State National Guard which were formed into the First Regiment of Mississippi Infantry. Major George C. Boskins was selected as Colonel of the Regiment and Major E. B. Boyd as Lieut. Col. Having thoroughly organized and drilled the regiment they were ordered to preport to the Commanding General of the Southeastern Military Department of the United States at Fort Sam Houston, Texas where it arrived on Oct. 19, 1916. It was placed under different Divisions until March 19, 1917 when it was ordered to Jackson to be mustered out of service. On the

morning of March 27th the troops were officially mustered out and paid off with the exception of a few men. But at 1:00 o'clock March 27, 1917, the Adjutant General called up Col. Haskins and issued an order calling the regiment into service again at once. In less than 10 days every member of the regiment was again on duty in Jackson, Miss. The regiment remained in Camp until the United States declared war and orders were received to guard the public utilities of the state. In August 1917 the Commanding officer received orders to report with the regiment to Col. Newwill of the National Park, Vicksburg, Miss. for duty at the Jubilee to the Blue and Grey. The regiment left Jackson for the hike on Sept. 29th and marched near Clinton where they went into camp. During the night of that date, while thus encamped in an old field, the First Mississippi Regiment received orders from Washington designating the former National Guard Regiment of State Troops as the 155th Infantry in the Federal Service.

Mrs Ella Crook
Supervisor Historical Research Project
Lamar County

Canvasser-
Mildred Hendrick

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Accepted L.S.

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LIBERTY BONDS
LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

During the World War thrift stamps were sold at the Post Office, After a person bought $5.00 worth of these stamps they were exchanged for a war savings stamp. These stamps were sent to the Postmaster, and were sold to the people.

Liberty Bonds were sold through the banks by a County Committee, headed by Mr. R. L. Bennett, then the cashier of Lamar County Bank of Purvis.

These records are not available, as to the amount of Bonds sold during the war. We are proud to say that Lamar County sold more than their quota. Application was made at the bank for bonds, paying for it if the person so wished, or as they wished. I heard one man say that this was when the installment plan started.

Ref. T. W. Cooper, Purvis, Miss
C. E. Wilson, Purvis, Miss.

Canvassers-
Pauline Slade
Lucy Morehead

-1-

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

March 22, 1937

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SUBJECT: RECONSTRUCTION--Assignment #22

I. During the Reconstruction Period in Mississippi, what now comprises Lamar County was then a part of Marion County. This part, now Lamar County, consisted of hundreds of acres of long leaf pine timbered land, owned by the government. There were a few families scattered here and there, miles apart.

These families had come to this section of the country to raise stock, due to the wide open range that the country afforded, and they held that the pine timber furnished shelter for the stock during the winter months.

They were not bothered by taxation then--Records show in the Sheriff's office, Marion County, Columbia, Miss. (then also the county site of this part, now Lamar County) that there were hundreds of acres of government land.

a. At the close of the War, the state of Mississippi was under a provisional and military form of government. Each county faced almost the same problems--that of unfair legislation and negro suffrage. Government land had no value, industries were paralized, and needed bonuses rather than increased burdens. (However, there were no industries in this part of the county). The debt contracted during the War was not repudiated and there was a state government to support. Marion County's government at that time consisted of a Board of Police, headed by the Sheriff. The Sheriff at that time was John Foxworth. The Board held probationers court. They had jurisdiction over the elections, as well as

all civil affairs. Jno. E. McNair was judge of the second judicial district, of which Marion County was a part.

b. There were no railroads in this section of the county at that time. The only means of transportation, was by way of wagons drawn by the oxen, over very rugged roads.

c. Farming was done on a small scale, as the few settlers in the section were stock raisers and had access to the free range.

As a result of the events of the war, these farms had gone down, fences had decayed, weeds and bushes had covered some of the fields, live stock had disappeared. The confederate soldiers returned to find desolation and starvation staring them in the face. Some of the soldiers were disabled for life, there were also widows and orphans to be taken care of. (It is estimated that one third of the bread winners of the State had been sacrificed in the contest, or disabled for life and the number of dependent opphand alone estimated to be ten thousand.)

Social life was a thing of the past, with desolation and starvation everywhere in the land, there was no time for social affairs. Neighbors were miles apart and only visited the sick or ones in trouble.

II. Military rule was designed to control or administer government in the South until the political Reconstruction planned by Congress should become effective.

At this time the political affairs of Marion County were in a terrible condition--the Republicans were electing their candidates to office by means of inducing the negroes

to vote, either by bribery or force. The whites were tired of this and called on the negroes and told them that if they went to the polls to vote that they would be whipped.

The organizations of Democrats gathered to device ways and means of regaining the ballot. Political meetings took the day.

In Govenor Humphrey's inaugral address he said, "It has been reported in some quarters that our people are insincere, and the spirit of revolt is rampant among us, but if an unflinching fidelity in war gives evidence of a reliable fidelity in peace, if the unvarying profession that spring from private and public sources furnish any evidence of truth, it is sufficeently demonstrated that the people of the South who so long and against such terrible odds maintained the mightiest conflict of modern ages, may be safely trusted when they profess more than a willigness to return to their allegiance."

One of the chief economic problems of reconstruction in Mississippi was the readjustment of the labor system in conformity with the new conditions brought about the freeing of slaves. No one believed that free negro labor could be made profitable. The most common method adopted by the state however, was the "share" system, which proved disasterous to the planters of Mississippi, in 1886-87. This crop failure was not due to unfarorable seasons but the unreliable character of the negro.

Much of the legislation after the war was designed to encourage the flow of capital to the state; the establishment of

various manufacturing industries, for the encouragement of agriculture and the growth of wool and rebuilding railroads, etc.

However, in this part, now Lamar County, to these people economic adjustment meant to repair their homes, rebuild fences, and roads, to till the land and raise more live stock; at which task they bore themselves with patience--and took up their broken lives with fortitude.

c. As the farm homes and roads were being put into shape, the farms and live stock becoming more profitable, there was time for visits to the distant relatives and neighbors, the talk of the day was hard times, the political situation, and the war. These visits led to gatherings, singings, dinners, etc.

d. In 1870 a system of public schools was established by the state of Mississippi. Instead of the hired teacher now, some few one teacher, four months schools were established in this section. With the sstablishing of better schools a better religious view was brought about.

III. There were a few men in the State who had come shortly before the war and taken no part in the conflict. A good many others came after the war, either in connection with the army, or to speculate in cotton, some came because they saw conditions that would enable them to make more money rapidly.

For the first two years after the war, cotton sold very high; this attracted some northern people to Mississippi to become cotton planters and they thought they would find a ready supply of labor in the negroes. But these found that they did not understand the cotton crop, or how to work with

the negroes. Some of these returned with disgust to their own states, but others were ready in 1868 to offer themselves for the official positions of Mississippi. Some were true conscientious men, but many were adventurers and as soon as it was learned how easy it was for an outsider to obtain office of trust, a still worse class came. They were soon dubbed as "Carpet-baggers" meaning that they were only transients who only had their carpet-bags with them.

The renegade southerners were called "scalawags". We have not found any record to prove that either of these factors operated in this section of the state. (Lamar County)

IV. a. The "Freedman's Bureau" grew out of the department of that during the war was charged with looking after the welfare of the refugee negroes. After the war it was separate from the army , but its officials were largely army officers and it was conducted in close co-operation with the military administration. At first the bureau merely fed the destitute negroes, Then it undertook to place them where they could work. Some were colonized on confiscated land, and others were hired to northern men who were in possession of the great plantations along the Mississippi River. The plans of the Bureau to make the negro self-sustaining, generally failed

b. The most effective agency for massing the negroes in solid opposition to the white people and in support of the carpet-bag regime, was the organization of the "loyal league". Before the war was at an end there had been formed in the occupied districts what were called loyal leagues. They were fostered by the Federal Administration and by the army for the

the purpose of offering an avenue by which the people might return to the allegiance to the United States Government. Those who origionally opposed secession and those who despaired of the cause of the Confederacy and were willing to promote a return to the old Federal relations affiliated with them. After the enfranchisement of the negroes, through the Freedman's Bureau and the army they were inducted into the Loyal Leagues in almost solid mass. Then most of the white people withdrew, the Loyal League became in the hands of the carpet-baggers, mere agencies for instructing the negroes how to vote. But there was no instructions in the meaning of Civil Government, and the responsiblities of the ballot; instead there were curdous rites and mysterious ceremonies to impress upon their bewildered minds that "General Grant wanted them to vote the Republican ticket." This, of course, was the antithesis of Americanism whose essence is that every man should vote according to the dictates of his own conscience in the light of his own judgment. But it was natural for the negro to want to do what the victorious army wanted them to do.

c. Shortly after the Reconstruction Acts the Republican Party organized in Mississippi by the northern men in the state and the Southern "loyalists". In 1867 measures were taken to enroll all the negroes into the Republican Party, whcih was readily done by the loyal league. Then this party undertook to identify itself with the United States Government. Notwithstanding that half of the northern people were still Democrats who had supported the war against the confederacy.

The negroes believed that to vote the Republican ticket was to vote for the U. S. Government and to vote the Democrat ticket was to vote for the wouth and against their freedom, as if the war was still going on.

The Ku Klux Klan--originated in Tennessee, some young men in Tennessee hit upon the idea that things were being run in a high handed way, and they dressed themselves up like ghosts and by mysterious performances frightened the objectionable negroes into good behavior. This notion was soon copied in other communities. It suited conditions all over the South--not only negroes but Carpet-baggers were visited.

Violent acts began to occur under cover of the Klan and the Federal authorities advised the radical state officials, that there were assumed Ku Klux acts. Accordingly a bill was passed to suppress it, called the Enforcement Act. There has not been any records found showing that the five above mentioned agencies of Reconstruction ever cooperated or had any cause to operate in this part of Marion County--now Lamar County.

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History of Mississippi, Fant
IV. Mississippi History, Fant
S. E. and N. E. Slade, Lumberton, Miss.

Edla Crook.
Supv. Historical Research, Lamar County

Canvassers
Pauline Slade
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LAMAR COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

OUTLAW DAYS ASSIGNMENT # 14

I. Gang and feud leaders.

A. How they originated.

James Copeland, called the Southern Land Pirate, and his intimate associates: Gale H. Wages, President and chief of the clan; Chas. McGrath, Vice-president; McClain, Secretary and John Elva, Henry Sandford, Sampson Teapark, Richard Cable, the Vigilant Committee, William Brown and Mobile Tyler, all formed what is known as the Copeland Clan.

James Copeland joined the Wages-McGrath Clan in the year of 1839. He had started stealing small articles, as knives, etc., then he stole pigs and sold them at $2 each. He was put in jail and his mother had confidence in Wages and consulted him as to means of escape from punishment. He planned with them to destroy the Court House. Thus the Court House was burned, and Wages influenced him to join the Clan.

B. Date of first influence felt in your County, and what this influence was in a general way.

The first influence felt in this county was in 1843. Fear and dread reigned in all the County. There was a general outbreak of robbing and stock stealing, the County swarmed with idle characters

who had to be controlled with vigilants, organized to suppress the wave of crime that swept the country.

C. What they did and how they operated.

The Clan planned to murder Robert Lott and Tom Sumrall who lived near Oloh, then in Perry County, (now Lamar). They disguised themselves--Wages passed as a Mr. Jones, Harden as John Newton. They accomplished the killing of Robert Lott and Tom Sumrall and Wages gave Harden the map of all the roads in the County. They used a mystic alphabet and went out in disguise, carrying skeleton keys, locks, lockpicks, crow bars, and all kinds of tools. They stole and sold negroes, robbed houses, murdered, looted in the most fiendish manner. McGrath was a preacher, and he would hold revival meetings while the Clan stole horses on the outside.

D. Results.

Wages and McGrath had a difficulty with a farmer named Harvey, over a $40 note. Harvey shot and killed Wages and McGrath. Wages's people offered $1000 to James Copeland for the death of Harvey. James organized a band and set out to get Harvey. James and the outlaws with him hid out in his cabin on Big Creek, ten miles South of Lumberton. They had a fierce battle and Poole and Harvey were killed. It was here that James Copeland lost the map of the place where

the $30,000 in gold was buried. It has never been found and some say it is still buried in Catahoula Swamp.

James Copeland escaped but was later arrested and brought to trial at Old Augusta, Perry County. He was tried for the murder of Harvey--of all the crimes that he had committed they could not pin anything on him but murder. All the other members of the Clan met a violent death. Jim Copeland was hanged at Old Augusta, on the 30th day of October, 1857 at 4 o'clock P. M. The day before he was hanged he wrote the following letter to his mother.

October 29, 1857

Mrs. Rebecca Copeland

My dear Mother:

It is with painful feeling indeed that I attempt writing to you, upon the present occasion. I take this opportunity in knowing that at the same time it is the last one of the kind which I shall ever be permitted to enjoy upon this earth. It is long and much that I have suffered in prison since my first confinement in Mobile County and yet it seems as though nothing will pay my debt except my life. I've had my trial and was convicted upon a charge of murder and I have received the awful sentence of death. The sheriff told me that to-morrow at 4 o'clock I should

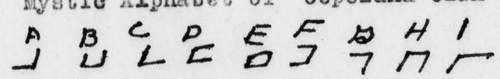
be hanged according to the order of the court.

Oh, my dear mother, what an awful thing is this to reach your ear. I would it could be otherwise, but you are aware that I justly merit the sentence, you are knowing to my being a bad man, and dear mother, had you given me the proper advice when young, I would now perhaps being doing well. It is often I have meditated upon this subject since my confinement in prison and often I have remembered my dear old father's advice when I was young, and repented a thousand times over with sorrow and regret that I have failed to receive it as good advice. If such a course I had taken no doubt I would be doing well at this time, but it is now too late to think of things past and gone. The time has come when I have to take my departure from this world, and it pains my heart to know that I have to leave my brothers and sisters. And much am I mortified to think how distantly you have treated me here. Not the first time have you been to see me, but I can excuse you for all this and I want you to prepare to meet me in Heaven. Mother, long has the time been when life has not been any satisfaction to me. I am now in the dungeon with the cold icy bars closed around me, cold as clay. Much have I suffered, but after 4 O'clock tomorrow my troubles will be over or worse than at present, this I am not able to tell. I have been praying to My God, praying for the pardon of my sins but I do not know whether my prayers

have been heard or not. The scriptures say that, "The spirit of the Lord will not always strive with Man." And again "He that call upon the Lord in the last days shall be saved." I believe that I have some spark of hope, but I tell you this hope hangs upon a slender thread. Dear Mother, it makes tears trickle down upon my cold cheeks to have to pen this to you. Dear Mother, I have to close this letter, my heart is overflowing already, so when you receive this you can keep it as a memorial, and remember that poor James is no longer on earth. I have bid you a long farwell. Dear mother, it appears that my very heart will break with the very thought of this, could I but see you once before my death, it would give my breaking heart some relief. Now my dear old mother, I bid you a long farewell, forever and ever.

James Copeland

Mystic Alphabet of Copeland Clan



II. Riots. None.

III. White Caps and Bull Doozers.

A. Purpose.

Numerous stories have been written on the life and experience of Will Purvis, known as the "Miracle Man", or the man who was hanged and still lives. His life on the gallows, in the convict camp and as a fugitive was all brought about by his being a member of the "White Caps". In the year 1893, when he had just returned from school at the age of 19 years, there

there was a secret clan known as the White Caps which had overrun Mississippi. They had banded together to promote a better regime of law and order. Their meetings were held in secret and no one but a member knew of their meeting place or their plans. The order was much like the Ku Klux Klan and must have been an outcropping of the original Klan.

B. None

C. Description of Procedure.

The White Cpas were held responsible for many acts of violence and disorder, some of which they were innocent. The law was very much opposed to the White Capping and even the Govenor of the State determined to destroy their power.

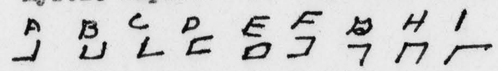
Soon after Will Purvis became a member of their Clan, some of the White Caps called on a negro, Sam Waller, who was a farm hand on the Buckley place nearby. Sam had been working for an aged widow in this community, who could pay only a very poor wage. The Buckley's knew Sams ability as a worker and finally obtained his service on their farm at a higher wage. The White Caps determined this an act of injustice to the poor widow and then and there marked the negro for vengence. They called at the Buckley farm that night and took Sam out and gave him a flogging. Will Purvis had nothing to do with the whipping, but was present when it took place.

Now the Buckleys were members of the White Caps

have been heard or not. The scriptures say that, "The spirit of the Lord will not always strive with Man." And again "He that call upon the Lord in the last days shall be saved." I believe that I have some spark of hope, but I tell you this hope hangs upon a slender thread. Dear Mother, it makes tears trickle down upon my cold cheeks to have to pen this to you. Dear Mother, I have to close this letter, my heart is overflowing already, so when you receive this you can keep it as a memorial, and remember that poor James is no longer on earth. I have bid you a long farwell. Dear mother, it appears that my very heart will break with the very thought of this, could I but see you once before my death, it would give my breaking heart some relief. Now my dear old mother, I bid you a long farewell, forever and ever.

James Copeland

Mystic Alphabet of Copeland Clan



II. Riots. None.

III. White Caps and Bull Doozers.

A. Purpose.

Numerous stories have been written on the life and experience of Will Purvis, known as the "Miracle Man", or the man who was hanged and still lives. His life on the gallows, in the convict camp and as a fugitive was all brought about by his being a member of the "White Caps". In the year 1893, when he had just returned from school at the age of 19 years, there

there was a secret clan known as the White Caps which had overrun Mississippi. They had banded together to promote a better regime of law and order. Their meetings were held in secret and no one but a member knew of their meeting place or their plans. The order was much like the Ku Klux Klan and must have been an outcropping of the original Klan.

B. None

C. Description of Procedure.

The White Cpas were held responsible for many acts of violence and disorder, some of which they were innocent. The law was very much opposed to the White Capping and even the Govenor of the State determined to destroy their power.

Soon after Will Purvis became a member of their Clan, some of the White Caps called on a negro, Sam Waller, who was a farm hand on the Buckley place nearby. Sam had been working for an aged widow in this community, who could pay only a very poor wage. The Buckley's knew Sams ability as a worker and finally obtained his service on their farm at a higher wage. The White Caps determined this an act of injustice to the poor widow and then and there marked the negro for vengence. They called at the Buckley farm that night and took Sam out and gave him a flogging. Will Purvis had nothing to do with the whipping, but was present when it took place.

Now the Buckleys were members of the White Caps

but denied this. They became very wrought up over the flogging of the negro and declared that they would report this to the sheriff. All members of the White Caps were stirred up over this and became wary, lest Sam had recognized some of their members.

The Grand Jury was in session in Marion County at the time. The White Caps called a meeting at Red Bluff on Pearl River and the death lot was cast for the murder of Will and Jim Buckley. So while the Buckleys were reporting the misdeamors of the Clan to the Grand Jury their neighbors were planning their murder. They held their meetings after dark and planned for the murder. Will Purvis had only attended two meetings of the Clan prior to this. He arose and stated that as long as the Clan stuck to the colored line that he was with them, but when it came to killing white members of the race they could count him out. He resigned that night and knew nothing more of the activities of the Clan.

D. Results.

Late one afternoon as the Buckley brothers and Sam were returning from Columbia, where they reported the whipping of Sam, they were fired upon from ambush and Will Buckley was killed from his saddle.

Buckley's murder was soon reported in town and the Sheriff, Jim Buckley, the Coroner and others returned and prepared Will's body for burial. Jim Buckley claimed that he saw Will Purvis near the scene of the murder and penned the crime on him. The next day, June 22, 1893, Will Purvis was summoned to appear before the

Grand Jury. About midnight that same night the Sheriff I. C. Magee and several deputies called at the home of Will Purvis's father to arrest Will and carry him to jail.

The following day his father engaged two lawyers, Watkins and Travis of Hattiesburg, Miss., to defend Will. In a short while he was taken to Meridian and placed in jail and remained there thirty days and then was returned to Columbia for trial. This was a special term of court. As public sentiment was running high at that time the Judge felt justified in calling a special term. Then the strenbous siege of trial and witness after witness summoned and questioned. After hours and hours of debating the Grand Jury returned the verdict-"We, the Jury, find the defendent guiltyas as charged in the indictment and recommend him to the mercy of the court." Then the Judge's sentence- "I sentence you (Will Purvis) to hang by the neck until you are dead, dead, dead, on the 5th day of September, 1893, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 3 P. M. at the jail, Marion County. This was to be a lesson to the White Caps.

It was September 6th, 1893, the Rev. Sibly read a short passage of scripture. The sheriff asked Will if he had anything to say, he stated that the only regret that he had was on account of his grief stricken mother and shouted, "I didn't do it; there are men out there among you who could save me if they would." The black cap was placed over his face and the trap sprung,

but the knot slipped and he was escorted to the scaffold the second time. The Rev. Sibly cried out, "We have seen a miracle from God and the hand of Providence slipped the noose." Then the vote was cast and was unamious to the effect that the act should not be repeated. He was taken back to jail and a new trial. The State Supreme Court confirmed the sentence and set the date ofr him to be hanged a second time on December 12, 1895. He was brought back to Purvis and stayed five months. On Sunday night friends broke jail and set him free. He hid out with friends until Feb. 1897, he gave up. Upon his surrender Gov. McLaurin sent him to Okley Farm between Natches and Jackson and he remained here until December 20, 1898 he was pardoned.

After coming home he married and reared a large family. In 1920, Joe Beard a resident of Marion County went before Toxey Hall, then Dis. Attorney and confessed to the murder of Will Buckley. After Purvis's innocence was established the Mississippi Legislature on March 15, 1920 appropriated $5,000 as a compensation for the services performed in the penitentitary through an erroneous conviction.

IV. Saloon Days.

A. Description.

In about the year of 1882 when the N. O. & N. E. Railroad came through this part of the country and the town of Purvis was first established, there were

open saloons. They were not called "Saloons" but were called Lumch Rooms but intoxicating liquor was sold very freely.

B. Leaders.

During those days whiskey played an important part in politics. 'Tis said that the candidate who furnished the most liquor got the most votes. Drunkards swore and staggered at the Public gatherings. They spent their money for drinks, thus neglecting their homes and families.

C. Results.

It was in May 1910 that Jerry Hall and Jack Bond shot and killed Charlie McMillan on the Main Street of Sumrall in front of the drug store. Killings in public were common. It was not considered safe to go out at night alone. The good citizenship were moved by the doings of the drinking class. A move was made to put restrictions upon the sale of intoxicating liquor.

V. Early Horse Thieves and Cattle Rustlers. None

VI. Periodic Outlaws and Deserters.

A. Any information.

Barney Lewis Train Robbery.

At the time Barney Lewis robbed the N. O. & N. E. train # 42, that runs from New Orleans to Meridian, of from $42,000 to $92,00 , he was a resident of Cocomo, Mississippi, in Marion County. He was about 38 years old at this time. It is said that Barney Lewis received a phone call in Hattiesburg, Miss., from New Orleans, La. that on the night of April 12, or 13

train #42 passing through Purvis, Miss. about 11 o'clock P. M. was to carry a large sum of money. Barney and a Mr. Ennis left Hattiesburg going to Okohola where Ennis stopped at the switch. Some say Lewis went on to Purvis, boarded the train there, others say between Purvis and Okohola where the train stops for water. Barney Lewis uncoupled the baggage car from the engine while Ennis crawled into the cab and told the engineer to drive a little farther down the track. Lewis went to the baggage car and found the safe had a double lock. Boring a hole in the safe and using one charge would not open the safe, so he bored another hole and put two charges of explosive in and opened the safe. After they had put the money into a mail pouch they fled into the woods and it took them two days to reach their home. On reaching their destination, Lewis gave Ennis $2000 for his part. Ennis went to Alabama, got drunk and penned $20 bills all over his clothes. It was in 1915 when these men were arrested for the robbery. This was brought about by Lewis buying a large farm and car loads of cattle and spending large sums of money in general. He was tried and convicted and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., serving about 7½ years of the sentence. He was tried in Federal Court, Biloxi, Miss.

LAMER COUNTY HSITORY

SULLIVAN & KILRAIN FIGHT.

One of the leading Historical Events of Lamar County occured July 8, 1889 but might be termed a national event, we have reference to the noted fistic battle between John L. Sullivan and Jake Kilrain which occured a the little town of Richburg, near Purvis.

The mighty Joh, L. Sullivan a giant in stature and strength had just clipped the wings of Paddy Ryan at Mississippi City and like Alexander the Great he was seeking other fields to conquer. About this time there appeared on the horizon of possibilities, one Jake Kilrain, a young man from Baltimore, Md. who had a wonderful record as a pugilist and who was ready to accept the gage of battle.

Negotiations begun for a contest between these rival pugilist, but difficulties at once arose which had to be overcome before they could be brought together. Prize fighting was outlawed then in Mississippi as well as in several other southern states.

Charlie Rich, a noted sportsman and the operator of a large saw mill at Richburg desired that Richburg should be the place of contest.

Governor Lowry received an inkling that an effort would be made to being the fight to Richburg. He issued a prlolamation forbidding the contest to be held in Mississippi and instructed Walter Cowart, Sheriff of Marion County, and his deputy, Otho Magee to prevent the contest. He also authorized them to swear in several deputies to assist them in preventing this disorder.

On the day set for the fight special trains begun to roll into the little town of Richburg from every direction and soon the entire hill was a seathing mass of humanity, determined to brave the fight.

A prize ring was erected and a little Conference was held in the home of Charlie Rich nearby and probably a few drinks were distributed and with a whoop and yell John L. Sullivan and Jake Kilrain entered the prize ring and there followed one of the most memorable fistic bouts recorded in the annals of prize fighting.

The contest lasted through 72 rounds. It must be remembered however, that the fight was governed by the London Prize Rules instead of Marquis Queensbury Rules which usually governed the prize fights today.

According to the London Prize Ring Rules, a round lasted until one of the contestants fell or was knocked down and it seemed to be the idea of Kilrain to worry his antagonist by dodging and evading him until he was so worried and annoyed that he would gain the advantage over his heavier and possibly more clumsy adversary.

It will be remembered that it was these identical tactics that was pursured by James Corbett when h dethroned the Mighty John L. in their memorable battle in New Orleans some years later.

During the latter part of the fight Kilrain would fall to the ground every time Sullivan would strike him or even make a motion to strike. This plan of Kilrain failed to succeed and Sullivan finally knocked him out in the 72d round.

The contest was fought with bare fists.

In present day ring battles more attention is paid to tirmmings and paraphanelia than to the physical manhood of the participants in the bout. It reminds one of the equipping the game cocks in the pit with steel spurs.

The wanton invasion of the state of Mississippi in violation of her laws and in the face of a solcum proclamation of a warning issued by the Supreme Authority of the state incensed the Governor to high pitch. He felt that to be defied by thugs from the North who trampled upon our laws without hesitation was more than any patriotic citizen of the state, charged with the orderly conduct of its affairs and people could stand. Governor Lowry immediately set about to have these violations of outlaws arrested and returned to Mississippi for prosecution . He had very little trouble in getting processes served and requisitions granted. The first to be returned for trial was the major offender, John L. Sullivan. With him came a large coterie of his friends, several of whom were co-defendents. An immense crowd of people gathered at Purvis for the trial. Hotel accomodations were limited and Holleman's Hotel, the only hostelery of any note in the town hung out the S. R. O. sign. I have heard H. C. Yawn who was the Supt. of the High School there at the time, state that he occupied a small room with two beds and had as his roommates, Judge S. H. Ferrell who presided at the trial, Gen. T. S. Ford principal council for the defense an James H. Neville prosecuting attorney. Lionel Adams of New Orleans, Marcellas Green of Jackson, Miss. and others were associated with Gen. Ford, members of Sullivan's defense council. The grand jury was duly empanneled with instructions to make due and deligent inquiry into this apparent mis-

lation of law. After deliberating for a couple of days they reported no true bill, whereupon Judge Ferrell summoned them to appear before him and proceeded to give them such a lecture as has seldom been heard delivered to a grand jury. He stated to them that there was no doubt the state law had been violated and that there were numbers of witnesses all over the ground that would testify to this fact, and that if they did not reconvene and proceed to do their duty that he would fire the whole panel bodily. It was only a few hours before a bill of indictment was brought in. The machenery of the Court had was then ready to begin operations.

Among Sullivan's friends who came with him from New York was a noted sportsman Mat Clune. He also stood trial and took his medicina with the balance. Billy Muldoon, who was Sullivan's trainer and who at that time was the champion wrestler of the world, was also present and notwith standing his affability and Chesterfieldan bearings, marched up before the tribunal and accepted his medicine with a winsome smile and a gracious bow. By-the-way, Billy Muldoon lived to a ripe old age and passed away only a few months ago. At the time of his death he was the champion one of the t ree members of the Boxing Commission of the City of New York and had been for a number of years. He, therefore, enjoyed the distinction of being the King of Madison Square Garden.

Another ~~el~~ celebrated personage who participated in the prize fight as referee entered a plea of guilty and received a fine of $1000.00. This was no less a person than John Fitzpatrick,

Mayor of the city of New Orleans. As soon as the Judge announced the amount of his fine, he pulled out a roll of green backs and began to peel off one hundred dollar bills handing them to the Sheriff. A young lawyer by the name of Perryman from New Agusta became so excited that he exclaimed, " Judge, you should have fined him twice that amount. Look at the money he has got." The Judge mildly rebuked him and said something about fining him for contempt of court. "Judge, don't do that, I couldn't pay a fine of two bits," remarked Perryman.

Most of the accused entered a plea of guilty and received fines arranging from $5.00 to $1000.

John L. Sullivan's trial was deferred until the last. He and his friends also expected the imposition of a fine and of course were exultant feeling that a nominal fine would be readily paid and that he would be released from custody.

Kilrain was not arrested and brought to Purvis for trial until nearly two weeks after the Sullivan trial begun.

When Sullivan(s case was submitted to the jury they were out only a few minutes and brought in a verdict of guilty. When the Judge requested Sullivan to stand up for sentence and propounded the usual question as to whether he had anything to say why the sentence of the court should not be pronounced against him, he replied with the confident air of assurance, "Judge, I am no speaker, but want the court to be as linent with me as possible." Thereupon Judge Ferrell pronounced the staggering sentence, " Mr. Sullivan I sentence you to serve twelve months in the county jail." This was one of the times Sullivan was completely knocked out.

Of course Sullivan's lawyers at once took an appeal to the Supreme Court of the state.

After conside able del y and much squabbling, the Supreme Court threw the case out and dismissed it on the technicality of a faulty indictment. The indictment alleged in Derbage substantially as follows: "On a certain day one John L. Sullivan did enter a ring, known as a prize ring and did then and there engage in what is commonly known as prize fight against the peace and dignity of the State of Mississippi." The Supreme Court held that since the indictment did not allege that Kilrain fought with Sullivan that this omission was fatal to the indictment. This decision has been much critized in the years gone by.

As we have already said Kilrain's followed the conclusion of Sullivan's trial immediately, and Kilrain having seen the "hand-writing on the wall", entered a plea of guilty and likewise was sentenced to twelve months in the county jail.

At that time there was a state law which permitted any person to lease convicts upon payment of a fixed sum to the state. Charlie Rich very promptly paid the amount due the state for the twelve months lease of Jake Kilrain. Dad Cowan who was living at Richburg at the time and who witnessed the fight states that Kilrain visited the mill a few times during the twelve months and handled a few dolly loads of lumber, that Kilrain and Charlie Rich spent most of their time in New Orleans, and that it was during this period that Kilrain had his famous bout with Jim Hall, another noted pugilist of the day. He knocked Hall out after several rounds of furious fighting. This ends the story of one of the most famous prize-ring battles thatever occured.

Sullivan has been dead for several years but till probably always be regarded as one of the most popular pugilists that ever lived. Kilrain received a terrible punishment at the hands of Sullivan from which he suffered for several weeks, but on his recovery and on the expiration of his term of services to Charlie Rich he returned to his native city, Baltimore where we understand he has since led an honorable upright life, commanding the highest respect of his fellow citizens. He has a son to whom he devotes much time in athletic training, but asserts that his boy shall never enter a prize-ring if he can prevent it.

In concluding this story we must be impressed with the fact that no matter how deligent we may be in our effort to suppress crime and how honest our effort may be as citizens and officials to do this, we can not always be wholly successful. The trial of Sullivan and Kilrain was an honest effort on the part of the law abiding citizens of Lamar County to punish wrong doing. The Judge in the case, S. H. Ferrell who adorned later, the Supreme Court bench of the state with distinction, was fair and just in all his rulings in the case. Not one of these were questioned or formed the basis of exception on the part of any attorney for the prosecution, yet all of this precaution and all of the expense incurred on the part of the county and state came to naught, yielding to the onslaught of the lawyer, hiding behind the screen of senseless technacalities. We have said that this trial took place soon after the town of Purvis was established. The second Judicial District of Lamar County had just been granted. Purvis having

been established as the County site of this district, a temporary court house had been erected just east of the site of the present site of the courthouse. It was a frame building, flimsily erected and not at all sufficient to accomdate the immense crowd that gathered for this trial.

Reference Assignment #14

I. Life and Confessions of James Copeland, J. R. S. Pitts

II. None

III. Life of Will Purvis, Francis William Griffith

IV. None

VI. (a) J. A. Johnson, Lumberton, Miss. Mr. Hall, Purvis, Miss.

(b) H. C. Yawn, Lumberton, Miss. (deceased)
Dad Cowan, Lumberton, Miss.

Ella Crook.
SUPERVISOR OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH
PROJECT, LAMAR COUNTY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #14 OUTLAWS 3

BOSS WEATHERFORD TO HANG

Boss Weatherford, who was convicted of the murder of John Dearman, last December, and who was tried at the January term of circuit court, in Lamar County and was convicted of murder, but took an appeal to the Supreme Court, was denied to, a new trial in the decisions, was made public Monday and is to be hung the 1st Monday of December next.

Weatherfords case was reviewed by Judge Etherage, who in commenting on the case referred to it as one of the most atrocious crimes in the history of the state and that he did not see fit to set aside the verdict of the 12 men who tried him in the lower court.

This will be the first hanging in Lamar County and will be necessary to build a scaffold for the ocassion as the county has never had one built. Weatherford is not the first man to be sentenced to hang here. Some 20 or 25 years ago John Brock was convicted of the murder of a Mr. Cale, of Baxterville, but because of his age the sentence was later set aside and he was given a life time in the penitentary. He served several years of his sentence when he, with several other life termers accepted a proposition by the state medical authorities to undergo an experiment to determine the cause and cure of pellegra. They were fed a certain diet which consisted of corn meal bread made from musty meal. It was claimed that most of them developed the disease and after undergoing treatment was cured and pardoned. Brock had been free only about a year when he was killed in a fight at, or near Picayune, Mississippi.

Attorneys Broadus and Williamson who were appointed by

the court to defend Weatherford at his trial in circuit court have not stated if further attempts will be made to save Weatherford from the gallows.

Mrs. Nellie Dearman, wife of John Dearman, the murdered man was also tried for the same crime, but the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty".

BOSS WEATHERFORD PAYS WITH LIFE
CONDEMMEND MAN GOES TO GALLOWS WITH A SMILE, MAKES NO LAST MINUTE STATEMENT

At 1 o'clock P. M. Willie Ross(Boss) Weatherford paid with his life the debt he owed society, for the murder of John Dearman. On December 26, 1933 when the trap was sprung by Sheriff George M. Cain that sent the condemend man to his death, 18 minutes afterwards Weatherford was pronounced dead by three physicians, Dr. L. L. Polk, S. E. Reece, and Dr. J. N. Mason.

Weatherford was brought to Purvis, early Thursday morning by Sheriff Cain and Deputy Joe Cole, the town Marshall, George Thomas from the county jail at Poplarville, Mississippi. They were accompanied by Pearl River County officers. Upon arrival here the prisoner was taken to the county jail, but before being taken to the cell requested that he be shown the gallows. This request granted and Weatherford seemed very little disturbed when he looked at it. In fact, every since the crime was committed he has assumed a cool and jovial attitude, which never left him even in his last few seconds, he had to live after he was placed on the trap door of the gallows.

Hundreds of people crowded the court and jail yards from early morning until after the execution took place only

about 25 people actually witnessed the hanging, these had previously been given the permission by Judge J. Q. Langston, upon their names being submitted to him by the sheriff.

Weatherford was taken to Poplarville, Mississippi from the state supreme court refused to interfere with the death sentence pronounced by Judge Langston at the January term of court. He had been in Jackson, Miss. for safe keeping, it was said, until them his attorneys, A. Q. Broadus, and T. L. Williamson and J. D. Hatten taken every every legal advantage, but to no avail. Attorney Broadus, the leading attorney for the defence refusing to give up hope of saving his client's life until the very last when he appealed to Govenor Conner to commute the death sentence to life imprisonment.

Just before Weatherford was taken to the death trap, sheriff read the death warrant to him; his comment after the reading was, "they gave me plenty, didn't they".

He was accompanied from the cell to the gallows by the sheriff, Rev. D. A. Hogan, a number of officers from other counties and three lady reporters. His first words at the gallows were, "a fellow might fall through there(meaning the trap door) and hurt himself". He then looked up where the rope was tied and remarked, "that looks like a skidder bolt". He then asked if he would be allowed to talk to the Govenor, (evidently he thought that the Govenor was present) and when Sheriff Cain told him that it would be useless for to do so, that everything had been done for him that was possible to save his life. He made no further comment about the Govenor. Deputy Joe Cole asked him if he wan ted totalk with any one present, and he asked that he be allowed to talk with Miss

Joe Williams, of Poplarville who came forward. After a few low spoken words were exchanged between them, and Weatherford then, without assistance removed his shoes for the rope to be tied around his ankles. After securely trying his ankles, Deputy Cole and W. R. Owens of Columbia tied his arms to his body and then handcuffed his hands behind him.

Rev. D. A. Hogan pastor of the Baptist church here read from the 13th and 14th chapter of John, and after a few remarks offered prayer for the prisoner. Just before the cap was put over his head Miss Williams, seeing perhaps neither brother nor sweetheart present to bid him goodbye, stepped up and kissed him, saying "good-bye Boss, God bless you." Miss Williams had also placed her hand on Weatherford's while Bro. Hogan was pryaing for him.

The cap was then put on by deputy Cole and Owens, after which Mr. Owens put the rope around his neck and adjusted it. After the cap was put on his head Weatherfor never spoke again, and the very last words spoken before the trap was sprung was said by the sheriff as he reached with his left hand for the lever and said, "good-bye Boss, may God bless you." The prisoner was then shot through the trap, the rope tightning just before his feet reached the floor below. The fall broke his neck, and it was said that not even a quivering of the body was observed after the drop of eight feet.
The calculations by those who prepared the rope was perfect, as there was only an inch or two space between the feet and the floor.

Henry Dearman, brother of John Dearman, the murdered man was a witness and stood a few inches of the prisoner while he

was being prepared for hanging. All Friday morning Weatherford was in a joking humor, and laughed and ate a hearty dinner, which had been especially prepared for him, and never at any time showed the least trace of nervousness. Just before his execution he took from his pocket a telegram, that was said to have been from his sweetheart and as he held it , reading it over for the last time, his hands were just as strong as if they had been made of steel.

In a conversation with Boss Thursday morning, the writer asked him if he had been treated good since he had been a prisoner, his reply being that he could have been treated better. He also asked the writer to thank abb of the officers and all the people in general with whom he had come in contact since his confinement. He asked that Sheriff Sam Russ of PearlsRiver County and Judge J. Q. Langston be especially thanked for their m many acts of kindness. He commented at length on the kindness of Sheriff Cain and his deputies, saying that he had nothing against them or any one else. O. W. Ladner remained in the cell with Weatherford from the time he was brought to Purvis until the hanging. Weatherford's former pastor, Rev. M. W. Matthews visited him in jail Thursday morning and told him he had been praying for his soul, for which the prisoner thanked him and asked him to come back to see him again.

Weatherford was born in Neshoba County, 35 years ago the 31st day of Aug. He moved to Lamar County when he was a small boy. His mother died in 1917, he was the eldest of four children, all boys and all now living. His aged father also survives.

Several years ago Weatherford joined the Tabernacle Baptist Church here in Purvis, but was dropped from the roll when the crime was committed, according to a statement made by him yesterday. He followed public work and farming after school.

Although Lamar County was formed in 1904 from the Second District of Marion County, no one has ever been hung here before, although several have been given life sentence.

Weatherford was arraigned for trial at the January term of Circuit Court, which convened only a month after the crime was committed. The grand jury in session during that term of circuit court filed the bill of murder against him.

Being financially unable to employ counsel, the court appointed Attorneys Broadus and Williamson to defend him. They associated with him in this case Attorney J. D. Hatten, of Sumrall, Miss. To try this case a special venire was summoned and from this the jury was empanneled. The jury who tried Weatherford were: N. D. Rankin, Shed Davis, W. O. Smith, Clinton Yawn, Guy Howell, Albert Anderson, H. L. Hendrick, J. W. Hemba, G. W. Slade, W. S. Brock, P. E. Davis, and M. C. Bryant. Judge Langston presided as judge and Toxey Hall, District Attorney, and L. C. Bridges county attorney, prosecuted Weatherford.

The case aroused unusual interest and a plea of guilty was not allowed by the court. The defendant admitted when put on the stand that he committed the crime. The jury did not ask the mercy of the court, therefore under the Mississippi law no other sentence but that of death could be pronounced by the judge.

Judge Langston pronounced the death sentence and set the date for

March 11, of this year.

Defense Attorneys appealed to Supreme Court, delaying the day of execution and when the case came before them confirmed the decision of lower court and set the day of execution on Dec. 1st. Weatherford, being the first man to hang in Lamar County the event would ordinarly create a great deal of excitement, but so smoothly did Sheriff Cain and other officials handle the matter that there was no disturbance whatever, and but for the gathering of an unusually large crowd of people on the court house grounds, nothing unusual took place. The crowd was well behaved and preparations for hanging went forward without a hitch. The very closest friends of Sheriff Cain knew that although he regretted that it had befallen his lot to carry out the sentence of death and spring the trap that would send the accused man to his doom; that his respect for law and his high regard for the sacred path he had taken tould not hesitate. Thus when the hour struck, with a prayer for Weatherford on his lips, he did his duty.

The Booster, May 26, 1933.

Ella Brook

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT # 14

OUTLAWS- March 27, 1937

TWO DIE IN WRECK NEAR HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

SOUTHERN FAST TRAIN FROM NEW ORLEANS IS DERAILED NEAR HATTIESBURG

Hattiesburg, Miss. June 15, 1921. Wrecked by some unidentified person who was familiar with the railroad operations, is the verdict of railroad men and county officials. Following the crash in the ditch last night about 11:15, the Southern fast train from New Orleans to Cincinnati, about four miles south of hear, in which two men met their death and four injured. One arrest has been made, not of anyone charged with the crime but of a white man named Norris, who is alleged to have said that he knew or had a hunch that train No. 42 would never reach Hattiesburg. Morris is a young man said to have been recently discharged from the Navy, and officers are inclined to believe that he was hoboing his way on another train at the time that the rails were being loosened and the train wrecked.

Killed in the wreck were engineer James B. Jackson of Meridian, Miss. , and his fireman, Frank Bigott, also of Meridian. Both were shriners, prominent in Masonic circles and carried the emblem abroad their engine. They had an enviable reputation for safety, officers of the railroad said, there was no question but that the rails of the roailroad had been loosened. Passengers abroad the train found where spikes had been with drawn,

The locomotive, tender and first four coaches left the rail, tearing up the railroad bed for more than 3 or 4 hundred

feet. All the cars were steel and did not crumble. The injured riding in on the first coaches were: Philip Cooper, Negro hobo, both of his arms were broken with internal injuries. Not seriousely hurt were F. J. White, baggage master, riding with conducter, U. F. White in baggage car, severly injured, probably will recover; U. F. White, conductor of train, knee injured.

Those abroad the train testifuied that the train was on time, and was not running more than 35 miles an hour, having reached the top of the long upgrade known as the Richburg Hill.

Blood hounds were rushed to the train but could not pick up the trail from the pinch-bar. The right away from here to New Orleans was cleared here late this evening. The train was carrying a private car at the time of the accident, being abroad among other railroad officiaas, S. R. Prince, council for the railroad, George Felton, claim agent, and others. This other pullman was taken safely from the wreck. Passengers from New Orleans , north bound were taken by special train on their way about three thirty this morning. Jackson is survived by his wife and several children., Bigott was also a married man and had two small children.
Copied from The Free Press, June 16, 1921.

TRAIN ROBBERY MYSTERY SOLVED, BARNEY LEWIS.

Barnye Lewis, aged 40 was arrested at his home yesterday in Tangiphoa or 4 miles from that Parish, on a charge of being one of three men who held up a Queen and Crescent Train at Okahola, Miss. Lamar County, May 1, blew open the express

mar and escaped with a sum said to be $92,000.

The arrest was made by Sheriff Ballard of Tangihoa, and Detective T. K. Trigg, of Birmingham, Ala. Trigg brought Lewis to New Orleans last night and kept him in the Parish prison. They will leave at 8:00 o'clock this morning for Purvis, Mississippi, Lamar County in the County site in the robbery section.

SHADOWED FOR A YEAR

According to Trigg, the evidence against Lewis is conclusive. His trail picked up ten days after the hold-up, one of the most daring in history. Lewis has been shadowed every since. The other two men, the detective says, are on the verge of arrest in a town near Birmingham, Ala. Lewis wouldn't talk, except to say that he could prove an alibi, by friends in New Orleans. He named Dr. Swords as a man who could testify in his favor, "You want get nothing from me", he said.

Trigg claims that Lewis made a practical confession on the way to New Orleans last night. "He told me he knew that he was being shadowed for eight or nine months," said Trigg. "This is a relief from and awful suspense", he said. "A dozen dicks have crossed my path in the last few months. I could pick out every one and I knew my arrest was coming." Everywhere I went, I knew a dettective was shadowing me." and then he intimated that it was up to us to convict him. We have got the goods strong on him, every move that he has made, the detectives have followed him, if he is the right party that has served time in the ~~Mississippi~~ Penitentiary, in Alabama.

I think, too, that he is the same man who blew up the penitentary in Jackson,Miss. several years ago and escaped. One of his early jobs was at Reform, Ala., many years ago, when he and others cracked the safe of the Southern Express Company and made away with a lot of money. He was arrested, placed under a nominal bond, and jumped it.

Lewis will be placed in jail at Purvis, Miss. Lamar County to-day, he want be kept in jail very long. The guards will be on him all the time.

An effort is being made to connect Lewis with a gang that robbed the express cars of the Illinois Central at Batesville, Miss. two months ago, according to a statement by Sheriff Ballard of Amite City, last night. The gang has been traced to that vicinity. Trigg does not place much confidence in that theory, he thinks Lewis has retired from the "Yegg" gang.

Of information against Lewis he is amodern alias Jimmy Valentine. He wanted to live a straight life and with proceeds from the Northeastern Robbery he intended to establish himself as a peacable citizen. After this work at Okohola Lewis came to New Orleans, he was in and out of the city for several months, it is said. Then he married a young girl. Just when he married; officers don't know, but behing him in Tangiphoa farm yesterday afternoon, he kissed a sweet faced weeping woman good-by, the detective says, for several minutes they were in embrace, husband in handcuffs. The woman expects his early return to the farm.

After marrying the girl, Lewis went straight into Tangiphoa and spent several days prospecting. Then he purchased a 200 acres farm four miles from Tangiphoa Station, took his wife

there and furnished the house in elaborate style, prepared to settle down and live a peaceful life. Then the detectives began to pop up now and then in Lewis's sight, his happiness began to fade, deep lines began to appear in his face and his eyes sank back into his head, but Lewis did not flinch. This is according to the detective's story.

Lewis prospered on his farm. He has one of the finest cotton crops in the parish and is said to have beenrecently on another deal which would involve $5000. He did not work the land himself, but acted as overseer, kept an itemized account. He was highly respected and his arrest yesterday afternoon created a surprise to his neighbors. He offered no resistance when the officers drove up in the buggy but walked part of the way to meet them.

"You are Mr. Lewis?", the sheriff asked.

"Yes," he replied,

"We have a warrant here for your arrest,"continued the officer The Sheriff made further explanation. Lewis only grinned when Trigg pulled out a pair of handcuffs and clamped them to his wrist. He agreed to make the trip to Purvis, Lamar County, Miss. without any extradition papers.

The robbery was committed in the early morning of May 16, 1912, just out of Okahola, about eight miles from Hattiesburg, Miss. and was committed by only two men of average build, who succeeded in perfecting their escape through the swamp surrounding the scene of the desperate deed. The hold-up was done in a truly wild and wooly manner. Riding quietly out of the Station in Hattiesburg, until they passed Okahola,

the two robbers, wearing masks, carrying revolvers crawled over the tinder commanded the engineer and fireman to stop the train.

"Shall I stop here?" querried the frightened engineer when the scare had worn off.

"No, just around that curve", commanded the robber with a flourish of his revolver.

When the train came bumping to a halt the desperadoes, commanded the engineer crew to precede them to the baggage car. At the door the engineer was forced to call a messenger. When he responded looking out the door of a car, he was looking into the nose of a blue steeled revolver.

"Call your friend," suggested one of the robbers with an air of bravado.

Forced to the door from curiosity, the special guards found little consolation in looking down the face of a heavy gun. The robbery, while theaterical in the extreme, was effected without a shot being fired.

After the train crew had been lined up and searched for weapons, one of the robbers stood guard while the other attempted to crack the safe. Before the patented lock affair was blown open, six shots of nitroglycerine had to be prepared by the bandits.

Scooping up the fat rolls of currency and as much of the silver that they could carry comfortable, the robberies without as much as a glance at the dollars scattered about the car ordered the train forward. When the train had gone out of sight the two disappeared around a cut in the trees and were later

trailed along a log road with hounds, until the trail was lost in the swamp. They were ultimately believed to have escaped with the use of a motor boat hidden in one of the numerous bayous southeast of where the robbery occurred. The robbery entailed about $92,000 while $300 was left scatterd around the car and stuck to the safe which had been blown. Oweing to the amount of money carried the car had been equipped with a special safe, with a special lock and carried a special guard. The arrest and conviction of the two men entailed a reward of $1000 offered by the Adams Express Company.

BIRMINGHAM ALA. Aug. 17, 1913.

Henry Ennis, alleged to be one of the bandits that held up and robbed train No. 42 on the N. O. and N. E. railroad on the night of May 1, 1912, and secured $92,000 from the Southern Express Safe, was captured at 4:45 this morning, seven miles from Carbon Hill in the western part of Alabama. The arrest was made a party of Birmingham detectives. Ennis was brought to Birmingham and lodged in jail here. He refused to make any statement.

FREE PRESS, Aug. 21, 1913. Pearl River County paper.

Ella Crook

ELLA CROOK, SUPERVISOR

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #14 Outlaws

ENNIS SERIOUSELY SICK TELLS OF TRAIN ROBBERIES
CONFESSES HIS PART IN TWO AFFAIRS AND SAYS LEWIS HELPED HIM.

Hattiesburg, Miss. Aug. 23.--All doubt of a confession from Jerry Ennis has been removed. The confession was made in the Forest County jail and a transcript of it made by Gower Meader of this city. The release of Henry Enis followed the confession and his connection with the case will end after the preliminary trial of Jerry Enis and Barney Lewis at Purvis next Friday before Justice Parker, Express Agents say that the trial will be a calm affair, as they have all of the testimony necessary to convict both men.

According to the confession, as reported, the men in question held up both the N. O. and N. E. near this city and the Mobile and Ohio near Corinth a few weeks earlier. Enis states that the booty acquired at Corinth was only $427 and after the comparatively small haul he returned to his Alabama home and was earning a living by the sweat of his brow;on March the 1, 1912, after the Mobile and Ohio hold up, he(Enis) was plowing in his field when Lewis came and suggested antoher train robbery, and after much persuasion induced him to come to Mississippi and take a part in the hold up. They came to the state and on the night of the hold-up at Okahola , they boarded the train at Purvis and after a short run, they covered the engineer and fireman and ordered the train stopped.

They marched these men back to the express car and demanded that car opened. Enis stood guard while Lewis did the work.

This P. M; Engineer Marker and Fireman Jones were both taken to the jail and identified the prisoners as the men wo held them up. They stated that they could recognize them by their voices. Enis states that after the work was accomplished he was handed the largest bag of booty, while Barney Lewis came from the car with his arms filled with bills. He states that they stopped after having gone a short distance and burned all papers except money. He says they took no jewelry. He also says that the story that they made their escape in an auto--Mobile, is not true, for they walked all that night and the next day till they came to a branch line of the Illinois Central(Supposed to be the Kentwood and Tylertown branch) and after reaching the main line, they went to Winona, Miss., leaving this point. They buried their money at some point in Miss. before reaching the Alabama line. Enis does not recall the place the treasure was buried.

The story goes further that on or about, Sept. 1, 1912 Lewis came to Enis' home in Alabama, bringing him $9000 and was told that this was his share of the booty. Rumor yesterday was that Jerry Enis made his brother Henry a present of $1000 of this money and that was the connection Henry had in the case. Enis, it seems, does not know the full amount of money gotten.

R. L. McDaren of Vicksburg, Chief counsel for the South Bound Express Company, is in the city and has associated Tally and Mason with him to assist in the prosecution of accusal at Purvis, Friday. Enis is very ill

in the county jail. His temperature is 104. Express Railroad Officials are resting on their oars, having the case well in hand and satisfied with the work this far. No other persons implicated and Detective Trigg and Bodeker have returned home.

** Ella Crook.
Supervisor Historic al Research
Lamar County

Lucy Morehead
Canvasser.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #14 OUTLAWS

W. C. Walters, the alleged kidnapper of little Robert Dunbar is sent to Opelousus, La. where he will stand trial. (Feb. 15, 1914). Walters kidnapped the child from a camp in Opelousus, La. (copied from The Columbian, Feb. 15, 1914)

During the time Walters was hiding with the child from the law, he traveled through Marion and Lamar Counties. When Walters was traveling through the central part of Lamar County he went to the home of Mrs. Fannie Blackburn in Purvis, Miss. and asked for something to eat. When Mrs. Blackburn fed the man she did not know that he was the alleged kidnapper of Little Robert Dunbar. Had she known and notified the officers she would have received the reward.

The above statement taken from Mrs. Fannie Blackburn, Purvis Miss.

LUMBERTON STORE BURGLARIZED

News reached our county officers, Wednesday morning from Lumberton, Miss. that one of the nights previous, the store of R. W. Hinton had been burglarlized. From meager information received several parties are thought to have participated in the robbery. A number of tailor made suits, cigars and $25 or $30 in cash and other articles are known to be missing. No clues to the perpertrators. Our officers are on the lookout, as they have been advised that the parties were thought coming this way.
Copied from Marion County Files, The Columbian, 1914.

$10,000 for Will Purvis

Representative John A. Yeager of Lamar County, introduced a

a bill in the house this week for the relief of Will Purvis. The bill appropriates $10,000 and reads that it is given as a measure of recompense for the erroneous prosecution , conviction and punishment of the said Will Purvis of the state of Mississippi, relative to the assassination of Will Buckley in Marion County, Miss. in the year of 1893.

A little over a year ago the real murderer of Buckley confessed on his deathbed the crime, finally clearing the name of Purvis, whom many have believed innocent. The Columbian was the first paper to announce to the world the confession and a day or two after its issue the leading Metropalitian papers played the news up in big business. The Columbian, Jan. 17, 1918.

HOLDUP GANG MAKES RICHBURG HAUL

Train No.2 upon the New Orleans and northeastern railroad, due here in Hattiesburg at 11:08 P. M. was held up about one-half hour ride south of here in Lamar County last night by two masked men.

The robbers molested only the express car in which they blew the safe and robbed it of, it is estimated, $ 200,000. Five charges of dynamite were used in blowing the safe, while one of the robbers worked on the safe, the other stood guard over the train crew.

The train had stopped to take water when the robbers boarded it. One robber lined up the train crew alongside the train while the other entered the express car. The train was carrying a large amount of government money from New Orleans to eastern points. Two guards were in the express when it was entered;

one of them was disarmed and sent back into the passenger coaches to warn the passengers of the fact that the train was being robbed. The guard was instructed to tell the passengers to hide their valuables.

After looting the express car the robbers left the train and took to the woods. One of the packages taken is said by the messenger to have contained $14,000. The chief of police of Hattiesburg and the sheriff of Forrest County have left with the bloodhounds and will endeavor to trail the bandits while the trail is fresh. A large posse of Hattiesburg citizens accompanied the officers--County officers were notified. Possees were immediately formed and mounted on horses started in pursuit of the robbers, who it is said, took a northeasterly direction, evidently heading for the Alabama State Line. (This is known as the Barney Lewis Train Robbery)
(Copied from Marion County record files of May 16, 1912)

SULLIVAN'S DEATH RECALLS RICHBURG FIGHT

John L. Sullivan, world famous pugilist and once heavyweight champion of the world, was given his second and final knockout, last Saturday; this time by death. Any mention of Sullivan is of more than ordinary interest to Marion Countains, as some of the most important events of his life are also events in the history of the county. One of the greatest fights ever staged in the pugilistic world was fought at Richburg,(then in Marion County, now in LamarCo.) between Sullivan and Jake Killrain in the summer of 1889. A great many of our present citizens witnessed the fight. In fact

Sheriff Webb, at the command of Gov. Stone, with a number of deputies went to Richburg to arrest and imprison the pugilists and the promothers; but they were merely given admission and the fight was called. In the 71 round Sullivan delivered a decisive blow to his antagonist, which decided the day in his favor, giving him the well merited title of Heavy Weight Champion of the World, together with a purse of about $20,000.

Immediately after the fight, the pugilists fled the state, but Sullivan returned upon learning that he had been indicted. He was tried at Purvis, Miss. and was convicted and fined $1000. The fine was promptly paid. Killrain returned later, and he too was tried and convicted. He drew a jail sentence and Charlie Rich, chief promoter of the fight hired him out.

A few years later, Sullivan made a tour of the United States, offering $100 to the person who would knock him out. He knocked out 50 men on that tour. However, he afterward met his Waterloo in New Orleans, La. Here, after a siege of dissipation, he was handed the knockout by James J. Corbett. In after years he is said to have contended that it was not Corbett but John Barleycorn, that defeated him. He accordingly addressed himself to the task of handing Johnnie the knockout, in which he was successful. This last victory, and not the knockout he gave Killrain, he claimed was the greatest victory of his life.
(The Columbian, Feb. 7, 1918)

WILL PURVIS

The petition for the pardon of Will Purvis, the Marion County whitecapper, who miraculously escaped the hangmans noose

by the slip of the rope and is now serving a life sentence in the penitentary, has received over 100 signatures among the members of the Legislature. This petition is signed by all officers in Marion County, with some 1700 citizens of the county. Representative Hathorne of Marion County, will present these petitions to the government in a day or two.
The Pearl River News, Feb. 4, 1898.

SEVERELY BEATEN DEPUTY SHERIFF OF LAMAR COUNTY THE VICTIM.

The following was taken from Thursdays Hattiesburg Daily Program and will doubtless be news to many of our readers. As Mr. Fields is known by many, news reached Hattiesburg of a desperate affray that took place in a remote part of Lamar County, a couple of days ago, which Deputy Sheriff Williams Fields was beaten almost to death by two negro prisoners whom he was escorting through the county.

The prisoners were picked up by officer Field at South Seminary, wanted in Lamar County for theft. They had gone about nine miles and had reached a bridge crossing Bowie Creek, when the negroes suddenly attacked the officer, he was altogether unsuspecting the onslaught, and before he could recover from his astonishment he had been pulled from his horse and the negroes were beating him over the head. They took his pistol from him and beat him over the head with it until he was almost unconscious. During the fierce struggle the combatants fell from the bridge to the ground below, a distance of about 30 feet. The fight lasted 5 or 10 minutes.

The officer called for help and a white boy and a negro who were at work in a field near by, heard the alarm and hurried to the scene. One of the negros had already fled, when they arrived, and the other, who had beaten the officer into insensebility, ran off as they approached. As soon as the affair was reported at Seminary, posses were oragnized under the leading Deputy Sheriff Britten and J. L Scott. These posses went out in different directions in the hope of capturing the murderous blacks, but although several arrests were made on suspicion none of them proved to be the right person.

Deputy Sheriff Fields was treated by physicians who who went out from Seminary. He was found exhausted and bleeding from the ears, nose and mouth, as the result of the blows administered by the negros.

copied from, The Columbian, Thur. July 28, 1904.

Mrs Ella Crook. Supervisor

Incomplete. Good as far as it goes. L.S.

Canvassers
Pauline Slade
Helen Entrekin
Mildred Hendrick

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 10.

RACES AND NATIONALTIES OF COUNTY

1. Population--Census Report, according to nationalties.

a. White

The latest census for which population figures are available for counties is 1930.

The population of Lamar County in 1930 was 12,848, of which 10,084 were native white.

b. Negro

The negro population of Lamar County in 1930, was 2,729.

c. None

d. None

e. Others: there were 35 foreign born white people in 1930.

2. Indians (Assignment # 9) None.

3. Negro

a. What they have done.

1. Industrially.

The Negroes in Lumberton are divided into three districts, or quarters: Big Quarters, Love Quarters, and Wells Quarters. Inthese quarters are quite a number of progressive negroes---who are trying to better the conditions of their people.

There are four merchants, doing fairly well in

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

their line of business, namely: W. M. McCelland, Fletcher Watson, Dock Long, Charlie Viviens. Two restaurants owned by Herbert Powe and Tom Page; one Barber Shop and a Pressing Shop.

The Negroes in Sumrall came there when it was a successful saw mill town and are stranded there. Out from Sumrall about twelve miles is a colony of negroes on Little River who are very progressive farmers. They have their own church and school.

Within the city limits of Sumrall the negroes have one Pressing Shop.

There are a good many negroes in Purvis. Some have been there for years. They are not so prosperous, mostly farmers. Some work on the Rail Road. They have a very good grammer school and two churches.

2. Educationally.

The Lumberton negroes think much of their education. They have a High and Grammer school and music is taught by Miss Darius Alexander. The teachers are Rebecca Green, Annabel Stevenson, Mary Neely, Pearl Peters, Anna Snoddy, Geraldine Weary, Ernestine Weary, Lester Bell Mundy. The Professor is C. F. Edwards , he and Prof. Percy C. Baile are graduates of Alcorn College. Although none of the others in the Quarters have completed their college work they all have higher education than the average negro and are doing much to eliminate illiteracy among their people.

Sumrall has one teacher, Silas Weston who has six years

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

college work and forty years teaching experience.

Purvis has one educated negro, Tom Sharp who has had six years college work and forty years teaching experience.

3. Fine Arts.

Most negroes have a love for music and singing. A good deal of talent in this line is to be found in Lumberton. There is a Quartet, widely known in this state, with the following singers; Alphonse Parker, Clifton Parker Albert Nobles, Willie Harris. They go to different places and sing. Three outstanding singers who are now in the C. C. C. Camps, are: John H. Snoddy, A. B. Curry, and Eugene Thomas. They have and still do travel in many states and sing as a Trio or in group singing. Geraldine Weary and Lillian Snoddy are excellent piano players.

Purvis also has a Quartet composed of the Grey family. Socially the negroes in Lumberton are quite active. They have eight churches in these three quarters, with pastors for each church. There are many local preachers. They have organized clubs and societies. Some of these are: 1. Womans's Home Missionary Society, 2. The Happy Helpers Club--Sponsors all social entertainments, picnics, plays, etc. 3. Pastors Aid Club--look after the needs of their pastors, 4. Y. W. A. and Starlight Band, sponsored by Baptist Church, 5. Epworth League and Ladies' Aid--both of the Methodist Church.

Some of the most prominent men and women in these districts are: E. L Allen, Rev. M. A. Allen, Rev. T. P. Peterson

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Mrs. F. H. Neely and B. W. Adams.

Peter Rich is a very good farmer and well known around the Purvis District.

Signed Miss Ella Crook.
Supervisor Historical Research Project
Lamar County

REFERENCE

ASSIGNMENT #10.

1. William Colmer - Census Bureau, Washington, D. C.

2.

3. Lester Bell Monday -Lumberton, Miss.

Lomax Barr - Sumrall, Miss.

Evangeline Lee --Sumrall

Tom. Sharp -Purvis, Miss.

T. W. Davis, Sr. --Purvis, Miss.

D Lamar Co. #10 3

COLORED SCHOOLS OF LAMAR COUNTY

Oct. 8, 1926

****

To be a Negro in a day like this
Demands forgiveness. Bruised with
blow on blow,
Betrayed, like him whose woe dimmed
eyes gave bliss,
Still must one succor those who
brought one low,
To be a Negro in a day like this.

To be a Negro in a day like this
Demands rare patience--patience that
can wait
In utter darkness. 'Tis the path to miss,
And knock,unheeded, at an iron gate,
To be a negro in a day like this.

To be a Negro in a day like this
Demands strange loyality. We serve a
flag
Which is to us white freedom's emphasis.
Ah! one must love when Truth and
Justice lag.
To be a negro in a day like this.

To be a Negro in a day like this--
Alas! Lord God, what evil have we
done?
Still shines the gate, all gold and amethyst,
But I pass by, the glorious goal unwon,
"Merely a Negro"--in a day like this!

By James D. Carrothers
of Cass County, Michigan

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

The negroes of Lamar County came with the saw mills, and the majority left with the saw mills. The ones who remained are the illeterate who are stranded. The better educated negroes went North.

There are two colored schools in Lumberton quarters, Lamar Training School and Wells Town School.

(a) Wells Town School is a large one room lumber building. This school was founded in the year of 1908. The first teacher was Lola L. Watson. The first trustees were Pete Jackson, Will Rogers and Ike Winston. First graduates were Edna Mae McDaniel, Odelle Winston, Theola Holder, Vernell Holder. These were from the eighth grade, which is as high as this school teaches. It is not composed of fifty-six pupils and one teacher, whose name is Mary Neely. She expects more pupils when the cotton picking season is over.

(b) Lamar Training School. In about the year 1892 there was a small one teacher school with twenty pupils in the Lumberton quarters. It was located 200 yards from there the big school now stands. This school was taught by L. P. Jones. Two years later the school was moved to a larger building, erected near the Methodist Church. It was taught by E. B. Robinson. Three years later this building burned, then another small building was built near the store.. W. F. Locker was principal. Soon afterward this lot was sold, then the school was carried on in the different churches until the present building was erected in the year 1925. J. B. Green

was the first principal. This is a large lumber building with modern equipments. The Primary Department being separate from the main building. During the first few years of this school Home Economics and Manual Training was taught here and was one of the most outstanding colored schools of the county.

The school now is composed of 211 students and four teachers. B. B. Benjamin is principal, Alice Brown is primary and music teacher. She teaches piano music. The school carries as high as the tenth grade. Some of the outstanding graduates of the Lamar Training School are: P. C. Bailey, who finished the 10th grade here and later finished at Alcorn College. He is now principal of Sumrall Colored High School; John Henry Spriggs graduated here and also at Alcorn College. He is now English teacher and Atheletics Coach at Laurel, Miss. Luther Greene graduated here and later at Alcorn.

(c) Sumrall High School for negroes is located at Sumrall, Miss., and is composed of 125 students. It teaches through the 12th grade, has four teachers, with P. C. Bailey, from Lumberton, Miss. as Principal

(d) Little River School, out from Sumrall about 12 miles. There is a colony of negroes, the majority of them named Watts. They have their school and church.

(e) Purvis Colored School. The first colored school of Purvis was organized in the year of 1903, with an enrollment of 132 students and two teachers. Jno. J. Jefferson was

principal, Carrie A. Jefferson assistant. Jno. H. Haywood, Robert Fulton, W. M. Mills, trustees. At the present time the school is composed of a large lumber building, two teachers, Margaorite Pope, Lillian Heard. The trustees are Manuel Mullen Bennie Mee Mich, Tom Sharp.

(f) Mt. Vernon. A colored school located on old Highway 11, near Richburg, organized in the year of 1904. Teacher- Harvey Blakely, trustees, W. M. McGee, L. McKay. At the present time the teacher is Lula Williams, trustees, Will Archer, Hiram Brown, and M. M. Hull.

(g) Lamarian colored School, located on County line of Marion and Lamar counties, organized in 1903. W. A. White, principal; Beatrice Mercer, Maggie Redmond, Myrtis L. Bass, Thodie Hatcher, Lucille White, Josie Lee Davis, Myelta Boralee, assistants.

(h) Clyde colored School, organized in the year of 1916. Trustees--Sam Mancille, Teacher-Myrtis Wilson.

(i) Tatums Camp--this School's students are from the colored families working for Tatum Lumber Co. As the Lumbering Camps move the school moves. It is now located at Tatum Lumbering Camp near Richburg. Present teacher is Arlena Bourn. Trustees are Isreal Tatum, L. S. Marshal and John Middleton.

(j) Colored Schools that passed away with the passing of the Saw Mills of the County:

Lee Line--organized in 1903, teacher J. L. Johnson. Closed 1904.

Morris School, 1904--1909.

Half Moon, 1904--1908

Epley, 1911--1919.

Foxtown, 1908--1915.

Greenville, 1909--1910

Lott, 1913--1915

Wenub Park , 1915, located near Sunrall

Alton Park, 1913.

Lost John--On the 12th day of June the School Board, Lamar County, State of Miss. Members of Board being C. V. Hathorn, Beat 1, H. C. Yawn, beat 2, Dewitt Cole, beat 4, B. S. Thompson, Beat 3, S. F. Thompson, beat 5.

Lost John Public School(negro) on motion duly seconded, it was ordered that a public School for the colored race to be known as the Lost John Public School be and the same is hereby created with same territory as is now embraced in the Baxterville Consolidated School and that the Site of the same be at the turpentine still at Lost John.

This school only lasted through the period of the turpentine still.

New Hebron--1924

Midway, 1925--26

Newman Camps, 1925-6

Yawn, 1923--1924

Following is a list of colored teachers examined in Lamar County from the 1904 until 1925:

Name	Post Office (Sept. 9 & 10-23& 24) 1904
D. A. Carr	Lumberton
A. J. Carr	"
L. J. Hall	"

Name	Post Office
Carrie A. Jefferson	Purvis
A. J. Abran	Lumberton
Mary Jefferson	"
Hinda Sandifer	"
Rebecca Jefferson	"
Harvey Blakley	Richburg
Lelia J. Hall	Lumberton

Special Examination Nov. 4 & 5 1904

Rebecca Jefferson	Lumberton
Hinda Jefferson	Lumberton

Colored Examination April 14 & 15 1905

Maude McCoy	Hattiesburg
Harvey Blakley	Richburg

Special Examination April 28 & 29, 1905

Carrie A. Jefferson	Purvis
T. J. W. Allen	Purvis
Lelia J. Hall-	Lumberton
Laroberta Whitfield	Sumrall
B. F. Ford	Richburg
L. Blakley	Richburg
Isabella Johnson	Purvis

September 22 & 24, 1905

Carrie A. Jefferson	Purvis
Lola J. Hall	Lumberton
R. C. Forkner	Hattiesburg
A. J. Carr	Lumberton
T. J. W. Allen	Purvis
Hinda Sandifer	Lumberton
Isabella Johnson	Purvis
W. H. Hall	Richburg
H. Blakley	Richburg
L. Blakely	Richburg

November 10 & 11, 1905

Hinda Sandifer	Lumberton
L. Blakley	Richburg
E. W. Hall	Lumberton
H. Blakley	Richburg
B. F. Ford	Richburg
J. C. Watts	Richburg
Rebecca Jefferson	Lumberton
R. C. Fordner	Hattiesburg

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

September 28 & 29, 1906

D. A. Carr	Lumberton
A. J. Carr	Lumberton
Lolia J. Hall	Lumberton
Hinda Sandifer	Lumberton
Lola L. Watson	Lumberton
Harvey Blakley	Richburg
B. Blakley	Richburg
Carrie A. Jefferson	Purvis
Lewie Avery	Tallawah

November 10 & 11, 1906

Hinda Sandifer	Lumberton
L. Blakley	Richburg
E. W. Hall	Lumberton
H. Blakley	Richburg
B. F. Ford	Richburg
J. C. Watts	Richburg
Rebecca Jefferson	Lumberton
R. C. Fordner	Hattiesburg

September 28 & 29, 1906

D. A. Carr	Lumberton
A. J. Carr	Lumberton
Lolia J. Hall	Lumberton
Hinda Sandifer	Lumberton
Lola L. Watson	Lumberton
Harvey Blakley	Richburg
Carrie A. Jefferson	Purvis
Lewie Avery	Tallwah

November 10 & 11, 1906

Hinda Sandifer	Lumberton
L. Blakley	Richburg
E. W. Hall	Lumberton
H. Blakley	Richburg
B. F. Ford	Richburg
J. C. Watts	"
Rebecca Jefferson	Lumberton
R. C. Forkner	Hattiesburg

December 1 & 2, 1907

C. W. Murphy	Epley

April 12 & 13, 1907

Carrie A. Jefferson	Purvis
Laura P. Wolfe	Lumberton
L. C. Henry	"
Houston Bridges	Purvis
Mattie Bridges	"

Sidney Craft	Purvis
Rebecca Green	Purvis

September 13 & 14, 1907

Lola J. Hall	Lumberton
Rebecca Green	Lumberton
T. J. W. Allen	Sumrall
Henry Blakley	Jersey
Lillie Blakley	Jersey

September 27, 28, 1907

Rebecca Green	Lumberton
Ruth McCoy	Madras
A. E. Smith	Hattiesburg

April 10, 11, 1908

Hardy Watts	Advance
Rebecca Green	Lumberton
Laura P. Wolfe	Lumberton

May 8, 9, 1908

Hardy Watts	Advance

September 8, 9, 1908

Lola J. Hall	Lumberton
Lillie Blakley	Richburg
Hardy Blakley	Richburg

September 10, 11, 1909

B. C. Eastie	Lumberton
H. A. Robinson	Lumberton

September 24, 25, 1909

Harvey Blakley	Richburg

April 8, 9, 1909

Laura Vanderwood	Carrier
Carrie Jefferson	Purvis
R. B. Green	Lumberton
Laura W olfe	Lumberton

September 9, 10, 1909

Hattie Robinson	Lumberton
Louella J. Watson	Lumberton
L. J. Brown	Hattiesburg
W. R. McGee	Hattiesburg
B. F. Ford	Hattiesburg

September 28, 29, 1909

I. L. Brown	Hattiesburg

B. F. Ford	Hattiesburg
A. S. Magee	Mt. Olive
Pearl Duckworth	Sumrall
Lula J. Watson	Lumberton
Hattie J. Robinson	Lumberton

October 7, 8, 1909

Lillie Blakley	Purvis
H. Blakley	Purvis
B. F. Ford	Hattiesburg
I. L. Brown	Hattiesburg
Lula J. Watson	Lumberton

RECORD OF MONTHLY & TERM REPORT OF FREE SCHOOLS, 1903-1904

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON SCHOOL

Trustees	Teacher	Assistant
R. [illegible] Hinton	D. A. Carr	Lolla J. Hall
H. C. Ya n		
D. C. Camp		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--Purvis School

Trustees	Teacher	Assistant
Jno. H. Haywood	J. J. Jefferson	Carrie A. Jefferson

SCHOOL DISTRICT---Loe Line

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
Daniel Expose	L. J. Johnson	
Louis Loe		
Orange Watts		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MOUNT VERNON--1904-1905

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
[illegible] K. McGee	Harvey Blakley	
L. McCoy		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON COUNTY PUPILS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
H. C. Ya n	D. A. Carr	
H. F. Camp		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
R. [illegible]. Hinton	D. A. Carr
H. C. Yarn	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS COUNTY PUPILS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
L. L. Polk		
T.		

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

T. W. Pylant

Carrie A. Jefferson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

Teacher
Minda Sandifer

SCHOOL DISTRICT-PURVIS-1906-1905

TRUSTEES
Jno. Hand
T. W. Pylant
L. L. Polk

TEACHER
Carrie A. Jefferson

ASSISTANT
Mary Jefferson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--HALF MOON

TRUSTEES
A. Bodie
M. J. McKinnon
H. Hodgers

TEACHER
Melton H. Malone

School District- atts

TRUSTEES
Henry Sims
Thos. Watts
A. F. Foote

TEACHER
Harvey Blakley

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL 1905-1906

TRUSTEES
J. M. Morris
Peter Peters
Jno. Williamson

TEACHER
Rebecca Jefferson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--
TRUSTEE
Peter Jackson
Bill Roger

TEACHER
Lola J. Watson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MOUNT VERNON

TRUSTEES
Oliver Ford
W. R. McGee
Lucius McBay

TEACHER
E. F. Ford

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES
Henry Sims
Thomas Watts

TEACHER
J. C. Bates

SCHOOL DISTRICT--FOXTOWN

TRUSTEES
James Presley
A. J

TEACHER
Harvey Blakley

A LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

A. J. Hayes

SCHOOL DISTRICT--HALF MOON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
A. Bardie	Minda Sandifer
Nelson Rogers	
M. J. McKinnon	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON 1905-1906

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
H. C. Yawn	D. A. Carr
R. W. Hinton	

SCHOOL DISTRICT-PURVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
W. H. McGee	R. H. Hendricks

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
W. B. Magee	L. Blakley
Lucius McBay	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL 1906-1907

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
W.A. Lindal	T. J. W. Allen
D. R. Campbell	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--FOXTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
James Presley	Harvey Blakley
A. J. Hayes	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
H. C. Yawn	D. A. Carr
W. W. Pigford	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS COUNTY PUPILS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
G. I.Pylant	J. J. Jefferson
L. L. Polk	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL COUNTY PUPILS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	T. J. W. Allen

SCHOOL DISTRICT--HALF MOON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER

A. B. Bardie
Nelse Rogers

S. G. Carter

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLS

TRUSTEES
P. J. Jones
Peter Jackson
Will Jackson

TEACHER
L. P. Wolfe

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES
Thomas Watts
Orange Watts

TEACHER
Sidney Craft

SCHOOL DISTRICT--Morris

TRUSTEES
P. Peters
D. McRhan
Jno. Williamson

TEACHER
Mattie Bridges

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL 1907-1908

TRUSTEES
H. V. Watts
W. M. Coker
W. A. Tisdale

TEACHER
T. J. W. Allen

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TEACHER
J. J. Jefferson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLS TOWN

TRUSTEES
J. J. Jones
Hillard Winston

TEACHER
L. C. Henry

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON

TRUSTEES
R. W. Hinton
D. C. Camp
H. C. Yawn

TEACHER
D. A. Carr

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS COUNTY PUPILS

TRUSTEES

TEACHER
J. J. Jefferson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--HALF MOON

TEACHER
C. C. Carter

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MOUNT VERNON

TRUSTEES
W. R. McElse
C. I. Jones
I. J. Ford

TEACHER
Dicie V. Gilmore

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MORRISVILLE

TRUSTEES
W. V. B. Cook

TEACHER
D. A. Carr

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES
Albert Watts
Hank Watts

TEACHER
Laura P. Wolfe

SCHOOL DISTRICT--Foxtown

TRUSTEES
Fas. Presley
G. Cephes

TEACHER
Rebecca Green

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON , 1908-1909

TRUSTEES
Chas. Jones
Oliver Ford

TEACHER
H. Blakley

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MORRIS

TRUSTEES
Jno. Williamson
Aaron Johnson

TEACHER
Juanita Trotter

SCHOOL DISTRICT --WATTS

TRUSTEES
A. L. Watts
Thos. Watts

TEACHER
Irvin Stubblefield

ASSISTANT
Ethel Brewer

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLS

TRUSTEES
J. H. Husband
Rufus Robinson

TEACHER
Rebecca Green

School District --Purvis County Pupils

TRUSTEES
C. C. MASON
G. W. Holleman
J. T. Corley

TEACHER
J. J. Jefferson

SCHOOL DISTRICT---SUMRALL COUNTY PUPILS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
J. T. Garraway	A. E. Smith
B. B. Cowan	

SCHOOL DISTRICT --LUMBERTON SEPARATE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
D. C. Camp	D. A. Carr	Lolia J. Hull
R. W. Hinton		Laura P. Wolfe
H. C. Yawn		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL SEPARATE, 1908-1909

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
J. T. Garraway	A. E. Smith
B. G. Cowan	
H. V. Waits	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS SEPARATE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
C. G. Mayson	J. J. Jefferson
C. W. Holleman	
G. I. Pylant	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--FOXTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Jas. Presley	F. F. Bush
Stephan Copnas	
Andrew Hays	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON, 1909, 1910

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
W. H. Magee	Katherine Stancil
Chas. Jones	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MORRIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
M. V. B. Cooker	Louella J. Weston
J. W. O. Williams	
F. Harreed	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
I. W. Watts	Melissa Travellim
Ira Watts	

SCHOOL DISTRICT --SUMRALL COUNTY PUPILS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
B. G. Cowan	A. E. Smith

J. T. Garraway
H. V. Waits

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
C. G. Mayson	J. J. Jefferson
J. W. Harton	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
D. C. Camp	D. A. Carr	Laura P. Wolfe
R. W. Hinton		Hattie Robinson
R. W. Thompson		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--GREENVILLE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
J. J. Smith	R. J. Slay
E. G. Thompson	

LIST OF TEACHERS EXAMINED--April 14 & 15th, 1911.

Hattie A. Robinson-	Lumberton
Laura P. Wolfe	Lumberton

Sept. 8-19, 1911

Henry Blakley	Hattiesburg
Lonnie Nelson	Lumberton
T. J. W. Allen	Sumrall

Sept. 22, 25-1911

Mattie P. Powell	Hattiesburg

Oct. 23-24, 1911

L. Blakley	Hattiesburg

April 12, 13, 1912

Henry Hendricks	Purvis
Harvey Blakley	Hattiesburg
May E. Williams	"
D. N. V. Abney	"
B. F. Ford	"
Norfleet Young	Purvis
Timothy Patterson	"
Lucille Patterson	"
Alice Ploise	"
Carrie A. Jefferson	"

April 26 & 27, 1912

[illegible]	Lumberton

Lula J. Watson	Lumberton

Sept. 12-14, 1912

E. M. Dean	Lumberton
S. L. Dean	Hattiesburg
Carry Jefferson	Purvis
Minda James	Purvis

Sept. 27-28, 1912

Maggie Seiger	Baxterville
BR. Varmer	Sumrall
Harvey Blakley	Hattiesburg
Lillie Blakley	Hattiesburg

April 11-12, 1913

Lillie Patterson	Purvis
Timothy Patterson	Purvis
Mary Hendricks	"
Joe Leggett	"
NorFleet Young	Purvis
Alice Price	"

April 25-26, 1913

S. L. Dean	Lumberton
E. M. Dean	"
Lucille Patterson	Purvis
Alice Price	"
Maggie Reason	"
Norfleet Young	"
Idella Robertson	"
A. B. Jefferson	"
Zachariah Robinson	Lumberton
Timothy Patterson	Purvis
Willie Reid	Lumberton
Sussie Robinson	"
Alma E. West	"
Harry Hendricks	Purvis
Lucy L. Watson	Lumberton
Joe Leggett	Purvis
Alice Price	"
H. A. Robinson	Lumberton

Sept. 12-13, 1913

Carrie Jefferson	Purvis
John Holland	"
T. J. W. Allen	"
Alice Price	"
Maggie Reasen	"
R. B. Green	Lumberton
John Holland	Purvis

April 10-11, 1914

Valerie Murphy	Purvis
M. E. Arrington	Purvis
Alice Price	"
John Holland	"

April 24-25, 1914

T. J. W. Allen	Sumrall
Hattie Collins	"
Hattie Robinson	Lumberton
A. J. Jefferson	Purvis
Maggie Reasen	Purvis

Sept. 1914

C. E. Shannon	Purvis
Carrie Jefferson	"
Lula L. Watson	Lumberton
Violet Smith	"
Pearl Duckworth	Sumrall
Lula L. Watson	Lumberton
Elizabeth Preston	Hattiesburg
Hattie E. Oats	Sumrall

April 1915

Lewis Dillard	Purvis
Ida M. Wilks	Kalo
James Davis	Purvis
Alice Price	"
John Haywood	"
Lizzie Davis	"
Alice Price	"
John Annie Patterson	"

Sept. 10-11, 1915

Lizzie Davis	Purvis
Mammie Johnson	Lumberton
Alice Reid	Lumberton
Harry Watts	Advance
John Haywood	Hattiesburg
I. B. Smith	"
Maggie Reasen	Purvis
John Holden	"
Elizabeth Preston	Hattiesburg
Henry Johnson	Lumberton

April 28-29, 1916

T. J. W. Allen-	Sumrall
G. W. Boon	Purvis

FREE SCHOOL--LAMAR COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, 1911, 1912

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOTT

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Allen Lott	J. C. Watts
George Magee	
James Lott	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Pleases Moon	Mattie B. Powell
Chas. Jones	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--FOXTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
James Presley	Lillie Blakley
Jerry Boan	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
J. M. Nelsap	Louella Watson
J. J. Jones	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--EPLEY 1912-1913

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
A. Nelson	Mary Fox
C. V. Gray	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Thomas Watts	Machalla Stauton
Orange Watts	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Chas. Jones	Dicie V. Frazier
W. N. Magee	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--FOXTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Jas.Presley	Mattie B. Powelle
Jerry Burn	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN, 1913-1914

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	Louella L. Watson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
ORANGE WATTS	La Belle Stauton
Tom Watts	

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SCHOOL DISTRICT--ALTON PARK

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
J. B. Rodgers	Celia Carlisle
Jas. Lee	
Jeff McDonald	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
Jas. W. Webb	Louella Watson	Rebecca Green
Ellis McDonald		
J. J. Jones		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOTT

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
JNO. Parker	C. S. Watts
E. Walls	
S. Watts	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--FOXTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Jas. Presley	John Hubbard
Jeny Buau	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
W. R. McGee	D. V. Frazier
C. J. Jones	
O. Ford	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--EELEY

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
H. A. Hanyard	Pearl Duckworth
Sam Daniel	
R. V. Gray	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
W. L. Magee	J. J. Jefferson	Carrie A. Jefferson
G. I. Pylant		
R. L. McNair		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
A. B. Welsh	T. J. W. Allen	Hattie Collins
R. H. Draughn		
R. M. Hudson		

SCHOOL DISTRICT-ALTON PARK, 1914-1915

T. M. Rodgers — Celia Carlisle
J. B. Lee

SCHOOL DISTRICT--EPLEY

TRUSTEES — TEACHER
Sam Davis — Pearl Duckworth

SCHOOL DISTRICT---LOTT

TRUSTEES — TEACHER
John Parker — C. S. Watts
Allen Lott

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TRUSTEES — TEACHER
Jas. Presley
Jerry Sarn

SCHOOL DISTRICT --WELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES — TEACHER
Ellis McDaniel — Louella L. Watson
Violet Smith

LIST OF COLORED TEACHERS EXAMINED
Sept. 8-9, 1916

Mattie B. Powell	Hattiesburg
Bula A. Woods	Hattiesburg
Violet Smith	Lumberton
Ellen L. Allen	Hattiesburg
Ada Abran	Hab
Rebecca Green	Lumberton
O.B. Evans	Hattiesburg

Sept. 24-1917

Valerie Murphy	Purvis
Sayde Robinson	"
Alice Reid	"
James M. Davis	Purvis

Sept. 27, 28.

Marcella Seop	Purvis
Lizzie Myles	Purvis

Sept. 13-14-1918

Willie Mae Jarrage

Sadie Allen
Emma G. Lagotte
Virginia Beary
Ella Celeste Hearne
Nancy Washington
Desiree Davis
Pearl Aldrich

Sept. 26-27, 1918

Ethel Supple
Lolia Watts
Mary Travillin
Sadge Robinson

April 10-11-12, 1919

M. E. Smith

Sept. 11-12-13, 1919

Lizzie Myrs	Purvis
Jas. R. Davis	"
Norfleet Young	"
Pearl Aldrich	"
Desire Davis	"
Emma Watts	Sumrall
Louie Watts	"
R. B. Jefferson	Lumberton

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON, 1915-1916

TRUSTEES	TEACHERS	ASSISTANT
R. W. Hinton	A. A. Todd	Mrs. H. A. Robinson
R. W. Thompson		Mrs. M. B. Allen
H. C. Young		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
R. L. McNair	J. J. Jefferson	Carrie Jefferson
E. M. Davis		
W. L. Magee		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOTT

TRUSTEE	TEACHER
C. R. Rawls	Bertha Lee
John Parker	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEE	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
Ellis McDaniel	Lavera L. Watson	Violet Smith
Jas. W. Webb		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--EPLEY

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Geo. Harrison	
R. L. Norman	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--ALTON PARK

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Bob Chambers	Celia Park
Jeff McDon[illegible]	

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
E. J. Murphy	S. J. Ingram
T. E. Salter	
R. L. McNair	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL COUNTY PUPILS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
J. S. Byrd	W. B. Williams
I. W. Clark	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--EPLY [illegible]ER

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
K. D. Albert	Alice Dudley
N. J. Grant	
M. M. Matt	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--CLYDE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
E. J. Rellic	Valera Murphy
Sam Daniel	
Geo. McPain	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--FOXTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Jas. Dresby	Lizzie Myers
L. Hailes	
Terry Burn	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
S. W. Clark	A. T. Sterling
C. M. Morris	
J. T. Carraway	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--ALTON PARK

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Jeff McDonald	Celia Statum
Steve Smith	
Bob Chambers	

SCHOOL DISTRICT----MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
W. R. McGee	Edna Preston
Geo. Shears	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Orange Watts	Hardy Watts
Joe Rollins	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--[illegible]N, 1916-1917

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
R. W. Thompson	A. A. Todd

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
J. J. Bruck	
S. W. Clark	
D. R. Campbell	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--[illegible]URVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
C. W. Corley	J. J. Jefferson
W. L. Magee	
R. L. McNair	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--ALTON PARK

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Sam Danel	Celia Statum
Jeff McDaniel	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--CLYDE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Sam Cambers	J. J. W. Allen

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOTT

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Allen Lott	J. C. Watts
Geo. Magee	

SCHOOL DISTRICT --[illegible]PLY

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	Lotty L. Allen

SCHOOL DISTRICT--[illegible]ELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
I. S. Winston	
Demp Smith	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
W. R. Magee	Annie Hull	Nericia Sepp

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LONG JOHN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Geo. Washington	Margerita Diggs

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS, 1917-1918

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
Willis Cooley	Laula Watson	Mercillia Sepp
I. S. Winston		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
R. W. Hinton	A. E. Smith	A. A. Todd
J. W. Williams		H. A. Robinson
H. C. Yawn		Corine Roberson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOTT

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Allen Lott	Mary Lee
Eugene Lott	
Geo. Magee	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOST JOHN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Geo. Washington	Margaria Diggs
M. P. Hill	
E. J. Lester	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
J. J. Massey	J. J. Jefferson	Sydge Robinson
R. L. McNair		
T. E. Salter		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON, 1918-1919

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
W. R. McGee	S. J. Neal
G. Shears	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--FOXTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
S. Hails	Mary M. Pope
J. Presley	
J. Bun	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--CLYDE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
E. J. Riddeck	E. J. Loggett
G. McLain	
S. Daniel	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOTT

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
A. Lott	L. A. Watts
J. Parker	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES
H. Watts
O. Watts
J. Rolin

TEACHER
Hardy Watts

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TRUSTEES
C. W. Carley
J. M. Purvis
R. L. McNair

TEACHER
J. J. Jefferson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES
I. Winston
J. Webb
W. Cooley

TEACHER
L. Watson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SALTON PARK

TRUSTEES
J. McDonald
S. Smith
C. Statum

TEACHER
Celia Statum

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL

TRUSTEES
J. T. Garraway
J. J. Waits
B. M. Myer

TEACHER
A. T. Sterling

SCHOOL DISTRICT--EPLEY

TRUSTEES
K. Albert
J. Parker
W. J. Grant

TEACHER
Mrs. E. D. Suple

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LUMBERTON, 1922-1923

TRUSTEES
Mrs. C. J. Pettibone
Geo. D. Mason
L. C. Pigford

TEACHER
C. A. Easterling

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN, 1923-24

TRUSTEES
Frank Watts
Charlie Moore
Bob Malchi

TEACHER
Loula L. Watts

ASSISTANT
Fannie Peebles

SCHOOL DISTRICT--NEW HEBRON

TRUSTEES

TEACHER

R. B.McGruder
Cleve Williams
Jess Jackson

Arnetta Carter

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
H. R. Watts	J.E. Foster	Elizabeth Potter
Joe Rollins		
Joe Tibbett		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOTT

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
John Lott	Maggie Leggett
Geo. Magee	
John Parker	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WATTS RASENWALD

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
J. P. Rettin	R. T. Dole	Elizaveth Patter
H. R. Watts		
Albert Watts		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--CLYDE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
E. J. Reddock	Emma Smith	Mattie E. Dorwell
Will Dason		
Jess Garner		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER

SCHOOL DISTRICT--NEW HEBRON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	Lillie Maude McNair

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LOTT

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	Sidney Crait

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	J. C. Harper

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LAMAR COUNTY TRAINING SCHOOL

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	J. B. Green

SCHOOL DISTRICT --PURVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	Margarette Pope

SCHOOL DISTRICT --MIDWAY

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
	Adu Fox

SCHOOL DISTRICT--NEWMAN CAMP SCHOOL--1929-1930

SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEES
W. L. Gravy
N. L. Hathorne
W. S. Atlas

SCHOOL DISTRICT--CLYDE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Will Dawson	Emma Smith
Jerry Bourn	
Sam Davell	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMPALL

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
J. B. Walker	F. D. Smith	Ethel Suple
J. D. Bridges		Celia Statin
Enoch Powell		Evelyn Jennings

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
M. H. Hull	Viola Boker
Boston Kelly	
Charlie Nelson	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Tom Sharp	Margarette Pope

SCHOOL DISTRICT --PURVIS, 1933-34

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Tom Sharp	Margarette Pope
E. L. Byrd	
D. J. Jones	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Ezra Winston	Mary Neely
Hillard Winston	
Frank Watts	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--Yawn

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Rogers Foxter	Lola Parker
Oscar Jefferson	
E. J. Jones	

SCHOOL DISTRICT-- Mt. Vernon

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Hiram Bourn	B. Preston
M. H. Hull	
Boston Kelly	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
T. B. Walker	P. C. Bailey	Ethel H, Suple
J. D. Bridges		Celia Statum

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LAMARIAN LINE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Noah Expose	
Sue Tibbett	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS--1934-35

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Dessie Rae Rich	Margarette Pope
Tom Sharp	
E. L . Byrd	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--WELLSTOWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Jack McGee	Mary Neely
Ezra Winston	
Hillard Winston	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Will Archer	Lula Williams
Hiram Brown	
M. H. Hull	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--CLYDE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Jerry Brown	Nercelia Watts
Sam Daniel	
Will Dawson	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--TATUMS CAMP

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Isral Tatum	Arlena Bourn
L. B. Marshall	
John Middleton	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--YAWN

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Cleveland Armstrong	Lola Parker
Rogers Foster	
Oscar Johnson	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
	P. C. Bailey	Ethel Suple
		Celia Starr

SCHOOL DISTRICT--LAMARIAN, 1935-1936

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANTS
F	F. A. White	Beatrice Mercer
		Maggie L. Redmond
		Myrtis L. Buck
		Rhodia Butcher
		Lucille White
		Josie Lee Davis
		Nyceta Bowles

SCHOOL DISTRICT--CLYDE

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Will Dawson	Myrtle Wilson
Jerry Brown	
Sam Daniel	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--MT. VERNON

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
M. H. Hull	Elizabeth P. Botts
Will Archeir	
H. W. Bourn	

SCHOOL DISTRICT--PURVIS

TRUSTEES	TEACER	ASSISTANT
Manuel Dallas	Margarette Pope	Lillian Heard
Dessie Ree Rich		
Tom Sharp		

SCHOOL DISTRICT--SUMRALL

TRUSTEES	TEACHER	ASSISTANT
	P. C.Bailey	Ethel Suple
		Edna Newson

SCHOOL DISTRICT--TATUMS CAMP

TRUSTEES	TEACHER
Louis Pittman	Arlene Boune
Iseral Tatum	
John Middleton	

TOM SHARP

Tom Sharp was born in Lauderdale Dec. 16, 1868. The first school that he attended was a private school on the plantation, taught by a white teacher, Miss Maggie Moseberry. He was reared on the Bennet plantation. He states that the Bennetts were always kind to their negroes. Mrs. Bennett would hold prayer meetings for the colored folks on the plantation once a week. Tom finished the 8th grade at Waveland University in 1886 in Meridian, completed the 11th grade in this University. He majored History and Rhetoric. He used to speak in campaigns for politicians. Tom taught for three years at White Oak, Lauderdale County, at a salary of $20 per month. He married at the age of 21 and reared a family of 12 children. Has been in Lamar County for 44 years, owns his farm and is active in the Purvis Quarters. He

has State life time license to teach. Taught an adult class on the W. P. A. project in Purvis Quarters and Tatums Camp in the winter of 1935.

Reference Colored Schools of Lamar County

(a) Mary Neely--Lumberton, Miss.

(b) Lem Allen-- B. B. Benjamin, Lumberton, Miss.

(c) Lomax Barr--Purvis, Miss.

(d) Lomax Barr, Purvis, Miss.

(e) All the rest from County Superintendent's Record Books, except "Tom Sharp". Ref. Tom Sharp--Purvis, Miss.

Ella Brook.
COUNTY SUPERVISOR HISTORIC L
REDEARCH PROJECT

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3

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #10

RACES AND NATIONALITIES OF THE COUNTY

There are 2,729 negroes in Lamar County. 58 of them own average size farms and between 50 and 75 rent farms in the county.

These negro farmers make a fairly good living. They are doing much better than the average negro, who lives in the quarters in town and depend on a little work and begging for a livlihood. Most of them own a cow, a few chickens and hogs.

As mention in Assignment #10, Peter Rich is considered a good farmer around Purvis. Silas Weston of Sumrall; Tom Sharp of Purvis and Mary Nealy and a few other of Lumberton have finished college and taught school for years.

Other than these there seem to be no outstanding negroes in Lamar County, of the past or present.

Ref. T. W. Davis, Purvis, Miss.

Ella Crook.

Historian

CANVASSERS
Pauline Slade
Mildred Hendrick
Helen Entrekin

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

ASSIGNMENT # 6.

3

FOLK-LORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS

DIVISION OF FOLK CUSTOMS.

1. Customs connected with particular days.

Among celebrations common in South Mississippi are Hallow'een, Christmas, Fourth Of July, New Year, Thanksgiving, Memorial Day and Armistic Day.

(A) Hallow'een celebrations are marked by Jack-O-Lanterns made from pumpkins, and the wearing of costumes pertaining to witchery, black cats, or ghosts. On the night of Hallow'een a groups of children gather at different homes for a party. Some wear ghost costumes which is usually a sheet wrapped around one with a pillow case folded for a head covering and most any kind of false face complete this costume. Others dress as witches, wearing an old dress usually black and carry a broom stick. Pumpkin Jack-O-Lanterns, dried corn stalks and bowls of fruit are the usual decorations. Numerous games are played such as "Bobbing For Apples", etc. Ghost stories are told and a spirit of wierdness and mystery is prevalent in this celebretion.

(B) The Christmans Tree is almost a universal symbol and has its origin in Egypt long before the Christmas Era. The palm tree is known to put forth a branch every month and a spray of this tree with twelve shoots on it was used in Egypt at the time of the winter solstice as a symbol of a year completed. Christmas stands for love shown by the parent for the children as well as giving gifts to each other and the less fortunate ones. It should be a quiet and sympathetic day. This day, of all days for children, there is a wealth of spiritual, social, domestic developement derived from this season. Santa Claus may be the means of giving the children a rich and beautiful conception of love and joy.

(C) New Year is celebrated by parties and revelry. Groups of grown-ups and children gather at one home and play games, sing and dance until the hour of mid-night when they all rush out into the street and shoot guns, fire works, blow whistles and ring the church bells, this is known as "Ringing Out The Old Year". Both white people and negroes celebrate New Year alike, but of course seperately.

(D) Easter, the Christian Passeover and Resurrections of Christ, is still an important event in most of the christian churches. Easter comes on the first Sunday after the full moon. We still hold to the custom of colored eggs hid for good children each year in Sunday School. The teacher hides the "rabbit" eggs and they have much fun finding them. The children know that the rabbit story is not true and knowing that they have been misinformed adds joy because they really know now and have the pleasure of dyeing eggs and decorating the table with special egg dishes. They enjoy the Easter music at the church.

(E) Memorial Day is celebrated by flags flying, bands playing and the delivery of speeches.

(F) Armistic Day is celebrated by all government offices closing. In the afternoon there is usually ball games between rival American Legion members. At eleven o'clock in the morning the Legion members march to the [illegible] cemetery where they place wreaths of flowers on the soldiers graves.

(G) Fourth of July is celebrated by all government offices closing, shooting of fire works, ball games and picnics and usually if there is a new building of importance such as a court house or hospital, it is dedicated on this day.

(H) Thanksgiving Day is celebrated by going to church and giving thanks for all blessings during the year.

Among some of the superstitions of negroes and some white folk is the belief in the almanac to predict the kind of weather, the customs of beating plows to make bees settle nest, and wearing of money or rabbit foot for good luck and the age old superstition of the black cat.

III. Social Customs.

Chivarees are not as common as they formerly were, but is st still a custom among the rural communities to hold a seramade or chivaree for newly-married couples. A crowd of people usually surround the house of the newly weds after dark and begin beating plows, blowing horns, and making as much noise as possible. One instance of a chivaree, the crowd prepared to hurl a tub of water through a window into the bed of the newly weds. They located the wrong window, and much their chagrin, after hurling the water they found a visiting preacher was sleeping in the bed.

Gatherings of members of the community to help in quilting, house-repairing, and general "working" are common. When one member of the community has some misfortune befall him, the other members unite to help him get his work done. Log-rollings xxx or rail-splittings were common to our forefathers. When a man settled in a community, the other members helped him toll the logs off his land after they had been "deadened" and cut. The worke s remained all day and the housewife prepared dinner for them. Often she would kill eight or ten chickens and make dumplings in the wash-boiler in order to have enough food for them. [illegible]

Rail splittings were common in order to get rails to fence the land. "Smithies" were held to make tools to farm with. Plows were made from bars of iron. The curved part of the handle was made by cutting oak trees with large roots projecting at ri ht angles and scooping out the inside part of the wood, leaving the curve for the plow handle. "Poundings" are frequently held, often members of a congregation give a pound of something to their pastor to show their gratitude.

IV. Table Customs.

Still prevalent in the rural communities is the custom of the wife to stay in the back ground at meal time, probably remaining in the kitchen except when placing food on the table.

V. Customs of Dress.

Customs of dress common to us are slats bonnets made by sewing small slats in the cloth of the bonnet to make the brim stiff. Mother Hubbard dresses are a loose fitting almost shapeless garment worn by older women. Another custom is having the children's hair worn long and plaited in braids down their backs and tied with a bright string or ribbon.

Mennonites. These people wear long black or dark blue dresses, tight fitted waist and full gathered skirts. Elastic is used instead of buttons on both men and women's clothes. On their heads they wear black bonnets, lined with white? u underneath this bonnet is worn a white cap, which is kept on all the time except when the hair is combed or when in bed. The men's suits are hand made as well as the large hats which they wear. After a man marries he does not shave his whiskers.

VI. Religious Customs.

Methodist. In the early history of our county one finds valuable citizens identified in faith and practice with the Episcopal Methodist both ministers and laymen. In 1886 or before the Methodist of this county began to build church, so some of the early pastors were Bro. Hayes, Howell, Emery, Parker, Huntley, Thompson, Selby and Partridge as well as many others. The Methodist churches have Quarterly Conferences, Annual Conferences, Conreal and also District Conferences. Group meeting in which all preachers, laymen and officers of the church take part. The beautiful church buildings found in our county speak of the deep spiritual life of the people of this section, whether in some secluded rural spot, or at the end of some quiet street, wherever men's souls have been inspired to build there they have formed a Temple of God.

Land mark Baptist Church. These people have a few customs that seem peculiar to some people. One is Foot Washing. They hold Conferences where a member is brought before the church if he has committed a deed contrary to the rules of the church.

Rev. Hughie Graham organized the Burnt Bridge Baptist Church in 1878, the first one organized in this county. It is located near Black Creek, six miles south of Oak Grove.

Seventh Day Adventist. These people believe in the Second Advent of Christ. Observe the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath. Believe in Baptism by immersion. Believe that the dead are only sleeping, awaiting the Resurrection. The beginning of this denomination was in the year of 1044; they have local Conferences in individual states, then as a group of states, the the General Conference is world wide. They boast a membership of 44, 309. They support their church and maintain their own day schools by tithes. These people do not eat meat of any kind, say it is unclean.

Catholic Church at Seneca. Thwn the children reach the age of seven years they take their first communion(as Lord's Supper) The members of the Catholic Church do not eat any meat on Friday. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts until Easter Sunday. During this period the Catholics who are between the ages of 18 and 60 years, who are able bodied are not supposed to partake of but one meal a day. This period being the Trial, Death and Resurrection of Christ.

The Church of God or Holy Rollers. This denomination have small churches, some have parsonages nearby, but do not have a regular parson. They have traveling preache s who come in and hold meetings at intervals. They worship by shouting, reading scripture which they interpret to fit any need or point they want to emphasize, singing and clapping hands. After the reading of the scripture and a song or two they call for those who are seeking

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

God to come to the alter where they kneel down to begin with but after a short period of seeking they are usually groaning and rolling on the ground or floor. They continue this way until they work themselves into a hysterical fit with every muscle quivering and they are foaming at the mouth. When they decide they have found the Holy Ghost they scream, clap their hands and start mumbling louder and louder and this is known as the "unknown Tongue". They also have Foot Washings when they wash each others feet.

Mormons. There are only a few Mormons in this county, no churches. Services are held in houses of members, with traveling Elders in charge. When a baby is eight days old it is blessed by the Elder. At the age of eight years, if properly taught a Mormon child can join and be baptised. The members send their tithes to the main office and get a receipt for it. They get regular reports on how the money is used. A living Mormon can be baptised for one that died without being baptized for they believe it essential to salvation. Sacrament is held every service, before Sunday School, bread and water being used If one has gone through the Temple at Salt Lake, Utah, they are buried in the temple robe. They can only be dressed in these robes by one who has been through the temple.

VII. Miscellaneous Customs.

Singing Schools are held during the summer in different communities of Lamar County. The sing teacher charges fifty cents a pupil, sometimes there are as many as fifty in one class. The pupils are taught about two weeks to read music, the last Sunday of the school there is what is call "All day singing and dinner on the ground". People are invited from different parts of the county to join in these singings. Mr. Dyer of Purvis, Miss. is President of Lamar County Singing Convention.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Horse Shoe throwing is still a sport in some communities. They have aplace where they can put up stakes in the ground to throw the horse shoes over, the game is to see who can ring the stakes with the horse shoes so many times out of so many throws.

Cock fighting is forbidden in Lamar County, but some of the people own fighting cocks and fight them in adjoining counties where it is permissable. The cocks are conditioned for two weeks ahead of time, during this time they are fed and handled twice a day. At the fight each owner handles his own chicken. There is a referee for this fight as for any other game, the fight last until one or the other whips.

DIVISION OF FOLK TALES.

Animal tales. Wild fox chasing is the leading sport in Lamar County as foxes are very numerous. They are chased with regular fox hounds, sometimes the hounds will chase them twelve or fourteen hours at the time. The fox chasing season is in the fall of the year. In dark winter mornings one hears the pack of hounds with howling yelp and cry in the rear you hear the hunting horn at intervals. They go round and round until they come back to the trail. The last fox hunt these men had they found they had killed two skunk and seven sheep and no fox.

The last wild bear killed in Lamar County was killed near Lumberton by Mr. Calvin Batson during a bear hunt in the year of 1906. Mr. Batson dressed and sold the meat to people living in Lumberton, they bought it just to say they had tasted bear meat.

Local Legends. None

Witch and ghost tales. None

Mrs Ella Crook

Supervisor Historical Research Project
Lamar County.

Canvasser
Helen Entrekin

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #6

HISTORY OF BURNT BRIDGE CHURCH

About eight miles from Purvis on the Sumrall and Purvis road stands a one room lumber building known as Burnt Bridge Church. In 1878 a group of nine members organized this church under the name of Mount Zion Church. It was built near a l- bridge on Black Creek which later burned and ever since has been known as Burnt Bridge Church. The charter members of this church were Robert Whiddon Samuel Scarborough, William Lee, W. S. Street, Ann Street, Sarah Graham, Martha Bounds, Amanda Bounds and Margaret Lee who is the only surviving member. The first pastor was H. Graham, he and R. L. King composed the presbytery. The first bu.lding was of logs roughly thrown together, but the membership soon required a larger and better building which was built in 1890 and is the present building. They now have a membership of 125.

REFERENCE: Claudie Cameron, Hattiesburg, Miss. Rt. 5
N. A. Lott, Hattiesburg, Miss. Rt. 5

Mrs Ella Crook
SUPERVISOR RESEARCH PROJECT
LAMAR COUNTY

Enumerator-
Pauline Slade

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Assignment #~~30~~ 6 Folk Lore

MOSQUITOES ON BLACK CREEK

I was fishing on Black Creek the other day. The mosquitoes were so big 'till you couldn't hide from them. I crawled under an iron wash pot that was an inch thick and do you know they could bite through that pot! Why I'd brad their bills with a hammar as they stuck through the pot, so they up and flew away with the wash pot and left me lying there.
(told by Dewey Slade, Lumberton, Miss. Rte.)

CROP FAILURE

In 1912 we had a dry spell of weather and when it did come a shower it rained everywhere except in my sweet potato patch. So when I gathered the potatoes, I had to sift them to separate them from the sand they were so small. When Mollie started to make a pudding she had to boil the potatoes in a bag to keep up with them.

(Told by Uncle Nath Slade)

A BIG BULL

Pa bought the biggest bull that ever hit this country. He bought him from a beef drove from Texas. We kept him a few years then killed him for beef. He was so big that we gave all of the 10 neighbors a quarter, then had a quarter left.
(N. E. Slade)

Enumerator
Lucy Lee Morehead

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

A GOOD RAIN

Two old negroes were over heard on the corner the other night. They were standing in the rain. Said one, "Dis yere rains' a goin to do lots a good." The other replied,"It sho is. Half an hour o' dis yere rain'd do mo' good in five minutes dan a whole month's rain'd ginally do in a week." This just another way of saying that the rain was mighty welcome.

A BIG FREEZE

It was so cold in the spring of 1880 until the bark on all the trees fell off. The freeze lasted for several days until all the bark off, then came a warm rain and you should have seen the bark grow on the tree again.

A GHOST TALE

One day two boys were going to the creek. They had to slip off from their parents. They had gone just about one mile when they saw something dressed in white standing in the woods that looked like a woman with her head cutt off. When they saw this figure it scared them so badly until they ran to the creek and jumped into the water and splashed all the water out of the stream. Just about this time night came on and what do you think, the Ghost got after the boys again and this time they ran back toward their home. When they began running, the ghost began running too. This time the ghost cautioned the boys about slipping away from their parents.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

DOG TALE

I have at my house a German Police Dog. The dog is so large until one would not imagine it being a dog. One day there was a man who was buying cattle, offered me $35 for the cow(he meant the dog). I said, "Well, my good friend, if you think that figure(I was pointing at the dog) is a cow, I think there are several places that you would make a good dishwasher." When I said this he could not understand what I meant, so explained it to him, that I could raise German Police dogs so large until some fools could not tell the difference between a dog and a cow.

SINGING SCHOOLS

One night I went to the creek to set out some hooks to catch fish. When I got to the creek, I heard the most wonderful singing that I had ever heard in all my life. I asked myself the question, is this a choir practice or the creek, or what is it. I said to myself, " I am going to see what kind or songs they are going to sing next. " About this time I heard something buzzing near my ears, and what do you think it was? a group or old mosquitoes singing. They were teaching their little ones songs to sing when they wanted to awake lazy persons out on the creek. I stayed down on the creek two nights, trying to sing with them, but my neighbors crowded around me so thickly, that I could not sing for telling them that the mosquitoes were doing the singing and I was trying to teach them songs. For six weeks my neighbors would go to the creek and sing with the mosquitoes. The county offered

a prize for the best group of singers, so the mosquitoes won. That shows that Lamar County mosquitoes are good singers.
Ref. these tales were told by Ernest Cameron.

FISHING STORY

According to a report made to the editor of this paper Supervisor W. W. Dearman, and his son of Baxterville are champion fishermen.

Wiley says that on the particular day he speaks of--one day last week, he and his son went to a camp near Bay St. Louis and caught in just a few hours more than 200 speckled trout. He says they caught them just as fast as they could pull them out.

This is the kind of fishing trip we have always dreamed about, often heard tell of, but have never experienced. Would liked to have been there on this occasion. We're willing to accept this fish tale as it was told tho, because Wiley's son is a preacher, and therefore Wiley would hardly misrepresent the trip, knowing that his preacher son be asked to verify it.
The Booster.

& Ella Brook
County Historian

Lumberton, Miss.

Cecil Smith, local furniture dealer here, came into town after a trip to the country, with a quail firmly impaled on the door handle of his light truck.

Mr. Smith said the quail flew against the side of the truck and that the impact turned the bird around and drove the handle through it. The handle entered the bird's back and came out through the breast.

Fearing that the bird story would not be believed, Mr. Smith left the bird just as the accident placed him, and drove over to town to show it. He added that this was the fourth bird killed during the day by his truck. The others merely struck the car and fell dead by the wayside.
Hattiesburg American, July 14, 1937

Ella Brook.

Enumerators
Pauline Slade
Lucy Morehead

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

May 27, 1937

Subject: CHURCH HISTORY

Assignment #26

WHITE

The beautiful church buildings in the towns of Lamar County, and the attractive appearance of the small rural churches throughout Lamar County speak mutely of the deep spiritual life of the people of this section and here, whether in some secluded rural spot, at the end of some quiet street, or whether bordering on some busy throughfares of human endeavor--where ever men's heart have been inspired to build--there they have founded a Temple To God.

The investment represented in church property in Lamar County runs into large figures, and the activities and influence of the various denominations are far-reaching and are being extended into new fields. 1

I. STATISTICS:

1. There are 8 different denominations and 43 church organizations of white churches in Lamar County --as follows:

One Seventh Day Adventist, One Catholic, 24 Baptist, 10 Methodist, 5 Holiness, one Presbyterian, one Episcopalian.

a. Mt. Zion, Landmark Baptist, Duval Stuart, pastor; services held once a month. It is located on Black Creek, near Burnt Bridge, three miles south of Highway #24. 125 members. 2

Purvis Baptist Church, D. A. Hogan, pastor; services held twice each Sunday, Sunday School each Sunday, located in the town of Purvis, 275 members. 3

Ref. 1-Special Edition of The Booster
2-Claudie Cameron
3- Mrs. Nancy Purvis

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Midway Landmark Baptist--pastor, Vance Hill; services held once a month, located in Midway Community, 86 members. 1

Little Black Landmark Baptist Church--Vance Hill, pastor; services held once a month, 58 members, located four miles north of Lumberton on the West Purvis-Lumberton road. 2

Oral Landmark Baptist, pastor, Troy Sumrall; services held twice a month, Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. each Sunday and W. M. U. meeting each week. Located near Victory school, on Highway #42, six miles east of Sumrall. 147 active members. 3

Canay Landmark Baptist--pastorRiley Anderson, services once a month, located on Old Wire Road, from Lumberton to Columbia. 132 members. 4

First Baptist Church of Lumberton--pastor, R. R. Ready; services twice each Sunday, also Sunday School and B. Y. P. U, W. M. U. once a week. Located in the town of Lumberton, 229 members. 5

Pine Grove Landmark Baptist Church--pastor, T. W. Crawley; services held once a month, located in the Pine Grove Community 7 miles west of Purvis, 143 members. 6

Rocky Branch Baptist Church,--pastor, M. Walters; service once a month, Sunday School every Sunday; located in Rocky Branch Community, 3 miles west of Oloh; members 126. 7

Ref. 1-Rus Cameron
2-Geo. Owens
3-Harmon Aultman
4- Geo. Thompson
5-Minutes of Miss. Conference
6-Dan Cameron
7-Mrs. Mack Smith

Bay Creek Landmark Baptist Church--pastor, N. A. Lott; services once a month; located 10 miles west of Purvis on the Sumrall and Oloh road; members-126. 1

Pleasant Home Primitive Baptist--services discontinued, no record of membership, located 7 miles southwest of Purvis. 2

Oloh Baptist Church--pastor, N. L. Roberts; located in the village of Oloh; services once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, 150 members. 3

Military Baptist Church--pastor, T. A. Sumrall, services once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located 3 miles South of Sumrall on the Military Road; 186 members. 4

Sumrall Baptist--pastor, Troy Sumrall; preaching service twice each Sunday, Sunday School and B. Y. P. U., located in the town of Sumrall, 276 members. 5

Oakgrove Landmark Baptist--pastor, Rev. Simmons; service once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located in Oakgrove Community, 11 miles South of Hattiesburg, on Old Highway No. 11, 100 members. 6

Baxterville Baptist--pastor, Joe Lowe, services once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located in village of Baxterville, 44 members. 7

Clear Branch Baptist--pastor, W. S. Cole; services once a month, located four miles east of Purvis; 68 members. 8

Ref.1-2 Geo. Thompson
3-Mrs. Mack Smith
4-Rip Bond
5-Troy Sumrall
6-W. D. Kittrell
8-Adolph Slade
7-Dan Walker

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Ephesus Primitive Baptist--pastor, Albert Easterling, service once a month, located 2 miles west of Purvis, 49 members.1

Richburg Baptist--pastor, A. C. Barrett, service once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located 12 miles north of Purvis, on the Richburg road, 40 members. 2

Corinth Baptist --pastor, V. W. Malley; services once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located 6 miles west of Purvis on Baxterville road, 176 members. 3

Goodhope Baptist Church--pastor, L. H. Harper, service once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located 3 miles west of Purvis; 214 members. 4

Hickory Grove Baptist Church--pastor, Z. A. Polk, service once a month; Sunday School every Sunday, located on the Sumrall and Prentiss road; 136 members. 5

Calvary Baptist Church--pastor, C. S. Moulder; services once a month, Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. every Sunday; located in Oak Grove Community, 9 miles south of Hattiesburg, on Highway N. 11. 68 members. 6

Providence Baptist --pastor, Vance Hill; service once a month, located 5 miles north of Lumberton. 12 members. 7

Tatum Camp Baptist--pastor, D. A. Hogan, service once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located at Tatum Camp 10 miles north of Purvis, 80 members. 8

Ref. 1-John Patten
2-Minutes of Lebanon Association
3-4 Jack Miller
5-Minutes of Lebanon Association
6-Dan Walker
7-Jim Perry
8-Mrs. Alice Lee

Fairview Baptist--Rev. Nobles, pastor; services twice a month; located 3 miles west of Sumrall; 78 members. 1

Greenville Baptist--pastor, Bro. Watts, located 7 miles north of Baxterville, services once a month. 2

Tabernacle Baptist Church--pastor, T. M. Crawley, service once a month, located in Purvis, Sunday School every Sunday, 153 members. 3

Purvis Methodist--pastor, G. E. Allen, services twice each Sunday, Sunday School and B. Y. P. U.; located in the town of Purvis, 223 members. 4

Sumrall Methodist--pastor, L. M. Reeves, services twice each Sunday, Sunday School and Epworth League, located in town of Sumrall, 175 members. 5

Lumberton Methodist Church--pastor, G. H. Thompson, service twice each Sunday, Sunday School, located in the town of Lumberton, 275. 6

Talowah Methodist--pastor, G. E. Allen, service twice a month, located in the village of Talowah, 6 miles South of Purvis, 63 members. 7

Union Grove Methodist--pastor G. E. Allen; services twice a month, located on Highway 11, 6 miles south of Purvis, 61 members. 8

Tatum Camp Methodist--services in same building with Baptist, about 20 members. 9

Ref.1-Field Slade
2-M. Entrekin
3-Lucy Morehead
4- G. E. Allen
5- L. M. Reece
6-G. H. Thompson
7- G. E. Allen
8- " "
9-Lucy Morehead

II. PIONEER CHURCHES

LUMBERTON METHODIST CHURCH

This church was organized in the year of 1886 and built by H. A. Camp, R. W. Hinton, J. H. Hinton, D. P. and A. S. Hinton This was a small frame wood building. Later a new wood building was erected on Main St. and was dedicated by Rev. Huntley on Sunday, March 8, 1896. Brother Huntley was a former pastor of the church. Some of the charter members are still active in the church. They are : J. M. Jenkins and wife, Mrs. R. W. Hinton, Mrs. M. J. Bethune, Mrs. H. A. Camp.

Some of the outstanding preachers of the Conference were pastors of this church, as: Bro. Hays, Howell, Emory, Partridge, Selby, Parker, Huntley, Thompson, and Adams.

Ref. G. H. Thompson

Oloh Methodist--pastor, Rev. Martin; service once a month located in the village of Oloh, 12 miles south of Sumrall, 25 members. 1

Seventh Day Adventist--pastor, Rev. W. W. Walker, service each Sabbath, also Sabbath School and Young People's Volunteer, located in the village of Talowah, 78 members. 2

Catholic Church--Father Shermanmesser, pastor; services, Early Mass each week day, regular service every Sunday and all special holidays, located at Seneca on Southern Railroad, 4 miles north of Lumberton, 105 devout members. 3

Pentecostal Church of God--pastor, J. C. Parker, located 7 miles South of Purvis, on Highway 11, service every Saturday and Sunday Night. This is a free religion, no records are kept.4

Presbyterian Church--services discontinued, located in Purvis.

Episcopal Church at Lumberton--services discontinued.

There are members of the Church of God, Gospel Trumpet, but no church with regular pastor in Lamar County; also there are some so called Holy Rollers, but have no regular church. This is also true of the Mormon Religion--the nearest church is Columbia, Marion County. 5

II. PIONEER CHURCHES

MT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH---about eight miles from Purvis on the Sumrall and Purvis road stands a one room lumber building

Ref.1- Mrs. Mack Smith
2-W. W. Walker
3-Father Shermanmesser
4- J. C. Parker
4-J. C. Parker, Larkin Bounds

known as Burnt Bridge Church. In 1878 a group of nine members organized this church under the name of Mount Zion Church. It was built near a bridge on Black Creek which later burned and ever since has been known as Burnt Bridge Church. The charter members of this church were Robert Whiddon, Samuel Scarborough, William Lee, W. S. Street, Sarah Graham, Martha Bounds, and Margaret Lee the only surviving member. The first pastor was H. Graham. He and R. L. King composed the Presbytery. The first building was of logs, roughly thrown together, but the membership soon required a larger and better building which was built in 1890 and is the present building. They now have a membership of 125. 1

PURVIS BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1882 by Rev. H. R. Curtiss and Jimmie Johnston. Rev. Curtiss was pastor for a number of years. The first meetings were held in a school house built of logs. In 1885 a frame room building was completed on the west side of what is now Main Street at its northern end. 13 years later this building was destroyed by the cyclone that destroyed Purvis. Then the Home Mission Board of the Southern Convention erected the present building. One of the charter members of this church is still alive; Mrs. Nancy Purvis. 2

MIDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized by J. P. Johnson in the year of 1883. It is a frame wood building. Church discipline is very strict, being in the hands of deacons and pastor. 3

Ref.1-Claudie Cameron
2-Mrs. Nancy Purvis
3-Rus Cameron

LITTLE BLACK BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in the year of 1883, by J. P. Johnson. The first building was of logs, built on Little Black Creek. Later this building burned and the church was moved to Red Creek, and the present frame wood building was erected. It is still called Little Black Church, financed by free will offerings. They have a Sunday School every Sunday, and a singing school every summer. 1

PURVIS METHODIST CHURCH--was organized in 1882 by Melvin Purvis J. B. Purvis, W. H. Fillingame. Religious services were held in private homes and on logs under the pine trees. Later a wood building was erected. In 1886 Rev. Van Guice established Purvis as a regular preaching appointment. During this same year Rev. B. S. Raynor, P. E. of the Seashore District was instrumental in incorporating Purvis as a charge composed of Ellisville, Hattiesburg, Purvis and Poplarville. In April 1908 this building was destroyed by the cyclone. Soon afterward another building was erected. Since then Purvis church has held high rank in the charges of the Miss. Conference. 2

ORAL BAPTIST CHURCH --was organized in 1886 by Rev. J. P. Johnson, then a Missionary worker sent to this section by the State Mission Board. He served as first pastor here. The first church house was a small log building put up by the members. 3

In 1893 the present lumber building was erected. Mr. Harmon Aultman gave the timber and one of the northern men

Ref. 1-Geo. Owens
2-W. M. Saunders
3-

who came into this section cut the timber for one half of the lumber. The following list of charter members of this church are still living: Harmon Aultman, Mrs. Elizabeth Lambert, and Mrs. Nannie Bynum. The 50th Anniversary of this church was celebrated in the fall of 1936. 1

CANAY CHURCH--was organized in 1887. It is a small frame building built from collections. The first services were held in the little school building. It was organized by Rev. G. W. Burge, pastor of the church. The church is built near Little River. Some of the Charter members are G. W. Burge, B. P. Henley. 2

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LUMBERTON--was organized in 1889. Rev. Thomas Smith was first pastor, he led in the erecting of first church building, was succeeded by Rev. W. B. Holcomb who served as pastor for 10½ years. In 1898 the present location was secured and a wood building erected and dedicated in 1899 by Dr. A. N. Rowe, then corresponding secretary of State Missions. In 1925 Rev. L. A. Materne led the congregation in erecting the present modern brick building. This church is financed by its members. 3

PINE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized by Rev. Jimmie Johnston and Rev. Bill Holdomb in 1890. This meeting took place under a group of large pine trees near the school house, one Saturday evening. Some of the charter members are still living, there

Ref. 1-Harmon Aultman
2-Geo. Thompson
3-Minutes of State Conference

being 20 of them at that time. The first sermon was preached under these pines by Rev. Johnston. First building was of pine logs, covered with boards. In 1904 the members erected a building of lumber, a one room house. Rev. Johnston was first pastor. In years past Pine Grove Church had one of the finest choirs that could be found in any rural church. They still have choir practice every Sunday night, a Ladies Missionary Society and Sunday School. 1

PURVIS CATHOLIC CHURCH--In 1894 James O'Connell came to Purvis. He was Catholic and there being no Catholic Church in Purvis, Mr. O'Connell had a room built to his house and services were held here. Father Ennis came from Prentiss. Those who were members of the Catholic Church were: Lavinis, O'Connell, Mr. & Mrs. G. F. Blackburn, Mr. W. A. Blackburn and daughter , Delia Blackburn were living in the Pine Grove Community 7 miles west of Purvis, attended service here. Father O'Sullivan from Bassfield held service in the country in their home. In 1905 Rev. Father O'Riley of Hattiesburg came to Purvis, a priestf from Paulding, Jasper County, Miss., came to Purvis and held service here. In 1921 FatherShermanmesser was sent to Seneca to preach and he came to Purvis and took charge of the services. 2

ROCKY BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1898 by Rev. Abner Walker. It is a small frame building that built by collections, near the Little River Bank. Some of the charter members are as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Shep Herrin, Mr. and Mrs.

Ref.1-Mrs. Mary Davis
2-Mrs. Fannie Blackburn

Bill Hartfield, Mrs. Nancy Slade and Mrs. Acy Hartfield. Services are held once a month by Rev. Walters. 1

BAY CREEK LANDMARK BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1900 by Rev. J. L. Bryant. Some of the charter members are: J. L. Bryant, Oliver Sudden, Will Powell, and Jeff Rawls. It is a small frame building that was built from collections. This church is often referred to as The Oaks. The first sermon was preached under large oak trees. 2

PLEASANT HOME--was organized in 1900 with Rev. E asily as preacher. It is a small frame building that was built by collections from members, a Primitive Baptist, sometimes called Hardshells. Some of the charter members: Mark Parker, Jeff Massey, and Israel Beach. Services are discontinued, and the members go to Ephesus church for services. 3

OLOH BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in the year of 1901 with Rev. J. J. Justice as minister. He was the first pastor. Some of the charter members are: Mr. & Mrs. Silas Baggette, Mr. & Mrs. Julias Collins, Mrs. Bell Lott, Mrs. S. D. Pace. 4

MILITARY BAPTIST--WAS ORGANIZED IN 1904. Years ago General Jackson and his troops made their way to New Orleans to fight in the battle of 1812, the road they traveled was near where the church is built, so the name was for that reason. It was organized by Rev. Jimmie Johnston. It is a small frame building paid for by donations. 5

Ref.1-Mrs. Mack Smith
2--Geo. Thompson
3-Rip Bond
4- Mrs. Mack Smith
5. Rip Bond

III. MODERN CHURCHES

SUMRALL METHODIST--organized in 1906. The present modern, brick building was erected in 1914. Has all modern equipment a live Sunday School. Is financed by the members. 1

THE BAPTIST CHURCH SUMRALL--was organized in 1906 began its work as a Mission Station for the State. The present building was erected in 1927, is of brick cost $32,000. Financed by the church. There is a W. M. U. and B. Y. P. U. 2

OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH--organized in 1907, with Rev. Jimmie Johnston as a pastor. The first building was a small one room frame building that was built from contributions. In 1936 the members of this church tore the old building down and made a new one room building. It is a very attractive building. They have Sunday School. 3

PURVIS PRESBYTERIAN--was organized in 1907. The first building was a small frame building, paid for by donations. The first preacher was Rev. O. C. Dolphy. The building was completed in December but services were not held in the new building until Sunday, March 8, 1908. The church was organized by Harris Magee, Luther Magee, and Reuben McNair. The membership grew into 50 members. The cyclone of 1908 blew the building down. Sunday School was organized in this building Jan. 26, 1908 at 3:00 o'clock. Services have been discontinued.4

BAXTERVILLE BAPTIST--it is a small frame building that was built when the Hinton Lumber Co. had their saw mill there.

Ref.1-Pauline Slade
2-L. N. Reeves
3-Mrs. Sam Williams
4-Mrs. W. L. Magee

The Baptist and Methodist made the building, one paid half and the other half. When the building was completed the Methodist had their Sunday School in the morning, the Baptist in the evening. The Sunday School was called a Union School. 1

CLEAR BRANCH--was organized in 1910, by Harrison Davis and Rev. Geo. Lee. There is no church building, services are held in the school building. 2

EPHESUS PRIMITIVE BAPTIST--was organized in 1912. It is a small frame building that was built from donations. Some of the charter members are: Rev. M. F. Patten and wife, Mr. and Mrs. John Patten, Mrs. Phoeba Miller, Mrs. Mille Johnson. Rev. Patten was first pastor. 3

ST. ALBANS EPISCOPAL MISSION--was built in 1913. Bishop T. D. Bratton, Bishop of the Diocese. Dr. D. B. Waddell was Rector in charge. J. W. Williams, Sr. Warden, R. W. Hinton, Jr. Treasurer, H. L. Deval and Lee E. Williams, building committee. Corner stone was laid by the Masonic Grand Lodge, Dr. Bays, G. M. Subsequent rectors: Rev. J. Landy Sykes, Rev. L. L. Malone, Holly Wells and then Girault Jones. At one time there were 24 communicants and 37 members of the Sunday School. Services are now discontinued. 4

RICHBURG BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1915. It is a small frame building, paid for by donations. Sunday School each Sunday. 5

CATHOLIC CHURCH AT SENECA--was organized in 1912 by a colony

Ref.1-W. D. Kittrell
2-Adolph Slade
3-W. P. Johnson
4-R. W. Hinton
5- Lebanon Minutes.

of 14 Catholic families who came to this county from German Town and Breeze Ill. Services were first held in an old saw mill hut, by Father O'Riely of Hattiesburg, Miss. who came down once a month until the present building was erected in 1913 by Fred Harr and Fred Heimeyer, the building costing $1380. The Priest's modern home was completed in 1922, has all modern conveniences. The church is financed by members. 1

TALOWAH METHODIST CHURCH--was organized and established in 1918, a frame wood building was made possible by donations and subscriptions throughthe efforts of Bro. Edd Rutledge, and Rev. Williams, the building was erected by community labor. It is financed by the members. 2

CORINTH BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1888 by Rev. Jimmie Johnston. Some of the charter members are: Sidney Johnston, Jepsey Cole, Matison Holcomb, John Saucier, Sam Courtney. First house was made of logs in 1888. In 1898 a small frame building was built by members. Rev. M. H. Broadus was pastor of church from 1900-1903. In 1920 Rev. J. M. Gibbs re-organized Corinth church from Landmark to Convention. 3

HICKORY GROVE BAPTIST--organized in 1921, is a small frame building financed by members. They have a Sunday School and B. T. U. 4

GOOD HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1920 by Rev. J. M Gibbs of Ala. It is a small frame building paid for by members. 5

Ref.-Father Shermanesser
2- Edd Rutledge
3-A. . Broadus
4- Jack Miller 5. Lebanon

CALVARY CONVENTION BAPTIST--organized in 1920 by W. W. Byrd, E. S. Mullins, J. W. Traylor and O. R. Armstrong. It is a square wood building with a steeple, will seat 500. It has Sunday School and B. Y. P. U., is financed by members. 1

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST--was organized in July 21, 1922. W. R. Elliott presiding, there being 18 believers in this location. By permission they met in the Methodist Church. J. L. Walker was elected leader, F. E. McKee as Deacon, Mrs. McKee as treasurer, Mrs. Lula Hendershot as Clerk. The Seventh Day Adventist church is a world wide organization, divided into units. It is supported by thithes and free will offerings. 2 The returning of the tenth of the income of the members for the support of the Gospel is a fandamental teaching of the church. All Seventh Day Adventist ministers are on a regular salary, paid by the local conference. In 1926, Talowah sent $1600 to the conference. It is a frame wood building. 2

PROVIDENCE CONVENTION BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1923 by Rev. J. M. Voss and Bev. Miller. Services were first held under the trees, later in the school house, until the present frame wood buildings were erected. This was accomplished through the efforts of Mr. Jim Perry and Lee Owens, funds were raised by donations and subscriptions. 3

UNION GROVE METHODIST CHURCH--was organized in 1924 by Bro. Williams, M. Morris and W. Mordis. Funds raised by donations and subscriptions. Is a frame wood building, painted, seating

Ref. 1-Dan Walker
2-W. W. Walker
3-Jim Perry

4. Noted Ministers, etc.

Rev. Jimmie P. Johnston was the founder of some of the pioneer churches in the eastern part of Marion County, now Lamar. He was sent out from Smith and Jasper Counties by the State Mission Board as a Missionary to teach and preach the gospel. He traveled in a baggy and usually spent the night along the way in the home of friends, and hold service. He traveled from the the above counties to the coast . The roads that he traveled were lonely, the people lived far apart and in this way he held services while making his trips. He was an honest man with only a common education. He was leader in every thing he undertook, an eloquent speaker. Sometimes he would be away from home for weeks and weeks asking people ahngg the way to join the church. He usually wore a frock tail coat, as this was the fashion for men at that time. He died about 25 years ago and just where he is buried is not known to us. He organized six Baptist churches in Lamar County and also many others in adjoining counties. 1

Rev. George H. Thompson, 48 years a member of the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His early education was limited. When 18 years old he went to Centenary College at Jackson, La. He only had the sum of $140. He was admitted on trial to the Miss. Conference. He is now in the 48th year of his ministry and seven of these years have been spent as pastor of the Methodist Church at Lumberton, Miss. Lamar County. 2

Ref. 1-Mrs. Mary Davis, Harmon Aultman
2- Rev. G. H. Thompson

SINGING SCHOOLS.

c. A singing school is taught in many of the Landmark Baptist Church once a year. This is in the summer months, pupils paying the teacher a small fee for 10 days teaching. The pupils are taught to read and sing music. The classes begin at about 8:00 oclock and last until four. On the last day an all day singis in order. Some of the teachers in this county are: E. M. Dyar, Lee Lasiter, JohnLott, Van Anderson, Joe Cameron, W. W. Matthews, etc. In some of the churches choir service, or practice is held once or twice a month. 1

D. Graveyard Workings.

Years ago when these pioneer churches were organized , the members cleared about an acre of ground and fenced it. They set this plot of ground aside for their cemetary. In some of the oldest, small sheds are still found built over the graves. The graveyard workings are held at different times during the year. An announcement is made, a time set and all who have relatives or friends buried there are invited to attend. The ground is hoed and raked, rubbish burned, sunken graves are filled and flowers transplanted to open spaces, shrubbery is set out. It is the custom of some of the churches to clear the graveyards and decorate the graves on Decoration Day. In some of the churches they have a set of tools that are kept locked up for this purpose. 2

The Methodist have Revival meetins yearly, quarterly Conference and Communion. 3

Ref. 1&2 Lucy Morehead
3-Pauline Slade

If there is a traveling minister of the same faith and order, who wishes to preach at one of the churches he writes and asks permission, stating the time. Arrangements are made and an all day affair is planned. Dinner is brought and served on the church grounds at 12:00 o'clock. Collections is taken, none are under obligations to pay.

They have their annual revival once a year, during the summer months or fall. It lasts about a week, with one all day service. The remainder of the time, two services a day are all.

Next with the Landmark Baptist comes the annual association. The churches that belong meet at an appointed place on the second Saturday in October. It lasts three days, dinner being served on the church grounds all three days. They have three services a day at the association. The members of the home church take care of all visiting delegates and ministers. All the yearly business is read and adopted, and a place selected for next meeting.

Communion day is sometimes an all day affair. Regular service is held and then Feet Washing is done before communion. They then have communion of unleaven bread and wine. Only those of the same faith and order takes part in their communion. No one but a deacon's wife bakes the bread, the service being held in May.

The Fifth Sunday service is none other than the day for church business. In the Associational they put a number of the churches in a group to meet on the Fifth Sunday to plan the church business. 1

1- Mrs. Fannie Blackburn

capacity about 600. Is financed by members. 1

TATUM CAMP BAPTIST--organized in 1929. It is a small frame building built by the Tatum Lumber Company. They have Sunday School and Ladies Missionary Society. 2

TATUM CAMP METHODIST--organized in 1929. In same building as Baptist Church. 3

PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD--was organized in 1930. The present frame wood building was erected during 1931, by donations. Is financed by the members and free will offerings. 4

FAIR VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1933, is a small frame building that was built from donations. No pastors home. 5

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH--was organized in 1920 by Rev. T. C. King of Purvis, Miss. It is a small frame building that was built by collections, sponsored by members. 5

II. PIONEER CHURCHES

4. CHURCH ACTIVITIES

The Landmark Baptist have all day services and all day sings once or twice a year. Singers from other churches are invited, also other preachers. The meet at 10:00 o'clock in the morning and start song service. A committee is appointed by the church members to look after the program, they also take charge of refreshments to be served at noon. Solos, duets, quartets, etc. are a part of the program. It is announced in the local paper a week or so ahead. Singers from other States often attend. The churches take turns in having these sings. 6

Ref. 1-G. E. Allen
2-3 Pauline Slade
4- J. C. Parker
5- Minutes of Black Creek Ass.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Rev. Abner Walker, Baptist minister came to this county as a missionary, sent out by the Red Creek Baptist Association. He was the founder of several churches in this association, one in Lamar County, that of Rocky Branch. During his work as a missionary for this association he held services in churches, school houses, camps and homes. He worked in this association for a number of years, coming here from Van Clive, Miss., near the coast. He entered the Civil War when a young man and fought for our "Sunny South". During his last few years of life he spent his time in Beauvior, (home for confederate soldiers), at Biloxi, Miss. He was a leader in this home in the Religious Services. In his last years when he was not able to attend the Association, he sent a letter to them expressing his desire to attend, but could not on account of failing health. During this time he composed a religious song which he sold for 10¢ a copy. He gave this money to the support of aged Baptist Ministers. He died in 1930 at the Beauvior Home at the age of 83 years. He is buried in the Walker Cemetery . Some of his work he began in the Red Creek Association is still being carried on by other workers. 1

Rev. M. H. Broadus, Baptist Minister, moved into this county from Harrison County, Miss. He preached in nearly all the pioneer churches in this county as a missionary sent out from the Red Creek Baptist Association, was moderator of Red Creek Baptist Aoccia tion for a number of years, doing outstanding work in this line. During his pastoral work he always taught

Ref. 1- A. M. Broadus

the people the works of God, just as long as he was able to travel, about two weeks before his death he held a revival meeting in Sun Flower, Baptist Church in Stone County. He died in 1932 at the age of 78 years. Rev. M. H. Broadus has been missed in his work in Lamar County since his death. 1

Rev. J. L. Bryant, Baptist Minister was considered one of Lamar County's best pioneer preachers. He was the founder of Bay Creek Baptist Church, and was pastor for a number of years He was church moderator of the Black Creek Association during this time, and made a record in the work that will always be remembered by this Association. He died in 1935 at his home in Bay Creek Community, near Baxterville, Miss. 2

Rev. W. M. Williams was pastor of the Methodist Church in Purvis for four years. He was instrumental in establishing the Methodist Church at Talowah and Union Grove and present at the dedication of these churches in the summer of 1936. He is now Chaplain at the State Sanatorium at Magee, Miss. 3

Three of the most promising young men of the Miss. Conference were born in Purvis, Lamar Co., received their Christian training and called into the ministry here. Namely: Bro. W. B. Alsworth, P. E.; James Slay and T. R. Hott. 4

Following is a list of ministers who were born or lived in Lamar County:

Rev.	James Slay	Rev.	Alvin C. Kelly
"	W. B. Alsworth	"	Jessie L. Boone
"	T. S. Entrekin	"	Alonzo Boone
"	Charlie Entrekin(deceased)	"	Daniel Boone
"	Roy Leslie Lane	"	E. R. Boone

Ref. 1-A. Q. Broadus
2-Geo. Thompson
3-Pauline Slade
4- Ella Crook

Rev. Farve Adams
" R. R. Holt
" Lamar Holcomb
" Earnest Dearman
" T. C. King(deceased)
" James Baxter
" Johnnie Nelmeyer(Priest)
" M. H. Broadus(deceased)
" Charlie Nobles
" Abner Walker
" N. A. Lott
" Elias Haden
" J. L. Bryant(deceased)
" T. J. Smith
" Hughie Graham
" Cage Courtney
" May
" Carrouth
" W. M. Holcomb
" June Hartfield
" D. A. Hogan
" Bill Anderson
" Newman Wall
" Mobley
" Luther Holcomb 1

Rev. A. S. Steele
" Dan Kelly
" M. L. Benton
" A. D. McKee
" Joe Lowe
"Ernest Byrd
" John Broadus
" Stuart Cole
" Duval Sturrt
" J. C. Parker
" Riley Anderson
" Jimmie P. Johnston
" T. A. Sumrall
" M. F. Patten
" George Jones
" Austen Anderson
" Sones
" H. L. Harper
" J. M. Gibbs
" A. L. O'Bryant
" H. R. Curtiss
" Flannagin
" Spencer
" Geo. Lee

IV. INDIAN CHURCHES (none)

V. NEGRO CHURCHES

There are 13 different denominations of Negro Churches in Lamar County, 5 Methodist, 6 Baptist, 2 Church of God.

LOVES ADDITION MISSIONARY BAPTIST, pastor Rev. W. M. Mallory, service once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located in Love Quarters, Lumberton, 120 members. 2

MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH--W. P. Nobles, pastor; service once a month, Sunday School, located in Big Quarters, 6th Ave. Lumberton. 50 members. 3

ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST--C. L. Parker, pastor; service twice a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located in Lumberton Big Quarters, 28 members. 4

Ref. 1-Thomas Davis, A. G. Broadus
2- Belledore Spriggs
3. Lem Allen
4. Jim Scott

THOMAS CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCH--George Brandon, pastor; services once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located in Big Quarters, 624 6th Ave., 43 members. 1

BETHEL CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCH--J. H. Brandon, pastor; service once a month, located in Wells Town, Lumberton, 14 members. 2

EVENING LIGHT--has no pastor at present time but prayer services are held twice a week. Located in Big Quarters, 7th Ave., Lumberton, Miss. 32 members. 3

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST--Dancing Saints, G. D. Dukes, pastor; preaching once a month, prayer meeting once a week. Located in Big Quarters, Lumberton, 11 members. 4

SPRING HILL BAPTIST CHURCH--pastor, A. H. Hardy, preaching once a month, Sunday School, located in Purvis Quarters, 45 members. 5

ST. JAMES METHODIST CHURCH--pastor, Tom Sharp, services once a month, Sunday School, located in Purvis Quarters, about 40 members. 6

COLORED CHURCHES OF SUMRALL

During the saw mill boom in Sumrall, hundreds of negroes moved here, and established churches of the different denominations. At that time there were 7 churches in the Quarters. Since the cutting out of the saw mill the majority of the negroes have moved on. Only the ones who were stranded here and could not get away are left. These few hardly are able to support one church. In our research we find, that there are

Ref. 1-Ella Adams
2-C. H. Hill
3- Rosa Winston
4- Hattie Dawson
5- Ella Manuel
6- Doc McGlothan
7-

only three churches that are able to keep a pastor--none of the churches have kept records. Very little information can be gotten; as the ones who established the churches have gone on. Those few that are here are as follows: 1

MT. HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH--Rev. Fortenberry, pastor; preaching service once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located in Sumrall quarters, 75 members. 2

ST. LOUIS BAPTIST CHURCH--Rev. May, pastor; preaching once a month, Sunday School every Sunday, located on Main Alley, Sumrall quarters, 40 members. 3

AFRICAN METHODIST CHURCH--Rev. Williams, pastor; services once a month, Sunday School, located in Sumrall quarters, 10 members. 4

PIONEER CHURCHES:

JAMES CHAPEL METHODIST--organized in 1897 by B. F. Dudley, the church went by his name until the building burned. The new church was built by J. W. James and named for him. It is a wood building. 5

BETHEL CHAPEL METHODIST--organized in 1899 by Jessie Husband and Will Rogers, a wood building, financed by collection. 6

ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST--organized in 1899 by Ike Winston and Jim Scott, wood building financed by collections. 7

MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH--organized in 1902 ~~by~~-wood building financed by collections. Organized by J. F. Fortson. 8

EVENING LIGHT CHURCH OF GOD--organized in 1906. Wood building, financed by collections.

Ref. 1-Porter Messer
2-Mandy Morgan
3-4- Mandy Morgan
5- C. H. Hill
6-Rose Winston
7- Jim Scott
8-Lem Allen
9-Hattie Dawson

THOMAS CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCH--was organized in 1906 by Mr. Tompkins, wood building, financed by collections. 1

ST. JAMES METHODIST CHURCH--organized in 1906 by Rev. Sam Rays. Charter members are Will McCall, Robert Spears and Johnnie Jones. A frame building, built from collections when the saw mill was in operation here. When the saw mill cut out most of the members moved away. 2

MT. HEBRON BAPTIST--organized in 1912 by J. Carlyle, J. Collins, E. King, and G. Parker. A small frame building, built when the J. J. Newman Co. was in Sumrall. 3

ST. LOUIS BAPTIST CHURCH--organized in 1912, built when J. J. Newman Co. was in Sumrall. 4

AFRICAN METHODIST--organized in 1915. Financed by members, wood building. 5

SPRING HILL BAPTIST church was organized in 1896 by Rev. Jarrell. The first church was built near where the city hall is now located. It remained here for a number of years and when the negro quarters were moved to the end of town(south) the church was torn down and moved. When the church was organized there were 20 charter members. The church was built by collections and is a small frame building. 6

LOVES ADDITION--organized in 1904 by Charlie Williams, wood building financed by collection, disciplined by the Baptist Orthodox. 7

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST--organized in 1905 by Jesse Eaton, wood building, financed by collections. 8

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Ref. 1- Ella Adams

2- Tom Sharp

3- Mandy Morgan

4- " "

5-Laura White

6- Dock McGlothan

7-8- Pauline Slade.

Ella Crook

Historian, Lamar County

Canvassers-
Pauline Slade
Lucy Morehead
Helen Entrekin

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY
District #3
January 13,1937

SUBJECT: SCHOOLS OF TODAY. Assignment #19.

I. PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM:

1. In 1904 Lamar County was created out of the Second Judicial District of Marion County and a part of Pearl River County. T. W. Davis was appointed the first County Superintendent of Education of Lamar County by Gov. James K. Vardaman. He was elected to that position by the people of the county one month later and re-elected in 1907 and served in that capacity until January 1, 1912. His salary began at $25.00 per month and later was raised to $65.00 per month. Many improvements were made in the public schools of the county. They reached a higher standard of efficiency, more and better buildings were erected, a curriculum prepared and adopted, outlining the work to be done in each grade each session. Mr. Davis has given deep thought to educational problems of the county and is responsible for the creating of the County Agriculture High Schools in Mississippi. He suggested the plan to Superintendent J. N. Powers. The idea was taken up by the leaders in the educational field and at the 1908 session of the Mississippi Legislature a bill was drawn embodying his idea of a County Agriculture High School and its enactment by the Legislature marked an area in educational progress in the State. Lamar County was one of the first in the State to open Agriculture High School. The purpose of this system was to give the best possible training to the children of the

people. The school buildings located at Purvis consists of an adminstration building, auditorium and gymnasium, boys and girls dormitories, Home Science and Manual Training buildings.

(2) A. Q. Broadus was elected Superintendent of Education of Lamar County in the year 1912, by vote to succeed T. W. Davis. Mr. Broadus served in this capacity from the year of 1912 to 1920 at a salary of $1600 per year. During his administration, consolidation of schools began in the county. Corinth School was the first to consolidate, this was in 1914. A large wood building was erected with good equipment and sanitary toilets. Five teachers were employed the first year. In 1915 Victory Consolidated School was established, a large wood building was erected and substantial equipment installed. In 1916 Yawn, Pine Grove, and Baxterville School were created; good sized buildings of wood were erected with substantial equipment. In 1919, Oloh, Rocky Branch, and Providence Schools were created, wood buildings erected and good equipment installed.

During Mr. Broadus's administration the Purvis Training School for Negroes was established, a good wood building constructed.

(3) In the Year of 1920 T. L. Williamson was elected to succeed A. Q. Broadus as Superintendent of Education. He served in this capacity from the year 1920 to 1932 at a salary of $200 per month. During his administration a better school program was put on, and the beginning of brick buildings in the county. In 1922 Okohola Consolidated School was

created and this was the first brick building in the Rural Districts of the county. Originally the building cost $12,000. Following this, two brick buildings were erectected at Hickory Grove School at a cost of $26,00. In 1923 Greenville School was consolidated and brick building was erected at a cost of $7,000. In 1923 Sandy Run Separate District School, erected a brick building and teachers home by bond issue at a cost of $12,000. In this same year a brick building was erected at Baxterville, cost $15,000. Two brick buildings were erected at Victory at a cost of $8,000. In 1924 Oak Grove School was consolidated and a brick building erected here at a cost of $16,000. Teachers homes were erected at Yawn, Hickory Grove, Rocky Branch, Baxterville, Oak Grove and Victory Schools. In 1931 Sumrall School consolidated with Oloh, Rocky Branch and Hickory Grove. Two new brick buildings were built at Sumrall. The new Gymn building cost $36,000. The total plant is now valued at $60,000.

During Mr. Williamson's administration, new buildings were erected for the following colored schools with the aid of the Rosenwald Fund. Also good equipment was installed.

Wells School, Lumberton, Miss.
Lamar Training School, Lumberton, Miss.
Mt. Vernon, beat 4.
Sumrall Colored School, Sumrall, Miss.
Watts School, Beat 5.

(4) In the year 1932 Z. A. Foshee was elected Superintendent of Education, serving until the year of 1936. He was

then re-elected for another four years term to serve until January 1, 1940, at a salary of $2000 per year.

When Mr. Foshee first came into office the depression was being very much felt. There was very little money to operate the schools in the county. One of his first steps was to consolidate the majority of the rural high schools in the county into city consolidated schools--these being Lumberton, Purvis, and Sumrall. The following schools in the rural area had been transferring their High School students to Purvis, to the Lamar County Agriculture High School: Providence, Pine Grove, Yawn, Corinth, Progress, Clear Branch and Okohola. In the summer of 1932 Mr. Foshee with the county School Board, consolidated all of these schools into the Lamar County Agriculture High School and designated the school as the Purvis Special Consolidated School as it now stands. In 1933 a consolidated school for negroes was built on the Lamar and Marion County line, called the Lamarian School.

2. Lamar County Schools are financed by 1. a poll tax on all persons over 21 years of age. This fund is retained in the county as a Common School Fund. 2. A county wide advalorum tax--by school district levy. 3. 16th section fund. 4. State per Capita Fund. 5. State Equilization Fund. 6. Smiths Hughes Fund (from Federal Government). 7. Rosenwald Fund--used for negro schools. This is a fund donated by a northerner for the purpose of erecting negro schools.

3. Types of Schools in County:

a. There are nineteen Rural Elementary Schools in Lamar County. Three city consolidated schools located at Lumberton, Purvis and Sumrall. Two Rural Consolidated High Schools. There is one Seventh Day Adventist School located at Talowah, Lamar County, and one Catholic School, located at Seneca, Lamar County.

b. There are seven colored schools in the county.

c. Adult Education through the continuation of old "Moonlight" schools.--None.

Through extension courses--The State Department of Education and the Mississippi Education Association have inaugurated a five year study course on the "Improvement of Instruction", Lamar County teachers are giving a lot of their time and effort to this study course, although they stand high in training, they are anxious to take advantage of every opportunity to improve themselves in every possible way.

Lamar County has six WPA teachers, paid by the Federal Government. T. V. Anderson of Oak Grove community is County Supervisor of adult education. The purpose of WPA Schools is to train the illiterate. In each school different subjects are taught. Following is a list of Lamar County WPA teachers. Mr. J. B. Foshee, Purvis, Miss., Mr. Tolida Ladner, Lumberton, Mrs. B. M. Myers--Sumrall, Mrs. Eula Collins--Oloh, T. V. Anderson--Oak Grove, and Arnold Line, Jerome Carlysle--Sumrall, Colored.

4. Later Developements of Lamar Schools.

a. By transportation of all small rural schools into consolidated schools there is a good consolidated school in

every community of the county, and with the network of good gravel roads Lamar County's system of transportation has been developed to such an extent that every child that is not in walking distance of school, is provided with a good way of transportation. A fleet of 47 trucks covering a distance of 554 miles each morning and evening and carrying 2000 school children. The contractors are good capable men, who are all the time on the lookout for the safety of the children. They have flags on their trucks, have stop signs and have brakes tested every two weeks, stop at railroad crossings. According to a survey that was recently made figures show that the average cost of transportation per pupil, per month is $1.35 in Lamar County. During the depression the school people of the county have made great sacrifices in order to uphold the high standard of our educational system.

b. Through Agriculture High School Movement.

The Agricultural system in High School is one of the finest and greatest subjects taught. As Agriculture is the chief industry of Lamar County, the boys and girls must be prepared to cope with this industry. They are taught how to manage the farm, how to select good soils, how to plan and plant crops that will be an income, how to select stock, poultry, etc. for the farm.

c. Through Home Economics Instruction.

By teaching Home Economics in Lamar County Schools the girls of today learn how to manage a home, to design and make clothing, to prepare wholesome food, how to can and preserve fruits and vegetables for the family, the selection

and care of poultry and better gardening.

D. Junior Colleges--None.

5. Names and Location of Schools in Lamar County.

a. (1) Baxterville Consolidated--Located in Beat #3 at Baxterville, on Columbia Road. Brick building, cost $15,000. Modern equipment, WPA library, children transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

(2) Corinth Consolidated School--located in beat #1, seven miles west of Purvis on Baxterville Road. Large wood building, cost $2800, modern equipment, no library, transportation-standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

(3) Clear Branch School--four miles east of Purvis in Beat #1, small frame building, cost $500, rough equipment, no library. Transportation--standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

(4) Greenville Consolidated School--located in beat #3, on Baxterville road, brick building, cost $15,000. Modern equipment--WPA library. Transportation--standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

(5) Hickory Grove consolidated school--located in northern part of beat #5, brick building, modern equipment, no library. Modern buses for transporting children. Cost $26,000.

b. Elementary School.

(6) Lumberton High School--located in the town of

Lumberton-beat #2. Brick building, modern equipment, good library, transportation--standard buses. Cost--$65,000/

b. Senior High School.

c. Special courses taught--music, dramatics.

d. Extra Curricular activities--Boy Scouts, Girl Reserves, Basket Ball, Football, Baseball. See Saw, and swings on school grounds. Disciplinary Control is left up to principal.

(7) Midway School--located on Highway 49, beat #4., brick building, cost $8,000. Discontinued--consolidated with Oloh and Oakgrove.

(8) Okonola Consolidated School--located in beat #5 at Oloh, 12mimileswest of Purvis on Columbia Road. Building of brick, cost $12,000, modern equipment, WPA library, children transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary Grades are taught.

c. Basket Ball.

(9) Purvis Special Consolidated School--located in beat #1, town of Purvis, brick buildings, cost $82,000. All modern equipment, good library, children are transported by standard buses.

b. Senior High.

c. Home Economics, manual training, music, short-hand, typing, and book-keeping, physical culture.

d. Hi Yi, Girl Reserves, Playground activities, baseball, foot ball and basket ball.

(10) Purvis Graded School--located in town of Purvis,

brick building now under construction, WPA project.

(11) Pine Grove Consolidated School--located six miles west of Purvis in beat #1. Brick building, cost $1950--modern equipment, no library. Children are transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary grades are taught.

c. Basket Ball.

(12) Progress Consolidated School--located two miles west of Purvis in beat #1, brick building, cost $7,000. Modern equipment, no library, children are transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

c. Basket Ball.

(13) Providence School--located five miles north of Lumberton on West Purvis and Lumberton Road, beat #2, wood building, modern equipment, no library, children transported by standard buses. Cost, $3000.

b. Elementary School.

c. Basket Ball.

(14) Rocky Branch Consolidated School located 12 miles southwest of Sumrall, on Columbia Road in beat #5. Brick building, cost $4,000, modern equipment, no library, children transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

c. Basket Ball.

(15) Sumrall Consolidated City School--located in beat #5, town of Sumrall, modern brick buildings, cost $60,000, modern equipment, good library, children transported by

Lumberton-beat #2. Brick building, modern equipment, good library, transportation--standard buses. Cost--$65,000/

b. Senior High School.

c. Special courses taught--music, dramatics.

d. Extra Curricular activities--Boy Scouts, Girl Reserves, Basket Ball, Football, Baseball. See Saw, and swings on school grounds. Disciplinary Control is left up to principal.

(7) Midway School--located on Highway 49, beat #4., brick building, cost $8,000. Discontinued--consolidated with Oloh and Oakgrove.

(8) Okonola Consolidated School--located in beat #5 at Oloh, 12mimileswest of Purvis on Columbia Road. Building of brick, cost $12,000, modern equipment, WPA library, children transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary Grades are taught.

c. Basket Ball.

(9) Purvis Special Consolidated School--located in beat #1, town of Purvis, brick buildings, cost $82,000. All modern equipment, good library, children are transported by standard buses.

b. Senior High.

c. Home Economics, manual training, music, short-hand, typing, and book-keeping, physical culture.

d. Hi Yi, Girl Reserves. Playground activities, baseball, foot ball and basket ball.

(10) Purvis Graded School--located in town of Purvis,

brick building now under construction, WPA project.

(11) Pine Grove Consolidated School--located six miles west of Purvis in beat #1. Brick building, cost $1950--modern equipment, no library. Children are transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary grades are taught.

c. Basket Ball.

(12) Progress Consolidated School--located two miles west of Purvis in beat #1, brick building, cost $7,000. Modern equipment, no library, children are transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

c. Basket Ball.

(13) Providence School--located five miles north of Lumberton on West Purvis and Lumberton Road, beat #2, wood building, modern equipment, no library, children transported by standard buses. Cost, $3000.

b. Elementary School.

c. Basket Ball.

(14) Rocky Branch Consolidated School located 12 miles southwest of Sumrall, on Columbia Road in beat #5. Brick building, cost $4,000, modern equipment, no library, children transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

c. Basket Ball.

(15) Sumrall Consolidated City School--located in beat #5, town of Sumrall, modern brick buildings, cost $60,000, modern equipment, good library, children transported by

standard buses.

b. Grades, Senior High.

c. Domestic Science, music, typing.

d. Hi Yi, Scouts, Girl Reserves, Swings, See Saws, games, basket ball, base ball and foot ball.

(16) Victory Consolidated School--located in beat #4, on Hattiesburg and Sumrall road. Brick building cost $10,000. Modern equipment, no library, transported by standard buses.

b. Senior High School.

c. None.

d. Girl Reserves, playground activities--games, basket ball.

(17) Yawn no. #1, consoldiated. Located in beat #2, five miles north of Lumberton on old Highway #11. Wood building, cost $2400. Modern equipment, no library. Transportation--modern buses.

b. Elementary Grades taught.

c. None

d. Basketball.

(18) Yawn no. #2--located at Seneca. Small wood building, modern equipment, no library.

b. Elementary grades.

c. None

d. Disciplinary control--Catholic Church.

(19) Seventh Day Adventist School--located at Talowah, wood building and equipment by the Seventh Day Adventist people.

b. Elementary School

c. None

d. Disciplinary Control--the church.

(20) Oak Grove Consolidated School--located in beat #4, on Highway 49, brick building, cost $16,000. Modern equipment, WPA library, children transported by Standard buses.

b. Senior High

c. Basket Ball.

(21) Oloh Consolidated School--located in beat #5 at Oloh, 12 miles west of Purvis on Columbia Road. Brick buildings, cost $12,000, modern equipment WPA library, children transported on standard buses.

b. Elementary Grades taught.

(22) Rocky Branch Consolidated School located 12 miles Southwest of Sumrall on Columbia Road in beat #5, brick building, cost $4,000, modern equipment, no library, children transported by standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

c. Basket Ball.

(23) Sandy Run--separate School District, located at Richburg, beat #4, brick building, cost $12,000. Modern equipment, no library, transportation by standard buses.

b. Elementary School.

c. Basketball.

COLORED SCHOOLS:

1. Lamar Training School--located in beat #2, Lumberton Big Quarters. Large wood building, modern equipment, no library. Cost--$12,000.

b. Junior High

c. Music

d. Basket Ball

(2) Lamarion Consolidated School, located on line of Lamar and Marion Counties, brick building, modern equipment, no library. Transportation--modern buses.

b. Junior High

c. None

d. Basketball.

(3) Mt. Vernon located in beat #4, on Highway #11, ten miles south of Hattiesburg, wood building, good equipment, no library. Cost--$1200. Children in walking distance.

b. Elementary School.

(4) Purvis Training School--located in beat #1, Purvis quarters. Wood building, good equipment, no library, cost $1600.

b. Elementary School

(5) Sumrall Colored School, located in beat #5, Sumrall quarters, wood building, modern equipment, no library.

b. Junior High.

(6) Wells Town School--located in Wells quarters, beat #2, Lumberton. Wood building, modern equipment, no library.. cost--$800.

b. Elementary School

c. Basketball.

(7) Tatum's Camp--a school built by the mill owner, and moves with the camp.

6. Related Activities.

a. The following schools have a good live Parent Teachers Association--Purvis, Sumrall, Oak Grove and Victory.

b. Faculty Meetings--The special consolidated Schools have faculty meetings every two weeks, county faculty meetings every six weeks.

c. Cafeterias are beginning to open by WPA.

7. Teachers of Today.

The Teachers Staff of Lamar County is composed of 107 white teachers and 14 colored teachers.

a. During the "old boarding around" area, when the teacher stayed a week in each home, or boarded in the homes of some of the patrons and walked three or four miles to school twice a day. The teachers could teach provided they could pass the teachers examination and were paid a very small salary. They kept strictly to the books.

Present influence. Now the school provides a teachers home for the teachers and the children are taught by doing.

Qualifications--the teachers are now required to have two years college work unless they were in the School System prior to the School Law passed in 1933.

II. PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES IN COUNTY:

a. None

b. None

c. Private Schools

Mrs. Marion Calhoun's School of tap dancing--in her home in Purvis, Miss. Gives lessons twice per week.

References:

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

I. 1. T. W. Davis, Purvis, Miss.

(2)A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.

(3)T. L. Williamson, Purvis, Miss.

(4) Z. A. Foshee, Purvis, Miss.

2. T. L. Williamson, Purvis, Miss.
A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.
Z. A. Foshee, " "
Minutes of Board of Supervisors, court house.

3. Z. A. Foshee, Purvis, Miss.

4.. " " " "

5. " " " "
A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.
T. L. Williamson, Purvis
Minutes of Board of Supervisors, Lamar County
Bond Issue Book, City Hall, Lumberton.

6. Z. A. Foshee, Purvis, Miss.

7. " " " "

II. Mrs. Lucy Morehead, Purvis, Miss.

Mrs Ella Crook.
ELLA CROOK, SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL
RESEARCH PROJECT LAMAR COUNTY

Canvassers
Pauline Slade
Mildred Hendrick
Helen Entrekin

3

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY
ASSIGNMENT # 11

SUBJECT: EDUCATION

last 2 pages contain information on modern school system.

L. "Schools of Yesterday."

1. Schools now standing in the county since all the smaller schools have consolidated:

Purvis School
Lumberton school
Sumrall school
Olah school
Rocky Branch school
Greenville school
Corinth school
Okahola school
Sandy Run school
Victory school
Hickory school
Oak Grove school
Yawn school
Progress school

Small schools before consolidation:

Huges school
Talawah school
Dearman school
Clear Branch
Grantham
Coral
Epley
Coulters Creek
Pleasant Hill
Slab Town
Tick Creek
Military
Arnold line school
Coal Town
Bay Creek

The first school we have any record of was the little Hughes School near Baxterville, which was built in 1722 by James Baxter and Charlie Byrd. It was a crude hewed log, room, with split logs for seats without backs, no glass windows, just shutters. There was a spring nearby which furnished water and a gourd was used for a dipper. The first teacher was named Hughes, the second teacher was a Mr. Ricky who taught from an arithmetic made by hand; this arithmetic is still in the Baxter family and is an antique worth seeing, they were offered a large sum of money for this book but refused to sell.

The Baxters and Byrds had a large family and they comprised the school of 30 pupils. Each family having 15 childred each. These two men paid the teacher a small salary and gave him board. The children were taught reading, writing and arithmetic, three months in the year.

Joe and Jim Baxter, Charles Strahan, George Dearman, Math Courtney, Charley and Jim Byrd, all prominent farmers in this county received their early education in this school. As more people settled in this community they felt the need of a larger school. They made a large room of lumber and employed another teacher. It continued to grow until the year 1910 they they consolidated with the little village of Baxterville and built a large wooden school house and employed five teachers. They carried ten grades and taught seven months in the year.

The first school in Lumberton, Miss. was a little one room log house, which was called the Old Elli Dearman Homestead, which stood near where our present Depot stands in a little grove, the present home of Fleet Hathorne. The Dearmans, Landrums, Burdetts, Tunnisons, Clarkd are some of the earlier settlers who went to this school. This was in 1884 or 1886. Mrs/ Scott, a relative of J. J. White was the teacher in this school. Prof. Webb and Miss Lula Banks were the next teachers and they taught in the Baptist Church.

Three years later Camp & Hinton Lumber Co. felt the need of a larger and more commodious school for their employees children, so this same company built a two story frame building at their expense on the site where our present school building now stands. A domitory was built and Prof. Summers of Columbia was elected as Superintendent of the school for three years, with a salary of $1000 per year. A large percentage of the patronage which had been his at Columbia, followed him here.

Boarding students from almost every section of this vast southern territory came here because of the educational advantage this school furnished. The trustees soon placed Prof. H. C. Yawn as co-principal to Prof. Summers.

Some of the first students of this school were W. F. Bond, H. K. Rouse, J. E. and Ruben McNair, Joe Baxter, Webb and Elec Ladner, Ellis and John Landrum, Nathaniel Baxter, Tax Standford, A. W. Waltman, Bob Hinton, Lela Polk, Dayle Hinton, Nolas Ladner, Maud Evers, Herbert Camp and many others. This school was destroyed by fire ahd to meet the increased demands of the public, it soon became necessary to erect a brick building at a cost of $9000, this was done in 1900. Many prominent business and professional men, who now live in south Mississippi claim this school Lumberton High school as their Alma Mater and from this school radiated an influence to prepare men and women for the transition from pioneer days to our present form of civiliazation. All along, during the history of this school, the Trustees have labored earnestly to secure the very best talent for teachers, and as a consequence, the popularity of the school has grown from year to year and its glory has been maintained to the present time.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Talawah School was a little one teacher school just one mile south of Talawah. Was organized by Gillum Bounds, Daniel and Samuel Slade. The teacher was paid by these men, free board was given him. The building was of rough, hewn logs, one room. He taught the three subjects; Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. Uncle Sam Slade states that he received his first education in this school

There was also, just on the line of Lamar an Forest County, a little school called the Dearman School. This school was organized and maintained by the Dearmans. In the year 1913, this school consolidated with that of Talawah. A new school building was erected on the 16the section. The school was named for Ex-Senator H. C. Yawn as he was very active in establishingg the school.

Five teachere were employed, 11 grades taught. Many boys ang girls have grown up and gone from this school properly equipped for their special duties, due to having attended Yawn School.

About the year 1894 or 1895 the Purvis High School and Commercial College was stertede in Purvis. The school it was established by public subscription to furnish high school opportunities to the community and to give the young men women business training. It was organized by a group of men. A tuition of $3.00 per month was charged. Men interested in an contributing to the school were: W. A. Caraway, J. B. Purvis? Abner Polk, Dr. J. J. Dearman and J. T. Carley. Some of the teachers were Prof. H. C. Yawn, Mr. Q. D. Sauld, W. F. Bond, A. L. SUmmers, W. E. Clemmer, Mr. Hucks, and Mr. McKowin. Some of the pupils were W. F. Bond, E. J. Calhoun, May Chambers, Belle Caraway, U. E. Cross, Maggie Carrway, W. A. Dearman, Beulah Batson, W. C. Batson, Henry Purvis, Charlie Purvis, T. W. Davis.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

The building was a two story frame building with two rooms down stairs and one long assembly hall upstairs, which served for the High School Department. Regular high school work was taught and in addition a commercial cource was given, giving special attention to Bookkeeping, Penmanship and accounting.

The first graduating class was in 1897, with E. J. Calhoun, Maggie Chambers, Belle Carraway, U. E. Cross, Willard Bond, these pupils graduated under U. E. Cross Q. D. Sauls, teacher. Mr. Bone is considered the outstanding person who finished at this school. He served Mississippi as Superintendent of Education for a number of years. W. D. Dearman who is now assistant Supt. at the Insand Hospital at Jackson. Mr. Calhoun is U. S. Mail Carrier and H. C. Batson is an Attorney at Wiggins, MIss.

In 1905 it was emerged into the Public High School of Purvis, separate school district.

Seneca School is a Catholic School. It was establish - ed by a colony of Germans, who come to this county in the year 1912. They used an old frame building that had been Old Slab Town school. As there were only six or eight farmers here at this time the school was composed of about twenty pupils, who were taught by Miss Carmen Powell of Bassfield. She was paid by the county. The school grew as these thrifty Germans progressed with their farms and dairying. They built a neat, new school building. They teach through the 8th grade and the ones who continue their ch childrens education send them tp Purvis High School as Seneca is now a part of Yawn School and is known as Yawn NO. 2. It is operated the same under the same ruling as Yawn NO. 1. There is only one teacher at Yawn NO. 2.

Mrs Ella Brook.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUMRALL SCHOOL

200 modern for assignment II

In order to comprehend the present Super-consolidated School System in Sumrall Miss. it is necessary to take in consideration conditions that led to the existence of the present system.

In 1930 the mill town of Sumrall faced a future without its mill. A thirty-thousand dollar pay roll per month would end; tax evolution was decreased and fifty per cent of the people had to move other places.

At this time Sumrall School was operated under a Municipal Separate School System. In 1925 there were 400 students in Sumrall, 13 teachers in one school building. In the rural districts within reach of Sumrall, five small schools were operating in fine brick buildings at a cost of $160.00 per child per year, there was an average of 20 students to the high school in the rural sections. This necessitated each teacher to teach several subjects, all of which she could not possibly be adequately prepared to do.

With the financial depression on and the cry for a cut of taxes, many of the people of Sumrall and her rural communities predicted a dismal future for the schools. A few of the permanent residents saw the possibilites of relieving the situation by combining the three rural schools with Sumrall, at a great reduction of cost. Working through the State Department of Education of Mississippi

they formed a plan of consolidation, which took in 200 square miles of territory. Naturally there was some opposition, but they were convinced and the present Sumrall Special Consolidated School District, covering 200 square miles of territory, an enrollment of 1300 pupils, 19 teachers and 38 school routes with busses transportating 700 children, was created. And now the cost per child is $55.00 per month. The present system had made it possible to maintain a better school than it formally was and still cut taxes from 29 to 15 mills.

Grammer school is carried on in local buildings. All of the schools are under one Superintendent and are cared for under the same budget.

The whole school program has been enriched. A preparatory college course of Vocational Agriculture, Home Economics, and commerce, with equipment evaluated at twenty-five thousand dollars, thereby giving students the chance to learn by doing.

All of this was brought about by Sumrall "joining hands with rural districts."

Mrs Ella Crook.

LAMAR COUNTY HI TORY OCTOBER 27, 1936

ASSIGNMENT #17 AGRICULTURE--HORTICULTURE

Agriculture is of primary importance. In proportion as nations advance in population and other circumstances of maturity, this truth becomes more and more apparent and renders the cultivation of the soil more and more an object of public patronage.--George Washington

I. IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE IN COUNTY

a. As means of livelihood.

Agriculture as a means of livelihood furnishes both feed and wealth. Years past agriculture has been penalized in order that industry may be allowed to flourish. Since pine timber has vanished from the County agriculture is the main and only industry. It represents more than half the wealth and productive capacity of the County and provides a livelihood to more than half the population.

Agriculture may achieve an adequate standard of living for the farm home with the income of the farm to pay the bills. Agriculture is sound and capital structure. It is really in a strong capital position with a ratio of assets and liabilities of about four to one, which is an extremely satisfactory rating for any class of business. The farmer's purchasing power is depending on his earning capacity, and this is considerably curtailed by the factors of production cost.

Supplement to Assignment # 11

1

3

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

STEEL COLLEGE

Dr. S. A. Steel, a native of Mississippi, came to Lumberton to deliver lectures in 1901 under the auspices of M. E. Moorehead, principal of the school. Dr. Steel expressed a long felt ambition to establish a school where the boys could work part time and secure an education. This partially developed country appealed to Dr. Steel as a site for such a school. A few months later he made known his desire to the business men of Lumberton who received his offer in a friendly spirit and promised financial backing to build an administration building and a dormitory for the boys and home for Dr. Steel and family. His first session opened in the autumn of 1903 with a student body that filled the dormitory. This school continued for about three years, maintained by the labor of the boys, contributions of business men in Lumberton, and funds solicited by Dr. Steel in Mississippi and adjoining states. This laudable ambiton was not practical enough to run longer and the school closes in 1904. It was never reopened. During the time of the school there must have been 50 or 60 boys attending each session.

Ref.- Rev. George Thompson
Lumberton, Miss.

Mrs Ella Crook

b. As means of employment.

There is always work to do on the farm; during the planting, growing, and harvesting seasons. Winter is the time to clear more land and plant the winter cover crops, thus giving employment to many of the non-home owners, who are stranded here since the saw mills closed.

There is a class of people who do not know any other kind of work except farming. Nearly half of our land is in farming condition and is farmed by the people. One of the greatest assets of the farm is that it gives each member of the family employment the year around.

The average farm hand in Lamar County receives a small wage of $15 per month and board. When working by the day during the busy seasons they receive more. In the fall the cotton pickers are paid by the pound with an average of 75¢ a hundred. During the shipping season the planters pay an average of 15¢ per hamper for cucumbers, beans, pepper, etc.

c. Approximate acreage of county land in farms.

In Lamar County there is 82,527 acres of farm land in cultivation. There are 808,088 rural lands. In the year 1935, there were 1374 farms in the county, 812 were operated by rural owners, 68 by part owners, 3 by managers, 491 all tenants and 243 sharecroppers.

d. Means of building soil on farms.

The greatest essential of soil building is erosion control. The best way that has been found to accomplish this is by terraces and the use of cover crops.

Barn yard manure is probably the quickest means of building up the soil provided it is not allowed to wash away. Terracing to protect fields from erosion and to preserve moisture is one of the soil building practices for which payment will be made by the government.

e. Crops best adapted to Lamar County.

In Lamar County there can be grown as many different kinds of crops as can be grown in South Mississippi. Cotton, corn, sugar cane, peas, beans, peanuts, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, cucumbers, oats, sorghums, watermelons, and etc.

II. EARLY HISTORY OF AGRICULTURE

a. Crops and methods of Indians

The main crops grown by Indians in Lamar County was corn and rice. As the Indians were not farmers the crops of corn and rice were only small patches tended by hand. Their hoes were made by attaching a stick to a deers horn or shoulder blade of an animal. They used fish forfertilizer. The farm work was done mostly by the women. Corn was pounded into meal between two rocks. The rice was cleaned with a pestle and mortar by hand.

b. Crops and Methods of Early Settlers

Crops grown by the early settlers of this County as related by H. C. Yawn, one of the pioneer settlers of the County.

The main crops were corn, sweet potatoes, and rice. Small patches of cotton for home use. He states that two or three acres of cowpea land produced all the corn and blue Spanish

potatoes needed. Every settler had sheep and cattle that were fat, winter and summer. Hogs fattened on the mast and the only cost of the 200 pound porker, was a charge of black powder and lead and bullet. The question of meat and bread was not a proposition in those days. Deer, turkey, squirrel and all kind of varmints were plentiful. Fish abounded in every stream.

The needs of the people in those days were few. Primitive dress and primitive habits dissipated any concern as to the dictates of Dame Fashion, or the restrictions imposed by society. Thus freed from the claims and formalities of a more progressive civilization, those folks lived a happy and simple life. Those were the days of indigo breeches, home-made shoes, of flintlock rifles and tinder horns instead of match boxes. At that time a common club axe was community property owned by three or four families within three or four miles.

Fluctuating markets and Stock Exchanges troubled them little. Corn was always a dollar a bushel and beef five cents a pound. The few things they had to sell varied very little as did the things they had to buy. Wool did not vary more than two or three cents a pound, and chickens eggs, turkeys, gophers, hides, and tallow would buy about the same amount of sugar, coffee, flat tobacco at the Pass or Covington each year.

Referring again to the fabrics or material for cloth and bed clothes at that time was all spun and woven on spinning wheels and looms in the homes. There were no gins, and seed

was picked from the cotton by hand. The rice was cleaned by hand with pestles and mortars, grist mills were scarce, the corn was carried to mill on horseback. As we have said their wants were simple and their needs were few. Both of which were met almost entirely by the hand of nature.

III. COTTON

a. When and how introduced.

We have no record of the exact time and by whom cotton was introduced into Lamar County. The early settlers who came mostly from the Carolinas planted very small patches to be used to make clothing and bed clothing. We judge that with those Carolinians cotton was first planted in this County. Those early settlers came in the late 1700.

b. Slave labor.

When Lamar County was settled there were very few slaves as there few families. One family out of each thirteen had slaves. Having no need of them they were sent back North.

c. Modern Methods

1st. Prepare the soil by disking all cover crops under, then flat break the land, harrow to level, lay off rows three feet apart, put fertilizer into the bed with distributor drawn by horse power. The standard ferilizer used in Lamar County is Calcium Phosphate, Sodium. Harrow or drag, then plant the seed.

2nd. When the cotton is up harrow around with side harrow, thin or chop it out, leaving from one to three stalks in a hill from eighteen to twenty inches apart. Side dress with

a swoop. If practical, side dress with soda or amonia. Then cultivate with larger plows, from eight to ten days apart, until the forms are made to bloom. Then lay by. If the season is not treat for boll-weevil by using a spray of five or ten pounds of calcium arsenic per acre, either by hand or by horsepower duster at night. Three treatments seven days apart is usually enough.

The farmers of Lamar County are now working on a program to get a standard variety of cotton growing in the county.

d. Approximate Annual Yield in County.

Annual yield for 1935 was 286 pounds per acre. Total yield 6200 bales. From 1928 to 1933 the yield was only 174 pounds per acre.

e. Harvesting and marketing.

In Lamar County cotton is picked by hand and put into bales of 1500 pound to the bale. It is ginned and sold to local buyers and through the Mississippi Cotton Association, in the towns of Lumberton, Purvis, Columbia, Sumrall and Hattiesburg.

IV. CORN AND FORAGE CROPS

a. Past and Present Importance.

Corn has always been, is and always will be the leading grain crop in Lamar County. It is the major food crop both as a food alone and as a supplement to other foods. Hay and sorghum are the leading forage crops in Lamar County. The food is saved for winter use in Silos. This is also mixed and ground by machinery. The trench silos are used more in this county.

b. Approximate Annual yield in County.

In the year of 1935 the average yield of corn per acre was 15 bushels. The total yield was 219,428 bushels.

In 1935, 3584 acres of land was planted in forage crops. The total yield was 3510 tons.

c. Where and how marketed.

In the year of 1935, 10,000 bushels of corn was marketed through the Farmers Feed and Grocery Co. of Hattiesburg. The remainder to other wholesale houses there. No forage was sold outside the county.

V. TRUCK FARMING

a. Variety and approximate amount

In 1935, 117 acres planted in beans.

Amount shipped from Lamberton, 6 carloads.

Tomatoes, 10 acres. None shipped

Watermelons, 82 acres. Two carloads shipped from Lamberton.

Cabbage, 13 acres. Two carloads shipped from Lamberton.

Irish potatoes, pepper, turnips and cucumbers covered 388 acres. Cars shipped from Lamberton in 1936 were as follows: Mixed vegetables, 6 cars. Irish Potatoes, 13 cars. Turnip greens 4 carloads.

b. Where and how marketed.

Cucumbers and pepper is carried by trucks to Laurel, Columbia and Wiggins and sold to the pickling factories. The watermelons were sold to the Forrest County Watermelon Association in Hattiesburg. The rest went to Northern Markets.

c. Home Garden Products:

1-Most important kinds

The leading garden products in Lamar County are okra,

English and crowder peas, butterbeans, pole and snap beans, tomato, cucumber, onion, carrots, cabbage, turnips, collards, celery, lettuce, rutabaga, pepper, squash, corn, radishes, egg plants, and mustard.

2-How conserved

The vegetables that are dried for winter use are as follows: beans, butterbeans, okra, and peas, the other being canned for winter use in glass jars. Some can vegetables in tin cans. Turnips and rutabagas are banked for winter use.

VI. POULTRY AND LIVE STOCK

A. Poultry

1-For Home Use

On every farm in Lamar County some poultry is found. Chickens are used for eggs and for food. Barred Rocks, and Rhode Island Reds are preferred for broilers and fryers. Brown and White Leghorns and White Rocks are preferred as layers.

Turkeys are raised for home use and marketing but not so extensive.

Guineas, geese and ducks are raised for home use only.

2-For Marketing

There are a few in the County who raise poultry for marketing purposes. Trucks from Gulfport and New Orleans come to the farms and purchase them in lots. The fryers bring a good price of 18 cents a pound, the hens bring 16¢ per pound. Turkeys are sold mainly during the holiday season to Gulfport and New Orleans markets, with an average of 22¢ per pound.

B. Live Stock

1-Cows and dairy products; beef

In the year of 1925 there were 10,228 head of cattle in Lamar County. Most every home owner use to own large droves of cattle. Since in 1927 when the stock law was enforced, there are only a few farmers with enough land to furnish pasturage for many cattle. Dr. D. B. Stevenson of Lumberton owns the largest dairy in Lamar County. He sells grade A milk to markets in New Orleans. Over the County there are a good many farmers who sell milk and cream to local markets. Jersey Cows are raised for milk, cream, and butter.

Houston Bass of Lumberton has 500 head of cattle. This year he sold 511 milch cows to local buyers. He shipped 250 head of beef cattle to New Orleans.

In the northern part of the County farmers sell their cream and milk to the creamery in Hattiesburg. Trucks go through the county gathering up the milk once a day.

2-Hogs, Sheep, goats.

Farm census Report shows that in the year of 1925 there were 5797 hogs in the County, an increase of 4,628 in 1930. Hogs are mostly raised for home use, as pork, bacon and lard. Houston Bass of Lumberton sold 100 pork hogs to New Orleans market this year. Jim Smalley of Purvis sells about 125 hogs to New Orleans market each year. Several other farmers sell from 25 to 50 hogs each year, mostly to local markets. The farmers can now have the meat cured in the Meat Curing Plant at Lumberton, Miss. When there is a surplus it is sold to local markets.

Farm census show that during the year 1925 there were 1407 sheep and lambs in Lamar County, an increase from 402 in 1920. In 1927 when the stock law became endorsed in Lamar County it caused the sheep owners to sell their sheep because there was no more free range in the County. At that time 20 carloads of sheep were shipped from Lamberton, Miss. to parts in Tennessee.

Goats were raised in small groups over the County for home use. They too were sold when the stock law came in.

VII. RURAL HOMES IMPROVEMENT

The old farm home consisted of from one to two rooms built of logs, some times uncelled. There was a dirt chimney to heat the building, one or two wooden window shutters. When the windows were open flies, mosquitoes and other germ bearing insects came in swarms. There were only two beds on which a family of five or more slept all crowded together. Outside there was an open spring of surface water or a dug well very shallow and in some cases all of the water was brought from the creek. The house wife had to bring most of the water up hill by hand.

No so far from the kitchen door was an open, filthy toilet where the chickens, hogs, etc. picked up the residue.

At this time communication with the outside world was almost impossible, the only means being the mail which came once a month, brought on horseback from Columbia, then the County site. The only means of transportation in most instances were on wagons. It would take a whole day or more to go to the nearest store over the very rugged roads, those trips to market being made only twice per year.

The modern home consists of plenty of room, good chimneys, plenty of light, window and doors well screened, bedding enough for the family to sleep comfortable and other household convenience. There are deep wells, pumps, and windmills near the house, there are good sanitary toilets.

As to communication there are good roads, rural mail routes, the mail is received daily, the daily papers are in most homes, telephones, radios, and automobiles bring the farmers in touch with the outside world.

Instead of the slow ox wagon to carry the farm produce to market the speedy trucks take their place and several more trips can be made per day and several tons can be hauled at one load, thus saving the farmer time and labor, bus lines on all highways as well as railroads bring us closer to the larger cities in larger states.

VII. MODERN AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES

a. County Agricultural Agent

Since in the year 1924 the Board of Supervisors cooperating with the State Extension Department of Mississippi State College and the United State Department of Agriculture, they have employed a County Farm Agent and a Home Demonstration Agent. The activities of these forces have pointed the way to systematic and economic development of soils. The proper breeding of livestock and poultry, and have taught the rural people the best method of marketing their crops from the farm.

b. Home Demonstration Agent

The home demonstration agent in Lamar County assists the home maker in an economic program of fruit and vegetable

conservation , and in improving the home.

c. 4-H Clubs

There are 16 4-H clubs for girls in Lamar County and nine for women. There are 11 clubs for boys, with an enrollment of 280 boys.

This club is to help boys and girls to develope desirable ideals and standards for farming and home making, community life, citizenship, and a sense of responsibility.

To afford rural boys and girls technical instruction in farming and homemaking, that they may acquire skill and understanding in these fields and a clearer vision of Agriculture as a basic industry of homemaking as a worthy industry.

d. Agricultural Schools

Lamar County Agricultural School

Realising the need of better school advantages along agricultural and homemaking lines in Lamar County, the Agricultural High School was established in the fall of 1911, being one of the first in the state. It functioned for twenty-two years as an A. H. S.

When it was first organized, Hon. T. W. Davis was County Superintendent of Education, and to Mr. Davis goes the credit for the A. H. S. System throughout the State of Mississippi. While serving as as head of the Department of Education he saw the need of rural boys and girls high School Education. He therefore drafted the bill by the State Legislature creating this system. Thus thousands of boys and girls from rural Mississippi were able to obtain High School Education. The State Appropriation for A. H. S. enabled the officials of the school to

school to hold the expense to where it cost a student about $100 per session to attend the full nine months.

From a small beginning, the school owned 156 acres of land, with 60 acres in cultivation, with farm implements, mules, dairy cows, hogs, chickens, etc.

The farm gave work to boys, they worked on the farm after school hours. This work was given the boys so the farm would not have to hire workers. In this way boys were receiving High School Education that could not have gone had it not been for the work given them at the school.

The girls worked int the dinning hall and this helped them to go to school and pay expenses. The farm produce was consumed for the use of the school. The vegetable garden had growing vegetables the year round.

e. Fairs.

Febarary 10, 1926, the Legislature passes a Home Bill No. 250, approved by the Govenor. This act authorized the Board of Supervisors of Lamar County to appropriate a sum of $100 annually for the purpose of awarding premiums for Agriculture, Horticulture, livestock, and Home Economics. It was ordered by the Board that the sum of $100 be set aside to be paid out of the general county funds, for premiums.

The purpose of this fair was to create a new interest in the Agricultural and livestock raising pursuits of Lamar County, to develope greater variety, a more profitable and necessary agricultural plant, to develope a better breed of livestock on a more economic basis, to create and maintain more pride in the

County life and the homes in Lamar County.

The Lamar County Fair was forced to close in the year of 1931 because of the lack of county funds.

IX. HORTICULTURE

Varieties of cultivated flowers and shrubs.

1-Coniferous Evergreens

Eight variation of Arbor Vitae, six Junipers, one variety of cypress, Chinese Fir, one Ericoides, one Squarrosa.

2-Broad Leaved Evergreens

Seven variations of Ligustrum, one Grandiflora, one Domestica, Cherry Laurel, two variations of Pittosporum, one Indica, Euonymus Radicans, Guava, Photina Blabra, Leucophillum, Lavender True, Japanese Boxwood, Cardonia Floridas, Evergreen Hawthorn, Pyracantha Formosa, Eleagnus Pungens, two Jasmines, four varities of Vibarnums, cottoneaster Pannosa, Tea Plant, English Laurel, Bottle Brush, Camelia Japonica, Azalea Indica, two Magnolias, American Holly, Yaupon, Camphor Tree, Japanese Yew, Japanese Plum, Sabal Palm Bananas, Bambo, Pampas Grass,

3-Flowers.

Five varities of Gladiolas, Roses--four red varities, ten pink varities, two white, two yellow. Climbing varities, five. Lilac, Oleander, Rose of Sharon, Butterfly Bush, Sweet Shrub, Honeysuckle Bush, Salt Cedar, Scarlet Trumpet Honeysuckle(vine), Spirea, Spirea Vanhouttei, Anthony Waterer, three Spiraea, Hypericum, Chaste Tree, Crape Myrtle, Flowering Pomegranate, Yucca Filmentosa, Weigla, Snowberry, Coral Berry, Mock Orange, Deutzia, Golden Bell, three Hydrangeas, Pink Almond, two Privette, Red Flowering Crab, Pecan, Red Leaved Plum, Catalpa, Bungeii,

two Poplars, Umbrella China, Weeping Willow, Parsley Haw, two dogwoods, Mimosa, Wisteria, two Red Buds,

b. Extent and importance of nurseries.

Rose Pecan Nursery is the only nursery in Lamar County. It is said to be the largest in the world. From here fruit trees of all kinds are sold to all parts of the world. It is very important to the county, not only because of the employment it gives to people in the county, but its trees are of the highest grade sold anywhere. The County has become richer because of the advantage of obtaining theis best grade of trees.

c. Extent and importance of Orchards.

On most every farm in Lamar County you will find some kind of fruit trees growing. The orchard is a cash crop for the farmer and helps to pay the bills for the farm. The fruit is canned and dried and used for the home, the surplus sold to the market. Quite a few orchards over the county has a surplus. Mr. Fillingame of Otoh cleared $600 this past season, off 6 acres of Alberta Peaches.

Houston Rose had the largest orchards in the County. He has forty acres in pears, thirty acres in peaches. During the fruit season in 1936 he sold 7,000 bushels of pears to trucks from Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi. Three carloads were shipped to Iowa. He sold 3,000 bushels of peaches, three carloads, 1000 bushel to the car to Memphis, Tennessee, two cars to Northern Markets.

The fruit trees growing in the county are different varities of peaches, Apples, pears, persimmon, plum, scuppernong, grapes, blueberries, figs, apricot.

Canvassers-
Pauline Slade
Lucy Morehead
Helen Entrekin

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY
District # 3

February 3, 1937

Subject: INDUSTRY---ASSIGNMENT #20

The main and almost only industry now in Lamar County is Agriculture. This section of the country was once noted for its yellow pine timber and from the year of 1884 until 1928 the main industry was the manufacturing of this timber into lumber. This afforded employment for every one. The farms were somewhat neglected as money was easy to make on the public jobs. It came easy and went easy. When the saw-mills cut out and the depression hit the county, the mill people were left stranded, the ones who could not get away were forced to try farming; while those who depended on the farms, before, were the only people who could pull through without the aid of the Government. Aside from Agriculture there are a few industries in the county, as follows:

A. COUNTY'S MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY, OR INDUSTRIES:

(1) Bass Pecan Nursery is the most important industry of Lamar County, it is the largest Pecan Nursery in the world. Founded in the year of 1908 by I. E., L. G., and I. H. Bass, it is now owned by I. H. Bass. The nursery is located about ¼ mile South of the town of Lumberton.

(2) Pecan and fruit trees are grown and sold, also the

d. Garden Club Activities

There are two Federated Garden Clubs in Lamar County. One is at Sumrall, the other at Purvis. The members beautify their own homes and also the neutral grounds in the town.

e. Agencies Encouraging flower raising.

1-Garden Pilgrimages(none)

Agencies encouraging flower raising in Lamar County are Women and Business Professional Clubs, Home and Garden Clubs, 4-H Clubs, the Nursery.

2-Flower Shows

The Woman's club of Purvis each year have a flower show. The purpose of the flower show is to encourage people in town and country to raise flowers. The flower show is held in the club rooms. The Exhibit of flowers include pot flowers, cut flowers and old-fashioned mixed bouquets. Ferns of all kinds Sumrall Garden Club has a flower show each year.

f. Beautification Projects

Lamar County has no Beautification Project but is very much in need of one.

References: Assignment #17

I.a. H. C. Forbes, Purvis, Miss.

b. H. C. Forbes, " " "

c. H. C. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.

d.e. Lucy Morehead, H. C. Forbes--Purvis, Miss.

(b) The Lumberton Hamper Factory.

In the year 1932, Mr. W. H. Slocomb of Lumberton, installed machinery and began to manufacture bushel hampers on a small scale. The factory now turns out 10,000 hampers a week. Employs 25 men when running with a monthly pay-roll of $300. It does not operate the entire year, but he hopes to be able to build up his business in the future, enough to enable him to operate the year round.

The hampers are shipped to all trucking sections of Miss., also Texas and Colorado, and one shipment has been made to Idaho.

2. Mills for converting raw products into commercial articles.

(1) W. E. Murray of Oloh, Miss. has the largest saw mill that is in operation in Lamar County. The mill consists of a planer and saw mill, with a steam engine. It began operating in 1934 and was bought from the Lott Brothers Saw Mill Co. The timber is bought from the local people in the county and he employs from ten to twelve men, the pay-roll for each man is from $1.50 to $2.00 per day. The lumber is hauled to Columbia and shipped to different parts of the U. S. Some of it is sold to local buyers in the county.

(2) The Crews Brothers Saw Mill is located in the Oak Grove Community on Highway 11. It began operation in 1936. The timber is bought from local people in the county. Employs from 10 to 12 men at an average wage of $1.50 a day.

(3) The Porta Messer Saw Mill is located in Sumrall, Miss. Owned by Mr. Messer and began operation in 1935. The mill employs about 6 men and their pay roll is an average of $1.50

the fruits and nuts are sold in the U. S., and in foreign countries.

(3) The nursery consists of 1,000 acres of land. From 30 to 75 men are employed annually with an average wage of $1.00 a day.

(4) By having this nursery in the county the above number of men are given employment. The taxation is a great help to the county. The people of the county can get the best grade of pecan and fruit trees for their farms. Also, being the largest nursery in the world it induces tourists to come to Lamar County.

B. PRIVATE INDUSTRIES:

1. Factories of all kinds.

(a) Broom Factory

J. W. Hemba of Talowah, Lamar County began to manufacture brooms in the year 1922. He bought the plant from the New Orleans Broom Supply Co. of New Orleans, La. This plant consists of a roller, clipper, seeder and press. The seeder is run by motor. It takes three hands to run the machinery, this is done by the family. They make as high as 52 brooms a day. 90% of these brooms are sold by mail, Mr. Hemba advertises through the farm paper, they bring an average of $5.00 per dozen. The others are sold locally. He plants 10 acres of broom straw each year and he states that this broom straw is easily grown and will grow on almsot any kind of soil. This furnishes a small income for the family the year around.

per day. The lumber is sold to local buyers and some is shipped to northern markets.

(4) John Beall has a small saw mill operating in the western part of the town of Lumberton. This mill has been in operation since 1936, but Mr. Bealle has been in the Saw mill business since 1913, often operating two or three mills at one time. He employs 10 men and has a weekly pay-roll of $90.00. The lumber is carried by truck to Picayune, Poplarville, Lyman and Gulfport, bring a price of from $12 to $22 per thousand feet.

The timber is bought from local people at a price of from $4.00 to $5.00 per thousand feet. He states that it is a poor grade of timber.

3. Wholesalers.(none)

4. Any other unique or useful industry.

(1) The Lamar Gin Company is located in Purvis, Miss. and is owned by Mr. E. M. Dyar as president and Mr. I. H. Brown of Laurel as Secretary. The Gin began operation in 1926. ginning the cotton and baling and tying it. It employs from 2 to 5 men while running with a wage of $2.00 per day.

(2) The Farmers Gin of Purvis, Miss. began to operate in the year of 1929. O. B. Harris is president of the Gin. He employs from 3 to 5 men daily during the cotton season. Pays $2.00 per day for labor.

(3) Sumrall Gin is located in Sumrall, Miss. It belongs to an oil company of Laurel, Miss. and is operated by Mr. Porta Messer. Began operation in 1930. The gin employs from 5 to 6 men with a weekly pay-roll of $18 for each man.

(4) The Oloh Gin is located in Oloh, Miss. It is operated by Mr. W. E. Murray and began operation in 1929. He employs from 2 to 4 men at a wage of $2.00 per day.

(5) The Acme Cabinet Shop is owned by Mr. Arnie Nichols of Purvis, Miss. It began operation in 1935. All kinds of household furniture is made in this shop, which is modernly equipped and has water and electric lights. The furniture is made and painted in the shop and sold to local buyers and other towns. The Acme Cabinet Shop made most of the bodies for the school buses in the fall of 1936, they were made according to government rules. The shop gives work to from two to three men and their wages are an average of $1.00 a day.

(6) T. C. Schweirjohn of Lumberton sells poles to the Gulf States Creosoting Co. of Hattiesburg, Miss. These poles are peeled and hauled to Talowah and shipped by rail to Hattiesburg. He works 5 men at $1.25 a day. Owns his own timber. He also sells logs to E. L. Bruce Co. of Laurel, Miss. The logs are cut and hauled to Talowah and shipped by rail, with an average return of from $10 to $22 per thousand feet.

Pink Hendricks of Corinth Community buys logs, poles, and hardwood from the local people. The logs are cut and hauled to Talowah and shipped to Laurel and sold to the Bruce Co. and the poles to the Hattiesburg, Creosotong Co. They bring from $10 to $22 per thousand feet. He employs five men at $1.25 per day.

(7) The Hercules Powder Plant of Hattiesburg, Miss. affords an Industry in Lamar County. Approximately 35 or 50 men of the County are engaged in the stumping business. Some of the men are J. A. Boone of Purvis, Herbert Bolin of Corinth Community, and J. D. Smalley of Yawn Community. The work is carried on by contractors who buy the stumps from local people and pay 25¢ per ton for them. Three men are employed by each contractor at an average wage of $1.25 a day. The stumps are blown out by dynamite and carried by truck to the Hercules Plant. They bring $2.65 per ton, the trucks carry from 6 to 7 tons per load and can make an average of 2 trips a day or 8 trips a week. The Hercules Powder Plant has given employment to a number of men in Lamar County, who would otherwise have been out of work.

C. PUBLIC INDUSTRIES:

1. Water, light and power plants.

In the year of 1905 a deep well was put down in the town of Lumberton and water was pumped into a tank. Power was furnished by the town. In 1917 Edward Hines Lbr. Co. owners of the saw mill at that time furnished power for light and water. They sold to the Mississippi Utilities Co. In 1929 the Miss. Power and Light Co. bought them over and are still in operation. They furnish power for light and water. Two men are employed annually, pay-roll being $24.00 a year.

The Miss. Utilities Enc. has a meat curing plant known as the Lumberton Meat Curing Plant. This plant began to operate in the year of 1933.

An addition is being made to this plant that will double the capacity and make it possible to handle 15 tons of meat at one time. In the year of 1934, 46,000 pounds of meat was cured and delivered to the farmers on about 377 farms of this territory. Cost to the farmers was 2½¢ a pound. The curing process only takes from 30 to 40 days, depending on the weight of the meat.

Farmers are learning that it is possible to have freshly cured meat at all seasons of the year, by bringing it to the plant for scientific curing. In 1936 meat was brought to this plant from Slidell, La., Wiggins, Miss., Purvis, Maxie, Perkinston, Brooklyn, Poplarville, Columbia, Baxterville, Monticello, Waveland, Hillsdale, Foxworth, Hub, Sumrall.
This Company also operates an ice plant and employs two men to run both plants at an average pay-roll of $1.50 a month.
They have a cotton gin which is operated 5 months in the year, two men are employed during this time with an average pay-roll of $500 for the five months.

1. Purvis, Miss. has had quite a few experiences along the water, light and power line. The water for the homes was drawn by hand from deep wells. In the spring of 1925 the Utilities began to put the present water works in the town. The water from Purvis is used from Beaver Dam, a small stream west of Purvis, Miss. The water tank is among the largest in the South that is used in a small town. It is located near Beaver Dam, and is cleaned as often as three times a year.

It is carried from the tank in pipes into the homes, etc. The water is tested and found 100% pure by the County health Department. The Utilities Company employ two men at an average wage of $85 a month, each.

1. The town of Sumrall has a water system, which belongs to the Utilities Company. They began to put the water works in the town of Sumrall in 1929. The tank also is a large one and the water for the town is used from the tank. The Company employs two men, with a salary of about $85 per month.

The town of Purvis began to use Electric light in 1905. The Hand-Jordan Saw mill furnished the current, and continued to do so until the cyclone of 1908 blew the mill away.
In 1912 Mr. Edd Calhoun operated the electric light plant until the Mississippi Power Co. bought the shop from him in 1925. This company furnishes the current for the town, the plant being located in the center of the town, on Highway No. 11, in a modern brick building. The company employs one man at $150 a month.

In Sumrall the J. J. Newman Lumber Co. had the current for the town for a number of years until the Mississippi Power Company began to operate in 1926. The Miss. Power Co. has a modern brick building located in the center of the town. It employs one man at $150 per month.

2. Telephone and Telegraph Plants:

Purvis has an interesting story related by old residents of the town, who were amzed at the telephone operations. It was a mystery to the people that by the click of the Phone one could talk to people miles away. The first telephone

in Purvis was located in the Grocery Store of Mr. George Jordan and Co. It was a long distance line direct from Hattiesburg to Purvis. Every one in the store were interested when the telephone rang, wnated to know who was calling and where the message came from. A small fee was charged for the message to be delivered through. The Telephone Exchange operated in this store for a number of years and then moved to the second floor of the Lamar County Bank building. The cyclone of 1908 destroyed the building and blew the wires away. When it was rebuilt it was moved into a frame two story building just back of the court house and jail. Miss Carrie Weems was the first operator. Mrs. Maggie Shelbourne has been the contracting agent for the past 16 years. At the present time it is located in the Miss. Power Co. building on the second floor. There are two relief operators with a pay-roll for all three of $100 per month.

The telephone exchange in Sumrall is operated by Mrs. Lydia Gates who has been working in that capacity for the last 16 years. The exchange is located in the Masonic Building on the second floor. There are three employed in the work with an average pay-roll for all three being $100 a month.

The first Telephone at Lumberton was put in by Camp and Hinton Co. owners of the first saw mill here. Sadie Hulbert was the first operator, this was in 1885. Afterwards this was taken over by the Cumberland Telephone and Telegraph Co., later was changed to the Bell Telephone Co. Mr. D. B. Sanders of Poplarville is Plant Man. They employ 4 people with a

pay-roll of $150 a month. Gertrude Bounds is operating agent and has been for the past 17 years.

3. Railroads and shops, bus lines.

In the year of 1884 the Queen and Crescent R. R. was opened from N. O. to Cincinatti. A depot was built at Lumberton Nathaniel Batson was the first depot agent.

W. B. Myrick is Agent and Telegraph Operator now. Besides the operator and porter there are two section crews, 4 men and one foreman in each crew. The monthly payeroll for all employees is $785.

In the year of 1884 the Railroad known as the Q. & C. was completed. Mr. Frank Sims was the first depot agent for the town of Purvis. The first depot was destroyed by fire in 1894. The present depot was used as a warehouse for the merchants until fire destroyed the other one. The railroad Company purchased the warehouse from the merchants. The railroad is now known as the Southern Railroad Co. Mr. James Daley is the present depot operator and has been with the Company since 1890 and worked in Purvis since 1914. The payroll for the agent and the section foreman and six work hands is $600 a month.

There is one Railroad going through the town of Sumrall, The Mississippi Central. J. S. Temple is agent and Telegraph operator. He has served in this capacity for the past 18 years.

The Grey Hound Teche Bus Line, runs from New Orleans to Birminghan. The Bus line has a station in Lumberton, and Purvis. They pay the station agent a commission on tickets they sell. The Citizens Drug Store is the station for the Bus Line in Purvis

and the Standard Oil Service Station in Lumberton is the station, there.

There are two bus lines going through Sumrall, the Tri-State from Columbia to Hattiesburg and the Bracy from Natchez to Hattiesburg.

There is a bus going from Lumberton to Columbia, a car driven by one man who makes one trip a day. He takes mail and passengers both on his daily trips.

References: Assignment #20

A. Mrs. I. H. Bass, Lumberton, Miss.

B.1. a. J. W. Hemba, Lumberton, Miss. Rt. 3.

b. Hattiesburg, American, Oct. 17, 1936.

2.(1) Waitman Lott, Purvis, Miss.

(2) " " " "

(3) Porta Messer, Sumrall, Miss.

(4) John Beall, Lumberton, Miss.

4. 1. E. M. Dyar, Purvis, Miss.

2. J. H. Harris, Purvis, Miss.

3. Porta Messer, Sumrall, Miss.

4. Waitman Lott, Purvis, Miss.

5. Lucy A. Morehead, Purvis, Miss.

6. T. C. Sweirjohn, Lumberton, Miss.

Nate Lawler, Lumberton, Rt. 3.

7. Eddie Entrekin, Purvis, Miss. Rte. 2.

Lucy Morehead A. --Purvis, Miss.

J. D. Smalley Purvis, Miss. Rt. 2.

C. 1. Sam Slade, Lumberton, Miss.

E. E. McClelland, Lumberton, Miss.

Hattiesburg American, Jan. 12, 1937

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

1. James Hand and Bob Ramsey, Purvis, Miss.

1. C. O. Beasley, Sumrall, Miss.

2.(1) L. L. Goff, Betty Cook, G. L. Thomas, Lillie Lee, James Dalley, Purvis, Miss.

2. Lydia Gates, J. S. Temple, Sumrall, Miss.

3. Sam Slade, Lumberton, Miss.

D. L. Waltman, Lumberton, Miss.

Gertrude Bounds, Lumberton, Miss.

3. W. B. Myrick, Lumberton, Miss.

2. James Daley, Purvis, Miss.

3. J. S. Temple, Sumrall, Miss.

Rodgers Martin, Purvis, Miss.

J. S. Temple, Sumrall, Miss.

Mrs Ella Crook.

Ella Crook, Supervisor Historical Research Project, Lamar County

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT # 20 INDUSTRY

(1) 3

MARTIN-PARRY OPERATE LUMBERTON PLANT

One of the most important industrial developments which has taken place in this section in many months was the opening of the works of the Martin-Parry Corporation in Lumberton about the middle of September. Beginning with only part of the machinery installed, this plant increased output each day and within another month will be turning out wooden parts for more than two hundred motor truck bodies each day.

The new and up to date plant which has been erected across the mill pond opposite the G. S. & I. station employs from thirty to forty men per day and has brought many new families to Lumberton. Mr. F. T. Root, the manager of the plant, comes from the home office of the company in York, Penn. He expresses himself as being well pleased with Lumberton and states that he wishes to work with the other citizens of the town in every endeavor to build up and develope this section.

The establishment of this plant in Lumberton is one incident in a story of remarkable business developement.

This company is the largest builder of commercial bodies in the world, building more than 25 per cent of the total and increasing the per cent each day. Lumberton thus becomes the center for an essential industry. This company builds bodies for all Ford trucks and for, several other well known light trucks. It is said that one hour after the chassis rolled up to the door one of the standarized bodies can be put on and the

truck sent off with everything done save painting the name of the grocer or dealer on the side.

South Mississippi needs more such plants as this body works. Lumberton is going ahead on the road to industrial success. This factory is one rung on the ladder. Lets have another and another. Men with the vision and friendly spirit typfied by this executive of a "Big Business" organization are our chief hope for the economic well being of Mississippi . THE HEADBLOCK, 1922 Lumberton, Miss.

This body plant burned a year or two later, and was never rebuilt.

Mrs Ella Brook.
County Historian

Supplement to Assignment #20 Industry

BASS PECAN NURSERY

The Bass Pecan Nursery is the largest pecan nursery in the world. It was founded in the year 1908 by I. E., L. G. and I. H. Bass; I. E. and L. G. deceased leaving I. H. Bass sole owner. The nursery is located about 2 miles South of the town of Lumberton, Miss. in Lamar County, U. S. No. 11 Highway. This nursery comprises 15,000 acres of which 1000 is planted in orchards and nurseries, and in which over 2,000,000 trees are growing at all times.

They employ from 50 to 100 men the year round, many of whom have been with them since they began business and take great pride in their trees and hearts are in the work. They have all kinds of new farm machinery, also thirty mule teams which are at work the year round. The pecan trees and nuts are sold in all parts of the U. S. and foreign countries. Mr. Bass is one of the most outstanding man of Lamar County, the large amount of taxes that he pays in the county is a wonderful help for School and town. This nursery is visited by people from all over the U. S. by the thousand and Mr. Bass takes delight in showing and explaining this vast industry to all tourists who visit it each year.
Ref. Mrs. I. H. Bass

Ella Brook.
Historian

Canvasser-
Lucy Morehead
Pauline Slade

3

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Subject; TRANSPORTATION -Assignment #23

April 8, 1937

I. OLD ROADS:

There are several old roads in Lamar County that were made by pioneer settlers when going to the "Pass". The term Pass being for Pass Christian. People from the North Western part of the state traveled these roads when going to the coast. Can you imagine these old people going miles and miles in ox wagons traveling these lonely trails? Some of these old trails can still be found in Lamar County today. 1

In our research for information on Old Roads, we find that in 1815 Andrew Jackson after the Battle of New Orleans passed through Lamar County traveling and laying out what is known as General Jackson's Road or Jackson's Military Road. He traveled in a northeasterly direction, crossing Black Creek about ten miles west of Sumrall. This place is still called Old Military Ford. The poles which his soldiers cut to afford crossing of branches and marshes are still in evidence. Where Andrew Jackson and his soldiers crossed the Sumrall and Oloh road a church stands and is called "Old Military Church". 2

The Baton Rouge and Mobile Road, better known as the "Old Ridge Road" or the "Sugar Road", entered, Marion County then, now Lamar County due west from Pearl River, through the Baxter Community near where the village of Baxterville is now located, following section line by the

1. T. L. Williamson, Purvis, Miss.
2. M. Russell, Sumrall, Miss.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #20 Industry

SUMRALL TO GET MEAT CURING PLANT

From good authority we learn that Sumrall is to get a Meat Curing Plant to be installed by Mississippi Utilities Company similier to the plant they operate at Lumberton.

Sumrall is very fortanate to get a plant of this kind, not only will it be useful and convenient for the famrmers who have meat to cure, but it will mean extra employees on the pay roll there and extra taxable property for the town.

The plant at Lumberton has been in operation for several years and has proven a very valuable asset to the community. Farmers from adjoining counties take their meat to the Lumberton plant. This enables them to butcher in July as well as January and the meat is cured by experts who guarantee satisfaction. Just when the plant will be installed has not been announced.

Ref. The Booster, August

Ella Crook.

Historian

Jim Byrd place, then in a northeast direction about three miles, then easterly direction crossing Spring Branch near the Daniel Slade place, on by Section 16 where Yawn School now stands due east into Forest County by way of the Eli Batson place, near Alexandria. 3

The Old Boule Road. This road entered Marion County, now Lamar County due north from Forest County fy way of Rawls Springs, came through that part of territory between the two villages, Epley and Clyde on the Mississippi Central Railroad, on southwesterly and crossed Black Creek right by the Burnt Bridge Church Corner, then trhough what is now the Pine Grove Community by th Lynn Davis place on by the Nath Courtney place, entering Pearl River County south near the George Bilbo place. This road crossed what is now Lamar County almost centrally and only crossed two streams, that of Black Creek and Clear Creek. 3

The name Boule Road was because originally this road began on Boule River. On this road near the Nath Courtney place there was a bad hill. A man named Pullam stalled on this hill with his oxen and stayed there all night. Since then it has been called the Pullam Hill. 3

A story of human interest is told by old people that lived on this road. In the year of 1866 there was a family named Colson from Covington County, who were traveling this road going to the Pass. One of the small children took sick with the fever and died. They buried the child in a rough wooden box and made a fence around the grave by cutting pine logs. After they had finished the grave they started on

3. S. E. and N. E. Slade, Lumberton
Geo. Thompson, Baxterville

their journey to the coast. On the way back they stopped at the grave and noticed that another child had been buried there. The cemetery has grown and is now knwon as the Grantham Cemetery, located in the Burnt Bridge community. 4

Another story is told by older people of a family from Jeff Davis County. In the year 1890 a family named Hartzog were traveling the Old Boule Road. They were related to the Lynn Davis family who were living in the Pine Grove Community.

The Boule Road was about ½ mile from Mr. Davis' home. The Hartzog family had never traveled this road before. They were asking along the way about the Davis family. Just before one comes in sight of the Davis home there is a hollow at the foot of the hill. The Hartzogs did not knwo which way to go. They got lost and spent the remainder of the day wandering in the hollow. Finally deciding that they were lost, they began screaming for help. Mr. Davis heard the screams and decided that some one was lost in the hollow. He went to them and asked who they were and where they were going. They told him that they were trying tofind Mr. Lynn Davis's home. He told them that he was Mr. Davis and that he would be glad for them to spend the night with him, which they did, and the next morning they concluded their journey to the coast. Since then this hollow has been called the Hartzog Hollow. 5

Pass Christian road crossed Lamar County from the North and was travelled by the early settlers to Pass Christian by ox wagon. At that time the roads were mere trails. It would take nine days to make the trip from this county.

4. B. F. Simmons

5. Mary Davis, Purvis

The Old Wire Road crossed Lamar County from where the town of Lumberton is to be Columbia. It was made before the Civil War and went from Mobile, Ala. to Columbia, Miss. Later this road has been followed by telephone wires. 5

St. Stephens entered Lamar County from a northwewterly direction, crossed Black Creek near Burnt Bridge, thence into Pearl River County south. The name is believed to have been taken from the trading post of St. Stephens, Ala. from which the road started. 5

The Old Salt Road crossed the county near Oloh, following Black Creek. Salt was hauled over this road from Louisiana to northern counties. 5

The Burlington Highway of Lamar County was what is now Highway U. S. No 24. Was made by the early settlers when going from Mobile, Ala. to Columbia, Miss. 6

These old roads were made by the pioneer settlers as needed. The rightaways were cut with an ax and the holes filled up with shovels. They surrounded creeks when possible, but when crossing was necessary they made bridges of logs, and poles. They were kept up by the citizens who would do a certain amount of work when needed. 5

III. THE PRESENT HIGHWAYS OF THE COUNTY:

Members of the Highway Commission are: Brown Williams, Hiram J. Patterson, F. L. Linker, E. D. Kenna, E. L. Atkinson. None of these are from Lamar County. 7

Federal Appropriations come in through the state, to the county. No records available.

5. Alex Cameron, Hattiesburg, Miss.
6. Mrs. Jane Nobles
7. Miss. Highway Magazine, March 1937

State appropriations for roads in the county comes from tax on gasoline from the state. In the year 1936, State appropriations for Lamar County was $25,632.75.

County appropriations for roads in county is from the maintainance fund, and for the year 1936 the amount appropriated for Lamar County was $7,522.88. 1.

General Jackson's Highway, U. S. No 11 runs from Nashville, Tennessee to New Orleans, La. General Jackson's troops made their way on this route to New Orleans to fight in the War of 1812. The government agreed to make a road from Nashville to New Orleans that would be nearer than the Natchez Trace. The U. S. troops were used for cutting roads through the wilderness. As General Jackson was commander of those troops the road was named for him, the Jackson Military Road. It was completed in 1819. It may follow in places the route that Jackson pursued in 1815, but there is no record of it. The present Jackson Highway is supposed to follow for the most part this old road. 2

The Jackson Highway comes into Lamar County at the Forest-Lamar County line just out of Hattiesburg, south runs through the eastern part of Lamar County through the following places: Oak Grove, Purvis, Yawn and Lumberton and goes into Pearl River County two miles south of Lumberton. It is operated by the State men who works for the State Highway Board and has gone down in history as one of the most historical roads in the U1S.

1. S. E. Watts, Chancery Clerk
2. Our State, page 257.

When this road was traveled by General Jackson and his troops, this country was a wilderness. Perhaps some of the troops killed wild game in Lamar County. The Copeland Gang also traveled this road during the days that they terroized county. On this road, just a few miles from Purvis, there is some caves that the Copeland Clan used to hide in while roaming the country. This road is kept up by the State Highway department. The new Jackson Highway No. 11. Now under construction out of $42,000,000., Project is almost direct from North to South through the county, passes through Lumberton and Purvis. Is almost straight, the hills are graded down and the road is paved. Just two miles north of Lumberton at the Southern Railroad crossing there is an underpass completed, thus doing away with dangerous crossings. 1

Highway No. 13 from Columbia to Maxie crosses Lamar County due west by way of Baxterville and Lumberton, enters Pearl River County one mile east of Lumberton is a wide graded and graveled road, kept up by the State Highway department.

Highway No. 24, a graveled road from Columbia to Hattiesburg by way of Oloh, Midway from west and intersects Highway No. 11 at Oak Grove 11 miles south of Hattiesburg. 1

Highway No. 42 from Hattiesburg to Bassfield by way of Sumrall crosses north corner of Lamar County by way of Arnold Line passes through Clyde, Epley and Coral. Is graded and graveled, is kept up by the State Highwat Department.

Lamar County is a network of good graveled roads, that are maintained by appropriations from State and County.

1. Road Map of Mississippi.

Any point in the County can be reached by a good graveled road. The Grey Hound bus line from New Orleans to Meridian passes through Lamar County by way of Lumberton and Purvis, over old Highway No. 11. Tickets are sold at Lumberton and Purvis, oThe Bracey Bus lines, a private line from Columbia to Hattiesburg by way of Sumrall Lamar County over Highway 42, tickets are sold at Sumrall. 1

Tri-State Bus Line from Hattiesburg to Covington County by way of Sumrall over Highway 42, tickets are sold at Sumrall.

The mail bus line from Lumberton to Columbia is over Highway No. 13. This bus also carries passengers, makes one trip a day. 1

III. RAILROAD PIONEERING IN COUNTY:

The New Orleans and North Eastern railroad was begun in Lamar County in 1881. The following people in Lamar (then Marion) County, who sold land to the N. O. and N. E. R. R. for rightaway are as follows:

John B. Purvis, deed to N. O. & N. E. R. R.

In consideration of the benefits to acquire to me by bringing the N. O. & N. E. R. R, through my land and the sum of $1.00 for the described land, 200 feet through NW¼ of SE¼ of Section 20, township 2, north range in Marion County, being 100 feet from center of the roadbed, This July 1882.

Elli Dearman Deed to N. O. & N. E. R. R.

In consideration of the benefits to acquire to me by bringing the N. O. & N. R. R. R. through my land and the sum of $1.00 for the following land described: 200 feet through Lot No. 7, Section 36, Tp 1, NR 15 W and lots 2 and 3,

1. J. D. Sumrall
2.

Section 1, Tp 1 S. R. 15 W, 1881.

Isaac Yates Deed to N.O. & N.E. R. R.

In consideration of the benefit to acquire to me by bringing the N.O. & N.E. through my land and the sum of $1.00 for the following land described, 200 feet through my land NE 14 of SE4 of Sec. 27 TP 3 N of range 14 W Marion County being 100 feet from center of road on either side to be used by said company for rightaway, Nov. 24, 1881. 1

W. H. Byrd, B. J. Bounds, T. S. Ford, G. W. Hartfield, Thomas Melvin Purvis all sold rightaways of 200 feet for the sum of $1.00 to the N.O. & N.E. R. R. in 1881. 1

Mr. Melvin Purvis, pioneer settler of this county sold the land rightaway and location of the depot in Purvis. The town of Purvis was named for him. 1

After the rightaway was surveyed and cut out the grading of the railroad was contracted to the settlers, and was done by mules and slips. Then began the laying of the ties and rails In the year 1884 the grading of the road was completed, ready for service and knowns as the N.O.& N.E. R.R. 2

The first railroad foreman of the section crew was a Mr. Bethea the next man was Dunc Arrington in the year 1884. Mr. Melvin Purvis' family boarded the men who worked on the grading and building of the road. There were fifty men in all. Mrs. Purvis and her children did the cooking on the fireplace. When this railroad was completed it was the main and only shipping center from this section. 2

The people who lived in Marion County, Columbia brought all their produce to this railroad station at Purvis to be

1. Land Deeds, county courthouse
2. Mrs. Ella Bufkin

shipped. When the railroad was completed there were eight passenger trains daily. When the news went out through the county that eight passenger trains were going through this route daily, people from miles and miles around would gather at the station in Purvis to see the trains go by. The old people of today often relate with bright smiles on their faces, " I well remember the first train that I saw on the N. O. & N. E. Railroad, when we spent days on the road going to see our first train." 1

There was no railroad in this section of the country until the year 1882.

The New Orleans and North Eastern Railroad was the first incorporated road to operate in this county. 1

The next incorporated railroad was the Mississippi Southern and Gulf R. R. Below is a charter of this R. R. copied from The Columbian, 1890.

Sec. 1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi that Delos H. Blodgett, J. W. Blodgett, H. A. Camp, J. H. Hinton, J. W. Jenkins, L. Pittman, I. W. Lampton, S. H. Dale, J.J. White, L. S. Ford, H. F. Banks, C. Atkinson, J. W. Pellman, H. Bloomfield, W. Denny, L. N. Dantzler, H. Lieuharard and their associates, be and are hereby incorporated under the name and style of the Mississippi Southern and Gulf R. R. Co. and said corporation its successors and assignees are forever authorized and made capable in law to have and to hold, purchase and enjoy. 2

1. Mrs. Ella Bufkin
2. Nath Courtny

2. The Columbian, 1890

Section 2-

It is further enacted that said corporation shall have power to build and construct, use, operate and own and enjoy the Railroad beginning at the town of Lumberton an the N. O. & N. E. R.R. andrunning northeastward through the town of Columbia Section 3--That the corporated stock of this company shall be $400,000. 1

The N. O. & N. E. R. R. complted became the supreme means transportation in this section, of the state in opening regions heretofore inacessable to commerce and bringing in too, quick communication to remote and difficult places. 2

Following this the Mississippi Southern and Gulf from Lumberton to Columbia. Later this line extended to Maxie Forest County, crossed the N.O. & N. E., Lumberton. The the Mississippi Central R. R. from Hattiesburg to McComb crossed the northern part of the county through Sumrall, thus furnishing railroad facilities, also express, telegraph and telephone business to each part of the county . 2

From the year of 1890 until 1929 Lamar County could boast the best railroad accomadations in the state, but since the cutting out of the sawmill industries in the county, the Mississippi Southern and Gulf line has been taken up, leaving only two railroad lines in the county, that of the N.O. & N. E. through the county by way of Lumberton and Purvis and the Mississippi Central through the northern part of the county by way of Sumrall. Due to the state Highways and automobile transportation, and the depression the N. O. & N. E. R. R. once running eight passengers daily now run only four.

I. The Columbian, Marion County, 1890

2. Jim Daly

IV. None

Ella Crook.

Ella Crook, Historian
Lamar County

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY OCT. 15, 1936

ASSIGNMENT #16

I. DIVISION OF FINE ARTS

A. LITERATURE

Literature has her quacks no less than medicine, and they are divided into two classes, those who have erudition without genius, and those who have vocabulary without genius, and those who have vocabulary without depth; we shall get second hand sense from the one, and original nonsense from the other.(Colton)

1. Novelists

Mary Linfield wrote "Punishment". She was a daughter of Willie Linfield, a Methodist Preacher and only lived in Lumberton four years. Since leaving this County she has written several novels.

2. Historians

R. C. Yawn and John A. Yeager wrote the "Life of Will Purvis". Mr. Yawn also wrote "History of the Lodge". He was one of the Pioneer educators of the County. A noted speaker and writer, he lived here almost all of his life and did his part in developing the County.

Attorney John A. Yeager of Lumberton came to Lamar County in 1909. He has taken an active part in serving the county, being County Representative for 16 years.

3. Poets

James P. Booth wrote, "Holy Spirit", "Let Me Love Thee More","Better Times to Come","Judgement Time", "Jesus is

Watching", "Glory Land","A Dream". Mr. Booth was born in Louisana in the year 1861. He moved to Lamar County in 1905. He was a Photographer and poet. He sold poems as he traveled around. Died in 1929. His poems were all religious of this type:

WHY CALL ME LORD AND MASTER

Why call me Lord and Master and do not what I say,
You are called to repent, walk in the narrow way,
Go work in my Vineyard, for labor I will pay,
When the Savior's calling us, why not Him obey.

Thy blood, which was shed, upon the cross of Calvary,
Can cleanse us of sin, and make us pure and free,
O, Lord now let us feel, that blood is now applied,
And we, by faith in Thee are now justified.

Lord help us walk in the path, Thou here did trod,
The way of righteousness, that leads us to God,
When time is no more with us, and we're called to die,
Then we can come to that home, beyond the sky.

Pauline Brown, a High School Student of Lumberton writes poems of this type:

FALL

Pauline Brown

To my heart nature doth bind
A love of Solitude at close of day,
To pause to see the plants decline
And all their colors in full ar-ray.

Each bright tree and each flower
Has its place in fall,
Painting a picture from hour
to hour,
Revealing God to all.

H. C. Yawn wrote poems but we cannot locate any at the present.

4. Drama . None

5. Miscellaneous

C. C. Smith, Lumberton, Lamar County. He wrote for Street & Smith, Publishers of a number of magazines. Some of his best stories were "Real Love", "Love Story", "Western Story", "Loves Mirror", and a number of other love stories. He wrote under the name Erma Mullins, while residing in Lumberton for a number of years.

B. MUSIC

Music is one of the oldest modes by which man has expressed his emotions and aspirations. It brings pleasure to probably more people than any other one of the arts. What ever contributes to a wider dissemination of interest in it is entitled to be regarded as a real public service. (Calvin Coolidge)

1. a. Piano

Mrs. Mamie Robertson Hinton is one of our outstanding musicians of Lamar County. At present she is teaching music in Lumberton School. She studied music at H. M. F. College, Meridian, Miss., also at Cincinatti. Did special work at Monteagoe, Tenn., Montreat, N. C., and Tulane University, and State Teacher College, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Mrs. Minnie Foster is one of Sumrall's best musicians. She studied music in the grammer school and also High School. After finishing her music in High School she studied at Woman's Colleg, Hattiesburg. Mrs. Foster has lived in Lamar County for about 12 years.

Mary Lee Adams has lived in Lamar County for 18 years. She studied music in High School in Sumrall and completed

four years at Whitworth College. She also studied at Frank La Forge, New York, for two summers.

b. Violin

Albert Smith age 23 years, reared in Lamar County. He began playing as an entertainer several years ago, as he had played the violin since the age of ten. He has broadcasted over the radio, and sings as he plays.

Mr. Jess Hatton of Sumrall is a gifted musician. Has lived in Sumrall for 25 years.

Mack Hatton--son of Jess Hatton is also a good violinist. He finished High School, has lived at Sumrall all his life.

Son Slade age 84 years, on the pioneer settlers of the County, has played the old time fiddling music all his life. He still plays some.

c. Organ

Ethel Davis, age 40 years. Studied music at home at the age of 18 years, with a private teacher, Lulu Baxter of this County.

Mrs. Maggie Byles is a very good organ player, learning most of it by herself while attending singing schools.

d. Guitar

Edward Lord, a Lamar County Boy age 18 years plays the guitar and sings as he plays. Broadcasts over Radio Station W. B. H. B. Hattiesburg, Miss.

e. Voice

(1) Mrs. Mamie Hinton teaches voice in the Glee Club, Lumberton High School.

(2) Lake Pylant was reared in Lamar County, finished

High School at Purvis, studied vocal music at N. S. C. W. for two years. He won a scholarship given by Music in Chicago and studied there one summer. He taught music in the First Baptist Church, St. Petersburg, Fla. for three years. For the past two years he has been with the First Baptist Church, Austin, Texas as instructor and leader.

(3) Mary Lee Adams of Sumrall studied voice at Frank La Forge, New York.

(4) Herschel Foshee of Purvis, has made quite a bit of progress in the musical line, having won second place in the State Amateur Contest, conducted by Atwater, Kent, in 1934. He is with Stamps-Baxter, Publishing Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

i. Composers. None

g. Indian Music. None

h. There are two Negro Choirs in Lumberton quarters. They sing spiritual songs in the home churches and go to different places to sing.

There is a Negro Choir in Sumrall Baptist Church, conducted by Miles Weston. The main singers are his daughters known as the Weston Sisters.

2. Bands

(1) Lumberton Band was organized in September of 1925, with William Carroway as director and teacher. It was a brass band with 28 members. Ray Bass was President. The pupils furnished their own instruments and paid a fee for lessons.

This school year 1936, the Band is being directed by C. E. Turner, of Purvis. It is composed of 20 members, boys and girls.

(2) Purvis Band was organized in 1927 with Mr. A. F. Frugitt of S. T. C., as director. It was composed of 17 members, of Purvis and surrounding communities. It was maintained by fees paid by each member, $4.00 a month for the first year. It was then reorganized and made a municipal band. It lasted four years. During this time they played over a radio station in Meridian and played for land sales and other gatherings. The instruments are still intact, belonging to the band. The band is being reorganized as a Purvis School Band, with the old instruments. This year Mrs. Don Cowart is directing the band.

3. Public School Music

Lumberton School, Band, piano and voice is taught.

Purvis School, Band, piano and voice is taught.

Sumrall School, piano and voice is taught.

Oak Grove School, piano.

C. PAINTING

(1) Herb Herrin, Jessie Shanks, Mary Nan Crossland are natural born artist. All live in Sumrall

Mrs. Mary Lou Lott, is an outstanding artist, has never had any special training. She lives in Sumrall.

(2) Ted Lee, does commercial art, portrait painting and landscaping, was reared in Lamar County. He began the study of art in 1920, in Chicago, studied here one year, two years in Denver, Colorado, one year in University of Utah. He worked on the Chicago Daily Journal two years. After this he opened a Studio of Commercial Art and Portrait painting and landscaping in Los Angeles. He also taught private students here.

(3) Jack Olson, is studying art at State Teachers College,

Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

(4) Donald Whidden is a natural born artist, painted signs while in CCC Camp in Farmington, Penn.

2. Old Portraits and Rare Paintings

(a) Silver Moon, by Vander Cayne, is the only rare old painting found in homes of Lamar County--as most of the old homes in the County have been destroyed by fire.

(b) In Public Buildings. None

3. Art in Public Schools and Colleges

a. None

b. None

D. SCULPTURE

1. Outstanding Sculptors. None

2. None

II. DIVISION OF PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

A. HANDICRAFT:

1. Wood Carving.

E. O. Garrett of Lumberton, does all kind of wood carving Luther Magee carves things from cedar, also Mr. Wylie Doerman, Mr. Jack Miller, Jim Watson, C. B. Alexander, T. J. Smith, Dewey Slade. They make flower boxes, fire screens, lawn sets of pillows, tables, chairs, etc.

Henry Hogue of Sumrall, does handicraft and architecture. He is about 70 years old. Born in Chicago and reared in the slums, an orphan, he learned to read and write by observation. He is an infidel and lives a hermit like life.

Robert Drake, a colored boy of Sumrall, is a wonderful wood carver. He studied in a boys school in the north,

makes all kind of articles of wood.

2. Handicraft in schools.

a. None

b. None

3. Basketry

a. T. J. Smith of Purvis, Lamar County, makes baskets of white oak. He makes all sizes and shapes of baskets and paints them any color.

The 4H Club members of Lamar County make many beautiful baskets of pine needles.

Quite a few women over the county make pine needle baskets and many other useful articles of pine needles.

b. Indians.--None

c. Negroes

Tom Sharp of Purvis makes baskets of corn shucks.

4. Weaving

a. J. D. Whitsett of Lumberton weaves chair bottoms and door mats.

b. Done by Indians--None

c. Done by Negroes.

Some darkies of the county weave door mats and chair bottoms.

5. Miscellaneous

None.

D. ARCHITECTURE

Architecture the art of building , embracing every kind of structure designed for purposes of civil life. America can hardly claim a special school of architecture. There are many public buildings in the county.

1. Ornamental Buildings

a. Public buildings

The Post Office building at Lumberton, the Masonic Temple and the Court House at Purvis, are the most prominent works of art in the County. They were built by architects from other states with local labor.

b. Churches

The Baptist Church at Sumrall and the Baptist Church in Lumberton are works of art, built on the Old English Style.

2. Outstanding Architects

The outstanding architects of Sumrall are Henry Hogue and Taylor King. Of Lumberton, E. O. Garrett, Jake Miller. Of Purvis, Harold and Eugene King.

C. LANDSCAPING

1. Parks

Each town in the County has a small park, built by the town and kept up by the W. P. A. workers and the Woman's Club.

2. Grounds of Public Buildings

a. Schools

The school grounds of the county are kept up by the W. P. A workers. We have no Beautification Project in the County now, but are much in need of one.

b. Colleges.--None

c. Courthouse.

What little work that has been done around the courthouse at Purvis was done by the WPA workers.

3. Home Gardens

a. Mention Owners

Mrs. J. R. Anderson of Sumrall,-Mrs. Willis Thomas, of Purvis, Mr. Jake Miller of Lumberton.

b. Arrangement of Gardens.

Mrs. J. R. Anderson of Sumrall arranged her own garden. Beautiful trees and shrubs are set out on the grounds. Flowers of all kind grow there winter and summer. At the foot of the hill large willow trees border it. Bird houses are placed everywhere for the home of wild birds. It is a dream to any human eye.

The Garden of Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Miller of Lumberton.

You enter the garden from the street over a Japanese Bridge that spans a flower bed and small canal. This flower bed extends the entire width of the lot between street and Canal and is five feet wide. As the garden is sunken three feet below street level, this bed is built up with a rock wall bordered with white and purple irises. There is a pink Crepe Myrtle at either side of the bridge and the gayest of annuals with a succession of blooms from early Spring to late Autumn. There are the gay hollyhocks, the double daisies,, larkspurs with color to please everyone and Rosy morn Petunias spilling over the rocks, these being followed by Carolina peas, zinia, marigolds and Vinca.

One unique thing about this garden is that it includes the sidewalk with its stepping stones connecting the adjoining pavement. As you enter the garden golden Arbor Vitae stand on either side of the bridge. The foundation planting on either side of the front consist of lagustrams, arbor vitaes, Abelias and boxes with azaleas and aster

Lillies for color.

To the west side a Marie Henriette rose curtains the end of the veranda. Beneath is a bed of cannas, Salvia, and bordered with red Verbena. Euonymus trails the chimney, with Ligustrum, Abelia, Hydrangea covering the wall space and beneath the windows. The west boundary has a rock edged bed with varied colored annuals. To the north you enter a formal garden through an arch trellis covered with American Beauty and Killarney Roses onto a flagstone patio with an elevation of one foot above the surface of the garden. To the east side steps lead to the sunroom. To the west side it is canopied by a Wisconsin Weeping Willow and Redbud, surrounded by Thunbergii Spirea. Spanish Dagger clumps of banana, ornamental grass, Aspediatra and pots of various plants. Just a short distance north of the patio stands a Royal Palm to insure privacy for a seat nearby.

This garden which is planted to form an almost oval center, has a background planting of redbuds, Bird of Paradise, Viburnum Tinus, Yapon, Coffee, Calycanthus, Pyracanthus, Magnolia Fuscata, Ligustrum, Pittesporum, Phothinia. Just inside this planting is English Dogwood, Bottle Brush, Spirea Van Houtteam, Forythia, Bush Honeysuckle, Royal Poinceana, Weigelia, Lilac, Japanese Quince, Purple Magnolia, Snow Wreath, Gardenias, flowering Almond, and Cry Baby with its flowering clusters of bloom, which is a very unusual plant in this section. The border plantings is of annuals, perennials, and clumps of day lillies.

By the sun room is a bamboo, Pussy Willow, and a Clump

of banana plants fanning the breezes with their huge leaves as a reminder of the tropical South. Thunbergii Spirea and these bordered with Ginger Amaryllis and Valley Lillies.

To the side stands a lovely Cedrus Deodara encircled with Alyssum. A few steps to the north of this is an elevation of stones with a small pool that has a water fall to a rocked edged circular pool in which are fine yellow and blue water lillies.

From the flower garden you enter a vegetable garden up a flight of steps under a pagola flanked on either side by a rock wall with trailing Vinca overhanging.

Just to the left as you enter these steps is a Sylvester Juniper and near by is the bird bath. On either side of these steps are Pramidalis Arbor Vitae, on top of the Pagola sets a bird house which is a replica of a log cabin. The back of this garden is enclosed with watermelon Crepe Myrtle, Redbud and Crab apple. To the east side of the garden path is roses, daffodils, and back of these Syringa, standing Wisteria and a Mimosa to the corner. To the right near the steps is a clump of ornamental grass. The partition fence to the west is a mass of beauty with Rose of Montana and climbing roses that send out their fragrance to perfume the garden.

The East side of the house has a foundation planting of Primrose Jasmines, Thunbergi and Anthony Waterer Spirea Louis Phillipe Roses. The Division fence is entwined with Thunbergii Vine, Big Noma and perennial Peas and a border of Chyrsanthamum.

This garden was planted and planned by Mrs. J. E. Miller with Mr. J. E. Miller assisting over a period of several years and most of the plants were propagated by her.

Reference: ASSIGNMENT:16

A. 1. Ella Crook, Lamberton, Miss.

2. John A. Yeager, Lamberton, Miss.

3. Mrs. J. F. Booth, Lamberton, Miss.

Pauline Brown, Lamberton

5. Cecil Smith, Lamberton

B. a. Mrs. Mamie Hinton, Lamberton

Mrs. Minnie Foster and Mary Lee Adams, Sumrall

b. T. J. Smith, Purvis, Miss.

b. Jess Hatten, Sumrall

Pauline Slade

C. Lucy Morehead, Purvis, Helen Entrekin, Lamberton

d. Pauline Slade, Lamberton

e. Mrs. Mamie Hinton, Lamberton, Miss.

2) Lavalle Pylant, Purvis, Miss.

(2) Lavalle Pylant

(3) Mary Lee Adams, Sumrall, Miss.

(4) Claudius Turner, Lamberton

h. Lotha Mae Sibley

2. Claudius Turner, Lamberton

3. Pauline Slade, Lamberton

C. Minnie Lee Graves, Sumrall

(2) Ted Lee, Purvis, Miss.

(3) Mrs. Ella Crook, Lamberton

(4) Lucy Morehead, Purvis

2. a. Minnie Graves, Sumrall

b. None

D. None

II. A. 1. Mrs. Ella Crook, Lamberton ; Henry Hogue, Sumrall, Miss.

2. T. J. Smith, Purvis

c. Lucy Morehead, Purvis

4. a. J. D. Whitsett, Lamberton

1. Mrs. Ella Crook, Lamberton

b. Minnie Lee Graves, Sumrall

3. Taylor King, Sumrall, Helen Entrekin, Lamberton.

C.1. Pauline Slade, Lamberton

2. Mrs. Kate Moran, Lamberton

3. b. Mrs. J. R. Anderson, Sumrall, Mrs. J. E. Miller, Lamberton

Ella Crook.

SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH
PROJECT LAMAR COUNTY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #16

November 18, 1936

DIVISION OF FINE ARTS

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

A. 3. Poems

H. C. Yawn, Lamberton, Miss. (deceased)

MOTHER LOVE

A mother's love no bridge can span, no pinion pierce
its height,
No anchor sound its boundless depth concealed from
mortal sight.
No line has ever marked its end, nor vision scanned
its length,
Nor device made by human hands that e'er can test
its strength.

If on the morning wings we sail to earth's remotest bound,
Where craggy summits blend with blue, there
Mother's love is found.
Or if we should with Dante go to regions of de-
pair,
Uncapping circles of the dammed, behold we find it
there.

Though friends forsake and foes revile and riches
fly away,
Beyond the aura of her love, no boy can ever stray;
It will pursue where e'er he go, and like the clinging
vine,
Will hide the scar as round his form its tendrils
gently twine.

If you would get a glimpse below of heaven's greatest
prize;
If you would view the sweetest thing e'er known in
paradise,
Then, aside from love divine that brought the Saviour
down,
To suffer death upon the cross, and wear the thorny
crown.

I'd point you to that sacred scene where mother sits
at rest
With baby folded in her arms and clasped to snowy
breast,
Behold the gentle stroke with which she sooths its
golden hair,

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

The tremor of her smiling lips that move in silent
prayer.

The tender love that gently beams upon her shining face,
face,
When first she kisses baby's brow, no facile pen can
trace,
Nor can her crooning lullabies, which love alone
inspires
E'er be surpassed by sweetest notes that float from
angel choirs.

Madonna and her child is drawn neath rays of crested
light,
While mother and her babe is crowned with unseen halos
bright,
The one is cold and still, and dumb, though beauteous
ous to behold,
The other thrills with life and love, and powers divine
untold.

The angels three who sought to bring from earth
when new create,
The thing most precious in the sight of him who kept
the gate,
Sped forth on wings of shining light, their mission to
fulfill,
And sought with eager anxious care through every dale
and hill.

The first culled fragrant scented flower, with colors
rich and rare,
Which he arranged in bouquets bright, with patience
skill and care,
But when he reached the heavenly land, elate with
fondest hope,
While heavenly hosts gave their applause, the gate re-
fused to ope.

The second saw the gorgeous hue of sunset's crimson
glow,
And blending these with ray of light, which streamed
from arching bow,
He sped away on pinions white, his talismen to
prove,
Again, though heavenly anthems rose, the gate re-
fused to move.

The third in weary quest behold the light in Mother's
face,
He saw the beaming love she gave the child in her
embrace,
He caught this essence, pure, divine, this beautiful
flame,

And then he heard the angels shout, "Enter in His Name".

HOPE

Thou art the queen of bliss,

Thou art the messenger that brings back our vanishing joys.

With thine ethereal hand thou cans't unbolt the gates of the tomb, and thy tempting breath thou bringest kisses from the grave. Thy soothing voice is the echo of all the ages, and in thy tear dimmed eye we see the dearest forms of departed youth.

Thou art faithful to our trust, and when we complain thou dost lapse into golden silence.

Without thee life would be dreary indeed, for thou bringest perfume from the past, and thou cans't extract the imaginary thorns from the heart of the future.

Thou art the pole star whose unfailing light shines on through boding night. The mariner, tempest tossed and storm swept, with compass gone and chart destroyed, turns to thine unchanging light, and with energies revived and zeal renewed, seizes the helm of his drifting ship and turns its prow toward the harbor of the homeland.

Thy voice cans't call the soul from the valley of gloom and place it upon the mountain peak, where it preens its wings for loftier flights and broader sweeps in the realm of God-given possibilities.

When we have wandered far away from home and loved ones, when we have traveled far down forbidden paths of voluptuous ease and

sensuous pleasure, and when we are hungry and thirsty, it is thy voice that brings a realization of our condition and inspires the resolution: "I will arise and go to my father's house where there is plenty."

As oft as thou art cast down thou wilt rise again more bouyant than ever. Like the floating gossamer that is dissipated by the morning light, or the pendant dewdrop whose sparkling scintellations are hushed by the rising sun, thou wilt be seen again in the vespers hours of eventide, or in the twilight radiance of tomorrow's morn.

Thou art the banner that floats on high in storm as well as in sunshine, and if perchance a bolt should strike thee down, immediately we see thee rising from the dust, unfolding in the passing breeze, more glorious than before.

As the proud ship that rides upon the bosom of the storm, disappears one moment in the trough of the surging wave, and the next it rides in majesty upon the crest, inspiring confidence in the hearts of despairing passengers; so the star of hope may be dimmed by the shadow of a great grief, but the mists will roll away and again her eternal light will call us from encircling gloom.

Some such thoughts as these inspired the following lines on Hope written more than a dozen years ago:

Hope is heaven's greatest boon given to mortal man,
It is the arch that bears us up across life's narrow span;
However sad the prospects be, however dark the pall,
The soul will still triumphant rise in answer to her call.

The young are drawn to higher plains by her untiring aid,
The old are steadied by her hand across the evening shade;
The rich are softened by her charms amid their wealth and glory,
The poor forget their poverty while listening to her story.

Her ministrations come to all, no matter what their state,
The high, the low, the rich, the poor, the good, the bad, the great-
All are subjects to her call, all are urged to rise,
And view with tense and earnest gaze the stars that gem the skies.

I've seen the culprit steeped in sin, who shrank from honest gaze,
In dungeon dark in gloomy cell, denied the suns bright rays;
And I thought I saw a light resplendant in his eyes,
It must have been the beams of hope flashed across the skies.

I've seen the mother bending low, watching the feeble breath
And pallid cheek of suffering babe, hovering on the brink of death;
And then I saw her solemn grief give place to joyous tears,
When hope rushed in with blessed balm to soother her trembling fears.

Hope's an artist full in store of pictures rich and rare,
Which constant rise like beacon lights to lure us from despair;
As fast as inspiration dims and visions bright expire,
Hope brings afresh a new supply of fuel for the fire.

Hope's the siren voice that calls us through life's misty way,
That brings to souls enwrapped in gloom the light of perfect day,
And when at last the things below no longer satisfy,
A higher glimpse will show the soul this anchor in the sky.

Reference: Mrs. H. C. Yawn, Lumberton, Miss.

Mrs Ella Crook
SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH
PROJECT LAMAR COUNTY

HENRY CLAY YAWN

Henry Clay Yawn was born at Columbia, Ala., July 5th, 1859. In early life he came with his parents to Mississippi, and he grew to manhood near Williamsburg, then the county site of Covington county. In such schools as existed in that section he studied "Webster's Blue Back Spellbr", McGuffy's Readers, and Davies' Elementary Arithmetic. When a lad of about sixteen years, he attended a school at Mt. Carmel, conducted by the Rev. Granville Story, a Presbyterian preacher. This was the only school in Covington and adjoining counties that offered high-school advantages at that time. Later he became a student in a high-school at Columbia, Miss., and completed its course of study. After he had taken a course in Wyatt's Business College in Jackson, Miss., he became a teacher of schools, and became the head of the school at Lumberton. This led him to spend the remainder of his life in the town which he had helped to build.

On December 24, 1888, he was happily married to Miss Nina Bass, a native of Lawrence county, Miss. Her death followed in about one year. In 1893, and on August second, he and Miss Fannie Limbaugh, a member of the public school faculty of Lumberton, were married. For about forty-three years they have walked together in devoted wedlock. Heaven has blessed this union with two sons and three daughters who reflect the fine characters of their parents. From the Yawn home have gone many radiant influences that make a happier world.

The out-standing traits of character shown in the young manhood of Henry Yawn gave promise of front rank position in the movements with which he was identified. The few years that h he gave to teaching school proved him to be eminently successful in that line. He became a member of the lumber and mercantile company known as the H. W. Hinton Co., and was for many the Secretary and Treasurer of that company that did so much in building and maintaining the town of Lamberton. He served the town as aldorman , member of the school board, and was its mayor at the time of his death. In these positions he labored for the fine things in community life.

He entered county and state politics, served two terms in the state senate, and filled an unexpired term as treasurer of the state. In these positions there was never complaint of inefficiency nor infidelity.

Brother Yawn was devoted to fraternalism. He held membership in a number of fraternal orders. The Masonic orders held a peculiar attraction for him. He believed in and loved its principles, and gave much time and labor to spread them. For a number of years he has been a Thirty-Second Degree Mason, and wore this distinction with honor to himself and to this high fraternal rank. Masonry entrusted to him without regret the high honors of Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons, and Past Grand Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star. For a number of years he has held the position of Foreign Correspondent for the Grand Lodge of Masons, and in this position he was eminently efficient.

When the age of twelve years he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and continued in this fellowship until his death. Responding to the call of his church he held at different times practically all the offices laid by the church on laymen. Through an extended period of time he served his church as superintendent of Sunday Schools. Through four years of the time he held this position, the writer was the pastor of the church where Brother Yawn rendered this service, and wishes to bear testimony to the fine service, rendered as superintendent.

No sketch of the life and labors of Henry Yawn would be complete without mention being made of his personal gifts and graces. Nature endowed him with a rich resonant voice. What he said was listened to with pleasure whether spoken in the social circle or from the platform. None could surpass him in the art of story-telling, and few could surpass him in public speaking. A ready wit and a love for mirth made him a delightful companion. He wrote with an easy pen. Many of his leisure hours were spent in writing prose and poetry that posess genuine merit. These productions, many of them, are now among the prized possessions held by members of his family. Some of us who have had the pleasure of reading some of these productions have a wish that some day they may find their way to the printed page.

His life was made rich through friendship. With a rare gift for making friends, he had a greater power for holding them. When the sad news of his death reached strong men in

Canvasser-
Lucy Morehead

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #16

FINE ARTS

A NEW NATIONAL HYMN

Dr. S. A. Steele, who is at the head of an Industrial Training School at Lumberton, Miss. has written a hymn designated to take the place of the old familiar "My Country tis of Thee". Dr. Steele claims that this old hymn is too sectional to be used all over the country, inasmuch as it refers to the "Land of The Pilgrims " pride, meaning particularly the New England States . As the old is to be sung to the same tune "America" Dr. Steele suggests that it is to be sung in Public Schools on Dec. 10th the day set apart as Mississippi Day, and which is to be observed by the school children throughout the State with appropriate exercises.

America!, our land,
May it forever stand,
Sweet freedoms' home,
Fortress of Liberty,
Where all men shall be free,
Whether on land or sea,
They nest or roam.

Land of all lands the best,
Of good possessions,
Heroic clime,
Here happy homes are found,
Here mirth and joy resound
Here peace and hope abound,
And strength sublime.

From every mountain high,
From valleys far and high,
We lift our prayer,
O God, our land defend,
And keep us to the end,
Beneath thy care,

Help us to live the right,
O give us rulers light,
Let Justice reign,

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

all walks of life, many of them were heard to say, "He was the best friend I ever had."

Brother Lawn suffered greatly for many months, and the nature of his trouble gave him to know that the end of the way was not far off, but to him no dark clouds rested on the hills just over the river. On August 8, in the home of a daughter in New Orleans, the end of a long, useful, and happy earthly life came, and our friend left us for awhile.

Reference: Rev. G. H. Thompson, Lumberton, Miss.

Mrs Ella Crook
LAMAR COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

May we not fear to tread,
The path before us spread,
By cloud of fire lead,
On land and main.

Let not the nation fail,
Nor ancient wrong prevail,
Nor freedom wane,
Lord God lead us aright,
Of every land the light,
May we remain.

Copied from "The Pearl River News", 1902.

Mrs. Ella Crook.
Supv. Lamar County
Historical Research
District #3

SUPPLEMENT TO SUPPLEMENT #16 Fine Arts

DEM'LECTIVES LITES

A Prose Poem By T. C. King

Dem'lective lites, am de sights , dats needed in dis Town; All shinin bright, on every night, to by-travelin round. Dem lites elective, am prospective , so de white folks am sayin; to pint out de cattle and de sheep, on de side walks an streets, whar dey am on every night a layin. Now some Iize expectin, will be growlin and abjectin, by de time de election is come; but some how I sermize, dat will be de big serprize, fo de majorities will den speak "well done". Let dem kickers jes take ease, fer talk as yer please, only 2 classes can be foun agin it; an one uv um's got nuthin, and don't give a stuffin, jes so he's guine roun a spinnin it. Now de other class you see, is not like you and me, fo dey have lights and don't give a flitter; whether the poor and the like, who at night have to hike, to make a livin, like us common critters. Some am sayin lets use dem other lites, now some is tryin dese an aint dey sights, kaze it takes a handy man jus allus a tryin, to keep um from freezin or cloggin or fryin. So lets compromise wid dese few, whose got in de stew, by tryin things new dey never before knew; so boys fo de lan sake give us sumpin dis time dat will take, de blues away by day and de darkness at night, an fo de land's sake give us dem 'Lective Lites.

Ref. The Booster, 1920

Mrs Ella Crook
County Historian.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #16 FINE ARTS

C. C. SMITH, Writer

Mr. C. C. Smith was born in Arkansas about 44 years ago. He came to Lumberton 10 years ago and started working in the saw mill as a shipping clerk. When the mill closed he bought out Mr. R. W. Hinton, Jr.'s furniture store and went into the hardware business..

Mr. Smith started writing love stories for the Love Story magazine, using his wife's maiden name for a pen name, Erma Mullins. He wrote these stories as a side line, writing most of them while working in the store. They are of the same variety as other stories found in these magazines.

Three years ago C. C. Smith moved to Picayune, Miss. and bought a hardware store there from C. McDonald. He is still living there.

Ref. Cecil Smith, Lumberton, Miss.

Ella Crook.

Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #16 FINE ARTS

MARY LINDFIELD, NOVELIST

Miss Mary Lindfield is the daughter of Rev. W. L. Lindfield, a Methodist preacher of the Mississippi Conference., who was pastor of the Methodist Church in Lumberton for four years. While living in Lumberton,Miss Lindfield's novel, "Punishment", with the pen name Lawerence Highland was published. This was in 1925, published by the Four Seas Company, Boston.

Since publishing this novel, Miss Lindfield has written several more, names are not known at the present, She is living in New Orleans, La. Some of her people live in Jackson, The Lindfields and Readings.

Ref. Mrs. Ella Crook

Ella Crook.

Historian

Canvassers-
Pauline Slade
Lucy Morehead

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

3

SUBJECT: THE LOCAL PRESS- OTHER PUBLICATIONS

ASSIGNMENT #21

NEWSPAPERS

This assignment takes us back to the year of 1883, just 21 years before Lamar County was created out of part of Marion and Pearl River counties. The part that now comprises Lamar County was then very thinly settled. The first Newspaper that was printed in Marion County was the first paper to be circulated among the early settlers in this section of the country. The paper was the Pearl River News, and was published at Columbia in the year of 1883, with S. H. Dale and H. T. Banks propritors and editors. This was one of the first papers printed during that period of time. It contained local news and advertisements.

I. THE COUNTY'S FIRST PAPER:

a. "The Lumberton Headblock", was the first paper printed and published in this section of the country, now Lamar County. It was published at Lumberton in the year of 1889 with W, P. Haynes publisher and editor. The first year the paper was published and circulated free of charge.

mb. No regular files were kept, Mr. Haynes has three copies of the first papers of April 8, 1889; April 15, 1889; April 22, 1889.

c. These papers were published weekly, four pages, four column edition. Contains local news, some special news and advertisements, most all pertaining to the town of Lumberton.

d. Mr. Haynes' policy was to serve the people. In politics

always Democrat. He did much in the upbuilding of the town as to establishing the schools, churches, etc. He was a young when he came to Lumberton, only 20 years of age, he has been here since that time. For several years he has been engaged, in the Mercantile business. Is getting feeble now but still carries on the business of the store.

e. P. E. Williams succeeded Mr. Haynes as publisher and editor of the Lumberton Headblock in the year of 1891, and served in this capacity until he was succeeded by M. Geiger in the year of 1909. A. Q. Broadus took over the paper in the year of 1909 and served as publisher and editor for one year, he was succeeded by Leo Blackburn and Jesse L. Thomas of Purvis, in 1910. Very soon afterwards John A. Yeager took over the paper, he did the publishing and editing until 1924. Then F. A. Parker began as publisher and editor, the paper was then changed to "The Progressive Citizen", published every Thursday at Lumberton, Mr. Parker's motto was, "He profits most who serves best." He remained here until 1929, following this; the paper was taken over by"The Booster", is published at Purvis every Thursday with J. L. Thomas publisher and editor.

II. NAME PAPERS AND MAGAZINES DOWN TO DATE:

1. The Lumberton Headblock, published at Lumberton in 1889. Their policy was to serve the people, the county, the state and Democracy.

b. QUOTATIONS FROM FILES OF PAPERS:

TWO WRECKS IN ONE WEEK

If having wrecks ona railroad makes it famous, the line from the depot to the mill here can be termed second to none in that respect. Last Tuesday Mr.Pitts Hinton, in switching

a flat carload of lumber to the depot, broke the coupling between the locomotive and the car, which had no brakes, letting it go down the steep grade at the rate of a cannon ball, till it got near the depot where there were several other cars standing. It was going with such speed that when it struck the others it nearly demolished the whole business.

Thursday Mr. J. H. Hinton let two gondolas get away from him and there not being any cars at the depot to check them they ran out to the main line, stopping cross-ways the track. He immediately sent a flagman in both directions and stopped all approaching trains, until the cars could be gotton on again.

Lumberton Headblock, April 8, 1889.

ANOTHER ENTERPRISE

A stock company has been formed and a charter obtained for the Marion Brick and Tile Co. to be run under the management of Mr. J. M. Jenkins. The machinery necessary for the manufacture of brick, tiles, drains, sewer pipes, terro cotto, etc. It will begin with $5,000 stock with privilege to increase to $10,000. The Headblock, April 15, 1889.

LUMBERMEN MEETING

There will be a meeting of the yellow pine manufacturers association of Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and Mississippi, at Montgomery, Ala., May 2nd. President J. J. White says he has letters from the leading manufacturers of all of the State included, promising to be there except those of Mississippi. What's the matter with our mill men? Lumber is going down in price all the time and something should be done to change matters, and nothing but a combination of manufacturers will

accomplish it. April 15, 1889 The Headblock

Quotation. The Headblock, April 22, 1889.

Dr. S. A. Smith, the famous tooth-carpenter made his regular monthly visit to this place Saturday and Sunday.

Announcement from the Headblock, April 22, 1889.

We are requested to announce that a meeting will be held at the Scarboro Hotel next Tuesday night to take preparatory steps towards organizing a Legion of Honor Lodge at this place. Any information concerning it will be furnished by Mr. Thos. Moore, who is in possession of the rules and regulations.

The Cry of Lumberton carpenters is "more lumber".
Headblock- Sept. 10, 1890

Pearl River County has 41,780 acres of land subject to homestead entry.

From Lumberton Headblock of Sept. 17, 1890.

The log engine of Camp and Hinton Company ran over a cow last week and was completely wrecked, which caused the mill to shut down for a few days.

Dudley Weaver's hand was very badly mutilated by the explosion of a dynamite cartridge since our last issue.

Lumberton Headblock, Feb. 23, 1890.

State Laws, published by authority.

An act to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquor within five miles of the High School of Marion County.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi that it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to sell, barter or exchange or give away in quantity within five miles of Lumberton High School, in the town of Lumberton in Marion County in this State, any intoxicating liquor or

spirits or malt liquors or bitters or other drinks or compounds by whatever name known or called which if drank to excess produce intoxication or nicotism: whether sold or bartered as a beverage or not; provided that this act shall not be so construed as to prevent the use of wine for sacremental purposes or the use of stimulants by physicians administered in good faith in their practice to their patients, or the use of wine in despensing hospitality at ones own home.

Sec. 2. That any person violating this act shall upon conviction be fined not less than twenty-five dollars, or, to be imprisoned at the discretion of the court.

Sec. 3. That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Approved Feb. 23, 1890. Lumberton Headblock, May 28, 1890.

Editorial

If Mississippi editors have decided to settle their disagreements or differences by fistcuff, would it not be well for them to get Sullivan to instruct them in the science of Boxing when he is convicted and sentenced to Marion County jail? If editors will excite each other to fighting and nothing but to fight will satisfy them, we are decidedly in favor of using only the weapons which nature gave them in the use of weapons and among the many advantages in its favor may be mentioned, that a fellow can fight in this way with little dread of doctor bills, or having his editorial career suddenly terminated. We will suggest farther, or if it is in order offer it as a rule, or an amendment to a rule or decision, that the fighting be always done with the hands encased in Boxing Gloves.(valley Records) The Headblock, June 10, 1890

The Lumberton Headblock is a year old, wonder if it has any teeth yet? (Lumberton Headblock) June 10, 1890.

HYMNEAL Jenkins--Camp

On the morning of the 29th of July 1891, Mr. J. M. Jenkins president and general manager of the Marion Brick and Tile Co. Lumberton, Mississippi led to the alter of Hymneal, Miss Annie Camp, at the home of her father Mr. D. A. Camp, Mulberry, Ga. Rev. Mr. Edwards officiating, and thus two hearts became one. The poet has said in speaking of the common fate to us all.

Into each life some rain must fall, some days must be dark and dreary.

We bespeak for this amiable couple a happy journey through life. (Headblock Aug. 12, 1891)

b. Post Office Notice

Under new schedule the mail arrived here as follows: From the north 4:20 A. M. and opened first thing in the morning. From the south at 11:50 A. M. The post office will be kept open from 7:30 A. M. to 7 o'clock P. M. This will give everyone ample time to get their mail after the whistle blows in the evening.

Out going mail will be closed as follows:
North leaves at 11:25 A. M. and south bound at 7 P. M. Sunday. Office open one half hour after the arrival of each mail.
J. H. Hinton P. M.
(Headblock, Feb. 15, 1893)

G. M. Cobb has the contract to put the 100 shade trees in town every owner of property should put out some trees.
(Headblock, Feb. 2, 1893)

The following list of arrivals at the Tremont Hotel, Lumberton since our last issue:

Frank Potter, M. L. Thompson and J. R. Toomer, Hattiesburg.
H. W. Beers, Mr. Voss, N. O;
Mrs. D. R. Walker, Purvis;
J. H. Neville, Mr. Hoffman, Meridian;
S. H. Terrall, Quitman;
Gov. J. M. Stone, Jackson
Tom Grayson, Ocean Springs;
Hunt McCaleb, N. O. :
Dr. J. Q. Fountain, Pearlington;
Prof. R. S. Foster, Jeff Davis;
Col. I. R. Stockdale, J. H. Jennison
Noxubee County.
(Lumberton Headblock, Aug. 2, 1893)

We have received the first copy of the Purvis Head-Light, a new candidate for public favor. It is a bright paper edited by our old and valued friend, J. T. Carley and owned by the Purvis Publishing Co. We wish our friends success in this enterprise. (Feb. 21, 1895) The Free Press.

What the People Want

More corn and less cotton,
More potatoes and less politics,
More pork and less poetry,
More bets and fewer deadbeats,
More money and less mourning,
More charity and less criticism,
More matrimony and fewer old maids,
More backbone and less backsliding,
More sense and less sound. (The Free Press, Feb. 21, 1895

The constant drop of water, wears away the hardest stones;
The constant gnaw of Tawser, most cafes the toughest bone.
The constant cooing lover carries off the blushing maid,
But the Head-Block advertiser
Is the one who gets the trade.(Headblock, Jan. 17, 1895)

The Govenor appointed the following officers for the village of Lumberton: R. W. Hinton, Mayor; Joe Pearson, Marshall; D. O. Summer, W. B. Cleveland, and H. A. Barnes, Aldermen. (Headblock, Jan. 31, 1895)

Dr. G. A. Brumfield went to New Orleans wednesday, to have an interview with the celebrated Dr. Sexton, relative to precautionary measures that might be necessary in cases where contagion from diseases might occur. We likely the spirit that actuate him in making this visit, because it shows that he has not only the interest of the health of our people at heart but that he is desirous of obtaining such knowledge in his profession which will not only be of great service to him in his practice, but be beneficial to the public.
Headblock Feb. 13, 1896

Proceedings of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen

Pursuant to previous notice, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the village of Lumberton met at the school house in the town on Friday, Feb. 27, 1895 for the purpose of effecting and organization, there being present R. W. Hinton, Mayor; D. O. Summer, W. B. Cleveland, and H. A. Bawes, Alderman. Each of the above gentlemen appeared before P. E. Williams and took oath of office and gave bonds which were approved and filled for record. The Treasurers bond was fixed at $500.00. P. E. Williams was elected clerk, G. W. Elis of Poplarville and he is hereby appointed Attorney for board. Adjourned to meet Tues. the 5th of March. R. W. Hinton Mayor
Headblock

Tuesday morning about 10;30 o'clock at the turpentine still of Hinton Bros., Henry Howard shot and killed Bartow Daniels, both colored. The immediate cause of the killing is unknown, but everything indicates a clear case of murder. After the killing, Howard armed himself with his banjo and a "pop-gun" and took to the woods at a lively gait. Several parties attempted to catch the fleeing fugitive but without avail and he is still at large.
Lumberton Headblock, Sept. 20, 1900

The Eclipse last monday morning fully came up to expectations. Some of our colored friends didn't know exactly which way to run, but finally decided that there wasn't much business going on in town and they had better go home.
Lumberton Headblock, May 31, 1900

It is pleasing to the eye to note the improvements that are being made around Camp & Hinton Mills. They are now enclosing and painting their big saw mill. Headblock, Jan.31,1901

A meeting was held last Monday night at which a number of our prominent business men were present to discuss the advisability of putting in an ice factory in this city. Several members of the Hattiesburg Ice Co. were also present. The Hattiesburg Co. propose to take a loberal share of the capital stock and it is highly probable that the remainder will be raised by our enterprising citizens and work will begin on the factory at an early date. Lumberton Headblock-Mar. 14,1901.

SHORT HISTORY OF THE GRIP

A wheeze;
A sneeze
Bones Ache;
Brains brake;
Eyes red;
Sore head;
Can't feed;
Can't read;
Can't smoke;
No joke;
Can't sing;
Ears ring;
Can't walk;
Can't talk;
Don't care;
Rip! Swear!
Take pills
Doc's bills.

Lumberton Headblock, Jan. 31, 1901

THE PROGRESSIVE STAR. First published in Purvis in the year of 1901, with Joel Holcomb as publisher and editor. He sold the printing shop to W. A. Blackburn in the year of 1905 and served as publisher until 1915, when he was killed. After Mr. Blackburn's death Mrs. Blackburn was owner and editor for several months. Later she rented to R. G. Robertson, who operated the paper a while. Mrs. Blackburn sold to John A. Yeager of Lumberton. Leo F. Blackburn was associated with Mr. Yeager. The paper was then changed to "The Booster". J. L. Thomas was publisher and editor, still is.
A. His policy is, For the people, the county and Democracy.

This issue of the Star is printed on paper made by the Southern Paper Company at Moss Point. This paper is manufactured from the waste of the saw mills at that place.
1. Always buy Mississippe made good in preference to a foreign article.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

2. Always remember that purchase of foreign manufactures ships money out of Mississippi and injuries home industries.

3. Always keep your money at home where it will do the most good.

4. Serve no foreign food on your table.

5. Mississippi corn, grown by the Mississippe farmer from Mississippi soil, ground by the Mississippi miller, makes bread good enough for the best.

6. Read Mississippi newspapers, tilled with Mississippi news, and patronize their advertiswrs.

7. Invest your savings in the leading Mississippi public service and industrial corporations.

8. Teach Mississippi womanhoom that Vïena gowns and Parsians hats are not suitable for Mississippi climate.

9. As much as possible, wear Mississippi clothes on your back, and Mississippi shoes on your feet.

10. By insisting that the Mottos "Made in Mississippi" and "Grown in Mississippi" shall determine your purchase, you promote Mississippi industries, keep employed Mississippi labor, make use of Mississippi capital, distribut at home your Mississippi money.

The Progressive Star-Oct. 10, 1914

Sumrall--Something like 15,000 strawberry plants are to be given away to the colonizers and other residents in the vicinity of Sumrall by E. A. Cummings Co. with a view of encouraging the industry in this section of Lamar County.
The Progressive Star, May 20, 1916

LAMAR COUNTY

THE AVERAGE LAMAR COUNTY FARM IN 1920

It has 81.6 acres of which 40.6 acres were in forest; 15.5 unimproved; 23.05 acres were cultivated and 2.45 acres were idle. The cultivated land was used as follows:

12 acres corn--produced 13.8 bushels per acre.
2.1 acres hay--produced 9 tons per acre.
.59 acres oats, produced 10.6
.3 acres other grasses and seeds--produced 6 bu. per acre
.66 acres cane--117 gallons per acre. 1.1 acres vegetables--valued at $216.55
6.3 acres cotton produced 154 lbs. lint cotton per acre.
The average farm sold dairy products worth $75.40
Poultry--$21.40
Wool--$7.03
78.4% of the farms were operated by owners.
21.6 of the farms were operated by tenants.

The Booster, March 13, 1924

OLOH COMMUNITY PLANS TO BEAUTIFY SCHOOL GROUNDS

Dr. McKay, State Horticulturist of A. & M. College will arrive in Purvis the evening of March 24. The day of the 25th will be spent in conference with the Oloh citizens who are interested in planning with Dr. McKay for beautifying the School grounds. These grounds are to be made a demonstration in this county. (The Booster, March 20, 1924)

Among the new subscribers for light service from the Municipal Light Plant are the county court house, county jail, teachers home and Lamar County A. H. S.

The Booster, April 10, 1924

COUNTY SUPERTENDENT DISAPPROVES SHORT HAIR FOR TEACHERS

Mr. T. L. Williamson states that he lays it down as a rule to be followed by him in contracting with teachers for the fall term, that no woman with bobbed hair can with his approval,

teach in the rural and consolidated schools over which he has supervision. His position in this matter is that he will refuse to sign a contract with any woman whose hair at the time is bobbed. The Booster, June 5, 1924

Just after reaching his home here last week, Sam E. Woods, Superintendent of Civilian Rehabilitation in Mississippi, was cherred by the report from Jackson that the legislature had voted the allowance for support of the work to supplement the amount paid by the Federal Government. Mr. Woods is quite active in this work and appears to be happy in viewing the results of aiding cripples to become self-supporting. Several cases he mentions are interesting in showing that if given right direction and some small help, many can earn their living who have heretofore been wholly dependent. He tells of a crippled man for whom he has recently secured a cork leg, going now into poultry business with good prospects of success. He also mentions Douglass Crutherds, a cripple at Bond who has 500 chickens he plans to sell as broilers.

Mr. Woods is constantly hunting up cripples and aiding them in getting cured or into some profitable vocation.
The Booster, April 3, 1924

The best way to find your missing kinfolks is to get rich.
The hard things about making money last is making it first.
Love makes the world bend and park in the lane.
Lots of people think the worl owes them five or six livings.
Being popular doesn't leave much time for making real friends
The Progressive Citizen, Dec. 15, 1927

COTTON ELEVEN INCHES HIGH MAY FIFTH

From his cotton field just South of Purvis, Miss. , Dr. L. L. Polk, Monday May 5th, gathered some of his cotton plants measuring 11 inches high which he sent by Mrs. L. L. Polk, to show some friends in South West Texas that by early planting proper culture, liberal fertilization, the cotton plant may be pushed for early maturing in this section of southeast Miss.

Dr. Polk specializes in cotton, that being his only crop, though tenants on his place plant other crops. He has 25 acres planted in cotton this year and he is using on the land 12 tons of fertilizer. He plans to use around 1,000 lbs. per acre on other land and will use 1500 lbs. on an acre as an experiment. He now has an ample supply of Calcium Arsenate on hand and is daily expecting the arrival of a power distributor to be used for combatting the ravages of the boll weevil.

Though using cotton as his annual crop, Dr. L. L. Polk has one of the best developed pecan orchards to be found in this section when age of trees is considered.
The Booster, May 8th, 1924

Christopher C. Barefoot, a country raised boy, who when near the age of 21 years entered the third grade at Pine Grove Rural Public School, Lamar County, has forearded the associate editor of the Booster an invitation to be present Tuesday evening, May 27, 1924, to witness the exercises attending the conferring of degrees and the delivering of diplomas at the State Teachers College, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Mr. Barefoot graduated from the college some time ago, but

afterwards took Post Graduate work and has qualified for the degree which will be delivered him Tuesday night.

The value of education and what a "country" boy may do, if ambitious, is well shown by the achievements of Christopher C. Barefoot. Though beginning school when nearly old enough to vote, he became studious and his upward progress has been steady. Lamar County is justly proud, when it comes to recognize as sons such as Christopher Cl Barefoot.

The Booster, May 22, 1924.

III. OUTSTANDING EDITORIALS

a. Unusual News Items.

A Purvis special of the 6th to the Picayune says "Will Purvis, the notorious White Cap, surrendered to the sheriff here this morning. It will be remembered that Purvis was resentenced to be hung, last Dec. and a few days before the day of his execution, his friends over-powered the guard, broke into the jail and spirited Purvis, away and although a large reward was offered him, no trace of him could be found. He says he has been but a few miles from the place since his escape, part of the time has been dressed as a female and has frequently been close enough to be easily recognized had he not been thus disguised." As soon as Gov. McLaurin received official notice of Purvis's surrender, he telegraphed the sheriff to bring him to Jackson as his sentence would be commuted to life imprisonment. A. G. Russell, Sr Editor.

Free Press, March 12, 1896

J. L. Hill was arrested Wednesday night by Sheriff McLellon

at his house 7 miles from Purvis, charged with murder and arson. The prisoner was locked up in the county jail, pending trial. An effort will probably be made to get him released on writ of habeaus corpus. TheRrecord can give no detail, further than that the crime of arson for which Hill was arrested in the alleged burning of McLeod and Calhoun stores a year and a half ago. The mysterious alleged murder was the killing of a negro named Civil Springer about three years ago. His brother Willis Hill now in the Penetentiary for the same crime is indicted.

The Headblock, Dec. 20, 1891

During the noon hour two youthful bandits entered the First National Bank of Lumberton, Miss., forced three officers and employees together with three customers into the bank vault gathered up what cash they could find and fled in a waiting automobile.

The youths were neat appearing and had the aspect of ordinary professional men as they camly walked into the bank, and with drawn weapons crowded the officals and customers into the vault. The victims were instructed to lie down and were warned against giving any alarm. The bank officials and employees were: L. C. Pigford, vice-President, H. N. Bishop, Cashier, and Miss Elizabeth Hutto, employee. The customers were, W. A. Slocomb, Mrs. A. B. Sumrall, and Miss Frances Guy. They were locked in the vault.

City Marshall, W. P. Tatum and deputy Kelly, responded to the alarm when given to them, and the news were quickly spread

over Lamar County and adjoining counties.

A posse has been hot on the trail of the bandits from the start and once within sight of them and saw them change from a chevrolet to an old model Studebaker sedan. As this paper goes to press, they have not as yet been caught, but officers are still on their trail. It is reported that they were last seen Near Mobile, Ala. and they were probably headed for Birmingham, Ala. There is strong hope that they will be overtaken befor many hours.

The loss suffered by the bank is estimated at from four to five thousand dollars. The bank is fully protected by insurance.

The Booster, Feb. 26, 1932

B. Unusual Social Items

The suggestion in the Booster of last week that everyone in Purvis sell his hammer and buy a horn seems to be striking a popular cord. It is now suggested that under the direction of the newly organized Chamber of Commerce that at an early date in July there be declared a holiday for Purvis at which the hammer and blowing the horn shall be celebrated. In speaking on this proposal, two of the officers of the Chamber of Commerce said that the plans comtemplated a womewhat unique ceremony.

First the most dilapidated vehicle obtainable in Purvis will be used to convey a large hammer to the place of interment hereafter to be selected. The hammer lying in state before the assembled crowd shall be orated upon by some select Mississippi orator. After the"dead" hammer has been lowered into

a grave by the mayor and board of aldermen, acting as pall bearers, every Purvis and Lamar County citizen present shall be asked to "cast a clod". By this means it is planned that the hammer shall be completely hidden and that there shall go up the wish that never again shall such a "community fear" arise from the grave in Purvis. Following the ceremonial of burying the hammer a highly decorated float shall be rushed up on which there shall be a large horn enshrined in National colors and resting beneath "Old Glory". When America has been sung, an announcement made everyone in the company present who has or can find a horn shall be asked to "blow ye the trumpet". It has been suggested that this ceremony can be made an interesting civic event of the whole year if everyone will take it up with enthusiasm and turn out to swell the crowd at the proposed funeral.

The Booster of June 18, 1925.

The following taken from the Lumberton Headblock

AN ENJOYABLE EVENING

A number of invited guests repaired to "Millview Place", the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Haynes, last Thurs. evening to have a "good time generally", under the hospital roof and to witness the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Haynes' cook, Mattie Moberly, they having consented to have the ceremony take place in the dinning room. Mattie and her dusky lord, feeling about three times as big as they really were, because they were being married in the "white folks house", appeared in due time and in the presende of the crowd were made one.

The wedding over, a novel andhighly enjoyable feature in

the program was introduced. Tt was a proposal contest, Mr. J. T. Williams was the winner in the contest, which gave him the privilege bf proposing to any young lady present. "Billy" wasn't long in exercising his privilege, and at once poured out his heart's desire to Miss Alma Gray. This charming young lady, unable to resist the persistent wooing of the gallant beau, ggve her consent, and "Rev" Fred G. Camp, was summoned, who in the following well chosen and appropriate words, "united" these happy souls:

Wilt thou take this form so fair,
This powdered face and frizzled hair,
To be thy wedded wife?
Wilt thou dress her up in finest style,
And keep her from all labor vile,
Lest her dainty hands should "sile",
As long as thou hast life?

I WILL

Wilt thou take these stocks and bonds
This brown-stone front and diamonds
To be thy husband dear?
And wilt thou in his carriage ride,
and o'er his lordly home preside,
And be divorced while yet a bride?

I WILL

Then I pronounce you man and wife,
and, with that I have together
"jined"
The next best man can run away
Whenever he a chance can find.

AMEN.

Those present spent a most delightfuf evening, and expressed regrets when it was necessary to take their departure.

C. Odd Advertisements

Send it in.

If you have a bit of news,

send it in,

Or a joke that will amuse,

Send it in.

A story that is true,

Send it in.

An incident that is true,

Send it in.

We want to hear from you,

Send it in.

Never mind the style,

If the news is worth while, it may help or cause a smile,

Send it in. Booster, Dec. 2, 1926

A new brand of chewing tobacco is called "Mississippi Girl" and dealers are advertising that it is "always the best". That is the correct estimate of the Mississippi girl. Whether you take her in the natural leaf, fine cut, twist, plug or stingy-green. Lumberton Headblock, July 23, 1890(Clarion Ledger

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We expect to throw the doors of our new Big Red Store, open for March 3oth. We extend a cordial invitation to all to call and see our new goods. We can truthfully say that we have the nicest, largest, and cheapest line of goods ever opened in this section. Call and see for yourselves. Hinton, Barnes and Bethune. Headblock, Mar. 28, 1891.

C. Fires.

Fire at one o'clock Sunday morning destroyed the main building of the Lamar County Agricultural High School at Purvis, and cremated a Louisiana student, Jerome Stevens, of Chesbrough, La. Several students were hurt in their efforts to escape; among the number was Jess Brunton of White Bluff,

whose bruises are not regarded serious. Principle J. J. Dawsey received asprained leg and other bodily injuries. Several Marion County youths are attending the institution and the first news of the fire caused anxiety in several homes.
The Columbian, Marion County, June 17, 1918.

Purvis was swept by the most destructive fire Monday night that has ever occured in that town. When the merchantile business of Hand-Jordan and of Pylant Brothers were completely destroyed by fire.

It is thought that the fire started from a defective flue in the Hand-Jordan buildings, between the ceiling and the roof, and for the lack of ventilation had burned for some time before the flames broke through the ceiling into the store. The alarm was given in a little after eight o'clock and in a few minutes almost the entire town was on the scene and doing everything they could to save the buildings, realizing that if the store burned it would burn the Pylant Bros. store which joined it. Two lines of fire hose were connected to the water mains and streams of water were poured onto the roof and from underneath, and if the fighters could have gotten sufficient water in the attic the fire would have been extinguished.

It was seen that the city equipment could not cope with the situation and calls were sent out to Poplarville, Lumberton and Hattiesburg for help, all of who responded with men and equipment, the Hattiesburg truck arriving about 10:45 and was the first one on the scene, and immediately went to work to get the fire under control, but met with the same handicap as the local citizens. However, they no doubt would have con-

fined the loss to the Hand-Jordan building had not the water supply given out about 12:30.

After the water had been exhausted it was seen that the Pylant building was doomed and attention was then directed on saving the Post Office building on Ohio Avenue, which was done with the aid of chemicals and water carried from private wells. A stron breeze was blowing from the southwest all during the fire and but for this fact the New Electric shop, the handsome new building on the south side of Hand-Jaordan structure, would also have been destroyed.

The Hand-Jordan building was the oldest brick building in town having been constructed between 30 and 40 years ago, but was over hauled in 1907, and an addition almost twice as large as the old structure added. When the building began it was known as the McLeod, now of Hattiesburg, W. E. Guffun, also of Hattiesburg, Mr. Dantzler and the late W. H. Magee, James Hand, and F. H. Jordan, owners. After the death of Mr. Magee in 1923 it was changed to the Hand-Jordan Company.

Bothe firms of Hand-Jordan and Pylant Bros. were among the oldest in South Mississippi and the loss of them both will be a great loss to the entire section, as they both specialized in furnishing farmers and had a trade radius of miles in each direction.

At this early date it is not known just what plan they have decided upon about rebuilding, but it is thought that they will rebuild as soon as possible. Both companies carry some insurance, but the loss will be many times that of a thousand dollars.

Many say that this destructive fire is the worst thing that

has happened to Purvis since the cyclone of 1908, when most of Purvis was swept away.

In some manner the news spread to the adjoining towns that Purvis was burnigng up and hundreds of citizens from Hattiesburg, Lumberton and some from Poplarville were on the scene by the time the flames were under headway and a ssisted in every possible way of fighting fire and removing stocks of goods, etc. from the burning building.

Everything was moved out of the Post office, Pearsons meat market, Johnsons Cafe, Highway Service station, Mrs. E. J. Murphys millinery store and John I. Cook grocery store, every one of which sustained losses in the rush of removing goods.

Citizens of Purvis are high in the praise for the assistance renaered by the adjoinging towns.
The Booster, Jan. 3, 1927.

The First Baptist church of Lumberton, Miss. was damaged by fire last Sunday night, Feb. 3, 1935 to the extent of $25,00. The fire was caused by a defective chimney, but was extinguished in short order, by the Lumberton fire Dept. The fire was discovered at 10:00 and was under control at 10:30. Fire again broke out at 2:30 A. M. but the flames were extinguished a few minutes later by R. M. Kersh and Doodle Lawson. The damage was covered by insurance.
The Booster

The beautiful $30,000.00 Sumrall Baptist church was damaged to the extent of approximately two or three thousand

dollars early Tuesday morning of this week by fire.

Residents residing near the building noticed smoke coming from the interior of the building at about daylight and immediately sent in a fire alarm. After the fire had been extinguished by firemen it was discovered the fire had started on the steps leading to the basement. Smoke and water caused most of the damage, as according to reports, practically all the seats and two pianos and other inside funniture and fixtures will be almost a total loss.

It is believed by some that a tramp had slept in the building Wednesday night and before leaving Thursday morning left a ~~pp~~igarette on the basement steps, which started the fire. Insurance sufficient to cover the damage was said to be carried.

Last night about 1 o'clock, the large store of J. A. McLeod at Purvis was discovered to be on fire, While this building was burning and the attention of the town was directed to it the large and handsome store of W. J. and J. B. Calhoun was set on fire. There is no doubt about it being the work of incendiaryas the two buildings are a long distance apart. We learn that nothing was saved and everything in the two stores was a total loss, also Dr. J. J. Dearman's neat new Drug Store was burned, being a total loss. Reports are conflicting as to insurance. All possible dilligence should be used in finding the guilty party so justice should could be administerd.
Headblock--March 29, 1893

LAMAR COUNTY COURTHOUSE DESTROYED

Fire of undertermined origin gutted the court house building at Purvis, Miss. yesterday morning at 9 o'clock, leaving only downstairs offices which were badly damaged. The fire originated in the dome of the building and by the time the local fire department reached the scene of the fire the dome of the building was enveloped in flames. At the same time of the fire there was a strong wind from the northwest which endangered the Bank and Citizens Drug Store building. The Hattiesburg Fire Department responded to the call from the sheriff for help and within 40 minutes afterthe fire was discovered a fire engine with firemen were on the scene of the fire and although local fire fighters were doing splendid work and holding the fire back to some extent, but for the help sent us by the Hub City the courthouse would have been a total loss. Lumberton sent their apparatus and they did all they could to extingusih the flames.

From observation at this time it appears that the walls of the building are intact and can be used in rebuilding as the walls are unusually thick and the firemen kept them soaked with water to the extent that they did not become hot enough to crack except at the top. The large stone columns on all four sides of the building are standing and seem to have withstood the fire without much damage. It is possible that they can be used again.

It is understood that the county Board of Supervisors were carrying $62,000,00 insurance on this building and its contents. This should be sufficient to rebuild, as although the building was to be fireproof, except the roof, this part

of the building was not, and there is where the fire seems to have started. Probably from paper and trash carried in there by rats and birds to make nests in the dome.

As this is being written it is not known just what arrangements the county board of supervisors will make for the various county offices to be quartered until the court house can be repaired. But the time being the Sheriff's office will be in the Nichols building, near the post office. The Chancery Clerk J. D. Sumrall will have his office in the Weems building just across the street from the Post office , the circuit clerk, Lacy Lott will have his office in the Weems building, formerly occupied by R. H. Hammatt and Mr. Z. A. Foshee has moved his office into the rear of the Lamar County Bank building. Thus all the most important offices in the county are located in brick buildings.

That the flames broke out when they did is very important for there was ample help soon available to remove practically all of the county records and most of the fixtures. These were moved across the street from the court house to the concrete foundation of the Hinton Motor Company building, and guards were soon placed to take care of the records for they were so valuable as to be almost priceless because many of them could never be replaced.

The Board of Supervisors will be called into session next week at which time it is understood immediate action will be taken to rebuild the Lamar County Court House. Members of the board state that the insurance will be sufficient to rebuild the building without any extra taxation whatever.

The Booster - April 13, 1934

c. Winds, Cyclones.

One of the most severe hail and windstorms experienced in many years here, struck Purvis, Miss. Wednesday afternoon about three o'clock. Hail over an inch in diameter fell for several minutes, damaging crops and buildings.
In a number of instances, it is learned, window panes were broken by the hail and several roofs were damaged by both wind and hail.

Rain in torrents followed the hail strom and terraces were broken and crops will have to be replanted in a number of places according to some of the farmers and truck growers. Rains have been exceedingly heavy for the past 30 days and farmers are already behind with their planting.

The Booster, Sumrall News and Progressive Citizen are late this week on account of damage done to the machinery and news stock, because the wind and hail damage to the roof of our office building. Last week we were delayed several hours because a freight shipment of newsprint was held up on account of high water.
The Booster, April 12, 1933.

TORNADO DEALS DEATH AND DESTRUCTION TO A LARGE SECTION OF COUNTRY.

Leaving in its wake a trail of death and destruction, with human being and dumb beasts writhing in agony and moaning with homes razed to the earth and living human beings impaled and pinioned. A cyclone swept across a part of La. and Miss. last Friday shortly after noon and the town of Amite City and Angie, La. and our sister town of Purvis, Miss. and a large territory

adjacent thereto were practically wiped off the map. The trail of the tornado from where it first struck in La. and where it left our state going into Alabama, is one broken scene of desolation and ruin. Once happy homes and little farms around which contentment reigned and are now devastated, torn and unrecognizable, their former occupants scattered about wherever the welcome hand is extended. Some are occupying the narrow confines of the tombs and others are tossing upon beds of pain and there are doubtless a good many in remote sections who have not any relief at all.

At AngieCity, La. about 18 people were killed and over one hundred injured. At Angie, La. the new and prosperous little town on the N. O. and G. N. R. the storm was again heard from killing about a dozen people in that vicinity and wounded a great many more.

The storm crossed the Columbia track of the G. S. I. Railroad a mile or two east of Baxterville, clearing out a right of way through the woods nearly a mile wide and leveling buildings in its path. The home of W. M. Raiborne, a mile or two South of the track, was completely destroyed and every inmate more less injured. From this place to the town of Purvis, a distance of 14 miles, the trail of desolation is wide and complete. Small farms along its route were laid waste, the pretty little homes scattered and their inmates killed, wounded and storm tossed.

Purvis, which was directly on its line of march, was almost completely wiped out of existence, only that portion of the town remaining habituable condition extending in

north of the court house on the west side of the street, the rest of the town being in ruins more or less complete.

At least 50 residents of thw town and its environs were killed outright and quite a number have died since, making a grave total of 64. The fatalities among the negroes were especially heavy, being in a proportion of two to one.

Purvis has an estimated population of nearly 200 souls and at least two thirds of these are rendered homeless and practically penniless by the vengance of the storm. Practically every business house on the east side of the railroad is wrecked and a majority of the homes on that side of the town were blown away.

Columbia has already contributed something to the relief of her kinfolks in distress and isn't done. Nearly $600 in money was carried to Purvis from here Sunday and two separate lots of clothing has been sent, while a large quanity of wearing apparel, bed clothing, etc. was shipped to Angie, La. and that vicinity and more will be made up. (copied from Marion County files, The Pearl River News.(1908)

Monday night, April 8, 1898, a severe wind storm destroyed several dollars worth of property in Marion county. The next heard of the devastating elements was at the place of Mr. To m Pittman, who resides six miles this side of Purvis, Miss. which we learn was almost totally wrecked. This is hard times on Mr. Pittman, as he had only recently recovered from a long and lingering illness, incident to a stroke of lighting received while at work in his field a year or two ago. We trust that the extent of damage has been chronicled and that no lives have been lost as a result of the visitation

of a Marion County twister.

Pearl River News, 1898

The Sumrall Advertiser-1912. Leo F. Blackburn,General Manager C. P. Scarborough, Editor--published Thursday.

The Sumrall News, published at Purvis with B. P. Russum editor J. L. Thomas associate editor. 1937.

Sumrall News.

Storm strikes Sumrall on Friday night. A light storm swept this section and paid Sumrall a visit, keeping many of the citizens awake and some few in storm pits for the greatest part of the night. So far as can be learned, no one was killed or injured but many trees were uprooted, fences and out houses blown down and many young chickens were drowned. In the business section of the town the roof of the porch of Lotts restaurant was badly damaged and som windows were broken in the Sumrall Drug Store. Mr. R, M. Sumrall's garage and kitchen were blown down and other damages done. Sumrall can well afford to be slighted by such storms in the future.

April 9, 1926

The Sumrall News.

THE SIGNAL

The Signal is the first newspaper ever to be printed in the Purvis School. It was organized by the Senior Class of 1927. The paper was for the school only. Each class had a reporter. The class meetings were held weekly and the reporter would write a column, telling what the class was doing. There was

a social column, business column, and a news column for each class. The officers of the paper were as follows.

Paul Young---------Editor

Francis Nimecks-------Associate Editor

Lillian Herrington-- Business manager
Misses Gead, Pylant----Faculty advisers.

The paper was printed weekly and continued to operate until 1930. Each year the Senior Class would sponser the paper.

IV. COMMERCIAL JOB SHOPS.

The Booster printing office at Purvis makes forms for-Chancery Clerks office, also phamplets for candidates, the small booklets on The Life of Will Purvis.

There are no Magazines published in Lamar County.

REFERENCE:

I. W. P. Haynes, Lumberton, Miss.
II, III.--The Papers are given as references each time.
IV. J. L. Thomas, Purvis, Miss.

Ella Crook.
Supv. Historical Research
Lamar County

1 3

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMMNT # 21 Newspapers

News Item

POPEYE FALLS IN WELL, ASSISTS IN OWN RESCUE

Popeye, the bullterrier pup belonging to the small children of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Daughdrille, must not have eaten his spinach Monday because when he fell into an old well that night he was unable to climb out by himself. The well is twelve feet deep, and under the house occupied by the Daughdrile family.

When Popeye was discovered after twentyfour hours, a clothes line was lowered to him and he did his best to hold it with his teeth, but was too weak. However, when his rescuers tied a loop in the end of the line, Popeye crawled through the loop and was drawn to the top. After being fed, he took a long nap and seemed no worse for his experience, which was bad enough for Popeye, but would have been worse for one of the children.

Ref. The Booster, Aug. 27, 1937

Ella Crook.
Lamar County Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Subject: THE BAR-- Assignment #27

Since each state must have laws or rules of action there must be some one to uphold these rules, and defend them, thus the lawyers. Following is information on the lawyers of the past and present who have practiced law in Lamar County.

1. D. M. Walker was the first lawyer to practice law in the town of Purvis, Miss. He came to Purvis from Columbia, Miss. in this section of the state. He practiced in the first courts that was held in Purvis after it was created out of the Second Judicial District of Marion County.

2. The second lawyer to practice law in the town of Purvis was F. M. Cooper, who came to Purvis from the northern part of the State in the year of 1889. He was also considered a very fine young ambitious lawyer in his time. No records available.

3. Charles G. Mason, of Purvis, Miss., Lamar County occupies a leading position at the bar of the State, and is the scion of one of the old and distinguished families of Mississippi. Charles G. Mason was born in the City of Columbia, Miss.on Feb. 11, 1867 and was there reared to maturity, having duly followed through the curriculum of the public schools, including high school after which he was matriculated in his fathers Alma Mater, the University of Mississippi at Oxford, Miss. He remained a student in this University for two years, and later continued his studies, one summer in the historic old University of Virginia. In 1892 Mr. Mason was given performent as an official, being made Chancery and Circuit Clerk of

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

II. a. H. C. Yawn--1928 Edition of the Booster

III. a. H. C. Yawn--" " " " "

b. Lucy Morehead--Purvis, Miss.

c. W. W. Cayten, Lumberton, Miss.

d.e. H. C. Forbes--Purvis, Miss.

IV. a. H. C. Forbes--Purvis, Miss.

b." " " "

c. " " "

V. W. B. Myrick---Lumberton, Miss.

b. H. C. Forbes,--Purvis

c. " " "

1-2 Lucy Morehead, Purvis, Miss.

VI. a-b-c- Lucy Morehead, Purvis, Miss.

B. 1-2 Farm Census, 1935

VII. Pauline Slade, Lumberton, Miss.

VIII. a-b 1928 Edition of Booster

c. H. C. Forbes, Purvis, Miss.

d. Record of Agricultural School, Purvis

e. Fair Catalog, 1928 Edition

IX. a-b-c Pigford's Nursery Catalog, Lumberton

D-E Lucy Morehead, Purvis

1-2-3 Mrs. R. W. Hudson, Sumrall, Miss.

Miss Ella Crook.

COUNTY SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH

PROJECT, LAMAR.

Marion County of which dual office he remained incumbent for eight years. In the meantime he had given careful study to science of jurisprudence and made himself eligible for admission to the bar of his native state, and upon retiring from office, in 1900 he engaged in the practice of law in Columbia, Miss. from which point he transformed his residence and headquarters to Purvis, Miss. In 1900, taking rank among the leading members of his chosen profession in the recently organized county and controlling county an excellent practice at his time. He was a stalwart advocate of the principals for which true democracy has ever stood exponent, his religious faith is that of the Presbyterian Church and is affiliated with the Masonic Fraternity and the Knights of Pythias. During the time that he lived in Purvis, he was considered one of the leading young lawyers. He was always ready to help those who were in need. It is said of him that he often gave part of the money he earned to the cause of God.

4. Dave Watkins practiced law in Lamar County in the year of 1898. He came to Lamar County from Marion County, Miss. He practiced in the courts with Charles G. Mason while in Purvis. Watkins was a man that was liked by all who knew him as a lawyer. He practiced here from 1898-1904.

5. Henry Mounger, Sr. was born in Jasper County, May 15, 1872. He attended the common schools and obtained a high School education. At an early age he began reading law under the guidance of Gen. T. S. Ford, of Marion County, later he took the law course at the University of Miss. where he graduated

with some special distinction in the class of 1894. After he completed his law course at the University of Miss. he located in the town of Williamsburg, with Hon. D. A. McIntosh, where he remained in the law partnership with McIntosh until in June 1896 when he moved to Purvis, Miss. then Marion County, now Lamar. On coming to Purvis, he located with his brother, E. H. Mounger, who was at this time located in Columbia, Miss. They practiced as partners, Henry living in Purvis, and Edd living in Columbia, Miss. In 1900 Henry moved to Columbia where he could be near his brother, they continued as partners until in May 1912 when Edd passed away. A year later Henry formed a partnership with R. B. Ford and he continued his work with Ford until in December 1923.

When Mounger was practicing law in Purvis he won many friends through his work. He was a man of high unquestionable character.

6. Edwin H. Mounger, junior member of the well known law firm of Mounger & Mounger of Columbia, Miss. Marion County is a native son of Mississippi who is attaining to distinction in one of the most exacting of professions, being numbered among the representative younger members of the bar of the State of Mississippi. He was born in Jasper County, Miss. July 15, 1870 and is the son of William H. and Artelissa Mounger both of them now deceased were likewise natives of Jasper County where they were reared. He secured his preliminary educational training in the public schools and was matriculated in the University of Miss. at Oxford in the law department of which admirable institution he was graduated

as a member of the class of 1896, receiving his degree of Bachelor of Laws and being duly admitted to the bar of his native state. He initiated the practice of his chosen profession by locating in the town of Columbia, Marion County, where he was for a number of years associated with his brother Henry Mounger. When he located in Columbia his brother Henry was living in the town of Purvis. They practiced together in both towns of Purvis and Columbia, having cases together in both towns. While practicing in Purvis he made the friendship of many people who will always remember the nice things that he did for them. When he passed away in 1912 the people of the eastern section of Marion County felt that they had lost a true and loyal friend.

7. Joel R. Holcomb was one of the leading lawyers in Lamar County, during the time that he practiced. He is the son of Levi and Mary Holcomb, born in Covington County, Miss. May 29, 1886. His grandfather was a prominent citizen of Marion County as originally constituted, and he represented the same county in the State Legislature in the forties.

Joel R. Holcomb availed himself of the advantages of the public schools which he attended until he had attained the age of 16 years, having in the meantime learned the art of telegraphy. He then left his home and became telegraph operator in the Illinois Central Railroad, in which he was later advanced to position of Station Agent, serving in this capacity between Canton and New Orleans for a period of three years. He then located in Arcola, Washington County, Miss. Where he became the station agent for the Miss. Valley Railroad

retaining this incumbency for four years within which time he also served as post master. The latter office he retained for four years, resigning as station agent, and also conducted prosperous general merchandise business in the town.

In the fall of 1895 Mr. Joel R. Holcomb came to Purvis, Miss. where he established himself a general merchandise trade in which he continued for two years. He has ever shown loyal interest in affairs of public nature and has been prominent in the loyal ranks for the Democratic party. In 1900 he was appointed tax collector for the second Judicial District. In the fall of 1900 he entered the law department of Millsaps College at Jackson, Miss. where he completed his prescribed course, being duly admitted to the bar of his native state, graduating in the class of 1901. He built up a large and representative legal practice in the courts of Lamar County, as well as the Federal Courts.

In 1900 he became editor of one of the leading papers in the eastern section of Marion County, the paper was known as the Lamar County Record, prior to his organization of the paper it was known as the Marion County Record. When Joel R. Holcomb died at his home in Purvis, Miss. he was missed by his many friends. He was first representative of Lamar County.

8. J. J. Massey served as treasurer of Lamar County from 1912 to 1916. He was admitted to the bar while in office and left this county in 1921 for Kansas to practice law there. He died in Kans. in 1934. No other record available.

9. G. G. Yeager practiced law for a while in Purvis in 1904. No other records available.

10. T. E. Salter was born in Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Miss. He came to Purvis, Lamar County in 1910. Until 1915 he was in the firm of Salter and Hawthorne. Later he went into partnerhsip with John Cooper. During the time that he was practicing law in Lamar County he made a record in the law department that will be remembered by those with whom he worked. He was a member of the Purvis Baptist Church. He died at his home in Purvis, in 1916.

11. Buren Broadus is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Broadus. When he was five years old his parents moved from Covington County to Jones County. He entered school in this county and received his early education here. He completed his course in Agriculture High School in Harrison and prepared for his professional career in the Mississippi Normal College, Hattiesburg, Miss. In 1912 when only 20 years of age he became assistant principal of the Hickman Consolidated School in Harrison County, Miss. He was here for two years and then took charge of the Victory Consolidated School in Lamar County. Two years later he was made principal of the Tuxachena Consolidated School, acting in that capacity for 3½ years. In 1919 he was elected County Superintendent of Education of Stone County. Under his expert administration the schools of that county were brought up to a high standard. In appreciation of his work he was re-elected in 1923. He was admitted to the bar in Lamar County.

12. William Myers Colmer, one of the leading attorneys of

Jackson County, Miss. is practicing in Pascagoula and before entering the legal profession had won success in the educational field. He was born in Moss Point, Miss. Feb. 11, 1890 and his paternal ancestors were from German lineage.

William Colmer attended the public schools of Moss Point, Mississippi, McHenry and Gulfport, Mississippi and his academic education was received in Millsaps College in Jackson Mississippi. He lived for a time in Howison, Mississippi and in 1912-13 he was principal of the D'lo high School. During the scholastic year of 1913-14 he was hall master at Millsaps Prepatory School and from 1914-17 was Superintendent of the Lumberton High School, Lamar County. Meanwhile, Mr. Colmer had devoted his leisure hours to the study of law and was admitted to the bar in Lamar County, Dec. 18, 1916. In the same year he began the practice of his profession in Pascagoula and his ability soon won recognition, resulting in his election to the office of County Attorney of Jackson, County in 1918.

He has since held that position and has built up a reputation which stamps him as one of the leading trial lawyers of this section of the state, making a record which shows him to be a staunch friend of the people. The prestige which Mr. Colmer enjoys as a public prosecutor has won for him a liberal clientele and in the conduct of cases submitted to his care he has won many notable verdicts. He is also connected with business activities being financially interested in the Pascagoula Realty & Rental Co., a large and prosperous corporation.

In 1917 when our country entered the World War, Mr. Colmer joined the Y. M. C. A. Workers with whom he was associated for three months, and next assigned to duty in the Quartermaster Corps, subsequently becoming regimental sergent major in the Judge Advocate Generals Department. He is a faithful member of the Methodist Church and his political views are in accord with the platform and principles of the democratic party. Mr. Colmer belongs to the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, The Rotary Club, Masonic Order and the Benelovent Protective Order of the Elks. He was admitted to the Bar in Lamar County in December 18, 1916., ordered, adjudged and decreed by O. M. Russell, Chancellor judge of 10th Chancery Court District.

13. David Broadus, was born and reared in Lamar County.after finishing his education he was admitted to the bar in 1923 and practiced law here until 1927 then moved to Beaumont, Tex. where he is now Junior partner of the law firm of McCall and Broadus.

14. Levi Grantham is the son of Ebb Grantham of Burnt Bridge Community. He was reared in Lamar County admitted to the bar here. He is now practicing law in Hattiesburg, Miss.

15. Otho Huddleston was admitted to the bar to practice law in Lamar County on January 27, 1900.

16. Oliver C. Hunt was a past lawyer in Lamar County. Like others that came here from another county to practice law, he made many friends during

his stay in Lamar County. Oliver C. Hunt was mayor for the town of Purvis for a number of years. During his term as mayor he did many things for the up-building of the town of Purvis.

17. J. W. Davis of Lumberton was a past lawyer in Lamar County He was connected with the firm of Yeager and Davis. He came to Lamar County in 1904. He was considered a very highly educated lawyer, made may friends and was a prominent citizen in the town of Lumberton, Miss.

18. R. G. Robertson came to Purvis, Miss., Lamar County in 1912, from the northern part of the state. He practiced law in Purvis from 1912-18. During the time he was engaged in the practice of law, he was assistant editor of a local newspaper, "The Progressive Star." In the latter part of 1915 he became editor of the "Progressive Star", for which he was editor, until 1918 when he sold his business to J. L. Thomas, another editor of a local paper. During the time he was engaged in the practice of law he made many friends who regretted to see him move away.

PRESENT DAY LAWYERS

2.

1. J. E. Cooper came to Lamar County in 1904. Was appointed County Attorney in 1911 by Gov. Noel. He served until 1912, was elected by vote and served until 1916, was elected again in 1924 and served until 1928. He is still practicing law in Lamar County.

2. Honorable W. J. Hatten was born in September 20, 1872, one mile above Black Creek near the Bob Lott Bridge in Marion county, now Lamar County. When he was two years old his father moved his family to Covington County near Richmond where they lived for two years.

He attended public School near New Hope and finished High School in New Hope Academy. Being a poor boy and wanting to study law, he would walk for miles to borrow law books to study. When he first grew into manhood he lived in the State of Texas for two years. He would attend courts when possible and studied law some. He studied law at home for twenty years and in 1914 he was admitted to the bar. In 1935 he ran for District Attorney and was defeated, but being defeated he had the whole town of Sumrall, his home town, for him.

Mr. Hatten is a member of the Sumrall Baptist Church, also a 32nd degree mason and a member of the Odd Fellow. He has done great work in a religious way for the town of Sumrall and surrounding communities.

Although Mr. Hatten faced many hardships and had high hills to climb, he has reached success. He is 64 years old but is still a young man practicing law and giving his citizenship to his town and country. He is one of Sumralls and Lamar County's best law abiding citizens.

3. Hon. John A. Yeager was born in Toomsuba, Lauderdale County, Miss., in 1882. He attended the public schools of his native county and the Zion Seminary but did not pursue his academic education further, registering with the American Correspondence School of Law. He completed his three

year course in 1909 and passed the bar examination before Judge T. A. Wood in New Augusta, Perry county, Mississippi. He first located for practice in Seminary, Covington County, and his first public office was that of Mayor of the municipality. Mr. Yeager came to Lamar County in 1910 and won success as a journalist and from 1914 until 1921, inclusive, edited and published the Lumberton Headblock, a weekly newspaper. While thus engaged he wrote and published a full account of the famous case in which William Purvis was convicted of murder and sentenced to hang, but at the drop the prisoner's life was spared and he was committed to prison. Years afterward it developed that he was innocent of the crime for which he had been convicted, and Mr. Yeager's articles describing the case was copied by many magazines throughout the country. As a legislator he introduced and secured the passage of a bill awarding Mr. Purvis five thousand dollars in cash as a measure of compensation for the punishment unjustly inflicted upon him.

In November, 1915, Mr. Yeager was elected representative of Lamar County in the Mississippi Legislature and at once become recognized as one of the most able and useful members. In his campaign he advocated the calling of a constitutional convention, the passage of a rural credits law, the preservation of Mississippi's old capitol building, and opposed any change in the jury system. During his first term he was a member of the following committees: judiciary, appropriations, local and private legislation, public printing fees and salaries, and municipalities, acting as chairman of the last

named. He was re-elected in 1919 and 1923 during each session he served on those important committees. From 1920 until 1923 he was chairman of the judiciary committee. In this capacity he audited the books of the various state institutions, including the East Mississippi Insane Asylum, the Agricultural and Mechanical College, the South Mississippi Charity Hospital, the State Normal College and the University of Mississippi. He took a most important part in the legislation for the preservation of the old state capitol in the session of 1916 and has championed many measures which have found thier way to the statue books of the state, proving of great value to the commonwealth. He has the courage of his convictions and his public service has ever looked beyond the exigencies of the moment to the opportunities and possiblities of the future, exhibiting at all times a zealous and watchful regard of public rights.

Mr. Yeager is a democrat and a forceful figure in political affairs, serving as presidential elector for Mississippi in the national election of 1924. He is affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church, South and lay leader of his church. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity . An able exponent of the legal profession and possessing the statesman grasp of affairs, Mr. Yeager enlists his talents as readily for the public weal as for his own success, and his record as a public official and as a private citizen is an unblemished one, earning for him the respect and admiration of all, who have been brought withing the sphere of his influence.

He served Lamar County as representative from 1915 until 1932, at which time he made a record that will always be remembered by the many friendsof him. During the time he was representative he made all of his campaigns by financing his own personal expenses, with the exception of 26¢ that was given him by one of his close friends at a Cafe, this man wanted to contribute something toward his campaign so he paid for his dinner.

4. Thomas Wilmer Davis was born February 10, 1876 on a farm seven miles West of Purvis, Miss. then in Marion County, now Lamar. His parents were natives of Mississippi.

Mr. Davis's opportunity to attend school was very limited until he was nineteen years of age. He had been devoting his time to farm and turpentine work in an effort to assist in the support of a large family of seven brothers and three sisters. At the age of nineteen he attended public school at Bine Grove, in Lamar County and later attended Purvis High School for one year. At this time W. F. Bond, who was later State Superintendent of Educationn for a number of years, was in charge of the Purvis High School. Mr. Davis then taught in the rural schools of Perry County for eight months and then entered Poplarville High School which he attended for two and one-half years and from which he receoved a diploma in May 1901. He taught in the public schools until September 1903, when he became assistant Superintendent of the Purvis High School, which position he held until April 1904. At this time Lamar County was created out of the Second Judicial District of Marion County and a part of Pearl

River County and he was appointed the first County Superintendent of Education of Lamar County, by Govenor James K. Vardaman. He was elected to that position by the people in that County a month later and re-elected in 1907 and served in that capacity until January 1912. Many improvements were made in the public schools under his supervision and the public schools of the County reached a high standard of efficiency. Numbers of small schools were consolidated, modern new school buildings erected and a curriculum prepared and adppted, out-lining the work to be done in each grade each session. He was given deep thought to educational problems and is responsible for the creation of county agricultural high schools in Mississippi. He suggested the plan to Superintendent J. N. Powers. The idea was taken up by the leaders in the educational field and at the 1908 Session of the Mississippi Legislature a bill was drawn embodying his idea of a County Agricultural High School and its enactment by th e Legislature marked an area in the educational progress in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi has become noted for its fine agricultural high Schools and the system has proven very affective in promoting the development and utilization of the rich farm lands of the State and the idea has spread to other States.

During the timeMr. Davis was County Superintendent of Education, he attended several summer sessions of the A. & M. College at Starksville. Also, during his term of office, he took a correspondence course in law, devoting his evenings to study. He successfully passed the bar examination and was

admitted to the practice of law on April 18, 1912. He began his professional career in Purvis, where he has been located every since. He was admitted to practice in the State Supreme Court and the Federal District Court in 1915, in the Circuit Court of Appeals in 1916 and in the United States Supreme Court in 1920. Mr. Davis has enjoyed an extensive practice and has been engaged in some of the most important litigations in the State during his time.

He has appeared before all of the different courts numerous times, including the Supreme Court of the United States, the highest court of the land. His professional services are in much demand and he numbers among his clients many of the poorest and most humble people of his County and some of the largest firms doing business in South Mississippi. He bears a high reputation for veracity and fair dealing. While devoted to the interest of his clients he never forgets that he owes a still higher allegiance to the majesty of the law. He has given notable stimulus to legal, educational and social progress in Mississippi and his life has been a constantly expanding force in good citizenship.

Mr. Datis is a Democrat by rearing and choice. His parents and grandparents were Democrats before him. He served as Chairman of the Democratic Committee of his County for sixteen years. On several occasions he has been a delegate to the State Democratic Convention. He is pre-e miently loyal and public spirited in matters of citizenship.

He served the town of Purvis as Mayor from 1913-17; Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the A. H. S. for more than sixteen years; served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Purvis Separate School District for a number of years; was a member of the County School Board for four years. During the World War he was Chairman of the Legal Advisory Board for Lamar County; a member of the Red Cross Committee and Chairman of the Speakers Bureau for Red Cross Work and the sale of Liberty Bonds, devoting much of his time during the War to these services. He has been an active Deacon in the Purvis Baptist Church for more than twenty years; has served as Superintendent of the Sunday School and teacher of the Men's Bible Class; is a member of the Purvis Masonic Lodge, a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner. In 1931 Senator H. C. Yawn resigned to become State Treasurer. Mr. Davis was elected without opposition to the State Senate from the Fortieth Senatorial District, composed of Lamar, Pearl River and Handcok counties. While he held this office only a short time he accomplished much good for the people represented. He introduced and succeeded in passing an amendment to the statewide stock law which permitted cattle to use the open range again in the southern counties of the State of Mississippi and also succeeded in getting an act passed which allowed advalorem taxes to be paid in three installments.

Mr. Davis is a member of the State Bar of Mississippi and a member of the American Association.

5. J. T. Garraway, native born Mississippian, lawyer and staunch Democrat of the Jeffersonian type, was born on a farm in Perry County sixty-three years ago. He was brought up in excellent surroundings and finished his school course at Augusta High School, which was, in that day, very prominent. Afterwards he took up the study of law, along with his other duties, and in 1905 was admitted to practice law, every since which time he has been an active practitioner of the bar. Mr. Garraway has always been known for his honesty and courtesy to those with whom he comes in contact. He has made an enviable record in criminal law, and his forceful and tireless work in his profession has made an indelible mark in the progress of his county.

Mr. Garraway is known to all throughout the circle of his acquaintances as a broad-minded, conservative, public-spirited man of exceptional ability and untiring energy. Relying upon the dictates of his conscience, he has always been known to do the right thing at the right time. His father, who was John W. Garraway, a pioneer settler, married Jane Dearman, the descendant of another well-known pioneer family in the history of this country. The many noble principles and public spiritedness possessed by these two well knwon pioneer families was inherited by Mr. Garraway.

Mr. Garraway, known to all his friends as Trav. is noted for his wit and humor, and has always lived close to nature and Nature's God. He is a great lover and admirer of his many friends, is a member of the Methodist Church, a Mason and Knights of Pythias, and takes an

active part in all public affairs, having served the town of Purvis as Mayor for five terms in succession, three times over strong opposition. He was County Prosecuting Attorney for Lamar County from 1920 to 1924 and Attorney for the Board of Supervisors for several years. He is, at the present time, Mayor of his town and an active practitioner of the Bar.

6. Leroy Clifford Bridges, one of younger members of Lamar County bar, has made rapid progress in a most exacting profession and owes his success to thorough preparation, hard work and a natural apitude for the vocation of his choice. He was born December 18, 1895 in Yazoo County, Miss.

Leroy Bridges attended the grammar and high schools in Yazoo City, Mississippi and in 1914 was graduated from the Castle Heights Preparatory School in Lebannon, Tenn. He was a student at the University of North Carolina for two years and in 1916 entered the University of Mississippi, which in 1918, conferred by the spirit of patriotism, Mr. Bridges offered his aid to the nation, enlisted in the United States Naval Reserve Force. From July 1918 until July 1919 he was on active duty at the Gulfport station in Mississippi and was then placed on the inactive list. He was in Civil Service until August 1921, when he was honorably discharged from that department and from the navy and in the same year began his professional career in Gulfport, where he practiced under his own name until 1923. On March of that year he became a member of the law firm of Davis Wallace & Yeager of Purvis and Lumberton, Miss..

He was elected County Attorney and served from 1928

until 1934 , then this office was abolished.

7. Albert Quitman Broadus was born in Covington County near Collins, Miss. December 29, 1881, being the third child of M. H. and Demaris Broadus.

Before Albert Quitman was grown his father, who was a Baptist Minister, moved to Lux, north of Hattiesburg, where the family lived until the subject of this sketch was twenty-one years old.

He attended High School at Union the year he was twenty-one and later completed his high school work at Wiggins, Miss. and afterwards attended South Mississippi College. While in High School, Mr. Broadus won the medal in both the debating and oratorical contest.

At the time Mr. Broadus was finishing his high school course and taking special work in college, he would teach in the public schools during the summer months and in this way earn money with which to attend school in the fall and winter. He taught in public schools in Lamar County from 1905 to 1911, with the exception of 1909, when he was editor and publisher of the Lumberton Head-Block of Lumberton, Miss.

In 1911 Mr. Broadus was elected County Superintendant of Education of Lamar County, which office he held for two terms and until January 1920. He studied law while County Superintendent of Education and was admitted to the Bar on December 29, 1916 at the age of 35.

Mr. Broadus has resided in Purvis since January 1912, and after the expiration of his office as County Superintendent he has been engaged in the general practice of Law.

He was a member of the Local Draft Board of Lamar County during the World War and since that time he has held a good many commissions and offices of Honor, Trust and Responsibility. During the year 1917 he was appointed by the Govenor as a deligate to the National Deep Water Convention that met at Pensacola, Fla. For years Mr. Broadus has been Chairman of the Board of Deacons of the Baptist Church, He is a Mason, having served his local Lodge as Master for two terms and a member of the Order of The Eastern Star, being a past Worthy Patron.

Mr. Broadus is widely and publically known as an author, having written a number of prose and poems that have been largely published and read,among which are: "Lucky Fall", "Grape Vine Swing", "The Titantic", "An Old Bachelor", "A Cherished Phantom" and "When Shakespear and I dug up Poe".

Mr. Broadus enjoys the reputation of being a good lawyer. In 1931 when Judge Langston, Circuit Judge of this District, died, Mr. Broadus, together with five other aspirants were candidates for the office of Circuit Judge, and while Mr. Broadus lived in the most thinly settled county of the District, which county was in the remote part of the district, and while he lost, he got a greater per cent of the votes in his county than any Candidate, except probably Hon. G. Wood McGee.

8. Hon. T. L. Williamson was admitted to the bar in Lamar County in June 10th, 1914. He is widely known in his law practice. He was elected County Superintendent of Education in Lamar County in 1920 and served in this capacity until 1932.

9. Hon. Jesse W. Shanks is a member of the Lamar County Bar. He is 31 years old, having lived practically all his life in Lamar County. He graduated from the Sumrall High School and later was graduated from Millsaps College. While attending school in Millsaps College he took the prescribed courses in political and economic science. While there he represented Millsaps in the Intercollegiate Debates for three years. After completing his college course he taught school for a number of years. He was a poor boy and wanted a high school education so he sold peanuts during this time to get money to pay his school expenses. While attending college he waited on the dining tables to pay his expenses. He has worked in pickle stations, saw miles, pipe lines and on construction jobs. He was a candidate for County Representative in 1935 but was defeated

10. Hon. T. W. Davis, Jr. is the son of T. W. Davis, Sr. He is the only son of the family, born in Purvis. He received his grammar school education in the Purvis Graded School, and High School in the Lamar County A. H. S. He then took a four year literary course at Mississippi College at Clinton from which he graduated. Then he finished law school at the University of Mississippi. After graduating from this institution he came to Purvis where he is associated with his father in the law firm of Davis & Davis. They are the attorneys for the County Board of Supervisors. T. W. Jr. deserves much credit for his work in the law department of Lamar County.

11. Clyde Scarbrough was admitted to the bar and is practicin law in Lamar County.

II. None

III. POLITICAL POSTITIONS HELD BY LAWYERS, PAST, and Present.

T. W. Davis--The first County Supt. of Education for Lamar County was appointed by Gov. Vardaman in 1904 when Lamar County was first created, later was elected by vote and served until 1912.

In 1931, State Senator H. C. Yawn resigned as Senator to become State Treasurer. T. W. Davis, Sr. was elected to fill this unexpired office, which was one year. He is now attorney for the County Board of Supervisors.

J. E. Cooper--County Attorney was appointed by Gov. Noel in 1911, elected by vote in 1912, served until 1916, was elected agai n in 1924, served until 1928.

Toxie Hall--District Attorney for about 28 or 30 years.

John A. Yeager--County Representative, 1915- 1932.

A. Q. Broadus--County Supt. of education from 1918-1920

T. L. Williamson--County Supt. of Education from 1920-32.

Leroy Bridges, County Attorney from 1928-34. This office was abolished by vot in 1934.

J. T. Garaway--County Attorney 1920-24.

J. R. Holcomb--was the first County Representative from this county, was appointed by Gov. Vardaman in 1904, later was elected and served until 1910. He was appointed tax collector for the 2nd Judicial District in 1900.

C. G. Mason--Attorney for Board of Supervisors in 1904.

C. G. Hathorne--Chancery Clerk in 1904.

T. E. Salter--Attorney for Board of Supervisors, was appointed by the Board.(now Deceased)

J. J. Massey--Treasurer of Lamar County 1912 to 1916. Was admitted to the Bar during this time. He left this county in 1921 for Kansa and died there in 1934.

Names of Present Day Lawyers of Bar.

1-T. W. Davis, Sr. Purvis, Miss.

2- T. W. Davis, Jr., " "

3- John A. Yeager, Lumberton, Miss.

4. J. T. Garraway, Purvis, Miss.

5.-A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.

6- E. D. Coleman " "

7-Leroy Bridges, " "

8-Jesse Hatten, Sumrall, Miss.

9- Jesse Shanks, " "

10- T. L. Williamson, Purvis, Miss.

11. J. E. Cooper, " "

12. Clyde Scarborough, Sumrall

13- Fleet Hathorne, Lumberton, has law office in Poplarville, Pearl River County, Miss.

Reference:

1. Sam Slade, Lumberton, Miss.

2. James Hand, Purvis, Miss.

3. Miss. by Dunbar Rowland

4. George Thompson, Baxterville, Miss.

5-6. Heart of the South, Dunbar Rowland, Vol. III.

7/ " " " "

8. A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.

9. Minutes of the Circuit Court

10. A. Q. Broadus, Purvis, Miss.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

References; Continued

11. A. Q. Broadus, Purvis

12. Miss. Heart of the South, Dunbar Rowland, Vol. III

13. A. Q. Broadus

14.15, 16. T. W. Davis, Purvis

17. 18. Lucy Morehead

2. Present Day Lawyers.

1. Special Edition of Booster, 1935.

2.-3-4- Miss. Heart of South, Rowland, Vol. III.

5. " " " "

6- " " " "

7- A. Q. Broadus, Purvis

8-Lucy Morehead

9-Special Edition of The Booster, 1935

10.-11. T. W. Davis, Sr.

III. Political History of Lamar County, Special Edition of The Booster, 1935

Ella Crook.

County Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Supplement to Assignment #27, Subject: The Bar.

The State of Mississippi, Second District of Marion County. Be it remembered that a regular term of the Hon. Circuit Court in and for the Second District of Marion County State of Mississippi was began and held in the House store house, the building selected by the Hon. Board of Supervisors of said County for holding said court situated in said term of Purvis on the 3rd Monday the 17th day of June A. D. 1889, being the time and place designated by law for holding said court. Present the Hon. I. H. Terral, Judge of the second Judicial Circuit Court District of Miss. , James M. Neville, Esq. District Attorney for said District, W. J. Cowart, Sheriff of Said County and A. G. Webb, clerk of said county, C. G. Mason, Deputy Clerk of said court.

The following named persons having been duly selected by the Board of Supervisors of Marion County to serve as Grand Jurors of the present term of this court, and having been summoned and examined touching their qualifications and found qualified to serve as such jurors and are impaneled as a Grand Jury to wit: J. T. Carley, C. W. Rich, S. F. Collins, J. T. McCrew, B. F. Buckhalter, John G. Pace, J. D. Bryant, J. T. Lott, Bart Watts, M. O. Pace, Charles Slade, Paris Ladner, J. R. Rankin, C. A. Batson, Thomas Barroughs, S. M. Beall, of who the court appointed J. T. Carley to be foreman of said Grand Jury. And J. T. Carley was then and there in open court in the presence and hearing of his fellow grand jurors, duly sworn according to law, as such foreman and the others of said Grand Jury are then and there duly sworn as

such Grand Jurors in the presence and hearing of their foreman and of each other and said Grand Jurors are then charged by the court touching their duties and they retire to consider of presentments and indictments in charge of W. M. Hartfield who is sworn as their Bailiff.

The following named persons who have been summoned to serve as grand jurors at this term of court for sufficient course, or by the court excused: S. E. Johnson, J. M. Hartfield, B. F. Rawls, I. G. Grantham.

The sheriff returned into court the Venire Facias of persons drawn to serve as Petit Jurors at this term of court to wit: They are, Orange Watts, John L. Boone, J. J. McArthur F. J. Register, H. G. Stuart, Erasmus Housely, Lewis Kendrick, Thom Watts, L. P. Davis, Thomas Stuart, George S. Cook, Cullen Davis, I. D. Hartfield, E. L. Ford, John Fillingame, Leonard Smith, W. A. Barrett, D. P. Stuart, W. L. Anderson, George Beall, Harvey Byrd, J. L. Hatton, J. P. Register, J. L. Aultman, J. E. Rawls, D. M. Stuart, Nathan Slade, John R. Sumrall, Thomas Lott. Of these the following were of the court for good and sufficient cause shown excused to witness, F. J. Register, Leonard Smith, J. R. Sumrall, E. L. Ford, Harvey Byrd, Thomas Lott, and the jury so selected summoned and appearing and each and all examined touching their qualification as jury and were found to be qualified, and there upon two juries for the week were duly and legally impanelled and sworn to wit: Jury No. 1, Orange Watts, H. G. Stuart, John Fillingame, J. D. Register, John L. Boone, Erasmus Housely, J. L. Hatton, J. P. Davis, J. J. McArthur,

Lewis Kendrick, Thomas Watts, H. L. Simmons.

Jury No. 2. J. L. Aultman, J. E. Rawls, D. M. Stuart, Nathan Slade, Thomas Stuart, Georg S. Cook, Cullen Davis, A. D. Hartfield, W. A. Barrett, D. P. Stuart, M. L. Anderson, George Bealle/

No. 1. Mississippi Lumber Company

Vs.

Abraham Cowart

Copied from General Circuit Docket Book A., Lamar County Courthouse.

Ella Crook.
County Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #27, THE BAR

1. John E. Cooper

Born December 12th, 1874, in Neshoba County, Miss. Reared on a farm, attended country schools, and worked on farm when not attending school, At about the age of 18 years attended Louisville, Miss. High School; attended said school three years, or terms, teaching in the school certain classes. Afterwards taught two four months schools, one in Neshoba, the other in Kemper County, still farming ~~thru~~ in the interrim.

Studied law in the office of Judge A. M. Byrd at Philadelphia, Miss. procured license to practice, but went back to the farm and farmed several years, Moved to Purvis, Miss. in 1904 and took up the practice of law. Was appointed County Prosecuting Attorney of Lamar County, of which Purvis is the county site; was elected County attorney in August 1911 for a four year term; was re-elected for another four year term; was out one term, and again elected 1920-1924. Was appointed Enumerator to assist in taking the census of 1930.

2. T. L. WILLIAMSON.

Honorable T. L. Williamson was admitted to the bar in Lamar County in June 10, 1914. He was admitted to practice law by D. M. Russell, who at that time was Chancellor Judge of the 10th Chancery District. He was elected County Superintendent of Education in Lamar County in 1920 and served in this capacity until 1932. During the time that he was in office he accomplished many things

along the educational work, things were on a boom and it was easy for him to carry out some of his plans. First, brick school buildings were built, the first one being built in Okahola in 1922, second teachers homes were built, third-small schools were consolidated into the larger schools, fourth schoolx trucks were used to transfer the school children to school. He made necessary plans and arrangements for the rural boys and girls to attend the Lamar County Agriculture High School, located at Purvis without any extra cost. He arranged for those who wanted to attend this school by seeing that they could be given some work on the farm for the boys, and in the kitchen or office for the girls. Many boys and girls have finished this school during the time he was county superintendent that otherwise would not have had the opportunity to complete high school education. After he left the county office he began to practice law in the town of Purvis, where he has made a good record in the law department.

Ref. 1-John Cooper, Purvis

2- Lacy Mgrehead, Purvis

Ella Crook.
Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT # 24

Health

I. Epidemics

Paralysis Peak at Hand, thinks Doctors. Early decline in Poliomyelitis cases seen for Lamar County.

The Doctors are combating poliomyelitis as much as science points the way. All children under twelve years of age were quarantined for several months in Lamar County.

There have been 18 cases reported to the State Board from County of Lamar up to present date, Aug. 31, 1937. Seven sent to State Clinic at Jackson and put in cast and returned home. Others were sent and treated but were not put in cast.

Everyone has been urged to use the anti-paralysis spray as recommeded of Board of Health. No deaths have been reported in Lamar County.

Ref. J. N. Mason, C. H. O.

Ella Crook.

Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUBJECT: HEALTH - Assignment #24

I. 1. Mississippi's first Board of Health was organized in the year of 1877 but its work did not show practical effect in Lamar County until 1910 at this time the work became more systematically organized in the county.

2. None from Lamar County.

3. Present State Board of Health.

J. W. Lipscomb, M. D.--Columbus, Miss.
S. E. Eason, M. D.------New Albany
L. B. Austen, M. D.-----Rosedale
B. J. Shaw, M. D. ------Slate Springs
Dudley Stennis, M. D.---Neuton
H. L. McKinnon, M. D.-- Hattiesburg Miss.
W. H. Frezell, M. D.---Brookhaven
John Darrington, D. D. F. A. C. P.---Yazoo City
William R. Wright, D. D. S.---Jackson
Felix J. Underwood, M.D. F. A. C. P.--Jackson
J. W. Lipscomb, M. D.---President
Felix J. Underwood, M. D. Secretary

None from Lamar County has ever been a member of the State Board of Health.

II.a. Yellow Fever , 1878.

This epidemic of Yellow Fever did not affect Lamar County.

b. Smallpox, 1900-1901.

In the year of 1900-1901 there was an epidemic of small-pox in the state of Mississippi. As the present

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Lamar county was then in Marion County, there was quite a few cases of smallpox in the eastern part of Marion. Dr. Larkin was the county health officer for Marion County so he had quite a problem to face during the epidemic of samll-pox. In the year of 1900-1901 Dr. Larkin appointed Dr. L. L. Polk of Purvis to help him work as co-worker in this part of the County. There was a case of small-pox reported in Purvis, they built a test tent near Beaver Dam. They put all the people that were exposed to the smallpox in this tent so that the disease would not be spread. Dr. Larkin would visit these patients about twice a week and discuss the progress that they were making toward the prevention of this disease. He would usually come to the tent in his buggy, sometime on horseback. He and Dr. Polk were very successful in their work for they did not lose a patient.

In Sumrall, Miss. Dr. Larkin appointed Dr. Joseph R. Anderson of Epley, Miss. who was at this time surgeon for the Mississippi Central Railroad to help him as a co-worker in Sumrall. They built the test tent just outside the town limits. They had eight cases of small-pox in this tent. Dr. Anderson would look after these patients and Dr. Larkin would come visit ~~these patients~~ them about twice a week for he had to travel in the buggy and it would take him a day to make the trip. Besides these cases at Purvis and Sumrall Dr. Larkin was kept busy with the duties in Marion County. Dr. Larkin deserves much credit for his work in the eastern section of Marion County, which is now Lamar

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

During the fall of 1903 there was an epidemic of small-pox at Lumberton and Lumberton authorities had quarentined and employed guards. The expense was some $200 or $300. The authorities at Lumberton requested Pearl River County to reimburse them this amount. The Board of Supervisors had the authority to pay the bill, but they declined to do so and this refusal brought about rivalry between the two towns. Lumberton people asked to become a part of the newly created county of Lamar.

Smallpox has been eliminated from Lamar County by vaccination . We find in old records how the County Health Department has controlled small-pox epedimics in the county in the past . Records are as follows:

I, S. E. Reese, C. H. O. make this report for the month of August: the month of August was a busy one. I made four trips to Baxterville, vaccinated something like 450 people in all, for small-pox. Controlled the smallpox epidemic without any new cases developing, although there had been hundreds exposed to it. I have the school children in Baxterville all vaccinated. So they may go ahead to school without delay on account of smallpox. Made one trip to Corinth, vaccinated some of the children there, also to Greenville and vaccinated 250 there, have been able to prevent 350 cases of smallpox at the expense of a few cent each to vaccinate parents saving the lives of 15 people.

The small-pox was an epidemic we had near Lumberton this last spring. There was no delay in getting the doctor and nurses on the field, to quarantine the cases all ready prevalent

and also exposed patients, and give the proper vaccine or preventive. Medicine for keeping this malady from scattering in these particular cases of small-pox the county paid for vaccines over $2,000. During the past we have been paying $15,000 for the doctors fee and over $5000 per year for medicine and vaccine. This was in 1925.

Small-pox was in Lamar County in 1931. All school children were vaccinated by Dr. Mason, C. H. O.

2. Yellow Fever is caused from a poison carried and communicated by a diseased mosquito. Every precaution is taken by the county health department, Doctors, Nurses, and citizens of the county for the prevention of yellow fever; by screening houses , draining ditches, ponds and hauling off old utensils that hold water as well as spraying.

In July 1905 the first case of Yellow Fever reported in Mississippi was an Italian refugee at Lumberton. The man was screened from possibility of infecting mosquitoes and no other case occured. At Sumrall there was the same experience. Several cases were reported at various points from time to time, which were malarial and the immediate investigations by experts conveyed on special trains by the Railroads prevented panics. The genuine disease was diagnosed at Mississippi City and Dr. Charles Le Baron was put in charge as State Health Officer.

4. In 1918 Influenza was a pandemic disease in Lamar County. It spread so rapidly there was no means of control--other than to treat cases and symptons as would arise.

It took its toll of death in the county. We have no

records of exact death roll. Many were left with bronchial trouble and T. B. Everywhere we can still see the effects of the flu epidemci of 1918.

III. In Lamar County a full time health department was organized April 1, 1925. Since then a general public health program has been carried on in the county. Every precaution is taken for the prevention of malarial, such as screening for flies and mosquitoes, draining ditches that might raise mosquitoes, etc. Vaccines are given for small-pox, typhoid, and diptheria to any one that wihes to take it. The county health department is striving to raise the health standard among the people of the county by distribution of literature and health charts, lectures in the schools, pictures and home visits. The people are being taught the principles of healthful living and the control of contagious disease.

No epidemics have resulted in the County since the organization of the full time health work. The morbidity rate for typhoid fever, small-pox, dyptheria, yellow fever and other communicable disease that can be controlled by sanitation and vaccination have been markedly reduced, practically stamped out.

Personnel--Dr. J. N. Mason, C. H. O. and Miss Wilma Tulis, C. H. N., two helpers, Lillian Waltman, Nannie Lee Williamson.

IV. SANITATION

Sanitation is one of the most essential phases of the public work in health, and special emphasis has been placed on excreta disposal, screening elimination of mosquitoes and flies and their breeding place and improving public and private water supply in Lamar County.

Dairy barns are visited and examined every three months. The examination is made according to cleanliness of buildings and utensils, screening, must be fly proof and then examination of the personnel, as to cleanliness and health conditions. Cattle are examined for T. B. and ticks. The milk is graded.

Storage plants are examined as to cleanliness and screens, and the personnel as to health and cleanliness.

There is only one fruit stand in Lamar County, located in Purvis. It is well screened and sanitary.

Grocery stores are inspected as to buildings, examination of operators, and all food handlers. This applies also to meat markets, hotels, restaurants, soda fountains and slaughter houses. Most of the markets in the county butcher in the open, under shady trees, where flies are not numerous. They buy the stock and kill them on the farms and haul them into town covered with a white cloth. There is one that is in the county that is screened and protected according to health rules. It is located about four miles west of Purvis and is used by several markets.

Water, in the towns of Lumberton, Purvis, and Sumrall, is inspected and analysis made every three months. The tanks are drained once a month.

Excreta disposals. The Health department of the county are putting forth every effort to supply all rural homes with sanitary toilets, with concrete risers and slabs and to make them fly proof in every respect. This work in the County is greatly aided by the W. P. A. Having built several hundred in the county since the W. P. A. has been in effect. All schools in the county are supplied with sanitary toilets, according to specifications.

There are no swimming pools, tourist or scout camps in Lamar County. Garbage control is handled by annual clean-up weeks where all garbage on the premises is cleaned up and hauled away in trucks.

Flies are controlled by screens, cleaning up of grounds, spraying, etc.

Mosquitoes are controlled by screening, draining of ponds, ditches and all stagnate pools. Public service places are inspected as to cleanliness and screening.
V. Infant and child hygiene conferences are held during the spring and summer months. Lectures are given, literature distributed, physical examination of children, attention is called to the defects and reccomendation for correction is made, records are made and kept of each child. Parents are impressed with the importance of making these corrections.

Nurses visit and hold conferences with maternity cases frequently. Literature is placed in the home, the county helath officer visits these cases, general physical examinations are given as to blood pressure, urine analysis, etc.

The death rate of mothers, according to account by Dr.

K. N. Mason, C. H. O., has been greatly reduced in recent years.

a. Infant mortality. Eight infants up to the age of one year died in 1936.

b. Expectant mothers are given general physical examinations, reccomendations made as to pre-natal treatment. They are instructed as to diet, rest, exercise, etc.

3. Visits are made to the schools and the children's teeth are examined every year, reccomendations made. Parents and teeachers are informed as to the general mouth conditions of each child. Literature is distributed. The teachers are given lessons on mouth Hygiene, suitable for each grade. They are also given charts to encourage cleanliness of the teeth. Thus-the children are taught the importance of forming the habits of properly caring for the teeth in early childhood.

VI. Tuberculosis control.

Suspect cases are examined, if found to be tubercular are sent to santorium. There are 4 T. B. cases from Lamar County in the State Sanitorium now. Ones who cannot be sent to the sanitorium sleep in a screened room, given diet and rest. Also precaution is taken as to sanitation.

VII. Communicable diseases, control.

Since organized public health work owes its origin to the control of preventable disease this feature of the work is still recognized as one of the most important phases of an adequate health program.

Considerable work has been done in Lamar County along

these lines of special sanitation, epidemology and immunology, laboratory diagnosis and other particulars of the control of communicable disease. The public heâlth of the countians is safe-guarded by immunzing every susceptible individual against every communicable disease to which he is not immune and for which we have dependable and potent immunizing agent as serum and vaccines.

VIII. Accidents and Accidental deaths.

During the year of 1936 there were 2 deaths by automobile accident, two by train, and two by homicide in Lamar County. Neither of these deaths were caused from intoxication.

IX. a. At the present time there are only seven doctors practicing medicine in Lamar County. These are:

Doctor Joseph Anderson, Sumrall, Miss.
" Marion Clark, " "
" R. R. McNease, " "
" John A. Mead Tatums Camp
Dr. D. B. Stephenson, Lumberton, Miss.
Dr. L. L. Polk, Purvis, Miss.
Dr. D. J. Dubose, Purvis, Miss.

b. There are now nine trained nurses in Lamar County. They are as follows:

Mrs. Emma Murphree, Purvis, Miss.
Miss Wilma Tulis, C. H. N. Purvis, Miss.
Miss Callie Patton, Purvis, Miss.
Mrs. Ben Earl, Purvis, Miss.
Mrs. Florine Ulmer, Purvis, Miss.

Miss Callie Engle, Lumberton, Miss.

Miss Mildred Morrison, Lumberton, Miss.

Mrs. Wilma Lenoir(not working) Lumberton, Miss.

Mrs. Bank Beall(not working) Lumberton, Miss.

c. There is one hospital in Lamar County, The Lumberton Hospital, located at Lumberton, Miss. It is owned and operated by Dr. D. B. Stephenson. Has standard equipment, equal to that of any of its size in the State.

X. 1Dr. B. N. Alsworth(deceased) was one the first doctors in Lamar County. He was a man who was fairly well educated and had studied medicine for a while prior to the Civil War. At the beginning of the War he joined the Army, while in service he served in the Medical Core, nursed and assisted the doctors in base hospital.

After the war he moved to the section of the country, now Lamar County. He practiced medicine in the county until his death in 1929. During the latter part of his life he specialized in the treatment of cancers, also ran a drug store. He did much for the welfare of the people of the county.

He enjoyed relating war time stories, and would live over the "War days" and whip the "Yankees" again.

2. Mrs. Francis Peters--formerly Miss Stella Slay, sister of Dr. Slay of Purvis, Lamar County. She resided here for a number of years.

She served her country overseas as a trained nurse, Evacuation Hospital No. 6, was sent to Coblenz to take over a German Hospital in the Army of Occupation. From the following story, "The Biggest Moment of My Life", Mrs. Peters

won $10.00 in a contest in the American Legion Magazine. as:

"While giving an anesthetic to a doughboy for a minor operation for appendicites, I discovered that my patient was not breathing, had no pulse and was deathly white. I said, 'Colonel, stop the operation, the boy is dead, and I have killed him with chloroform. Oh, I thought I had a can of ether and instead I had a can of chloroform.' The Colonel said, 'You have killed him indeed.' We lowered the head of the table, gave him artificial respiration and other restoratives. Feeling that I had killed a doughboy by giving the wrong anesethetic I was unable to stand on my feet or do any more for him. I dropped on my knees by his bed and felt his pulse once more. Imagine the big moment in my life when I felt a tiny pulse. In a few minutes we knew that he would live. The boy slept through the night, but I was looking after him awake, went down into the shadow of death with him and lived over the happy moment of his return to life."

3. Mrs. Emma Murphree was born in Jackson County, later moved to Marion County, the section of which Lamar County was created. She attended school in Purvis, Miss. took her training for nursing at Charity Hospital, Vicksburg, Miss, received her diploma in June 1910. Following her graduation she was elected as head nurse in the Biloxi Health Resort. She only worked here six months, resigned to do private practice with Dr. H. M. Folker, who was the leading doctor in Biloxi at that time and owner of the Health Resort. In 1912 she

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she accepted a place as nurse in charge of the first hospital in Del Rio, Texas. She only worked here six months, then returned to Mississippi to do private nursing again. 1923-1924 she worked in Lumberton for several months at the Lumberton, Hospital. She worked as a special nurse and for several months was supervisor of nurses in the hospital. She came to Purvis, Miss. and worked at private and did office work for Dr. S. E. Reese. She served as nurse ah Pearl River Junior College, Poplarville, Miss. for two years 1929-31 and gave this up for private nursing.

"More than all I love and appreciate my work in the rural homes and small towns, where the doctors and nurses stand on their "own feet" and not honor from a sister or brother doctor and nurse."

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2-3 Dr. J. N. Mason, C. H. O. Purvis.
II. 1. a. Mississippi--Dunbar Rowland
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c. Dr. J. N. Mason
2. Mississippi by Dunbar Rowland, Vol II P. 1020-21.
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V. " " "
VI. " " "
VII. " " "
VIII. Records, County Health Office, Purvis
IX. Dr. Polk, Purvis.
a-b. Dr. Anderson, Sumrall
c. Dr. D. B. Stephenson
X. A. Q. Broadus, Purvis.
2. American Legion Magazine
3. Mrs. Ima Murphree

Mrs Ella Crook.

Supervisor Historical Research

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #24 Health

In 1931 Small-pox broke out among the negroes of Tatum Camp, Lamar County. It was brought in by a transient darky. Twelve cases were contracted, all cases being bad. One aged negro died. Two cases were in Purvis, none in the other towns. These cases were isolated, all white people being immediately vaccinated, thus preventing any outbreak of the dread disease among them.

The C. H. O., Dr. J. N. Mason with the assistance of his brother, Dr. Geo. Mason, vaccinated all the negroes in the County. Some of the were unwilling to be vaccinated, but with threats, coaxing, etc. they were eventually innoculated. The danger passed, with only the one death.

Ref. Dr. J. N. Mason, C. H. O.

Ella Crook.
Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Subject: RE: ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

ASSIGNMENT #29

1. ORGANIZATIONS***---

HISTORY OF MASONIC LODGE IN SUMRALL

The present Masonic Lodge of Sumrall, Miss. was organized at Richman, Mississippi, four miles north of Sumrall in February 1899 with the following charter members: Dr. J. J. Bethea, Graham Robertson, M. F. Watts, Bart Watt, Presley Watts, A. S. Miller, P. M. Bynum, J. S. Lambert, G. W. Aultman, J. M. Graham. Dr. J. J. Bethea and Mr. Graham Robertson are the only charter members that are living today.

This lodge was moved from Richman, Miss. to Sumrall in 1907. Two years after moving to Sumrall it was destroyed by fire, which was in January 19, 1911; the Lodge was then carried to the present site in 1917.

Ref. Mr. R. M. Sumrall

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

b. EASTERN STAR

Eastern Star in Sumrall, Miss.

1. The Eastern Star was organized in October 25th, 1919. The following members were the charter members: Mrs. Rebecca Scott was Worthy Matron, Br. G. W. Davidson, Worthy Patron. Later this Eastern Star was named the Everett E. Eaton Chapter in honor of the late Dr. Everett E. Eaton.

The present officers are now serving the organization: Mrs. Jeffie Temple is the present Matron, Mr. Henry Barett, Worthy Patron.

History of Dayle Chapter No. 72,
Order of Eastern Star, Lumberton, Miss.

2. On March 3, 1910 a group of Master Masons, their wives, mothers, daughters and sisters, desirous of organizing a chapter of Eastern Star, met at the Masonic Hall, situated in the Bank Building, and with the assistance of Grand Worthy Patron, J. D. Meadows of Meridian, Miss., established Dayle Chapter No. 72. The order being named for Dayle Hinton. The following are the charter members:

R. W. Hinton
Etta Hinton
Elizabeth Hinton
Dayle Hinton
Ruth Hinton
Nellie Lide
Florence Lide
J. R. Nason
Lillian Nason
M. M. Anthony
H. C. Yawn
Fannie Yawn
W. P. Haynes
Mary Haynes
Beulah Rice
Mollie Hinton
W. L. McIntosh
Mary McIntosh
C. O. Stevens
Ida Stevens
J. H. Minor
Ida Minor
Mattie Carothers
Jennie Williams

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

The first officers were appointed by the Worthy Grand Patron and were as follows:

Sister Fannie Yawn	Worthy Matron
Bro. J. R. Nason	" Patron
Sister Ida Minor	Associated Matron
" Ida Stevens	Conductress
" Ruth Hinton	Asso. Conductress
" Dayle Hinton	Secretary
" Florence Lide	Treasurer

B
Brothers H. C. Yawn, R. W. Hinton, Jr., and Sister Marietta Hinton were appointed the committee on By-Laws.

Regular meetings were the first and third Tuesdays of every month. The dues were one-dollar and fifty cents a year and initiation fee five-dollars ($5.00).

In 1911 the officers were re-elected except Mr. Carothers was made Worthy Patron to take the place of Mr. Nason. A motion was made and carried to fine each member a fee of twenty-five cents for failure to attend regular meetings without good excuse.

Some of the wording of the minutes was very interesting for example, candidates were initiated into "The mysteries of the order" and the meetings adjourned in "Due and ancient form, peace and harmony prevailing."

On November 11, 1911, J. F. Howard was initiated into the order and while not recorded in the minutes, it is remembered that he was given an extra degree at the hands of five of the women members after the close of the chapter and this was appreciated by all present. Sollars---being of a very elaborate design. It was used by the chapter for several years.

In 1912 the same officers were re-elected--Sister Fannie

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Yawn, Worthy Matron, and Brother Carothers, Worthy Patron.

In 1913 the officers were as follows:

Sister Ida Minor	Worthy Matron
Brother H. C. Yawn	" Patron
Sister Ruth Hinton	Asso. Matron
" Mattie Carothers	Conductress
" Jennie Willis	Conductress
Brother R. W. Hinton, Jr.	Secretary

Sister Fannie Yawn, Past Matron, was presented with a past Matron's pin.

In 1914 we find the following officers:

Sister Ruth Hinton	Worthy Matron
Brother J. W. Williams	" Patron
" C. T. Carothers	Secretary

We find this year a record of the first school of Instruction with Sister Lottie Armistead, Worthy Grand Matron, of Greenville, Miss., present and Sister Greer of Hattiesburg, Miss., District Deputy Grand Matron, and Brother Harry Hosner of Greenwood, Miss., Worthy Grand Patron, present. After being drilled in "Examination of Visitors","Initiating Candidates" and other work of the order addresses were given by the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron and a reply was made by Brother H. C. Yawn--all of which was enjoyed by all present. Bill for place cards was presented at the next meeting. Eight members were added during this year and ten ($10) dollars was donated toward liquidating Grand Chapter Dept.

In 1915 we find the following officers:

Sister Mattie Carothers	Worthy Matron
Brother R. W. Hinton, Jr.	" Patron
Sister Fannie Yawn	Secretary

In March of this year the chapter donated One Dollar and Fifty cents to each of the three chapters on account of fire destroying

their halls--Philadelphia, Scooba, and Webb. The District Deputy Grand Matron, Sister Greer, visited the chapter in November--the chapter having to bear her expenses which was two($2.00) Dollars. In December the Chapter donated twenty dollars ($20) to the Masonic Homes.

In 1916 we find the following officers:

Sister Jennie Williams	Worthy Matron
Brother J. H. Minor	" Patron
Sister Devall	Secretary

The Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Annie Burkle, visited the Chapter in February. Brother Morris was elected honary member of Dayle Chapter No. 72 on March 6, 1916.

Sister Fannie Yawn of Dayle Chapter No. 72 was appointed District Deputy Grand Matron at meeting of Grand Chapter and Brother H. C. Yawn was elected Grand Patron of the State of Mississippi, Order of the Eastern Star.

In 1917 we find the following officers:

Sister Florence Lide	Worthy Matron
Brother Ed McIntosh	" Patron
Sister Jennie Williams	Secretary

On March 15th, the District Deputy Grand Matron, Sister Allie Cornell,and Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Bertha Scales visited the chapter.

Brother Robt. Hinton, Jr., was sent as delegate to attend the dedication of the Masonic Chapel at Meridian on November 7, 1917.

In 1918 we find the following officers:

Sister Fannie Yawn	Worthy Matron
Brother J. H. Miner	" Patron
Sister Ida Miner	Secretary

One member was added to the order this year.

District Deputy Grand Matron, Sister Sue Waller, and Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Mittye Grayson, visited Chapter in January.

In 1919 we find the following officers:

Sister Ethel Potter	Worthy Matron
Brother R. W. Hinton, Jr.	" Patron
Sister Ida Miner	Secretary

Charter was draped in honor of Brother J. F. Wilder, Past Worthy Grand Patron.

District Deputy Grand Matron, Sister Sue Waller, and Worthy Grand Matron, Sister Nannie Allen, visited chapter in April.

In 1920 we find the following officers:

Sister Etta Hinton	Worthy Matron
Brother A. S. Hinton	" Patron
" D. D. Bounds	Secretary

During this year we see all names written as Sister and Brother instead of Mr. and Mrs. as heretofore. In December of this year nine petitions were presented and out of this number four Worthy Matrons and one Worthy Patron came--Sister Lelia Guy, Sister Lera Hurlbert, Sister Margaret Henderson, Sister Ella Crook and Brother A. M. Hinton. The second death of any of the members occured during this year, that of Sister Elizabeth Hinton. Brother R. W. Hinton, Jr., reported the organ sold for thirty-five ($35.) dollars.

In 1921 again we find in the East:

Sister Fannie Yawn	Worthy Matron
Brother J. W. Williams	" Patron
Sister Jennie Williams	Secretary.

It was this year that we equipped our first kitchen in the old Masonic Hall. The Secretary was also allowed one ($1) Dollar per meeting and dues for services rendered..

In 1922 we find the following officers.

Sister Mamie Hinton	Worthy Matron
Brother H. C. Yawn	" Patron
Sister Lera Bishop	Secretary

During this year the present organ was bought and thirty-seven members added to our Chapter roll, the greatest number to be enlisted in one year. This is the year our town began to prosper on account of the large saw mill established here.

In 1923 we find the following officers:

Sister Mary Roberts	Worthy Matron
Brother H. B. McInnis	" Patron
Sister Onita Henderson	Secretary

This year finds Sister Angie Nichols of Purvis, Miss., District Deputy Grand Matron, and offering to visit our chapter and give us instructions about the work when needed.

In 1924 we find the following officers:

Sister Leoria Pettibone	Worthy Matron
Brother H. B. McInnis	Worthy Patron
Sister Jennie Williams	Secretary

This year fifteen candidates were initiated into the order and four by affiliation. Fifteen $(15) Dollars was given to Christmas charity. The Christmas Charity Committee reported twenty-one baskets given and forty-nine helped.

In 1925 we find the following officers:

Sister Velma Hinton	Worthy Matron
Brother A. M. Hinton	" Patron
Sister Mary Jacobs	Secretary

~~Brother H. C. Yawn presented a handsome United States Flag to~~
There were sixty-two members that paid dues at the December meeting and thirty at the January meeting. There were twenty-three members initiated into the order this year. The chapter was called on to conduct the funeral ceremony of Sister

Lillian Coburn, Irene Chapter No. 414, Mystic Iowa, who was stricken here as a member of a travelling troup and died some months later.

In 1926 we find the following officers:

Sister Margaret Henderson	Worthy Matron
Brother H. H. Hinton	" Patron
Sister Mary Chapman	Secretary

This year we find the members hard at work to finance the furnishing of the ladies' parlor, dining room and kitchen of the new Masonic Building in the course of construction----serving the Rotarians lunch and the Worthy Matron making a house to house canvass securing subscriptions to Holland's Magazine.

Twenty-two members were added to the roll this year. In July of this year the dues were raised from one dollar($1.00) and fifty cents to three dollars ($3) and the initiation fee from five dollars to ten dollars.

December finds us settled in the new Masonic Building. A School of Instruction was held and lunch served in the new dining room. Brother H. C. Yawn in a few well chosen words expressed appreciation of the splendid leadership of Sister Henderson, Worthy Matron and the splendid work accomplished. A dispensation was granted by Sister Nellie McGowan, Worthy Grand Matron of Mississippi, on November 30, 1926 to move into the New Masonic Hall.

In 1927 we find the following officers:

Sister Leila Guy	Worthy Matron
Brother G. H. Robertson	" Patron
Sister Jennie Williams	Secretary

Brother H. C. Yawn presented a handsome United States Flag to the chapter, a gift from Mr. James Henderson

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Twelve members were added to the Chapter this year and forty ($40) dollars made by the Worthy Matron securing subscriptions to the Hattiesburg American.

In 1928 we find the following officers:

Sister Lera Hurlbert	Worthy Matron
Brother J. T. Jacobs	" Patron
Sister Lillie Trotter	Secretary

This year the dues were reduced to two dollars ($2) and the initiation fee to Six Dollars ($6), as we had finished the task for which the dues and fee were raised. Nine members were added to the chapter. The grounds around the Temple were beautified by the planting of shrubbery this year and the dinning room was screened. Sister Roberta Archer, Worthy Grand Matron of Mississippi, visited the Chapter on October 31, 1928.

In 1929 we find the following officers:

Sister Ella Crook	Worthy Matron
Brother P. E. Norris	" Patron
Sister Mabel Norris	Secretary

Altar was draped in memory of Brother Jim Hill, Worthy Grand Patron of Mississippi, on August 5, 1929.

This year the chapter served lunch again to the Rotarians to secure funds for buying kitchen utensils.

Sister Angie Nichols, District Deputy Grand Matron, held school of Instructions in our hall on October 31, 1929.

Ten members were added to the Chapter this year.

In 1930 we find the following officers:

Sister Lillian Jacobs	Worthy Matron
Brother H. B. McInnis	" Patron
Sister Mabel Norris	Secretary

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Ten members were added to the chapter this year.

In 1931 we find the following officers:

Sister Addie Sanders	Worthy Matron
Brother Pruitt Tatum	" Patron
Sister Ruth Robertson	Secretary

Three members were added to the chapter this year. The closing of the big saw mill and the general depression causing a quiet year. The burial of Sister Alice Folker was held on September 10, 1931.

In 1932 wex find the following officers:

Sister Lola Sanders	Worthy Matron
Brother J. T. Jacobs	" Patron
Sister Ruth Robertson	Secretary

School of Instructions or Group School of Poplarville, Purvis and Dayle Chapters held under Sister Ethel Ike, District Deputy Grand Matron.

Sister Ama Lee Hill was made Honorary member of Dayle Chapter this year. Altar was draped for Brother Louis A. Benoisnt.

This year our bank closed with all O. E. S. funds and check for $81.00, to the Grand Chapter not cleared, leaving us with no funds to honor check.

In 1933 we find the following officers:

Sister Mable Hinson	Worthy Matron
Brother J. T. Jacobs	" Patron
Sister Rachel Crook	Secretary

It was resolved by the Chapter in May 1933 to change our By-laws in that we not pay the secretary one ($1.00) dollar a meeting for services, but instead she is to receive for her services dues for herself and five percent of all dues collected for current year and ten percent for dues in arrears.

During this year Forty-one ($41) dollars was made by the

members of chapter selling sandwiches, ice cream and serving oyster supper. This was applied on debt to Grand Chapter.

In 1934 we find the following officers:

Sister Ruby Byrd	Worthy Matron
Brother H. B. McInnis	" Patron
Sister Anzella McLain	Secretary

On account of the depression the chapter roll was only thirty-eight at t the beginning of this year. In order to get some of these old members back into the chapter, we decided to re-instate all who would pay the 1934 dues, and were able to get some of them back. During this year our Associate Matron moved out of our jurisdiction so special dispensation was granted by Sister Josie Rankin, Worthy Grand Matron of the State of Mississippi, to elect a new Associate Matron. This took place in April.

District Deputy Grand Matron, Sister Lyndall Stevens, made official visit to chapter on July 17th.

Musical Comedy was given this year in an effort to help raise funds on debt to Grand Chapter.

This finds us at the close of the year with new members initiated into the chapter and installation of new officers on December 27, 1934.

Three members were added.

In 1935 we find the following officers:

Sister Margie Byrd	Worthy Matron
Brother H. B. McInnis	" Patron
Sister Anzella McLain	Secretary

In 1936 we find the following officers:

Sister Gertrude Bounds	Worthy Matron
Brother H. B. McInnis	" Patron
Sister Ruby Byrd	Secretary

Present officers--Mrs. Mary Jacobs, Worthy Matron
Worthy Patron--H. B. McKinis

HISTORY OF LAMAR CHAPTER 108, O. E. S,
PURVIS, MISSISSIPPI

3. (Compiled by Mrs. Angie Nichols, P. M.)

Lamar Chapter No. 108, O. E. S., Purvis, Miss., was organized Dec. 22, 1913, District Deputy Grand Matron, Mrs. Effie Gleason, of Biloxi, officiating. Mrs. Kate Tolbert was selected to fill the Worthy Matron's station and Mr. John Hartfield, worthy patron. A committee was appointed to draft By-laws, which were approved and adopted Jan. 10, 1914. The Chapter purchased necessary parahanalia, and held a number of meetings for study and rehearsal of the work. It was legally constituted and charter delivered August 1, 1914, by District Deputy Grand Matron, sister Fannie Greer, the following names appearing as Charter members: Mesdames Kate Tolbert, Julia Pylant, Mary B. Jordan, Rosa F. Gibbs, Ella Hartfield, Beulah C. Inge, Alice M. Hughes, Cordia Purvis, Stella Holleman, Marie Smith, Ozella Davis, Misses Sybil Rees, Mable Rees, and Ella Purvis, M. O. Blackburn, G. W. Holleman. Officers were installed with Mrs. Kate Tolbert, worthy matron, and John Hartfield, Worthy patron. Mrs. Ella Hartfield is the only one of the original charter members still holding membership in the Chapter.

The Chapter made steady progress and a number of new "stars" were added to the constellation, with no abatement of enthusiasm until in 1917 and 1918, when our own country entered the World War and all activity other than that associated with the needs of the Government, were threatened with suspension or complete annihilation. The Chapter was unable to hold a single meeting durning the summer of 1918, but members gladly cooperated in work of the Red Cross, and furthering the cause of the Government in every way possible.

From their meager funds they purchased a "Liberty Bond", and contributed to the Red Cross and Young Men's Christian Association.

In May 1918, the Worthy Patron, A. D. Nichols, closed out his mercantile business for the purpose of entering actual service, but being in "Class 4", could only enlist as a Reserve, and was sent to a Government shipyard, where he served until after the Armistice was signed.

The Chapter was proud of another of its members who was willing to make the "supreme sacrifice" for his country, if necessary, M. O. Blackburn entered service, and was sent overseas, where he served for almost two years, being among the last to receive honourable discharge and return home. The Chapter proudly displayed an "overseas flag" in his honor during his absence, and on his return, lovingly filed same away as a sacred relic.

Meetings were resumed in December 1918, new officers elected and installed, and the Chapter again entered an era of prosperity.

Lamar Chapter has never had the honor of having one of its members promoted to a Grand Chapter elective office, but one of its members, Sister Angie Nichols, gave ten years faithful service to Mississippi Grand Chapter by serving as District Deputy Grand Matron from 1922 to 1932, receiving her first appointment from Sister Nora Suttle, Grand Matron, and being reappointed by succeeding Grand Matrons. Sister Nichols is the proud possessor of a "Certificate of Proficiency" in the Ritual, Secret Work, Constitution, etc. She was one of the first to receive one of these certificates issued by the

Ritual Committee, and at that time the entire examination had to be written out in longhand. Mrs. Nicholas served on the Credential Committee at Grand Chapter in 1932 and Sister Lena Magee, past matron had that honor in 1931, receiving appointment from Grand Matron, sister Sue Waller.

Lamar Chapter was hostess to several successful District Schools of instruction, and exchanged visits, and conferring degrees with neighbor chapters.

An item of interest in the history of the Chapter was the conferring of degrees upon the Rev. and Mrs. Gayle C. Beanland on the night before they embarked for several years' stay in China as missionaries. They were presented a copy of the Ritual and the Chapter kept informed of their welfare for a number of years through Mrs. Beanland's father, Rev. W. M. Williams, Methodist pastor in charge at the time.

Lamar Chapter has had the golden chain of membership severed by visits from the Death Angel several times since organization, sisters Dora Saucier, Ruby Wall, P. M., and brothers A. D. Nichols, P. P., W. R. Jackson, P. P., Rev. Abner Walker and Herbert Purvis, having passed to the Grand Chapter on High.

The following have had the honor of serving in the East as leaders of the Chapter since its organization:

WORTHY MATRONS	WORTHY PATRONS
Mrs. Kate Tolbert	John Hartfield
" Rossie C. Richardson	" "
Miss Sybil Myatt	A. D. Nichols
" Marie Smith	H. Mellard
" Mary Jordan	" "
" Angie Nichols	Z. M. P. Inge
" Beulah Inge	F. H. Jordan
" Ella Hartfield	E. W. Mackey

Worthy Matrons	Worthy Patrons
Mrs. Mable Norris	E. W. Mxxkyxyx Mackey
" Jemima Garraway	A. D. Nichols
" Lillian Mackey	" "
" Ida Saucier	E. W. Mackey
" Emma Alexander	W. R. Jackson
" Ruby Wall	A. Q. Broadus
" Lena Magee	Rev. C. W. Wesley
" Maggie Shelbourne	O. W. Ladner
" Alice Purvis	J. D. Sumrall
" Pearlie Broadus	O. W. Ladner
" Inez Hood	A. D. Nichols
" Eva Ladner	O. W. Ladner
" Roberta Worster	J. D. Sumrall
" Annie Sumrall	A. Q. Broadus

Mrs. Mildred Hendrick and O. W. Ladner are the present Worth Matron and Worthy Patron.

Ref. Eastern Star

1- Mrs. R. M. Sumrall, Sumrall
2- Ruby Byrd, Lumberton
3- Mrs. Angie Nichols, Purvis

2. Social, Cultural, etc.

a. Woman's Club.

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF SUMRALL

It would be a vain attempt to trace within reasonable compass the development of the "The Woman's Progressive Clubs of Sumrall during the ten years of its existence.

The Woman's Progressive Club was organized May 18, 1927, with only eight charter members. Mrs. R. R. Hudson was elected president and has served in that capacity all these years. Today there is an enrollment of twenty members.

The Club has done much in the way of Civic Work. Home beautification, especially home gardens. Programs based on Gardens are frequently had and at present there is a "Town Beautiful" contest on. Crepe Myrtles have been planted in practically every Club member's yeard and in public grounds--this being the adapted club flowering shrubs for the town.

A sholarship was provided for at the Teachers' College in Hattiesburg, Miss. Much good has been done through the Community Chest for needy ones. Cooperation with other organizations has been a vital factor for good work. The president has won a prize for writings and the club one for Conservation.

Friendship has been the main stone of the Club. This Club is known county wide for its wonderful works. The Club is identified with the state and National Program of Work.

Ref.--Mrs. R. R. Hudson, SUMrall

WOMAN'S CLUB, PURVIS

In 1928 Mrs. H. H. Hinton of Lumberton organized a Woman's Club in Purvis, Miss. There were 9 charter members. This Club was federated in the same year as organized. The motto is "Unity-Strength-Service".

The Woman's Club has done many important things since 1928. They fixed up a Club room in the Masonic temple, with nice furniture, including a piano. They adopted a child with a club foot and sent him off to be cured. He is now completely cured.

Besides charity work, which included looking after aged people who were sick, giving christmas baskets, making layettes, etc. they beautified the neutral grounds of the town. Planted shruhbery, flowers and trees. They have a committee of General Service which looks after the work to be done.

Since the organization of the Woman's Club in Purvis the membership has grown from 9 to 24. The past presidents are as follows:

1928-1929----Mrs. O. E. Stanfield
1929-1930-----Mrs. A. D. Nichols
1930-1931----Mrs. T. W. Cooper
1931-1932----Mrs. W. L. Magee
1932-1933----Mrs. T. F. Thurman
1933-1935----Mrs. L. L. Polk
1935-1936----Mrs. B. M. Stone

Ref. Mrs. W. L. Magee, Purvis

WOMAN'S CLUB OF LUMBERTON

The Woman's Club of Lumberton was organized in August, 1922, was federated for a number of years then withdrew about 5 years ago and then began to work as a town club. They have done many things worth while, the most outstanding is the beautification of the Neutral grounds that run the entire length of Main Street. This adds much to the beauty of the town, having palms, shrubbery and flowers planted in it.

The Club Women of Lumberton have a wide and fertile field for cultivation. To elevate social and moral standards, to encourage high literary attainments and foster real ~~fantastic~~ culture. They are especially fortunate in having as powerful allies, not only the churches but the fraternal and service or Civil organizations, of Lumberton.

The Club has 25 members. They have always sponsored the Girl reserves, donating at least $10 each to them, besides spending Christmas baskets to the needy. They donated $10 to the town library.

The past presidents are:

1922-1924----------Mrs. J. T. O'ferral
1924-1925----------Mrs. D. B. Stevenson
1925-1926----------Mrs. C. S. Bingham
1926-1927----------Mrs. H. H. Hinton
1927-1928----------Mrs. H. M. Bishop
1928-1929----------Mrs. G. D. Mason
1929-1930----------Mrs. G. D. Mason
1930-1931----------Mrs. G. D. Mason
1931-1932----------Mrs. F. W. Pettibone
1932-1933----------Mrs. F. W. Pettibone
1933-1934----------Mrs. Mabel Mason
1934-1935----------Mrs. Mabel Mason
1935-1936----------Mrs. W. D. Edwins

The present officers are:

President----------Mrs. C. H. Bishop
Vice President-------Mrs. Mabel Mason
Recording Secretary---Mrs. I. H. Bass
Treasurer----------Mrs. W. H. Greer

Ref. Mrs. Ella Crook, Mrs. C. H. Bishop

c. Libraries

LAMAR COUNTY LIBRARIES

Several attempts have been made to establish a library in different parts of the county which none was successful up until the government established a library project. Except Lumberton library of which Mrs. Mable Mason was and is sole responsible.

As for the county library, in 1933 a circulating library was established under the C. W. A., Mrs. Mable Mason being County director with several assistants, she made a house to house survey circulating and collecting books and magazines.

Later Mrs. Toleda Ladner was made county director. This time a library was set up in four or five different stations throughout the county. Each station having a librarian or county assistant. Books and magazines of standard and valuable type were collected and donated. Money to buy books was made available by the library workers in the way of entertainment and different ways of making money.

Then a change was made from C. W. A. to E. R. A. Mrs. Annett Stemme was made library Supervisor over three different counties, called a district. Mrs. Stemme continued the work with success during the time the assistants were being changed now and then. Just as great progress was being made the work sailing along with speed, there came a sudden standstill.

The government changed her program from E. R. A. to W. P. A. During this time the work of the libraries were notified to discontinue work on the E. R. A. Being that each library employee was being paid by work on E. R. A. government most of them had to seek other jobs. Closing the library due to unknown cuases a

a month went by with the remaining workers carrying on the library work from two to three days a week. With some of the libraries open only a few hours a week and the rest closed the circulation and interest fell considerably.

November 1933 the new program opened as W. P. A. Mrs. Harmon Cornelius being county library director. She was given six assistants to work with. A library was stationed in each beat and two in the larger beats. With the corporation of the people and complete interest and instruction of Miss Eunice Alexandria, District library supervisor. The Lamar County Library picked up and is not at full speed.

Over 1,000 each of books and magazines are the property of Lamar County Library. When the government turns loose this project two , if not more libraries will be permanent in Lamar County.

LUMBERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Reverend Girault M. Jones married Virginia Wallace in 1930 and brought her to Lumberton, Mississippi. One of her plans for helping her husband in his work and for broadening the cultural side of life in the community, was the establishment of a library. She lived only a few months, but the idea had been born and the seed sown. Mr. Jones aided by Mr. Bissell, who was Scout Master of Troop #1 B. S. A. began the work.

The Boy Scouts worked faithfully to build shelves and to canvass the town for books that were donated. The Girls Reserve cleaned and catalogued books as they were brought in. The First National Bank gave the use of a large room without rent, and the Commercial Club gave tables and chairs.

When the library was formally opened and the latter part of March 1931, a governing committee composed of one representative from each Church and club in the town arranged for Boy Scouts and Girl Reserves to keep it open for two afternoons each week. After this became monotous to the boys and girls, Mrs. Mabel Mason began keeping it regularly and continued until the State Library Project began to function under the C. W. A. Since that time there has been some arrangement to use a paid worker in the library, and Mrs. Mattie Brooks has been kept there.

The library, which has no fund other than a small annual fee for membership, depends almost entirely upon donations for new books, but it has grown and is a source of much benefit to those who love good books, for the majority of the donations have been good. Mr. Jones has been able to interest churches and their Auxiliary organizations in the library, and books have been sent from a number of towns and cities so that at the present time, May 30, 1936, there are 1250 books in a well regulated, well kept library.

Ref. Lamar County Libraries--Mrs. Harmon Cornelius, Purvis
Lumberton, Library---Mrs. Mabel Mason

b. 4-H Club

FIRST HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK IN LAMAR COUNTY

Connie J. Bonslagel

1912-1915

First 4-H Market--all 4-H products sold wholesale, about a carload of canned tomatoes.

History of 4-H Club Work

1912-1913

Date of first Girl's Short Course--Summer of 1912

Remarks: Two Home Economic graduates from M. S. C. W. assisted with demonstrations and judging 4-H exhibits.

Date of first Rally--same as short course. Rally, short course, and fair were combined.

Date of first 4-H Leaders' meeting held once each month during the school year and summer of 1912.

Date of first fair participated in by 4-H Club members. The county court appropriated (at my request) $50.00 for 4-H girl's prizes. The first appropriation for girl's or women's work in Mississippi. Prizes for year's work cash amounting to $50.00/

Date of first 4-H Club organized, Fall of 1912.

Remarks: The rural teachers organized all clubs. 300 4-H girls enrolled.

I was Home Economic teacher in the County A H S. Was paid $100 a month with a small salary during the two or three summer months.

I was secretary of the county teachers association, met with them each month, gave them stenciled outlines or lessons for corellating 4-H club work with all subjects in the first 8 grades. Each month gave them demonstrations(the agriculture and Manuel training teachers did most of these) in building (1) seed boxes (2) hot beds (3) cold frames (4) Ash hoppers (5) Hot water

canners (6) in canning (7) clothing. Also wrote grequent letters (had franking privilege).

Sent Home Economic students to their home communities for week ends (ending Fridays to give lessons to teachers and pupils in preparing hot dish for school lunches in 6 to 8 schools. Gave the girls class room credit, if the teacher reported favorably. School all had Club Gardens. Some had tomato and pepper plants to sell. One school cleared $15.00/ Improved School won State ~~prize~~ School Improvement prize. (1st prize), teacher was elected Chairman rural section, state teachers associatin (Bertha Treen, teacher)/ When school was out I had 300 girls enrolled in 20 school which met in ten centers for canning demonstrations and club meeting. Practically all had gardens. Ordered two car loads of tin cans which were filled with vegetables and fruits.

Five sisters belonged to one club. They paid the family out of debt with the products of their ½ acre of tomatoes(½ each) Had to give up one bedroom for storage space.

Each girl was given several packages of flower seed (as well as garden seed) A gift of our congressman, and a prize offered for "an ugly spot made beautiful". Much home ground work was done in this way.

Had a domonstration garden cold frame, canning equipment and canning center in Home Economic building. Had a county meeting there.

The summer of 1913, I taught Home demmnstration methods to rural teachers, at the State Teachers college (Hattiesburg) The summer of 1914, sent to A & M College under Smith lever.

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b. Home Demonstration Work

In 1930, in June, Mrs. Margary Stuart took charge of the Home Demonstration and 4-H Club Work in Lamar County. There are no records from 1914 until then.

There are 9 clubs scattered over Lamar County, with 290 women on the mailing list. They meet once a month. Last year they studied food, this year clothing, and next year plan to study Home management.

In 1936 they entered the Choral Contest and won first place in the state.

In 1937 they entered the Choral contest and won third place in the State. Also they entered the Better Dressed Contest, and Judging Canned Products Contest, but won no place.

The County Council is composed of presidents and secretaries of Community Clubs. This council is an Advisory Board to the Home Demonstration Agent. They meet every two months and plan a program of work for the county with assistance of the agent.

They held community exhibits and County Exhibits in 1936. Sent 21 to State Fair, won three first places on a rug, pepper relish and juice.

The annual picnic was held in June. Thirty-five attended. The Major Projects leaders meeting is held separate from the others. 12 women were carried to State College this summer for Home Week.

c. 4-H Club Work.

There are 15 4-H Clubs in Lamar County, with 139 enrolled. They meet once a month and hold annual camps, with an average

attendance of 40. Held two rallies, with 75 girls present. County and Community Contest held each year. Sent four girls to State Contest last year, won first and fifth places. In 1937 sent 5 girls, won two first places, one second.

They studied food last year, clothing this year, also minor subjects. There were 22 completions in 1936, thus promoting 22 girls to 2nd year work. The girls make up their own money, with no donations from the Board of Supervisors. School Board donated $37.00 each year for prize money.

The 4-H Boys and girls organized executive groups and got leaders when possible to lead and inspire.

There is a boys 4-H Club, with Mr. Pearce in charge.

Ref. Mrs. Margary Stuart

Ref. Mrs. Margary Stuart

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

HOME AND GARDEN CLUB

The Home and Garden Club was organized by a group of women in the town of Purvis, Miss. on Nov. 6, 1924. They were: Mrs. Pylant, Mrs. Ladner, Mrs. Wilson, Thomas and Davis. This is a Federated Club of the 1st District. There were 8 charter members.

The purpose of the Club is "To promote interest in Home, garden, and civic improvement". The colors are pink and green, flower-sweet pea. The Creed is "The Woman's Creed" by Mary Stuart.

The Club has a limited membership of 15 with two associate members. They have beautified the court house grounds and have been instrumental in the placing and planting of 400 rose bushes in the town of Purvis. One of the first things they did was to decorate the new courthouse of Lamar County and help with the Dedication. Several cleanup campaigns have been sponsored by The Garden Club.

The officers are as follows:

President-----Mrs. J. L. Thomas
Vice Pres.----Mrs. O. M. Taylor
Sec. & Treas.---Mrs. E. F. Cornelius
Historian and Reproter--Mrs. C. E. Wilson

There is also a year book committee, Finance Committee and Courtesy Committee.

Ref. Mrs. J. L. Thomas

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

4. PATRIOTIC

HISTORY OF TROOP ONE

In 1926 Troop One started on its upward rise in Scouting. Under the leadership of Mr. S. P. Bissell as Scoutmaster, Mr. Horace Risher, Jr. as Assistant Scoutmaster and Dr. D. B. Stevenson as Chairman of the Troop Committee. There was a training course held at Camp Salmon and the members of Troop Committee headed by Mr. Bissell and Mr. Risher attended the meeting. This was the first step for a solid foundation of Scouting for the boys of Lumberton.

With the help of Chief R. D. Craw, the Pine Burr Area Council was begun and Dr. Stevenson was elected as first President of it. He is called the "Grandfather of the Pine Burr Area Council".

After three years of Scouting in Lumberton, Troop One was one of the best in South Mississippi. There were four boys who attended the World's Jamboree in England. These boys were Seale Mason, David Wally, James Batson and D. B. Stevenson, Jr. Troop One sent the largest delegation to the World's Jamboree for its size.

In 1930 Rev. G. R. Jones was elected as Scoutmaster. Scouting still was growing in Lumberton.

In 1931 Mr. S. P. Bissell came back to the helm. This year we had four boys from Wiggins, Miss. to become members of Troop One. There was also three boys from Purvis, Miss. as members.

In 1932 Rev. M. L. McCommick was appointed as Scoutmaster. A troop was started at Purvis under the guidance of

the leaders in Lumberton.

In 1933 Mr. W. A. Bealle, Supt. of the City School was elected to lead the Scouts as Scoutmaster. The spirit of Scouting was beginning to take an uprise. During the early part of the depression it had died down. Mr. Bealle was at the helm of Troop One until Sept. 1936 when he resigned as Supt. of the School and moved to West Point, Miss.

The Committee elected Otho Davis who served as Assistant Scoutmaster under Mr. Bealle and a Boy Scout under the other men who had served as Scout master. During the months of October, November, December and early part of January he had raised the membership of Troop One from 16 to 30. This is one of the largest numbers that have been in the troop at any time.

On January 29, 1937 Troop One celebrated its eleventh birthday. There were nine boys to receive their tenderfoot pins at this meeting. There were 75 people who were guest of Troop One at this meeting. Mr. Henry N. Brown of Hattiesburg, and Mr. Blain also of that town were the speakers of the evening.

In June Mr. Davis went to the National Jamboree which was held in Washington, D. C. as first Assistant Scoutmaster of the Pine Burr Area.

During the 11 years of Scouting there has been over 200 boys to come in contact with scouting in Troop One.

From the Great Lakes to the Gulf Coast, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean there are boys who received this training to be real citizens of Troop One. There are boys scattered in 41 states out of the 48 states. There are boy

Scouts in Porta Rica, Hawaii Islands, Philipine Islands and in China.

In Troop One there have been 20 boys to receive their Eagle Pins. This is the highest rank of Scouting. This is the goal that each boy sets his heart on.

Ref. Otho Davis, Lumberton, Miss.

Ella Croak.
Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT #29

ORGANIZATIONS

(1) 3

Masonic Lodge, Lumberton

Lumberton Lodge #417 F. & A. M. organized and was chartered February 12th, 1892. The charter was signed by W. A. Roans, Grand Master of Masons and J. L. Power as Grand Secretary.

The charter members were James C. Cherry, T. D. Moore, H. C. Yawn, James Baxter, L. Summers, Thomas Dearman, D. D. Stanford and E. Byrd. The first officers of the Lodge were James C. Cherry, Worshipful Master, T. D. Moore, Senior Warden and H. C. Yawn as Junior Warden.

The Lodge grew from a mere handful to about two hendred members. In 1912 when Frederic Speed, Lodge #540 was organzied and chartered with R. W. Hinton, Jr. as its first Worshipful Master, H. C. Yawn, P. G. M., Charles T. Carothers, G. W. Robertson Secretary and J. H. Miner, Treasurer . Both Lodges doubled their membership and in 1926 they consolidated, leaving the name Lumberton Lodge #417. The meeting place was in the second story of the First National Bank Building until December 27th, 1927.

New officers were elected after consolidation and they were D. D. Simmons, W. M., L. C. Pigford, S. W., Z. Cohen, J. W. Williams, Treas. and D. D. Bounds, Secretary.

A building fund was started at once collecting $3.25 from each member per year and the fund grew to a nice sum of money. Then a building committee was appointed to select and buy a suitable lot for building the new Temple. The McNair property on Main Avenue just across the street from the City Hall was

was bought and the old Lodge Hall sold to the First National Bank for $2500.00. The building committee composed of Dr. G. D. Mason, R. W. Hinton, Jr., W. W. Poyner, J. T. Jacobs, Z. Cohen, H. H. Hinton and J. W. Williams, Contract for the building was let and on August 26th, 1926 the corner stone was laid by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

The new Temple was completed and the first meeting was held December 27th, 1927.

The building has a large dining hall, kitchen, recreation room, secretary's office and a bath on the first floor. The second floor has a large Lodge hall where the meetings are held; also ample property rooms where the various Masonic Bodies keep their parphernalia.

The Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Chapter, Council and the order of Eastern Star all use the building.

Ref. D. D. Bounds, Lumberton, Miss.

Edla Crosby

Alvasser-
Mildred Hendrick

Supplement to Assignment #2

Land Deed Record Book I, Page 444-445.

Lumberton Lodge No. 417 F. & A. Masons
To. Deed
First Nat. Bank of Lumberton

Filed for record
Jan. 30, 1905 at
10 A. M. Recorded
Feb. 22, 1905.
C. V. Hathorn,
Clerk

State of Mississippi, County of Pearl River(Now Lamar Co.)
For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars ($10.00), in hand paid the undersigned H. H. Folk as the Worshipful Master of the Lumberton Lodge No. 417, Free and Accepted Masons, a beneficial association, having its domicile at Lumberton, in the said County and State, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, as well as in consideration of the execution in favor of the said Lumberton Lodge No. 417, F. & A. Masons by the Grantee herein, of a certain lease for the period of ninety-nine years of a Lodge room, free of rental, the conditions of which lease are more particulary described in the said deed of lease, and for other good and valuable considerations, I, as the Worshipful Master of the said Lumberton Lodge of F. & A. Masons, by virtues of the authority conferred upon me by the said Lodge, have this day sold and by these presents, sell, convey and warrant unto the First National Bank of Lumberton an undivided one half interest in and to the following described lot of land, to-wit: Lot one (1) in Block fifteen (15) on the corner of Main and Second Streets in the Town of Lumberton, as per the survey of said Town by Beard and Brandon, said lot being in the County of

Pearl River(Now Lamar) and State of Mississippi, together with all and singular the tenements, appurtenances and hereditaments thereunto pertaining, or in any wise thereunto belonging.

Witness my signature this 14th day of November A. D. 1900.

Lumberton Lodge No. 417 F. & A. Masons
By H. H. Folk, Worshipful Master.

Attest, C. R. Chisholm, Secretary.

State of Mississippi, County of Pearl River(Now Lamar).
Personally appeared before the undersigned, a member of Board of Supervisors of said County and State, H. H. Folk, who acknowledged that he signed and delivered the foregoing deed on the day and year therein memtioned, in his official capacity as Worshipful Master of the Lumberton Lodge, No. 417 F. & A. Masons and as the act of the said Lodge.

Given under my hand this 19th day of November A. D. 1900.

P. E. Williams M. B. S.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER, WARDENS & MEMBERS
Lumberton Lodge No. 417, F. & A. Masons
Your Lodge Room Committee beg to submit the following proposition made to our Lodge, and also to Jessamine Lodge No. 117, Knights of Pythias, jointly:-
To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Members, Lumberton Lodge No. 417, F. & A. Masons
To the Chancellor Commander, Officers and Members Jessamine Lodge, No. 117 Knights of Pythias, Lumberton Mississippi:
Giving reference to verbal agreement, entered into with your

Lodge Committees, subject to your confirmation, we beg to confirm proposition made to the two Lodges, jointly as follows: For the consideration of the two Lodges deeding to the under- Lot one (1) Block fifteen (15), at the corner of Main and Second Streets, in the town of Lumberton, County of Pearl River(Now Lamar) and State of Mississippi (according to Beard and Brandons survey). We the undersigned, severally and collectively, guarantee to erect within one years time, a Brick Building on said Lot, of two stories dimension, and on the second floor to build a suitable Lodge Room for the Masonic and Knights of Pythias Lodges, above named, according to the plans and specifications of Mr. E. C. Dirmeyer, Architect (hereby submitted), and to give to the above named Masonic and Knights of Pythias Lodges free lease for the term of ninety-nine years (99) for their use and occupancy, subject to their disposition.

R. W. Hinton-W. W. Pigford-H. A. Camp- J. H. Hinton-
J. W. Jenkins

And we now offer the following resolution, and move its adoption:--RESOLVED:Jessamine Lodge, No. 117, Knights of Pythias, concurring, that the foregoing proposition be accepted, and that the Worshipful Master be authorized to execute proper Deed, in exchange for said Lease.--E. R. Chisholm, for the Committee

Chancellor Commander, Officers and Members, Jessamine Lodge No. 117, Knights of Pythias, Your Lodge Room Committee, beg to submit the following proposition made to our Lodge No. 417

F. & A. Masons jointly:-To the Chancellor Commander, Officers and Members, Jessamine Lodge No. 117, Knights of Pythias: To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Members, Lumberton Lodge No. 417, F. & A. Masons, Lumberton Mississippi. Giving reference to verbal agreement entered into with your Lodge Committees subject to your confirmation, we beg to confirm proposition made to the two Lodges, jointly, as follows:-For the consideration of the two Lodges, deeding to the undersigned Lot one(1) Block fifteen (15), at the corner of Main and Second Streets in the Town of Lumberton, County of Pearl (now Lamar)River and State of Mississippi (according to Beard and Brandons survey). We the undersigned, severally and collectively guarantee to erect within one years time, a brick Building on said Lot of two stories dimension, and on the second floor to build a suitable Lodge Room for the Masonic and Knights of Pythias Lodges above named, according to the plans and specifications of Mr. H. C. Dirmeyer (hereby submitted) and to give the above named Knights of Pythias and Masonic Lodges free lease for the term of ninety-nine years, for their use and occupancy, subject to their disposition.

R. W. Hinton--W. W. Pigford--H. A. Camp--J. H. Hinton-
J. W. Jenkins.

And we now offer the following resolution, and move its adoption:-RESOLVED:- Lumberton Lodge No. 417 F. & A. Masons concurring, that the foregoing proposition be accepted, and that the W. Master of said Lodge be authorized to execute proper deed in exchange for said lease.--H. H. Folk, for Committee.

H. C. Yawn, Trustee
To Deed
First Nat. Bk. Lumberton

Filed for record Jan. 30, 1905 at 10 A. M. Recorded Feb. 23, 1905.
C. V. Hathorn
Clerk

State of Mississippi, County of Pearl River(Now Lamar).

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars ($10) in hand paid, the undersigned, H. C. Yawn, Trustee for the Jessamine Lodge No 117, Knights of Pythias, a Beneficial Association having its domicile at Lumberton, in the said County and State, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, as well as in consideration of the execution of a lease for the period of ninety-nine (99) years, in favor of the said Jessamine Lodge No. 117 of Pythias, for a Lodge Room free of rental, by the grantee, herein, said lease being of even date herewith, for a more particular description of the said lease, reference is hereby had to the said deed of Lease, and for other good and valuable considerations I, as the Trustee of the said Jessamine Lodge of Knights of Pythias, have this day sold, and by these presents do sell, convey and warrant unto the First National Bank of Lumberton, an undivided one-half interest in and to the following described Lot of land, to-wit: Lot one(1) in Block fifteen(15) on the corner of Main and Second Streets in the Town of Lumberton as per the survey of the Town by Beard and Brandon; said Lot being in the County of Pearl River(Now Lamar), and State of Mississippi, together with all and singular the temements, appurtenances and hereditaments thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining.

Witness my signature this 14th day of November A. D. 1900--
H. C. Yawn, Trustee.

Attest---E. R. Chisholm K. of P. & seals.

State of Mississippi, Pearl River County(Now Lamar)
Personally appeared before the undersigned, a member of Board of Supervisors of said County and State, H. C. Yawn, who acknowledged that he signed and delivered the foregoing deed on the day and year therein mentioned in his official capacity as Trustee for the Jessamine Lodge of Knights of Pythias No. 117, and as the act and deed of the said Lodge of the Knights of Pythias.

Given under my hand this 19th day of November A. D. 1900.

P. E. Williams, M. B. S.

Mrs Ella Crook
SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH
PROJECT LAMAR COUNTY

Lucy Morehead
Pauline Slade
Enumerators Dif. Matl. -1-
June L937

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SUBJECT PROMINENT MEN-- Assignment #31

James Sanford Love

Mr. Love was born in Noxubee County, January 25, 1877. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Davis M. Love. He attended the public schools of his county and spent three years in Mississippi College in Clinton Mississippi. Mr. Love came to Lumberton Miss. Lamar County and accepted a position as cashier of the First National Bank at Lumberton, and he was one of those principally instrumental in the originization of the institution, of which he was a stock holder and director. His experience and careful handling of details have gained him recognition as one of the able young business financiers of the State. He was manager of the Lumberton Improvement Company, and was a loyal progressive citizen and business man of the town of Lumberton. He is a member of the Baptist Church and a Knights og Pythias.

Copied from Historical Mississippi.- Volume III. Page 465-466

Ella Crook
County Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Herbert A. Camp

The manufacture of lumber, as carried on in this generation, is an evolution not alone in methods and magnitude, but in men as well. As the volume of business has expanded, making heavier demands on production and facilities, so have the capabilities and resources of the men in control broadened. Particulary is this true in the longleaf yellow pine industry. One of the men of whose prominence in the field has increased with the exploitation of yellow pine is Herbert A. Camp, of Lumberton, Mississippi, a pioneer in its general distribution.

He is a southerner of the distinctive type, having been born in the Cracker State, where he was reared, and for two decades identified with the lumber industry of Mississippi. When he began his experience as a producer of yellow pine, the intrinsic merits of that wood had not been accorded just recognition in the markets of the country, and Mr. Camp is one of the manfacturers to whom much credit is due for wideing its sphere of usefulness. In the many years he has been operating in the South he has witnessed great changes in the lumber industry, including the advancement of stumpage values and the elevation of yellow pine to a position of indisputable stability.

Herbert Asbury Camp is the son of D. A. Camp, who was a direct descendant of a Virginia family of twenty-one sons who settled in nearly as many states in the Union. His mother was Anna(White) Camp, a daughter of Robert White, who came to the Republic from the north of Ireland. H. A. Camp was born June 10, 1859, on the farm of his father, at

Mulberry, Jackson County, Georgia. The head of the family was a prosperous plantation owner and operator, so that he was able to afford his son the best educational advantages offered in that section of the country. Young Herbert learned his earlier lessons at the knee of his mother, later being sent to the common schools of the county. He grew into a strong, healthy lad full of the fun and spirit of the country youth. His father was bent on having him become a farmer on a scientific scale and follow that as his life's work. Accordingly, when the youth had gained an elementary education in the public schools he was sent to the North Georgia Agricultural College, a branch of the State University, at Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, Georgia, where he pursued a course of studies for several years and then returned to the old homestead at Mulberry.

In the territory adjacent to the acres owned by the senior Camp was considerable yellow pine timber that was being operated in a primitive manner. In those days the hundreds of improved appliances of the woods and mill in use today were unknown and unthought of, the timber being felled, sawed into logs and cut into lumber by small circular mills. Young Camp became interested in a small operation in which his father had an investment, and from this beginning he undoubtedly acquired a liking for the lumber business and gained an incentive to engage in the production of lumber on a larger scale.

Going to Lumberton, Mississippi, where an awakening in the lumber field was under way, Mr. Camp, with J. H. Hinton and

R. W. Hinton, began investing in longleaf timbered lands, which were then to be obtained at a low price. The Hintons were North Georgians themselves and were of the same rugged forceful, industrious nature as Mr. Camp. The firm of Camp and Hinton Bros. was organized for the purpose of carrying on a milling business. One of their first purchases of timber was a tract of 1,200 acres located near Lumberton, this small acreage forming the nucleus of the immense stumpage to be controlled later by the same interests. The original tract of 1,200 acres was bought from the Government at the low price of $1.25 an acre.

For the purpose of operating on the timber secured, Mr. Camp and his associates built a small Lane & Bodley mill in the woods about a mile west and north of the railroad station at Lumberton, where they proceeded to manufacture lumber of more or less uncertain grade. The mill, which was completed and put into operation in 1886, when run to its capacity cut about 15,000 feet of lumber a day, and the plant might aptly be termed a toy in comparison with the immense and modernly equipped plants operated by the same men in later years. The Lumberton mill and that small tract of timber marked the beginning of Mr. Camp's activity in the lumber industry of Miss.

Within a few years the firm of Camp & Hinton Bros. had added largely to the holdings of timber, increased the milling facilities and begun to reach out for wider markets than those afforded in the South. Northern markets were sought and much of the product of the firm was diverted to other points. In 1892 the small mill at Lumberton was replaced by a modern Plant, and in subsequent years mills were acquirred

at Garrisons, another one in Marion County and a fourth at Elder, all in Mississippi. The firm of Camp & Hinton Bros. was succeeded by Camp & Hinton, and finally, by the Camp & Hinton Company, June 10, 1899, a forward step that marked a new era in the career of the progressive concern.

Mr. Camp continued active with the Camp & Hinton Co. in the manufacture of longleaf yellow pine until 1902, when he disposed of his interest in that concern and was one of the organizers of the Pole Stock Lumber Co., of Hattiesburg Mississippo. Mr. Camp was elected president of the company. The other officers are W. Edmiston, vice president; E. A. Sandford, Treasurer; P. C. Edmiston, secretary, and W. E. Herron, general manager. The company is capitalized at $100,000, all of which is paid in.

The Pole Stock Lumber Company bought 40,000 acres of yellow pine timbered land in the Lumberton district, where is found some of the finest timber in Mississippi. Additional tracts have been bought by the company until it holds title to 50,000 acres. In 1903 the company absorbed the Hattiesburg Lumber Company, whose officers were substantially the same as those of the Pole Stock Company. The concern's name is illustrative of the nature of the business originally undertaken. This was the cutting of rough material, dry kilning it and cutting and working it into poles, shafts and frames for agricultural implements of every pattern. It was demonstrated that yellow pine was an excellent substitute for ash, which, up to the time of the organization of the company, had been used almost uxclusively for such stock.

The company has contracts with about twenty different mills to manufacture their timber into agricultural implements stock, which it is shipping to practically all the manufacturers of agricultural implements in the United States, and is is also shipping quite a quantity of this material to Europe to various manufacturers there. The volume of business transacted monthely aggregates about $100,000.

Mr. Camp is interested in several financial institutions of the Magnolia State, being president of the First National Bank of Lumberton and president of the Hattiesburg Trust & Banking Company. His long residence in the State and his intimate association with the lumber industry has resulted in his becoming interested in numerous enterprises. He is a liberal supporter of any movement looking toward the betterment of industrial conditions.

Mr. Camp married Miss Maxey Field, at Cartersville, Ga., February 5, 1885. To the couple have been born eight children-five boys and three girls--Herbert A., Junior, Richard F., Anna Maxey, Lidie Belle, Chauncey D., Pierpont M. and Howard.

Mr. Camp is affiliated with the Methodist Church, and is a member of the Masonic order and the Concatenated Order of Hoo-Hoo. If Mr. Camp has a fad it truly may be said it is a liking for a horse fast enough to surpass the speed of any animal it may meet on the road.

Ref. The American Lumbermen
Third Series

Mrs Ella Crook

Robert W. Hinton

In comparison with the industrial growth of other southern states, Mississippi was slow to respond to the call of progress, but within the last two decades that Commonwealth has largely augmented its activity in manufacturing and mechanical fields. Contributive in the greatest degree to this progress have been the exploitation of the immense forest wealth of the State and the continued railroad construction, which has afforded the necessary arteries to commerce. An early invader of the Mississippi lumber industry was Robert Wood Hinton, of Lumberton, a figure prominent in the trade for many years.

He is not a Mississippian by birth, having been reared in Georgia, but he has so long followed his fortunes there that no son could be more loyal to her. In 1886, when Mr. Hinton first became identified with the lumber business at Lumberton and engaged with others in the manufacture of yellow pine, the product of the mills of the section had a restricted sale. The North, the East and the West were Markets yet to be developed. In subsequent years Mr. Hinton has not only been a witness but a participant as well in the opening of profitable fields for yellow pine, and today he has interests of an extensive character.

Robert W. Hinton comes of an old southern family on the praternal side, the early members having been colonists in Virginia. On his maternal side is a strain of Irish ancestry, the original member of that family who came to

America having built and operated the initial cotton mill in Georgia, in 1827. Mr. Hinton bears as part of his Christian name that of his paternal grandfather, Wood Hinton, a Virginian who settled in the northern portion of Georgia and one of whose sons was Mansfield Hinton. The latter in early life married Elizabeth White, and of this union was born Robert Wood Hinton, December 28, 1854. The scene of his birth was on the plantation owned by his father at Winder, Jackson County, Georgia, and it was here he spent his boyhood days.

Mansfield Hinton, father of R. W. Hinton, was a prosperous planter when the people of the North and the people of the South were arrayed against each other. Mr. Hinton was old enough to realize the horrors of war when the conflict between the sections opened in 1861. Almost from the first year of that memorable struggle the plantation declined, through the negroes taking flight and the able bodied men of the community bearing arms. Upon the plantation was camped at one time a northern regiment which formed part of the Federal army under General Sherman. Even during the war days Young Hinton was sent to the district school near his home and he picked up a fair education, though he was deprived of a college education because of the depressed conditions which existed for many years after the cessation of hostilities and which necessitated his assuming much of the responsibilities of conducting the plantation. The work of conserving the estate was a hard task, but the young man was equal to it and he remained on the plantation until long

after he had reached his majority. The plantation, consisting of 200 acres of fertile farming land and the forty acres of virgin timber, remains in the possession of Mr. Hinton and his brother, J. H. Hinton. They prize the property far beyond its intrinsic value and it is doubtful if it would be sold at any price if by such a transfer it would pass out of the hands of the family.

It was not until 1886 that Mr. Hinton became interested in lumbering, though he was familiar with its details through the operations carried on in the section of Georgia where he lived. Several years prior to that period his brother had gone to Mississippi and invested in timber lands owned by the Government, from whom title was obtained. Mr. Hinton, when it was decided to develope these lands, went to Lumberton, Mississippi, where he joined his brother, H. A. Camp and H. P. Hinton in forming the firm of Camp & Hinton Bros. A mill of small capacity was set up on a tract of timber owned by the firm near Lumberton and active operations were started. It was an auspicious time for the inauguration of such an enterprise, with the result that the business grew and prospered. The individual members of the firm were alive to the situation, and as a demand was created for lumber they increased the milling facilities and invested in more timber.

In 1890 Mr. Hinton disposed of his interest in the firm of Camp & Hinton Bros. to carry on a commission business for himself. He succeeded well in this venture and gradually built up a good business, though in doing so he became involved in the handling of turpentine and in that way again interested in sawmilling.

In 1899 Mr. Hinton formed the R. W. Hinton Company for the purpose of carrying on a general merchandise business and the manufacture of naval stores. Lumberton is well located for the conduct of such an enterprise, being in Lamar County, almost on the dividing line of that County and Pearl River County, and at the junction of the New Orleans & Northeastern Railroad, a part of the Queen & Crescent Route, and the Gulf & Ship Island Railroad. The large amount of territory tributary to Lumberton permitted of an excellent business being built up, and it now forms Mr. Hinton's chief interest and occupies most of his attention and time. The officiers of the R. W. Hinton Company are R. W. Hinton, President; A. S. Hinton, vice-president, and H. C. Yawn, secretary and treasurer.

The sawmill department of the R. W. Hinton Company grew at an astounding pace, and it became expedient to separate this interest from that of general merchandiseing. This was accomplished in 1903, when Mr. Hinton organized the Hinton Bros. Lumber Company. The concern operates a modern sawmill plant at Lumberton with an output of about 16,000,000 feet of yellow pine lumber a year. Mr. Hinton had early provided a supply of timber which has been increased instead of diminished in recent years. The holdings of the company are estimated at approximately 135,000,000 feet of yellow pine stumpage. Mr. Hinton is president of the company; A. S. Hinton, vice-president; H. C. Yawn, secretary and treasurer, and W. P. Hanes, Manager.

Other lumber manufacturing concerns in which Mr. Hinton is interested are the Camp & Hinton Company, of Lumberton,

and the W. B. Locke Company, of Hextorville, Marion County, Mississippi. He is vice president of the Lumberton Drug Company and a director and member of the finance committee of the First National Bank of Lumberton.

Mr. Hinton has an interesting family of six children. Mrs. Hinton was Miss Mary Etta Haynes before her marriage to Mr. Hinton at Newton, North Carolina, May 31, 1880. The children are Robert Wood, Junior, Mayle, Ruth, Jerrine, Daniel Pitts and Sarah Elisabeth Hinton. The eldest son inherited many of the sterling qualities of his father and he undoubtly will prove a worthy successor to his father when the latter shall choose to lay down his burdens. The members of the family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Hinton is a Scottish Rite and a New York Rite Mason, and a member of the Ancient Arrabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is a Republican in politics and though active he never has sought office. He is fond of driving and he gets more pleasure in handling the reins over a blooded animal than in other form of recreation.

Ref. American Lumbermen
Third Series

Mrs Ella Crook

John H. Hinton

To the man who cultivate both brain and physical being to such a high state of perfection that he may seize every opportunity and, unflinchingly and unembarassed, develope their possibilities to the highest point, the world owes much for its commercial advancement. John Hammond Hinton of Lumberton, Mississippi, stalwart in mind and body, is one by whom opportunity never has been neglected, and who has fitted himself well to resist and to achieve in the battle of life.

John H. Hinton is a descendant of two distinguished southern families. Wood Hinton, his paternal grandfather, was a Virginian by birth who settled in the north of Georgia, where Mansfield Hinton, John's father, was born and reared. His mother, Elizabeth (White) Hinton, was the daughter of an Irishman who, after being educated in Scotland, came to the United States and, with relatives, built the first cotton mill in Georgia, near Athens, in 1827. John Hammond Hinton was born on the old homestead, nine miles from Jefferson, the county seat of Jackson County, Georgia, March 25, 1857. One of his earliest recollections is of that plantation dotted with the white tents pitched by a regiment from New Jersey, a part of General Sherman's command. The homestead and its 800 acres, forty of which are covered with virgin timber, is one of the cherished possessions of Mr. Hinton, and his brother, R. W. Hinton.

Jefferson, the county seat, with its courthouse and stores, was as near a metropolis as young Hinton was to know

for many years following his birth. It was in the school at this quaint old town that he got his early training, though it was not much of an education, for war had brought its privations and the services of the strong, healthy lad were needed to cultivate the plantation. Fortune did not smile brightly upon the lad in his early days, and he knew what it was to struggle for a living even after he had reached manhood.

Texas, about which little was known in those days, appealed to the youth as affording an opportunity for one of his brawn and ambition. His choice was determined when he was told a man could earn $20 a month there for the poorest sort of labor. So, at the age of eighteen years, young Hinton started for the land of promise to the westward. His first year was as a farm hand at St. Charles, Missouri, and, later, he reached Sherman, Texas, then a boom town, only to move on to Melissa, twenty-six miles from Sherman. He spent three years in Texas before he drifted to McComb City, Mississippi, where the now venerable J. J. White was conducting a sawmill operation. The young man went work rolling slabs for fifty cents a day; it was his introduction to the lumber business, and in that mill he learned the lessons he never has forgotten.

From the White mill, at McComb, is believed to have been shipped the first carload of yellow pine lumber that ever reached Chicago. The shipment, recalled by Mr. Hinton, was made in the early part of 1878 to P. C. Dodge & Co. and consisted of three cars of one-inch and two-inch finish. From a mere laborer about this mill, Mr. Hinton advanced to more important posts as he demonstrated his ability, and, finally,

he became general superintendent of the plant.

As early as 1883 Mr. Hinton began investing in timber lands. In that year he bought 2,700 acres of timber near Lumberton, Mississippi, on his own account; and this tract was the nucleus of the large holdings of the Camp & Hinton Company of today. In 1886, Mr. Hinton joined with H. A. Camp, R. W. Hinton and H. P. Hinton in the formation of the firm of Camp & Hinton Bros. to carry on a small manufacturing operation. The men were possessed of but modest capital and a Lane & Bodley mill was bought on credit, set up and put into operation, sawing on the timber originally bought by Mr. Hinton and added to by additional purchases of the firm. The operation proved a satisfactory and paying investment and gradually the operations of the firm were extended. In 1890 R. W. Hinton and H. P Hinton retired from the business and the firm became Camp & Hinton, which firm, in 1899, incorporated the Camp & Hinton Company. J. J. White became president, and H. A. Camp, secretary and treasurer. A few years later Mr. Hinton bought the interests of his associates in the company and practically became the proprietor of the business. The present officers of the Camp & Hinton Co., are J. H. Hinton, President; A. S. Hinton, vice-president; T. L. Venable, secretary, and H. H. Hinton, treasurer.

In addition to his large lumber interests Mr. Hinton has investments in other enterprises. He is a director of the First National Bank of Lumberton, and a half owner of the sawmill business of J. C. Pearson, two miles north of Lumberton, on the New Orleans & North-eastern Railroad. He has an interest in the sawmill business of A. S. Hinton & Co., at Hinton Spur,

eight miles east of Lumberton, on the Gulf & Ship Island Railroad. He is vice president of the Swing-Round Turpentine Company, of Baxterville, Mississippi, and has interests in lumber yards in Tennessee and Kentucky. He is president of the Panama Lumber & Trading Company, which was organized to do an export lumber business ith Europe, Central America and which operates its own line of steamers. Mr.Hinton has offices on the tenth floor of the Hibernia Bank Building, in New Orleans, as well as in Lumberton, between which two cities he divides his time. Mr. Hinton has general supervision of the sales of the output of the main mill at Lumberton and of several smaller mills, approximating 60, 000,000 feet annually.

He has always taken a vitalizing interest in association matters and his strength in this line has been given recognition by his fellow workers. He is one of the men to whom credit is given for the organization of the Southern Lumber Manufacturers' Association, the predecessor of the Yellow Pine Manufacturers' Association, and has since served continuously as either a director or vice president for his State in that body. He is vice president of the Central Yellow Pine Association, an organization of recent years of manufacturers in Mississippi and Alabama to control local issues in these two states. Mr. Hinton has held one political office during his career, serving as postmaster of Lumberton under Grover Cleveland's administration.

Mr. Hinton married Miss Emmett Roberts White, oldest daughter of J. J. White, of McComb City, Mississippi, April 12, 1881. The couple has six children--John White, Herbert

Hammond, Bonita, Helen, Irene, Emmett Grace Hinton. John W. Hinton and Herbert H. Hinton, both of whom are graduates of Cornell University, are associated with their father in the management of the affairs of the Camp & Hinton Company. The family occupies a handsome residence in New Orleans during the winter and a country home near Lumberton in the summer.

Mr. Hinton is a Mason, being a member of Lumberton Lodge No. 417, the Meridian Consistory and Hamasa Temple of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He took the thirty-third degree in 1906. In New Orleans he holds membership in the Pickwick, Round Table and several carnival clubs.

Ref. The American Lumbermen
Third Series

Mrs Ella Brook.

Lucy Morehead
Pauline Slade
Enumerator Dif. Matl.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Subject: PROMINENT MEN--Assignment #31

LONNIE LEE POLK M.D.

Dr. Polk was born in Lawerence County, Mississippi. He is the son of Willis E. and Nancy A. Polk. He secured his early education training in the public schools and later prosecuted his literary studies in Mississippi College at Clinton, Mississippi. While he completed his technical course in medicine and surgery in the Memphis Hospital Medical College in Memphis Tennessee. He was graduated as a member of theclass of 1902 and duly receiving his well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine. He was self reliant and ambitious, as is evident when we revert to the fact that he defrayed to avery large extent the expenses of his College courses in Covington and Lawerence counties. Thesame attributes of character have conserved his success and prestige as a physician and a busines man and he stands to day as one of the representative and honored Citizens of Purvis, where he has varied Capitalistic interests and where he controls a large practice as a physician and surgeon. He is successfully established in the drug business in Purvis where he also holds holds precedence as one of the drug--leading medical practitioners of this favored section of the State. Dr. Polk is a local surgeon for the N. O. & N. E.R.R. now the southern.
He was Health Officer of Lamar County and holds membership in the American Association of medicine in the state of Mississipp i of the State Medical Association and in the Pearl River and Marion County medical Society,being held in high regard of his profession conferers. In addition to his drug business. Dr. Polk is a member of the directorate of Lamar County Bank and the Purvis Electric Light and Power Company. He is a member of the baptist Church and is indentified with the masonic order, the Knights of Pythis,and

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

AND Woodmdn of the world.

Reference: Historical Mississippi, VolumeIII Pages-649-650

Ella Brook.
County History

Enumerator-
Pauline Slade

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

ASSIGNMENT #28 Prominent Men

SAM SLADE

Uncle Sam Slade is the son of one of the pioneer families of this county. He is the oldest living citizen of Lumberton. Born Feb. 9, 1864 he was reared on a farm near Talowah and worked with his father until he was 22years of age. The the R. R. had come through and ths saw mill was being put up at Lumberton, he got work there and helped load the first load of lumber shipped from Lumberton.

Mr. Slade married when he wwas 24 years old, moved away from Lumberton and stayed 1½ years, then moved back in 1897 and was elected as police officer, served in this capacity for 1½ years, resigned and was elected constable, served until 1906, then was appointed town marshall, later was elected as marshall and tax collector and served until 1923.

Prior to this the streets of Lumberton were only wagon trails. He graded the streets, running the machine himself and poured the first gravel. He also numbered all of the houses in Lumberton for free mail service.

In 1923 Uncle Sam resigned as town marshall and was elected as a member of the Board of Supervisors for Beat #2, Lamar County, serving in this capacity until 1931. During the time he was Supervisor for Beat #2, he made 100 miles of road and graveled them, and built 17 creosoted piling bridges.

In May 1937, he was appointed as Constable for Beat #2 to fill and

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

an unexpired term, was a candidate for the office, but defeated.

Uncle Sam is known all over the County for his honesty of purpose and interest in the County's welfare.

Ref. Pauline Slade

Ella Brook.

Lucy Morehead
Pauline Slade
Enumerators Dif. Matt

June, 1937

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Subject: Prominent Men-- Assignment #31

JAMES O'CONNELL

Aprominent merchant of Purvis, is a dealer in general merchandise. He is a native of the fair Emerald Isle, which has contribute so valuable an element to the mosiac social fabric of the U. S. He was born in CountySligo, Ireland, in October, 1863.

In 1894 Mr. O'Connell came to Purvis, where he engaged in the general merchandise business on his own responsibility, founding the enterprise which has grown to so excellent proportions and definite success under his personal direction. He continued operations individually until 1904, when he admitted his brother Edward to partnership, whereupon the firm title of JamesO'Connell & Brother was adopted. This partnership continued until 1906 when James purchased his brothers interest and now is the owner of the la large and complete store.

In politics our subject ~~is~~ was a staunch advocate of the principles and policies of theDemocratic party- fraternally he ~~is~~ was affiliated with the Woodman of the World, while both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic Church.

Ref. Mississippi The Heart of the South, Volume III.

Ella Brook

County Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

REV. EDGAR E. BALLARD

Rev. Edgar E. Ballard was the son of William and Sarah Ballard. He was born in Nettleton, Lee County, Mississippi, February 27, 1897. Edgar was a pupil in the public schools of Nettleton and afterward attended the Mississippi Heights Academy at Blue Mountain, from which he was graduated. He continued his studies in Mississippi College from which he won the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1920, and then entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky. in which he completed a three year-course. Meanwhile, America had become involved in the World War, he responded to the colors, and enlisted in the United States Navy at Pelham Bay, New York.

A short time before the close of the war he was commissioned an ensign and on April 1, 1919, was transfered to the inactive list. He was recalled four months later but owing to his desire to finish his education, he was honorably discharged in May 1921. In 1923 he became an enlistment worker for the Baptist Board of Missions of Kentucky, was thus engaged until January 1924, when he came to Lumberton, Lamar County, as pastor of Lumberton Baptist Church. He had more than one talent and is meeting with success in the field of journalism.

On May 1, 1924, he began the publication of Lumberton Progressive Citizen, a weekly newspaper and hnder his able management it is growing steadily in power and usefulness. His editorials were well written and through the columns of the paper he encouraged every movement for the moral

uplift and industrial progress of the community. He was married to Miss Kathleen Crist of Louisville, Ky. Mrs. Ballard was active in the various societies connected with the Lumberton Baptist Church, was a local leader of the Camp Fire Girls and was a member of the Lumberton Woman's Club. Reverend Ballard was a member of the Rotary Club and was editor of the weekly paper, a publication issued by that organization. He was a member of Lumberton Commercial Club. Was pastor of the church.

Ref. Heart of the South, page 86

Ella Crook.

TULANE HONORS DR. C. C. BASS OF MISSISSIPPI

From Times- Picayune, Wednesday, announcement is made of the election of Dr. C. C. Bass, a native of Marion County, Miss. and the owner of a large farm and pecan grove near Purvis, Lamar, Co. Miss. where he makes his summer home. Dr. Bass, whose research work in Malaria control won him distinction, an alumnus and for more than 10 years an instructor at Tulane, has been elected dean of the Tulane school of medicine, it was announced yesterday following action Monday by the board of administrators. The deanship has been vacant for nearly two years.

Dr. Bass graduated from Tulane Medical College in 1899. After five years of practicing medicine in Columbia, Miss. and several years of postpgraduate work at the John Hopkins Medical School, he came to N. O. La, here he soon took the position of chemical instructor on the staff of the late Prof. John B. Elliott, Sr., rising rapidly in position at Tulane.

In 1921 he was made professor of experimental medicine and director of the laboratories of clinical medicine which position he has held since. Private practice and especially private laboratory work in addition to his college teaching, occupied Dr. Bass, during his first years in N. O. but for the fastfive years he has devoted all his time to instruction and research.

Several important discoveries which have contributed to the advancement of medical knowledge have resulted from Dr. Bass's extensive delving into scientific fields. His most outstanding single achievement has been the successful cultivation of the malaria phasmodium or germ.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

This was recognized and confirmed in every civilized country in the world. Tribute paid Dr. Bass in this connection include gold medals from the American Medical Association and the Miss. State Medical Association. Direction Research is relative to the control of malaria for the International Health Board of the Rockfeller Foundation and for the Mississippi Health Department have occupied much of Dr. Bass' time for the last few years.

Dr. Bass is the author of many articles on scientific subjects and belongs to a number of scientific societies.
Ref. The Lumberton Headblock

Lumberton- with five of her seven living children present, Mrs. I. E. Bass celebrated her 82nd birthday. The birthday dinner was served in the home of I. H. Bass and the cake with 82 gold and white candles was made by Mrs. I. H. Bass. Table appointments and floral decorations carried out the gold and white color scheme.

Those present for the day were five children, Dr. C. C. Bass, dean of the School of Medicine, of Tulane University; Dr. Elizabeth Bass, M. O., Mrs. A. A. Pigfors and her husband; Mrs. H. W. Greer and I. H. Bass of Lumberton. Several grandchildren were present, and a host of friends called or sent congratulatory messages during the day. A particular guest for the occasion was Mrs. Frank B. Wilkes of Houston, Texas, whose family has been connected with ties of friendship to the Bass family for possibly fifty years.

Despite her age, Mrs. Bass is a beautiful woman and lives a full life with no apparent infirmities of age.

For the birthday dinner she wore black chiffon with a corsage of white gardinias.

The two children who were unable to be present are: Rear Admiral I. E. Bass, Neport News, Va., and Mrs. A. S. Applewhite of Jackson.

Ref. The Booster

Ella Cook.
Historian, Lamar County

Pauline Slade
Lucy Morehead
Enumerators Dif. Matl.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

SAMUEL ERNEST REES? M.D.

Was one of the repredentative young medical practitioners of Marion County, being successfully established in the work of his profession in Purvis. He was born in Yalobusha County Mississippi in 1871.

In 1904 he came to Purvis Lamar County , where he made a record of excellent practice, he also conducted a well equipped drug store in the town, being regarded as a progressive citizen and as a representative member of his profession. He was a member of th e Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias, and the Woodman of the World, while he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Church

Died in July 1935.

Ref. The Booster

Ella Crook
County History

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

ALEXANDER STEPHEN HINTON

Alexander Stephen Hinton was born in Winder,Ga. December 15, 1866. He died in Lumberton, Miss. March 12, 1921.

He came to Lamar County about 36 years ago, was one of the founders of, and was three times mayor of his home town, Lumberton. He was an active member of the M. E. Church, teacher of this church's Sunday School boys class, and was always associated with church promotion work. In addition to an active business life he found time to serve as member of the Board of Supervisors, Vice-President of the Lamar County Fair Association, and was an officer member--major in rank--on the military staff of Govenor Russell.

Alex S. Hinton possessed the secrets of every degree of Freemasonry; for he was a charter member of his Blue Lodge--Frederic Speed No. 540; was among the oldest members of Lumberton Chapter No.117 and Mt. Pleasant Council No. 18 R. A. M.; was a member of Hattiesburg Commandery Knight Templars; was a member of Hamasa Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. Meridian; and also a member of Meridian Consistory, Scotland Rite Masons.

His every-day life exemplified him as a public benefactor. He put sunshine into night's life by charity, an understanding sympathy, and acts of unselfish friendship. He sacrificed his health--if not his life--in the service of his fellow man; for only his indomitable will-power kept him upon his feet during the last few months--a momentous time in the reconstructve period of our county's life.

Ref. The Lumberton Headblock, March 1921

Ella Crook. Supv- Lamar Co

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

DR. D. B. STEPHENSON

Dr. Stephenson came to Lumberton when a young man, full of ambition and determined to do his whole duty as a doctor and a citizen of the highest type. He has a knowledge of human nature that fits him for the arduous duties devolving in his profession. He is equal to every emergency.

Dr. Stephenson has given his time and attention to further the educational and industrial interests of the working class of people of Lamar County.

He began his career with little or no means, save his energy and confidence in himself to succeed. By constant application and hard labor he has reached the topmost round in his profession and is the sole owner of the Lumberton Hospital. He is a member of the Methodist Church, past president of the Rotary Club. He organized the Lamar County Chamber of Commerce, and was its first president.

Is past president of the Pine Burr Council of Boy Scouts of America. Is chairman, court of honor Boy Scouts Troup one of Lumberton. Organized the Lumberton Community Boys work council and for eight years made possible, a well directed camp program for every boy and girl of Lumberton between the ages of 8 and 18 years. Is former County Helath Officer of Lamar County. He organized the Rotary Club of Poplarville, Miss., was member of the Board of Trustees of Lamar County A. H. S. for five years.

Ref. Mrs. Ella Crook

Ella Crook
County Historian, Lamar County

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

W. J. HATTEN

September 20th, 1872 one mile above Black Creek, near the Bob Lott bridge, Mr. W. J. Hatten was born. What then was Marion County but now Lamar County, Miss. Two years later his father moved to Covington County near Richmon, where they lived until Mr. Hatten was 4o years old. He was raised on a farm and always had to work hard for what he got.

He attended public school near New Hope and finished in New Hope Academy. Being a very poor boy and wanting to study law, Mr. Hattan walked for miles to borrow law books. He read law for twenty years at home and later in 1914 was admitted to the bar.

He has practiced law in all courts of the state of Mississippi. Mr. Hatten has made a great success in his work. In 1935 he ran for District Attorney, but was defeated. Although he was defeated he had the whole support of his home town, Sumrall, Mississippi. When first grown to manhood he lived in the state of Texas for two years. He studied law and attended courts when possible. Mr. Hatten is a member of the Baptist Church and has done great religious works for his church. He is a 32 degree mason and an Odd Fellow.

Mr. Hatten was married in 1897 to Miss Minnie Norris. Four children were born to them. In 1910 Mrs. Hatten died. In 1915 he married Miss Eva McCardle. One child was born to them, Mack Hatten. He is in school now at Wesson Jr. College in Wesson, Miss.

Although Mr. Hatten has faced many hardships and had high

hills to climb, he has reached, success. He is 64 years old but is still a young man practicing law and giving his citizenship to his town and county. He is one of Sumrall's and Lamar county's best law abiding citizens.

Reference: Mr. W. J. Hatten, Sumrall, Miss.

Mrs Ella Lesook.
Supv. Lamar Co.
Historical Research

Enumerator
Lucy A. Morehead

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

LEANORD DAVIS , NOTED STOCK RAISER

Leonard Davis is the son of Christopher Davis. He was born in Pearl River County, Nov. 11, 1849. He parents originally came here from the Carolinas just like a lot of other early settlers.

He was one of six children, his father died when he was quite young and so it was for him to help earn a living for his mother and brothers and sisters. His mother had a number of slaves on her farm during the Civil War so they would help her care for the children. Two of the boys went to the War, so left Leonard to care for the remaining family. He was always selling some of his mothers stock to people who were coming into the county, and in this way he learned how to sell stock.

He married and moved to a farm near Purvis on Black Creek, so his stock could have access to the creek for water. He lived here for a while and then bought farm of Mr. Johnnie Whiddon, which was six miles West of Purvis in the Pine Grove Community. This was one of the oldest settled places in that section of Marion County.

After he came to this farm he was engaged only in farming raising. He owned several hundred head of sheep as well as cattle and hogs. He had negroes to farm his land after his boys left home, and they were only the best old darkies that could be found in Lamar County. After he married he never knew what it was to buy lard, meat, bread or anything that could be raised on the farm. He had cattle and wool buyers from all

parts of the State, he raised his stock out on the open range and there was only little expense to him. Some buyers came from Tenn. and some from Louisana. He had scrub cattle for the market and some jersey for milk and home use. It was said by his wife that at one time she saw a check that he had sold cattle for $2,500.

He was a member of Pine Grove Landmark Baptist Church for a number of years, he was also a member of the Purvis Masonic Lodge for a number of years. He died in Aug. 18, 1921 at his beautiful farm home at the age of 72 years. He was old in years but not in mind. When he died he left a will of property and stock worth several thousand dollars. He was buried in the Pine Grove Cemetery with Masonci Services, it was said that there were more Masons present at his funeral than any other Masonic service held in Lamar County.

Ref. Lucy Morehead.

GEORGE W. HOLLEMAN

George W. Holleman of Purvis, will have to his credit in the annals of Lamar County the distinction of having been one of its early officials, since he is the first to serve the county as sheriff in 1904, after completing the practical curriculum of the common schools and a course in the high school at Columbia, Miss. Marion County, and the sheriff of Lamar County took up the active responsibliilities of life, and he finally engaged in the merchantile business in Columbia, Miss., while later he was identified with the same line covering a period of about ten years. On Janaary 1, 1900

he was appointed deputy sheriff of Marion County, and on May 11, 1904 he was elected sheriff of Lamar County, for a term of four years. His administration has amply justified the confidence reposed in him as his record of sheriff will stand to his credit in the honor of his country, which he has just served. He is a lawyer adherent of the Democratic party, is a Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias, and a member of the Methodist Church in Purvis, Mississippi.
HEART OF THE SOUTH, DUNBAR ROWLAND Vol.III

THOMAS W. PYLANT, MERCHANT

Thomas W. Pylant, of Purvis, Miss. is president of the firm of Pylant Bros. and Co. He dates his residence in Purvis from the year 1894, when he located and became identified with the turpentine manufacturing industry, while he was also employed for a considerable period of time as a traveling salesman. In 1896 he laid the foundation for the large and prosperous business enterprise with which he is at present identified. He opened a general merchandise store, conducting the same in an individual way until 1898 when he admitted to partnership his brother George, under the firm known as T. W. Pylant & Co. and the firm became one of the best known in the County of Lamar. On March 1, 1905 when the title of Pylant Brothers and Co. was adopted. The concern is incorporated with a capital stock of $30,00. Mr. Pylant is a reliable, straightforward business man and public spirited citizen.
HEAR OF THE SOUTH? VOL. III.

C. C. HUDSON, Farmer

Mr. C. C. Hudson was born December 6, 1844 in Harrison County, Miss. He lived the early part of his life in Harrison County until 1885. From there he moved to Hattiesburg, Miss. In 1889 he moved to Bassfield, Miss. and lived there until 1925 then moved to Sumrall, Miss. He has made his home here since. All his life he has lived on a farm. His early education was gotten when he was a child, he only went to school six months of his life. He has been a very ambitious person all his life. Farming has been his only occupation.

During his life since he has been a citizen of Sumrall he has set some golden examples in building our town and county. He is one of the most law abiding citizens in our county.

Mr. Hudson is 92 years of age, has been a great church worker, reared five children, his family being known as the most successful family in the county.

Ref. C. C. Hudson

RICHARD M. SUMRALL, Farmer and Mail Carrier.

Mr. Richard M. Sumrall was born three miles southwest of Sumrall, Miss. in 1899. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Sumrall. He was reared on a farm, began his work(school work) in Sumrall and finished high school there. He attended S. T. C. College in Hattiesburg, Miss. one year.

Richard was a very clever boy, always had ambition. He studied to make a success, and has done so early in life. From a youth he has been one of Sumrall's outstanding citizens and leaders.

In 1920 he became a Mail Carrier from Sumrall Post Office. He helped build the Baptist Church, both financially and religously..

Ref. Minnie Lee Graves.

JOHN FILLINGAME , Farmer

Mr. John Fillingame was born in Marion County, Miss. Aug. 1, 1857. He lived in Sumrall before it was even a town. Next to the oldest citizen in Lamar County, he has lived here nearly all his life, being educated in a little red school house in the county.

Occupation, farming. He is one of the most successful farmers of the county. Father of eight children, Mr. Fillingame had taken an active part in the church work, and set a fine example to other people.

Ref. John Fillingame, Sumrall.

JOSEPH R. ANDERSON. M. D.

Dr. Joseph R. Anderson was born in Perry County, Mississippi. He is the son of Mr. Daniel A. andHenrietta Anderson , is a member of one ofthe pioneer families of Mississippi. Dr. Anderson passed his boyhood days on thehomestead place in Perry County and was accorded educational advantages in the public schools of the county. He finished theprescribed source in the Memphis Hospital Medical College in Memphis Tennessee in 1902 he received his degree of Doctor of medicine. Shortly after his graduation Dr. Anderson located in Lamar County where he is personally and professionally one of the most representative business men of the city of

Sumrall, and is associated with Dr. Clark. Dr. Anderson is identified with theCounty Medical society as well as that of the State. He is a member of the Sumrall Baptist Church and a member of theMasonic fraternity and the Independent order of Odd Fellows.

Reference: Historical Mississippi Page 28, Vol. II.

ROBERT W. THOMPSON,M. D.

Dr. Thompson was born in 1867 in Lawerence County. His elementary education was secured in the public schools of the county, and later he was a student for one term in the Silver Creek High School. He was a student for one term in the Tulane University Medical School, and in 1891 became a student in the medical s hool of Vanderbilt Unversity where he graduated in the class of 1895. He practiced his profession for a short time in the rural community of Everett in Simpson County, Miss. In 1896 he located in Lumberton, Miss. where he successfuly practiced his profession for 28 years. At this time he lives at Weslaco, Texas, where he is now engaged successfully in growing citrus fruit and general farming.

He was a man of conviction, with a high sense of right, and gave himself and influence to such enterprise as made for the community's good.

HEART OF THE SOUTH: Rowland

CHARLIE RICH, Lumberman

C. W. or Charlie Rich, came to Hattiesburg from Ala. He was in the turpentine business. After the N. O. & N. E.

Railroad came through, he put in a large saw mill on this Railroad between Hattiesburg and Okahola, the place named Richburg, for Mr. Rich.

Mr. Rich was fond of sports of all kinds and promoted the Sullivan & Killrain fight at Richburg.

Ref. S. E. Slade.

JAMES HAND, SOUTH MISSISSIPPI LUMBERMAN

Mr. James Hand is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Hand, Sr. of Enterprise, Miss. He was born in Clark County in 1868, entered his first school in Enterprise, Miss. in 1870.

At the time he entered school the state of Mississippi was beginning to open Free Public Schools. During his school days if a boy went as far in the Blue Back Speller as the word B-A-K-E-R, he was considered by old people as being educated, and therefore was ready to take up some kind of work.

He moved from Enterprise to the Miss. Ala. State line in 1886 and entered the mercantile business.

Mr. Hand moved to Purvis, Miss. Marion County in 1889 and entered the saw mill business. He bought an interest in the John Caraway Mercantile Store in 1890. He had quite a number of men working for him in hissaw mill business so he made arrangements for them to trade at the grocery store. The next mercantile business he bought was an interest with the W. H. Magee Company, this company was one of the largest mercantile stores in Lamar County. They were wool buyers as well as cotton buyers. He sold this and remained in the saw mill business for a number of years. Later he sold his saw mill and for

the last eight years has had a store in Purvis with the Hand-Jordan Store. He is a member of the Purvis Methodist Church.
REF. JIM HAND

WILLIAM HARRIS MAGEE , Merchant

A member of the firm of McLeod & Company of Purvis, Lamar County, dealers in general merchandise and also identified with the lumbering and turpentine manufacturing industries at this point, claims Mississippi as the place of his nativity, while he is a representative of an old and honored family of the Union. He was born in Covington County, May 10, 1859.

William H. Magee received his early training and educational discipline in the public schools of his native state, while he was about 23 years of age at the time of his removal to Marion County. Prior to the erection of Lamar County from Marion County, he served as deputy chancery and circuit clerk of the latter county for a period of seven years, his long tenure of the office attesting the satisfactory character of his labors in this connection. In 1897 he purchased an interest in the general merchandising business of the firm of McLeod & Co. of Purvis, and he has since been actively identified with the management of the firm department store, while in connection with this concern the firm also carries an important lumbering business in this section and is engaged in the manufacturing of turpentine. The progressive tendencies and liberal spirit of Mr. Magee are further indicated in the fact that he has served as president of the Purvis Electric Light and Power Company and at present is president of the Lamar County Bank,

one of the solid financial institutions of this section of the south.

He accords a stalwart allegiance to the Democratic party, fraternally is identified with the Masonic order and Knights of Pythias, and both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. (he is now deceased)
HEART OF THE SOUTH, Rowland

Ella Crook
County Historian

HISTORY LAMAR COUNTY

Assignment #31 Noted Men

ROBERT W. THOMPSON, M. D.

The subject of the sketch was born November 26, 1867, at the farm home in Lawerence County, Miss. He was the tenth child born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert King Thompson. On his fathers side he traces his ancestry back to Joseph Thompson of Virginia, who saw service in the Revolutionary War. His mother was a native of Wilcox County, Ala. On the 14th of April 1897, Dr. Thompson was married to Olivia Johnston, also of Lawerence County, Miss. Tonthis union four children were born--a daughter and three sons, the daughter died in infancy. Two of the sons are attorneys at law, and the other son is a Civil Engineer.

His elementary education was secured in the public schools of the County, and later he was a student in the Silver Creek High School. He was a student for one term in the Tulane University medical school of Vanderbilt University where he graduated in the class of 1895. He practiced his profession for a short time in the rural community of Everett, in Simpson County, Miss. In 1896 he located in Lumberton, Miss. where he successfully practiced his profession for 28 years.
At this time he lives at Weslaco, Texas. Having retired from the practice of his profession, he is now engaged successfully in growing citrus fruit.
Ref. Heart of the South.

Ella Crook.
Historian

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Ella Brook

Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

ASSIGNMENT #31 Promenient Men

Below is a list of the Post Masters of Lumberton and Purvis in order.

LUMBERTON

J. H. Hinton, W. W. Pigford, Mrs. Florence Lyde, H. H. Hinton, L. D. Fulmer--present post master.

PURVIS

J. B. Calhoun, J. A. McLeod, J. W. Scarbrough, B. A. Weems, Mrs. S. E. Reese, T. W. Cooper--served 16 years, Jas. G. Daly, H. H. Jordan, G. D. Pylant--present post master.

Mr. Jackson, a rural mail carrier of Purvis has worked in this capacity for 28 years. He is still working, known and loved by everyone in the surrounding community.

Ref. Lumberton--Sam Slade
Purvis,----Jim Hand, Purvis

The Lumberton postoffice has been advanced to the rank of second class. It held this rating for a number of years, but after the loss of the saw mill at Lumberton the ratings was lost. Several small industries including the Bass Pecan Company, contributed to the increase in the volume of business necessary for the promotion.

Ref. Hattiesburg American, July 2, 1937

Ella Brook.
Historian

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Ella Lesook.
Historian

Accepted L.S. 3

Canvasser-
Pauline Slade

Historical Research Project

Lamar County July 30, 1936

INTERVIEWS ASSIGNMENT # 13

Settlements of 1813 -Present Resources

Of Lamar County:

Immediately after the War of 1812 the Government completed its survey of this section of land that comprises Lamar County.

Settlers began to come from other states, here they found a heavy growth of long-leaf yellow pine, red oaks, white oaks, dog-wood and some short leaf pines, numerous other trees and shrubs. In the stream bottoms there was tulip, poplar, maple, water oaks, willow, magnolia, and different growths of vines.

The pine forests contained little or no shrubbery under growth. During the growing season it was carpeted with long beautiful grass and flowers.

With an abundance of long leaf pines of which to build their houses, the up-lands and forests furnished natural pastures for their stock and habitation for all sorts of wild game, the rivers and streams furnished water for the stock as well as an abundant supply of perch and trout.

In about the year of 1820 there was a large immigration from North and South Carolina and a majority of the present population consists of these early settlers.

Lucy Morehead

Pauline Slade
Enumerators Dif. Matl.
June 1936

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Subject: Prominent Men-- Assignment#31

JOE C. PEARSON

Mr. Joe C Pearson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Pearson of Pike County Mississippi. He was born in April 1886. At the age of 21 years he began to work for his self as a carpenter, from that work he became a contractor. In 1894 he went to Pearl River County to operate a saw mill in that section of the state. He married Miss Kizzie Landrum of Lumberton in 1896. He moved to Lamar County in 1905 and began to operate saw mill s in this county, he was in th saw mill business from 1894to 1925. In 19a6 he built a store in Purvis and has been in the merchantile busines since then.

Ref. Joe Pearson, Purvis Miss.

Ella Crook

County Historian

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

In the late seventies the value of the land began to go up, the pine forests began to attract attention, and in the next few years thousands of acres of the public land passed into private ownership. Some of this was acquired by residents of the County by purchase at $1.25 per acre, or by homesteading; but the greater proportion was brought by northern capitalist, thus the begining of the vast timber holdings in this section of the state. A few companies soon owned immense tracts of timbered land. Therefore the industries of the past 25 years has been based entirely upon the lumber business.

While there has been a rapid increase in the population of the County, land value has greatly increased, it was only about ten years ago that farming, truck-growing, dairying and poultry raising were given proper study and attention.

It is now recognized that the chief economic problem is the agricultural development of the large areas of cut-over lands.

With the disappearance of the immense tracts of timber and the thousands of acres of cut-over lands that could be put into cultivation, the natives of this section of the country have turned their attention to the improvement of the soils, to the breeding and stock raising of live stock and poultry. And to-day Lamar County is being credited with having made more progress in agriculture than any other County in Mississippi.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Our County officials, seeing the need of scientific development of agriculture and since the year of 1924 in corporation with the state extention Department of Mississippi State College, and the U. S. Dept. of agriculture have employed a County Farm Agent and a Home Demonstration Agent. The activities of these forces have pointed the way to systematic and economic development of the soils, the proper breeding of live stock and poultry, and have taught the rural people the best methods of marketing their crops from the farms.

Due to the topography of Lamar County the lands are ideally located for a great number of small farms, suited to efficient cultivation--with any kind of farm implements, even the steeper slopes can be properly terraced and profitably farmed.

Instead of several large farms owned by one, more or a company, our rural population is made up of permanent residents who own their farms, instead of a floating type of tenants. Over 80% of our farms are operated by owners.

Ref.

The Booster--1935 Edition

Mrs Ella Crook.
Supervisor Historical Research
Project

Canvasser
Mildred Hendrick
July 30.1936

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY

INTERVIEWS ASSIGNMENT # 13

Personal interview with Will Purvis
who was hangeed three times and still lives.

I wa w born in Jasper County, Mississippi on September 27, 1872, and lived with my parents on a small farm. My mother's name was Mary Frances Johnson, and her native state was Alabama. While my father, Issas Newton, hailed from Mississippi.

Until I was twelve years of age I attended school in Wayne County and later in Marion County, Mississippi.

In 1884 my parents moved to Devil's Bend, a location on Pearl River, 12 miles northeast of Columbia. Our chief recreation consisted of wrestling matches, hunting, fishing and horse racing, opossum hunting, barn dances, sugar cane chewing, parties, races and candy pullings.

After attending school for awhile at Columbia, I returned to the farm to help my father with the crops in 1893. While at home I joined the "White Caps", a secret clan which had over run Mississippi, which was made up of individuals who had banded together to promote a better regime of law and order. Soon after I became a member of the clan, some of the "white caps" called on a negro, Sam Waller, who was a farm hand on the Buckley plantation. Sam had formerly worked for Mrs. Hammond, an aged widow living in our community. She could not pay the negro asmuch as the Buckleys could so he went to work for the Buckleys. The "White Caps" heard of this and thought it a great injustice to the widow so they took the negro out and gave him a flogging. I had nothing to do with the flogging but I was present at the time.

Reference : Will Purvis. Mrs Ella Crook.

Canvasser
Pauline Slade
July 30, 1936

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY

INTERVIEW ASSIGNMENT # 15

During the early days of Sumrall, the work of building a town, a railroad and a saw mill occupied the people. Dagoe and people from the Philipino Island, called "Phillipino Negroes", were employed to build the "dummy" lines or branch lines of the railroad. These people only stayed in one place long enough to complete the road there.

The "dummy" lines led into the woods where the timber was cut. Most of the labor was done with picks and shovels at a small cost to the company.

The first merchandise was brought in a box car and sold to the people from the doors of the car where it was sidetracked on the railroad.

It is hard to believe that all the excitement of a big lumber camp was once in this peaceful little town of Lamar County. In 1910, the town of Sumrall was still roaring. It was in May, 1910 that Jerry Hall and Jack Bonds shot and killed Charlie McMillian on the main street of the town, in front of the drug store. Killings in public were common. Drunkards swore and staggered up and down the street saw dust walks. It was not

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safe to go out at night alone. The mill pond was once a corn field.

Wages were high and most of the people spent the money as fast as they earned it. They lived with no thought of tomorrow. All the houses were always occupied, and new ones were constantly being erected.

From this confusion of getting started, the railroad was finished and trains began their regular schedulw. The mill began operation, emplying two shifts, a day crew, and a night crew. The merchants, doctors, and mill foreman formed the most select social group of the town and set the standards. The next class were the semi-skilled workmen, and the common laborers comprised the last of the social caste.

The select "Four Hundred", of course, did not recognize the laborers. When the timber was all cut out, the whole social order was thrown in confusion, for they all depended upon the same thing for existence. The rowdies disappeareed and the people began drifting away as they found employment elsewhere. Some of the stores closed and others became general stores, instead of specializing in a certain line.

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Then the quiet and peace of any country town settled down ~~pm wjat~~ an what was once a ~~gerpgerpis~~ prosporous location ~~ipcation~~ of industry. Of the several hundreds of people left stranded with no umployment, governmental relief was the only thing to turn to for a livilihood. This is typical of many saw mill towns.

Reference: M. Russell, Sumrall, Miss.

Mrs Ella Crook
Supervisor historical Research Project

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY

INTERVIEWS ASSIGNMENT # 13.

REFORESTATION POSSIBILITIES ARE MANY ON CUT-OVER LANDS.

In the late seventies when the value of the great pine forests of Lamar County began to attract attention, thousands of acres of it passed into private ownership, the greater portion of which was bought by northern capitalists. Following that time for a peroid of 25 years sawmilling was the chief industry of the county, until practically all of the merchantable t mber in the county waws cons med. That fact, however, only served to prove that our native pine forests were quick to put on a second growth of pines, and today there a re a number of small portable mills in the county cutting and marketing this second growth. timber.

On lands that were originally clea ed of the virgin pine and which have not yet been put into cultivation, there are thousands upom thousands of small young pines standing, which, if properly protected will soon be one of the greatest assets of the county. There are many acres of land in Lamar County which could be more profitably used for timber growing perhaps than for agricultural purposes. Especially is this true when we consider that the tendency is for improvement agriculturally by using better methods of cultivation and handling of crops, and better selection of seed and fertilizers as well as by increase in the acreage of land planted. This being the case, it is obvious that there will be many acres in the county that will not be needed for agricultural purposes. Timber can be grown on these lands if at any time, they are needed for any agricultural purpose, the soil will be richer by reason of the annual accumulation of litter, and the timber, though small, can usually be harvested at a profit.

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Special skill is not needed to secure satisfactory results in reforestation. By following a few simple rules, the most ignorant farmer can grow them a crop of timber on his unused land. Indeed, it is not uncommon to see fortutiously situated without any sort of management or protection on the part of the owner.

The total area of Lamar County is 316,800 acres, of which 65 per cent, of 205,920 acres are cultivatable, and the remaining 35 per cent suitable for pasturage or for growing wood. Of the total number of cultivatable lands, there are only 25, 344 acres now in cultivation with 180, 576 acres lying idle, which means with a littlw work in clearing these lands they can be easily put into good state of production .

Parts of these lands are covered with young pine trees of varrying size, a great many of which could be removed andput on the market at a very good price--- and in a great many cases for enoughto pay for the clearing and getting in condition to put into cultivation.

Some of the land from which virgin pine has been removed has grown up in small trees of various kinds, and the pine stumps are still in the ground. The expense of clearing this land will vary with the methods used for removing the stumps. Where this work is hired done, the cost of removing all small trees and undergroth as well as all of the stumps will cost from $4 to $8 an acre. However, there has been ustablished here, a very good market for these pine stumps, as two large wood reducing plants have been built in Hattiesburg, Miss., near here, which buys them at prices which will almost cover the entire cost of clearing the land. These wood reducing plants will also contract with land owners to remove the stumps, paying a very fair price for them.

Another method of putting this land into cultivation is to clear the undergrowth and small trees and part of the stumps, then, later remove the remaining sutmps by burning during the winter. ~~This method of clearing~~

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

This method of clearing has been done here for as little as $2.50 per acre cost.

This cut-over land may be bought in various size tracts-- all the way from 40 acres to 20,000 acres, and in soil type suited to the wishes of the individual settler. The price ranges from $5.00 an acre up in small quantities, depending upon location, type of soil, etc., and in large tracts it can be bought much cheaper. Cleated and improved land ranges from $10 to $50 an acre.

In this edition we have tried to tell you in words and by picture something of the story of the wonderful opportunities offered in Lamar County, Mississippi, for the man who is looking for a new home, or for a place where he can engage in a profitable occupation surrounded by many of the comforts which Mother Nature has placed here for us to enjoy.

Reference : Special Edition Progressive Citizen 1935.
Purvis, Miss.

Mrs Ella Crook.
Supervisor Historical Research Project.

Canvasser
Helen Entrekin HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY July 30, 1936

INTERVIEWS ASSIGNMENT # 13

HOW I FOUND LUMBERTON

" I got off the train at Pitonia, a very prominent place at that time, the railroad station. Of course, there was no Lumberton then. I had my usual grip sack and a job in view, but could see no one who looked as they might need services. I asked the agent to tell me where Camp and Hinton's saw mill was and he pointed out a little negro boy about ten years old going down the track with the mail and told me to follow him. The little negro saw this foreigner following behind him and it wasn't long before he was out of sight. That left me lone lost at the Red Creek trussel. As I didn't see or hear anybody, I decided to walk up the track.

I found a railroad switch and climbed up the bank and looked around. In the meantime I heard a noise up the track, which I decided to go where it came from. It sounded like someone burning off a swamp field or a cane brake. I saw a little path leading off to where the hospital now stands. On ahead about a quarter of a mile I saw a little boxed up new lumber shack, so I walked on to that. On nearing this little house a yellow cur dog met me and challenged my interest. There was an old man rising off a spring cot in the hall. He saw me and said, "Come in stranger." I asked this ole gentleman, who was 96 years old at that time, if he could tell me where Ham Hinton was. He pointed down through the pine forest and showed me a big black stack nearly as large as the city water tank now, 85 feet. 'You will find the boys down there'.(He meant the Hinton boys). Just

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

Just before I got to the mill I discovered what the noise was that I had heard and decided was some one burning a cane brake, it was one of the old negroes, Ned Sandifer, who had just come in on the log ramp and was giving the whip the "Pearl River Pop". This is how I found Lumberton and my new position which I had secured before I left Jackson County, Georgia.

This story was told the canvasser by Mr. W. H. Moon, who arrived at this place which is Lumberton 56 years ago, at the age of 21. He has lived here every since and reared a large family. He is now 77 years old.

6 Mrs Ella Crook.
Supervisor Historical research project.

Canvasser
Mildred Hendrick HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY

INTERVIEWS ASSIGNMENTS # 13.

CYCLONE AT PURVIS.

On April 24, 1908 about 3:13 P. M. I was in the house and on looking out I saw a huge black funnel shaped cloud approaching from the southeast. It looked like it was boiling on the ground. I called the children into the house and asked my husband not to go work at the store. My husband and I and the three children got on a bed and wrapped up in quilts putting a cotton mattress over us. The cloud was roaring, it was terrible. We were not in the straight path of the cloud but three distinct whirls caught us. Some of the furniture was whirled straight toward the storm. The top of the house was torn off and then the walls fell in on us. We begun to get out by the time the last whirl was gone. It took four men to pull the springs we were on apart to get the mattress and quilts out. We had a cedar bucket that was found on the floor turned over a chicken. Our pantry was blown about one fourth of a mile from the house with the pans and other things it contained still in it just as I had put them. It was nearly dark for about four minutes while it lasted. The earth rocked and rain poured in torrents. After the clouds passed, raoring into the northeast, carrying before them all that stood in their path, for a moment there was silence then lightening and thunder and then pitiful crys, groans, and screams that arose on all sides. People dying, others hurt and still others frightened beyond control. Mr. W. B. Allsworth and F. J. Calhoun rode on horse back to Richburg which is about 10 miles to tell of the disaster. A. special train was sent from Hattiesburg by N.O. N.E. R. R. which reached

Canvasser
Mildred Hendrick

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the town before dark. On this train were Brs. Donald, H. L. Mckinnon, L. W. Rayne, B. F. Mosely, W. W. Crawford, and Leo. Martin, and several rescue workers. Wreckage and disaster lay before them on every hand. The court house was used for a morgue and hospital.

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Its roof had been blown away but the walls remained. The new town clock had stopped at exactly 2:13 P. M. The hands remained in this position for many years afterward and when it was started was never made to keep correct time. Within twenty-four houss after the cyclone struck the Red Cross, Army and Navy as well as other organizations had relief agencies on the ground. Gov. Noel sent military tents and hospital equipment. Groceries and mattresses were sent from Hattiesburg. Red Cross workers arrived from Washington and Philidelphia. The two Hattiesburg Hospitals were filled with injured. The body of James Moffett, City Marshal was found transfixed with a piece of timber. It had to be sawed off before the body could be removed. We had to start cleaning up and rebuilding again. In about eight months homes and business houses were under construction again. There were 65 persons killed and 340 injured and nearly 2000 left destitute at Purvis. It has been said there have been cyclones in the United States but there never has been one that struck so quickly, passed so quickly, and did so much damage in so short a time. This cyclone passed through several southern states but was centered here leaving death, destruction and confusion which I hope we will never go through again. I can remember hearing one person ask another if she prayed, the person answered that she did not as she didn't want to insult the Lord as she should have been praying long before. The people of Purvis should not and I don't think will ever forget those responding in the time of their great need.

Reference: Mrs. Luther Magee, Purvis, Miss.

Mrs Ella Brook.
SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Canvasser
Nolon Entrekin

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT July 30, 1936

INTERVIEW ASSIGNMENT #13.

HOME MADE PRAYER OFFERED DURING THE CYCLONE.

During the time of the cyclone I saw Peter, James and John when Christ was lying in the hull of the ship on a pillow when the storm came up on the sea. He hushed the wind for them, he heard them; I saw all that by the eye of faith and I said unto Christ, " Lord if thou heard Peter, James and John pray, if you have heard no prey at all, stop the wind," and the wind ceased immediately and appeared to again that if there had only been ten true christains in the city, why the angels saw the blood spread over the door posts, it would have ~~passed~~ passed over the city and the whilde city would have been saved.

Reference; Home Dev. Arcona; interview. Purvis Miss.

Mrs Ella Crook
Historical Research Project upervisor

Canvasser
Pauline Slade

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

LAMAR COUNTY

INTERVIEWS ASSIGNMENT # 13

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Dr. Harvey Garrison moved to this country with his parents from the state of Georgia to the place now known as old Pitonia in this Lamar County. This was about the year of 1884. He was then a small child.

He attended his first school here, this was a hired teacher. Soon afterward his mother died then his father moved away, married again, then moved back to Pitonia. He then attended school at Lumberton, then they moved to Alabama, but Dr. Garrison finished his education in the Public Schools of Mississippi. Later graduating in medicine from the University of Tennessee. Since then he has done considerable Post Graduate work at Columbia University and New York Post Graduate Hospital and Medical School.

In the year of 1915 he was author of the State Medical Association memoralizing the state legislature to establish and equip a sanitarium for the study, prevention and treatment of tuberlosis which was the first step in founding the State Sanitarium at Magee. He also had a part in selecting Dr. Boswell as Superintendent of this Institution.

Dr. Garrison was member of the first Board of Trustees of the State Feeble Minded Institution. From the beginning as a young doctor doing general practice in Covington County he through constant study and his native ability has come to be recognized as one of the most progressive, useful and public spirited physicians in the state and now is Mississippi's Councilor of the Governing Board of the Southern Medical Association.

Mrs Ella Crook.

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Canvassers-
Pauline Slade
Mildred Hendricks.

Lamar County History

Assignment # 3.

1. NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS

Being comparatively a new section of the state, Lamar County does not afford very much data in the interviews furnished by canvassers. As a rule early settlers of this county came at a comparatively late date and can furnish very little first hand knowledge of the earlier settlers. They can only repeat the stories told them by their fathers and neighbors.

1. Pioneers:

Generally pioneers form an important factor in the developement of any country. They make way or blaze the trails for others to follow. In Lamar County might be mentioned various settlers and settlements formed by immigrants coming from the Carolinas mostly and other nearby states. These pioneers were illiterate, poor but honest and home loving people. They came to this section of the country because they could get free land on which to build their humble log-cabin homes and where their sheep and cattle could range unmolested, on the tall green grass that this piney woods section afforded the year round. Sheep and cattle raising was their main industry. This section also abounded in a plentiful supply of wild game and fish which added materially to their livlihood.

The first settlement in Lamar County of which we have any knowledge is where the town of Lumberton is now located. It was made by Mr. Proctor who is said to be the first white man to settle in this section. He caught and marked wild cattle that use to roam this part of the country. He was soon followed by a Mr. O'Bannion, these

were followed by Mr. Elli Dearman who built a log cabin just west of the present site of the Southern Depot. Prior to this time Lumberton had been an Indian village, evidences of which are found in numerous arrow heads scattered over the ground. There was also an Indian village about ten miles from Sumrall on Black Creek where Russell Bridge now spans the creek. Real pioneer days however, as quoted by Mr. Dearman, begun after the settlements above referred to.

There was a box known as the Dearman Box and there were six voters. On election days, Tuesdays, they cast their ballots, put a man on horse back and sent him to Columbia, the county site of Marion County a distance of forty miles, Lamar then was a part of Marion, with instructions to remain there until he could secure the election returns from the entire County. He usually returned on Saturdays, when the voters assembled again and celebrated with a shooting match, using their old flint-locks, the only kind of guns they had. Prominent among the pioneers settlers were the Dearmans, Landrums, Bounds, Slades, Rouses, Baxters, Standfords, Hickmans, Fillingames, Fords, Boones, McCloskys all coming the latter part of 1700 or in early part of 1800. About fifty years later the northern part of the county was settled by the Carters, Brooms, Lotts, Kings, Russels, Watts and Sumralls.

(b) In a strict sense of the word there are no antibellum homes, unless it be the remains of some log cabin.

(c) The spinning wheels and looms, warping bars and reels used by the women of these pioneers to spin the thread and weave

the cloth to make their clothes, were so perfectly and symmetrically made by hand by the men that they were really works of art. There is nothing more artistic than the old honey combed woven fringed cotton counterpanes and the geometrically designed woven wool coverlets in colors mostly blue and white, dyed with indigo that they had grown.

(d) The furniture of these pioneers consisted of various substantially constructed necessary pieces such as beds, tables, chairs, churns, piggins, benches and stools all home made. All would be considered antiques as much as the handsomest Duncan Phyfe and Chippendale.

11. Historians:

(a) The sixteenth section in each township in Lamar County was donated to the state of Mississippi by the United Stated of America by an act of Congress on March 13, 1838 an act supplementary there to for the support and maintanance of the public schools of the township. The constituion of the law of the state of Mississippi provides that these sixteenth section school lands can never be sold but they shall be leased and the money obtained from the leasing of these lans shall be loaned and the interest obtained used for the support and maintenance of the school of the township.

The Legislature has within the last thirty years provided for the sale of the timber on the sixteen section school lands and the loaning of the money received therefor, the interest to be used for the support of the public schools of the township.

(b) What might be termed an important historic landmark is commonly called the demarcation line, surveyed by the United States Government in 1812 along the thirty-first north parralled of latitude, this being the line that marked the boundary between the territory ceded by Spain to England by the treaty between France and England. England taking all that part of the territory south of this line it was necessary to make allowances for the curvature of the earth, which was done by making occasional off sets. These off sets were marked by rich hewn pines stakes, then an earth mound was built upon this stake which was in appearance like that of a potato bank. These mounds though placed more than 130 years ago are not all extinct at this day. Some confusion among surveyors has been caused by these off sets, and too, this line divides the town of Lumberton in Lamar County which has occasioned some trouble among the county's political divisions.

Another land mark of note is a series of gullies or deep underground passages known as the Copeland Clan's hideout where they would go to divide their spoils after making forays of robbery into different states. This is beside the highway between Purvis ans Hattiesburg in Lamar County. This notorious band of outlaws operated from the Carolinas to Texas and it is said after collecting amounts of booty they gathered here where they could divide their loot unmolested. Another land mark of interest in connection with this same outlaw band is the scene of the famous

Copeland-Harvey battle where Wages and McGrath were killed and where James and John Copeland, the principals of the clan were captured and carried to Old Augusta in Perry County for trial. It was here that John Copeland was hanged, the graves of Wages and McGrath already mentioned are marked by a rustic cross hewn from heart pine. They are located about eight miles from Lumberton in Lamar County.

In 1815 Andrew Jackson, after the battle of New Orleans passed through Lamar County traveling and laying out what is known as the Jackson Military Road. He traveled in a northeasterly direction, crossing Black Creek about ten miles west of Sumrall. This place is still called Old Military Ford. The poles which his soldiers cut to afford crossing of branches and marshes are still in evidence. Where Andrew Jackson and his soldiers crossed the Sumrall and Oloh road, a church stands and is called Old Military Church.

(c) There is an Indian Mound on the north bank of Black Creek about halfway between the bridges on the Jackson Highway and on the Richburg road. The mound is about 225 to 350 feet in diameter and about 25 feet high. It was built close to the banks of the creek in the flat or lowlands. At the present time there are several large white oaks, red oaks, magnolia trees and several large trees have been recently cut out and removed from the mound.

A visit to the mound shows that at different periods there have been explorations made into the mound but so far as is known nothing of interest has ever been discovered or removed from the mound.

Mr Sam Slade, a descendant of one of the pioneers of this section asserts that the remains of an Indian Mound in Lumberton were quite visible when he was a child. It is in the eastern part of the town of Lumberton. There is no trace of it, however, remaining today.

Ray Boone, son of W.I. Boone has in his possession an Indian Tomahawk that he found in the year of 1920 neat the Indian Mound on Black Creek. The tomahawk is dated in the year 1771. It is made of bronze, gold, and silver. On one side is the sun and on the other side is the moon. In one end is a place to insert a stem and the place for the handle is for a bowl for tobacco thus making a "peace pipe"

(d) About four miles west of Purvis there is an inland lake called Mossy Pond, it was inhabitated by turtles and alagators originally but has been stocked with fish by the government in later years. The lake has neither outlet nor inlet. The lake covers fifteen acres of land and the water is from ten to twelve feet deep.

About ten miles from Sumrall on Black Creek there are several tons of huge sandstone rocks. Some of these rocks are as large as a large house. Old settlers believe these rocks were brought by glaciers during the ice age.

(e) Marion County was divided into two judicial districts by an Act of Legislature approved March 6, 1886. This Act provided for an election on the first Monday in May, 1888, to determine whether Lumberton or Purvis would be the County Seat of the Second Judicial District. The election resulted in Purvis being selected as County Site. Columbia was the County Site of the first Judicial District of Marion County. The town of Purvis was incorperated as a municipality by an Act of Legislature approved Febreary 25, 1888.

111. Officials and Ex-officials:

(a) Lamar County was created out of the Second Judicial District of Marion County and a small part out of the morthern part of Pearl River County, by an Act of the Legislature approved on the 19th day of February, 1904.

(b) The first officiers of Lamar County were as follows: Sheriff & Tax Collector, G. W. Holleman; Chancery and Circuit Clerk, C.V. Hathorne; Treasurer, J. T. Carley; Tax Assessor, John Magee; Superintendent of Education, T.W. Davis, Representative J. R. Holcombe.

Members of the Board of Supervisors were: Beat 1, J. W. Treen; Beat 2, D. C. Camp; Beat 3, W. H. Powell; Beat 4, T.L. Cameron; Beat 5, P. E. Bynum.

The present officers of Lamar County are: Sheriff & Tax collector Cazzie Entrekin; Chancery Clerk, S. E. Watts; Circuit Clerk, Lacy Lott; Tax Assessor, H. C. Broadus; Superintendent of Education, Z. K. Foshee; Representative E. W. Clinton.

Members of the Board of Supervisors are: Beat 1, T. F. Thurman; Beat 2, Roy Ledbetter; Beat 3, W. W. Dearman; Beat 4, W. A. Cole; Beat 5, J. R. Saucier.

4. Any other interesting interview.

In 1910 a number of German settlers bought several thousand acres of cut over land at old Slab Town and moved to this county, mostly from Ohio. At this point they built a Cotholic Church and schoold house which they named Seneca. An interview with some of them disclosed some interesting facts. The soil was poor and fertilization was necessary to insure productivity. In order to subsist they resorted to dairying. They built silos and thus produced cheap food stuff for their cattle. By industry and strict economy this soon became and stilli is a very thriving community.

This interview is written mainly to show what thrift will do in overcoming natural handicaps.

Another interesting interview of one of our canvassers relates to the northern part of Lamar County where the Newman Lumber Company built a large saw mill at Sumrall and constructed the Mississippi Central Railroad through that town. In carrying out these projects they imported a large number of laborers from New Orleans and other points consisting of Italians, Germans, Hungarians, Bohemians, Chinese, Etc. When the timber was all cut the company still owned the land, but was forced to quit operating their saw mill.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

With this large number of mixed nationalities the company had a problem to solve, the manner in which they solved it, as disclosed by an interview with the saw mill folk, formed rather an interesting episode in the history of the county. Among the population of this community was a sprinkling of farmers who very readily trained these people and imparted to them a knowledge of agriculture. Sheer necessity forced upon them the adoption of farming for a livlihood, as a result today they are a happy, industrious, thriving, liberty loving people.

Signed: Mrs Ella Crook
Supervisor Historical Research Project
Lamar County.

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LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LUMBERTON

Tthe First Baptist Church of Lumberton, Mississippi was organized in the summer of 1889.

Rev. Thomas Smith was elected the first Pastor of the church, and led in the erection of the first church building which stood on the same lot now occupied by the Edward Hines Lumber Office. Those were happy days for both pastor and people. The membership had increased to 28 during the first year.

In October Rev. W. B. Holcomb accepted the pastorate of the church, and remained on the field 10½ years. These were epoch making years in the life of the church. 27 years ago the present location was secured by the congregation numbering about 88 members, and the erection of a church building was begun in 1898, completed and dedicated in 1899, by Dr. A. N. Rowe, then corresponding Secretary of State Missions. After a lapse of 18 years, Brother Holcombe was chosen pastor of the church and remained on the field one year.

Nothing but words of praise can be said of the work of these two venerable preachers of the Cross.

Rev. J. P. Culpepper was chosen pastor of the church in 1901, and seemed to be God's man for the place. The church flourished under his leadership and increased in membership. He led in the erection of the present pastorium.

In 1904 Rev. W. S. Allen was elected pastor of the church and served faithfully one year, when he resigned the

pastorate of the church to enter the Seminary at Louisville,Ky.

Rev. R. L. Sproles came to the pastorate of the church in 1906 and wrought well for two years. He was a hard worker and a faithful soldier of the Cross. The Lord called him home ten years ago.

Rev. R.D. Maun was elected pastor of the church in October of 1907, and served one year.

Rev. R. L. Spencer was chosen pastor of the church in 1908, and was equal to the task. He was a mighty preacher of the Word and a wise leader of his people.

In 1914 Rev. J. A. Lee came to the pastorate of the church and accomplished much good for the Master. The evangelistic fires were kindled in the hearts of the people and the membership increased very materially.

Rev. E. W. Garrett was elected pastor of the church in 1918, and remained on the field two years. He was a fearless expositor of the Word of God. Under his leadership the church was standarized, and every department flourished. It was during his stay that the W. M. S. was organized.

Rev. J. N. Miller came to the pastorate of the church and accomplished much good. Under his leadership the church building was enlarged. The Senior and Intermediate B. Y. P. U's. were organized. During these years many were led to Christ.

In 1924 Rev. [illegible]. E. Ballard was elected pastor of the church, and led the church for eighteen months. He

was loyal to the Baptist Program. He was a great teacher, many study-courses were taught during his pastorate. The Junior B. Y. P. U. was organized. The church membership grew under his influence. In June of 1925 he resigned the care of the church to accept a position with the "BAPTIST RECORD."

L. A. Materne was chosen pastor of the church in August, 1925, and led the congregation in the erection of the new brick building. He resigned Nov. 27, 1928.

Rev. Wallace came to the pastorate in January, 1929. He was well loved by all the members of the church and did much good. He resigned in 1934.

R. R. Ready came to the pastorate in May, 1934. During the two years of his work he has done much good in the church. He repaired the church building and reduced the church debt.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE PURVIS METHODIST CHURCH

BY W. H. SAUNDERS

In 1883 the leading families in what is now Purvis were Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Purvis, J. B. Purvis and family, W. H. Fillingame and Mr. Plummer Ladner and family.

In 1884 the Southern railroad was projected through this section, and Mr. Melvin Purvis gave the right of way and the Post Office was named in his honor. This gave the name of Purvis to the town and depot.

Before the coming of the railroad, religious services were held in private homes and the families were divided between the Methodist and Baptist churches, etc.

Mr. Melvin Purvis was the grandfather of Mr. J. H. Purvis, at this time a leading member of the Methodist Church, and member of the Official Board of the same. Melvin Purvis' descendants are among the leading citizens of the town and community and have been a factor in the developement of the town.

The building in which services were first held as a preaching place stood North West of the Highway No. 11, not far from the home of Mrs. Carley.

After the railroad became an established fact and the depot was erected, other families began to move into the community, and Purvis took on the proportions of a town. In a short time the families began to move in, the Evens, Carleys, Scarboroughs, Crosses, Clarks, Calhouns, McClouds, Hands, etc. In 1886 Rev. Nan Guice established

Purvis as a regular preaching appointment. In September of the same year Rev. B. S. Raynor, P. E. Seashore District, was instrumental in incorporating Purvis as a part of a charge composed of Ellisville, Hattiesburg, Purvis, and Poplarville. Rev. J. W. McLaurens served as pastor. Members of the above mentioned families were associated in the organization of the church at the time it was started.

The first church building erected for the congregation stood on the East side of Highway No. 11, South of the present building, indicated by the graves of some of the former citizens.

Rev. Robert Selby served as pastor part of 1886; and Rev. J. W. Tucker served as pastor 1887, 88, 89, and 1890. During part of 1890 a Brother Hays--a blind man served as pastor. During this year he was assisted in a protracted meeting by Bro. Geo. D. Anders, and Bro. Jim Hand and Bro. John McCloud were converted.

Some of those now living remember that there was an old time revival, as shouting, rejoicing and many expressions of gladness revealed the happiness of those being saved as well as their loved ones. The lives and services of Mr. John McCloud and Mr. Jim Hand and their families will long remain to bless the community as the years come and go.

The following members of the Mississippi Conference have served as P. Es. of the Seashore District during these years: B. S. Raynor, 1883,4, 5, 6; Dr. West, 1887,

88, 89; T. W. Cooper,1900; E. H. Monger, 1891; J. A. Ellis, 1892; H. E. Patridge, 1893; Clarence Powell, 1895, 96,97, 98; W. W. Simmons, 90, 91, 92; T. L. Mellen 1903, 4, 5; M. L. Burton, 1906, 1907, and 1908. Without giving the dates they served, we can give the names of several of the pastors who have served the charge during these years---and who are still living. They are W. M. Williams, J. D. Ellis, M. M. Black, R. L. Norton, C. W. Wesley, Canton; V. G. Clifford, Flora; W. H. Lane, and C. F. Emery. Those who have gone on before are: H. D. H Howell, J. S. Parker, and Dan Kelly.

Some of those who have served as P. Es. who are still living are: J. L. Sells, Otto Porter, T. J. O'Neill and L. J. Power.

On the 24th day of April 1908, the Cyclone struck Purvis, demolishing many homes and other buildings and especially the Methodist Church. On a marble plate inside the main auditorium of the present building may be seen the names of our congregation who were killed by the cyclone, and buried from the church. They are: Olivia Clark, Clara Weems, Elizabeth Gertrude Bright, Sidney Dickson and James Night. Bro. M. M. Black was pastor at this time and received some slight injuries in the storm.

A movement was started at once to rebuild the church and the response was so liberal by the congregation and friends in and around Purvis, that it was also able to build a parsonage for the pastors. Since that day the Purvis church has held a high rank in the charges of the

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Mississippi Conferences.

During the time preceding the closing out of the saw mills and the 1929 crash it was an easy matter to meet the highest expectations of the leaders of our church. To add to this we have lost some of the best leadership in the going away of some of the most devoted, capable and willin members of the church. The names of Holloman, Bennett, Carley, and the late D. W. Slay, appear among the best. Their names were written in the book of life, and they have responded to the call to receive their wages at the house not made with hands.

There are still some faithful ones who stand by the church, especially among the ladies.

Three of our most promising young men of the Miss. Conference, were born here, received their impressions and training for the christian life, were called into the ministry and are serving the church well and with great promise of future usefullness to the kingdom. They are: Bro. W. B. Alsworth, P. E. Hattiesburg District, and Bro. James Slay of Ocean Springs and Wesley House on the Coast and also T. R. Hott, DeSoto. Purvis has a right to be proud of these young men and I predict that as the years go by they will be more so.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

LUMBERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Rev. Girault M. Jones married Virginia Wallace in 1930 and brought her to Lumberton Mississippi. One of her plans for helping her husband in his work and for broadening the cultural side of life in the community, was the establishment of a library. She lived only a few months, but the idea had been born and the seed sown. Mr. Jones, aided by Mr. Bissell, who was Scout Master of Troop #1 B.S. A., began the work.

The Boy Scouts worked faithfully to build shelves and to canvas the town for books that were donated. The Girl Reserves cleaned and cataloged books as they were brought in . The First National Bank gave the use of a large room without rent, and the Commercial Club gave tables and chairs.

When the library was formally opened the latter part of March 1931, a governing committee composed of one representative from each Church and Club in the town arrange for Boy Scouts and Girl Reserves to keep it open for two afternoons each week. After this became monotonous to the boys and girls Mrs. Mabel Mason began keeping it regularly and continued until the State Library Project began to function under the C. W. A.. Since that time there has been some arrangement to use a paid worker in the libra nd Mrs. Mattie Brooks has been kept there.

The library, which has no fund other than a sma

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

annual fee for membership, depends almost entirely upon donations for new books, but it has grown and is a source of much benefit to those who love good books, for the majority of the donations have been good. Mr. Jones has been able to interest Churches and their Auxiliary organizations in the library, and books have been sent from a number of towns and cities so that at the present time, May, 30, 1936, there are 1250 books in a well regulated well kept library.

Ref.-Mable Mason, Lumberton, Miss.

Mrs Ella Brook

Lamar County Supervisor, Historical
Research Project.

LAMAR COUNTY HISTORY

THE PURVIS BAPTIST CHURCH

In the autumn of 1882, while the railroad (now the Southern Railroad) which went through the town was being built, the Purvis Baptist Church was organized. The organization took place on a spot in the north-eastern section of the town of Purvis. At that time a hurricane which had passed through this section had laid low many pine trees and on these logs the people sat as they held their open air meetings.

Rev. J. P. Johnston presided at the organization in which were also active, Rev. Daniel Boone and Rev. Isaac Anderson. These three were the church's earliest pastors and they together with Rev. J. B. Flannigan served the church until 1891 when it,with drew from the Red Creek Association and became a member of the State Baptist Convention.

For some time after its organization the church held its meetings in a school house built of logs, but about 1885 (or later) a frame,one room, building with a steeple was built on the west side of what is now Main Street at its northern end. This building was used for awhile by the methodists, until they erected their own building in the southern part of town. In 1904 the congregation moved to a new site, erecting a larger building where the present church now stands. Four years later this building was totally destroyed by the tornado of 1908. Then the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention through its church building fund, erected the building we have today.

The deacons serving the church were J. B. Purvis, S. E. Johnston, W. H. Fillingame and H. T. Davis. All of these have passed to their reward, as also the pastors mentioned above--only one charter member of the church is still a member today--Mrs. Nancy Purvis whose husband, the late J. B. Purvis served as deacon for almost forty years, until his death.

Fifteen pastors have served this church, filling seventeen pastorates, during the fifty-four years of its existence. Today it's membership numbers about two hundred and fifty and is still growing.