





PERY COUNTY HISTORICAL QUARTERS
 COLUMBIAN, MISSOURI
 1933

MISSOURI
 1933

PEMISCOT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ORGANIZED IN APRIL 1970

OFFICERS FOR 1981 - 82 - PEMISCOT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Vice President-----Kaye Gill
Secretary-----Alberta Klemp
Treasurer-----Rachel Dawson

STAFF FOR 1981-82 QUARTERLY

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Circulation Editor - Roberta Pollock

The Society meets the fourth Friday of each month, except for the month of December. Membership is \$5.00 per year per person, (you may also include \$1.00 extra to defray cost of publishing the Quarterly).

This Quarterly is published four times a year: July, October, January and April. All members who are present at those respective meetings of those months may pick up their copy--all others will receive their issues through the mail, and should receive them shortly thereafter, since the publication date is the fourth Friday.

Queries are free to members of the Society, and should reach the editor before the first day of the month of publication. This address is: R.R. 2, Box 975, Hayti, Missouri 63851.

A free book review will be given anyone who wants a book advertised, they must supply the Society with a free copy of the book to be placed in the Archives Room in the Presbyterian Church Building which the Society maintains.

Historical Societies and Genealogical Societies are invited to swap quarterlies with us. Their publications will also be placed in the Archives Room.

The Quarterly this year and for the '81-'82 Historical Society Year will continue the same format: namely of publishing for preservation the essays submitted to the Society by residents or about residents of Peniscot County. These will be supplemented by official records. Each issue will contain countywide articles of interest, items about places, people and things scattered throughout the entire county. The continuing articles for this year--marriage records from Book #4, and Peniscot County Cemetery Inscriptions, Vol. II and the conclusion of Peniscot Pioneers. The Index of VII is indexed on card file in the Archive Room. Historical Society members may have access to Volume VII by contacting one of the officers.

The numbering of pages in Volume VII--continues where Volume VI left off. Be sure to save your copies to bind later on.

The authors of all these essays have described to the fullest of their knowledge concerning the subject about which they have written. But from time to time, there are others who can add to the information that has been published. Please feel free to send this to the editor, as the Society wishes to collect and preserve information.

1981-82 DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE - The Peniscot County Historical Society complete twelve years of existence, having been organized in April 1970. Dues are still \$5.00 per person per year, however, you can help defray costs of publishing the Quarterly by including an extra \$1.00 along with your \$5.00 dues. You may send your check to Rachel Dawson, 600 Carleton Avenue, Caruthersville, Mo. 63830. As a member of the Society you receive each issue of the Quarterly.

CEMETERY BOOKS AVAILABLE - VOLUMES I, II, III, IV & V CEMETERY BOOKS available send \$5.00 for each book needed to : Rachel Dawson, address above.

ISSUES OF THE QUARTERLY AVAILABLE

April, July October-1976, January, April, July, October-1977,
January, April, July-1978, April, October-1979
January, April, July, October-1980, January, April, July, October-1981
January, April 1982

Send \$1.50 for each Quarterly requested to: Rachel Dawson, Address above.

PEMISCOT COUNTY, MISSOURI CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS, VOLUME II.
Compiled and Published by Pemiscot County Historical Society, cont'd from
January 1982 Quarterly.

Donald H. James, Sept 10, 1942-May 29, 1944

Doris J. James, 1944-1960

Garnet L. James, Dec 11, 1911-Dec 23, 1947

William Vickers James, Missouri, SF/3c USNR W W II Apr 4, 1922-May 19, 1951

Sarah Lillian Jefferies, Sept 11, 1876-Mar 12, 1968

Lloyd B. Jeffress, May 8, 1898-Dec 29, 1956

Edward J. Jenkins, 1881-1946

Barney E. Jenkins, Missouri, Pvt 163rd Inf 41st Div d. Oct. 23, 1939

Essie Jenkins, Oct 21, 1896-Apr 13, 1931

Paris Jennings, 1886-1959

Andrew N. Johnson, 1861-1946

Walter Johnson, 1888-1923

Douglas C. Johnson, Oct 18, 1904-Aug 4, 1962

Joy I. Johnson, May 6, 1906-

Rouss C. Johnson, 1895-1957

Ida Johnson, 1889-

Glenn M. Johnson, Mar 26, 1891-

Annie R. Johnson, Oct 1, 1893-Nov 2, 1958

John W. Johnson, June 2, 1906-Dec 12, 1961

Lorene V. Johnson, July 17, 1906-

Charles J. Johnson, 1881-1930

Bonnie Johnson, 1887-1930

Newberry Gibson, 1850-1928

Leroy Johnson, 1815-1936

Walter Johnson, s.o. Frank & Eva Estes, Apr 21, 1926-May 18, 1926

Mildred Wilbur, w.o. Lotis F. Johnson, July 24, 1926-July 8, 1952

Ona Catherine Joiner, Feb. 1, 1907-Sept 17, 1943

Donald, Nov. 15, 1933-Oct 5, 1934 Children of Charlie & Edna Joliff
 Ronald, Nov. 15, 1933-June 12, 1934 Edna Joliff

Robert D. Jones, Oct 7, 1908-
 Violet V. Jones, Dec 26, 1909-
 Robert Wesley Jones, Sept 29, 1943-Sept 30, 1943

Kenneth Coleman Jones, Apr 4, 1932-Mar 25, 1963

John H. Jones, July 31, 1866-Oct 14, 1957

Richard P. Jones, May 28, 1886-June 4, 1957

John H. Jones, 1892-1958

W.R. Jones, June 23, 1891-Oct 12, 1965
 Orpha Jones, Feb 5, 1900-May 6, 1965

Lillian R. Jones, Sept 26, 1875-Oct 26, 1965
 John W. Jones, June 26, 1871-Jan 19, 1934

L.D. Jones, Jr. Aug 7, 1943-July 2, 1944

Harold E. Jones, Apr 10, 1933-May 8, 1965
 Mary Alice Jones, Aug 22, 1938-
 Harold Edward Jones, Cpl 424 Ord Ammo Co. Missouri, Apr 10, 1933-May 8, 1965

Franklin Roosevelt Jones, Missouri, SP/3, US Army Feb 2, 1933-Feb 18, 1965

Flora M. Jones, Aug 18, 1897-
 Willard Jones, Nov 18, 1897-Oct 17, 1942

Luther M. Jones, June 29, 1882-June 1, 1940

John H. Jones, Oct 5, 1879-July 28, 1965
 Vivian Jones, Aug 4, 1908-

Clarence Jowers, Missouri, Pvt. Co E 70th Inf W W I, Aug 12, 1892-Nov 10, 1960

Floyd E. Joyner, Jr. d. Dec 20, 1938

Elwanda Keller, d.o. Robert & Mae, Apr 1, 1941-Dec 22, 1941

Albert Keller, Nov 25, 1877-Jan 28, 1964 "Uncle"
 May Keller, May 14, 1906-

Jesse B. Kelley, Jan 27, 1882-Mar 1, 1964

Kenneth Ray Kelly, Oct 9, 1922-July 9, 1949

Oley Mathis Kelly, Jan 14, 1881-Apr 12, 1944

Russell Kelly, s.o. A.J. & Ida Belle, Nov 25, 1919-July 25, 1930

James Gordon Kelly, Missouri, Sgt. U S Army, W W II, Jan 29, 1915-June 13, 1965

Ora B. Kelley, 1878-1954
J. Edward Kelley, 1873-1961
Jim Ed Kelley, 1933-1946

Bonnie Kelley, 1903-1956
Hazel Kelley, 1915-

Callie Kelley, 1870-1936

Charles E. Kerley, Jan 30, 1910-Oct 21, 1969

Deanna Lynn Ketchum, Sept 24, 1963-Sept 14, 1969

Will Kinder, Jan 9, 1887-July 29, 1954
Ilean kinder, Oct 23, 1911-Jan 14, 1940
Lea Kinder, Mar 26, 1884-June 23, 1954

Ferd S. King, Missouri, Pfc 114th Field Artillery, Feb 19, 1896-
Jan 28, 1960, W W I

Laura May King, Mar 2, 1900-Oct 13, 1965

Harry Bryan King, Commander, US Navy, W W I & W W II, Jan 1, 1898-Mar 13, 1963

Jewel King, Dec 22, 1899-Jan 18, 1953

Lloyd King, Pvt 21st Fld Arty 5th Div d. Oct 12, 1922

Steve C. King, Feb 20, 1898-Sept 28, 1967

Ann Mary King, Aug 13, 1888-

Jesse R. King, Dec 2, 1881-
Della C. King, Feb 15, 1880-Oct 6, 1958

Earl B. King, July 27, 1907-Aug 28, 1929

Noah S. King, May 8, 1886-Apr 22, 1954
Maggie M. King, Mar 22, 1895-June 25, 1963

Wm. Curtis King, 1890-1951
Minerva Hedge King, 1894-

Nancy E. King, Mar 2, 1869-Mar 20, 1953
James P. King, Mar 1, 1865-Apr 20, 1955

Henry C. Kirk, 1870-1957
Emma E. Kirk, 1873-1929

Dicie Catherine Kirksey, Jan 20, 1870-Jan 19, 1957
Thomas B. Kirksey, Jan 23, 1873-May 15, 1964

Sarah E. Knight, 1871-1945

Ona F. Knight, 1897-
Jimmie Knight-1881-1966

Charles Knight-1859-1939

Hettie Knott, July 28, 1883-July 1, 1957

Walter Knott, 1881-1942
Sallie Knott, 1883-19

Irene Knudson, Jan 17, 1908-Mar 11, 1958

Roxie G. Kyle, 1871-1945
Henry W. Kyle, 1867-1944

Hettie Lee Lacewell, Mar 10, 1889-Nov 21, 1967
William L. Lacewell, June 9, 1885-Nov 10, 1946

Judith Diane Lafferty, 1945-1959
Dixie Lafferty, 1890-1966
Edith Lafferty, 1922-1924
William N. Lafferty, 1914-1940
Robert Lafferty, 1917-1939

William Whetson Lair, Mar 12, 1884-Mar 30, 1966

Addie Lee Lair, w.o. John A. Lair, May 3, 1892-Apr 21, 1931

Henry M. Lambert, Apr 18, 1900-
Dollie M. Lambert, Jan 7, 1907-Feb 15, 1964

Bertha Lane, Oct 14, 1894-Feb 3, 1969
William E. Lane, June 13, 1895-June 4, 1939

William Harrison Langley, Missouri, Pvt Co C 138 Engineers, WW I,
Nov 29, 1888-June 6, 1957

Hattie J. Largent, 1900-
Charles W. Largent, 1884-1946

Thomas Richard Lassiter, June 13, 1944-June 13, 1944

Susie E. Hicks, Lassiter, Jan 18, 1918-Mar 1, 1945

SWAMP ANGEL SONGS

by Mayme Hamlett

THE GRAVEYARD

The rain had been just enough
To make it impossible to plow
Or to chop the cotton,
For on such days
The mud balls on the hoe
And it feels heavy
Like a thing of lead.
It will not swing.

So this was the day to clean off the graves.
It was drier there, for the one high ridge
Had been selected for the graves
By the early settlers who,
Disdaining the swamps, wept to think
Of their loved ones
Who had known hills and sunshine
Lying in the graves into which water
Rushed at the digging and had to be bailed out
Before the body was lowered.

To this spot on rainy days
When field work could not be done.
Came relatives to clean the graves and beautify them.

Usually the women came alone, for the
Men folks had other things to do or else
They went to town. But occasionally
A man came to spade and lift.
First the mussel shells were moved
From the edges of the graves.
Mussel shells were good to put at the edges
Of the mounds, They prevented erosion
And the growth of weeds, and they could be
Picked up by the children from the nearby bayou.
Then the treasures were removed, the graves
Scraped free of grass, and then
Everything was replaced.

But the children scattered to roam
At will over the graveyard and read again
The inscriptions they knew so well:
"Budded on earth to bloom in heaven,"
"Weep not for me, my parents dear,
I am not dead but sleeping here."
Children's graves, so many of them;

For so many children could not live
Through the dreaded second summer.
There were three small heart-shaped stones
For the three babies of the same family who had died
Suddenly in an epidemic. Oh, there was much to see!
There was that fearsome spot where just outside the fence
The gypsy had been buried. He, one of a
Fortune-telling, horse-trading crew,
Had stopped overnight, had died,
And the white people of the community
Had allowed his body to be placed
Outside the fence.

Finally there were the various treasures,
Familiar as they were,
To be exclaimed over.
The old hen and rooster sets of china,
Slightly chipped, but decorative still,
Bits of colored glass, bowls
Cracked across so they were
No longer usable at home,
Playthings the dead child had loved
And the folks could not endure
The sight of their uselessness.
Delicate treasures of paper flowers
Enclosed in fruit jars sometimes
Leaned against the bit of board which
Served as a marker.
Once there was a crown of feathers
In the case of a wornout alarm clock.
This feather crown had been removed
From the pillow on which the child had died -
All persons who will wear crowns in heaven
Left this sign in their pillows (And
Alas for the wicked - though no one would
So mark his grave or keep them -
In his pillow knots of feathers massed themselves
To show the tares his deeds had sown!).

Long before the children had finished the strange sights,
Repeating bits of awesome gossip about the burials,
The work was finished and they
Must go home until another rainy day.

MARRIAGE BOOK NO. FOUR - cont'd

Page 380, W.F. Dowd, Hayti, Pem. Co. Mo. to J.F. Trout, Hayti, Pem. Co..
Ma. by Rev. G.M. Brooks, at Hayti, Mo. on 16 Apr 1905.

W.R. Rowe, Pem. Co. Mo. to Mary Hamilton, Pem. Co. Mo. by W.H. Henning at
Caruthersville, Mo. 21 Mar 1905.

Page 381
Add Melton, Cooter, Pem. Co. Mo. to Sallie Washburn, Cooter, Pem. Co. Mo.
verbal assent of J.A. Washburn, father of said Sallie Washburn by Sterling
McCarty, Probate Judge at Caruthersville 4 May 1905.

Page 382, George Beard, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Linnie Ham, Caruth-
ersville, Pem. Co. Mo. by E.A. McKinney at Caruthersville, Mo. 2 May 1905.

Page 382, Jess Whittaker, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Willie A. Hall,
Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. by E.A. McKinney, at Ishon Hall's residence
2 May 1905.

Page 383, George Haywood, Portageville, New Madrid Co., Mo. to Alice Mor-
gan, Portageville, New Madrid Co., Mo. by Joel Adams, M.G. at John Grif-
fith's 30 Apr 1905.

Page 383, Frank Meadows, Hayti, Pem. Co. Mo. to Maggie Sanders, Hayti,
Pem. Co. Mo. verbal assent of A. Sanders, guardian of said Maggie Sanders
by Joel Adams, M.G. at Hayti, Mo. 30 Apr 1905.

Page 384, T. Cook, Pascola, Pem. Co., Mo. to Nancy Ingram, Pascola, Pem.
Co. Mo. verbal assent of W.A. Green, guardian of said Nancy Ingram by A.
Russell, J.P. at Pascola, Mo. 6 May 1905.

Page 384, W.J. Black, Steele, Pem. Co. Mo. to Sarah C. Hale, Steele, Pem.
Co. Mo. by J.W. Duncan, P.C. Cootonwood Point, Charge at Steele, Mo. .
7 May 1905.

Page 385, John Whitlock, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Maggie Huston,
Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. by Rev. S. Pigeo, at Caruthersville, 8 May 1905.

Page 385, Ora Boyd, Reelfoot, Lake Co. Tenn. to Lillian Rideout, Reelfoot,
Lake Co. Tenn. by J.F. Scott, J.P. at Caruthersville, Mo. 4 Apr 1905.

Page 386, William Moore, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Eva Perry, Caruth-
ersville, Pem. Co. Mo. by J.F. Scott, Mo. 17 Apr 1905.

Page 386, J.F. Kelley, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Josie Shepard,
Caruthersville, Mo. Pem. Co. Mo. by J.F. Scott, J.P. at Caruthersville,
Mo 17 Apr 1905.

H.F. Deane, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Emma Randolph, Caruthersville,
Pem. Co. Mo. by J.F. Scott, J.P. at Caruthersville, Mo. 19 May 1905.

Page 387, Absobrum Sams, Hathaway, Lake Co. Tenn. to Ader Laduke, Hatha-
way, Lake Co. Tenn. by J.F. Scott, J.P. at Caruthersville, Mo. 4 Apr 1905.

Page 388, Willie Scoggins, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Sallie Up-
church, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. by W.H. Henning at Caruthersville, Mo.
5 May 1905.

Page 388; Robert Swann, Hayti, Pem. Co. Mo. to Ellen Edington, Hayti, Pem. Co. Mo. written assent of W.E. Swann, father of said Robert Swann by J.H. Adams, J.P. at Gayosa, Mo. 17 Apr 1905.

Page 389, John Rowe, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Mattie Perkins, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. by G.M. Brooks, at Hayti, Mo. 15 May 1905.

Page 389, Lonnie Thomas, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Eliza Roberts, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. by W.P. Henning at Caruthersville, Mo. 18 May 1905.

Page 390, Charlie Durham, col. Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. to Sarah Greenleaf, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. by J.R. McClarass, M.G. at Caruthersville Mo. 9 May 1905.

Page 390, James McDonald, Cottonwood Point, Pem. Co. Mo. to Jamie Peoples, Cottonwood Point, Pem. Co. Mo. by Rev. W.I. Hunter, at Caruthersville, Mo. 15 May 1905.

Page 391, Charlie Hudson, Hayti, Pem. Co. Mo. to Emma Huffman, Hayti, Pem. Co. Mo written consent of Amos Huffman, father of said Emma Huffman at O.P. Hudson's by H. Patterson 21 May 1905.

Page 391, E.L. Essery, Holcomb, Dunklin Co. Mo. to Mary Sanders, Bernie, Scott Co. Mo. at Caruthersville by Jonathan Abbott, minister of the Gospel 26 May 1905.

Page 392. Arch Hoil, Cooter, Pem. Co. Mo. to Georgia Wells, Cooter, Pem. Co. Mo. at Cooter, Mo. by Rev. Monroe Ford 21 May 1905.

Page 392-Error

Page 393, J.A. Conrad, Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau Co. Mo. to Bertha C. Martin, Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau Co. Mo. at Caruthersville, Mo. by Orville T. Roger 3 June 1905.

Page 393, Ben Alexander, Braggadocio, Pem. Co. Mo. to Georgia Grimes, Braggadocio, Pem. Co. Mo. at Caruthersville, Mo. by Orville T. Rogers 14 May 1905.

Page 394, Theodore Kelley, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. to Maud Stroud, Caruthersville, Pem. Co. Mo. at Cottonwood Point by W.J.F. Allen, minister of the Gospel 6 Jun 1905.

Page 394, George England, Hayti, Pem. Co. Mo. to Sarah J. Wilson, Hayti, Pem. Co. Mo. at Hayti, by J.H. Henson, a minister of the Gospel 10 Jun 1905.

Page 395, Louis Farnier, Braggadocio, Pem. Co. Mo. to Elsie Brewer, Waynesboro, Wayne, Co. Tenn. at Braggadocio, Mo. by J.D. Dill, J.P. 10 Jun 1905.

Page 395, W.R. Carrington, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. to Annie Ruth Russell, Ironton, Iron Co. Mo. at Presbyterian Church, Ironton, Mo. by John L. Reynolds, Minister of the Gospel, Presbyterian Church 15 Jun 1905.

Page 396, John Walton, Gane, Pen. Co. Mo. to Josie Haddan, Gane, Pen. Co. Mo. at Courthouse by Sterling H. McCarthy, Judge of Probate Court 17 Jun 1905.

Page 396, W.R. Estes, Steele, Pen. Co. Mo. to Gracey Garner, Steele, Pen. Co. Mo. at "his house" by Frank J. Long, J.P. 20 Jun 1905.

Page 397, Will Bradley, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. to Erna Johnson, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. at Caruthersville by Rev. S.S. Lander, 11 Jun 1905.

Page 398, Obie Hickerson, Wardell, Pen. Co. Mo. to Mary R. Teror, Wardell Pen. Co. Mo. under 18, written assent of mother of said Mary R. Teror. At James Hellins by C.A. Haynes, J.P. 5 Feb 1905

Page 398, James R. White, under 21, Sanford, Pen. Co. Mo. to Lula B. Creel, Sanford, Pen. Co. Mo. written assent of J.A. Bishop, guardian of the said James R. White at Sanford by J.A. Bishop, J.P. 30 May 1905.

Page 399, C.W. Jackson, Tyler, Pen. Co. Mo. to Anna Anderson, Tyler, Pen. Co. Mo. at Tyler, Mo. by E.A. McKinney, minister of the Gospel 25 Jun 1905.

Page 399, Wilson McBroon, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. to Mollie Coker, at Caruthersville, Mo. by J.O. Willett, minister of the Gospel 24 Jun 1905.

Page 400, Robert Fry, Gane, Pen. Co. Mo. to Mattie Savage, Gane, Pen. Co. Mo. at "ny office" by S.H. Steele, J.P. 26 Jun 1905.

Page 400, W.E. Manker, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. to Mattie L. Griffith, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. at Hayti, Mo. by F.M. Gwin, J.P. 29 Jun 1905.

Page 401, Charles M. Law, Hayti, Pen. Co. Mo. to Leatha Johnson, Hayti, Pen. Co. Mo. at Hayti, Mo. by J.C. Denton, Minister of the Gospel 24 Jun 1905.

Page 401, Edgar Hartwell, under 21 Stanley, Pen. Co. Mo. to Jewell Scott under 18, Stanley, Pen. Co. Mo. written assent of L.L. Hartwell, father of said Edgar Hartwell and verbal assent of J.T. Scott, father of said Jewell Scott, at J.J. Wilson's by Elder J.J. Wilson, 11 Jun 1905.

Page 402, Abb Hampton, Wardell, Pen. Co. Mo. to Josie Gray, Wardell, Pen. Co. Mo. at Josie Gray's by C.A. Haynes, J.P. 25 Jun 1905.

Page 402, Bud Howington, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. to Ida King, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. at "ny office" by J.H. Steele, J.P. 4 Jul 1905.

Page 403, Robert Morgan, Pen. Co. Mo. to Mary Brinkley, Pen. Co. Mo. at Luther Cohies by Rev. C. Downing, minister of the Gospel 4 Jul 1905.

Page 403, Henry Daniel, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. to Pear Bedford, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. at Caruthersville, Mo. by Rev. S.S. Lanler 2 Jul 1905.

Page 404, James Inzer, Pen. Co. Mo. to Eunice McElhaney, Pen. Co. Mo. at Caruthersville, Mo. by A.F. Parker, J.P. 9 Jul 1905.

Page 404, James McInscore, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. to Georgia Mead, Caruthersville, Pen. Co. Mo. at bride's home by J.O. Willett, Baptist minister 2 Jun 1905.

Page 405, R.F. Prin, Covington, Pen. Co. Mo. to Francis Lester, under 18, Covington, Pen. Co. Mo. written assent of W.A. Michie step-father and Martha Michie, mother of said Francis Lester, at D.V. Michie's by G.L. May, minister of the Gospel 2 Jul 1905.

Page 405, John Casteel, Game, Pen. Co. Mo. to Nora Dowell, un 18 Game, Pen. Co. Mo. written assent of Mary Dowell, mother of the said Nora Dowell at Game by Eld. G.W. Chapman, minister of the Gospel 18 Jun 1905.

Page 406, E.B. Pipkin, Ripley, Lauderdale, Co. Tenn. to Mary Hiccox, Cottonwood Point, Mo. at Cottonwood Point by Henry W. Kyle, J.P. 15 Jun 1905.

Page 406, Robert Campbell, Cottonwood Point, Pen. Co. Mo. to Maude Kerr, Cottonwood Point, Pen. Co. Mo. at Cottonwood Point by Henry W. Kyle, J.P. 14 Jun 1905.

Page 407, James Austin, Cottonwood Point, Pen. Co. Mo. to Annie Howard, Cottonwood Point, Pen. Co. Mo. at Cottonwood Point, by Henry W. Kyle, J.P. 13 Jul 1905.

Page 407, Wm Wilson, Cottonwood Point, Pen. Co. Mo. to Rosetta Cope, Tyler, Pen. Co. Mo. at Cooter, Mo. by Henry W. Kyle, J.P. 2 Jul 1905.

COPIED FROM THE DEMOCRAT-ARGUA, June 6, 1924

The closing exercises of the Sacred Heart School were held last Wednesday and Thursday nights at the Woman' Club Building. The exercises were good and were well patronised both nights. There were three girls and two boys who graduated from Grammar School. They were: Evelyn McGinnis, who received highest honors in her class, Alma Merton, Gladys Wallace, Eddie Black Acuff and Clyde Denton.

DEMOCRAT ARGUS - November 11, 1924
Copied from Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn. November 2, 1924 by George M. Moreland.

I rambled onward toward Pascola. Every time I walked a mile I crossed a drainage ditch. They need no mile posts up here. The ditches serve the purpose. Between these ditches I saw fine fields of cotton, corn and alfalfa. The statistics last year say that Missouri cotton fields produced on an average of 360 pounds of lint per acre as compared with 130 pounds for Texas. Its corn yield is as good as that of Iowa and of as good quality. The average per acre of tame hay in Pemiscot County is 2.25 tons, considerably above the average.

After passing Pascola, I saw more fields along the roadside all the way to Bragg city, where I arrived just before noon. I noticed on my map that I ought to have crossed Little River between Pascola and Bragg City. Inasmuch as I had not done so I made inquiry about it. I was indeed surprised to learn that these enterprising Missourians have moved Little River to quite another location to fit in better with their development schemes. That's the kind of people I am encountering up here. If a river is in their way-retards the progress of the community-it is no trick at all for them to move it to any desired location. The big canal which now carries the water once carried by Little River is one, two or three miles westward from the original bed of that once miasmatic stream.

Bragg City is a wonderful town. It is not a big town but let me advise you to keep your eye on Bragg City. It is going to be worth your notice in the future. I like to visit a town with a spirit like this town. It is an inspiration to me. I like to find stories to tell you like the story I heard here. I heard no doleful wants but the very air is charged with a spirit of optimism and a faith in their future. I ate lunch at a modern brick hotel which would reflect credit to any town or small city. They have a commodious brick school house and whole blocks of brick storss, well stocked, surrounding their quite original park which instead of the usual shrubs and flowers was covered with a fine growth of alfalfa from which I was told three cuttings had already been obtained this season.

They have a neat little church which is painted so white that it glistens in the sun. I heard an ineeresting story about this church, which I must tell you. It will illustrate how Bragg City is progressing. Some years ago when the town was built on stilts in a swamp covered half the year with water, this same church was in existence. It happens that it is of Methodist persuasion. Everybody knows what a big occasion it is among Methodists when the presiding bishop visits the church. This dignitary visited the church at Bragg city. A long board extended from the street over a mud hole to the door of the sanctuary. As this devout man of God walked the board to the door it broke and he went to his knees in mud. Soon extricated, however, from his predicament, he entered the door and was met by a big old goat of the butting variety who disputed possession of the premises with the distinguished visitor. This is all

changed now for a good concrete walk extends in front of the church and I was told that the Sunday School was well attended.

I was interested to learn what caused all this prosperity and order at Bragg City. I like to learn as I ramble the causes which have produced the results I see. I have seen fertile fields in every direction from town but somehow I sensed something in the atmosphere which told me that more than fertile farms were at work here to make the delightful wonderful story. There is a man at Bragg City named J.M. McTeer. I am not seeking to give publicity to this man through any personal notice. I have never seen him, unfortunately, he was out of town when I visited there.

McTeer is a Virginian by birth, has lived in California and came a few years ago to southeast Missouri to have a hand in the community building which is developing here. When he reached this town it was a squalid village in the swamps, full of mud, and water, vice, disease and filth. That was just what this man was looking for. He wanted to take a bum proposition and enjoy the spectacle of watching it develop into a progressive community. He bought a small farm and connected himself with some of the other interests of the town. He yielded an influence in the community. He began by inducing a good class of people to come to this territory. One man to whom I talked told me that before McTeer would advise him to move to the community he was asked if he and his family attended church regularly. Many reclaimed acres needed tenants. He had no land to sell of his own but he assumed the job of getting buyers for the other fellow's land. He went to Mississippi and to Illinois and induced good farmers to come from those states and buy small farms-never more than 80 acres. He fought vice and now his little town which was once considered a "tough place" has a reputation for law and order. He has developed a community spirit too. The people of Bragg City think well of him. I talked to them about him-asked farmers who were in town to trade and they told me he was the inspiration of the whole community... That's the best way to find out about a man-ask his neighbors.

This year McTeer decided that the community ought to have a cotton gin. He forthwith sent an order down to Memphis for a boiler and an engine and all other requisites for that gin. Then he started to erect the building. It seems he is not immensely rich except in push and in interest for the community. His funds ran low. The cotton was opening and the gin was a necessity for the community. The neighbors of J.M. McTeer, the men he had been helping so wonderfully to make a neighborhood of which they could all be proud, came to town and went to work on the gin house. I saw them working. Pay? They told McTeer to never mind about the pay. They understood. He could pay them, they told him, when he ginned their cotton crop, which is not yet harvested. That is the kind of stories I like to tell about men in a community when I visit them. I am sorry I do not always have the opportunity to do so. Men like McTeer ought to be written about. They deserve a "boost". He is a real asset to his community. A community builder.

When I was concluding my visit to Bragg City, I saw a venerable looking old gentleman loitering on the street. I thought once more about my

old friend, John DeBruce, and his interesting old wilderness town of Clayroot or Owl City. Perhaps this old fellow may know where it is, thought I. I so much had wanted to find the location of Clayroot and visit it. I asked this old man, rather timidly, I admit if he happened to know a town called Clayroot. The old fellow's eyes twinkled, he smiled cunningly as he waved his hand out toward the beautiful expanse of green alfalfa which covered the town's park and told me "This is Clayroot, stranger, the town that used to be called Owl City. He spoke positively, I could not doubt him. I had found the site of Clayroot but the old town had vanished along with the quaint old characters who once inhabited it. No wonder my old friend who loves the wild left here. This is no wilderness now. It is a little re-created Garden of Edne.

CULBERTSON CLUB HISTORY - by Oma L. Smith, Secretary. This history submitted to the Historical Society and the Steele Enterprise, written by Oma L. Smith, 1982.

The Hickory Grove (later to be called Culbertson Homemakers' Club) was organized in February, 1922.

Now, would you like to turn the pages of time back 60 years, and stroll with me down Memory Lane, back through some of the years and the Homemakers' Club activities?

This wilderness was developing into farm homes, with more people moving in. A few mothers saw the need of an organized group, so on the first Thursday in February, 1922, a small group of women and a teenaged girl attended the meeting at the home of Mrs. R.E.L. (Ora) Smith. They discussed their hopes to help make their community a better place to live; to provide wholesome recreation for the young people; and to increase friendships with their neighbors.

Charter members were Mrs. C.E. (Elsie) Fisk, Mrs. R.E.L. (Ora) Smith, Mrs. W.E. (Dora) Kennedy, and Miss Oma L. Smith (now Mrs. Homer A. Smith).

Mrs. W.E. Kennedy was elected president and Oma L. Smith secretary. Meeting dates were the first and third Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. The goal: "Better Homes-Better Community," the motto: "Get Acquainted with Your Neighbor-You May Like Her."

Soon others joined--Mrs. Joe Still, Mrs. Granvel Alexander, Mrs. Mittie Smith, Mrs. Amanda Hutchens, Hazel Fisk and Mildred Harris.

Roads were muddy and homes far apart. Every club day found them walking miles--rain or shine--to quilt. While quilting for \$1.00 per spool on quilt, they discussed needs of the community, helpful hints, and how to care for the sick. They each donated an article to make up a "sick room kit" such as sheets, hot water bottle, fever thermometer,

rubber sheet, washcloth, towels, etc., which were kept sterilized at all times, ready to be used and lent to any home when needed. A wheel chair was bought to be on loan to the crippled or old. After enjoying the afternoon of quilting and talking with their neighbors, they walked back home, tired but happy to cook a hot supper for their family.

In later years, the group got a vacant house and made it into a club house by painting it, covering benches and stools with burlap bags, and making dish cabinets from orange crates. They had dishes to serve refreshments. Book cases were made from orange crates for magazine exchange. There was plenty of room always to have a quilt hanging to quilt for each other. Many other projects were embarked upon such as support to the cemetery; helping the sick on special diets; making children's toys; lessons on prohibition; exchanging patterns; making clothing from feed sack prints; hat making; and helping the less privileged by making their graduation dresses. Ladies would have a cotton day and pick all day to add money to their treasury.

"Happiness is a perfume which you can't pour on someone else without getting on yourself." We found this true in helping others.

Sometimes money was hard to get because we had so little in our own homes. But with willing hands and a cheerful smile, the club found a way.

"They let patience grow in their garden," and tried to "plant a rose where others left trash".

It was not all work, there were fun times, too. Mrs. Elsie Fisk, Mrs. R.E.L. Smith, and Mrs. W.E. Kennedy were never too tired to open their doors to the young people for an evening of entertainment such as candy-pulling, peanut social, singspirations, weiner roast, automobile party, hay rides, etc. Every party had a special theme, which was carried out in refreshments and games led by their leader Ona L. Smith. On Halloween, we used the Smith home for the main party of decorations and foods and an empty house on the farm made into "Ghost House" and "House of Horrors". The whole community joined in the fun. (No rough stuff or damage done.) Some remarked they never had so much fun before.

I recall the Christmas pageant "Silent Night-Holy Night." We studied and worked a month of nights on the 26 costumes (because we all had to pick cotton during the day). Sometimes we had a rainy day and did some sewing. Christmas Eve, we got our reward, it was a beautiful pageant-- 26 people.

As the years rolled by, members of the club came, and moved, but we kept busy with our young people remembering our goal, "Better Homes-Better Community."

"You are young at any age if you are planning for tomorrow." So we kept planning and dreaming.

The club women of 1922 laid a strong foundation. Every wheel must have a hub to keep rolling and they formed that hub. So, year after year for 60 years, spokes have been added by new members and new projects. In keeping of the community, "Dreams do come true."

On February 20, 1936, we became the Homemakers' Extension Club receiving more information from Caruthersville and Columbia. We added more food and clothing projects, home improvement, and balanced farming, and had a larger 4-H Club to sponsor.

During the year of 1936, the Moseley (Hickory Grove) School was consolidated with Holland so we bought the abandoned building.

Col. A.L. Culbertson of Delavan, Illinois, owned the land. He had been a friend of my grandfather, Will Fowler. I wrote Col. Culbertson in regards to the land. Imagine my surprise when a very distinguished gentleman knocked on my door saying "I am Col Albert L. Culbertson, a friend of your grandfather. I am interested in your project. I will draw up a lease agreement. The club may use the land as long as they wish. Also, I will add another acre (2 A.). I will pay all taxes, start you with a library, and here is \$10 to start funds on repairs on the old building.

Then was really when the work began. Some of us had to do without a new dress sometimes to pay the light bills or repairs. We even sold hens to raise money. Some donations were made by friends. So many, many projects and work to be done! But "we had faith of a little mustard seed."

October 13, 1937, our club house was opened for worship (all denominations), recreation, work projects, banquets, and community activities.

Col. A.L. Culbertson was such a wonderful person. We felt we would like to honor him by having our club name chartered as "Culbertson Homemakers Club" on record at Caruthersville Court House. Space will not permit to tell so many interesting activities at the club house and its use.

The debt of repairs \$1,496.75, sure did look big in those days. We finished work during the year; had a nice 30 x 40 auditorium with large stage, curtains and two dressing rooms; a piano; fully equipped kitchen; pews; 100 folding chairs, and clear of debt by November 3, 1938. There were lawn improvements for parking, picnicking, lighting, and landscaping. The 4-H Club erected a flag pole and furnished the flag. Of course, we all did as much work as possible ourselves to save money.

Our special event was dedication service of our club house June 9, 1939. There were 700 people present. Guest of honor were Col. and Mrs. A.L. Culbertson; Miss Amy Kelley, Mr. C.C. Hearne, and Mr. A.A. Jeffery, all from the College of Agriculture of Columbia, Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. M.D. Anburghey, county agent and Lorene Dryden, home agent of Caruthersville.

In 1941, boys from our community were overseas in service for Uncle Sam. A letter and small gift were mailed to each every month. These were 41 letters, handwritten (I was secretary and saw the months roll by fast). But that was our way of letting them know someone back home cared.

We had the largest 4-H Club in the county. Many blue ribbons, "Balanced Farming" and "Plant to Prosper" winners lived in our community. Historical events, demonstrations, prizes at fairs, and all kinds of crafts and art helped to improve our community.

There was a need for something special for our teenagers above 4-H age.

Oma L. Smith, with the help of about 46 young people, organized a "Rural Youth Safety Club". We made our rules and bylaws; planned regular and special meetings. (No drivers lessons in school then). Sgt. George Montgomery of the highway patrol was very helpful. This was the first "Rural Youth Safety Club" in the county or state. We were sent to Jefferson City to give information of our work so other clubs would organize in the state. We won first place awards sponsored by the Farm Bureau Insurance Company, in February 1947.

In 1949, a 4-H Club camp was started on Lake Wappapello. We had enjoyed our club house for 12 years. It had served the community in many helpful ways. Now that we had fewer young people in our community, it had served its purpose. We decided to send the building and all its contents to Wappapello Lake by truck to help improve the 4-H grounds. Ancel Webb and Oma L. Smith had been on the Wappapello Development Committee for some time. So, Mr. Webb took the responsibility of hauling the materials to the lake. There it served more people, and when we attended camp there, we had memories of Culbertson.

So, the club women bid old memories goodbye and wished it to serve the future as it had in the past.

Now in 1982, Highway 61 and I-55 intersection (south of Holland) and a service station are where our club house once stood.

Now we are meeting in homes again. Our projects consist of more crafts, arts, and community service. Each member takes her turn serving in different offices, doing so alphabetically.

Through the years, our enrollment has been 140 members, 27 deceased, others have moved away. Our average active membership is 12. We lost two of our charter members by death in 1977, Mrs. Elsie Fish and Mrs. R.E.L. Smith. Only one charter member remains, Oma L. Smith.

The explanation of triumph is all in the first syllable-tri. That is what club members have tried to do through these 60 years. Many loyal members with service through the many years.

Remember "It is not how long we live--but how well we live."

We have strolled down Memory Lane, glancing here and there during the past 60 years. The wheel has never been broken down. Perhaps there have been a few thorns along the way, as well as roses, but it still keeps turning--perhaps a little slower.

There has been regular attendance every first and third Thursday at 2:00, with interest, for 60 years. We hope it will still continue in years to come - as "Culbertson Homemakers Club" at the tip of the Boot-heel.

Membership Active 1982: Mrs. Cletus (Inogene) Bailey; Mrs. Andrew (Trecia) Jenkins; Mrs. V.M. (Juanita) Jones; Mrs. Joe (Pearl) Lester; Mrs. Joe (Ruth) Sanford; Mrs. Oda B. (Juanita) Smith; Mrs. Homer A. (Ona) Smith; Mrs. Herman (Lala) Via; Mrs. June (Genieve) Wallace; and Mrs. Ancel (Alice) Webb.

We can do the best we can and leave memories. Look forward, move forward, and don't stand still.

MISS BRYAN'S STORY - Taken from the Tiptonville, Tenn. High School Annual--1906, the annual belongs to Josephine Van Cleve. Excerpts from Miss Bryan's Story were given in a program on "The New Madrid Earthquake" by Alberta Klemp, Historical Society Meeting--Peniscot County, Nov. 1981.

New Madrid Territory of Missouri, March 22, 1816--In compliance with your request, I will now give you a history as full in detail as the limits of a letter will permit, of the late awful visitation in this place and vicinity.

On the 16th of December, 1811, about 2 0' clock a.m., we were visited by a violent shock of an earthquake, accompanied by a very awful noise, resembling loud but distant thunder, but more hoarse and vibrating, which was followed in a few minutes by the complete saturation with sulphurous vapor, causing total darkness. The screams of the affrighted inhabitants running to and fro, not knowing where to go or what to do, the cries of the fowls and beasts of every species, the cracking of trees falling, and the roaring of the Mississippi, the current of which was retrograde for a few minutes, owing, as is supposed, to an eruption in its bed--formed a scene truly horrible. From that time until about sunrise a number of lighter shocks occurred, at which time one more violent than the first took place, with the same accompaniments as the first, and the terror which had been excited in everyone, and, indeed, in all animal nature, was now, if possible, doubled. The inhabitants fled in every direction to the country, supposing (if it be admitted that their minds were exercised at all) that there was less danger at a distance from than near to the river. In one person, a female, the alarm was so great that she

fainted and could not be recovered. There were several shocks a day, but lighter than those already mentioned, until the 23d of January, 1812, when one occurred as violent as the severest of the former one, accompanied by the same phenomena as the former. From this time until the 4th of February the earth was in continued agitation, visibly waving as a gentle sea. On that day there was another shock nearly as hard as the preceding ones. Next day, four such, and on the 7th, about 4 o' clock a.m. a concussion took place so much more violent than those which had preceded it that it was denominated the hard shock.

III. PENETRABLE DARKNESS

The awful darkness of the atmosphere, which was formerly, was saturated with sulphuric vapor, and the violence of the tempestuous thundering noise that accompanied it, together with all the other phenomena mentioned as attending the former one, formed a scene the description of which would require the most sublimely fanciful imagination. At first the Mississippi seemed to recede from its banks, and its waters, gathering up like a mountain, leaving for a moment many boats which were here on their way to New Orleans, on the bare sand, in which time the poor sailors made their escape from them. It then rising fifteen or twenty feet perpendicularly and expanding, as it were, at the same moment, the banks were overflowed with a retrograde current, rapid as a torrent. The boats, which before had been left on the sand, were torn from their moorings, and suddenly driven up a little creek, at the mouth of which they laid, to the distance in some instances of nearly a quarter of a mile. The river, falling immediately as rapid as it had risen, receded within its banks again with such violence that it took with it whole groves of young cottonwood trees, which edged its borders. They were broken off with such regularity, in some instances, that persons who had not witnessed the fact would be with difficulty persuaded that it had been the work of art. A great many fish were left on the banks, being unable to keep pace with the water. The river was literally covered with the wrecks of boats, and it was said that one was wrecked in which there was a lady and six children, all of whom were lost. In all the hard shocks mentioned the earth was horribly torn to pieces. The surface of hundreds of acres was, from time to time, covered, of various depths, with the sand, which issued from the fissures, which were made in great numbers all over this country, some of which closed up immediately after they had vomited forth their sand and water, which, it must be remarked, was the matter generally thrown up.

In some places, however, there was substance somewhat resembling coal or impure coal stone thrown up with the sand. It is impossible to say what the depth of the breaks or irregular breaks were; we have reason to believe that some of them are very deep. The site of this town was evidently settled down at least 15 feet, and not more than half a mile below the town there does not appear to be any alteration on the bank of the river; but back from the river a small distance the numerous large ponds or lakes, as they were called, which covered a great part of the country, were nearly dried up.

REELFOOT FORMED

The beds of some of them are elevated above their former banks several feet, producing an alteration of 10, 15 to 20 feet from their original state. And lately it has been discovered that a lake was formed on the opposite side of the Mississippi, in the Indian Territory, upwards of 100 miles in length and from one to six miles in width, of the depth of from 10 to 50 feet. It has communication with the river at both ends, and it is conjectured that it will be many years before the principal part, if not the whole Mississippi, will pass that way. We were constrained by the fear of our houses falling to live twelve or eighteen months after the first shocks in light camps made of boards, but we gradually became callous and returned to our houses again. Most of those who fled from the country in time of the hard shocks have since returned home.

CONTINUED VISITATIONS

We have since the commencement in 1811 and still continue to feel slight shocks occasionally. It is seldom, indeed, that we are more than a week without feeling one, and sometimes three or four in a day. There were two this winter past much harder than we have felt then for two years before, but since then they appear to be lighter than they have ever been, and we begin to hope that ere long they will entirely cease.

I have now, sir, finished my promised description of the earthquake, imperfect, it is true, but just as it occurred to my memory, many of, and most of, the truly awful scenes having occurred three or four years ago. They, of course, are not related with that precision which would entitle it to the character of a full and accurate picture, but, such as it is, it is given with pleasure, in the full confidence that it is given to a friend. And now, sir, wishing, you all good, I must bid you adieu.

Your humble servant, ELIZA BRYAN

The Rev. Lorenzo Dow.

There is one circumstance which I think worthy of remark. This country was formerly subject to very hard thunder, but for more than twelve months before the commencement of the earthquake there was none at all, and but very little since, a great part of which resembles subterranean thunder. The shocks still continue, but are growing more lighter and less frequent. E.B.

HAYTI WILLING WORKERS EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS

Organized 1938 by Mrs. Louise Morrissey. Reorganized in 1944 by Mrs. Ella Stackhouse after Mrs. Stackhouse resigned Mrs. Mabel Bizzelle was our leader. Received name of Willing Workers 1956.

Some accomplishments of the Hayti Willing Workers Extension Club from 1938-1970.

The Club members were interested in and active in community activities such as; clean-up campaign, road repairs, street lights, wa etc., had demonstration on safety programs, helped with the diabetic packs cooperating with the Health Center, encouraged good grooming in the young people, studied food and most conscience of the vitamin and mineral content for a balanced diet, also provided leaders for the 4-H Club in the community.

Mrs. Leroy Shaw was presented a 20 year citation by Mrs. Ella Stackhouse for meritorious service.

| <u>OFFICERS AND MEMBERS AND YEARS THEY SERVED</u> | <u>OFFICER</u> | <u>PROJ. LEADER</u> |
|---|----------------|---------------------|
| Mrs. Levy Shaw | 7 | 20 |
| Mrs. Maggie Fobbs | 16 | |
| Mrs. Ed Boyley | 16 | |
| Mrs. Birdia Wade (now Flennoy) | 24 | |
| Mrs. James Kurkendall | 7 | 3 |
| Mrs. J.W. Littlefield | 7 | 7 |
| Mrs. Will Brown | 7 | |
| Mrs. Priscilla Seanny | 7 | |
| Mrs. Millie Woodruff | 14 | |
| Mrs. James Tatum | | 2 |
| Mrs. George Henderson | | 2 |
| Mrs. Albert Mosley | 4 | |
| Mrs. Amanda Anderson | 6 | |
| Mrs. Leon Daniel | 4 | |
| Mrs. Mary Kyles (now Mrs. Milton Johnson) | 10 | 10 |
| Mrs. Christine Grisson | 10 | |
| Mrs. J.C. Middleton | | 14 |
| Mrs. Blanch Sanders | | 10 |
| Mrs. Money Wilson | | 5 |
| Mrs. John Rhodes | 1 | |
| Mrs. Clarence Nelson | 9 | 1 |
| Mrs. Anner Taylor | | 4 |
| Mrs. Birdia Durden | | 10 |
| Mrs. John Mack | | 2 |
| Mrs. George Fletcher | | 1 |
| Mrs. C.B. Terry | | |

This information provided by Mrs. Christine Grisson

TAKEN FROM DEMOCRAT-ARGUS, FRIDAY, May 1, 1925

Misses Ruth, Bill and Roberta Pollock and Edith Tilman spent last Sunday motoring in Arkansas. The young ladies got to Blytheville and pro-

ceeded on to Jonesboro, not thinking the distance to be so far and they found when they returned home they had driven more than 200 miles. They were very tired, but thankful they had experienced no car trouble which was indeed lucky for them and which is very unusual considering the distance traveled.

A HISTORY OF MICOLA, MISSOURI

by KaRe Alford

On Feb. 26, 1982--this paper was presented by John Alford (father of KaRe) for the Program at the Historical Society Meeting.

LOCATION

A small rural community, Micola, Missouri, covers an area of approximately 15 square miles. Located seven miles southwest of Caruthersville, four miles northeast of Steele, this Missouri bootheel neighborhood was part of the highly controversial territory disputed in 1821 when Missouri was created from part of the Louisiana Territory. Originally the southern boundary of Missouri was to be the 36th parallel, consequently excluding the area commonly known as the bootheel. The settlements just below the 36th parallel had been organized about the same time as the more northern settlements, were equal in population, and were engaged in the same general industries. For these reasons the southern settlements contended that they should also be included in organized territory. In addition, the area south of the 36th parallel was still under territorial rule and not likely to be organized soon. The advantages of statehood were obvious. All these reasons caused influential men to work energetically to fix the boundary as it now stands.

PRE-SETTLEMENT

The Delaware and the Shawnee Indians were Micola's first inhabitants. Indian arrowheads, bowls, pitchers, and skeletal remains have been unearthed on many of the farms and many more relics are likely to be discovered as historical interest rises.

Before the Louisiana Purchase was negotiated and the general region transferred to the United States, the Micola area had seen both Spanish and French control. For thirty years after Missouri was admitted to the Union the southern most bootheel region was governed by New Madrid County, but the area became more populated and Pemiscot County, Missouri was created February 19, 1851.

The settlement and organization might have come sooner to Southeast Missouri had would-be settlers not been frightened by the New Madrid earthquakes. The first shock was felt on the morn of December 16, 1811. The rolling earth, flooding, and great opening fissures sent inhabitants fleeing, leaving homes and livestock. The shocks lasted more than a year and flooded the Micola area with a lukewarm black liquid. The development

of Peniscot County was slowed for twenty years after organization because great levees had to be built to drain the county.

SETTLEMENT

The turn of the century brought extensive settlement to the Micola region. Several companies cleared timber, one of which was owned by the now deceased multi-millionaire, S.H. Hearst. Much of the land, though, was cleared by the actual settlers. This form of clearing was slow and tedious, but the rich alluvial farm land was a just reward.

The clearing of the land brought more people who in turn brought their way of life. The first church, denomination-Baptist, was organized in 1909 with Clara Hollomon as its first charter member. Seven years later, the small white church building was also being used as a school. The church served as a source of recreation as well as worship. Picnics, suppers, and ballgames provided members with pleasure. Church related clubs were formed for everyone who was old enough to talk. The Church wavered throughout the years, being almost closed at one point, but remained the center of the community. Shortly after the school was moved into the old church building, the congregation was moved less than half a mile to another building. This is the site of the present day church although a new building was erected in 1946.

Recreation, however, was not confined to the church alone. The Micola bayou became a "swimming hole" in the summer and an ice rink in the winter. A frozen bayou also provided a source of transportation to nearby farms. Micola has also had its share of less wholesome forms of recreation. If one listens enough he may hear whispers of cock fights and even of a prohibition bootlegger.

General stores were a necessity to the farming people of Micola. The first store was opened by the Michies and the Colemans. Ownership of this store was transferred several times. When the Michies sold out, they opened another store across the railroad from their first one. The Innans bought the store. Both stores closed in the mid 1970s with the Alford's as the last owners of the first store. General stores provided a place to buy goods without traveling long distances. A pot belly stove in the stores was often the center of a ring of conversation. Men, women and children would gather at the store to shop, receive mail, talk about crops and politics, and to use the only telephone, in later years.

Two blacksmiths, Jim Kellens and Walter Burns, served the people of Micola. There were also boarding houses and even a small pharmacy opened by Dr. Wright Denton at the close of the flu epidemic of 1918. Several cotton gins were opened in Micola, the first built in 1916 by a St. Louis entrepreneur. The gin went out of business and a Jewish man from Memphis opened a second gin in 1930. This gin did not do well and fell victim to a dynamite explosion within two years. In 1934 the Heuphills rebuilt the gin but lost their business to a bigger gin outside

Micola which opened the next year.

School in Micola was not mandatory. Teachers were qualified but often had little college experience. "Read'n, rit'n, and rithmetic" were the main course of study. History and hygiene were taught in the higher classes. Marriage often took place after eighth grade graduation for those fortunate enough to finish school. Lessons were strictly taught from Course of Study, a book of class plans. When the Micola school was first classified in the Official State Manual in 1925 as a Class 3 school (teachers had less than one year certified college experience), there was a two year high school. In 1927 the Micola school was consolidated and moved to Steele.

The Church was the center of Micola, but the railroad was the backbone. There is some disagreement about ownership and construction but all agree settlement depended on the railroad. Rail provided the only transportation to town. Roads were seldom used because of their condition. Many people only used the roads to town once a year after the harvest when the winter supply was too large to bring back on the train. Doctors from Caruthersville rode the train to Micola to care for the ill and birth an occasional baby. The trains carried people to movies, taverns, and to Memphis, Tennessee, to the hospital. If someone was ill enough to be sent to Memphis, he usually did not return in the passenger car. In 1902 when the post office was opened in the Michies store all the mail was brought by train. The post office brought changes, the biggest of which was a change of name. Before Micola applied for a post office the area was named P. cone, but since there was already a post office in the northern community of Pocomo, the Michies and the Solemans compromised their names and applied under the name of Micola. Even after the post office closed in July, 1926 the train continued to carry the mail. Out-going mail was hung on tall metal poles. The trainman would grab the bag with a rod as the train went by. Incoming mail was thrown from the train in heavy mail sacks. More often than not the train ran over these sacks and scattered the mail all over the area; thus creating the first home deliver.

In their prime there were six trains a day stopping in Micola. The most popular being the "Sunnyland" at 11:00 a.m. Even after the depot closed in the mid 1920's one could catch the train by flagging it down. With the coming of better roads and railroad modernization the trains in Micola lost out to the automobile.

HARDSHIPS

The flu epidemic of 1918 took many Micolan lives. Rough estimates give the death total at about 1/3 of the population. Doctors were scarce and those who were not sick traveled to other homes to take care of the less fortunate. Some families lost no one, but many lost two or three members. In one family every member died. Coffins were constructed out of every conceivable material and healthy men dug graves around the clock.

The Great Depression was a national hardship that affected Micola as it did the rest of the country, but the local farmers fared better than most of the country. Most Micolans were employed on a self-contained farm. Very few of the necessities of life could not be manufactured on the farm. People in the cities were losing their jobs. People on the farms were self employed; therefore their jobs were secure. Farm labor, mostly black, and farmers alike grew gardens and bartered for most things. Bartering made it possible to live quite well, for the times, with little or no money.

Farming also helped Micolans survive the World Wars. World War I had few effects directly on Micola. Production and crop prices increased, but few people actually went to combat. One long range effect was that the simple country farmers realized their place in the wider world picture. The first World War brought Europe to the doorstep of the rural farmer and he saw himself, perhaps for the first time, as collective industry. Farmers began to worry about how the world affairs, he was reading about every day, were going to affect his business.

World War II brought many more repercussions. Many people were exempt from combat, but some people from Micola did fight in the war. Two did not return. Much of the black farm labor moved to the factories in the cities. Most did not return to country life after a taste of the city. Rationing affected farmers least although it did have its disadvantages. Gasoline was easier for a farmer to get. Food stuffs could be grown. But, it was impossible to buy new cars, tractors, or luxury items. The black market tractor would cost near \$1800.00 One hundred pounds of sugar, which cost \$10.00 before the war, would run \$25.00 or more. After the war farm prices fell for about two years then leveled off, but the war had longer ranging effects. Mass farm mechanization came directly after the war. Tractors made farming faster and easier. The price of a tractor was exorbitant but many Micolans looked upon the purchase as a savings, they did not have to feed gas and oil and harness a tractor. Tractors also meant less labor was needed, and migratory labor began to do much of the physical work.

SERVICES

Before 1920 the only telephone was located in the general store. Dire emergencies constituted the only valid use, and most people did not know anybody to call anyway. Party line phones were petitioned for in the early 1950's.

Eastern Micola received electricity in April of 1937. Arkansas-Missouri Power provided the first service. Rural Electrical Association provided power to western Micola soon after. Electricity provided a new way of life for most Micolans. Families saved money to buy their first electrical appliances. A refrigerator and an electric iron were most sought after. Before electricity, Delco battery system, carbide systems, and coal oil lamps provided much of the lighting. Electric lights were less trouble than any of these systems.

Water systems were a welcome improvement. Water had to be pumped from the ground and then "cut" with lye or lime, a tedious time consuming project. Rain water was used to wash clothes and for bath water. Indoor plumbing was "out of this world". If a person built a new house there would be a bathroom built, even if he could not afford to furnish it. House wives rejoiced at sinks and later with hot water heaters.

The Kansas City Star and the Farmer Ruralist were Micola's weekly links to the world. These two papers provide a constant source of information not to mention conversation. The women were blessed with the Ladies Home Comfort which gave monthly household hints, patterns, and recipes.

POLITICS AND PRODUCTION

Controversial is a mild way to describe the politics of early and mid century Micola. Primarily Democratic, Micolans took their politics seriously. Turmoil was common order on election day. A Democrat always voted a straight ticket, likewise for a Republican, a split ticket made for less of a man. Strong parties restrained the corruption, but many votes were still paid for and before registration people herded from one polling place to another casting ballots.

J.A. Franklin was the only recorded county politician of early century Micola. A Democrat, he served as Associate Judge (1927-1928) and as Sheriff (1903-1906, 1909-1912).

Early 20th Century Micola had three basic crops: cotton, corn, and alfalfa. Tractors brought about the replacement of corn by soybeans. In recent years the cooler, wetter weather trends have brought about a reduction in cotton production. Wheat and soybeans constitute the most acreage today.

Today Micola's modern farmers could not grow a soybean without their chemicals. Early farmers grew their crops almost totally without chemicals. The late 1950's brought chemicals to Micola. Some farmers resisted the trend but by the 1960's every farmer was heavily dependent. Chemicals brought increased production with less bother about insects and weeds. Recently some attitudes about farm chemicals have changed. Once seen as a "blessing from Heaven", now chemicals may be viewed as a necessary evil. DDT, the wonder chemical, before being banned caused pollution of the water table, contamination, and has been linked to cancer.

REFLECTIONS

Today, Micolas population is 15% of the population of the early 1900's. Children, seeing no future on the farm, moved away. Land today is limited. In 1946 the Peniscot Land Cooperage sold out to individuals. People were hesitant to buy at the \$200.00 acre price, because they did not understand the reason for the sale. Some feared land prices would fall, but prices shot higher and higher until today. For some older

farmers the land value today is ten times the price they paid. Good farm land for sale is a rarity, consequently new farmers with no stake have little chance. If the small farmer continues to encounter the troubles of recent years the population will continue to decline as older farmers leave the land to be sold or leased to the bigger farmers.

Once an isolated tightly woven community, Micola today is part of the modernized, mechanized world. Change came slowly, but inevitably. Depending on the point of view, the change was either good or bad. Advantages also brought disadvantages. A former shadow of its once self, Micola struggles through world crises and conflicts today as part of a world it once never knew.

(References and Sources: (Given in detail in original article)
History of S.E. Mo. Vol. I (Douglas); Beautiful Bootheel Burning (Garrett);
History of Mo. Vol. I, II (Hauck); History of Mo. Vol. I, II (March);
Political History of Pen. Co. Mo. (Wade); Goodspeeds History of S.E. Mo.
and special thanks to: Mrs. Lilli Michie, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Alford,
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Pfeffer, Mr. and Mrs. Bowen
Travis.

DEMOCRAT ARGUS, June 10, 1924

BUCKLEY LOCATES THE MOST PERFECT, THE FATTEST AND THE LEANEST MEN IN HAYTI.

For the past few weeks Buckley's Store in Hayti has been advertising a rather unique contest, offering a desirable prize to each, the fattest, the thinnest and the most perfect man in a reasonable radius of his place of business. No strings were attached to the offer, no applicant was required to buy a penny's worth of goods or to be at any expense whatever, but merely to come into the establishment and be measured. Of course, they were given the opportunity to buy if they wanted to, but it was not a requisite of the offer.

The time of the contest closed Thursday and next morning Mr. Buckley announced that awards has been made as follows: The most perfect man, L.J. Aubuchon; the fattest man, W.T. Shepard; the leanest, Lee Perkins. A pair of trousers was the prize advertised, but possibly this may be varied at the election of the winners, permitting articles of similar value to be selected.

The firm of Buckley's is doing quite a good deal of advertising nowadays, having a free refund of cash payments on certain days of the month, as shown by cash receipts issued, the day selected at the end of each month by lot, which is proving a winner. The firm beleieves in using printers ink and is forging ahead among its contemporaries by reason of this keen business acumen.

TO DEDICATE TABERNACLE NEXT SUNDAY

A special dedicatory exercise for the new tabernacle, constructed during the summer by the Christian Church congregation on Ward Avenue near Tenth Street, will be held next Sunday, which is the regular date of the pastor's visit here, the Rev. J. Murray Taylor of Memphis. A very pleasing program has been prepared for both the morning and evening service and a cordial invitation is extended to the public of Caruthersville to attend.

Two other Christian ministers, the Rev. J.H. Tiller and Rev. G.A. Hoffman, of Bloomfield will be present at these services and will assist therein though the dedicatory service will be delivered by the pastor himself, who has chosen as his subject, "What Mean Ye By This Service?" Miss Clarissa Taylor, daughter of Rev. Taylor, will accompany him here and will assist in the musical program, as will also, Miss Patterson, instructor in music in the Caruthersville public schools.

Following are the programs for the two services:

MORNING

1. Song: "Holy, Holy, Holy". by the congregation
2. Invocation-Rev. J.H. Tiller
3. Communion Hymn: "My Faith Looks Up To Thee".
4. Offertory
5. Song "Faith of Our Fathers."
6. Prayer-Rev. G.A. Hoffman
7. Solo-Miss Patterson
8. Scripture Lesson
9. Solo-Miss Clarissa Taylor
10. Sermon: "What Mean Ye By This Service?" - Rev. J. Murray Taylor
11. Invitation Song: "I Hear Thy Welcome Voice".
12. Benediction.

EVENING

1. Song: "All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name."
2. Invocation
3. Song: "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord."
4. Scripture Lesson
5. Solo-Miss Patterson
6. Prayer
7. Solo-Miss Clarissa Taylor
8. Sermon: "What The Christian Church Teaches and Practices"- Rev. Taylor
9. Invitation Hymn: "Just As I Am."
10. Declaring House Dedicated To God.
11. Benediction.

Q U E R I E S

HAMILTON, GRIFFIN, HAGGERD

Who had "J.R."? HAMILTON, that is, B/Louisiana, Pike Co., MO., ca 1865-1875? /m/ Eva Griffin, 1889, she died /10 Mar. 1899?, then he m/ Sallie A. Griffin/Griggs/ 15 July 1899, their Father: /"Drye" GRIFFIN, Mother/ ? Haggerd. They all lived in the Clifton, Wayne Co., TN. area, last place of residence. Any HELP will be very much appreciated. Kathy S. Hamilton, 19 C S.E. Miami, OK. 74354. According to the marriage record of J.R. and Eva, they were married in Caruthersville, Pemiscot CO., Mo.

SMITH

Who are the parents of William S. Smith born April 1864 - probably Tn. 12 Dec 1886, m/ Malissa Wilborn Cooter Schoolhouse, Pemiscot CO., MO. d/18 Jul 1897 buried at Hayward Cemetery, north of Hayti. His obituary appeared in The Democrat Caruthersville, Mo. Thurs. 29 Jul 1897. State a Rev. Downing preached the funeral at the Baptist Church. Obit. appeared in the Hayward news column. He and Malissa had two children Henry and Andy. Malissa married 2) W.H. Carter at Ruddles Chapel 22 May 1898. Contact Coralee Paull, 8001 Rosiline Dr., St. Louis, Mo. 63105.

PEMISCOT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PIONEER HERITAGE AWARDS

The Pioneer Heritage Awards will be featured at the May 21, 1982 Society meeting. The Awards Program is based on current biographies (life histories) of county residents who are 75 years of age or older and who give their consent.

Persons whose life histories are submitted should have contributed in some exceptional way to community and social betterment. Attention should be directed to those who have functioned as motivators - often behind the scenes rather than limiting consideration to those in publicized and recognized leadership roles.

The following persons biography were submitted:

Lillian (Hudgings) Collins, Caruthersville; Mayne Lucille Hamlett, Cooter; Clarice (Simpson) Boone, Steele; Phila (Magee) Tistadt, Caruthersville. Each will be presented with a Certificate of Honor and be guests of the Society for the Program at the Colonial Federal Savings and Loan Meeting Room, Caruthersville.