

St. Clair County, Alabama

HISTORY 1539 - 1846

JAN 22 '76

MAR 21 '77

SEP 30 '77

JUN 13 1978

FEB 15 1980

HISTORY OF ST. CLAIR COUNTY ALABAMA

A description of the land
and its people-Indians and
Whites from 1539 to 1846.

Compiled by:

W. H. Cather

First printed in the Southern-Aegis 1897
(Ashville, Alabama)

This edition prepared under sponsorship of the
St. Clair County Library Board, April 1965.

Cover prepared by Mrs. H. L. Eubanks with the
assistance of Mr. V. L. Whittle, A S C Office
and Mr. H. L. Eubanks, County Agent.

(Picture credit: Prentice-Hall Inc.)

PREFACE

"The best thing we get from history is the enthusiasm it rouses." Goethe

You, the reader of this account of the early inhabitants and happenings in St. Clair County, Alabama, are interested in History. We hope you will continue your interest and that you will aid in the preservation of all items which will contribute to our further knowledge of the "St. Clair County Story." History is in the making. The Librarians are preserving current history and they are collecting as much as possible for the period since the War Between the States.

Won't you make available items in your possession? Diaries, letters, newspaper clippings, scrap books, photographs, etc. contribute to the history of the area. You do not need to "give" these articles, but we hope you will permit us to make copies. The library owns a copying machine with which exact reproductions can be made from newspaper clippings and other documents.

During the year 1897 there appeared in the columns of THE SOUTHERN AEGIS (Ashville, Alabama) a series of articles relating to the history of St. Clair County. This history was compiled and published by Mr. W. H. Cather, owner and publisher of the Southern-Aegis.

During recent years a search has been made to locate a file of the Southern-Aegis from which to obtain the History of St. Clair County. In the Department of Archives and History (State of Alabama) in Montgomery we found seven issues with dates ranging from September through December 1897. These contained part of the articles we desired.

Early in 1965 during a conversation with Mr. Norman Prickett in Ashville the topic of "St. Clair County History" came up, and Mr. Prickett told of having a typewritten copy of a history of St. Clair County. He was kind enough to lend it. Upon comparing it with photostatic copies of the seven issues of the Southern-Aegis we found the wording was exactly the same, so we feel reasonably "Sure" that Mr. Prickett's typewritten copy is authentic.

On behalf of the St. Clair County Library Board we express thanks to Mr. Prickett for making available this "History of St. Clair County" and for permitting it to be used for the purpose of preparing copies for distribution to schools, libraries and those individuals interested in the subject.

The preparation of the stencils was done, largely, by Mrs. James V. Gray, of the Pell City Library Branch, and the mimeographing was done by Mrs. H. L. Eubanks, of the St. Clair County Library Staff assisted by the undersigned.

(Mrs. W. M. Holland)
Administrator
St. Clair County Library

(This edition released April 29th 1965 at the annual "open" meeting of The St. Clair County Library Board as a special project for National Library Week.

History of St. Clair County
By Wm. H. Cather
Preliminary Observations

For those who would study with profit, either the history of their ancestors, the history of the country in which they live and enact each his separate part in the drama of life, or the different and successive states through which that ancestry and that country have passed; for those who would profit in the present from the experience of the past; for those who, as descendants of a hardy pioneer race, live on the heritage of that race--should hallowed by privation, toil and heroic struggles, which was its purchase price--a land blessed by the impetus toward civilization which those farmers of our policy and government gave to it; for those who would treasure in their own memory, as a sacred legacy, the lasting remembrance of those who bequeath it; and for those who would protect the things that are to be by instilling in the breasts of the succeeding generation, a love, respect and reverence for the things that have been--things in which their forefathers so conspicuously figured; for all these patriotic readers the following sketches, incidents and traditions are gathered together for reflection as well as preservation.

The writer does not offer any single sketch as complete--there are missing links in all traditional or unrecorded history. He has simply blocked out at odd times during the past twelve years (the greater part of which he has spent out of the county and state even) the narratives of incidents and traditions, rough hewn as they are, as they dropped from the lips of persons who were either participants in the events, or who have kept the traditions as a legacy handed down from their fathers.

In securing these narratives of events the compiler has been materially aided by a few of the older settlers, at least one of whom has been gathered to the Great Beyond.

We refer to Rev. Jesse A. Collins, a staunch pioneer citizen, a devoted minister of Christ who practiced what he preached, beloved by all whose threshold of acquaintanceship he crossed, patriotic, zealous and above all, God's noblest work--"an honest man."

"And we believe his matchless spirit soars
Beyond where splendid shines the orb of day,
And weeping angels lead him to those bowers,
Where endless pleasures virtue's deeds repay."--Byron

Principal among those who have lent their assistance is a gentleman in whose generous bosom the patriotic impulse continuously throbs, formerly resident of the county but now of Texas, where he has held the highest offices in the gift of the state. We refer to Ex-Gov. Cran M. Roberts, lawyer, author and statesman. In fact there are only four men in the county who offered us any assistance whatever in securing data and one of these was a darky. Some of the best part of our county's history is destined to continue unpreserved unless someone will take up the work where these sketches we have compiled leave off and preserve them.

Some of the data has been published in a different style heretofore, a portion was published by the present writer in local papers some ten years ago. The sketch of the mutiny in Gen. Jackson's army was furnished us by Gov. Roberts years ago and published at that time in a more abridged form.

Several years ago, an old gentleman furnished us a "batch of incidents which to us seemed so unreasonable or improbable that we laid it aside. But quite recently information from a high and thoroughly reliable source verifies enough of them to entitle all to credence.

We have embodied also a portion of the history of Blount--a part of which has also been published before in local papers. This is quite worthy of preservation along with the history of St. Clair--the two counties are closely allied and general history in one will apply very well to the other.

As stated before we do not lay any particular claim to completeness in the task, yet we have endeavored to be historically accurate.

The writer would thank those who feel an interest in their county to aid him in every way possible to gather up and compile for preservation every scattering remnant of our grand old county's history. It is a duty we owe to posterity.

If the reader is looking for blood curdling Indian stories, revolutionary wars, piracies, dime novel-freaks, or any other of the yarns or episodes which fill the pages of the prostituted sensational press of the present day he might as well turn back and seek elsewhere for we do not regard such as either news or history.

As the gifted English historian and statesman has truly observed, if we must guard against common delusions, such as those often produced in the mind by the well known names of families, offices and particularly places. The times change and we change with them. Our great-grandfathers would be constrained to hold up their hands in holy horror and shout "O TEMPORA!" "O MORES!" with all its meaning at some of the customs and usages of the present advanced day. Wonderful also are the physical changes wrought by the Great Architect through natural causes. Streams have been diverted from their channels, as well as changed in name. The lovely "Cataula River" itself is no mean example. Habits of people and their surroundings change as well. "In every experimental science there is a tendency toward perfection. In every human being there is a wish to ameliorate his own condition." As it is of individuals, so it is with governments. As it is with individuals so it is with our state and our county. Even when counteracted by great public calamities, by bad institutions, unsound methods of government, or evil and corrupt officials, sooner or later an awakening or revolution comes; and these two principals oftentimes suffice; however imperceptibly, to carry civilization forward to a higher state or plane of perfection.

The true object of history is no more to collect a series or system of dates or arrange chronological events in order than it should be of the lawyer to only gain cases, or of the farmer to simply plant his crops, and as we must of necessity, improve our civil institutions or perish, so must we profit by examples of failures or successes in the history of the past.

It has been well settled that no ordinary misfortune, will do as much to make a nation wretched, as the constant progress of physical and mental knowledge, and the constant efforts of every man to better himself and his condition will do to make that country or nation prosperous. It has commonly been found that war and pestilence, encountering the Indians as it were in our own case, profuse expenditure, heavy taxation, to which we have not in the past been often subjected, absurd commercial restrictions, even from necessity, seditions and persecutions, conflagrations and floods, have not been able to destroy capital and institutions as fast as the exertions of private citizens have been able to create the one and upbuild the other.

The Indians of St. Clair

In the beginning we must lose sight of every thing here as it now exists and go back mentally to the time when all this vast section of Alabama was a trackless forest and see what we can find there of interest. As Bryant says;

"Lose thyself in continuous woods

Where rolls the Oregon (Cataula), and hears no sound
Save its own dashings."

We will drop as far back as 1539, some 358 years ago--three and a half centuries to the time when no white man's face had pierced North Alabama. From that time to the beginning of the present century we will deal with as one period or epoch of our history, taken from such sources as we may consider at all authority.

About that time--1539--there landed somewhere on the coast of Florida a paleface chieftain and his followers--Spaniards. At that time Spain had not begun her retrograde movement or decline as a nation but ranked as one among the noteworthy powers of the world. True Columbus had made his discovery of America to the north and in other parts of America settlements had been made, but no white man's foot has crossed the soil of North Alabama at that time of which we have any account.

But DeSoto, the first "pale-face" explorer of Alabama, in his notable march from Florida through Georgia and down the noble Coosa, did not himself enter what is not St. Clair and Etowah counties, though it is quite probable some of his followers did, and that they left their mark behind them in a mixed Spanish and Indian progeny, right here in our own county. This is shown also by the fact that the early settlers here found numerous Spanish coins and relics of Spanish manufacture in possession of the Indians of the county on their arrival here. There were then a number of Indian towns scattered along the Coosa and other streams, and it is quite probable that Little-fuchee and Upper Cataula, Indian villages in St. Clair were then in existence. One thing is certain--there were plenty of Indians then here. DeSoto proceeded southward down this the western side of the Coosa, until he reached the Indian town of Costa, in Cherokee county. At this point he crossed the river to the eastern side, and passed through the territory on the eastern side of the Coosa in what is now Calhoun county, not far from the edge or eastern boundary of St. Clair County. It is, we repeat, quite likely some of his followers crossed over into the fertile and beautiful valleys of St. Clair and mingled with the native red inhabitants of this section, and they were probably the first white men that ever entered her borders or penetrated her stately forests. Were we writing a book we might take the trouble to look up some of the letters these people and their chief wrote back to Spain in praise of our country, but it would hardly serve our present purpose.

DeSoto sent out from his main body during stop-overs and camp periods small foraging bands and scouting parties, and these are the ones who first found their way into St. Clair. Some were ill-treated by the Indians, others took sick in the county and were given the best medical treatment then practiced among the Indians, a decoction of herbs prepared by their "medicine man". It was these Spaniards and Portugese who left the Spanish coins here, and the other Spanish articles sometimes found on our soil. It was the descendants of these white men who left the traces of Spanish blood here for years, and it is possible the man Bidley, of Portugese extraction, who was hung with five others at "Gallows Hill" near Ashville in 1829 (three hundred years after DeSoto's visit) for the murder of

Taylor, was a descendent of the ill-fated bastards of DeSoto's adventurous followers. (Of this big hanging and the incidents that led up to it we will have more to say later.)

These bands and followers of DeSoto found a large and powerful tribe of Indians here which at a later date received the name of Creeks.

The presence of the Creek Indians in Alabama, at the time of DeSoto's visit, is disputed by some writers, who think this tribe were driven from Mexico to Ohio, and that while in that country, hearing of the boundless forests filled with an abundant supply of every variety of game, extending over this part of Alabama, they began to move southward, reached the hunting grounds of St. Clair about the middle of the 16th century just after DeSoto's visit. Be this as it may it is evident that there were near this time four great tribes of Indians found in Alabama by the early French and English settlers, which in course of time absorbed all or nearly all the smaller tribes, and remained here until removed by the government to the far western reservations in the present century.

Principal among these four tribes were the Muscogees, or Creeks, called by the English "Creeks" on account of the number of beautiful and sparkling streams flowing through the territory inhabited by them.

The Indians, however did not recognize the names given to them by the white people. The Creek Indians claimed their proper name to be "Och-Mul-Gee" and the Cherokees called themselves "Cha-la-kee".

The Creeks inhabited St. Clair and was the most extensive of the Alabama tribes, in time absorbing a number of lesser ones, including the warlike Alabamas, from whom the river as well as the state of Alabama derived its euphonious name. We say this with all respect to the time honored legend of "Here We Rest", which may or may not have been derived also from "Ala-ba-ma.". This tribe was removed to the west in 1837.

Of the other three great tribes found in Alabama, we have the Choctaws, Chickasaws and Cherokees none or very few of whom, however, with the exception of the Cherokees, ever came into St. Clair, except as Creek captives of the war, when they were doubtless "Roasted" in the most approved style of the day.

There were a few isolated members of each tribe in St. Clair. We also find some of the Hillabee tribe well acquainted with the geography of the county--such as old Chinobe and his son, who assisted in piloting Gen. Jackson's army through the county.

To the Choctaws, the English gave the name of Flat Heads, from the habit of flattening the foreheads of their infants by a process of manual compression, at present unknown to our medical science. What remained of the Mobilians, after DeSoto's conquest, eventually became incorporated with this tribe. The Choctaws were removed in 1830.

The Chickasaws ranked with the Creeks in warlike propensities, fierceness and power, and even at this day travellers acquainted with the tribe hesitate to go through the Chickasaw nation of the Indian territory. They were removed in 1834.

The Cherokees, from Cher-fire their prophets going by the name of Cherataghge, that is, men of divine fire, were removed in 1836. For many years the Cherokees visited St. Clair and a number lived here and fought with the Creeks, and engaged in ball playing with them. The old Cherokee and Creek boundary line is yet to be found on the old maps of Alabama. It was the result of many a hard fought battle and, during the existence of friendly relations, of numerous hotly contested games of ball between the two tribes.

It vibrated north or south according to the victor, and as near as can be located for any length of time ran through the northern part of what was first St. Clair, before Etowah was subtracted therefrom, running from the north of Big Wills Creek, several miles this side of Gadsden, near the middle to township 12, in a south of easterly direction to the Georgia state line where it struck the lower edge of township 13. Wills creek was probably the western extension of this old tribal boundary line between Ashville and Attalla. Well authenticated legends are extant regarding the ball games played first in St. Clair then in Etowah, over this line. In fact it is asserted that Ball Play, a town in Etowah county, Ball Play creek, and the Ball Play bend in Coosa River, all take their names from having been the favorite ball grounds of the Indians. The Creeks were usually the victors. At one of these games to settle the boundary it is related that the Creeks were on the point of defeating their antagonists when the chief of the Cherokees offered his daughter "The Last Queen of the Cherokees" as a prize to the brave of either side who did the best playing, thereby hoping to stimulate his men to greater exertions. But it had a like effect also on the Creeks, as the queen was beautiful, and a Creek warrior was undoubtedly the victor. The story also goes that this young Creek afterwards claimed his prize and took her as far west (several miles) as Black creek falls and that rather than become the wife of a Creek the pretty queen leapt over the falls a distance of 103 feet and was drowned.

It was even stated in this legend that a rainbow marked the last resting place of this charming Indian maiden. The writer has often visited the spot but cannot vouch for the story, and no one knows to this day whether the young queen was the daughter of the aristocratic and educated John Ridge (who married a white woman) or of chief Ross, or of some earlier tribal ruler.

The game of ball played by the Indians was afterwards, we believe, played by the whites at Robertsville or Old Town under another name. Of this and the game called "Shinney" and the way our forefathers used to play ball at the first court house at Robertsville, we will have more to say later on.

But to return to the Indians, it is historically conceded that the Muscogee--or Creek nation--occupied the territory east of Alabama and Warrior Rivers. Those particular tribes or bands living in this county, the Upper Creeks were called the Muscogees, while those of the more southern region, the "Lower Creeks" were called Seminoles. The terms "Upper" and "Lower" were not a social distinction, but merely had reference to locality. We suggest that the Creeks had as little idea of the upper tendom (sic) or lower tendom (sic) as they had of bicycling.

These Creek warriors were erect in carriage, in movement agile and graceful; in demeanor, proud, haughty and even arrogant.

Of the women it may be said that they approached nearer the ideal of romantic savage women as pictured in fiction than any of the other females of savagery. In stature they were small and short but not chunky. They were well formed and their physique of the plump and graceful type. Generally their features were regular and handsome. In facial appearance their cheek bones were a little high, brow high and arched, eyes large, languishing and expressive, and they were possessed of a diffidence and modesty uncommon to their type of women. Their feet and hands were small and of exquisite shape.

Of their local history and customs previous to the immigration of the primitive white settlers to this section little is known except as gathered from the narratives of historians, traders and adventurers. They have the reputation of being a fierce and warlike people. Their chief diet was game; agriculture in any form was almost totally unknown.

Flint rocks, shaped by rude stone tools, were used by these redskins as arrow and spear heads. It was by this means they secured their game. Lead had been discovered by them years before but no record is left us showing to what utility the Indians put it. Stones were used to make tools, and with these rude implements they manufactured by some means every article made use of by them at that time. These articles were familiar objects to the first settlers.

The early settlers found the Indians in this state; and further found well located paths (quite narrow, as the Indians had a habit of walking behind one another) leading to caves and mines of lead and ore, and to places where they secured their flints and stones, for tools and arrow points and others leading to steep bluffs and springs and roaring waterfalls. The vast mineral wealth was everywhere visible but was not of any great consideration in the minds of these pioneers, for they could not use it.

The county was one vast wilderness of oak and pine and other timber, with very little undergrowth. The great forests of stately trees were very extensive. In variety they found, ash, oak, pine, hickory, ironwood, cornell or dogwood (used for arrow making) poplar, elm, cedar, beech, chestnut, button wood, cotton wood, which were the woods most useful. Large and almost impenetrable canebrakes also were found on the creeks.

Wild fruit was plentiful here in these days, and indeed here and there even around Ashville, were several peach orchards, planted by the Indians. One of these orchards was on the hill just south of Cobb's spring where Mr. John H. Nelson now lives, another was in the field some distance northwest of Hon. James T. Greene's residence. But of these more anon.

Vines of luscious grapes and muscadines hung from the limbs of the trees in the forests, while black dew-whortle-berries, and other fruits flourished in the open lands and mountains. The county had the appearance of a grand grove of magnificent dimensions, with its plateaus level and green, its hills, valleys, coves, grottoes, rivulets and springs. These forests were nature's shields, preventing the summers from being as hot and oppressive as now, and serving as a wind break in winter, so that the temperature and seasons differed considerably from what is experienced at the present time. Grand indeed were the summers, and fragrant was the air with wild flowers, which grew in luxurious profusion. In the winter the air was pure and bracing and the climate so delightful that houses were entirely unnecessary for these hardy children of nature, though here and there, grouped together in a shady nook, near a spring, were found a few wigwams built of small logs or poles, chinked or daubed with mud, from bottom to top. These were all the protection they had, and as no chimneys were built a small fire was kindled by the use of tinder (a kind of rotten dry wood) and the flint rock. Around the fire at night lay the family on soft furs and skins until the early morning noises of the forests awoke them. The wife or "squaw" as she was called would then prepare over the fire by means of a spit or some

other rude device or in the ashes the morning meal, or fish, and venison, which their lord and master had killed, while the paposes were tumbling about in the dewy grass or practiced with the bow and arrow. After breakfast the lord goes out in quest of more game while the "squaw" sits lazily about watching her romping young.

One fact noticeable is the care the Indians took of the forests here--keeping all the undergrowth which accumulated yearly burnt off clean. This not only prevented the increase of ticks, mosquitoes, and other troublesome insects, thereby serving as a preventive of malarial disease; but it also enabled the hunter to see and approach game much more readily. It also improved the appearance of the forests.

The supply of game in these forests was bountiful and the rivers and creeks were filled with fish. The Indians depending solely upon the forests as their only resource for food with the exception of a small patch of corn, were very careful in preserving the supply of game. No more than was actually necessary was killed at one time; none was wantonly slain or wasted. In this matter the supply was not exhausted but on the contrary seemed to increase.

It was no uncommon sight for the early settlers to stand in their doors and count a herd of half a dozen or more deer in the woods near-by, and stretched on the side of every house or wigwam were the skins or peltries of the beaver, otter, wild-cat, coon, mink, and other wild animals.

It is related that even within the memory of men now living, on one occasion at Robertsville (or Old Town) in the winter just after a deep snow had fallen, during the daytime some persons standing in the town of Robertsville saw a drove of deer, a dozen or more, walking slowly along in single file on the mountain west of that town. Of course, there was a rush to get their guns and have a hunt.

The methods used by the Indians in killing game for use were exceedingly primitive, but quite profitable to them, and efficient for all purposes. The most common weapons were the "Long-bow and arrow", "blow-gun" and spears. They did not use the boomerang of the Australians, but were quite skillful with the effective weapons they had.

For the benefit of the younger folks who might like to make an Indian bow, we give a description of this weapon, (somewhat modified to suit the present time) as made by the more skillful braves and warriors. Any boy of mechanical tastes can make one in a short time.

The Indian bow was generally made of cedar, sassafras, elm or ash, sometimes ironwood and hickory, well seasoned, except the cedar, which could be used green. Its length varied from three to six feet, but the favorite length was four and one half feet. It was usually made an inch and a half wide and an inch thick in the middle. It tapered from the center towards the ends and was but half an inch wide and half an inch thick at the extremities. At one end the bowstring was notched into the wood and made permanently fast, while at the other end two notches were cut and the string at that end of the bow made like a slip-knot or loop. The string was a piece of buck-skin. When the bow was used the warrior set the end to which the string was made fast firmly on the ground, and then with his knee bent down the other end until the loop slipped into the notch. It was never kept strung except when in actual use, as it would lose its elasticity by being kept constantly bent. For the use of their boys and beginners the size was much reduced, usually to two feet in length.

The Indians did not generally finish their bows very attractively from a mechanical standpoint--the weapons being made for practical purposes and not ornamentation. The bow made after the fashion given above may be attractively finished by giving the inner surface and edges an oval shape. After smoothing up, rub with a woolen cloth dampened in linseed oil, then glue to the central part of the bow a strip of green or red velvet, six inches long.

The arrows must be made of well seasoned sticks--the Indians used small reeds and sourwood and dogwood shoots--perfectly straight and of exactly the same length for if of different lengths they fly differently, and unless made in all respects alike, the aim is destroyed. The shafts being made even, the next work is to form the string notch. We can do this with a sharp knife, but the Indians used a piece of sharp flint. When properly done the bottom of the notch should be precisely in the center of the small end of the shaft. Blunt arrows were often used for shooting at a mark, but when used for game the stem and arrowhead is inserted and bound tightly with a small thong of buckskin. The slit must be exactly in the center.

Our boys can now use steel points or heads, or a spike made of umbrella wire, unless they prefer to go out into some old field and pick up an arrow head ready made.

The next process was to put on the feathers. To do this properly great care was taken. Turkey quills and sometimes Eagle feathers were soaked in warm water to make them split easily and uniformly. The feathers were then stripped from the quills and put on the shaft. Usually three feathers were put on each arrow, and laid equidistant along the stem. The big end of the feather was fastened near the notch of the shaft and laid six inches along the wood. The feathers should be glued to the arrow.

The eagle feathers were more frequently saved for the headdress of the warriors.

It was with one of these weapons that a young brave who afterwards, it is related, became a noted chief, was hunting in St. Clair on the stream now called "Broken Arrow Creek", near the sight of Broken Arrow. He spied a large deer, drinking from the creek, and as the deer raised his head and sniffed the air uneasily the young Indian hunter threw his bow into position, took careful aim and let the arrow fly. He shot the deer in the heart, and it fell in the shallow creek. In its death struggles the arrow was broken and the head and part of the wood left sticking in the heart of the deer. From this incident tradition says that point and the creek were ever afterwards called by the Indians "Theitka," which translated into English means "Broken Arrow."

We have heard it said that the deer was a "blue-eyed" deer but of this we are doubtful. It is probable the "blue-eyed Deer" legend, however, was the source from which Blue-Eye creek which empties into the Coosa a few miles below Broken Arrow creek from Talladega county derived its name.

We have given a detailed description of the Indian bow because it was their most important implement of living and of warfare. By its skillful use they secured their food and clothes, protected their families from the incursions of wild animals and achieved the victories in warfare. It is deserving of special mention on this account. No Indian went forth upon his daily or nightly mission without his trusty

long bow and a quiver of arrows attached to his back. Sometimes these arrows are tipped with a deadly poison, which killed but did not render the game unfit for use. However this poison was usually used on the smaller arrows of the formidable blow-gun.

This weapon, (the blow-gun) was a most effective weapon in their hands, and their aim was unerring. It was made with a cane about six feet long, with the joints burned out and smoothed on the inside. In this was placed a tiny arrow made of reeds, sourwood or some light wood, with thistle-down or feathers on the small end, so made as to fit the hollow cane air tight. The other end was sharpened and sometimes tipped with a poison that produced speedy death, but the game killed by it was not injured for food.

When in use the Indian hunter simply put an arrow in the cane, raised the gun to his mouth and blew away, rarely missing his game, even at considerable distances.

Knives, hatchets, etc., such as the metallic implements we have today, were unknown to these red men, but they had hewed rude tools from stone, and with these made their weapons and prepared their game. While their long bow was laid aside for the flint lock rifle they never deserted their rude stone tomahawks and scalping knives. They had made of earth and some other composition we are not informed of to this day and sundried or baked rude vessels of pottery which served as jars and dishes, for which purpose also gourds, turtle shells and concave stones were used. Animal skins were made use of frequently for holding water, milk, etc. Sometimes the milk would have a strong flavor of the particular animal skin which contained it.

Fire was produced by rubbing two pieces of pine together or more frequently by the use of flint and dry tinder or rotten wood. The food was cooked by the "squaws" usually, but the warriors themselves could cook well for that day. Generally no vessels were used, the game being cooked in the ashes (barbecued) or roasted on a spit or sharpened stick before the fire.

They had a dish which was called in the Cherokee language "Connahana". This was, according to Mr. W. L. Gibson, one of the early settlers of the county, a conglomeration of corn and corn meal, boiled, and was their favorite dish. Our own dish of boiled green corn and lima beans which we call "Succotash", was originally derived from the Indians. Indian corn, which is so called from the fact that it was first discovered among the Indians, was their chief bread food. The old corn ridges of the Indian patches were still to be seen on Palmetto Creek and in other parts of the county at a very recent period and we presume are yet visible. Ralph Davis can show them to you.

There were also a number of roots etc., which served as bread. One of these we remember, in our early youth, to have seen in the possession of our honored friend, Mr. B. F. Ashley, now deceased, and which he stated was called "Indian Bread". It had a peculiar taste. We have never seen a sample of it since, and if it is still found in the county, would like to see some of it. We presume the Creeks also had their favorite dishes, composed of Indian corn in its various forms.

One of the principal feasts of the Indians was the "Green Corn Dance" which was celebrated at the season when the corn was in roasting ear. The whole tribe would meet at their favorite village. A fire would be kindled and a large vessel filled with green corn and water would be placed on the fire and brought to a boil. The Indians in the meantime would dance the "Green Corn Dance", which was a kind of jubilee dance, with appropriate ejaculations. Some of them, we are told by Mr. W. L. Gibson who came here in 1815, would have gourds and terrapin shells attached to their legs so as to clank together and assist in the din and racket of the occasion. This was kept up all night. As soon as the corn was boiled to the right consistency, they would sit down on the ground

around the large vessel and the chief celebrater take a large wooden spoon or ladle and dip it in the vessel of corn and drink or eat the contents and pass the ladle to the next Indian, who did likewise, etc. Frequently a dog would come up for his share and be rewarded with a crack over the head with the ladle, which was then passed to the next Indian, who never was known it is said, to turn up his nose if a few dog hairs, perchance, remained sticking to the bottom of the ladle, but dipping it in the vessel of corn proceeded to eat and be as merry as a red man could be.

They also had their war dances, too hideous to describe. The writer would like to go at detail into a description of all these customs of the Indian inhabitants of St. Clair, but space forbids more extended mention. It seems that the pioneers did not attempt to preserve much of the actual history of these people and their customs, having paid more attention to traditions, particular incidents, and their battles. The Indians of America undoubtedly gave their country its first stamp of "liberty" in the true sense.

For the Indian was the very soul of liberty. Confinement he could not endure. He was intelligent too, in his was--always understood others and at times when he desired, making himself understood. Both of the tribes that were so well known in St. Clair (the Creeks and the Cherokees) had a simple language easily understood. Years ago--just after Ashville had been founded, probably in the twenties, three Indian men were brought to Ashville for trial on a charge of stealing horses. This was after the states of Alabama and Georgia had extended their jurisdiction over both these tribes or nations so as to induce them earlier to remove to the west, which will be presented in the proper place in these articles. A great many Indians were tried in Ashville in those days. These three Indians were "ironed" or handcuffed at the Ashville blacksmith shop, (probably at Bill Alman's blacksmith shop) which stood either on the north side of the Jno. O. Turner lot on the public square, or on the north side of the lot belonging to the late Judge L. F. Box, just opposite D. D. Goode's residence.) While the "irons" were being made and put on these Indians one of them, a young brave, made "motions" or "signs", indicating that he wanted to write a letter to send back home (in North Alabama) by the officers who had arrested and brought him here. Thereupon someone brought him paper, a pen and ink and he wrote a letter in the Cherokee written language, which had been invented by an Indian several years before that time.

This language had we believe one hundred and eight characters, each representing a syllable in the language; thus tha, kee, ock, la, mai, chock, gee, ko, lock and the like; which enabled those learned in the language to express in writing, their ideas. This was looked upon as a great invention, and indeed, for an Indian, it was, and for a time a paper was published at Ross' Landing (now Chattanooga) in the English and Cherokee languages. The son of the man who published that paper is now a prominent Cherokee, who is often at Washington City, on some agency for the Cherokee nation.

A few small patches of corn was the extent of their agricultural knowledge. These their squaws were compelled to cultivate while their lord and master smoked his pipe or hunted for game.

One among the number of singular customs observed by these hardy and ignorant red men was that of burying with their dead whatever implements or trinkets belonged to them. Tin cups, pewter plates, bows and arrows large strands of beads, blow guns and other weapons and articles of ornament, etc., interred with their deceased owner. In exhuming the graves, quite a number of these antiquarian relics have been found and are today among the valued collections of curiosities on exhibitions in museums and expositions.

Throughout the county are to be found to this day, huge rock piles, reared by human hands, and for what purpose and by whom constructed is a mystery yet to be solved. The writer has dug into several, but without approaching any nearer a solution to their object and purpose than before. Many persons have unearthed them, some discovering bones but as a general rule there seems to be quite a different purpose than that of a sepulchre for their dead.

Among the most wonderful and interesting antiquarian works or relics found by the early settlers of the county were the numerous mounds or ridges--some of which are still to be seen and will be incidentally alluded to further on--some too have been built by the Indians, these people, probably, derived their ideas from the mounds built by the mound builders. But those still extant do not seem to belong to the class built by the latter race, being distinctly different--smaller in appearance and varying in their contents. Some, however, are of the opinion that these constructive ideas of the Indians originated with themselves, but as we are not writing a work on Palaeontology, facts only will be given from which the reader may draw his own conclusions.

But it is truly astonishing what skill and time must have been employed in these works of the Indians.

When we contemplate the numerous mounds and rock-piles they built, the exceedingly rude and primitive implements they manufactured and used in their every-day life, and, also, their manners and customs we may well be astonished.

Here they lived happily and contented in these then solitary regions--far beyond the borders of civilization; but a new era in their career was dawning which would eventually result in their removal, and consequently their deterioration from their aboriginal state.

We speak of it in this sense, because, in the history of the world we have but a few instances of any improvement of a people by any local change as such changes have not always affected them in a way to improve their social lives for successive generations, unless by intercourse and conquest, they succeed in establishing a more perfect civilization than they previously enjoyed.

In the study of the primitive conditions of mankind, we find that changes from their normal state, either in local removal or habits of living, as often affected their progress adversely as beneficially. There are quite as many instances where social evolution has been downward as tending upward, but even where this has not been the case, it has often been that for generations no perceptible progress has been attained, and indeed, it has been just as frequent after population increased by intercourse and conquest that subsequent generations of the same people have attained all their advancement.

It is one of the important problems of the present time as to whether the Indians will ever make any degree of advancement in civilization.

Until several years of the nineteenth century had passed, the Indian chiefs and warriors might step to the top of the highest mountains and say, with truthfulness, in the language of William Cowper in his "Alexander Selkirk":

"I am monarch of all I survey,
My right there is none to dispute."
This their own, their native land was to the red men a--
"Throne of royal state, which far Outshone the wealth
of Ormus and of Id.
Of where the gorgeous East, with richest hand,
Showers on her kings barbaric pearl and gold."

Whatever may be said of them these savage residents of the forests, had their virtues as well as their vices.

CHAPTER 3

From the year 1764 and for several years after, the beautiful section of country now embraced within the limits of St. Clair county, in connection with all that part of the state of Alabama above the line of 32 degrees and 28 minutes, was contained in the British province of Illinois, under British government. At this time this was the Illinois part of Alabama, uninhabited by Europeans, except a few traders who resided in the nations of the Upper Creek Indians--those inhabiting St. Clair county--and the Cherokees and Chickasaws.

Although the country was claimed by the English by virtue of treaty with France and Spain, which governments laid claim to it by right of discovery, the St. Clair territory and surrounding country was in complete possession of the Indians. These were mostly of the Muscogee or Creek nations, although there was quite a number of Cherokees.

In 1794-5 the county of St. Clair, in connection with counties of Clarke, Marengo, Greene, Perry, Autauga, Bibb, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, Pickens, Fayette, Jefferson and also portions of Blount, Walker, Marion, Wilcox, Monroe, Dallas, Sumpter, and Baldwin, with a large part of Mississippi, were sold to the "Georgia Company" of the Great Yazoo Land Sales by the Georgia legislature for the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Though these sales were afterwards declared null and void and repealed by Georgia legislature, the tendency was to cause an influx of settlers into those wild barbarous regions.

These settlers came to occupy the lands granted by the "Georgia Company" and remained after the repealing of the sales--it was a rush something like the Oklahoma rush of a few years ago.

On April 24, 1802, the state of Georgia, to which this territory then belonged, ceded to the Federal government of the United States, all the country now embraced in the state's of Alabama, and Mississippi for a considerable sum. Immigrants then began to find their way towards the country; a land office was established, and numbers of settlers entered land under the pre-emption laws of the United States and under the local usages and customs.

Yet the title of the Indians, the rightful owners of the territory still remained to be purchased.

The reader must bear in mind that when we say above that the county of St. Clair was, together with other counties, sold to the "Georgia Company" of the Great Land Sales by the Georgia Legislature, we do not mean that St. Clair was then a political organization; for Alabama was not then a state, nor was America, indeed, entirely free from foreign difficulties affecting her independence. We have reference to the territory or land now, out of which these counties were, at a later date formed or organized, some of them before Alabama became a state of the Union, which event was completed on December 14th, 1819, by a joint resolution of congress.

It will be remembered by readers of American history that as early as 1743, in the reign of King George II of England, that monarch granted to Oglethorpe all the territory between the Savannah and Altamaha Rivers and by treaty with the Indians, Oglethorpe secured the territory and formed the state of Georgia. After this Georgia rapidly filled up with immigrants.

In a few more years, or about the beginning of the present century, some of the more restless pioneers, armed with their unerring rifles and in search of adventure, pushed westward. They had heard from other adventurers, of the picturesque country lying west of them. At that time these hunters and pioneers had little difficulty in penetrating westward, except such as is usually encountered in exploring a new, and almost unknown country. They met the Indians on friendly terms and in this way were allowed unmolested the privilege of the hunting grounds, and frequently shared the wigwam of the red men. Thus an intimacy sprang up between the whites and Indians which lasted for many years.

While the whites had these privileges, it can hardly be said that they had any permanent settlements in this part of the country.

These hunting excursions from the Georgia settlements were kept up at intervals, and the county of St. Clair and Blount and surrounding counties (not of course by their present names) soon became well known in Georgia and many of the settlers cast a longing eye to this beautiful country, with all its tempting allurements and fertile soil. Those who had not visited here were fascinated with the glowing accounts of the visitors and were determined to occupy it at no distant day. The immigration fever spread until it infested other states, reaching South Carolina and North Carolina. The Tennesseans who afterwards came here were due principally to General Jackson's expeditions.

The Creek Indians occupied the country nearest to the Georgia settlements, their country was the first invaded by the whites and the number of invaders were more numerous and some probably of a doubtful temper in their treatment of the Indians; second, Tecumseh, a powerful chief of the Shawnee tribe, a crafty diplomat, and one of the shrewdest Indians known in history, was then among them. Tecumseh claimed to be chief of all the tribes nearest the white settlements. It will be

remembered that Tecumseh had been sent here by the English, then on the verge of another war with America, as their secret agent for the purpose of inciting the Creeks to rise up against the Federal government of the United States and take sides with England. The effects of the visits of Tecumseh were the beginning of hostilities among the whites and Indians.

Hence all efforts made from Georgia to settle this part of the country were regarded by the Creeks as an infringement on their territory, and they were not slow to show their hostility. This fact deterred the Georgians' hope to possess the territory of St. Clair, Blount and surrounding counties.

The Tennessee River was the great highway to the northern portion of Alabama, and not a few settlers pushed their way into St. Clair and Blount from east Tennessee and western North Carolina.

The reader will please bear in mind that there were at this time no roads in the county, nor were any made until 1812-13-14- when during the Creek Indian War, the "Jackson Trace" was cut out from Tennessee by the army of Gen. Jackson. It is as we judge, quite probable that Gen. Jackson himself followed the trails of some of the early settlers in his march to Fort Strother.

It was not long till some of these hunters went back to Tennessee and North Carolina and moved their families here and began the settlement of Coosa and Canoe Creek Valley in St. Clair and of Brown's Valley in Blount. At this time there were many hunters and adventurers within the limits of both counties, but no permanent settlers.

All of these settlers found Indians here living in peace and quietude, and thanks to Oglethorpe's policy little trouble was encountered between the two races.

As an incident to show the spirit that existed between the pioneers and the Indians before the introduction of "firewater" and free from the prejudicial influences of foreign agents and "tools" and a few bad white men of the renegade order, we relate the following; we cannot give dates but it was early in the present century:

It happened while Coosa River was the line between the whites and Indians and of course the two sides were frequently much mixed up. W. A. Coleman, the father-in-law of our present esteemed citizen, Maj. J. D. Truss, lived near where Riverside is now situated, and his father-in-law, John Roberson, lived at what is now known as Truss' Ferry, or Ferryville. Mr. Coleman's oldest little boy, Sidney, was brought down to spend a week with his grandparents when he was between three and four years old, but after some two days he took a notion to go home and while everybody was busy he struck out alone some three miles on a road mostly on the river bank. He had not gone far until an Indian by the wayside saw him and knowing him, followed him for the purpose of protecting him. The Indian took the precaution not to let the little fellow see him to keep him from being frightened. On arriving at the house little Sidney fell down on the door steps with the exclamation "Ma I thought I would never get to your house any more." The Indian who had watched him through the forests, followed in immediately after him and of course there was great alarm until it was all understood, when the

Indian was doubtless thanked in a most kindly way for his faithfulness. Mr. Coleman often repeated this story and his eyes filled with tears when he told it. He always said the Indians were the noblest hearted people he ever saw until they were wronged and corrupted by the whites and up to his death he did not hesitate to say that in heart and in honor they were much better than the whites.

In this Col. M. H. Cruikshanks, of Talladega, an authority on Indians, agreed with him.

To quote from the estimable gentlemen who furnished us with this incident it would seem that the Indian in his high tone and honorable native conditions, as these gentlemen have said did not adapt himself very well to the disposition at present shown in many places in wrangling, cheating, defrauding and out sharpening everybody and the relying on having it all fixed up by the grip we think we have on the Lord through Christ (Roman Catholicism in Protestant churches) and hence our slowness in civilizing and Christianizing them. There is a selfhood or independence about him not found in other races.

"In the days of slavery one white man with not another in 50 miles of him could manage one thousand negroes by the wave of his hand while 10,000 could not manage one lone Indian because he would die first."

This brings us about up to the second and most interesting in our country's history--the beginning years of the present century.

I had planned an exhaustive history of the Indian inhabitants of the county and sketches of the lives of some of the more prominent warriors and chiefs, but the demands on my time at present prevent me from visiting those who could give me data and the data I have collected is too meager to attempt it.

I would like to tell the young folks (and may some day) of the lives and adventures of the two Cherokee chiefs, Chief Ross, who frequently went to Washington in the interest of his followers, and of the noted John Ridge, one of the ablest chiefs of the Cherokees, who frequently visited Ashville after it became a town. John Ridge came often to Ashville to attend court in behalf of those of his people who fell into the hands of the law after Georgia and Alabama had extended the jurisdiction of their criminal courts over the Indians in the first third of the present century, to which we will refer in the proper place. Chief Ridge was a large, stalwart, full-blooded Indian, of proud bearing and noble mien. He was educated at the North--I believe at a school in Connecticut, probably one of our best colleges. He married a white woman. It was not a strange sight in Ashville's street in those early days to see an Indian, but to see one like Ridge, educated and dressed in the finest of broadcloth--the height of luxury in dress then--which he always wore when visiting Ashville, was a singular spectacle indeed to those who had only seen Indians in their native costumes of buckskin hunting shirt, moccasins and leggings or nothing. Ridge was killed by the Ross party after their removal to the west.

I should like to speak at length of old Fife, who used to come from the Fife-Town of the Creek Indians in Talladega county, with a lot of his Indian friends, and always took his seat under a cottonwood tree on the hill north-west of the square in Ashville, near where Mr. John Nelson lives, and looked as if his poor heart would break at the thought of leaving this land. It was a hard blow to some of them--their removal. Poor old Fife- like "Lo, the poor Indian," his name should not go down in history unhonored, unsung or unwept.

Some of these Indians were wealthy, too for these times. I would like to tell you of Peggy Pathkiller, another Cherokee, whose estate here in the county was appraised at \$4,676.35, and of old Dragging Canoe, Utiles, old Money Hunter, Scraper, and other Cherokees connected with the county's history but my limited knowledge of them might force me into the field of romance and hence I refrain. But if any of the older settlers can give us any Indian history we will preserve a place for it in future articles.

CHAPTER IV

THE INDIAN WARS

We now come to deal with history within the memory of men now living. If perchance, I should state as a fact anything erroneous, or be mistaken in dates, etc., I will take it as a personal favor if those who are acquainted with the facts will assist me in correcting some. All history should be accurate, and I desire to make these sketches as accurate as can be done at this day, so far distant from the date of the enactment of the events described.

I shall not attempt just at this point in these sketches to give any biographical history except incidentally. I have considered data, which has been secured only by means of trying and persevering efforts but I find our people, as a general thing seem to take little interest in the matter of preserving their genealogy and family history.

If those descendants of early settlers of the county will kindly favor me with a full written sketch of their family I will appreciate it. Or if they will come and tell me their family history I shall gladly put it in proper form for preservation.

We spoke, last week, of Tecumseh, the great Indian chief, diplomat and leader, and stated that the effect of his visit was the commencement of the hostilities between the races.

In 1812, or thereabouts, the Indians began to protest against the further encroachments of the white settlers. They perceived that the country was being rapidly occupied and settled in various places and naturally reasoned that within a few years, if this continued, they would be driven from the country or that all the game would be driven away or killed. This added fuel to the war flames fanned by Tecumseh's glib speeches, and soon a strong feeling of hostility was manifest. This was followed by occasional disturbances and outbreaks and by the end of the year many had been killed on both sides. There was considerable fighting up and down Canoe creek and Coosa river especially, and occasionally an Indian, would scalp a white settler in the mountains near Cliff Springs, on Blount Mountain. The whites, however, had made many friends among the Indians and it took some little time for all of the latter to thoroughly imbibe the war spirit and take up the tomahawk. But nearly all did so. They had their council of war at Litlefuchee, an Indian village a few miles up the creek, and a council is also said to have been held at Bluff Spring, near Cataula as it was then or Ashville now.

Tecumseh, who was already waging his war with the whites in the south, hearing of the troubles in this section, now St. Clair and Blount counties (not then of course known as counties) incited the Creeks and Cherokees both and commenced a fierce war of extermination against the whites.

It was then the Indian war whoop was heard in all its direful reality in the forests about Ashville and throughout St. Clair. The Indians would have a war dance at which they would put on the war paint, usually red, from which fact they were called by Jackson's men "Red-stick." They would, during these dances, throw their tomahawks into trees and stumps, or erect a war stick and marching around it bury their tomahawks in this. On the next day they would bury it in the head of a white settler if, perchance, one was so unfortunate as to cross their pathway, and proud, indeed, and honored by his friends, was the warrior who could exhibit, as the evening shades covered the hilltops of the mountains about Ashville, a white man's scalp reeking from his belt, with a triumphant shout holding it up--dripping with blood--on the point of a spear or poisoned arrow to the view of his rejoicing allies.

The scalp was usually a rounded or circular piece of skin, ranging from the size of a dollar up to a small saucer, cut with a scalping knife from the top of the head of the white hunter who had fallen by the hand of the "brave" or warrior. It was strung on a piece of buckskin, like beads and the warrior who could show the largest number was a proud man and an honored one in his tribe.

We have heard it said that Warrior river in Blount took its name from the fact that the warriors along the line of that stream could show more scalps than those of the Coosa or Canoe.

The war was carried on mostly along the banks and in the valleys of the Coosa and Tallapoosa rivers.

The Indians rallied from St. Clair and Blount and joined Tecumseh whenever needed.

The hardy "hunters" of St. Clair and Blount (we can hardly yet call them settlers) also responded to the call to arms. The tocsin of war between the races had been sounded and it was to be a war of extermination. The whites knew full well that they could expect no quarter from the Indians, and that their capture meant torture at the stake, running the gauntlet and hair pulling at the hands of the swarthy "red-sticks". Even the squaws and papooses or babies of the warriors engaged with zest in these tortures, and seemed to derive a more enjoyment from it.

The Indians of St. Clair during this time were fully as wild and barbarous as the Indians we read of in the border books during the days of Lewis Wetzel, Daniel Boone, and along the Muskingum.

This was before the incident related in the last chapter and there were too, isolated cases of friendship between certain Indians and certain whites.

The Indians also had a peculiar way of fighting. He would not fight "fair" but always sought cover. When he trailed a hunter through the woods along the Canoe or the Coosa, he usually crept up close to him and shot him at short range with a poisoned arrow or split his skull with a tomahawk while the hunter slept, and no hunter dared sleep alone in the woods in those days except from necessity.

The Indian would always take to a tree or a log to shield him from the bullet of the white hunter's rifle, and never would consent to stand out in the open place as a target to be shot at.

It was about this time or it may have been in 1815, that the famous Davy Crockett came through here on his way to Jones Valley, not far from Birmingham, presumably "hunting Indians". He fell ill at the house of one Jolly Jones, an early settler or hunter.

Davy was one of the most famous hunters of his day and to have him at one's house was almost equal to an insurance policy against the Indians, for Davy's bullet never missed, and his powder never flickered in the pan of his flint lock. His nerve was steady, and many is the time when he "barked a squirrel, and snuffed a candle."

For in these times the hunters would have their tests of marksmanship, or shooting matches, and "barking a squirrel" was a method they had of killing squirrels by shooting so as to clip off the bark of the limb the squirrel was on jarring it to death without touching it. This method left no hole in the skin and did not injure or bruise the meat. "Snuffing the candle" was shooting off the "snuff" or end of the wick of a tallow candle without putting the light out.

Davy Crockett could do both of these with great ease, but at the time spoken of he had no reputation, but was regarded as a sidewalk wit.

While at the house of Jolly Jones, then in what is now Jefferson, he was playing with his rifle, showing his skill, and a woman named Betty Clarke was standing near him. In some way the rifle fired, accidentally or otherwise, and chipped off the end of her nose.

Later Crockett went to Winchester county, Tennessee, and while there he met Messrs. Joseph Riley, Sr., and John Smith. He told them of the valley and they moved down to a point within two miles of Jonesboro and have lived there since. The valley was named after an old settler named Jones, who originally owned a large tract of the valley land.

This incident may have been about 1814 or 15, at a later day than the Indian wars, but it serves to show the type of people the Indians had to fight, and we can readily see how hopeless was their contest against the leaden bullets from men handled by men like Davy Crockett.

Soon the news of the battle of Burnt Corn way down in Conecuh county, south Alabama was heralded abroad among the Indians from tribe to tribe. All the war trinkets, weapons and utensils were secured and put in shape. Head feathers from eagles or turkeys were secured and put in condition and new vessels of war point supplied.

The battle of Burnt Corn took place in July 1813.

On the 13th of August 1813, the Ft. Mims massacre occurred. Ft. Mims was in Baldwin county on the Alabama River, and the inhabitants were "surprised" by the Creeks and the fort destroyed. It was one of these atrocious "surprises" that General Washington was so careful to

guard against, and like the one which incensed him so greatly, when he was president against Gen. St. Clair (who was on this account removed and whose place was afterwards supplied by Mad Anthony Wayne). Here at Ft. Mims 400 whites, men, women and children were put to death. This atrocious deed aroused the indignation of the white people and they at once flew "to arms". It was now "war to the death"--a war of extermination--against the "red-sticks".

There were but few hunters here however. We do not know of any who lived in what is now St. Clair county at this time (1813). We know of some who had "settled" in Blount however and who had passed through St. Clair and tarried awhile on their way to other counties.

Even as early as 1810, A Gilbreath, a fearless pioneer had come to Blount county, passing through St. Clair, in search of lead, or lead ore, and he explored the two counties. One George Fields either accompanied Mr. Gilbreath or soon after followed him--of this we have no other authentic record. George Fields was probably related to Moses and Isaac Fields, who together with Andrew McLaughlin and "Devil" John Jones, according to Thomas M. Owen, in his "John Owen's Journal, of his removal from Virginia to Alabama" came from Tennessee in the spring of 1813 and made a small crop of corn that year near the present city of Bessemer, now is Jefferson county. In the fall these men brought their families. Jones Valley takes its name from "Devil" John Jones. The town of Jonesboro, near Bessemer, we suggest, also derives its name from the same source. It is said that Caleb Finley also came with Mr. Jones, and that both were from Madison county, Alabama, but we are inclined to believe Mr. Owens the better authority on this subject. Caleb Finley located at Bear Meat (Cabin now Blountsville).

About this time or a little while later John Gunter appeared on the scene. Gunter was partly raised among the Cherokees and had a distinct recollection of the Revolutionary War. He was a noble hearted man and many times afterwards aided the settlers in making desirable selections for sites for their homes.

Col. Richard Brown also came through St. Clair afterwards making his home in Blount, and later from his familiarity with St. Clair Geography led one of Jackson's scouting expeditions with a band of his Indian friends rendering valuable service through his knowledge of St. Clair's geography.

I mention these settlers or hunters this early in my narrative because, while some of them are not reported to have come here till 1815-16. I have data that at least a few of them figured in the Jackson Indian wars--Col. Richard Brown certainly did.

The Ft. Mims affair aroused the indignation of the country to such a pitch that Gen. Andrew Jackson set out from Nashville, Tennessee with an army of 2,000 men, thrifty Tennesseans. His purpose was to clear the country along the Coosa and Alabama rivers of the Creek Indians.

This army passed along the Coosa and Alabama rivers of the Creek Indians. This army passed through Blount county cutting out timber and making a road as they marched. This road was afterwards known as the "Jackson Trail" or "Jackson Trace". Gen. Jackson followed a direct south course from the Tennessee river, selecting the best crossings at the rivers and coming through the gaps in the mountains. Indeed, so well selected was the trace that it has been used to the present day as a public thoroughfare and is regarded as a well chosen route.

A large part of this army encamped a few days in Blount on the Warrior river, at the place where M. A. Brickwell resided a few years ago, and while there numbers of hunters then in Blount flocked to his banner. It was probably while here that Col. Richard Brown joined the army.

After much difficulty, Jackson cut his way to Will's creek, now in Etowah county, which was included in the original boundaries of St. Clair county, where he encamped on October 28, 1813, destitute of bread and provisions for his army, to allow his foraging parties to secure a supply of rations. As the contractors had totally failed to fulfill their engagements with him, his army was almost in a starving condition.

While encamped at this point, Gen. Jackson dispatched Col. Dyer with a small force of two hundred cavalry to attack the Indian town of Littefuchee, twenty miles distant, situated on Canoe Creek. Arriving at Littefuchee at four o'clock on the morning of October 29, they burned down the town and captured twenty-nine prisoners, consisting of men, women and children. Returning to camp, they met another detachment which had been sent out to secure a supply of beeves, corn, etc. This detachment had captured four Indians of the war party and two negroes, probably refugee slaves who had taken up their abode with the redskins. Two other Creeks of the hostile party were brought in by old Chinobe--an aged Hillabee chief--and his son.

These prisoners were all sent together to Huntsville.

I am unable to get anything definite as to the location of this Indian town. It was on Canoe creek above Ashville according to Gen. F. M. Thomason (probably about five or six miles). I would like for some one who is informed as to its location to help me to locate it definitely.

It is quite probable that other battles happened here in St. Clair county. I have made an effort to secure the official record of Jackson's operations in St. Clair. If I am successful I shall give the record in full.

In the meantime while Gen. Jackson was still encamped on Will's creek--in St. Clair county afterwards -- waiting for his foraging parties to secure enough provisions from the fertile and beautiful valley of the Coosa to proceed southward, the Creeks had assembled in large numbers at their town of Tallasehatchee--afterwards in Calhoun county--thirteen miles distant from his camp.

Coffee, who had been promoted to the rank of Brigadier General, was dispatched by Jackson at the head of one thousand men, with one-half of whom he was directed to attack the enemy. The other half was directed to scour the country near the Ten Islands for the purpose of covering his operations.

Fording the Coosa at the Fish Dam, four miles above the Islands, Coffee advanced to Tallasehatchee, surrounded the town at the rising of the sun on November 3rd, 1813 and was met by the savages and their prophets with whoops and the sounding of drums--the prophets being in advance.

Attacking the decoy companies stationed by Coffee, they were soon surrounded by troops who charged them with great slaughter. After a short, but terrible action, eighty-four women and children were taken prisoners while the slain bodies of one hundred and eighty-six warriors were counted upon the battlefield, where, unavoidably some women also perished. Many other bodies, uncounted, lay concealed in the weeds. Five Americans were killed and eighteen wounded.

Late in the evening of the same day, Gen. Coffee recrossed the Coosa and marched his little army to Gen. Jackson's headquarters. Not a solitary warrior begged for his life and it is believed, not an Indian escaped to the woods, to tell in after years the results of this battle. All the prisoners captured were sent to Huntsville.

Gen. Jackson detailed a company of soldiers to remove the Indians from Old or Upper Cataula and New or Lower Cataula across the Coosa river. Those from New or Lower Cataula and probably those from both Indian towns were settled at and around a place called the "Plum Orchard", known afterwards as the "Fife-Town" of Creek Indians, which was on the road afterwards made from Talladega to Jacksonville about five miles north of the Chockolocco creek. We infer this from the incident heretofore related in regard to old Fife's visits to Ashville. They did not like to have to give up this land. It is hardly probable they came back to look for treasures buried by their ancestors or friends when removed.

Gen. Jackson, now forcing his way over the Coosa mountain, arrived at Ten Islands where he began to erect a second depot for supplies, (having already erected one--Fort Deposit--on Thompson's creek in the present county of Calhoun which was protected by strong picketing and blockhouses and to which he gave the name of Fort Strother.

There was a considerable fortification there, and older citizens may recollect having seen the gateposts till a late day with an appearance of earthworks thrown up around in places. These were the ruins of the historical old fort, which is now embraced within the boundaries of St. Clair County.

This was Gen. Jackson's place of rendezvous during the Creek Indian War in St. Clair and surrounding counties. It was situated near the foot of the mountains on the west side of the Coosa River and on the public road as it was afterwards laid out from Ashville to Talladega. It was near the ferry crossing known in early times as Durinn's and

Pursuant to this agreement, the army with its baggage started, along the route indicated, and at about noon of the first or second day's march, met the long looked for wagons loaded down with provisions. At this joyful sight, camp was at once pitched and all hands set eagerly to work cooking and eating and enjoying themselves hugely, then lay down to rest and have a good sleep.

Late in the night Gen. Jackson was informed that a conspiracy had been formed against him and that the troops had determined to go back to their homes in Tennessee and not to return to Fort Strother, and this they had agreed to do.

The General's quarters being in front immediately in the route they would have to go, he before daylight had collected about sixty or eighty men and officers--including his artillerymen, with their cannons charged and ready to be fired. By sunrise he placed them in battle array across the road, with himself on horseback in the middle of the line. His arm being in a sling, he held in his right hand a musket, the muzzle of which was resting between his horse's ears.

Very soon the rebellious troops formed in columns and companies in the open woods, and with fife and drum sounding to their quick marching, came rapidly forward.

Gen. Jackson had given to those aligned with him the command: "DON'T FIRE A GUN UNTIL I FIRE, THEN SELL YOUR LIVES AS DEARLY AS YOU CAN!"

Imagine, reader, if you can, what must have been the feelings of these soldiers, arrayed, as they were, friend against friend, kinsman against kinsman, father against son and brother against brother, on the verge of a deadly combat. These men had sworn to obey their general, but driven by starvation almost to desperation, they revolted and bore upon their countenances a look of determination which no one, save those who have seen it, can describe.

With beating heart the General waited until the front ranks of the advancing column approached with a short distance--less, perhaps, than fifty yards--while it was not yet quite light, so they could see him plainly and his array to resist them, when raising himself in his stirrups, in a loud, terrible voice, he commanded:

"HALT!"

The mutinous troops wavered an instant, then stooped as if struck by an electric shock.

Again came the command:

"Right about face!"

With one accord they turned about as machines.

"Forward march, every d'---d rascal of you!"

They stepped off quickly and the General put himself at the head of the column and marched the army back to Fort Strother. This was the end of this mutinous affair. In a short time relief troops came and the veteral soldiers were marched home to Tennessee and discharged.

The above scene is supposed to have occurred in the flat piney woods between Canoe creek and the foot of the mountain.

There was a boy soldier by the name of Burk, about 16 years old, sick and reclining at the root of a tree within thirty feet of General Jackson when this thrilling real dramatic affair occurred. He was so situated that he could see Gen Jackson's face when the General was giving his commands, and after this boy became an old man, he said he could shut his eyes and see that face again, with the look of determined resistance upon it, appearing as the countenance of some destructive demon from the lower regions.

That boy soldier, when a man became a large merchant in Nashville, Savannah, New York, and Texas, where he died respected and honored. Having become well acquainted with Gen. Jackson, he visited the Hermitage after the latter had become president, and in their conversation told him about having been a witness to the scene just described, and said that he had always desired to ask what were then his feelings while giving those commands, that made his fact present such a terrible and commanding aspect.

Gen. Jackson replied that he knew the Tennesseans well, and had very little hope of turning them back. He said that was one time in his life that he expected to die and had deliberately made up his mind that if those troops did go to Tennessee, they would have to march over his dead body.

The deeds and incidents we have just recorded were characteristic of Gen. Andrew Jackson--or "Old Hickory" as he was familiarly called--through his long, eventful and successful life. The people who followed him and who knew him, with few exceptions liked him, and afterwards, when he ran for president of the United States only seven votes were polled against him in St. Clair county.

A number of years afterwards when St. Clair had become a large county and Ashville a flourishing town, (about the year 1825, as near as date can be obtained) one of the high chiefs of the Creek Indians, by the name of McIntosh either had been or was about to be engaged in negotiating a treaty for the removal of the Indians to the west, when he was killed by a company of red-painted Indians. Great numbers of these "red-sticks" at once became hostile and the Talladega tribe fled to Ashville for protection and remained in Ashville for quite a while. They encamped at the big spring east of Ashville, now on Judge James T. Green's beautiful place, "Tawassa Farm" but in those days the property of Col. John Massey, who was at the time sheriff of the county. (At that time the spring was east of the big rock and ran under the rock to the west side of the rock.) Col. Massey, under public authority of some kind had the Talladega Indians fed and cared for until the Indians in the nation were pacified.

The Daniel Lastly that escaped from the beseiged fort and reported the condition of the Talladega Indians to Gen. Jackson (an account of which has already been given) was with this tribe in Ashville and his brother, Alexander Lastly, a large man was also with them.

Alexander Lastly was then chief of the Talladegas, and under the seductive influence of a few drinks of whiskey administered to him by white folks from Ashville who congregated about the Indian camps, would amuse the crowd by making big speeches in the Indian language.

When asked why the parts of his person or limbs not clothed did not get cold, he would reply in broken English, "Me all face!"

He had a nephew, a boy often seen in town, who, when asked his name, always replied "Gen. Jackson." This boy had in fact been born the very night the tribe were rescued from the beseiged fort by Gen. Jackson. We here give this incident to show in what estimation this particular tribe of Indians held Gen. Jackson.

In the series of conflicts which soon followed--in Oct., 1813--and ending with the battle of Tohopeka, or the Great Horse Shoe Bend, in March 1814, the Creeks were so thoroughly defeated, and their power so completely broken that they were compelled to accept a humiliating peace. This war deprived St. Clair of both her Indian and white hunters for the time they were engaged, and the game appeared more abundant than ever before. The woods seemed full of deer and wild turkey, while the streams were almost crowded with fish ready to feed the few and almost famished Indian warriors who were so fortunate as to return to the scenes of deadly strife. The faces of the squaws and papooses were wreathed in smiles and grins when they discovered their Lord and Master approaching, for upon him depended his family for food, brought down by his bow and arrow. The autumn of 1814 was a period of peace and plenty to the Indians; there were game and fish in abundance, and wild honey taken from the hollow tree, the native home of the honey bee.

This was the Indian's paradise a paradise from which he must soon be expelled. His fate was already sealed, for on the 9th of August of that year the chiefs ceded to the United States fifteen million acres of territory including St. Clair County.

The happy warrior, his dusky wife and papooses must leave the bones of their ancestors, and the home of their childhood where they had spent so many happy days.

No wonder the red men lingered in this county long after they had orders to leave. No wonder they hesitated when gathering their little plunder to leave the spot so sacred to them. No wonder they sent the quivering arrow to some human heart as a parting salutation for their troubles, the moans of their wives and tears of their children.

CHAPTER 5
FORMATION OF THE COUNTY: ITS BOUNDARIES

The Creek war closed with the splendid victory of Gen. Jackson over the Indians at Ft. Jackson in March 1814. In the fall of the year, Aug. 9, 1814, the formal treaty of capitulation was signed. On the part of the United States this war was justly regarded as "unprovoked, inhuman, and sanguinary," and the government demanded an equivalent in land for all expenses incurred in its prosecution. Gen. Jackson and Col. Benjamin Hawkins represented the United States, and it was not until after a months tiresome negotiation that the treaty was signed. The land ceded included all of the country claimed by the Creeks west of the Coosa river, and south of a line running southeast from about Wetumpka to the Chattahoocha river a little below Eufaula. The northern and western limits of the cession being undefined, treaties were concluded with the other Indian tribes. On Sept. 14, 1816 the Cherokees ceded all their claims to lands south of the Tennessee, and west of a small tract north of the Coosa river. On Sept. 20, 1819, a cession was made by the Chickasaws of all their lands north of the Tennessee river and also all south of that river, east of Canoe Creek, and also east of a line from the source of this creek due south to Gaines road, thence along this road to Cotton Gin Port, and from the west branch of the Tombigbee to the Choctaw boundary.

On Oct. 24, 1816 the Choctaws relinquished all of their claims to lands east of the Tombigbee. It will be seen at a glance that these cessions included practically all of the country south of the Tennessee and lying between the Coosa and Tombigbee rivers.

Anticipating early efforts at settlement, Gov. David Holmes of the Mississippi territory, by proclamation, created all of the lands, ceded Aug. 8, 1814 into the county of Monroe. On Dec. 9, 1815, the territorial legislature provided for its organization. At this time the settled parts of this almost limitless county lay along the east side of the Alabama river, the settlers having principally entered from the adjoining counties on the west and south. A large influx of settlers, coming in mostly from Ga., and settling on the Alabama and Coosa rivers, in the vicinity of Ft. Jackson, necessitated the creation, by the territorial legislature, of the new county of Montgomery, Dec. 6, 1816, with Ft. Jackson as the place for holding courts.

In the northern part of the cession, now comprising the counties lying south of the Tennessee river, permanent settlements were first made just across that river about 1815. In the previous year various adventurous explorers had probably prospected over the whole of the upper region; and it is not unlikely that the soldiers from Tennessee in the Creek wars had treasured up in their memory beautiful localities to which they expected to return. No evidence exists of earlier permanent settlements than in 1815. By the end of this year and the spring of 1816, settlements had been made in "Bear Meat Cabin" (now Plountsville) Cahaba Valley in St. Clair and Shelby counties, Jones and Rouse's valley in Jefferson county and "the Falls of the Warrior", now Tuscaloosa. From Madison county the immigrants went down the old Indian trace, now the Huntsville road in part, leading from Ditto's Landing to Mud Town on the Cahaba. Large numbers came down the Tennessee River on flat boats and landed at Deposit or Gunter's Landing. The road from North

Georgia, by which these from that state and also from South Carolina reached this section, crossed the Chattahoochee River at the upper Shallow Ford, passed through Rome, Ga., crossed Will's Creek near Bennettsville (now near Attalla), and thence along the east side of the Mountains.

The inrush of settlers became so great in the three following years that the first Territorial Legislature of Alabama, which met at St. Stephens, Washington Co., in Feb. 1818, found one of its first duties in forming county government for the new communities. Only seven counties existed at the formation of the territory in 1817. The first legislature created thirteen new ones, and among them, formed Feb. 7, 1818, was Shelby, so named in honor of Gov. Isaac Shelby, of Ky. As its upper part comprises the present St. Clair, the boundaries contained in Sec. I of the act are given in full:

"That hereafter all that tract of country lying west of the Cherokee boundary line; south and east of the county of Blount, and north of a line to be drawn from west to east through the southern extremity of the Cahaba Valley, from the eastern boundary of said county of Blount to Coosa river, and thence up said river to where it is intersected by the said Cherokee boundaries to be called and known by the name of Shelby."

Provision was made for holding courts for the county of Shelby at the house of William S. Wallace.

On Feb. 6, the day previous, Blount county had been formed.

The second session of the territorial legislature which convened in November 1818 created St. Clair County out of the upper part of Shelby, and from its importance the act is printed in full. It will appear from the foregoing that the present limits of St. Clair have successively been a part of Montgomery and Shelby counties, but it may be said that no governmental functions appear to have exercised over its people by the first two counties.

The act to alter and ascertain more particularly the boundaries of the county of Shelby and to lay off a new county in the northeast part thereof, to be called and known by the name of St. Clair County.

SECTION I. Be it enacted by the Legislative Council and House of Representatives of the Alabama Territory in General assembly convened, that Shelby County shall hereafter be bounded by a line, beginning on the north bank of the Coosa river opposite the other end of the Procter's Island, and running thence directly to the source of the main stream of Mulberry creek, and from thence direct course to the mouth of James Moore's spring branch, on Mahon's creek, and thence down said creek to the ford, on the wagon road leading from Hazelett's to the Pleasant Valley, thence a direct course to where the road heading from Thomas Lindsay's to William Lovelady's, crosses the Cahaba Valley road, thence along said road to Major John Mahon's, and leaving him in the county of Cahaba, thence a direct course to where the boundary line in the county of Cahaba, thence a direct course to where the boundary line of the county of Tuscaloosa crosses Roup's valley creek,

thence along the boundary line of said county, to the southeast corner of the county of Blount, and thence along the southeast boundary of said county of Blount, to the main road leading from Jones' Valley, to William Guthries, and thence a direct course to the mouth of Kimulge (sic) creek on the Coosa, and thence down the Coosa river including the tract of country appertaining to Fort Williams to the beginning.

SEC. 2 And be it further enacted, that all that tract of country included in the following boundary lines, viz: Beginning at the northwest corner of the county of Shelby, and from thence running along the ridge dividing the waters of the Black Warrior from those of the Cahaba and Coosa rivers to the Cherokee boundary line, thence along said line to the Coosa river, thence down said river to the county of Shelby, and thence along the boundary of said county to the beginning, shall form one county to be called and known by the name of St. Clair.

SEC. 3 And be it further enacted, That there shall be holden in and for the said county of St. Clair, in each year, a superior court of law and equity, on the second Monday's in March and September, and there shall be holden in and for the said county of St. Clair in each year, a county court on the third Monday's in March and September, and an immediate court, on the fourth Mondays in December and June.

SEC. 4 And be it further enacted, That for the time being, the said courts for the said county of St. Clair, shall be holden at the house of Alexander Brown, and that the said courts in and for the said county of Shelby, shall hereafter be holden at the house of Benjamin May. But the said courts may respectively for want of necessary buildings at the several places herein designed for holding the same, adjourn to such other places contiguous thereto, as may seem most proper.

SEC. 5 And be it further enacted, That the superior county and intermediate courts herein required to be holden, may respectively continue their sessions six judicial days, and no longer.

SEC. 6 And be it further enacted, That the county courts of said county of Shelby and St. Clair, and of the counties adjoining them as far as their boundaries are the same respectively, shall appoint one or more commissioners each, to run and mark the boundary lines between their respective counties, and that the expense of running and marking said lines be paid equally by the counties appointing said commissioners.

SEC. 7 And be it further enacted, THAT all suits, actions, and plaints, now pending and undetermined in the superior or county courts in the said counties of Shelby, Cahaba and St. Clair shall and may be tried and determined in the superior or county court (as the case may be) of the county wherein the original process therein may have been returned.

SEC. 8 And be it further enacted, That the said county of St. Clair shall be entitled to one representative, and the said county of Shelby two, and no more, any time (sic) to the contrary notwithstanding.

(Signed) J. W. Walker

Speaker of House of Representatives.

James Titus,

President of the Legislative Council.

Approved 20th November, 1818

Wm. W. Bibb

(Acts of the General Assembly of the Alabama Territory, 2nd Session, 1818, page 18.)

Dec. 20, 1820, an act passed providing: That all that part of St. Clair county, lying within the following bounds, viz: beginning where the line dividing the county of St. Clair and Shelby leaves Jefferson county; thence along said line to Cahaba river; thence up said river to the mouth of a creek commonly called Grimmet's fork; thence up said creek to its extreme head, thence north to the line dividing townships fourteen and fifteen, thence along said line to Hartgrove's at the head of Jones' Jefferson." To take effect April 1st., 1821. ___ Geulmin's Digest, p. 95.

Jan. 1828. Act passed providing "That the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the circuit court of St. Clair and Shelby counties, be, and the same if hereby extended so as to be concurrent in the Creek Nation, with the jurisdiction given to the circuit court of Autauga county, by an act, entitled an act, to extend the civil and criminal jurisdiction of this state ever so much of the Creek Nation, as was ceded under the treaty of the Indian Springs of 1825 wherein the chartered limits of the state of Alabama, approved Jan. 12th, 1827; and that powers equal to these given by said act to the circuit court of Autauga, and hereby in all respects extended to the circuit court of St. Clair and Shelby counties." --Acts., 1827-28, p. 30.

Jan. 29, 1829. Act passed providing: "That all the territory within the following boundaries, to-wit: Beginning on the bank of Coosa river, at the mouth of Kimulga creek, and running thence with McIntosh's road to the Georgia line; thence with the said line northwardly to the boundary line between the Creek and Cherokee nations; thence westwardly with the said last named boundary to the mouth of Mill's creek on Coosa; thence down Coosa to the beginning, shall be added to and form a part of the county of St. Clair." The limits of Shelby, Montgomery and Pike were in like manner extended eastward to include the lands of the Creek Nation the whole act being entitled: "An act to extend the jurisdiction of the state of Alabama over the Creek Nation."

The jurisdiction of the circuit court, and of the orphan's court and of the courts of road and revenue is extended over the enlarged limits of the counties.

It is made the duty of the court of roads and revenue in the counties on the 1st Monday in July, 1829, or shortly thereafter, to appoint a suitable person "to make an accurate census of the Indian population residing in his county, XXX noting the number of mixed blood, and also the number of slaves owned by the Indian population," and to make return to the clerk of the county court and also a secretary of state. He is to be paid \$3.00 per day. Nothing in the act is to be construed "As to impose taxation or militia duty on the Indians", until same is specially authorized by the legislature, --Acts 1828-29, pp. 59-60.

Jan. 15, 1831. Act passed rearranging, defining, and "changing the lines between the counties of Shelby, Jefferson and St. Clair."

Sec. 1 That hereafter, the line dividing the counties of Shelby and St. Clair, shall be as follows, to-wit: beginning on the Coosa river, at the mouth of Kellie's creek; thence up said creek to Castleberries old mill; thence to James Givins, in Cahawba valley, so as to include the Robertsons on Kellies creek, in Shelby county; thence northwest to Cahawba river, so as to include said Givins in St. Clair County; thence up said river to the line of Jefferson County."

Sec. 2 "That all north of the line designated in the first section of this act, shall be added to and composed a part of St. Clair county; and all south of said line shall be added to and compose a part of Shelby County, 1830-31, p. 30.

Jan. 21, 1832. Act passed designating county boundaries. This was consequent upon the extension of jurisdiction over the Indian lands. The counties effected are Morgan, Blount, Jackson, Franklin and St. Clair.

Section 5 provides "That all the territory included in the following boundaries, viz: Beginning at the source of Line creek, upon the top of Raccoon mountain, thence north westwardly to the line dividing Alabama from the state of Georgia, thence southeastwardly along said line to the line dividing the Cherokee from the Creek nation of Indians, thence westwardly along said line to the Coosa river, thence up said river to the north of Will's creek, thence up said Will's creek to the mouth of Line creek, thence up said Line creek to the aforesaid beginning, shall be added to and compose a part of the county of St. Clair."--Acts 1831-32, p. 36.

Dec. 18, 1832. The counties of Calhoun (then Benton) and Talladega were formed thus restricting the jurisdiction of the county of St. Clair to the Coosa river as its eastern boundary.

Jan. 14, 1824. Act passed providing: That hereafter all that part of St. Clair county, beginning due south of William Davis, at the present boundary line of Jackson and St. Clair counties, and running a straight direction to Raizen Rowling's, so as to include said Raizen Rowling's in Jackson county, thence due east to the state line of Georgia; thence along said line until it strikes the present boundary line of Jackson county, shall be and compose a part of the county of Jackson.--Acts 1833--34, p. 14.

Dec. 30, 1834. Act providing: "That all that section of the county east of the Coosa river, commencing at the mouth of Will's creek, running said river to Childer's ferry and from thence following the Georgia road from the said ferry to the Georgia line, be, and the same is hereby attached to Benton county, and the said Coosa river on one side and the Georgia road on the other, are hereby made and established as the county boundaries of the said counties." --Acts 1834-5, p. 5.

Jan. 9, 1836. An act to divide the county of St. Clair:

Sec. 1. "That all that tract of country, bounded as follows, viz., beginning at a point on the east side of the Coosa river opposite the mouth of Will's creek, thence due east with the north line of Benton county, to the line dividing the state of Alabama with the state of Georgia; thence along said line in a northwestern direction to a ridge dividing the waters of Big Will's creek from the waters of Little River and Yellow creek, in a southwestern direction to a ford on Big Will's creek to the beginning, shall constitute one separate and distinct county, to be called and known by the name of Cherokee."

Sec. 2 "That all that tract of country, bounded as follows, viz., beginning at the aforesaid ford on Big Will's creek, near William Holloway's; thence running up said creek to the mouth of Line Creek to the Raccoon mountain near Edward Cox's, so as to leave said Cox in Blount county, thence running as practicable on the top of said mountain in a northeastern direction to the Georgia line, in a southeastern direction to the ridge of mountains specified in the proceeding section, thence along said ridge as near the top of said ridge as may be practicable, to the aforesaid ford on Big Will's creek, near said Holloway's, shall form one separate and distinct county to be known and called by the name of DeKalb." Acts 1835-6, p. 170.

Jan. 13, 1846. Act passed naming John R. Strange, of St. Clair county, to act with such other persons as may be selected by the commissioners of roads and revenues of Jefferson county, to run the line between these counties beginning at Givin's old place and running to the Cahawba river." These commissioners are to appoint a surveyor "to run and work" the line, and to make two reports in writing of the line, one each to the judge of the county court of St. Clair and Jefferson counties. The counties are to share the expense of the surveyor; and the commissioners are to be paid \$2.00 per day." --Acts 1845-46, p. 182.

34
THE COUNTY SEAT

According to the act of Nov. 21, 1818, creating the county, it was provided "that for the time being, the said courts for said county of St. Clair, shall be holden at the house of Alexander Brown" (act 1818, 2nd session p. 72-3) However, it was also provided that for want of necessary building at this place, the courts could adjourn to such other places contiguous thereto as might seem most proper.

The first provision in the acts respecting public buildings is found when, Dec. 6, 1818, a year after the creation of the county, the county court is authorized to levy a tax not exceeding one-half the state tax, "for the purpose of erecting a temporary jail in said county" (Toulmin's Digest, p. 114). Things were yet in an unsettled state, and continued probably in this way for another year, the courts presumably held at Alexander Brown's, and a jail being erected under this act.

On Dec. 18, 1820, the legislature passed an act relating to the seat of justice for the county. It provided a board of commissioners whose duty was "to fix on the most eligible place in the said county for the seat of justice, having regard to the natural conveniences and the interest of the county". These commissioners were to be elected, one each, in Jan. 1821, from the several militia company beats. They are empowered to receive donations for the expenses of the public buildings, and in case of a deficit in the donations the county court is directed to levy a tax to meet it. After selecting the site they are required, after giving thirty days notice in the Tuscaloosa Republican, to let "out a court house, jail and other necessary public buildings to the lowest undertaker." (Toulmin's Digest. p. 124-25).

Evidently this act of Dec. 18, 1820 did not work well, for on June 16, 1821, another act was passed "to fix the permanent seat of justice in the county of St. Clair," and expressly providing for the repeal of "all acts and parts of acts intervening the provisions of this act." It made it the duty of the sheriff, at the time and place of holding the next general election (which was in the following August) "to open a poll for"choosing a county seat, the places to be voted for being Upper Catawbatown, Lower Catawbatown and Vaughn's Place. "Whichever place has the greatest number of lawful votes, shall be and is hereby declared to be the permanent seat of justice." John Massey, John Ash, John Cunningham, Joel Chandler, and George Shotwell are named as commissioners "to let out and superintend the building of a court house and jail for said county at the place which may be elected." (Toulmin's Digest, p. 186).

Nov. 27, 1821. An act is passed authorizing and requiring the judge of the county to levy a tax sufficient to raise \$147.00, which sum when collected is to be paid to John Cunningham, being a balance due him "for erecting a temporary jail for the county." (Toulmin's Digest, p. 137).

This explains whether or not the jail was built and who did the work.

Dec. 12, 1822, an act was passed incorporating the town of Ashville, in St. Clair County, "including thirty acres, agreeably to the plan of said town." On first Monday in Feb. 1823 an election is to be held at the house of John Cunningham, in the town, and on the same

day every year thereafter, for the purpose of electing by ballot four councillors, to serve for one year. An intendant is to be chosen by them. They are given general corporate powers, and may hold property to the amount of \$10,000. The intendant and the council are clothed with the same powers and subject to same restriction, as in the act governing Montgomery, passed Dec. 3, 1819. (Toulmin's Digest, p.846.)

Dec.31, 1822. An act was passed authorizing the judge of the county court and the commissioners of roads and revenues of the county, "to levy an extra tax on all persons and property in the county subject to taxation," not to exceed one-half of amount of the state tax, to be collected by the tax collector and paid out by him "to the commissioners appointed to superintend the public buildings for said county". It further provides "that all acts already, or hereafter to be performed by the commissioners to superintend the public buildings in St. Clair County, shall be considered lawful and conclusive". They are to be paid out of the county treasury \$1.00 per day while officially engaged. (Toulmin's Digest p. 150).

Dec. 15, 1824, Act passed appointing John Massey, Amos Deling and Moses Leister, agents for St. Clair County, "to select one quarter section of land (in St. Clair County) in pursuance to an act of congress, passed May the 26th, 1824 granting to the counties and parishes in each state and territory, in the United States, where the public lands are situated, pre-emption rights to one quarter section of land in trust for the said counties and parishes, respectively for the establishment of seats of justice therein." In case the agents or any of them die, remove, resign or refuse to act, the judge of the county court is to fill the vacancy. It is made the duty of the agents to select and obtain titles to said quarter section, and that as soon as they obtain legal titles, they are to proceed to offer some for sale, in such manner as they may think advisable," and best calculated to promote the true interests of the said county," giving title to purchasers. They are empowered to borrow money to secure the said quarter section, and to repay same out of proceeds of the sale thereof. They are to receive five percent of the amount of the sales. (Acts, 1824-25, p. 65-68)

Jan. 15, 1828. Act passed authorizing judge of county court and commissioners of roads and revenues "to levy a county tax on the same objects that are now taxable by law not to exceed 25 per cent on the state tax for the purpose of repairing the court house in said county," to be collected as county taxes. When collected the tax-collector is "to pay said tax into the hands of the commissioners of the public buildings for said county", whose duty shall be to apply same for purposes directed. (Acts 1827-28, p. 63.)

Jan. 9, 1836. Act incorporating Ashville including thirty acres agreeable to the plan of said town." Elections to be held at the court house 1st Monday in Feb. in each and every year for five councillors, an intendant to be chosen by them, term of office for one year. To have general corporate powers, and to hold property to the amount of \$10,000---Acts, 1835-36, p.100).

Feb. 1, 1839. Act passed providing that the judge and county commissioners be authorized to levy and have assessed and collected in St. Clair county" a tax, by four annual installments, sufficient to erect a court house and jail in said county." They were given power "to appoint first commissioners to contract for, and superintend the building of a court house and jail." But the act is not to go into effect until, "by election at the general election, the sense of the people to be favorable to the provisions of this act."--Acts 1838-39, p. 81.

Jan. 23, 1840. Act passed authorizing and requiring the judge of the county court and commissioners of roads and revenues "to levy a special tax upon the persons and property of the citizens of St. Clair county, of one hundred percent upon the county levy every year for five succeeding years, for the purpose of building a jail in said county." Alemeth Byers, Littleton Yarbrough, William Little, Jesse A. Collins, and John F. Dill are appointed commissioners to carry out the act for the erection of the jail.--Acts 1839-40, p.93.

Nov. 21, 1840. Act passed empowering the commissioners of roads and revenues to appropriate "of the surplus fund" in the county treasury not less than \$1000 and as much more as they deem proper, "to the erecting of a jail in said county." The commissioners appointed to superintend the erection of a jail to be paid this money for use in paying the contractor, then no more taxes shall be imposed, etc.--1840-41, p. 96.

Dec. 26, 1843. Act passed providing special tax to build a court house in St. Clair County.

Moses Dear, Jesse Collins, John S. James, John F. Dill, and John Edwards are appointed commissioners to execute the act, with full discretionary power as to the building of said court house. If the amount raised the first year be not sufficient to defray the expenses, the commissioners of roads and revenues are required to levy a tax from year to year until a sufficient sum is raised, etc.--Act 1843, 44. p. 36.

By act of the legislature of the Mississippi territory, on Dec. 24th, 1812, it was provided that the court house, or the places of holding courts, should be considered as the places for holding elections. By act of Dec. 16, 1819, it was enacted "that hereafter the court house shall be the place for holding general elections, in each and every county throughout the state, for the purpose of electing governor, members to congress, members to the general assembly, sheriffs and clerks." The election at the court house was to be held the first Monday and the day following in August in each year. In the case of election precincts, or other places or voting than the court house, the election at such place was to continue open the first Monday only.

The first election held in St. Clair county was for a delegate to the constitutional convention of 1819. This was held on the first Monday and Tuesday in November 1819.

The second election was held on the third Monday and Tuesday in September 1819. This election was provided for in the schedule to the constitution just adopted (Sec. 7), and was for the purpose of causing the election of governor, representative in congress, a member of the general assembly, clerks of the circuit court, and sheriff. Maj. David Comer was chosen the delegate to the constitutional convention. In the September election William W. Bibb, of Autauga county was chosen governor over Marmaduke Williams, a distinguished citizen of Tuscaloosa. John Crowell, who had been the Alabama territorial delegate, 1817-1819, was elected the first representative in Congress. David was elected state senator; and James Harwick member of the legislature from St. Clair _____ was chosen sheriff and _____ clerk.

It will be noted that at these two elections all of the voters were required to come to the court house for the purpose of casting their ballots. This caused much hardship, and doubtless in many cases was a costly and expensive trip, while in others it must have prevented the exercise of the franchise.

To remedy this three election precincts were created Dec. 16, 1819, in St. Clair County: "One at the dwelling house of Mr. Joel Chandler, one at the house of William Guthrey, and one at the house of Peter Ragsdale,--Acts 1819, p. 40. Dec. 20, 1820. Act passed changing precinct from William Guthrey's to Henry Bradford's in St. Clair County---Toulmin's Digest, p. 278.

Dec. 26, 1822. Act passed creating an election precinct "at the house of Henry Box, esq., in Coosa Valley." --Toulmin's Digest. p.285.

Dec. 25, 1825. Act passed discontinuing election precinct heretofore established at John Littlefield's, and establishing one at the house of John Littlefield,---Acts, 1824-25 p. 114.

Jan. 20, 1832. Act passed creating the following new precincts in St. Clair County: "One at the big spring at the grocery house of Lewis S. Riggs, one at the house of James Laughridge, one at the house of Melkijah Alney, esq., and one at the house of Maj. David Comer, in the county of St. Clair." Acts 1831-32, p. 92.

Jan. 12, 1833. Act discontinuing election precincts "at the house of James Lesslie, and at the house of Lewis S. Riggs, in the county of St. Clair," and creating election precinct: "one at the house of John H. Garret, one at Chattaugh Court House, one at the house of John Bell in Will's Valley, one at the house of James Thompson in St. Clair." --Acts 1832-33, p. 51-2.

Jan. 18, 1834. Act creating election precincts: "One at the house of Henry McCoy; one at the house of John Little; one at the house of Israel Standifer; one at the house of Lewis S. Riggs; and one at the house of James Thomason, in the county of St. Clair." --Acts, 1833-34, p. 45.

Jan. 9, 1836. Act abolishing precinct at John Bell's house in St. Clair county.--Acts 1835-36, p. 170.

Feb. 3rd, 1840. Act establishing election precincts at the house of John R. Allen and one at the house of George M. Duke in St. Clair county.--Acts 1839-40, p. 37.

Dec. 29, 1841. Act establishing election precincts at the house of Thorneos Alfred in St. Clair County.--Acts 1841-42, p. 162.

The first courts which the people of St. Clair attended, in which they participated were probably the courts of Shelby county in 1818 at the house of William S. Wallace. According to the act creating this county, Feb. 7, 1818, of which St. Clair was then a part, a superior court of law and equity was to be held in the county on the first Monday in May and November; a county court on the fourth Mondays in April and October; with an intermediate court (simply an intermediate session of the county court) on the fourth Mondays in January and July. Presumably the courts were held. The first one to have convened would have been the county court of the fourth Monday in April, then the superior court of the first Monday in May following.

The superior court corresponded to the circuit courts of today. At this time there were three judicial circuits; the Northern, Southern and Middle. Shelby was included in the latter. Over the middle circuit presided Judge Henry Young Webb, grandfather of James E. Webb, esq., of Birmingham; and Joseph Noble was the attorney general for the district. Doubtless citizens of the St. Clair portion of Shelby served on the juries in the courts, and some were perhaps litigants.

On the formation of St. Clair on Nov. 20, 1818, courts were to be held at the house of Alexander Brown. Superior courts were to be held the second Mondays in March and Sept., the county court the third Mondays in March and Sept., and the intermediate court on the fourth Mondays in Dec. and June. The first court to convene of these was the superior court on the second Monday in March, 1819, Judge Webb presiding. He probably held a second court in September 1819, which was the last of its kind.

After the adoption of the constitution, on Dec. 14, 1819, an act was passed by the first state legislature dividing the state into five judicial circuits, St. Clair being placed in the fifth in which Clement C. Clay, afterwards governor, presided; and Joseph Eastland was solicitor. By act of Dec. 13, 1821, adding sixth circuit and rearranging the counties, St. Clair was placed in the third, over which Henry Y. Webb presided, and Constantine Perkins was solicitor.

Dec. 21, 1824. Act passed providing "that the court of commissioners of revenues and roads of St. Clair county, shall hereafter commence and hold its regular sessions on the second Monday in August in each and every year, instead of the first Monday of August, as now fixed by law," Acts 1824-25, p. 28.

Jan. 14, 1826. Act passed providing that the circuit court of St. Clair shall be held the 6th Monday after the 4th Monday in February and September and continue one week.---Acts 1825-26, p. 7.

Jan. 29, 1829. Act passed providing that the circuits of St. Clair shall be held commencing 6th Mondays after 4th Mondays in February and September and continue one week, or until business "is gone through." Acts 1828-9, p. 23.

Feb. 13, 1843. Act providing for holding circuit court after passage of this act on 1st Mondays in June and December each year.---Acts 1842-3, p. 125.

Feb. 9, 1843. Act providing circuit court in St. Clair county each year on first Mondays in March and September and continue one week.--Acts 1842-3, p. 66.

Jan. 11, 1834. Act passed requiring Judge and court of revenues to levy special tax of not exceeding 50 per cent of the state tax for the purpose of paying the grand and petit jurors of the several courts of St. Clair.--Acts 1833-34, p. 9.

THE OLD CITIZENS OF ST. CLAIR.

We would like for special information from the following prominent families who came to St. Clair in its early days and helped to make the county what it is:

The Bradfords, the Allens, the Ash's, Crumps, Truss', the Greens, Dills and Whortons, the Battles, Neelys, McCorkles, Carrolls and Simpsons, the Formans, the Browns, the Colemans and Gregorys, the Cunninghams, and Yarbos, the Crows, the Goodwins, the Almans and Alford's, the Fankfords, the Hoods, the Masseys and Edwards, the Roberts, Castleberry's, the Dearmans and others.

If you know anything at all about the history of the county please core forward and tell it so that we may preserve the data and properly compile it. I will take pleasure in securing it as well as be glad to see you at my office.

Wm. H. Cather

Copied from a typewritten manuscript loaned by Mr. Norman Prickett of Ashville, Alabama. Typed by Mrs. James V. Gray, member of St. Clair County Library Staff (part time librarian in Pell City Library.)

B I B L I O G R A P H Y

- Akens, Helen, Alabama Mounds to Missiles, Huntsville, Alabama, The Strode Publishers, 1966.
- Brown, Virginia and Akens, Helen, Alabama Heritage, Huntsville, Alabama, The Strode Publishers, 1968.
- Cather, W. H., St. Clair County Alabama History (1539-1846), Ashville, Alabama, Prentice Hall, Inc., 1972.
- Crow, Mattie Lou Teague, History of St. Clair County (Alabama), Huntsville, Alabama, The Strode Publishers, 1973.
- Hill, Thomas F., "Prosperous Riverside Ready To Reap Even More Benefits", The Birmingham News, May 21, 1969, p. 32.
- , Keep Your Eye on Pell City, Alabama, Pell City Reality Co., N. D.
- Lawson, Don, The War of 1812, New York, Abelard-Schuman, 1973, pp. 136-38.
- Marker; Ashville Courthouse Square, Alabama Historical Association, 1937.
- Marker; Pell City Courthouse Square, Alabama Historical Association, 1937.
- Martin, Thomas W., The Story of Electricity in Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama, Birmingham Publishing Company, 1952.
- Owen, Marie Bankhead, The Story of Alabama, Vol. I, New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1949, pp. 503-04.
- Parks, Joseph H. and Moore, Robert E., The Story of Alabama, Atlanta, Georgia, Turner and Smith and Co., 1952.
- , Pell City, Alabama: City Map, Chamber of Commerce, January, 1969.
- Qualls, Vivian B., History of Steele, Alabama, Albertville, Alabama, Thompson Printing, 1974.
- Richardson, Jesse M., Alabama Encyclopedia Book of Facts, Vol. I, Northport, Alabama, The American Southern Publishing Company, 1965.
- , The History of Ashville, Vertical file at St. Clair County Library.
- , The History of Moody, Vertical file at St. Clair County Library.

streeted a new road from Vincent to Pell City and to Odenville which will add to the network materially and is another item encouraged by Mayor Cogswell.

Services as Mayor

Col. N. E. Spears was the first mayor but the chief municipal betterments have taken place under the administration of Mr. Cogswell. He has always been a member of the city council and has served twice as mayor. The first time in 1902 and subsequently he was named mayor in 1926 and has served since that time. During his administration a water system was constructed by the city costing \$58,000. The supply comes from Dunlap Spring and has rated 100 per cent in purity by the state health department every time examined and that is three or four times every year. The water rates to domestic and manufacturing consumers is very low, yet the city has been able to liquidate all of its bonds when due and the water system is held to be in excellent financial shape. The water system was built in 1927.

As a Churchman

During all the years Mr. Cogswell has labored for Pell City he has never lost sight of need for cultural advantages. He is a communicant of the Episcopal Church and has encouraged the organization and development of every church constructed here, having donated a site for all local churches and contributing in every helpful way towards their growth and development. The same is true of schools for under his administration the Pell City grammar school was built and has earned a reputation of being one of the best schools in St. Clair County. Mr. Cogswell also was helpful in locating the high school here and perfecting its highly efficient original construction.

Late Developments

Late developments in which Mr. Cogswell has taken his usual leading part was the construction of a modern sewerage system which was built during the Spring of 1938 and was accepted by the Mayor at a meeting of the city council Monday night, June 1st. This modern system which provides sewerage facilities for the entire city north of the railroad was built with a Federal grant and part financed by the city. It is expected that the debt will be liquidated over a short period of time from funds secured from a small service fee which is apparently agreeable to every citizen of Pell City.

Family History

Mr. Cogswell is No. 2442 of the Cogswell in America. The paternal ancestor of the family came to America in August 301 years ago from Bristol, England. He settled and later died in Ipswich, Mass., in November, 1659. This man—John Cogswell—was the father of eight children. The boys established homes of their own and the immediate ancestors of Senator Cogswell settled in Charleston, S. C., where the father of Pell City's mayor was an honored and distinguished citizen.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

At the second session of the first General Assembly of the Alabama Territory held at St. Stephens in Washington County, and on the 20th day of November, 1818, and in the 43rd year of American Independence, the county of St. Clair was created. A portion of northern Shelby County was used for the purpose and the act was approved by Governor Bibb. Most of the attention of this assembly was given to preparation of the territory for statehood, but time was found to create this and one other county, namely Autauga.

TOPOGRAPHY

The county is located toward the northeastern part of the state, the eastern boundary being some 40 miles from the Georgia line, the northern boundary 70 miles from the Tennessee line, and the center of the county about 40 miles from the city of Birmingham.

In 1820 by an act of the legislature a part of St. Clair was added to Jefferson and at intervals following this date the lines have been changed. As example: An act approved Dec. 17, 1868 reads, "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Alabama that the boundary line between the counties of Etowah and St. Clair be changed so as to include Thomas M. Springfield as a citizen of St. Clair." (At present writing there is a proposal on foot to change the line between Jefferson and St. Clair to include all families living within three miles of Leeds High School as citizens of Jefferson County.) The boundary lines are at present very irregular, the east and southeast lines being formed by the course of the Coosa River while part of the northwest boundary is formed by the irregular summit of Blount Mountain, which separates St. Clair from Blount.

The shape of the county is roughly rectangular, the long dimension running northeast and southwest, and it is about 30 miles wide and 42 miles long.

There are small deposits of iron, bauxite and other minerals in the county.

ABORIGINAL HISTORY

The larger part of St. Clair is situated within what was once the domains of the Creek Indians. The Cherokee boundary line as recognized by the Cherokee treaty of September 14, 1816 passed northwesternly through the northern part of the county. Therefore the Indian population-when white men first inhabited the place-was largely Creek with some intermingled Cherokees.

On Big Canoe Creek there was a Creek village known as Cataula. This village was situated on the present site of the town of Ashville. Littifutchee was also a Creek village and was about 18 miles from Cataula on the Coosa River. On the morning of October 29, 1813, during the Creek War, Col. Dyer commanding a detachment of Tennessee troops, surprised and burned Liffifutchee. He returned to General Jackson's army with 29 prisoners, consisting of men, women and children and a large supply of corn and cattle. It was at this time that General Jackson built Fort Strother at Ten Islands near Greensport, as a base of operations against the Creeks. At the treaty of Fort Jackson, August 9, 1814, all remaining Creeks in the county were moved over and settled on the east side of the Coosa River, as all the county on the west side was embraced in the treaty.

Along the Coosa River from a point above Ten Islands the entire river boundary of the county is dotted with evidences of aboriginal occupancy. Along the northwest section of the county the indications are quite extensive. Old records show that many white settlers purchased lands from Indians. Such names as John Chattooga, Dragging Canoe, and others appear in these old deeds. (Crying Snake, Qualecuo) Minutes of County Court 1829 show that Moulder Ragsdale was appointed by the court to take census of the Indians in the part of the nation belonging to St. Clair County. Results of this census were not found.

The Sheriff could have been David Conner Jr.

The site of Alexander Brown's, where the above described court was held, is $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the present town of Ashville and is now a large pasture. It is on U. S. Highway No. 11 and is still spoken of as "Old Town," now the property of W. P. Cobb.

The earliest record to be found of a County Court is "Minutes of Orphans and Commissioners Court-St. Clair County 1827-1836." John H. Garrett was the Judge of this Court, Jesse C. Roberts, Clerk, and John Massey was Sheriff. The first business of the Court was the naming of road overseers and captains. Thirty-eight overseers and a captain for each beat were named. Throughout this book records of the following nature are found: "Ordered by the Court that Samuel Truss, George Shortwell and John Greenwood be appointed Commissioners to mark out and review a road from Ashville to Thomas C. Bradford's place, to pass up the creek by Old Town and John Hill's and make report at the next County Court. Order issued July 31, 1832." This route is the same followed by the U. S. Highway No. 11 today. Today there are good chert roads throughout the county, in addition to U. S. Highway No. 11 running from Birmingham to Gadsden and the Bankhead Highway running from Birmingham to Anniston. The Southern Railway and the Seaboard Airline have approximately 76 miles of mail line in the county.

SEAL

On the 23rd of February 1829 by an order of the Court the impression for a county seal was adopted, and \$10.00 was paid to William C. Clements for making the seal.

In 1821, John Ash, John Massey, John Cunningham, Joel Chandler, and George Shortwell were appointed by the court to superintend the erection of a court house and jail. Logbuildings were put up at Ashville. When these buildings were completed, the seat of Justice was incorporated-by and act of the legislature at Ashville, the year 1822.

The records of the beginning of these churches are very brief. The Baptist, Methodist, and Episcopal seem to have been the first. One of the earlier Baptist ministers in the county was Jessie A. Collins. Mr. Collins was pastor of the Baptist Church at Ashville in 1830. While he was pastor about 1845 the first building, a very small structure situated on Cemetery Hill just east of Ashville, was torn away and the building which was used until 1930 was erected there. Just when this first church was built is unknown, but there are grave stones in the cemetery bearing the date 1822. The second church house was built by Littleton Yarbrough, who built the Courthouse. He cut the hand planed lumber, made the pegs and numbered each peg and peg hole with Roman Numerals at his shop on his own premises. He then hauled the material to Cemetery Hill and forthwith erected the church. It was in this church that Mr. Collins preached for about 40 years. When this church was torn down in 1930, the material was used to build a pastorium - now in use.

Mr. Collins did much toward fostering the Baptist faith in St. Clair County. In 1853 he established a church at Coosa Valley, now Cropwell, and was pastor for a number of years. In order to reach this church from his home in Ashville he traveled horseback, the Ashville-Broken-Arrow Road, across Backbone Mountain. At the summit of the mountain the road passed under a large overhanging rock and at that time there was a bright yellow half moon on this rock which had been painted there by the Indians. (During certain months the moon was worshipped by the Indians.) Those who traveled this lonely road noticed that at the foot of the large rock and directly underneath the golden half-moon there was a neat stack of flat slate rocks. To their astonishment this stack of rocks steadily grew. Someone spoke to Mr. Collins about it, asking if he had noticed the rocks as he passed that way on his trips to Coosa Valley. He smilingly answered: "Oh that is my Bethel, and those rocks are my altar. Each rock represents a half hour spent in prayer, for it is there that I stop to rest my horse and talk with God." The story has been often repeated, for Mr. Collins was a beloved character throughout the county, and although the golden half moon has long since faded and the road has been abandoned, the altar is still there and the place is spoken as Bethel.

The younger children went 55 days in the summer and the older ones 3 months in the winter. Professor Wasson taught an academy at Ashville prior to the War Between the States. The poorer families had no schools.

In 1854, A. B. Meek submitted a bill to the legislature providing for the establishment and maintenance of public schools in Alabama. The office of State Superintendent of Schools was created and two school commissioners were appointed for each county. It was several years later that the office of County Superintendent of Education was created. Very little was accomplished toward establishing public schools in Alabama before the war. Members of the well-to-do class who might have done much toward promoting public education were not greatly interested because they were financially able to employ teachers for their children.

It was sometime following the dark days of reconstruction when St. Clair with the remaining counties of Alabama lay prone, stripped and apparently ruined, that Alabama's wise Dr. J. L. M. Curry declared, "We are now too poor not to educate our children." To Dr. Curry we owe the revival of interest in public education.

It was in 1871 that William P. Lovett was appointed Superintendent of Education for St. Clair County. Mr. Lovett came to St. Clair from Ohio before the war. He taught a private school at Springville for years. F. Dillon followed Mr. Lovett as Superintendent and his successor was a Mr. Newton. The duties of these early Superintendents were of a financial nature and the salary was \$75.00 per annum, plus one per cent of all public disbursements.

In 1877 Judge Leroy F. Box of Ashville became State Superintendent of Education. It was during his term that the law requiring all teachers drawing public money to hold a license to teach was first obeyed to the letter in St. Clair. To secure a license a teacher was required to attend three meetings of a Teachers Institute and to pass an oral examination conducted by the superintendent and board of examiners.

Marketing survey indicates growth

If figures released from a recent Birmingham News-Post Herald Continuing Market Survey conducted by Belden Associates are any indication, St. Clair County is growing.

While the survey indicates St. Clair County increased in population 21 percent in five years, from 1972 to 1977, total retail sales in St. Clair County also grew dramatically.

The report indicates retail sales increased from \$36,780,000 in 1972 to \$70,816,000 in 1977, almost a 100 percent increase. The largest gain during the five years was from from 1975 to 1976.

The survey showed that 9 percent of the annual family incomes in St. Clair County was \$25,000 and over; 18 percent of the breadwinners brought home between \$15,000 and \$24,999; 27 percent \$10,000 to \$14,999.

This means 54 percent of the county's adults were producing family incomes of over \$10,000 annually.

Breaking down total retail sales, the survey showed \$70,816,000 being spent in the county with \$14,812,000 spent on food; \$4,612,000 on eating and drinking places; \$2,384,000 on general merchandise; \$2,204,000 for furniture, furnishings or

appliances; \$11,508,000 for automotive expenses; and \$1,823,000 for drugs.

During the study time period of 1972 to 1977, households in the county increased from 9,000 to 11,600 with the largest growth coming in the year 1974.

Most of St. Clair County's adults have attended and are graduates of high school while 31 percent of the residents attended some college.

The average family size in St. Clair County is one or two persons with three or four families 41 percent of the total families in the county.

The buying power of St. Clair Countians grew during the study period from \$68,879,000 in 1972 to \$139,665,000 in 1977.

The occupation work-force of the county is broken up as follows with the percentages following: Housewives, 25 percent; operatives, laborers, service workers and farm workers, 14 percent; professional, technical, managers, officials or proprietors, 13 percent; clerical, sales, 13 percent; retired, 12 percent; craftsmen, foremen, 11 percent; and others not in the labor force (unemployed, students, handicapped) 11 percent.

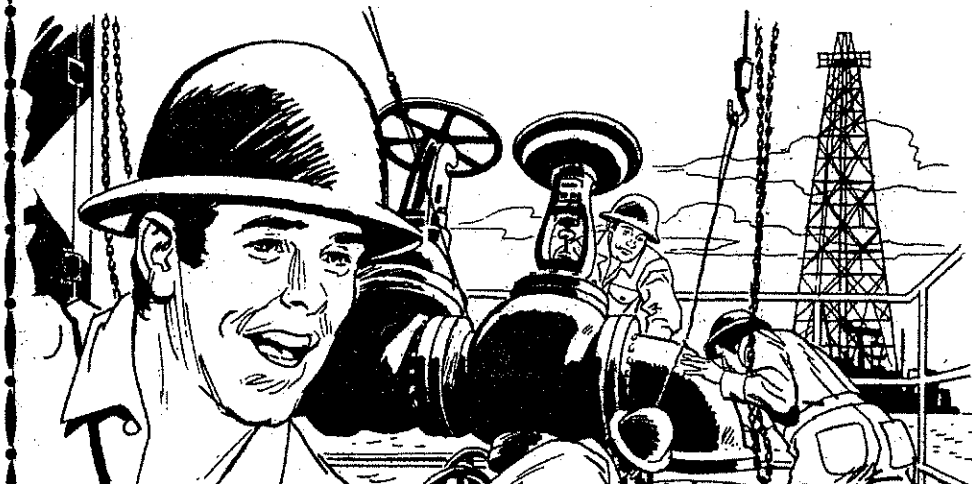
Office Sup

We're stocked with calculators, adding machines, pens, paper, typewriter machine ribbons, staples and size brown envelopes, sheets, columnar pads, scissors, glue, duplicators. We've got the prices you

St. Clair News-A

HWY 231 So. Pell City -
Open 8-5 Mon.-Fri.; Sa

PROGRESS



It's What's

Every day . . . in ever
ress! The bright promi
within our reach thanks
every walk of life, ac
of making this world a

We seen g

and are loc

NOVEMBER 21 1918

St. Clair County One Hundred Years Old.

At the Second Session of the first General Assembly of the Alabama Territory held at St. Stephens, Washington County, and as the 20th day of November, 1818, and in the 43rd year of American Independence, the County of St. Clair was created by the taking of the northern portion of Shelby County, for such purpose. This act was approved by Governor William C. Bibb 20th day of November 1818.

The first court was held at the home of Alexander Brown in 1819. That place is now known as Old Town and it is a field some four and a half miles next of Ashville.

The hundredth anniversary of the county should be celebrated by appropriate manner, and would be but for the part our country is and has been engaged in a great war that absorbs everything.

We suggest that the court of County Commissioners take the matter in hand and appoint a committee to locate the spot where the first court was held for the county in 1819, and that proper arrangements be made on such place as the first Saturday in May, 1919, at which place the people of the county meet to celebrate such, etc.

The county has a grand record and one not to be ashamed of; one that every citizen should be proud of. The county has had its ups and downs, but always in the end comes out on the side of the right. She has been true and faithful in times of peace and war. She has furnished her statesmen and warriors. Let us take action to celebrate the County centennial in 1919.

Camp

hope
same.
We
tomor
where
er car
you al
know
we v
have
name
am a
and l
day I
I ha
Broth
and i
will w
to wri
was f
addre
dress
told n
Wel
letter
pitals
know
now o
Wel
away
world
long
come
care c
for l
when
done
glad
to pu
must
you d
you c
I wil
Sunda
from
uneas
care o
look t
and I
ing to
night
ask H
me in
he wi
"ome
till w

This article by Frank Willis Barnett was
published in THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS - AGE HERALD, Sunday
January 15, 1928

JUDGE INZER'S DEATH AT 93 BREAKS CHAIN CONNECTING WITH SECESSION DAYS...Jurist identified in State History.... Pioneer Lived Through Hard Struggle of Turbulent Times in Alabama--by Frank Willis Barnett.

Judge John Washington Inzer, who died at Ashville, Ala., on Jan. 2, 1928, would have been 94 years old had he lived until the ninth of the month, having been born on Jan. 8, 1834, on a farm seven miles west of Lawrenceville, Gwinnett County, Ga. Judge Inzer was the youngest member of the Alabama Secession Convention, to which he was elected when 26, and the last surviving member. If one knew the life of the distinguished Ashvillian he would come mighty near knowing the history of the state for at his birth it was little more than a dozen years old.

Had it not been for the wishes of the family a state funeral ought to have been given to Judge Inzer with his body lying in state in the House of Representatives at Montgomery where he had served as a member of the Alabama Secession Convention, but they preferred that simplicity should mark his burial as he never cared for or sought publicity, and yet had his remains been carried to the capitol it would have been the means of teaching our young people something of the momentous events which led to Alabama's seceding from the union.

COVERS MUCH HISTORY

In order to get the proper perspective on the life of Judge Inzer, we must take a long backward look, for it covered nearly a century, and a hundred years in the life of Ala. nearly covers its admission to state-hood, and unless one has the historic sense, it is quite hard to visualize the wonderful shifting panorama as the years roll by.

When Judge Inzer came to Alabama in January, 1854, he settled at Talladega, which had been incorporated less than a score of years before he chose it as his home, and it was only 22 years earlier that the United States government made a treaty with the Creeks for a half-section of land, including the famous spring, which so long furnished the town with water to be given to John Bruner, a half-bred Indian, as a reward for his services as interpreter and peacemaker between the whites and the Indians, he building a fort for the protection of himself and the village against Indian enemies. It was surrounded and besieged by a war party of about 1,000 Indians, but a runner being sent to Gen. Andrew Jackson, by forced marches he arrived in time to save the hamlet, the engagement being known as the "Battle of Talladega."

In order to let you know into what a settlement he look root for a while, it is only necessary to state that between 1832 and 1837 a number of settlers had arrived, among them being John White, Col, William Hogan, Joab Lawler, Eli Shortridge, Felix G. Mc Connell, F. W. Bowdon, Joseph Camp, Jacob Bradford, J. J. Woodward, L. E. Parsons, J. B. Martin, ---ndes Kiley, John T. Heflin John Henderson, Alexander Bowie, a forbear of Sydney J. Bowie, and William Curry, the father of Dr. J. L. M. Curry, one of the men whom Alabama has honored by placing his statue in the capitol at Washington. Not only was he set in the midst of families who became distinguished in the service of the state, but he began studying law under Senator John T. Morgan and A. J. Walker, later chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, being admitted to the Talladega bar in May, 1859, a bar then and to this day celebrated for the number of leading jurists practicing their profession in the various state and federal courts.

HAD HARD TIME

Some men rise superior to their environments but it was no easy matter for a young man from another state to hold his own in such distinguished company and yet the record shows that the young barrister who was educated in the rural schools of Gwinnett County, Georgia, afterwards graduating from one of the old time academies, the Gwinnett Institute, in 1852, and like many another young lawyer of his day and generation entering the bar by way of an apprenticeship as a teacher. (It may be of interest to note that it was in 1854, the year the young Georgian came to Alabama that a school system for the whole state was introduced, separate schools for whites and blacks being introduced in 1875, the schools kept up by taxation. If you want a yardstick to measure passing events just lay it alongside the state appropriations for education in 1854, and the more than a \$100,000,000 to be spent for it in the next quadrennium. The recent campaign for the \$20,000,000 bond issue gives some idea of then and now). Judge Inzer's state license to practice law was signed by John Gill Shorter, (the first one signed by him). who later became war governor of Alabama. The license bore the signatures also of A. J. and R. W. Walker, and George W. Stone, judges of the Supreme Court, and attested by John D. Phelan, clerk of the court. Besides reading law as was the custom in those days he also attended the law classes of Judge Walker, 1854-55.

PASSED BIRMINGHAM BY

Now comes one of those curious decisions which play such a big part in the game of life. The young lawyer with his license to practice law in the state after obtaining began to look around for a place in which to set up his shingle, and in going about

two places were rivals, the one Elyton and the other Ashville. He chose Ashville at the time one of the really important towns in the state, today it is still a town while Elyton became the mother of Greater Birmingham. This reminds me of a decision made by my father, Dr. Augustus William Barnett, of Washington, Ga., who upon graduating in medicine at the famous old Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., he set out to locate. He first stopped at Marthasville, Ga., now Atlanta, but it was such a shabby little hamlet that he passed over the Chattahoochee and settled at Glenville, Ala., then the seat of culture and wealth in Southeast Alabama, being much larger than Eufaula, but now but a memory. The young lawyer might have died a multi-millionaire had he rested at Elyton, for he made large investments in land, but we doubt if his life would have been as useful as he became the patriarch of a wide territory.

We now give a broad sketch of the one big incident in his life which for more than a score of years made him a marked figure in Alabama for he was known throughout the state as the only surviving member of Alabama Constitutional Convention of 1861. (the Secession Convention). We of a later generation cannot understand the excitement which gripped not only Alabama but the South in the decade preceding the 60's, and in order to bring to the mind of the rising generation, the stirring events we know of no better way than to hang them around Judge Inzer. He had the distinction in later life of being pointed out as the sole survivor of the momentous convention, but in his early manhood, also had the unique distinction of being referred to in speech and press as the youngest member of that memorable body.

One of the most graphic descriptions of the "Secession Convention" extant is the one which appeared in The Birmingham News, Sunday, May 7, 1916, in which Judge Inzer tells of his experiences in the historic gathering and taken down by John Inzer, his grandson, who has become the historian of the Inzer family. (We are also indebted to Dr. John W. Inzer for some family history). Later in the same paper Dolly Dalrymple had a charming interview with Judge Inzer as he was approaching his ninety-third year, joyous and unafraid, happy at the thought that the Confederate Veterans were to meet in Birmingham, thereby affording him an opportunity to meet many of his old soldier friends. His war record has already been often told in print and here it is only necessary to state that entering as a private he came out as a colonel, after having played gallantly his part in many battles and undergoing extreme suffering and privation as a federal prisoner at Johnson's Island, near Sandusky, on Lake Erie, until after Lee's surrender. After the issue of the first proclamation for the release of prisoners, upon application he was released by special order of the president, returning to Alabama, and after recuperating at Cook's Spring, on

Aug. 4, 1865, settled in Ashville permanently.

The War Between the States did not come on all at once and we skip much to arrive quickly at the gathering of the "Secession Convention in 1861". Just here, let us say that since the fratricidal war between the North and the South these United States have passed through two major wars, the Spanish-American, and the World War, and the hour has arrived when Americans can think and speak of the conflict in which often brother was arrayed against brother without passion and without prejudice. Southern writers have shown a ready appreciation of Lincoln, and perhaps no one did more to bring this about than did the late gifted Henry Watterson, of The Courier Journal, with his lecture on Abraham Lincoln, and then Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, in his "Life of Webster" rendered generous praise to John C. Calhoun, one of the most influential of Southern statesmen, a man rarely understood or appreciated by Northern statesmen and publicists. What we shall bring out is merely an attempt to keep the records straight. We gather this summary from various sources.

GROWTH OF FEELING

The growth of sectional feeling, and the sense of fear that the Republican party might win in the presidential elections of 1860, produced a very general feeling throughout the South that withdrawal from the federal union was only possible remedy for existing political ills. The leaders in Alabama were fully alive to the gravity of the crisis, and the Legislature, Feb. 24, 1860, ~~pre-~~~~ceded-a-very-general~~ adopted joint resolutions requiring the governor to call a convention of the people in the event of the "Election of a president advocating the principles and actions of the party in the Northern states calling itself the Republican party." Alabama's electoral vote was cast for Breckenridge and Lane, however, the Republican party won. The electoral college convened and events moved swiftly. Gov. Andrew B. Moore, an ardent secessionist, as directed by the joint resolutions above referred to, issued a call for a convention and ordered an election to be held on Dec. 24, 1860. He directed that the delegates come together in a "convention of the state to consider, determine and do whatever in the opinion of said convention, the rights, interests and honor of the State of Alabama require to be done for their protection."

The state Constitutional convention met Jan. 1, 1861, in the city of Montgomery, and to put it mildly, the greatest excitement prevailed not only in the capitol, but in the homes, hotels and streets. It was a seething political community. It cannot be rightly charged that secession was the work of "fire-eaters" alone, for the people were well informed on the situation, as

nearly a year, had elapsed since the resolutions calling for the convention had been passed. Candidates for and against secession had discussed the matter thoroughly in their campaigns for seats in the convention, and a majority in favor of secession were fairly elected, without any "fraud" or "false counting of votes."

The convention was made up of Alabama's leading men and it was no small honor that befell to Judge Inzer to be the youngest member in the body, and it evidences the fact that in a few short years he made a name for himself in St. Clair County. It was a remarkable gathering from many standpoints, and from its assemblage the two outstanding protagonists were William L. Yancey and Robert Jemison, Jr. Yancey, the orator supreme, was often matched by Jemison in debate and strategy. When Helen Keller was here to speak at the auditorium for the benefit of the Community Chest, after the meeting was over, we went with our Robert Jemison Jr., up to his lovely home, and while waiting for the arrival of Alabama's most celebrated woman, he dipped into William K. Smith's Debates and read one of Jemison's speeches and was carried away with its temper and masterly sweep. Yancey needs no eulogium from this writer since Petrie's "Final Estimate of Yancey" is done by a master hand.

Let's try and get in "our mind's eye" the rotunda and House of Representatives at the capitol on the opening day of the convention, and join the animated groups here and there as congenial parties or antagonistic spirits eluster. Sutton S. Scott has given us a pen picture of two of them, one made up of secessionists and the other of unionists as they were then generally, and rather loosely, designated. We can only name them. In one were John Anthony Winston, Henry W. Hillard, J. J. Siebels and Nicholas Davis; in the other Leroy Pope Walker, Thomas H. Watts Francis S. Lyon, Thomas H. Herndon, Edward C. Bullock and Edmund S. Dargan. These were only a few of the hundred making up the roll. We can almost see the young lawyer from St. Clair John Washington Inzer, quietly taking in the men and getting his feet firmly settled on solid ground.

STORMY SESSION

No use or time to revive the stormy opening, and the rival chairmans for the chair, it's enough to relate that after a while the organization was effected, the secessionists winning over the cooperationists and electing William M. Brooks as president and William M. Foller as secretary. The great issue of the secessionist was debated at length, and after an earnest struggle of intellectual giants, on Jan 11, 1861, a vote was taken, adopting by a vote of 61 to 39. "An ordinance to dissolve the union between the State of Alabama and other states

Under the compact, the Constitution of the United States. This action reflected the historic position, not only of Alabama but also of the whole South, on the subject of the relation of the states to the government of the United States. The federal constitution was to them a compact, and the states could at will withdraw and dissolve it when ever in their, discretion the exigency might demand.

The convention continued its labors, and adopted a number of general changes in the constitution of 1819, among these being a provision for annual instead of biennial sessions. This is set out to show that we have had here in Alabama annual, biennial and now have quadrennial sessions, but like some ladies' skirts, we have split sessions at present.

We have given the above to give the proper setting for the speech made in the Secession convention by its youngest member, taken from Smith's Debates, page 97, a mine of information on the convention.

Mr. Inzer said:

"Mr. President: This is the most solemn period of my life. Although a young man, I have been looking forward for years to the dissolution of the states composing this Confederacy. The great compact has already been broken, South Carolina, Florida and Mississippi have seceded, and before the going down of the sun the State of Alabama will have declared her independence and no longer be one of the United States of America. I am pledged to oppose the ordinance, I told the people of the county which I have the honor to represent that if elected I would most assuredly vote against immediate separate secession, and today I stand here ready to redeem my pledge, and will vote against the ordinance. But when it becomes the organic law of my state I will support it, as I believe it to be my duty to do so. I believe that the people of my county will stand by the action of the state in her sovereign capacity; and I am in hopes that Alabama will go on with her great work to independence and prosperity.

"I told the people of St. Clair (Mr. Inzer's county), while canvassing the county, that I was in favor of cooperation; but said that if Alabama should secede, separate and alone I would go with her and stand by her in every peril, even to the cannon's mouth; and I now repeat it, I am for Alabama under any and all circumstances." And he was to his death.

After the Civil War Judge Inzer came back to Ashville to make his home. He not only felt that Ashville was going to be a splendid town but he felt that there was a work for him to do in the community, and it is a closed history now but there are a

few old-timers left who can tell you of the trying days in this section of the state for the first 15 years of the reconstruction period. Col. Inzer had many narrow escapes with his life as the leader of the forces for what he felt were the things of righteousness and justice. For many years St. Clair County was almost a battlefield. Men went armed constantly and Col. Inzer held court at times with pistols on the table and a shotgun across his lap. There were a group of men in St. Clair County seemingly not in sympathy enough with the union to fight for it neither did they fight for the South and it was this group that not only gave much trouble during the war but were the leaders in sympathy stirring up the negroes against the better class of citizens after the war. Some of the history of these days of reconstruction has never yet been written and never will be. Suffice to say that the type of men represented by Col. Inzer finally got the upper hand and drove the disturbers from the state. Long before the dawn of the twentieth century most of the trouble was over and many of the wounds were healed. Col. Inzer was proud that he could live to see peace descend over the hills of St. Clair County and he was glad to see his nation so wonderfully united as was manifested by the spirit of the people and the bravery of our boys in the late World War.

His best friends used to joke him very much about having to practice law in order to make enough money to keep all of his farms going. It was not uncommon at all for him to give a small farm to the old negro men who had spent a number of years with him as renters. His friends tell a story on him illustrative of his manner of dealing with the renter. One fall one of his negro tenants came in for what he called the big wagon to use in gathering his corn. Col. Inzer told him, "Now Sam, you know how to divide the corn. First, gather two loads for yourself, then the third you bring to me." A day or two later the colonel and a friend of his happened to be going into the house for lunch when Sam drove up. He had about six or eight bushels of corn in the bottom of the wagon bed. Col. Inzer remarked, "Well, Sam, you must have had a mighty short crop." "Oh, no sir, Judge for the acreage I had a fine crop but this is all there was of your part. I'm sorry, Judge, but after I gathered them two full loads for myself like you said, this was all there was left for you." The neighbor who heard the conversation aside the colonel never tried to convince him otherwise but told him it was all right, and to unload it.

FROM A FAMOUS FAMILY

Col. John W. Inzer came from a family distinguished for its service to God and country and one in which its various members usually attain a ripe old age. The founder of the Inzer family in America was Abraham Inzer who settled at Baltimore in the early part of the eighteenth century. John Inzer, a son of

of Abraham Inzer fought through the entire period of the revolutionary War and was with Washington at Yorktown when Cornwallis surrendered. After the war hard-feelings existed between the various members of the family who had been true to the crown and those who had fought for the colonies. John Inzer gathered all of his belongings together and migrated to Moore County, N. C. where he changed the spelling of his name from Ensor to Inzer.

After two or three moves he settled down in Jackson County, Ga. where he was a pioneer farmer. He had six sons and one daughter. Four of his sons, Robin, James, Henry and Lafayette moved to Alabama in 1840. Judge John W. Inzer was a son of Henry. Dr. John W. Inzer, noted Baptist preacher and World War chaplain, of Chattanooga, Tenn., who was a namesake of Col. John W. Inzer, is a grandson of James. Hon. John A. Inzer, lawyer of Gadsden, Ala., is a son of Lafayette. Hon. J. C. Inzer State senator of Alabama, is a grandson of Lafayette and the Rev. Whitt Inzer, lawyer-of Baptist preacher of Odenville, Ala., is a grandson of Robin Inzer. Two sons of John Inzer, of Georgia, did not come to Alabama, Mark died a few years ago at Marietta, Ga., and John, Jr., went to Evansville, Ind., to make his home immediately at the close of the Civil War, and died at that place a few years since.

MANY WERE PREACHERS

Five or six sons of the original John Inzer, of Georgia, were Baptist preachers. Judge John W. Inzer was himself a very active member of the Baptist Church at Ashville, Ala., for more than a half century. For many years he was superintendent of the Sunday School and he has been very prominent in denominational affairs in the state.

The Inzer family has a fairly correct history of the family back to 1080, most of the ancestors being scattered through Scotland and England. Judge John W. Inzer came to Alabama with his father, in 1840, locating at first at Talladega, where his father was engaged in the manufacture of furniture, wagons, plows and most anything made of wood which was servicable to the people of his community. As has been stated, he was also a Baptist preacher and covered a large section of the county on horseback going to meet his appointments. He was of the old type who never accepted a salary, receiving only free-will offerings occasionally. About 1850 the family moved to St. Clair County. Back of Judge John Washington Inzer was a long line of men and women who as we have seen played their part well in the making of America, entitling him and his children and grandchildren to membership in the D.A.R.'s and other Revolutionary Societies. One daughter, Mrs. Watt T. Brown for years has been a moving spirit in the Kate Duncan Smith School, erected on a High Mountain, near Guntersville, Ala., by the daughters

Of the Revolution, the purpose being to educate the native bred stock along patriotic lines.

MARRIED AT 34

Col. Inzer married when he was about 34 years of age. He married Miss Sally Pope, of Columbiana, Ala. They lived happily together at their home in Ashville for 55 years. Their home of the old colonial type, brick construction, with large white columns in front was built in the main by slave labor. Col. Inzer bought it already built soon after his marriage. It is said by some that one reason why he refused to run for some political offices, other than those he did hold, was that he had so much love for his home. He never wanted to live anywhere but in that house in Ashville, Ala., and up until his wife's death a few years ago, Aunt Sally, as she was familiarly known, ran the home very much like homes were managed and operated during the days of slavery. The servants lived on the place, the large kitchen was in the basement, as was the pantry and Aunt Sally carried the keys in her own pocket or attached to her waist, giving orders every morning for all the meals of the day and putting out the provisions for the same. It was not uncommon, up until 15 years ago, to find ~~Col. Inzer's of Ashville, who has a large family and who~~ Col. and Mrs. Inzer's home full of guests most any time especially while court was in session. Col. and Mrs. Inzer are survived by three children: J. Manly Inzer, of Ashville, who has a large family and who now lives in the old family home; Mrs. Clara Montgomery, wife of Attorney Jim Montgomery, of Ashville, whose lovely home adjoins Col. Inzer's home; and Mrs. Liz Brown, wife of Senator Watt F. Brown, of Birmingham, Ala.

Various Capacities

During his lifetime Col. Inzer served in various capacities in politics. He was at one time probate judge and another time circuit judge. He was state senator and he represented Alabama at least once in the national convention and cast his vote for William Jennings Bryan to lead the Democratic party as candidate for president. His advice was often sought in political matters and for years he was prevailed upon to offer himself as candidate for governor of the state, but he always refused to run. He has long since been often referred to as the "grand old man" of Alabama. Col. Inzer was a diligent student, not only of law, but of religion, politics, nature and human nature. He was a most interesting conversationalist. He was a man who had many friends. He loved his friends and was very loyal to his friends. A very beautiful life-long friendship existed between Col. Inzer and the late Col. B. F. Ellis, of Orville. Col. Ellis was the adjutant of Col. Inzer's command during the war. For years each of them wrote letters to the other, mailing them about every three months.

They would sometimes write a page a day or a page a week, but when those letters arrived, the family would be called together to hear the reading of the letter.

Col. Inzer was commanding in appearance. He was 6 feet 2 inches in his stocking feet and up until the last few years his usual weight was around 200 pounds. He had prominent features. He always wore a hat. Winter and Summer. He had remarkable health practically throughout his entire lifetime--always able to stand and walk very erect until the last few years, and his family and friends marvelled at the wonderful way he retained faculties.

It would be an interesting study to note the changes in modes of living and progress in many ways during the lifetime of Col. Inzer. The passing of slavery, for example, the victory of prohibition, the harnessing of electricity, the development of the great railway system, telegraph, telephone, automobiles, aviation, radio, in fact all of the great inventions and modern developments have come in his lifetime. His death really marks the close of an era. In much he is the last man of his day and generation. He reached a ripe old age. It is rather thought-provoking that on Sunday afternoon Jan. 1, 1928, there was a man alive who was a grown man and a prominent politician when Jeff Davis was inaugurated president of the Southern states. Col. Inzer sat on the platform with Jefferson Davis during the inauguration at Montgomery, Ala., in 1861, so his going breaks the connection and we find ourselves in a new and fast and absorbing age.

PLENTY OF SUBJECT MATTER

There is plenty of subject matter for anyone who would like to write a story on the life of Col. Inzer. A large and splendid chapter could be given to Col. Inzer under each of the following heads: "Patriot," "Pioneer," "Soldier," "Citizen," "Friend," "Lawyer," "Lawmaker," "Kidge," "Gentleman," "Christian."

Col. Inzer, loved the simple and better things of life. He died where he wanted to die--in his own home in Ashville. His funeral was conducted in a simple manner in the little Baptist Church at Ashville. He was buried in the church-yard cemetery by the side of his wife. The funeral was conducted by the his relative, Rev. John W. Inzer, pastor of the first Baptist Church of Chattanooga, Tenn., and was assisted by Rev. Frank Willis Barnett, of Birmingham.

The following editorial appeared in the Birmingham Age-Herald, commenting on the life of Col. Inzer, on the day he was buried.

"The death of Col. John Washington Inzer removes from the scene an outstanding figure of ante-bellum and reconstruction days,

whose service carried over into the twentieth century, and whose patriarchal influence held firm to the day of his passing.

"Distinguished as a statesman, soldier, churchman and jurist, this man, who attained the rich age of 93 years, gave to his state the quality which may be described as the essence of his experience, his valor and his public-mindedness.

"There was something stabilizing in this member of the Alabama secession convention, who voted for the union but fought for the South: who helped to erect the commonwealth's life upon the ashes of disaster: who came to know happier days for his beloved state and who carried through the long stretch of his years the appeal and strength of a remarkable personality and character.

"Thus ends a rich, a good and an honored life."

W. H. ...
...

10

MEN PROMINENT IN AFFAIRS OF ALABAMA NATIVES OF ST. CLAIR
(Copied, Birmingham News, Tuesday, July 14, 1931)
Written by Frank Willis Barnett

Ashville, County seat of St. Clair County, on Big Cannon Creek, which is located in the north-central part of the county, three and a half miles southeast of Whitney, the nearest railroad station, is about 20 miles southwest of Gadsden, some 40 or more miles northeast of Birmingham, and 120 miles north of Montgomery, is now in closer touch with these cities by reason of good roads, automobiles, and busses.

The writer well recalls his first visit, more than two score years ago, when as a young lawyer of the Birmingham bar, he had to go to the county seat of St. Clair to look up some records of coal and iron lands for a big corporation. It was a bitter day and the drive late in the afternoon from Whitney in an open buggy was a trying one, and on arriving on the square, he was not impressed with the looks of the rambling old hotel built out of wood, but on entering it, was greeted with a big fire of logs which threw out its heat with prodigality, soon thawing him out.

Soon a big bell announced to the town at large that supper was ready and in he went to find a table that was groaning beneath the weight of good things. On it was fried chicken hot from the oven, country ham with red gravy, country made sausage, grits, whole wheat biscuits, (man size ones), sure enough corn bread, yellow butter, cream and hot coffee, with many kinds of preserves and jellies, cake and apple pie. After sitting around the office fire listening in on the local gossip, he went to his room to be greeted with wood fire, and when he piled in the soft feather bed he was almost lost in the feathers. Breakfast next morning was all that such a meal should be with chicken, eggs, ham, and steak. Now comes the surprise, for, on asking for my bill, the proprietor apologetically said, "As you are a traveling man, I reckon I'll have to charge you a dollar." Just think of it, two grand meals, a warm bed, and all for one dollar. We were sorry to see that the front part of the old hotel had been torn away, leaving the two wings, however, but we decided it was all in the way of progress.

Felt Kindly Toward Town

Naturally, after such treatment, we left with a kindly feeling for Ashville, and it has continued until this good day, for ever since our first visit, we have been returning to it, and for a few months supplied the pulpit of the old Baptist Church, the white house of worship which stood on the side of the road on the way from the town to Birmingham, which was recently replaced by a more pretentious brick building which faces the square and which is a credit to Ashville as well as to the Baptists.

Ashville Old Town

Ashville is an old town, the locality being first settled in 1619 by John Ashe, who established a plantation, where he lived until his death in 1673. The town was named in his honor. In 1821, he, John John Cunningham, Joel Chandler, and George Shortridge were appointed commissioners to build the courthouse.

buildings were put up and used several years. Later brick buildings were constructed which were used until 1844, when the present courthouse, one of the oldest as well as at present one of the smallest courthouses in the state, was built. The complete records of the county as far back as 1821 are stored in the building, among them being many valuable Indian records, early deeds, will, etc., St. Clair County is to be congratulated on having her records, for the writer in writing the history of the county seats in Alabama often found that the records had been destroyed by fire.

One of the distinguished men of Ashville was Oran M. Roberts, who came from Laurens district, South Carolina, with his parents while quite young, settling near the town, and one of the first graduates of the University of Alabama, who later moved to Texas, becoming chief justice and later governor of the Lone Star State. He was born in 1815 and died in 1898. He received his early education in the old field schools of St. Clair County, but graduated from the University of Alabama in 1836, B.A., it conferring upon him later the degree of LL.D. He was not only lawyer and teacher of law, but twice elected chief justice of the Supreme Court of Texas. He was also an author of several well-known law books, as well as of the political history of Texas since its annexation to the United States. His first wife was Frances W. Edwards of St. Clair County. We have visited the graves of his father and mother on a high knoll overlooking Ashville.

Cobb Born in Ashville

Rufus W. Cobb, distinguished lawyer and governor of Alabama, was born at Ashville in 1829, dying in Birmingham in 1913. His father, a Virginian, and his mother, Catherine (Stevens) Peak Cobb, lived on a plantation at Ashville, he being a farmer and a merchant who served in the Creek War with Gen. Andrew Jackson as colonel of a regiment, was twice a member of the Legislature, and died in 1845 at Ashville. (He was a relative of Bishop Cobb, of the Episcopal Church.) Gov. Cobb was educated at an academy in Ashville under Prof. Wesson and Prof. Drury and was graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1850. Returning to Ashville, he read law in the office of John C. Thomason and was admitted to the bar in 1855 and practiced in St. Clair County with him until 1867, when he moved to Shelby County. We haven't room to follow him as captain in the Confederate Army, in the State Senate, where during his second term he was made president of the body, as president of the Central Iron Works at Helena, or as governor of Alabama, as our desire is merely to give his setting as an honored son of Ashville.

HOME OF John W. Inzer

A man located in Ashville in 1856, who lived there until his death a few years ago, to whom the writer was greatly attached not merely because he was an outstanding citizen but from the fact that he was a lovable man and a charming host. This man was John Washington Inzer, a heroic figure in the life of his adopted county, for he was a Georgian by birth, but all except about a score of years of his long and useful career were lived in his beloved town of Ashville. Space forbids relating here his many achievements. We can only say that as lawyer, judge, soldier, and citizen he was a leader for more than three score years, and at his death was the last of those who served as delegates in the secession convention held in Montgomery. It was an honor to have

the privilege of speaking at his funeral, conducted by his Baptist nephew, Dr. John W. Inzer, Baptist pastor, and attended by leaders from all over Alabama.

There have been other distinguished citizens in Ashville, but we selected Gov. Cobb, and Judge Inzer, because we knew them both, and we felt that they along with Gov. Roberts, whom we never met, were a trio to incarnate the high public spiritedness which has always characterized Ashville. It has had a historic background, but it looks to the future undismayed. (It was Burwell T. Pope, who when circuit judge refusing to comply with the command of a petty jury to place negroes on a jury was arrested and put in jail, but released in a few days, but the violence hastened his death.)

Ashville was in the midst of the Creek domain. On Big Canoe Creek there were two Creek towns, Cataula, situated four miles from the present site of Ashville: and Littafatchee, about eight miles above Cataula. Into this territory in 1813 during the Creek War, Col. Dyer, commanding a detachment of Tennessee troops, surprised and burned Littafatchee, returning to Gen. Jackson's army with 29 prisoners, consisting of men, women, and children, and a large supply of corn and cattle.

Ashville and the surrounding country has always had a distinguished citizenry. In our day we have known many of their descendants and would like to mention some who are dead and some who still live but we forbear for lack of space, however, we never think of the town without having thoughts of two pioneers, preachers, Brethren Hood and Robinson, both of whom were great powers in the St. Clair Baptist Association.

Sees Newspaper Man

We had the good fortune to run across our old newspaper friend, B. B. Cather, editor and owner of the Ashville Aegis, which was established by his father, George R. Cather, a truly great editor, back Jan. 1, 1873, it having been in the Cather family ever since. We have read it for years. It comes to our desk weekly.

In looking over an old copy issued in October, 1876, we saw at the top of its editorial page:

"For president of the United States, Samuel J. Tilden; for vice-president, Thomas A. Hendricks, the two being the first candidates we recall as a boy. The presidential electors were, state at large, John T. Morgan, of Dallas; and James L. Fugh, of Barbour; both men whom we knew from our youth up, the latter being from our home town of Eufaula, and the former from Selma. The alternates were also distinguished men, being none other than W. J. Sanford, of Lee, who later became governor of Alabama; and J. G. Harris, of Sumter, from whom we bought the Alabama Baptist, and who later was on the Public Service Commission. For Congress, from the Seventh District, was W. H. Forney, of Calhoun, whom we recall as the father of our friend John Forney."

Old Masonic Lodge

On one of the pages of the Aegis we saw where Cataula Lodge, 186, A.F. & A.M. met every Friday before each full moon, at 10 a.m. This lodge we were told was established at the old town of Cataula but when moved into Ashville had its name changed to the Ashville Lodge. E.J. Robinson, was worshipful master, and D. E. Cason, secretary. It is still flourishing, and the officers elected in June were: Robert Early, worshipful master; Robert Thompson, senior deacon; W.T. Jones, junior warden; Oscar McCain, clerk; Jeff Early, senior deacon; Dr. W.A. Beeson, treasurer; Edgar Banks, junior deacon; John Sheffield, tyler.

Merchants had not learned to advertise then as now as we found only two using the columns of The Aegis: A.B. Vandergrift, and W. T. Hodges, both of whom later moved to Birmingham, evidencing the fact that even way back there "it paid to advertise." Lawyes having cards were John D. Strange, long a member of the Birmingham bar, John W. Inzer, James T. Greene, and Leroy F. Box. Ashville was then in the Twelfth Judicial District which embraced Cherokee, Etowah, Calhoun, Cæburne, and St. Clair Counties with Judge Whitlock, presiding. We noted that the following vāsitors attended a session of the court at Ashville: Gen. W. H. Forney, and Col. G. C. Ellis, of Jacksonville; Hon. Taul Bradford and Thomas Hayden, Talladega; Col. B. F. Pope, Gadsden; J. A. Walden, Center; James P. Herring, Birmingham.

The county officers were: E. J. Robinson, judge of probate; J. T. Greene, register in chancery; S. A. Wyatt, clerk Circuit Court; W.C.T. Mooney, sheriff; G. W. Turner, coroner; J. C. montgomery, solicitor; H. F. Roberson, tax assessor; A. G. Watson, tax collector; W. T. Hodges, t easurer; H. H. Brewster, surveyor, and Frank Dillon, superintendent of education; while road commissioners were: Roland H..... R. Coleman, T. R. Beavers.....Montgomery. John..... The Rev.....(Paper torn here.)

Why are these set down here? To connect the present generation with some of the men who helped; to make Ashville what it is. We,

however, have taken a backward look, and now we will talk about the present, as Mayor McBrayer and his councilmen are alive to the need of keeping modern Ashville on the map.

To show that it is on the highway from Birmingham to Gadsden, it is only necessary to state that it has 19 filling stations, and some of them quite up-to-date; it also has three well-equipped garages, a drug store, barber shop, two eating places, Lone Oak Cafe, the Red Dot EatShop and the Teague Hotel. The following are general merchants: Teague Brōthers, Teague Mercantile Company, Merchant & Co., Montgomery & Stewart, Cain Brothers, Jones & McBrayer. The Ashville Cooperage Company, owned by High and Floyd Jackson, is one of the leading mills which has operated for years and is still busy furnish- ing quite a weekly payroll.

The members of the bar at present are: James A. Embry, John W. Inzer, Jr., and C. R. Robinson. The physicians being: Dr. H. S. Autrey and J.G. Elrod. MtT. Boatright is postmaster.

The Rev. L. B. Jones is pastor of the handsome new Baptist Church, built in 1930. The Rev. Guy E. Wallace, of the Methodist Church, and Rev. H. Paul Lewis, of the Church of Christ.

Ashville's modern school house, built of fieldstone, is one of the most attractive school buildings in the state. It was built several years ago, two more rooms were added, and now two more will have to be supplied to meet the growing demands of the patrons, as it houses both the high school and the grammar school pupils. W. M. McKathan is the recently chosen principal. He comes highly recommended from Jacksonville. The faculty for the high school has not been selected. The trustees are J. C. DeBose, U. H. Frickett, and B. M. Teague.

On the courthouse square is a handsome monument set up in 1923 to honor the Confederate soldiers by their descendants through the Ashville Chapter of the U.D.C.'s. The writer had the privilege of having a part in the ceremony, the chief address being made by Col. Hood of Gadsden.

Ashville has some lovely homes. We give a picture of that of Judge J. W. Inzer, but there are many more which show that the Ashvillians are comfortably housed. It is always a joy to mingle among its people.

A town of churches, schools, and business houses and industrial plants, without a bank

...ing
ins at

into
ndus-
veral
town
oken.

con-
a full
ance.
egro,
others
e are
d for
the
or the
Hurt,
going
erry,
coat

ASHVILLE.

Special to the Advertiser.

ASHVILLE, August 12.—Crop prospects are very promising, no material damage being done by the recent rains. Cotton is unusually large, but well fruited. Our farmers report the best corn crop for years.

The East & West railroad will be completed to Pell City by the first of September. The contract for building the union depot at Pell City was awarded to Mr. Wallace, of Cartersville, Ga., at the price of twenty-four hundred dollars.

GREENVILLE.

Special to the Advertiser.

GREENVILLE, August 13.—The first bale of new cotton raised in Putnam county was receiv-

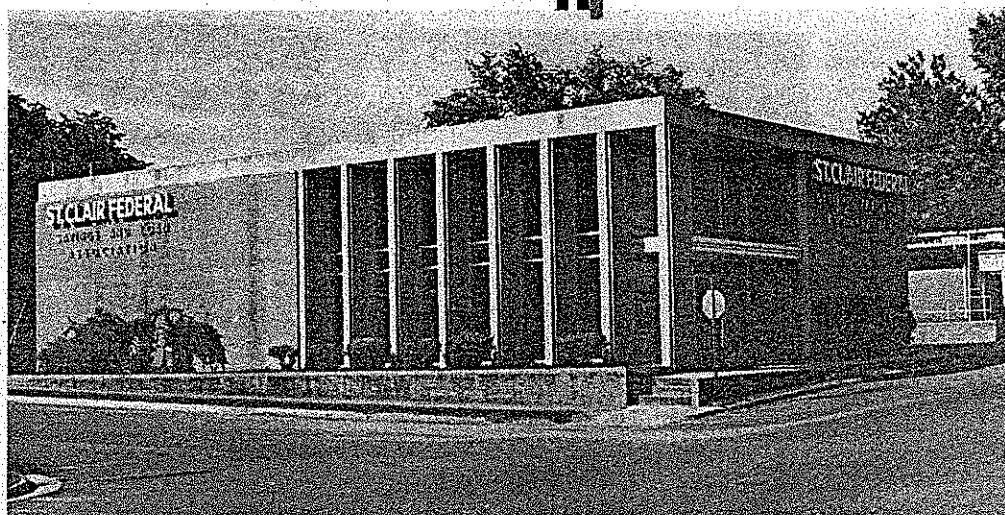
“What a
persons say.
In every cas
the complex
who have
their skin sn
of Dr. Piero
to drive out

Death

From Daily

The many
regret to lea
yesterday m
be buried th
Her life was
knew her, a
After suffe
sweeter.

Progress...



There's no magic secret to progress - just a lot of faith and hard work! That's the way it always was throughout our nation's history and that's how it is today. What we do now...in the present...is what will shape our tomorrows. The future is in our hands. Let's get together and make it glorious!





We Salute our St. Clair County Farmers --A Great Industry in America!

See one of our stores
if you need:

Planters - Harrows - Discs -
Rippers - Sprayers

•Mississippi Chemicals & USS Fertilizer

•We provide the spreading of Fertilizer

•Riding or Push Lawn Mowers



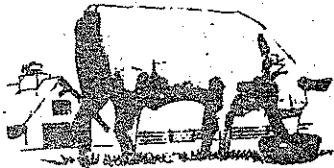
JEANS-SHIRTS
BOOTS

JAZZ

**JIM DANDY
CO-OP FEEDS**
Halters & Harness
for Horses & Cows

"Extending the Best Service to the Agriculture Industry for 20 years"

ST. CLAIR COUNTY CO-OP



Donald Staggs
Asheville 594-3196
Open 7:30-4:30 Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri.,
Closed Thurs. & Sat. at Noon.

Jim King
Pell City
Open Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri.
Closed Wed. & Sat. Noon

Alan Bain
Odenville
Open Mon.-Tues.-Thurs-Fri.
Closed Wed. & Sat. Noon

We Salute St. Clair Agriculture!

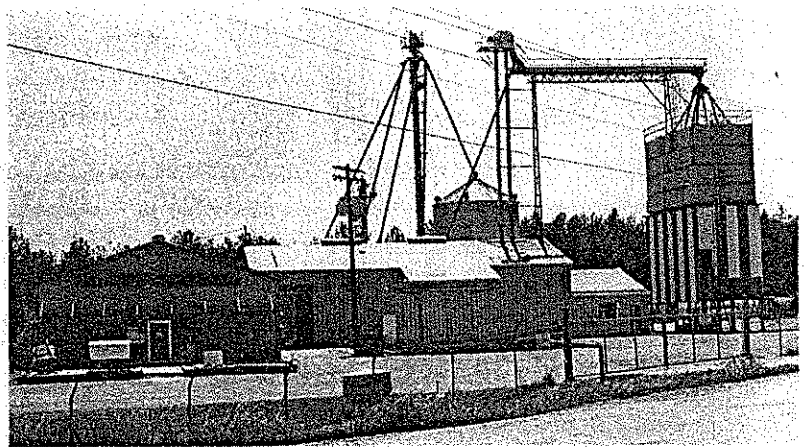
This is the industry that keeps us going...and growing strong as a nation. The American farmer, stockman and all those who are part of agri-business have earned our pride and gratitude for their big contribution!



Hwy 78E

Pell City

Rudy Cook, Manager



FARMERS MUTUAL EXCHANGE



"SECOND BEST AIN'T BAD!"

Out of 35 Kentucky Fried Chicken locations across central Alabama, our store, right here in Pell City, ranked second in sales! For a town this small and against stiff competition we think that this is quite remarkable and of course we are very proud.

We would, at this time, like to thank all of our friends and customers in St. Clair County for making this achievement possible. We now strive for NUMBER ONE IN QUALITY!...and with your continued fine support, one day we'll be NUMBER ONE IN SALES!

**WE DO
CHICKEN RIGHT!**

☆ **REMEMBER--
WE CATER!**

Any Size Function! We have catered
for as many as 400 and can handle a larger crowd!



Kentucky Fried Chicken®

Owned and operated by Wayne & Polly Warren • Hwy 231 No. Pell City.



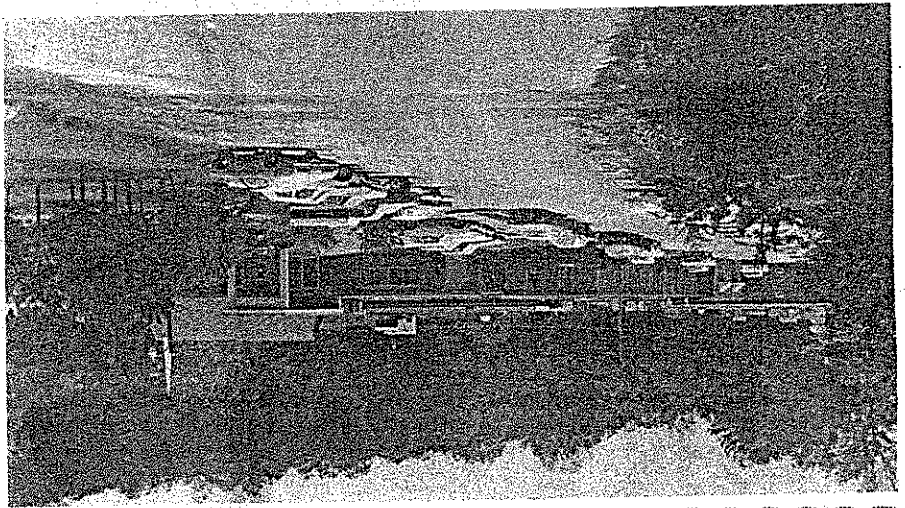
BAPTIST HOME OF SENIOR CITIZENS, INC.

JOHN M. PRUITT, ADMINISTRATOR
COOK SPRINGS, ALABAMA 338-2221

- 3 Registered Nurses • 16 LPNs • Medical Director & House Physician.
- 93 Skilled Beds • 33 for intermediate care residents
- Apartments for Retirees 62 years or older.

☆ IN SIZE & THE NUMBER OF BEDS

"We're The
Largest Nursing
Home in St. Clair
County!"



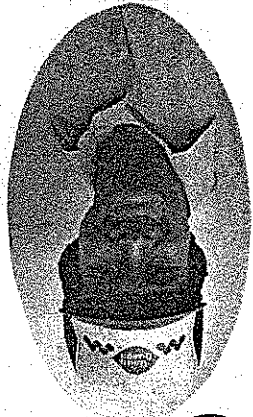


Growing with St. Clair County!

Now Serving
A Complete
HOMEMADE
BISCUIT
BREAKFAST
Plus Our Many
Other Food &
Dairy Delights



Louise Graham
Assistant Manager



Jim Thompson
Manager

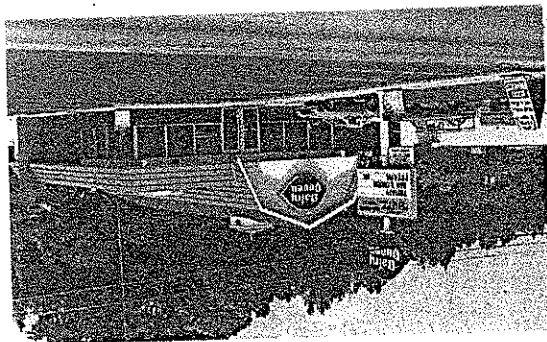


Dairy Queen

"LET'S ALL GO TO DAIRY QUEEN"

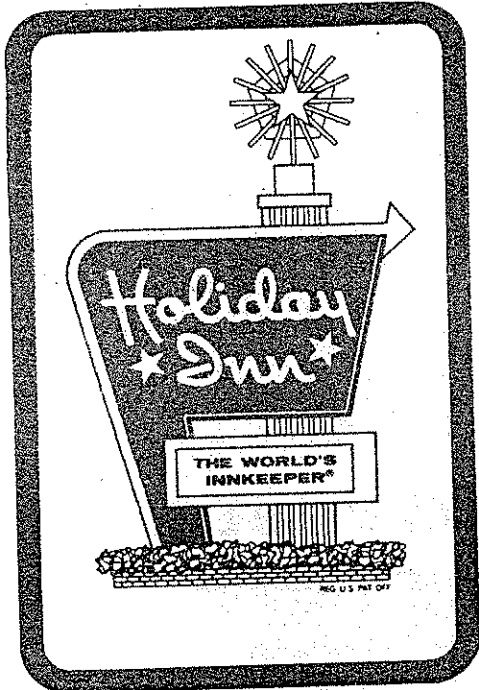
Lunch & Dinner Hours
10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Monday Thru Thurs.
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Friday & Sat.
10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sun.

Breakfast Hours
5:30 to 10:00 a.m.
Monday thru Saturday
7:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Sunday

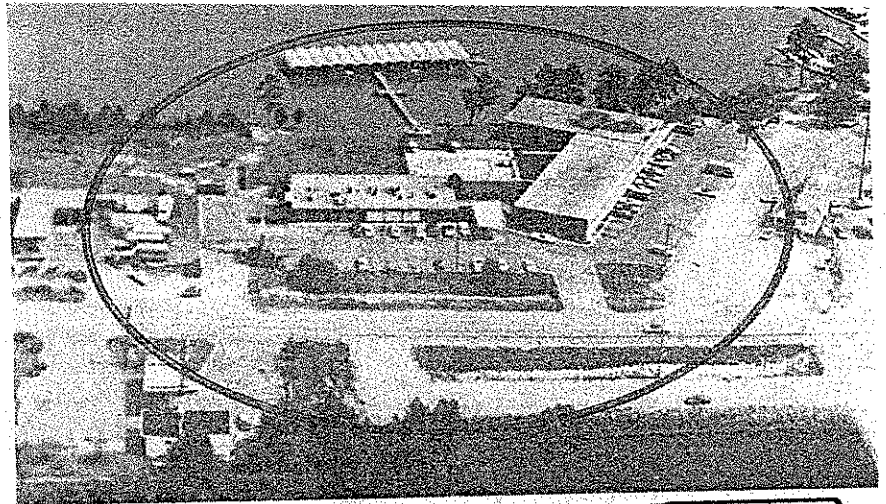


Owners - Richard and
Lynne Ely

Hwy 231 No.
Pell City



RIVERSIDE
Holiday Inn®



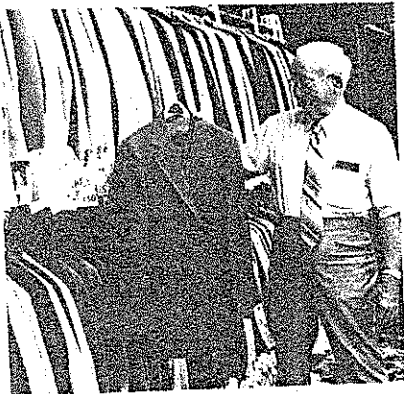
Located directly on beautiful Logan Martin on Hwy 78 just off I-20.

While enjoying our tremendous view, try our outstanding food!

- Buffet daily 11:30 til 1:30
- Special Sunday Buffet 11:30 til 3:00
- Cocktail Lounge open evenings Monday-Saturday.

We have Banquet and Meeting Rooms to seat up to 100 guests, call 338-3381

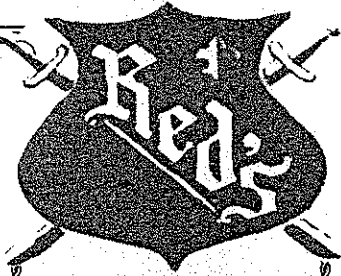




Mr. Keller shows us the wide selection of men's suits at very reasonable prices.



Mrs. Purdy sorts out the sizes of Levi Jeans so popular now with everyone.



**Men's
Wear**

**We Keep St. Clair
County Men
Looking Their Best!**

- SUITS •SPORTCOATS •SLACKS •SHIRTS •TIES
- SHOES •ROBES •CASUAL WEAR •PAJAMAS
- SOCKS •WESTERN HATS



Mrs. Purdy shows us one of the sharp new knit shirts.



Customer Glenda Collier picks out a tennis set from Mrs. Johnson

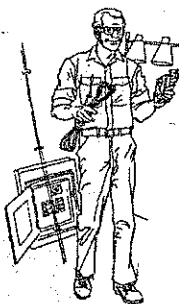
Hwy 231 North Pell City • 338-9376 • Open Thursday & Friday Nights Til 8:30

CARROLL ELECTRICAL, INC.

1607 Martin St.
Pell City, Al.

Just Opened

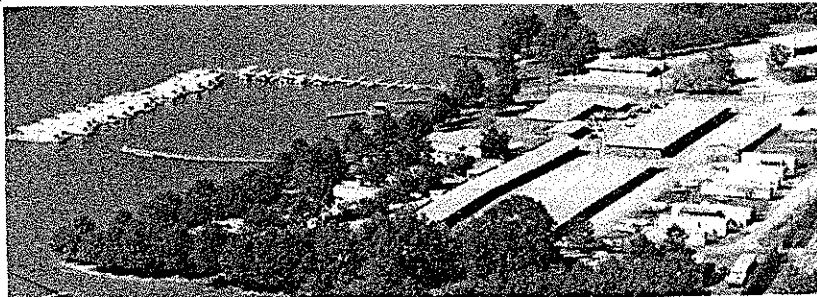
New Retail Electrical Outlet
And Tool Rental Open
To The Public—Come In Soon!



- Industrial
- Commercial
- Residential
- New Construction
- Repairs
- Remodeling

884-3455

Electrical Contractors
Over 15 years Experience



RABBIT BRANCH MARINA

Now
Under New
Ownership—
Robert & Kim
Adams

- Merc Cruiser Dealer
- Skiing & Other Sporting Equipment
- Fishing Supplies
- Beach & Picnic Area

Open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. 7 Days a Week
Turn left at Fat Man's Bar-B-Que - Straight For One Mile.
Cropwell Al. 525-5562

church leagues, five men's city leagues and eight ladies city

years for the continuing upkeep of the playground.

Phase I of the expansion of the Pell City Civic Center Complex is nearing completion. Two new softball fields, with lights and a concession stand

will open this week and the more multipurpose track and field will be complete soon.

It's National Nursing Home Week--

Visit Ingram Manor Nursing Home

Ingram Manor Nursing Home opened its doors in Pell City more than 16 years ago as privately owned, but now is under the Aegis of Medi-Plex Corporation, a Jackson, Miss., based firm operating more than 40 such homes, primarily in the southeast.

Operating under all state and federal requirements and guidelines, Ingram Manor offers 74 beds for skilled, intermediate and private-pay health care services.

Occupancy at Ingram Manor according to administrator Ms. Katherine Ponder, averages 99 per cent. Mrs. Ponder became administrator November 17, 1980 after being transferred from Oneonta where she was assistant administrator.

Ingram Manor does, when space allows, accept day-care residents.

Set in a stand of hardwood and pines on approximately six-acres of undulating St. Clair County land, Ingram Manor has a combined professional staff of 64 persons, including medical, pharmaceutical, recreational advisors and consultants including a full-time recreational and activities director at the Home.

Nearby St. Clair County Hospital affords immediate medical care when needed by residents of Ingram Manor.

Adjacent to the Home is Eden Elementary, with which the Home has an agreement to house residents in case of natural emergency disasters concomitant with inclement weather or others that require outside resident housing.

Melba Campbell, a professionally-trained dietitian directs food service for the residents, adhering to dietary needs of a wide variety.

For Ingram Manor residents, activities are continuous and well-planned. Activities director Ms. Joanne Humphreys says some regularly-planned features of the activities are monthly birthday celebrations, regular church services, volunteer reading programs, occasional outside picnicking, visiting singing groups and on occasion special dinner outing for some residents.

Mrs. Margaret Bearden, director of nursing, has been with Ingram Manor since its opening. Her duties are to develop and maintain nursing service objectives, standards or nursing practice, and nursing procedures. She also supervises all levels of nursing personnel and coordinates all patient services with all other departments.

"We strive for a home atmosphere here," says Ms. Ponder, "and stay away from the institutional impression in every way possible."

The facility itself is equipped with the HEW and state-required safety equipment and its staff is professionally trained "from the kitchen up."

At Christmas time the residents engage in making their own decorations, plus some for other sources.

"And in the Spring," says Ms. Humphreys "when we have fresh strawberries, lots of the residents get together and help prepare them."

At Ingram Manor it is evident that residents receive every facet of health care in a professional, home-typed situation.



Ingram Manor's tranquil setting

IN SPRINGVILLE ON HWY. 11
WATCH FOR THE GRAND OPENING!

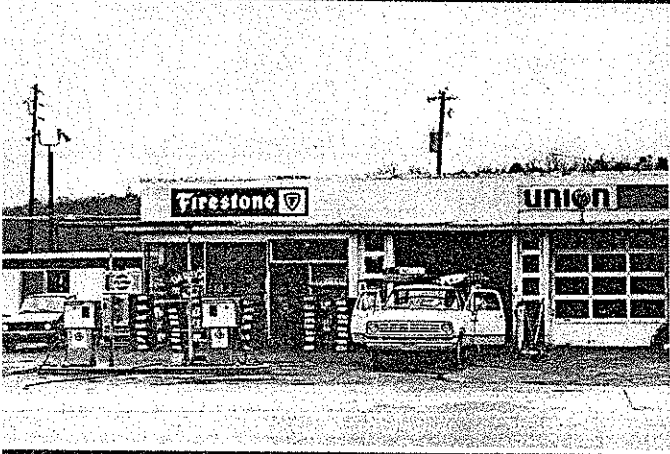
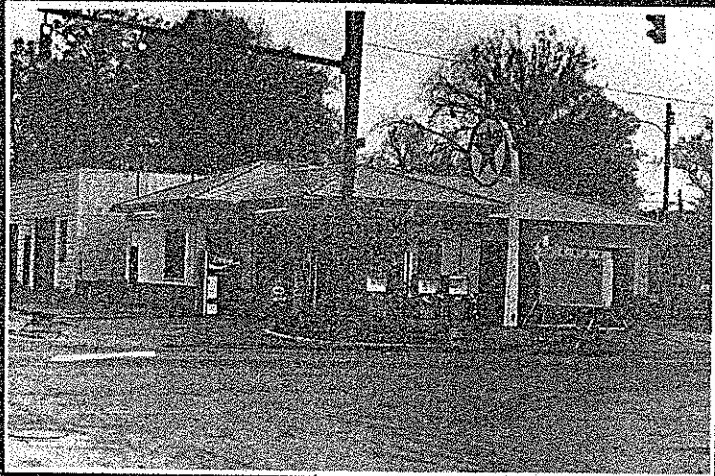
rolls of the 2,500 feet of micro-film containing some 35,000
pages of courthouse records. (News-Aegis photo by Wayne
Tupke)

Darby Tire Co. and Darby Texaco

"Catercornered
for Double Service!"

21st Street

Cogswell Avenue



- Union 76 & Texaco Oil Products
- Uniroyal, B.F. Goodrich
Firestone Tires
- Batteries
- Shocks
- Brake Jobs
- Sport Wheels
- Automotive Service
- Wheel Alignment

Phone 338-2718 or 338-9277 Pell City



We're All
New!

☆ AN ALL NEW STAFF
FROM THE CHEFS
TO THE OWNER!
BRIGHT, FRIENDLY FACES-
FAST COMPLETE SERVICE!

Come in soon for a delightful
Italian meal you're sure to enjoy!



OUR STAFF:

Ty Alford, Mary Gallups, Barbara Adams, Juanita Adams, Chris Gallups, Ted Campbell, Jr.

OUR MANAGERS:

Linda Carpenter, Kathy Smith



PASQUALE'S®

WE COOK GOOD!

HWY 231 So. PELL CITY 4072

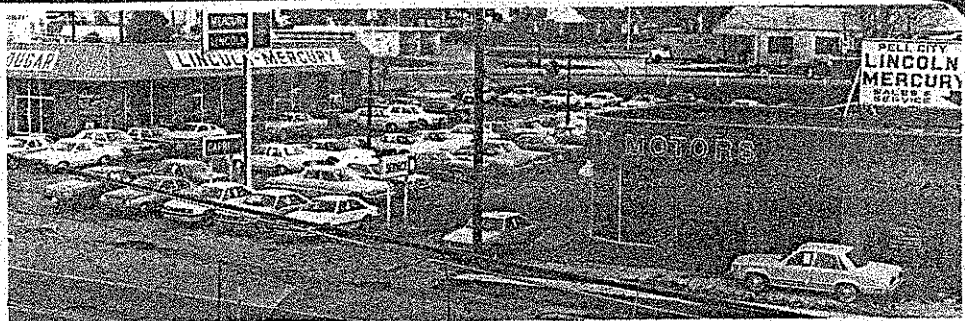
Symbol of quality

Uncluttered dash

PELL
CITY

LINCOLN
MERCURY

Cogswell Ave
338-9463

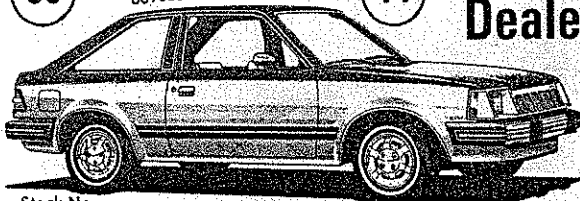


30

669006

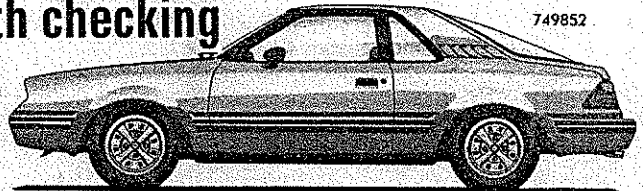
44

"We're the other Lincoln-Mercury
Dealer worth checking
with!"



Stock No.
458

Lynx LS 3-Door



749852

1982

LN7

Stock No.
909

781736

23

EPA
EST.
MPG

38

EST.
HWY.
MPG



1981 MERCURY CAPRI

Stock No.
075

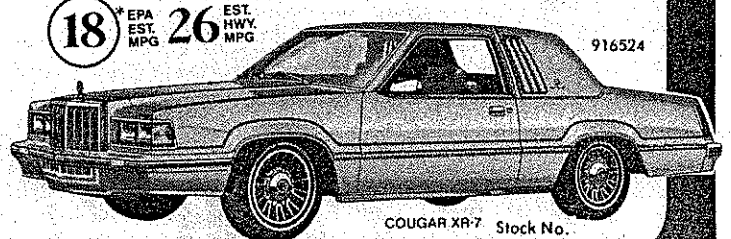
18

EPA
EST.
MPG

26

EST.
HWY.
MPG

916524

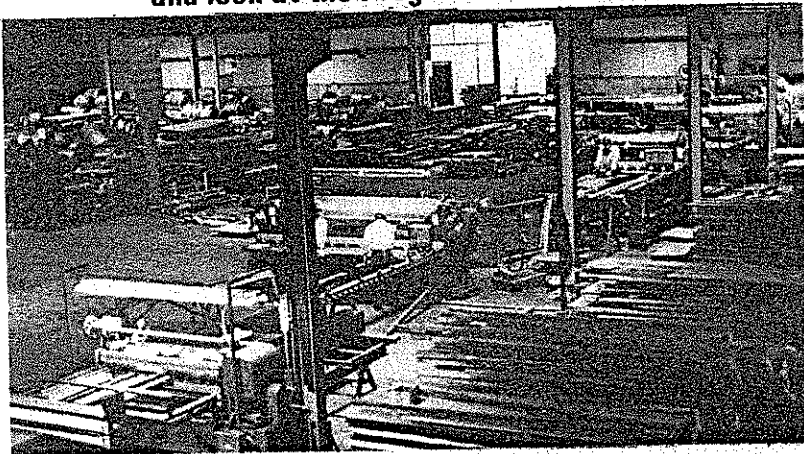


COUGAR XR-7 Stock No.
837

Dietrich

TARGET FOR THE NEW DECADE

-and look at the Progress we've made!



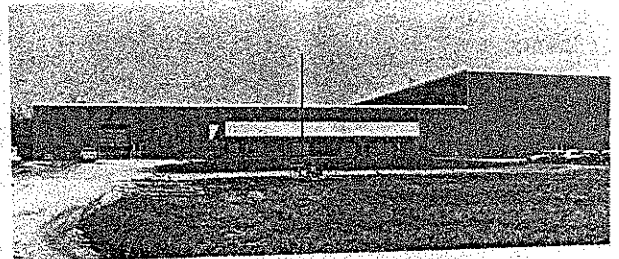
This plant began its operations here in July of 1976. The corporate office is in Pittsburg, PA. Dietrich processes steel sheets and coil into specific cut to size orders per customer. These pieces are sent to the customer to be used to complete a finished product.

This Ashville plant which employed 78 employees in 1980 now employs 107 with plans to add on 25 more soon. The recent \$1,500,000 expansion increased the floor area from 48,000 square feet to 100,000.

DIETRICH



1980



1981 - NEW EXPANSION

In addition to this is a new 3,200 sq. ft. office building. The grounds were also considered and a 2½ acre pond was developed. It will be used primarily for a fire protection reservoir.

This 100% expansion proves the company's faith in this area and we look forward to greater progress in the future.

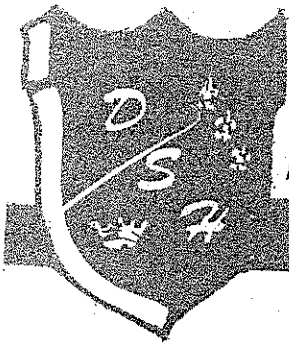
INDUSTRIES, INC.
SOUTHERN DIVISION ASHVILLE, ALA

...quality, brand names, experience and know how. We're proud of what we've done. And, we've just begun.

Courtesy
Our Watchword
Service
Our Foundation
Satisfaction
Our Progress



We are grateful for the opportunity of serving the people of this area!



Apparel For Men And Women

DRIVER STARNES & HAMILTON

Across from the Courthouse
1820 Cogswell Ave. Pell City, Al.

STORE HOURS:

Monday & Tuesday - 9:30-5:00 p
Wednesday - 9:30-12:00 noon
Thursday thru Saturday 9:30-5:00



James Henson has had this Shell Service Station for 16 years. He has been with Shell Oil for 25 years. Henson's Shell has earned a reputation of trust by selling Proven Quality Products and giving excellent service.



One of our 3 Wreckers - On Call 24 Hours a Day!



Giving the customer the service he expects!



338-7566

OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR



HENSON'S SHELL

JAMES C. HENSON, OWNER

Historical districts (Continued from page 5)

Board may issue an order of postponement of demolition for a period of not to exceed six months. If the Board concludes that the demolition should be postponed, it shall afford an opportunity to appear before the Board to offer any evidence they may desire to present concerning the proposed order. Within the period of postponement, the Board shall consult with the St. Clair County Commission, the St. Clair County Historic Development Commission, and others to ascertain what these

organizations may do to preserve such architecturally and historically valuable building and shall make recommendations to that effect to the Commission.

When planning to restore, demolish, or add a new building to Springville, Cropwell, Ashville, or St. Clair Springs, care should be taken that all codes and restrictions be followed. The battle to preserve the past for future generations depends upon each and everyone of us.



Montgomery-Edins-Scott home

The Montgomery, Edins, Scott home was built in 1886 by



Neva Bagwell invites you to come in & look over the high quality electronic equipment in stock---

- Portable Cassette Recorders •Intercoms •CB's •Stereo Speakers •Stereos •Headphones •Princess & French Style Telephones •Antennas •Walkie-Talkies •Microphones •And much More!

Owned and Operated by Joe & Sandy Dorough

CISCO

Radio Shack®

NEAIED

UPSTAIRS

YOU CAN'T GET IT ANYWHERE ELSE!!

There's only one place in this county where you can get total insurance planning and protection for All your insurance needs.

•AUTO •HOME •BUSINESS •LIFE •HEALTH •PENSIONS



Ron
Helms



Joe
Paul
Abbot



Sharron
Brewster

HELMS INSURANCE AGENCY

"YOUR INSURANCE STORE"

(News-Aegis Building)

298 So. Martin St.

884-1670

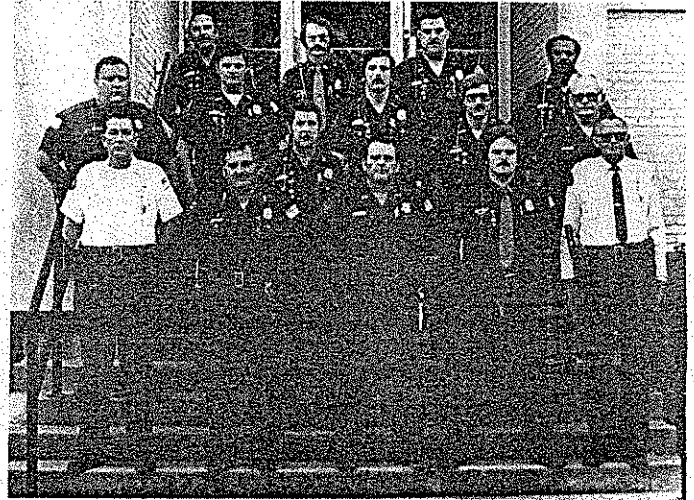
Pell City

PROGRESS

EXPLORING THE WORLD OF DISCOVERY

Progress is changing...for the better. The more challenges we meet...the more discoveries we make...bring us closer to our goal of a better life for all. Let's aim for continued success for Pell City in the '80s.

Pell City Police Department
Bottom Row (L-R) Chief Homer Layton, Ptl. Morris Smith, Ptl. Noel Washington, Ptl. Mike McCombs, Asst. Chief Shaffer Griffin. 2nd Row (L-R) Ptl. Bill Turner, Ptl. Joe Davis, Sgt. Ed Pennington, Ptl. Ricky Simmons, Ptl. Larry Hyatt, Cpl. Oscar Callahan. Top Row (L-R) Sgt. Sid Scott, Ptl. Bill Gurley, Ptl. Ray Phillips, Ptl. Robert Beavers



Construction will soon

begin on a modern



Cropwell Fire Station
 opened February, 1981. It is manned by two
 and houses the city's rescue truck, pumper and
 added fire protection to the southern part of our

Construction will soon

begin on a modern

SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY

It will be located on Tucker Road and will occupy approximately 600,000 sq. ft. The plant is being designed and constructed by Charles E. Tucker, Consulting Engineers, Birmingham. This new facility will afford sewage services for hundreds of more homes in our community.



ner
 an



Charles Lockridge
 Councilman



Forrest Walls
 Councilman



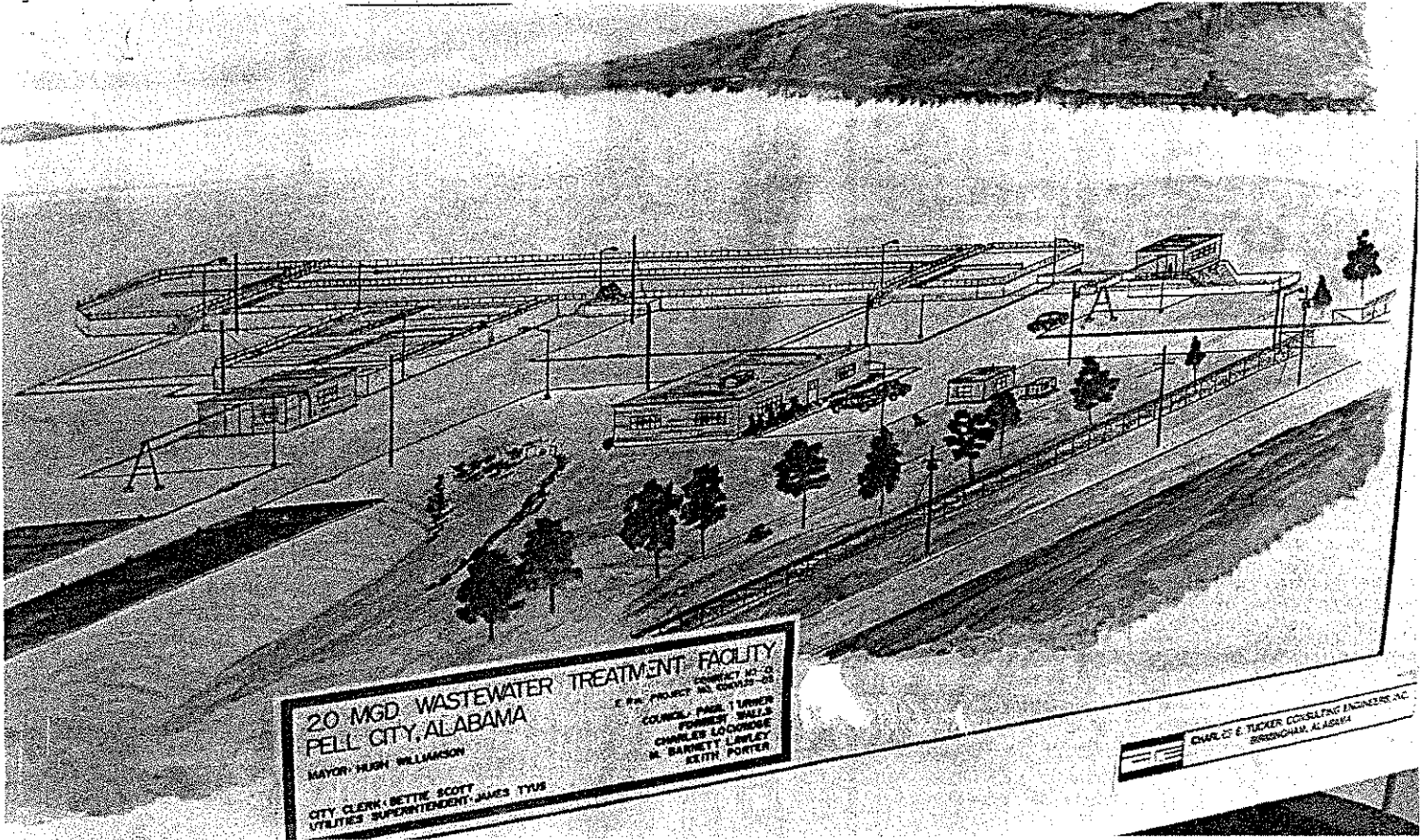
Barnett Lowley
 Councilman



Keith Porter
 Councilman

Billy Church, City Attorney - Bettie Scott, City Clerk

THE CITY OF PELL CITY



Drawing of a new wastewater treatment plant

St. Clair Co. Hospital adds fourth floor

BY WAYNE RUPLE
News-Aegis Staffwriter

A fourth floor addition housing an intensive care unit and a progressive care unit at a cost of near \$1 million is one of the highlights of the past year which St. Clair County Hospital

administrator Sam Jones proudly points to when speaking of progress.

But, he is quick to add, the hospital has made additional progress in staffing and the amount of new equipment purchased over the past year.

And, adds Helen Dykes,

director of nursing services, there are some big plans for the future.

The fourth floor addition, containing some 13,600 square feet, has a complete RN and LPN staff specially trained for critical care nursing.

The ICU has a six patient

capacity and can be expanded to accommodate eight patients.

Construction on the fourth floor began March 1, 1980 and was completed January of this year.

In addition to the ICU the fourth floor will also house medical records, respiratory therapy, special procedure rooms and doctor's bedrooms.

Monitoring in the ICU is through telemetry.

Looking back on the growth of the hospital since he came on board as administrator in 1969, a few months before the hospital was opened, Jones said he feels the facility is one of the best its size in the state.

Both he and Mrs. Dykes point to the various areas of growth and improvement in the hospital - 28 RNs, 34 LPNs, 29 nursing assistants, 12 ward secretaries and 18 doctors and consultants including those in the fields of neurology, pediatrics, gastrointrolgy and cardiology.

Some of the newest and most modern equipment which the hospital has recently acquired includes a treadmill stress testing device with monitoring capabilities, 2 em montitors and defibrilators, 1 fetal heart monitor to detect a baby's heartbeat before birth and nuclear medicine equipment giving the facility the ability to make lung and bone scans using radioactive materials.

Jones said he is hopeful that the hospital will have ultrasound equipment within 90 days. He added that this equipment, "will be a plungrate for the county" as

most patients requiring ultrasound tests are usually sent to Birmingham or Anniston.

Mrs. Dykes points to several of the hospital's on-going programs including patient education, in the areas of cardiac and diabetics" which usually involve one on one education situations and may revolve around diet, nutrition and therapy.

Last year a cardiovascular nursing program was presented to RNs and LPNs in preparation for work in the newly constructed ICU unit. A 24 hour IV therapy course was also presented.

She also praised the auxiliary under the work of Mrs. Opel Robinson who is conducting a breast self-examination program reaching some 75 women per month on a room to room visit.

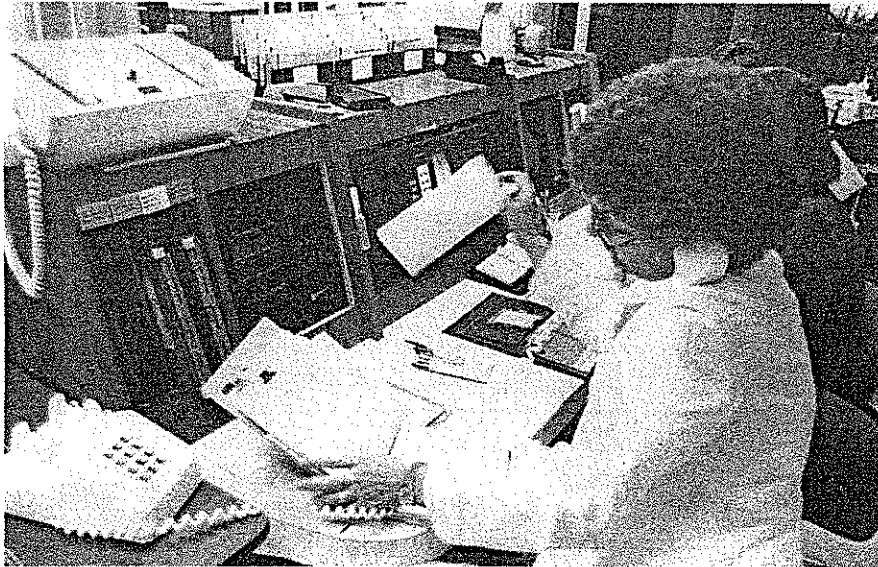
"We have a lot of plans for increasing our education program," Mrs. Dykes said.

The long-range goals include possible use of a 40 seating capacity classroom in reaching the general public who would be invited to attend educational classes.

"We feel that the hospital should be looking more to the community," she added while Jones pointed out that he would like to see the hospital, "service beyond the four walls of the insitution."

The classroom sessions , he feels, would teach preventive medicine and help former patients to stay well.

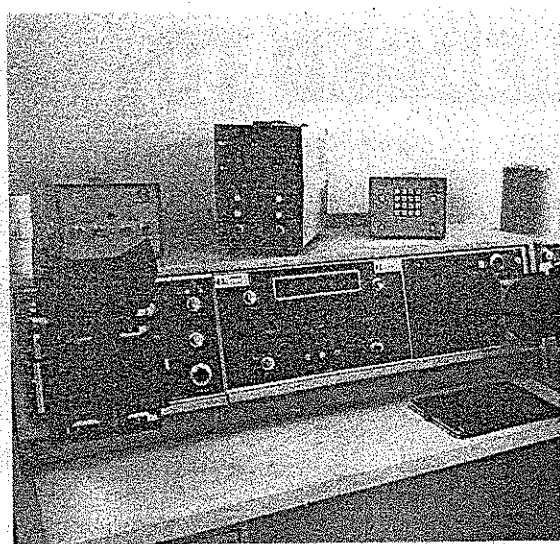
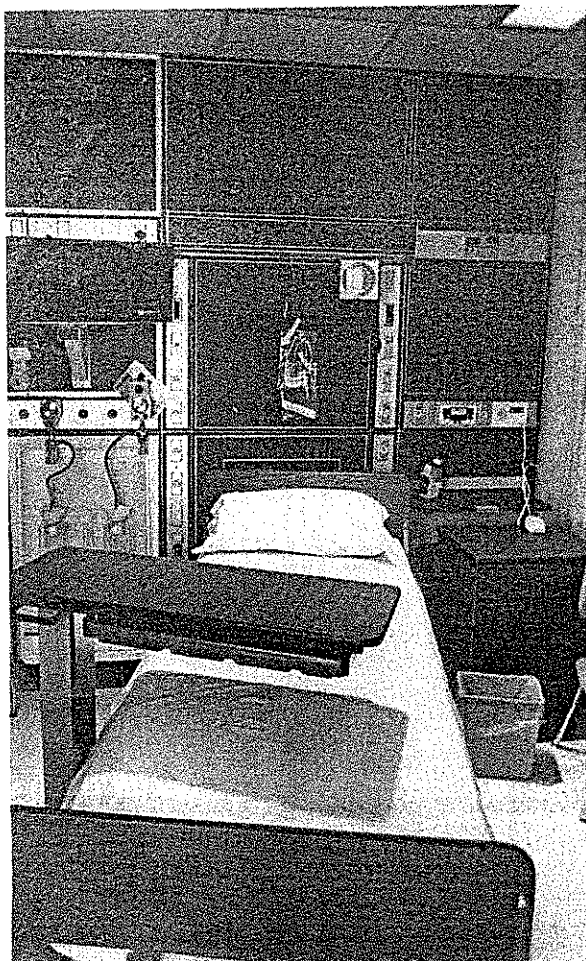
He concludes that the past year, has been rather active."



Monitoring station

Looking like some busy launch control the monitoring station in the newly completed fourth floor ICU unit at St. Clair County Hospital enables

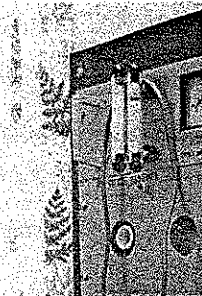
nurses to keep a constant watch on a patients condition through telemetry devices. (News-Aegis photo by Wayne Ruple)



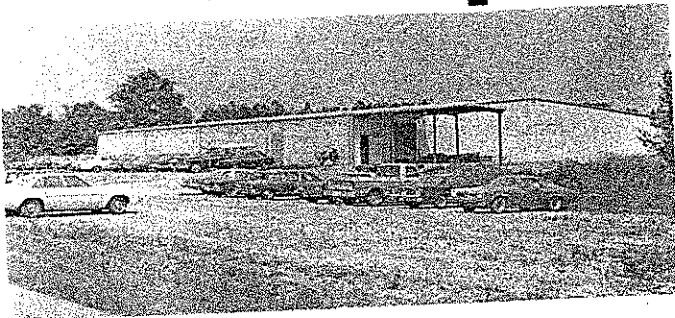
Space-age Technology

Lyn Wilkinson, chief technologist for nuclear medicine, looks over a recently acquired gamma camera which enables doctors to inject a patient with radioactive substances to see what is going on inside the body.

Latest equipment



**St. Clair County is a Great
place to live...Medline is a Great
place to work!**



Medline - 1980



Medline - 1981

**Medline is growing with Pell City — from 18,000 sq. ft. in 1980 to
48,000 sq. ft. in 1981 and still growing strong!**

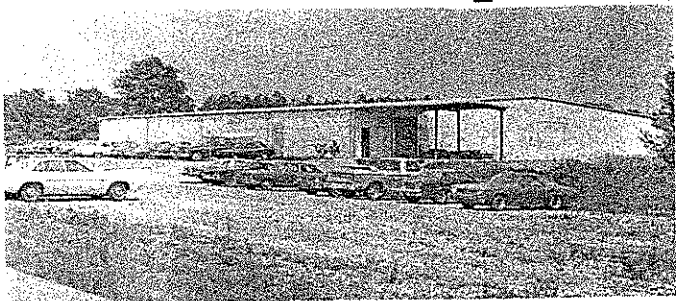
Manufacturing Hospital and Patient Wear!

Medline Industries, Inc.

Industrial Park

Pell City, AL

St. Clair County is a Great place to live...Medline is a Great place to work!



Medline - 1980



Medline - 1981

Medline is growing with Pell City — from 18,000 sq. ft. in 1980 to
48,000 sq. ft. in 1981 and still growing strong!

Manufacturing Hospital and Patient Wear!

Medline Industries, Inc.

Industrial Park

Pell City, AL



Guest at seminar

Mrs. Jean Brandli (seated), Pell City Mayor Hugh Williamson, Bill Brandli and Mr. Walter Kennedy were among the many guests who attended the Telecommunications Showcase Seminar that was held on April 23 and 24. Mrs. Brandli was instrumental in getting the program, the only one of its kind, into being. The course is offered at the John Pope Eden Area Vocational School. (News-Aegis Photo by Karen Hand).



Checking out displays

The main reason for the seminar was to examine the equipment in use for the various phone companies and to give the students a chance to "show off" their skills. Telecommunications instructor James McGowan and Ragland Telephone Company

President Bob Dickinson check out a piece of equipment. The Vocational School has made much progress in preparing the students for employment of the future. (News-Aegis Photo).



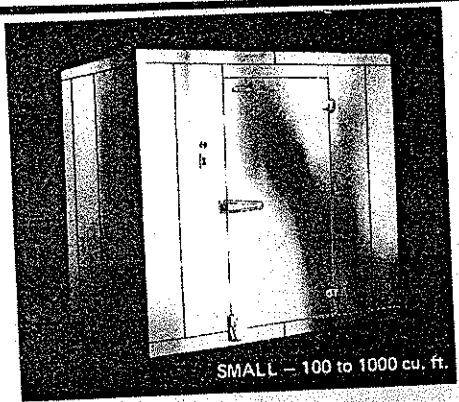
200 lunches served

Almost 200 hundred lunches were served to various business person attending the first state wide seminar on telecommunications. Businesses from all over the state gave contributions and sent representatives to the seminar. (News-Aegis Photo).

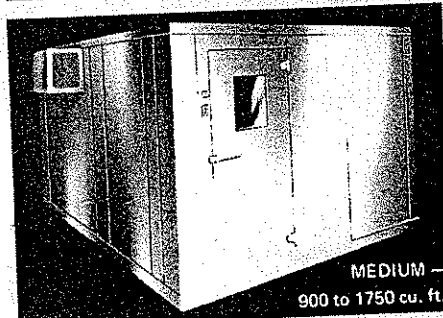
Looking like some busy launch control, the monitoring station in the newly completed fourth floor ICU unit at St. Clair County Hospital enables

tion through telemetry devices. (News-Aegis photo by Wayne Ruple)

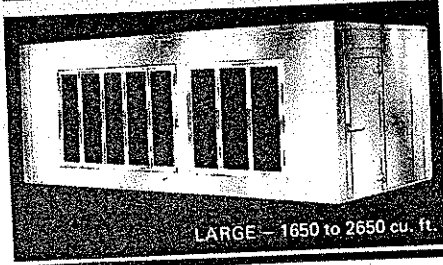
be a ping-pong ball...



SMALL - 100 to 1000 cu. ft.



MEDIUM - 900 to 1750 cu. ft.



LARGE - 1650 to 2650 cu. ft.

Vollrath SINCE 1874
THE VOLLRATH COMPANY - SHEBOYGAN, WIS. ®

Manufacturing
Walk In Cooler/Freezers to fit every need.
...For the large commissary, in-flight kitchen or outside warehouse.

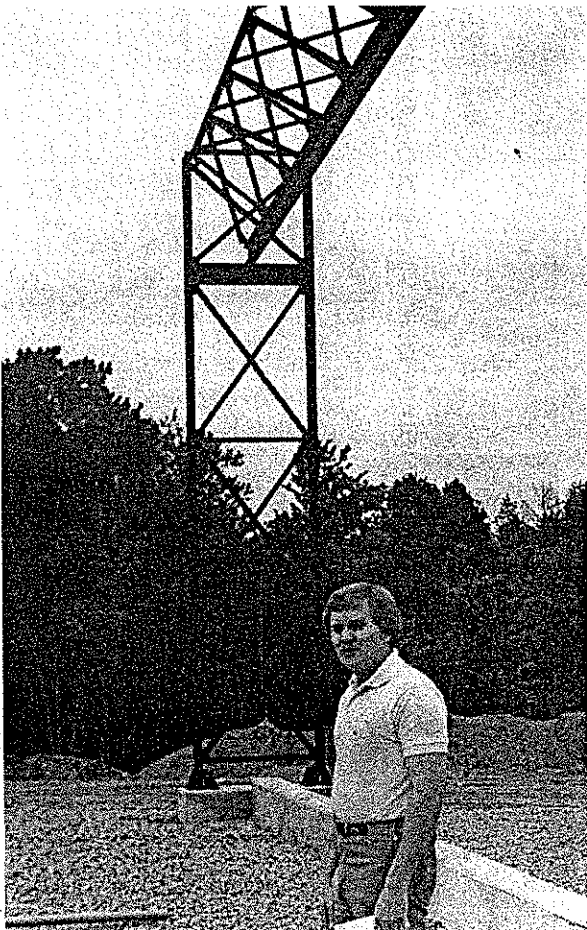
★ Established in Pell City, 1978, covers 84,000 sq ft



We at Vollrath are extremely proud of the progress of this county and the advances of our organization!



Industrial Park Hwy 78 East Pell City



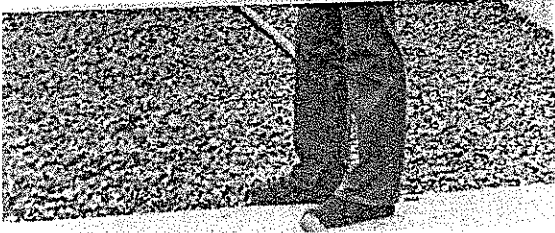
THE PERRYS



**SERVING PELL CITIANS FOR
34 YEARS!**

•SAME OWNERS •SAME LOCATION
•SAME QUALITY CLEANING SERVICE

*Pell City
Cleaners & Laundry*



Steve Roberts shows off crane

Steve Roberts, District Engineer for Alabama Power, shows off the new crane and storage area for the transformers and poles that will be moved to the District Warehouse. With this new addition for Alabama Power, service will be more efficient. (News-Aegis Photo By Karen Hand).

Future (Continued from Page 3)

Also, the new industrial park currently does not have sewage treatment access but a special permit the city has applied for, and, according to Mayor Hugh Williamson, has a good chance of obtaining, will allow for the installation of trunk lines to the new treatment, allowing for growth in the industrial complex.

Dr. McClendon pointed out that St. Clair has two main arteries of growth, the first along Interstate 65 and the latest growth area along Interstate 59.

In addition, the construction and completion of the Coosa-Alabama Waterway System, which may be delayed but McClendon predicts will become a reality, will be the largest single source of growth for the county.

"It will have the greatest impact on growth in St. Clair County and will result in a tremendous amount of development in business and industry as well as tourism and recreation," McClendon said.

He added that the tourism and recreation industry in St. Clair County will continue to grow, not only as a result of the waterway system, but also because of the closeness to the metropolitan areas in surrounding Calhoun, Etowah and Jefferson counties.

McClendon stated he also expects the agricultural and forestry industries in the county to continue on the upward trend.

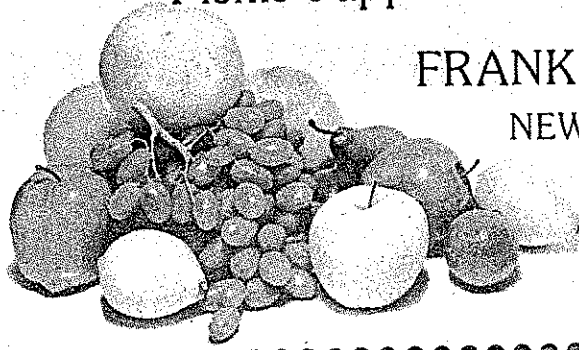
Addressing the amazing growth of Pell City and St. Clair County, Mayor Hugh Williamson stated he "would like to thank all the people involved, not only in Pell City, but throughout the county who have worked towards attracting industry."

The mayor credited the Pell City industrial board, Ed Ash whom he said was instrumental in attracting industry to the area, and realtors across the county who have all worked towards the common goal.

"I shop the fast and easy way at
PELL CITY CURB MARKET!"

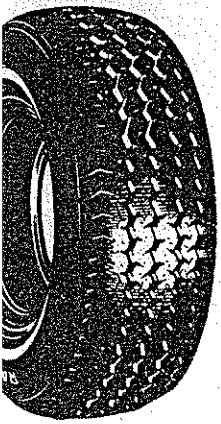


- Fresh Produce & Fruit
- Nuts • Groceries • Cold Beverages
- Picnic Supplies • Ice

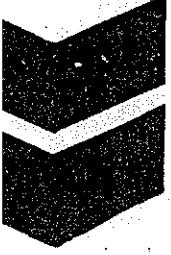


FRANK WALLACE
NEW OWNER

Open 7 Days
a week
Cogswell Ave.
338-9660



ALL • FARM
BUREAU
TIRES
CHEVRON



Thanks For Your Business!

- CHEVRON GASOLINE (By The Gallon) •BRAKE & FRONT END WORK
- AIR CONDITIONING REPAIRS

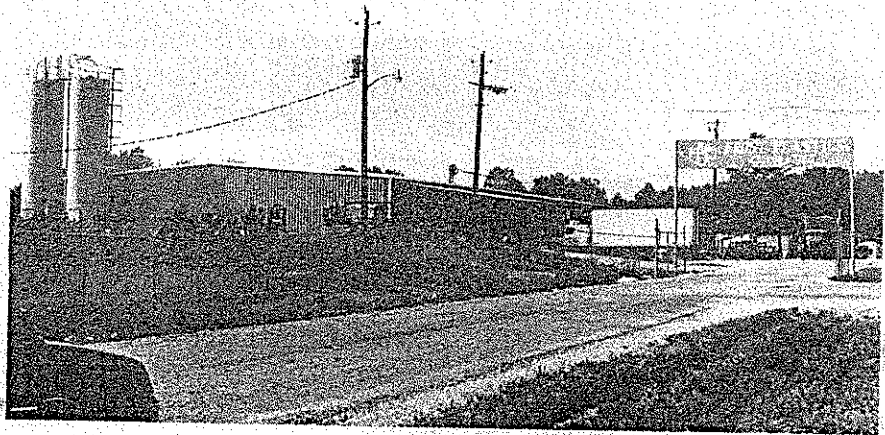
Open 7 Days A Week

JAMES PERRY CHEVRON

James Perry, Owner
Hwy 231 No. Pell City 338-9497

We're Celebrating Our 10th Year In St. Clair County!

We're Proud of Our Growth
with St. Clair County and of
our Employees who made it
possible...



Scott Frost
Bill Turner
Charlie Wolfe
Lester Waldrop
Tim Sutherland
Brenda Smith
Johnny Andrews
Loretta Hill
Don Waldrop
James Carmichael
Sidney Carmichael
George Wade
Wade Sanders
Lenora Gaston
Michael Calhoun
Albert Webb
Chris Nixon
Tony Sutherland
Eddie Webb
Rita Robinson

Carroll Wilson
Charlotte Wilson
Karen Alexander
Ricky George
Larry Clayton
Frank Alverson Jr.

Thomas Moore
Ricky Newton
Frank Thompson
Sandra Frost
Carolyn Berryhill
Janice Dunaway
John Johnson
Betty Frost
Ray Frost
Fred Frost
Jerry Barrows
Jack Satterfield
Jake Frost



Industrial Park
Pell City, AL

FROST PLASTICS CORP.

APC expansion is sign of growth

This past year has brought hopes of a brighter future for both customers and employees of Alabama Power Company as the company

continues expansion and more efficient service in dealing with the growth and needs of the community. During the past year, the

ground was broken for the new crew headquarters which will include gas pumps, storage areas for poles and transformers and service

areas for the trucks. The new headquarters will be located on Highway 78 and construction is expected to be completed in July.

Up until 1977 the Pell City area was serviced by the Alabama Power Company in Talladega but because of the growth in this area, the company made the Pell City area a Sub-District. This Sub-District includes Riverside, Ragland, Cooks Springs and Pell City. Mr. George Williams is the manager of the Sub-District.

Wallace Construction Company, under the supervision of Mr. Bill St. John, is constructing the new facility. A special storage area for the poles and transformers has been constructed with a crane to be used to lift the heavy equipment onto the trucks.

Mr. Steve Roberts is the District Engineer for Alabama Power. Steve has a degree in Electrical Engineering from Auburn University. When the facility is completed, "We will be able to give quicker service to our homes because we will have the warehouse space available for storage", says Steve. "The new building will help in restoring service faster when trouble develops".

With the help of Alabama Power, the Pell City Sub-District will continue experiencing continuous growth and expansion.



Alabama Power constructs warehouse

The Sub-District warehouse for the Alabama Power Company is nearly completion. The warehouse is being constructed to house the crew, pole climbing facility, and gas pumps for the company. In

1977 the Pell City area was made into a Sub-District. (News-Aegis Photo).

NOBODY'S GONNA TREAT YOU BETTER!

At Food Center you get more personalized service... We're your neighbors... We're your friends... And we treat you better that's why we're here today... Because of you, our Customers!



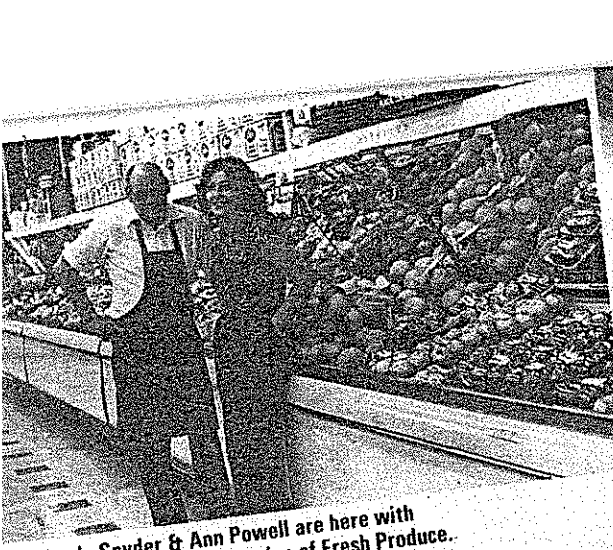
Cogswell Avenue
Pell City



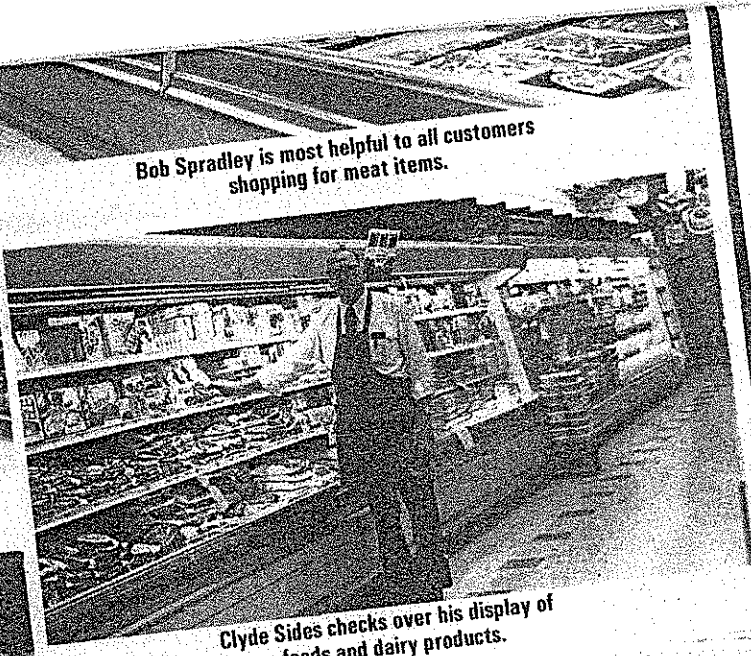
Recently Remodeled Store Front



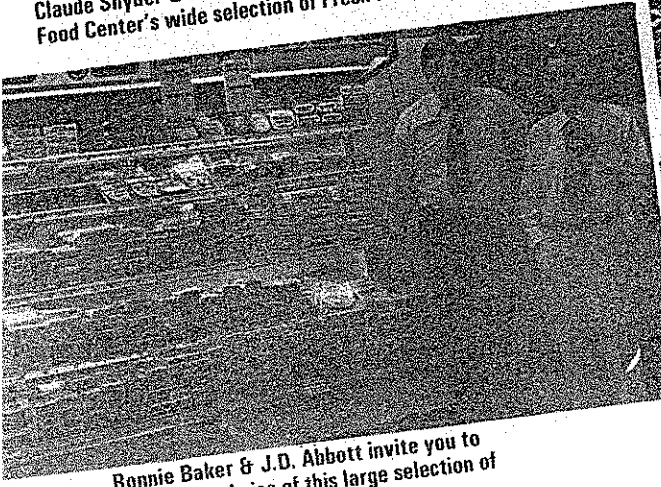
Bob Spradley is most helpful to all customers



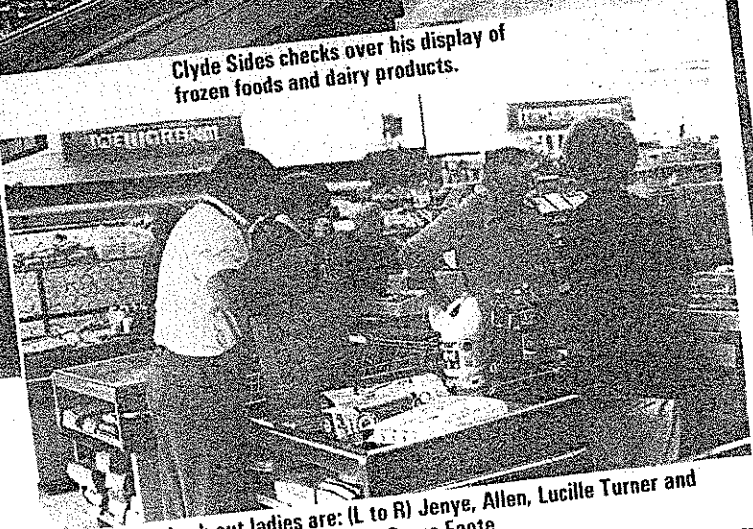
Claude Snyder & Ann Powell are here with Food Center's wide selection of Fresh Produce.



Bob Spradley is most helpful to all customers shopping for meat items.



Ronnie Baker & J.D. Abbott invite you to select your choice of this large selection of cheese.



Clyde Sides checks over his display of frozen foods and dairy products.

Open
Monday-Thursday 8-9
Friday & Saturday 8-10
Sunday 12-6

Home Owned And
Operated By
J.D. & Esther Abbott

The friendly check-out ladies are: (L to R) Jenye, Allen, Lucille Turner and Ella Mae Scott, Professional Sacker - Steve Foote

Ski club finds a home here

BY WAYNE RUPLE
News-Aegis Staffwriter

"One of the best places in the state," is what Lake Logan Martin Water Ski Club president Mike Mosley has to say of Lake Logan Martin.

The club, which has been in existence for 10 years, has found Lake Logan Martin to be an ideal location with plenty of room for tournament skiing.

Boosting some 40 members last summer, the club according to Mosley, has enough people to have some exciting events.

This year the club will sponsor two tournaments.

Mosley explained that in competitive skiing there are three main events - slalom, tricks and jumping.

He pointed out that the Logan Martin sits just off U.S. 78 near

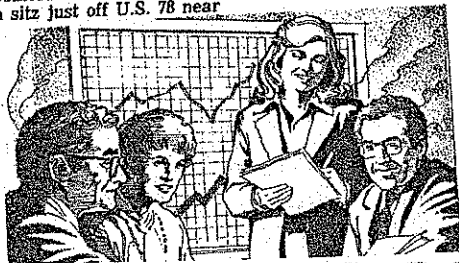
Biverside is an ideal location because motels and restaurants are nearby and the location is near I-20.

He added that the club is constantly trying to improve so they can hold better tournaments.

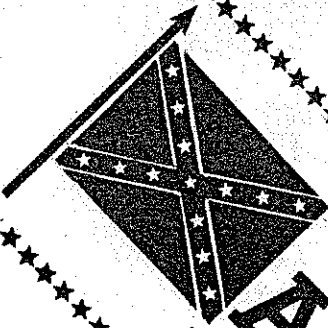

Most of the club members practice their sport during weekends or on weekday afternoons and during the tournaments compete with skiers from all over the southeast.

The upcoming Labor Day Tournament is sanctioned by the American Water Ski Association and in the past has brought together some 118 skiers for the two day event.

Through the tournaments the club is able to raise money for its activities and also by holding ski schools and clinics.



PROGRESS

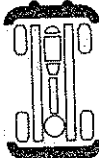



Harold Vaughan, Owner

AUTO DIXIE PARTS

HWY 231 NO PELL CITY * HAROLD VAUGHAN, OWNER * 884-2410

YOUR BUMPER TO BUMPER™



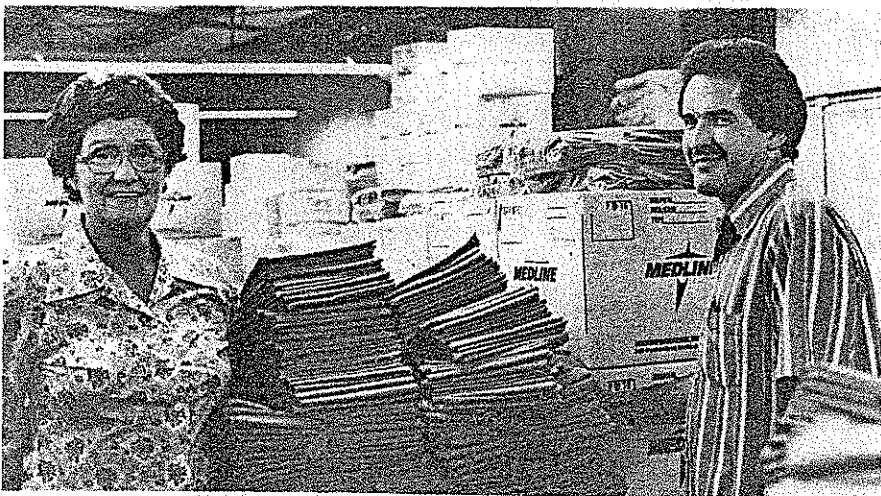
DEALER IN PELL CITY

Tucker Brothers Contracting Co.

P. O. BOX 648 • PELL CITY, ALABAMA 35125



Medline creates 125 new jobs



Product ready for warehouse

Plant Manager, Vesta Clowers checks out the merchandise as it is prepared by Doug Millburn for shipping to the warehouse in Atlanta. The Medline

Industries has three plants that produce hospital gowns and other fabric items for medical use.

Chances are high that if you are ever in the hospital and have to wear one of "those" gowns that is opened at the back, that Medline Industrie made it. The company built their plant here in Pell City just three years ago and the products have become so much in demand that they are

employs 75 people and when the new building is completed, they will employ 200 persons.

Medline Industries manufactures all cloth items used in hospitals, nursing homes, doctors offices and any other medical facility. Their line

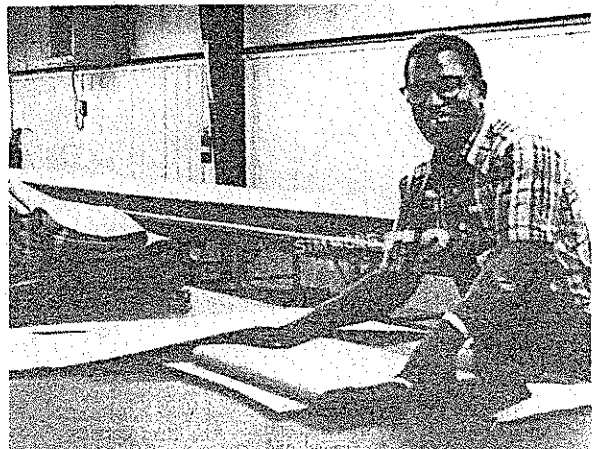
Mrs. Vesta Clowers is the plant manager and she explains, "We started out with only ten machines when we opened on February 6 of 1978". "It is unbelievable how fast this company has grown". There are three such plants, located in other areas of the nation. She

larger sewing area, and two kitchens. One of the kitchens will be used for smokers and the other for non-smokers. Our new area will give us 30,000 square feet".

part of the Medline Industries' "The new addition will be completed and inspected by June and we expect to start hiring at this time".

The new addition will be completed soon. As soon as it is finished, the company will hire additional persons for the day shift and add a second shift. According to Mr. Noel Sterling, vice-president of Medline and preside of Medcrest (which is

At a time when many industries are cutting back and decreasing the number of employees, it is refreshing to know that industries like Medline have placed their confidence in Pell City. Pell City is glad to have a company with expansion on their minds to be located here.



Cutting board expert



Ladies work on hospital linens

The workers at Medline Industries always have plenty to do to keep up with the demands of the growing company. At the present time Medline has 75 workers but with the completion of the addition, they will employ over 200.

Construction of 30,000 sq. ft.

Medline Industries, located in the Pell City Industrial Park, is 99 percent finished with the new 30,000 square feet of additional factory space. The new addition will house warehouse space, sewing areas, two kitchens (one for smokers, one for non-smokers), and a large cutting room. The building will be completed soon.



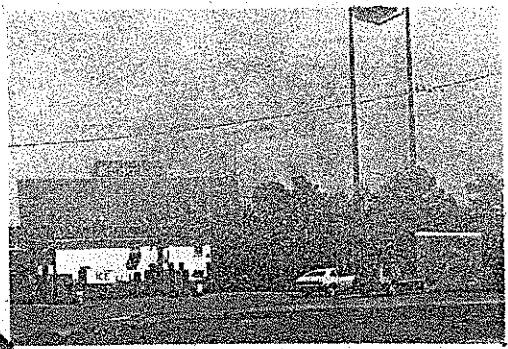
\$25,208,219 creating 470 new jobs. Investment of \$10,000 which



- ✦
- YOUR JOHNSON & CHRYSLER OUTBOARD DEALER
- ☆ PONTON DECKS BOATS
- ☆ RUNABOUTS
- ☆ SKIING & OTHER SPORTING EQUIPMENT

RIVERSIDE MARINA INC

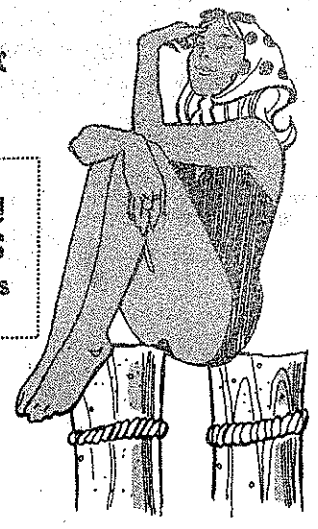
ON LOGAN MARTIN



MARINA FOODMART
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

**OPENING SOON!
CAMPGROUNDS**
•Weekend Cottages
•Camping Areas

Located Hwy 78
Riverside, Al.
338-2291



St. Clair Created In 1818, Taken From Shelby County

Easternmost of the counties in the group participating in this summer's sesquicentennial celebration is St. Clair County, created by the Legislature Nov. 20, 1818 and taken from Shelby County. It was named for Gen. Arthur St. Clair, Revolutionary War soldier.

The act creating St. Clair provided that courts for the time being should be held at the home of Alexander Brown.

Later in its history, St. Clair was given two county seats, one of the few counties in the state having such a setup.

The county seat was located at Ashville, on Big Canon Creek, in the north central part of the county and south-east of Whitney, the nearest railroad station.

This place was first settled in 1818 by John Ashe, who established a plantation there and lived there until his death in 1873. He was a senator in the state's first Legislature and the town was named for him. An Indian town called Catula once was in the present location of Ashville.

Log buildings were used for the courthouse and jail and later the present courthouse and jail buildings were constructed.

A second county seat was established at Pell City because it was difficult for people from the southern part of the county to reach Ashville, the roads crossing a small mountain range.

In 1902 the Legislature set up two judicial divisions in the county but the Supreme Court overruled this bill and it was not until 1907 that a second courthouse was built at Pell City. All this, of course, was before the day of good roads.

Pell City, on the Southern Railway, is an industrial town first incorporated in 1890 by the Pell City Iron and Land Co. The panic of 1893 slowed the town's development until about 1901, when it was acquired by the Pell City Manu-

facturing Co. The town was named for George A. Pell of New York, its original promoter. Original settlers were Green G. Evans, John Truett, Marion Hazlewood and Abner Lacy. Population was 1189 in 1950 and 4165 in 1960.

Riverside, on the Coosa River near the eastern line of the county, has received a shot in the arm from development of Logan Martin Lake by Alabama Power Co. There are many new developments in that area.

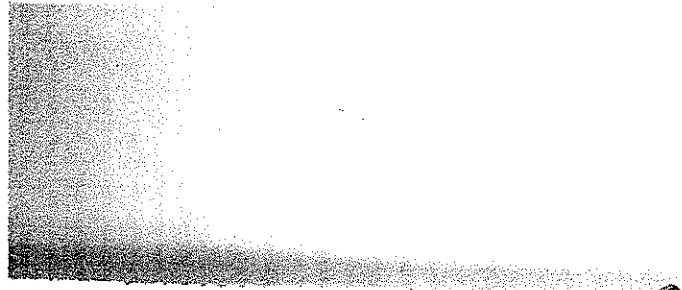
Springville, in the northwestern part of the county not far from Jefferson, was incorporated in 1891.

The county's population in 1960 was 25,388 and its area is 641 square miles.

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD—Saturday, June 28, 1969



Marion Harrison At Pell City, St. Clair County



mmmentar

Editorials and Opinions from Newspaper Writers and Readers

LS

ading to hell

ome more and more com-
; Will'' in which they do-
so that others might have
humanitarian act by those
those people who want to

Argo: Shifting, mo



DOWN HOME
by
Sandra L. Jones

Argo is undergoing a rapid
metamorphosis as progress bangs at

vice was installed and I had already
married and moved away before
Argo finally got its water system.

When I lived there, the business
sector included a couple of
sawmills, a few "Mom and Pop"
grocery stores, and one or two
basement beauty shops. Now Argo
is a bona fide townshp with a
mayor and council, a town hall and
civic center, and one of the largest
volunteer fire departments in the
county. There are grocery stores, a
hardware, a bakery, a restaurant, a
campground and many other busi-

migr
while
peal,
jump
many
On
bough
subdi
there.
her j
withi
with i
five-t

Yes

- Phone Number: (205) 884-2310.
- Fax Number: (205) 884-2312.
- Mailing Address: St. Clair News-Aegis, P.O. Box 748, Pell City, AL 35125.

and include the author's residence address, address and daytime phone number. The number is for verification purposes and will be published.

Letters may be no longer than 300 words

ished every
Pell City,

ary

Writers and Readers

January 21, 1993 2A

g, moving, changing

and I had already
ed away before
water system.
ere, the business
a couple of
"Mom and Pop"
nd one or two
hops. Now Argo
swship with a
a town hall and
ee of the largest
arments in the
grocery stores, a
a restaurant, a
any other busi-

migrating out of Birmingham. And, while it maintains its country appeal, it is only a "hop, skip and a jump" from the city and it offers many of the same conveniences.

One of my co-workers recently bought a home in one of the new subdivisions that have sprung up there. She says that she can be at her job at Medical Center East within 20 minutes. And Trussville, with its many amenities, is only a five- to 10-minute drive away.

Down the hill, an old faded Texaco star guarded the empty lot where my mother's store stood. For some reason, I thought about how excited we all were the day they blacktopped the Margaret Road in front of Leopard's Grocery. I recalled the old coal-burning heater and the interesting congregations of people who gathered there to discuss the issues of those less complicated times.

I tend to get poetic at such moments. That day was no excep-
tion. The words to a Danielle Steele

thor's residence address, mailing
me phone number. The phone
ication purposes and will not be

to longer than 300 words. They

► **Engagement Announcements:** Forms are available at the St. Clair News-Aegis office. Turn in a completed form and a professional or good quality photo of the couple or the bride-to-be.

Name more than fam

Today, May 15, is the 220th wedding anniversary of the marriage of Gen. Arthur St. Clair and Phoebe Bayard of Boston, neice of Massachusetts Gov. James Bowdoin.

As things turned out, that marriage probably was the the only successful, notable and far-reaching episode in the life of Arthur St. Clair, the man for whom St. Clair County, Alabama is named.

The Dictionary of American Biographies says that to Gen. St. Clair's and Miss Bayard's union were born seven children, and that two years after the marriage St. Clair resigned from an Army post as lieutenant and, with 14,000 pounds sterling from the Bowdoin estate, plus some of his own money, purchased 4,000 acres in Ligonier Valley in western Pennsylvania.

However, beyond that affluence Gen. Arthur St. Clair is biographed as a man who met rebuff at every turn, who always seemed to bet on the wrong horse, who espoused the wrong causes and whose political thinking and military prowess was, as Thoreau may have put it, "paced to a different drummer."

Given a host of opportunities to emblazon himself upon the pages of history as one of its most prominent figures in this country's early crucibles, he somehow never managed to achieve stature in a positive way.

It smacks of irony that, as far as research can determine, Gen. Arthur St. Clair never ventured

further south than what is now the State of Indiana. If he did, it was not, apparently deemed worthy of historical record. Yet, there are four states, that have counties bearing the St. Clair name: Illinois (285,119) Michigan (120,175), Missouri (7,667), and Alabama (27,000). All figures are 1970 census. Whether the other St. Clairs are for the same man is undeterminable at this point.

The Dictionary of American Biographies gives his birth and death dates as March 23, 1736 and Aug. 31, 1818. However, one source indicates the man died only a few weeks after St. Clair County was named for him, an act by the Alabama Territorial Legislature in November, 1818.

Born in Thurso, Caithness County, Scotland, Arthur St. Clair's parentage has been subjected to some question. Some believed him the son of James St. Clair, a French army officer and of barony lineage; but more probably his father was William Sinclair, a merchant, and the grandson of James St. Clair, which would still give Arthur St. Clair some claim to nobility.

Establishing an early pattern of indcisive accomplishment, young St. Clair took one incompletd term at the University of Edinburgh, and followed that with an unsuccessful apprenticeship under noted London anatomist, William Hunter.

At age 21, he entered the British Army as an ensign and served with the famed British military

tactician, Canada. It married later for his Pennsylvania

Because I resident pro the Alleg Governor W St. Clair a government probably wa St. Clair beg political as the formal Westmorela also became

St. Clair extend the substance of the Pittsbu same time, John Conn militia, and, 1774, justice Western Virginia. attempting form, but Virginian (region as St.

St. Clair stopping Virginia in Connolly's force and go to the Virgi garrisoned the British for surveyin Kentucky c

Although planned it a support fro

an fame is remembered

at is now he did, it deemed ord. Yet, hat have St. Clair Michigan 67), and ures are other St. man is int.

merican irth and 1736 and e source ly a few nty was by the islatute

itness ur St. i been a. Some mes St. cer and more William nd the Clair, hur St. y.

attern hment, t one t the l, and h an eeship omist,

British served ilitary

tactician, Gen. Amhurst in Canada. It was in 1760 that he married Phoebe Bayard' resigned the Army two years later for his holdings in western Pennsylvania.

Because he was the largest resident property owner west of the Allegheny Mountains, Governor William Penn named St. Clair agent of the colonial government in that frontier. It probably was in this position that St. Clair began to feel the tug of political aspirations, since, with the formation of the large Westmoreland County in 1773, he also became justice of its courts.

St. Clair made some effort to extend the form, but not the substance of his government into the Pittsburgh area, but, at the same time, met head-on with John Connolly, captain of the militia, and, after its formation in 1774, justice of the district of Western Augusta County, Virginia. Connolly was attempting to spread not only the form, but the substance of Virginian control in the same region as St. Clair.

St. Clair was unsuccessful in stopping Connolly and the Virginia influence, because of Connolly's superior military force and greater popular appeal to the Virginians, who rebuilt and garrisoned the fort abandoned by the British in 1772 and prepared for surveying and occupying the Kentucky country.

Although he may not have planned it as such, St. Clair drew support from fur traders and the

Shawnees in his refusal to cooperate with the Virginian effort, a bit of fortune which probably saved Pennsylvania from the vengeance of the tribe in Dunsmore's War of 1774. He also favored rewarding the Delaware tribe for their neutrality, but acquiesced when Gov. Penn and the legislature established and garrisoned a trading post at Kittanning, in Indian territory.

As the Revolutionary War took form, St. Clair again found himself relegated to a secondary position. As a member of the Committee of Safety for Westmoreland County, he still could not extend Pennsylvania control over the Pittsburgh area, so Virginia sent John Neville in to occupy the fort, and, as Virginia's commissioner, to handle most of the financial burdens and diplomatic manipulations of the treaty of Pittsburgh in 1775, by which the outstanding issues of Dunsmore's War were settled.

While Neville negotiated and ran things, St. Clair sat by as insignificant secretary to the commissioners of the continental congress.

In 1775 he was commissioned a Colonel and sent to take part in the American Army's retreat from Canada. Promoted to Brigadier General, he was with General George Washington at the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and, in the Spring of 1777, he was ordered to defend Ft. Ticonderoga, which was popularly considered

impregnable.

However, again the black cloud of malfeasance hung over Arthur St. Clair. Against Gen. Burgoyne he evacuated the fort, to such public dismay that Congress called him from the field of service. His actions were exonerated in a Courts Martial in 1778, but for the rest of the War he was not given responsible positions.

Politics lured him back into civilian life, where, in Pennsylvania he took an anti-constitutionalist position. In 1783 Arthur St. Clair unsuccessfully opposed the 1776 constitution and wrote a committee's majority report condemning it. He was, subsequently, elected a Pennsylvania delegate to the Constitutional Congress, and served as its president one year, 1787. With creation of the vast Northwest Territory, he was appointed that region's governor until 1802.

As director of Indian affairs, St. Clair's defense of certain governmental Indian treaties fostered the wrath of several tribes. As a Major General, on Nov. 4, 1791, St. Clair was surprised and soundly defeated on a branch of the Wabash River about a day's march from Ft. Wayne. The victors were the Miami and Little Turtle tribes, inferior in numbers and weapons and believed to be of little threat in the territory.

This, and subsequent actions of incompetence were forgiven by

(See St. Clair page 19)

St. Clair

(Continued from page 18)

General Washington and a committee of the House of Representatives, but St. Clair resigned from the military again and continued as governor of the Northwest Territory. Needless to say, his political aspirations were checked.

He continued to object to decentralization of local control in the territory and opposed statehood so strongly that he sought to gerrymander the land into small portions to postpone statehood indefinitely.

At the turn of the 19th Century, Jeffersonian politicians took after St. Clair to remove him from his governorship and create the state of Ohio. They created the state, but could not eradicate St. Clair. That came a year later when, at the constitutional convention of 1802, St. Clair denounced as null and void the creation of Ohio.

Thomas Jefferson booted him.

Like Andrew Jackson, St. Clair also had a Hermitage, the home to which he retired near Ligonier, Pa. There he built an iron furnace to cast stoves and castings.

Said to be a generous lender and one who signed promissory

notes for friends, he spent himself dry and, when the government failed to repay money he had spent in service to it in the northwest territory, he lost his fortune and fell into chill penury.

In 1812 he published "A Narrative of the 1791 Campaign..." and tried to explain his actions therein. His last years were poverty ridden and he died in a log cabin on Chestnut Ridge.

Who proposed the name St. Clair for the new north-central Alabama county in 1818 is not known. There is speculation that the man's death only three months prior did not reach southern ears until about the time of the 1818 convention and was fresh "news" at the time a name was being considered.

Too, it is possible that, with primitive communications of the era, full news of the man's unsuccessful political and military episodes was not widespread.

Yet, how he came to be known in the deep south as a man worthy of historic immortality is still an unsolvable and, at times, perplexing enigma.

Airport

(Continued from page 5)

air service available in St. Clair County if it wanted to locate here, let their mind be put at rest.

For business or pleasure—for access to the lake and golf resorts, boating, fishing, or to the envy of industrial southern cities, St. Clair County Airport and Jolley Air Service are more than

just a little country airport. Jolley As Dale says: "We'd just like for folks to drop out some afternoon and chat, look around, enjoy themselves."

You don't find that kind of hospitality in just any airport in the south.

Teaching Center.

According to the 1960 figures, St. Clair County ranks 28th among Alabama counties in the media level completed and population of 25 and older.

Special government-sponsored programs are offered in County schools as they are in others which afford students the better learning. Remedial reading programs, special post year testing, vocational training, education, head-start (in the county), and a Development Center is located at Edens Elementary School.

Sports programs are offered in all county schools, with the teams being represented annually in state competitions.

Two years ago Peaches reached the state playoff football, and this year Springville High was runner up in the A championships in basketball as were the girls from Rockledge. Springville captured several places in track competition.

Withal, any student in

Leader

(Continued from page 5)
performed counter announced an investment of \$6,000.

The Rainbow City and Ragland Brick Company producers of building brick announced expansion, but their capital investment is confidential.

All the above are in St. Clair County and provided a year for the county.

For new prospects-

Industrial development

The St. Clair County Industrial Development Committee was formed to promote industry and develop trade in the county by inducing manufacturing, industrial and commercial enterprises to locate in St. Clair.

The organization, according to bylaws of the committee, also promotes the use of the manufactured or agricultural products and natural resources of St. Clair County.

The Industrial Development Committee exists to assist any city or town to acquire property for industrial development and promotion of the same.

St. Clair is unique in that all communities are brought together by this committee or the St. Clair County Resource Development Committee and an exchange of ideas results in every one helping each other.

It is not uncommon for an industrial developer from one community to run across a prospect looking for certain aspects in relocating that another community might have to offer.

While other counties have come close to matching the advantages offered by St. Clair, yet haven't done as well in industrial

development.

An example of the hard-working industrial development success is here in Pell City with the industrial development board under chairman Barnett Lawley and the Chamber of Commerce industrial committee chairman Ed Ash.

Both as well as other board members have spent many long, hard hours in searching for the right industry for Pell City and the county. It is not uncommon for these two men and others to leave their personal jobs to travel out-of-state (or out-of-the-country) in search of industry.

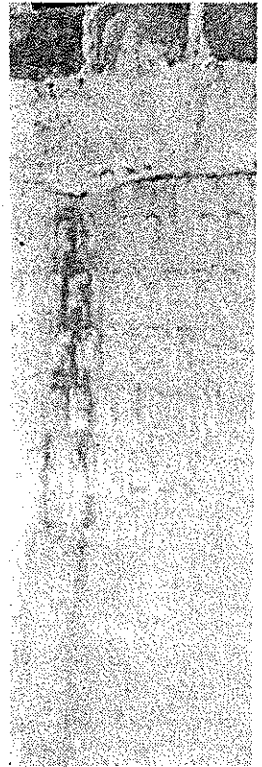
One reason St. Clair's growth has been great is because of the spirit of cooperation existing here.

"From the beginning we have tried to work together in selling prospects on what we have here in the county," Ash once commented. "If Pell City hasn't got what they want, then we tell them about other parts of the county. Everybody benefits no matter where a plant locates in the county."

Dr. James McClendon, chairman of the St. Clair County Commission, also was quoted as stating similar remarks: "We have tried to co-ordinate the industrial development program

into a countywide effort than have cities compete. If they have worked, they have worked. I think the record shows this has worked."

An illustration of the



Like the above picture, the St. Clair County High School, etc. to industrial development.

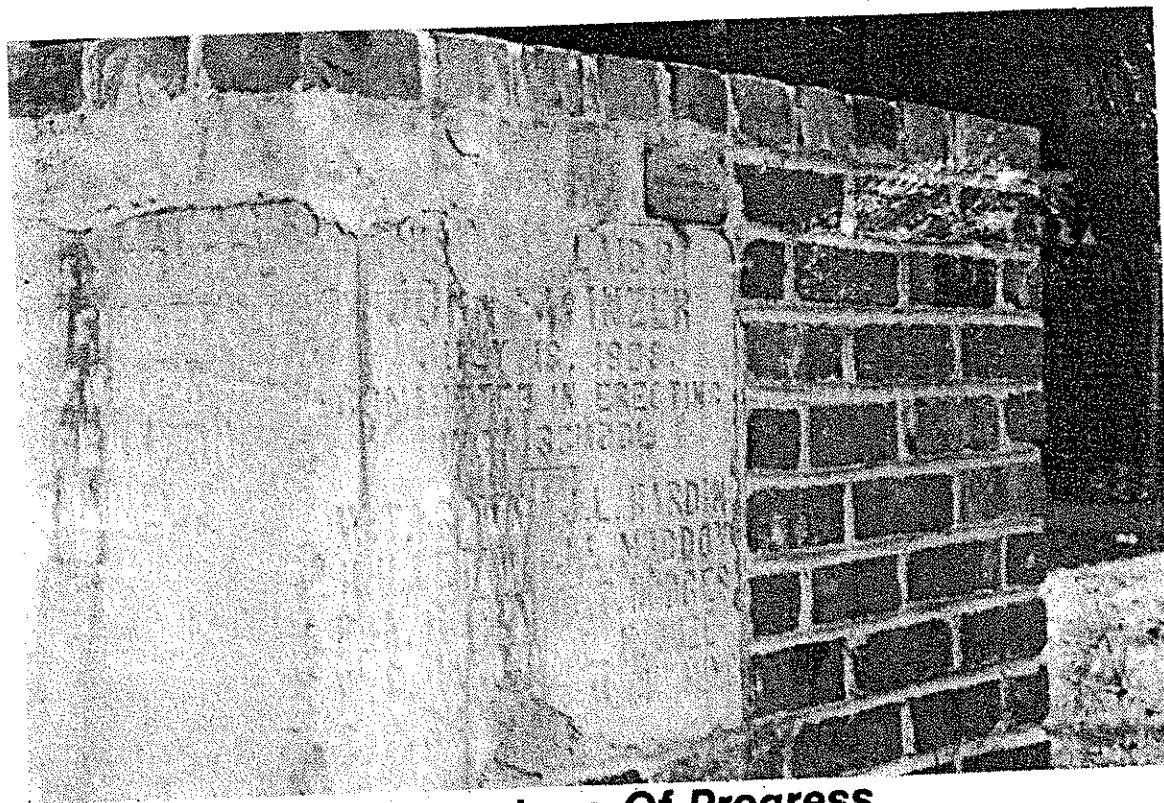
ment committee searching

into a countywide effort. Rather than have cities competing against each other, they have worked together. I think the record shows how well this has worked."

An illustration of this was last

summer's industrial development seminar held for local community leaders in Odenville, and under the sponsorship of the resource development committee.

Leaders from all over St. Clair County were able to listen to authorities in the development field during the day-long seminar, which was termed a success by those attending.



Cornerstone Of Progress

Like the above pictured connerstone at St. Clair County High School, education is a key connerstone to industrial development and progress of a com-

munity. And community support of education is just as vital.

Farming is an old-time industry

"St. Clair County's agriculture is big. An annual \$24 million gross farm income makes it so. But it must get bigger. Pressures are building at home and around the world for more food and fiber. The county needs the economic boost that will flow from a more dynamic and more fully productive agricultural industry."

Those were the words used in the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service's "Impact '80" a report which sets goals for St. Clair County's major farm commodities and suggests ways these objectives might be achieved by 1980.

According to the Alabama Farm Income 1978-79 preliminary report by the Alabama Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, all forms of farm production were up with the exception of milk and egg production in St. Clair County.

According to the report, St. Clair County was 24th out of 67 counties in the state in agricultural cash income for all farm commodities.

All livestock and poultry cash income for 1979 was \$17,550,000 as compared to \$16,820,000 in 1978. All crops' income was at \$13,655,000 for 1979 as opposed to \$9,996,000 the year before for a gain of nearly four million.

This places cash income for all farm commodities at \$31,205,000, up five million over the year before and up seven million dollars over 1977.

Government payments to St. Clair County farmers were \$93,000, according to the report.

In a breakdown of farm income, it was reported that \$3,053,000 was paid in non-farm, commercial timber in 1979, showing a dramatic increase from \$744,000 in 1978. Total cash for agricultural income was up to \$34,258,000 from \$27,653,000 over 1978.

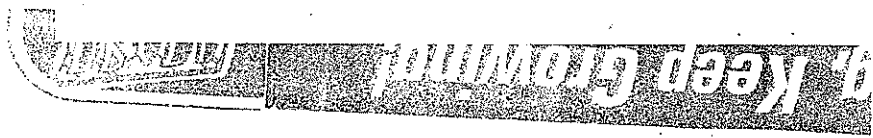
Cash receipts from farm marketings of cattle calves was up \$4,145,000 in 1979 from \$4,042,000 in 1978. Hogs were up only from \$478,000 in 1978 to \$552,000 in 1979. Milk sales were down \$31,000 over the year before.

Cash receipts for broilers was up a little over a million dollars over the previous year while egg sales had dropped nearly \$700,000 from the year before.

On farm crops, wheat sales increased from \$8,000 to \$29,000; corn \$38,000 to \$106,000; and hay stayed the same at \$128,000 both years.

Soybean cash receipts were up \$420,000 over \$389,000 the year before; other crops increased (See Farming page 17)

Progress Edition May 15 1980



Forman

(Continued from page 16)

Forman of Springville and James L. (Onc) Forman of Birmingham. She had two great nieces, Beth Windham and Pam Forman and a great nephew, Lewis Windham of Springville. For those of us in her family, we will remember her fondly as "Auntee" and - for those who knew her in St. Clair County, she will be remembered as "Miss Margaret."

Farming

(Continued from page 7)

from \$26,000 to \$128,000; fruits, vegetables, nuts, greenhouse and nursery sales increased from \$9,122,000 to \$11,675,000 and farm forest products increased from \$285,000 to \$1,169,000.

Total cash receipts from sales of timber products by forest land ownership was listed at \$4,222,000 for 1979.

FORWARD WITH



PROGRESS

Cl
cl:

St. Clair News Aegis
Feb. 14, 1980

St. Clair again state

BY MIKE MOSER
News-Aegis Editor

St. Clair County in recent years has boasted of being one of the fastest growing counties in the state and once again statistics released by the Alabama Development Office have confirmed St. Clair's leadership in industrial growth.

Only Jefferson (Birmingham), Marshall (Sand Mountain area) and Madison (Huntsville) counties reported more new industries than St. Clair while Montgomery, Mobile and Barbour reported the same.

Four new industries the ADO office reported for St. Clair this past year included one plant for Ashville and Steele and two plants for Pell City.

Alabama Feed Products, Inc., a feed ingredients plant has announced for the

Steele community with a capital investment of \$4.5 million and will employ 30 persons when in operation.

Ashville gained Calvert and Marsh Coal Company, Inc. which will locate a coal washer near Whitney Jet. with a capital investment of \$7 million and 50 employees.

The two Pell City plants are Dowzer Electric which produces oil-filled transformers. Dowzer recently celebrated their open house and had a capital investment of \$1 million and employs 100 persons.

The other plant lined up for Pell City during the past year is Deerfield Manufacturing Company, a producer of compressor housings. Initial capital investment is expected to be \$4 million and the plant will employ 100 persons. This plant has not opened yet.

Total new capital investment in new industry reached \$10 million in St. Clair with 280 new jobs added to the local labor force.

Expansion was also reported over the past year with \$10 million invested and a creation of 280 jobs from 16 existing locations. This brings a total of \$10 million in investments and 382 new jobs.

Pell City industries expanded. Blue Giant Equipment producers of materials investment and new jobs. Brekle Research and Development Company, automotives, investment in one new job, and Frost polyethylene and PVC investment and 20 new jobs.

Also, Medline Indust

te industrial leader

ew capital investment from
try reached \$16,500,000 for St.
1,280 new jobs created for the
r force.

ion was also big in St. Clair
past year with \$2,301,357 being
and a creation of 102 addition
n 16 existing local industries.
gs a total of \$18,801,357 in in-
s and 382 new jobs.

ly industries expanding includ-
Giant Equipment Company,
s of materials equipment, in-
and new jobs kept confiden-
ekle Research and Develop-
mpany, automatic production
s, investment of \$25,000 and
job; and Frost Plastics Corp.,
ene and PVC pipe, \$300,000 in-
t and 20 new jobs.

Medline Industries, producers

of hospital garments, \$5,000 investment
and 30 new jobs; Prairie Tank and Con-
struction Company, storage tanks,
\$750,000 investment and 15 new jobs;
and Riverside Clay Co., Inc., clay
refractory, \$458,000 investment.

And, Superior Utility Products, Inc.,
producers of municipal water pipe fit-
tings, \$250,000 investment and 25 new
employees; and Vollrath Refrigeration,
Inc., producers of walk-in freezers and
coolers, \$97,400 investment.

Baldwin Aluminum Foundry Com-
pany, Inc. of Ashville, producers of cast
aluminum, made a capital investment
of \$7,000 and created two new jobs.

Springville firms expanding included
Birmingham Manufacturing Co., Inc.,
producers of truck trailers; Buckner
Barrel and Drum Co., reconditioning of
steel drums, a \$30,000 investment and

one new position; and Mary Louise
Manufacturing Co., Inc., producer of
children's dresses, a capital investment
of \$5,125.

Energy Savings Products, Inc., of
Odenville, producers of aluminum
storm doors, announced a capital in-
vestment of \$17,832.

Leeds firm Olympia Molded Products
Inc., producers of custom molded
plastics, announced an investment of
\$350,000 and eight new jobs; and Topp,
Inc., producers of preformed counter-
tops, announced an investment of
\$6,000.

The Rainbow City firm of Ragland
Brick Co., Inc., producers of building
brick, also announced expansion, but
kept their capital investment confiden-
tial.

School system is in

One sure gauge of progress, and the potential for future growth, expansion of lifestyle and enhancement of economic prowess, is the educational stamina of any town, city, county, state or nation.

St. Clair County has long been a forerunner in providing exceptional educational opportunities for its young and the very physical location of St. Clair enables those beyond the years of required formal education to continue the learning process.

Even on the state level, St. Clair has had the distinction of affording no less than five men to serve as Alabama Superintendents of Education.

According to county historian, Mrs. Mattie Lou Teague Crow, Franklin Leroy Box of Trout Creek (now Ragland), was the second native-born Alabamian and the tenth man to hold that office. He took the job in 1876 after serving as county superintendent for a term before the Civil War, and, immediately after the War a second term.

Following Box, the second St. Clair Countian to come to the State Superintendent of Education's office was John O. Turner, who made his brother-in-law, J. L. Forman, his deputy.

Probably one of the better known State Superintendents was John W. Abercrombie, born at Kelly's Creek and inaugurated into the state job in 1898, where he worked until 1902, when he was tapped as president of the University of Alabama, where, several years later, a residence hall was named in his honor.

Although not a resident of St. Clair, Issac Hill lived and taught in the county for many years before succeeding Abercrombie in 1903 until 1907.

Henry J. Willingham came to the education post in 1911 and

and classified as the state's largest 3-A institution. Two-A classifications are given to Ashville High, Springville, and St. Clair County High at Odenville, and Ragland High is classed as 1-A.

Moody High School, with a beginning as a Jr. High, will next year boast its first senior class, and is located in one of the fastest growing areas of the county.

Other schools in the county are Ashville Middle, Chandler Mountain, Coal City, Coosa

A to afford classr curren annua \$800,00 the not locale Since pupil fi risen, steady Clair State fi per pu



Valley, Duran Jr. High, Eden Elementary, Pell City Intermediate, Iola Roberts, Steele Jr. High and John Pope Eden Vocational School at Ashville.

John Pope Eden is a vocational center whereby students from all

John W. Abercrombie, born at Kelly's Creek and inaugurated into the state job in 1898, where he worked until 1902, when he was tapped as president of the University of Alabama, where, several years later, a residence hall was named in his honor.

Although not a resident of St. Clair, Issac Hill lived and taught in the county for many years before succeeding Abercrombie in 1903 until 1907.

Henry J. Willingham came to the education post in 1911 and remained until 1914, making the fifth man from St. Clair to serve Alabama education ranks, with each contributing innovations to school administration, teacher improvement, betterment in learning and laying foundations upon which future education leaders could build with little trouble.

Today, St. Clair County affords her residents six high schools with a total enrollment in grades 7-12 of almost 4,000. In grades 10-12 there are 1,700 students.

Pell City High School is the largest in the county, having almost 700 students in grades 10-12

Valley, Duran Jr. High, Eden Elementary, Pell City Intermediate, Iola Roberts, Steele Jr. High and John Pope Eden Vocational School at Ashville.

John Pope Eden is a vocational center whereby students from all county high schools may, by free transportation attend during their regular school day to take commercial and vocational courses for future job preparation.

All high schools are accredited, except Moody High, which will make application for accreditation when it reaches full high school status.

There are no city school systems in St. Clair County. The system is administered by the County Board of Education and is superintended by J. W. Richey. The five-man board is elected county wide, as is the superintendent.



•Robert B. Clerk Robt

Education is important to progress

ed as the state's institution. Two-A s are given to y, Springville, and County High at l Ragland High is

1 School, with a Jr. High, will next first senior class, n one of the fastest of the county. in the county are ldle, Chandler al City, Coosa

A total budget of \$9.343 million affords some 68 per cent to classroom instruction for the current year. County local effort annually amounts to almost \$800,000, and is two mills above the now state-required 10 per cent local effort.

Since 1971, the expenditure per pupil for day school activities has risen, rightly so in view of the steady influx of residents in St. Clair from surrounding areas. State figures show that in 1971 the per pupil daily expenditure was

not quite \$5. By 1975 it had risen to \$6.02 and five years later was at \$6.12.

County residents wishing to continue education beyond the required 12 grades will have little trouble finding two and four-year institutions within easy driving distance.

In neighboring Etowah County there are two technical colleges and institutions, one four-year college and a two-year college. In east-neighbor Calhoun (Anniston) there is a technical

college and a four-year institution. South in Talladega County is a four-year and a technical college.

But the largest benefit to St. Clair post-high school aspirations are the institutions in western Jefferson County.

An hour's drive at the most from any of them, there are six four-year colleges, three two-year institutions and three technical colleges, including the University of Alabama Medical at Birmingham. (See School page 19)



Ragland School

High, Eden
Pell City
a Roberts,
l John Pope
School at

a vocational
nts from all

HERE'S TO

St. Clair features four hi

The districts of Cropwell, Springville, Ashville, and St. Clair Springs are listed in the National Historical Records because of the historical value of the districts. Because these are listed on the National Records, the St. Clair County Architectural Review Board has prepared a code that must be used when renovations or new structures are added to the areas.

Mr. Frank Watson, Chairman of the Review Board states, "The duty of the Board is to approve or disapprove plans for buildings to be erected or renovated which are within the St. Clair Historic Districts."

Watson continues, "The idea is to maintain the historic or distinctive character of these districts. Buildings being renovated should be kept in the same architectural design as the original with new structures compatible with those already in the district. New buildings are not restricted to any architectural style, but size, height, roof lines, placement of doors and windows, and textures should be in relations with older structures."

The Board code is as follows: The owner of property in a St. Clair County Historic shall submit in duplicate, to the St. Clair County Commission proposed plans for any alteration, renovation, additions and/or demolition of an existing building, and/or for locating or relocating a building within the District for approval. As used (See Historical Page 4)



Mays-Silas Home

features four historical districts



Mays-Silas Home

The Mays family arrived in the area in 1819 settling in the area now called Mays Bend. The home was built in Cropwell in 1905 and was later purchase by the Silas family.

Article continued on back

Historical districts

(Continued from page 3)



Jones-Morton Home

within, plans shall mean drawings, sketches with sufficient details to show, as far as they relate to exterior appearance, the architectural design the buildings including proposed materials, textures, plantings, accessory buildings, signs, lights, and other appendages. The Commission shall forward plans to the Architectural Review Board. The Commission shall inform the Board of the District and the boundaries thereof.

The Board shall promptly review such plans and shall

render its decision in writing to the Commission. A negative decision must be accompanied by recommendations.

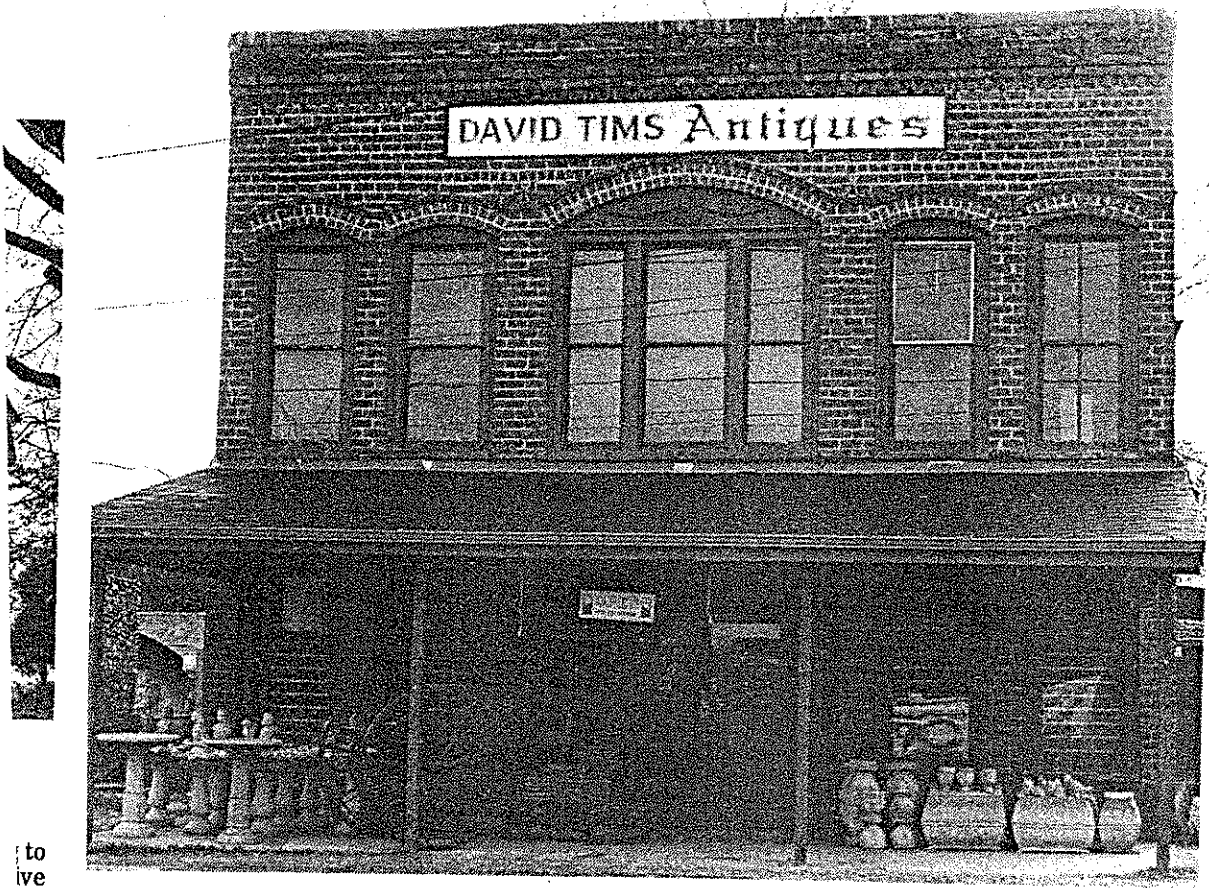
Upon receiving the order of the Board, the Commission shall there upon notify the owner of the decision of the Board along with any recommendations for changes necessary to be made before the Board will reconsider the plans.

If no action upon plans submitted to the Board has been taken at the expiration of sixty days from the date of the submission to the Commission,

Built in
Building i
Tims Anti
taken from

such plan
have been

In appn
shall con
and appe
including
roof, ma



Jones, Robinson, Tims Building

Built in the late 1800's, the Jones, Robinson, Tims Building is still standing and is the home of David Tims Antiques. The building was built from wood taken from the Mays home place and all the shelv-

ing was built with notches so that it could be moved as needed. The office was enclosed with wrought iron and had an open fireplace.

to
ive
ied

he
all
he
ith
or
de
er

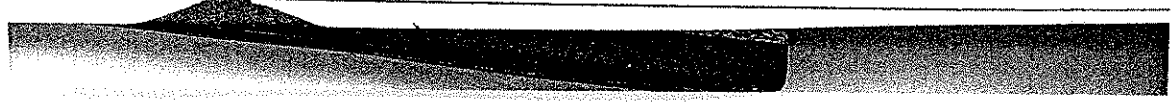
as
in
y
le
s,

such plans shall be deemed to have been approved.
In approving plans, the Board shall consider exterior designs and appearance of the building, including the front, sides, rear, roof, materials, texture and

colors, plot plan, site layout, including signs, and other appendages; and relation of the building to immediate surroundings and to the Historical Districts in which it is located or to be located. The term

"exterior" shall be deemed to include all of the outer surfaces of the building, and is not restricted to public those exteriors visible from a Street or place. The Board

(See Historical Page 5)



Historical districts

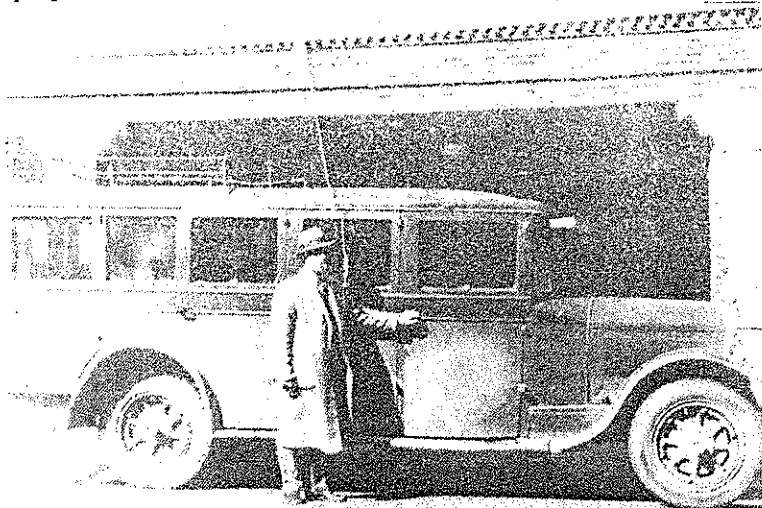
(Continued from page 4)

shall not consider interior design or plan, it shall not impose any architectural style, traditional or modern, as a condition precedent to approval. The Board shall not exercise any control over land use or over construction.

Before approving the plans for any proposed building located or to be located in a Historic District the Board shall find; In the case of a proposed alteration or addition to an existing building, that such alteration or addition will not materially impair the architectural or historic value of the building. In the case of a proposed new building' that such

building will, not, in itself or by reason of its location on the site, materially impair the architectural or historic value of buildings or adjacent sites or in the immediate vicinity. In the case of a proposed building, that such building will not be visual injurious to the general character of the District in which it is to be located' In the case of the proposed new demolition of an existing building, that the removal of such building will not be detrimental to the architectural and historic character of the District' The

(See Historical Page 7)



Margaret to Birmingham, 1929

Mr. Albert Glidewell is pictured here with his pride and joy 'A 1929 Reo bus that made trips from the community mines in Margaret to Birmingham. Mr. W.E. Glidewell, son of Albert, remembers his father bringing this bus home for the first time. (Photo Courtesy of Mr. W.E. Glidewell).



4 LO
TO SE

Ashvill

Birmingham ✓

Leeds

ALL ROADS
LEAD TO
THE GREAT
VALUES AT



With I
YOU

Historical districts (Continued from page 5)

Board may issue an order of postponement of demolition for a period of not to exceed six months' If the Board concludes that the demolition should be postponed, it shall afford an opportunity to appear before the Board to offer any evidence they may desire to present concerning the proposed order. Within the period of postponement, the Board shall consult with the St. Clair County Commission, the St. Clair County Historic Development Commission, and others to ascertain what these

organizations may do to preserve such architecturally and historically valuable building and shall make recommendations to that effect to the Commission'

When planning to restore, demolish, or add a new building to Springville, Cropwell, Ashville, or St. Clair Springs, care should be taken that all codes and restrictions be followed. The battle to preserve the past for future generations depends upon each and everyone of us.



Montgomery-Edins-Scott home

The Montgomery, Edins, Scott home was built in 1886 by Mrs' Bettie Montgomery and was later purchased by Mr' and Mrs' Carl Edins' In 1970 the Scotts bought the home and restored it' It was later recorded by the Nation Historical Society.



Neva
high q

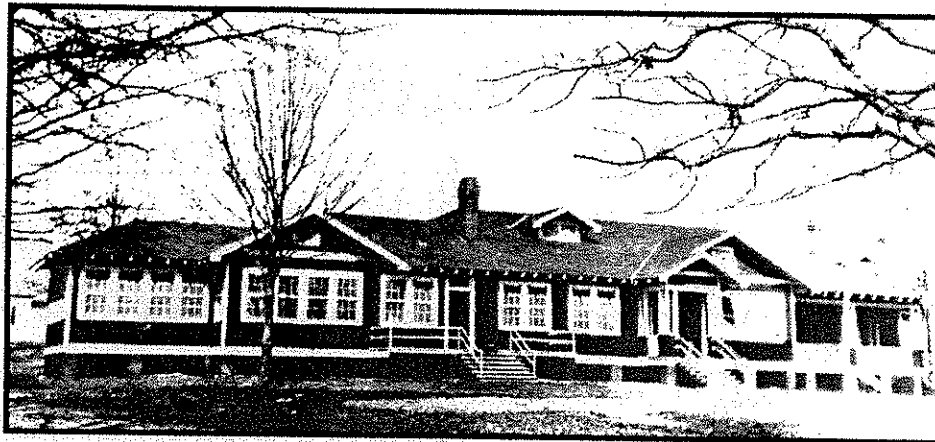
*Port
Speal
Style
*Nic

Dw
CR

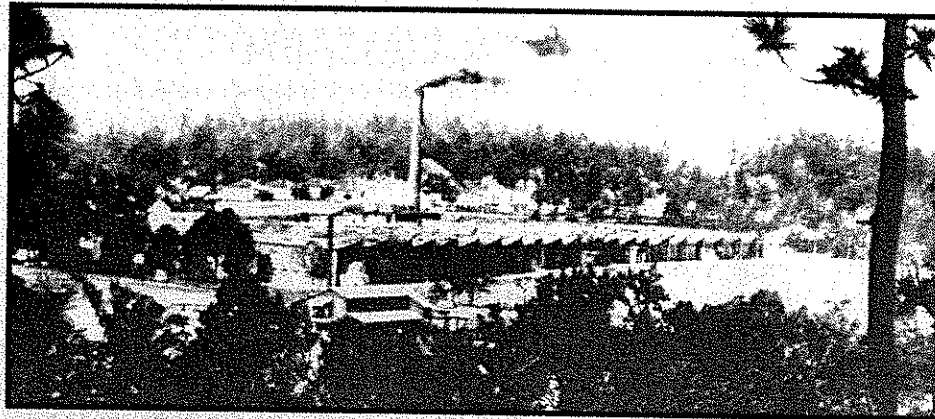




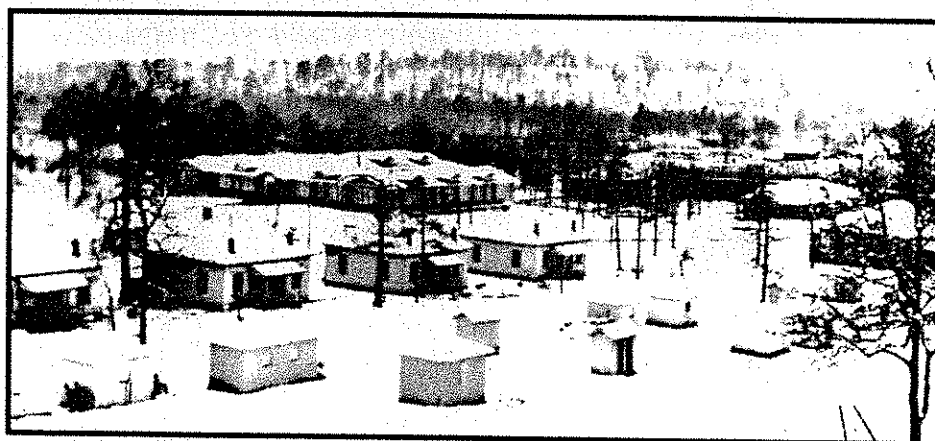
This fountain stood in the small triangle park on Comer Avenue, just across from the Avondale Mills entrance. In the background is the Avondale Clubhouse. The picture dates from around 1910. One of the goals of the Pell City Centennial Commission is to restore this fountain and the surrounding park. Avondale Mills and Gold Kist have committed their support but more is needed. The fountain was a gathering place in the summer and the commission hopes it will become a focal point for the Centennial Celebration.



This impressive structure was the Avondale Mills Kindergarten and Community Club House. Both social and educational events were held here daily for over fifty years.



This early view of the Pell City Manufacturing Company (Avondale) shows the great smokestack (one of the tallest in the world) and the unique "sawtooth" construction of the mill itself. This design was a great innovation in 1902 when it was built because it gave natural light and ventilation in the mill. In the days before modern electric lights and air conditioning, this revolutionary design was a major innovation in the south and cotton mill owners from all over the country and as far away as England came to study this modern mill. Note the Hall Hill School to the right of the smoke stack. This school burned in the 1920's.



This snow covered view of the Avondale Mills village, school and the mill itself (in the trees on the right) was made about the time of the construction of the school which drew many people to settle in Pell City and work for the

Pastor's Like

by Dr. Floyd C.

Psalm 1:3

"And he shall be like a tree planted by the river of water, that bears fruit in his season; his leaf shall not wither, neither shall he be cut down, whatsoever he doeth."

Have you ever tried to imagine a community would be like those who move into new areas may know, but long before home trees for the blessing ever tried to imagine would be like with women? The blessings of the community are far from bringing.

Pastors, deacons and other Christians like trees planted by the gospel message. Take a good look at our order to see if we meet the standards of spirituality how the Lord works we will receive clues and mould the lives the Psalmist did, we may pattern of thought. From top upward, the first system. Roots have the first function of the whole tree with nourish the soil in search of

By the miracle of Jesus, tender roots penetrate in the moisture will find nourishment for students only as he gives life giving truths of the Bible study is not easy illumination through persistent teacher with the passages he is the function of the roots for the tree. When the whole organism is able to hold steady circumstances which come his way. This is life, the lives of his when things go wrong. Only a deep faith in C



... growth ... try Airport

... d to airplanes, the lake made it easy
... d to make his move to Pell City. An
... t is the life stream of the county. With
... sion plans having been approved on
... ening the runway from 4200 ft. to
... t. is a tremendous asset. The landing
... ger corporate jets is beneficial. The
... companies that can actually fly local,
... ater hopes of industrial and business
... 1. Time and money saved by not having
... d in farther locations will boost our
... trade and favor ability. We are very
... lly located. Within minutes of Bir-
... am, Atlanta, Chattanooga, Nashville,
... ville, Mobile, Montgomery. All neigh-
... g cities will be attracted. St. Clair
... y airport has at this time 52 airplanes
... 1 active military base. The more air-
... and military activity the more rever-
... our communities.

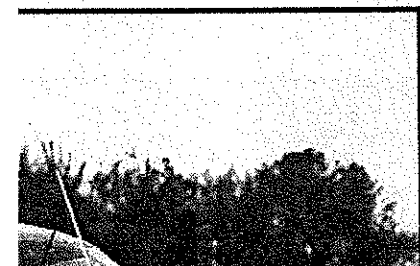
... w is the time to visit your airport. June
... we are planning an Open House. A
... airshow, food and fun for everyone.
... as a great selection of airplanes for
... hat he calls nickel, dime airplanes,
... s starting at \$10,000 to \$40,000). Also
... offered are rental planes, charter
... s, and learn to fly under expert super-
... . Ted Jones and associates offers a full
... f photography including portrait, aer-
... id advertising full color brochures.
... many times, we are accustomed to
... g conveniences close by, we just take
... for granted. Take full advantage of St.
... County Airport, it is here for you. Our
... are to promote the growth of the air-
... nd to enhance the familiarity with our
... people. Any groups or associations
... ould like Ted Jones to come and speak
... half of the airport just give us a call or
... by... the coffee is always on! ■



The Rennie House (left) and the Thompson-Iola Roberts house were constructed for the first presidents of the Pell City Manufacturing Company (later Avondale Mills). Both houses were constructed shortly after the beginning of this century and torn down to make way for the Colonial Bank building in the 1970's.



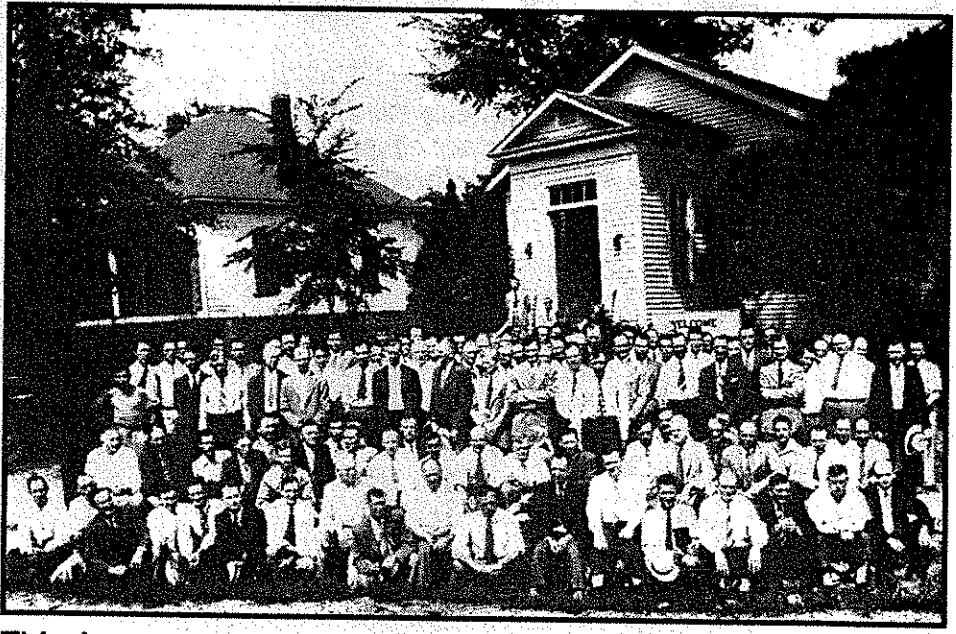
This group of distinguished Alabamians gathered to honor Miss Iola Roberts on the day the name of the South St. Clair Elementary School was changed to honor her. (Left to Right) Roy Mann, Otis Perry, A.T. Winkler, Lurleen B. Wallace, Governor George C. Wallace, Judge Hoyt Hamilton, the always elegant Miss Roberts, Mr. Fouts, Sam Burt, Edwin Holladay, Hugh H. Williamson and Harold King. Miss Roberts taught and disciplined four generations of Pell Citizens.



...the beginning of this century and
 torn down to make way for the Colonial Bank building in the
 1970's.



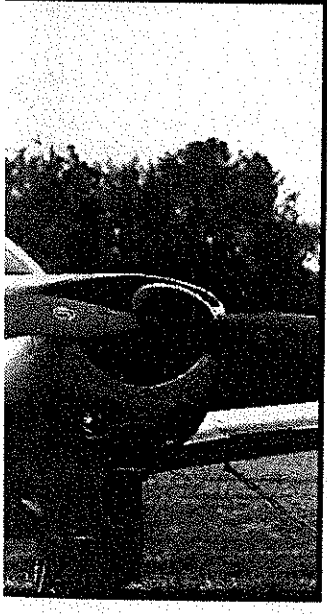
This group of distinguished Alabamians gathered to honor Miss Lola Roberts on the day the name of the South St. Clair Elementary School was changed to honor her. (Left to Right) Roy Mann, Otis Perry, A.T. Winkler, Lurleen B. Wallace, Governor George C. Wallace, Judge Hoyt Hamilton, the always elegant Miss Roberts, Mr. Fouts, Sam Burt, Edwin Holladay, Hugh H. Williamson and Harold King. Miss Roberts taught and disciplined four generations of Pell Citizens.



This large group of gentlemen gathered in front of the First Baptist Church around 1950. In those days, the men of the Baptist, Methodist and Wesleyan Methodist churches would gather for joint meetings in months that had a fifth Sunday. The gatherings promoted community relations. How many of these men can you identify?

...e and money saved by not having
 arther locations will boost our
 and favor ability. We are very
 cated. Within minutes of Bir-
 tlanta, Chattanooga, Nashville,
 Mobile, Montgomery. All neigh-
 s will be attracted. St. Clair
 ort has at this time 52 airplanes
 e military base. The more air-
 nilitary activity the more reve-
 communities.

...e time to visit your airport. June
 : planning an Open House. A
 w, food and fun for everyone.
 reat selection of airplanes for
 : calls nickel, dime airplanes,
 ng at \$10,000 to \$40,000). Also
 ed are rental planes, charter
 earn to fly under expert super-
 ones and associates offers a full
 graphy including portrait, aer-
 ertising full color brochures.
 imes, we are accustomed to
 eniences close by, we just take
 ted. Take full advantage of St.
 Airport, it is here for you. Our
 promote the growth of the air-
 hance the familiarity with our
 . Any groups or associations
 ce Ted Jones to come and speak
 he airport just give us a call or
 e coffee is always on!



Previous Page

...like a tree."
 ...is are made by finite men, but
 ...w in spiritual things. Even so,
 ...ome trees planted by the river

as a heavy weight or tight
ion. Less often it is a sharp
sick feeling in the upper
digestion. The pain can

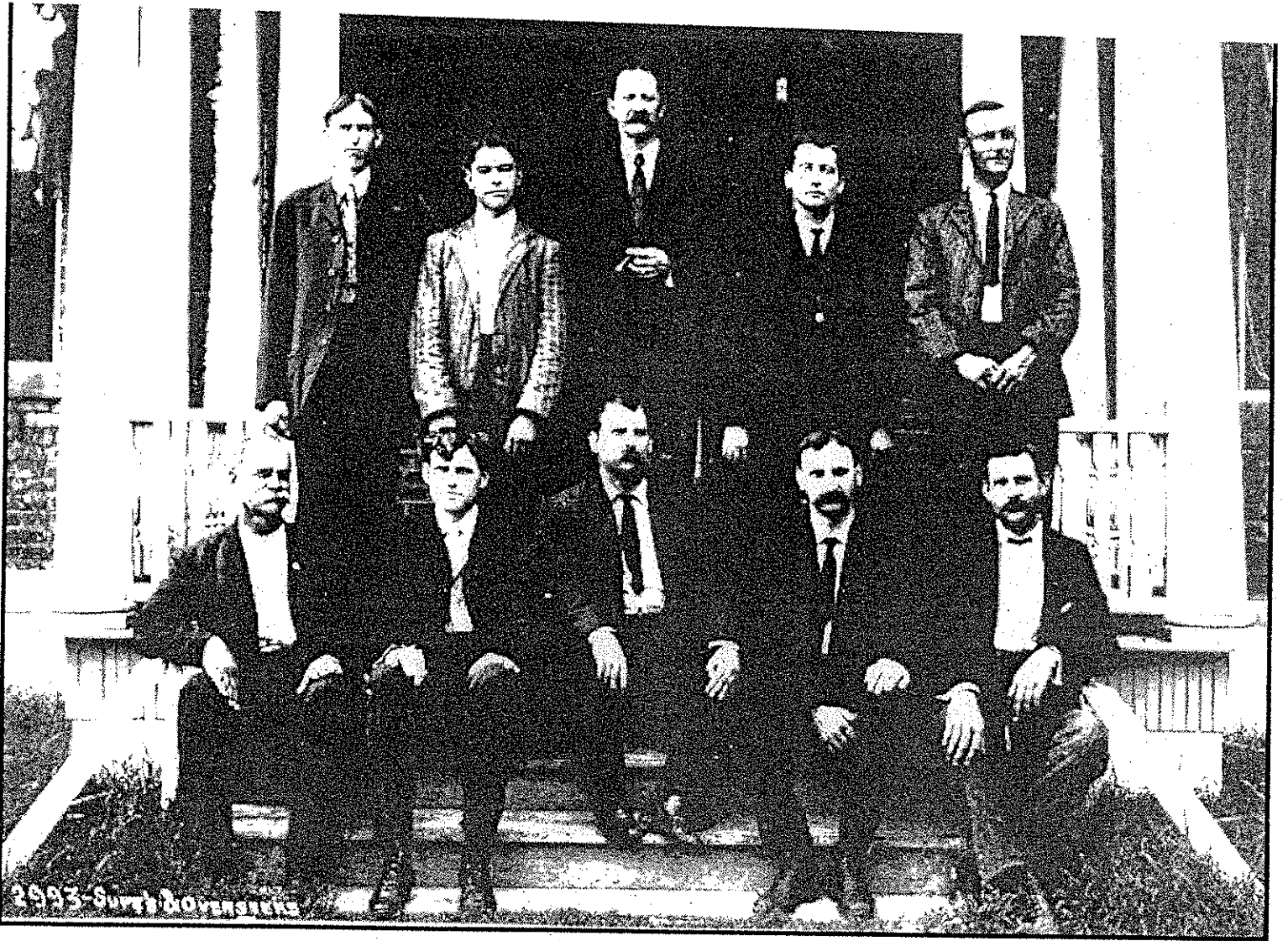
clot had been dissolved. This exciting techni-
nique, called intra coronary thrombolysis,
(thrombolysis simply means dissolving
blood clots) spread quickly to heart centers

points to remember are that early treatment
of heart attack symptoms can often reduce
the damage caused by a heart attack. Knowl-
edge of the symptoms of a heart attack is

in Pell City. He is a
Mingham-Southern College
Dorland University School



This undated photo of one of Pell City's legendary baseball teams of the 20's and 30's was provided by Mar Patterson. If you can identify any of the players, please mail the identifications to the Centennial Commission at P.O. Box 1185, Pell City.



This distinguished group is identified only as "supt's and overseers" of the cotton mill. If you know the identities of these men or the year the picture was taken, please contact Guin Robinson at Avondale Mills. We believe the picture was taken about 1909.

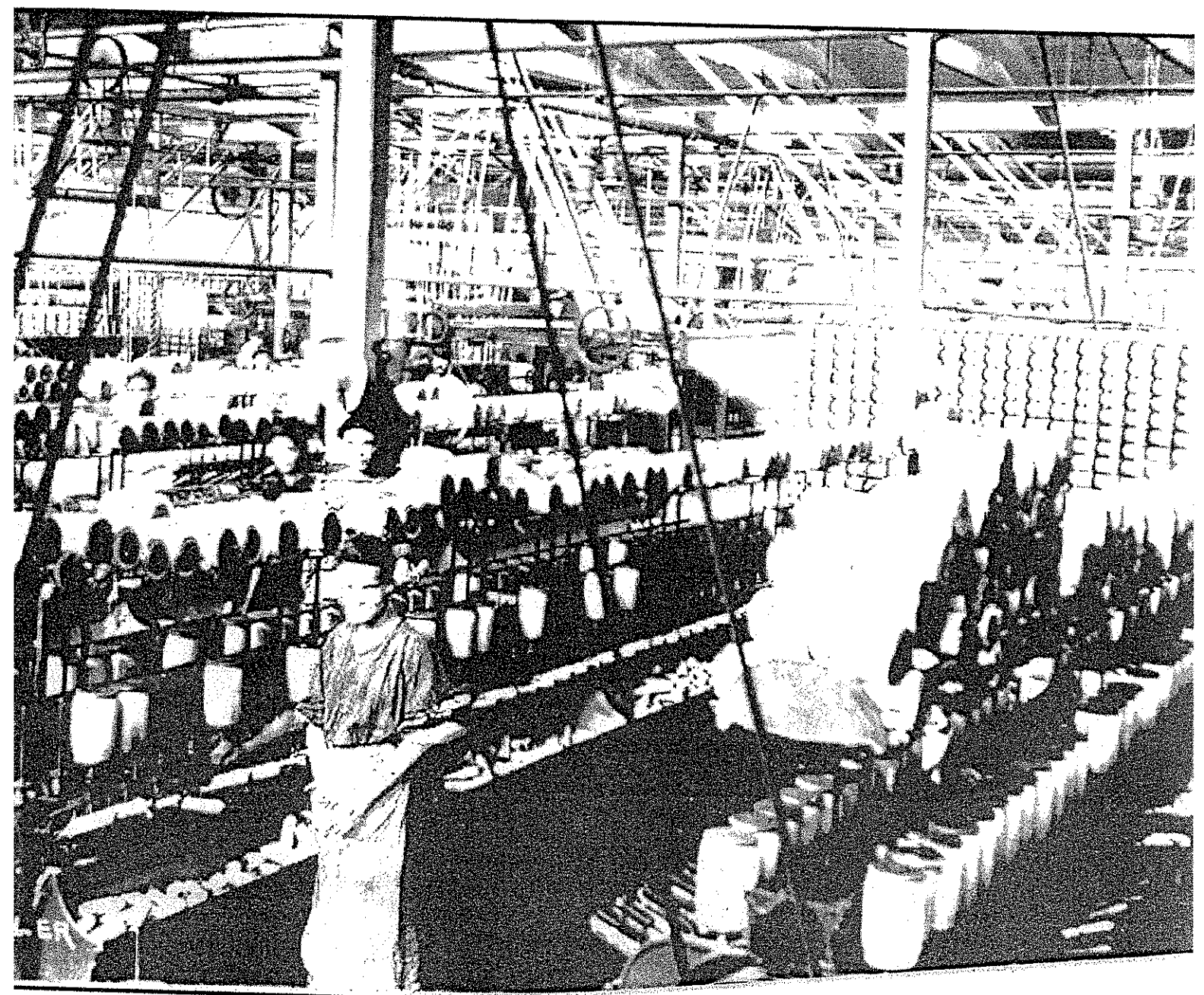


The Wesleyan Methodist Church (now Bible Methodist) was located on the corner where Hamburgers now stands. This building served from 1916 until 1965.

APRIL 1990



Special Bell City Centennial Edition





Special Pell City Centennial Edition

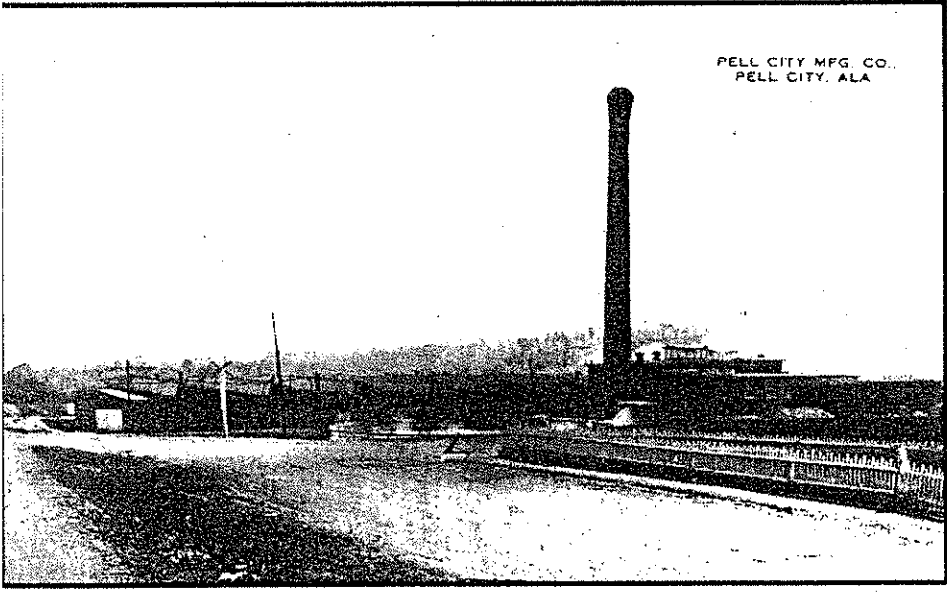


Hall Hill School as it appeared in about 1905. Located on a hill overlooking the cotton mill, this building burned in the 1920's and was replaced by the more modern Avondale School which served the community for the next fifty years until the lola Roberts and O.D. Duran Schools replaced it. Any old timer in Pell City will be able to tell you about the night the Hall Hill School burned, the blaze was visable for miles.

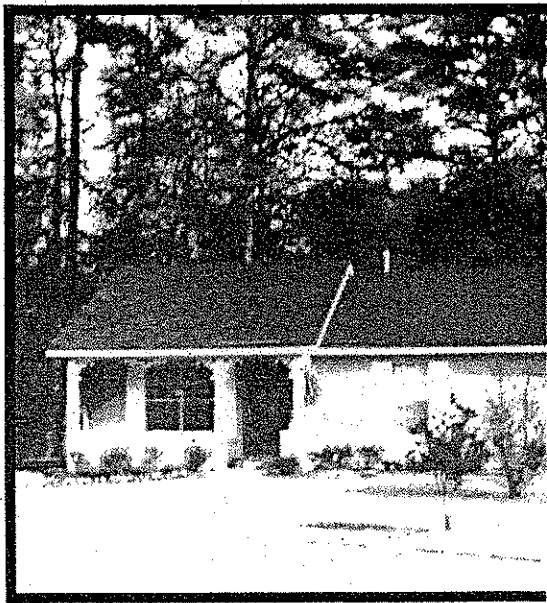
Special Pell City Centennial Edition



APRIL 19



This view of the Pell City Manufacturing Company was reproduced on post cards when the mill opened in 1903. Note the picket fence to the right which surrounded the fountain and park which is the object of restoration efforts by the Centennial Commission.



3 Bedroom, 1-1/2

On Your L

\$31,000

call...

338-43

**POWERFUL ADVERTISING
IN PELL CITY**

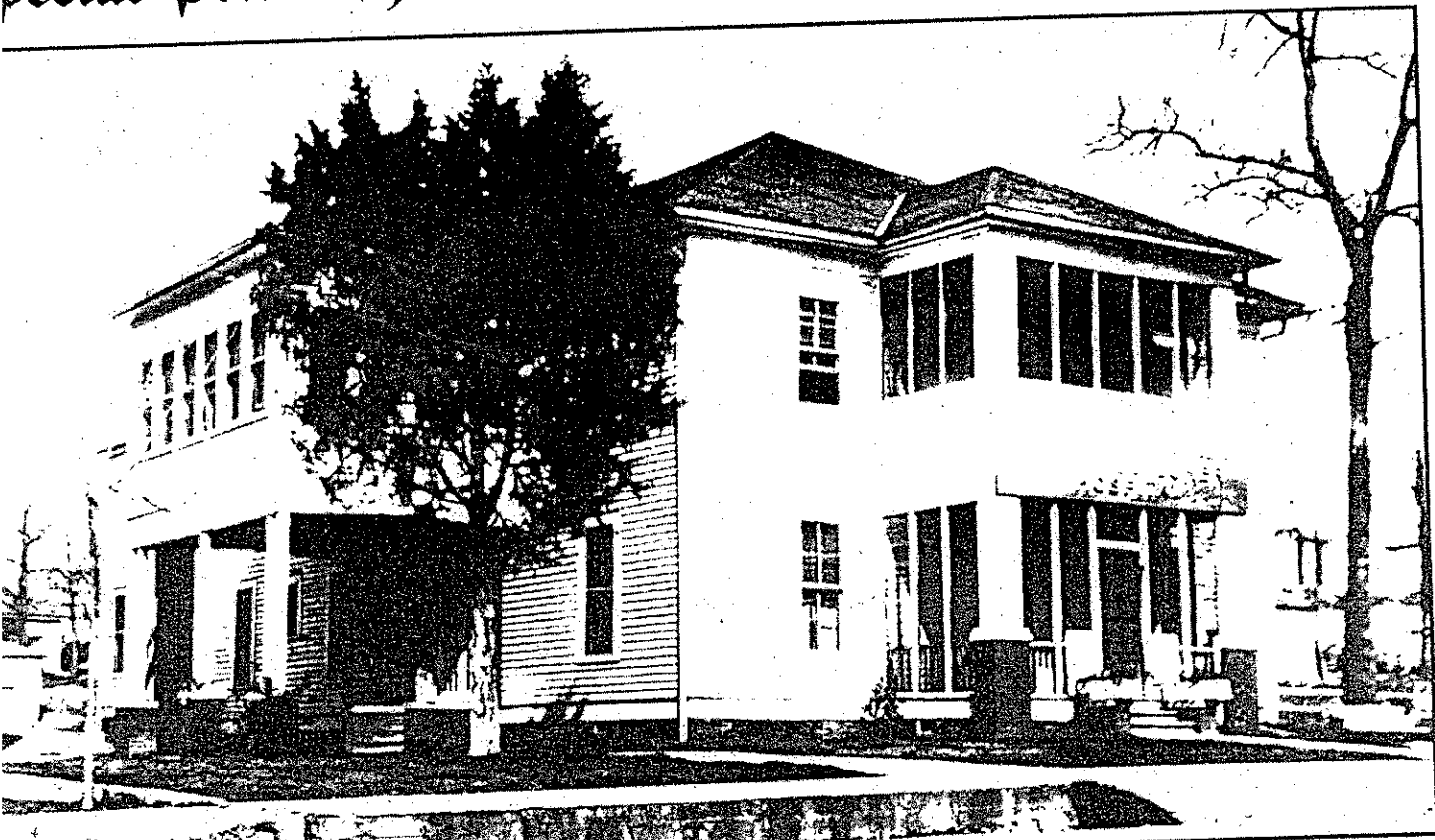
GOOD NEWS



Special Bell City Centennial Edition



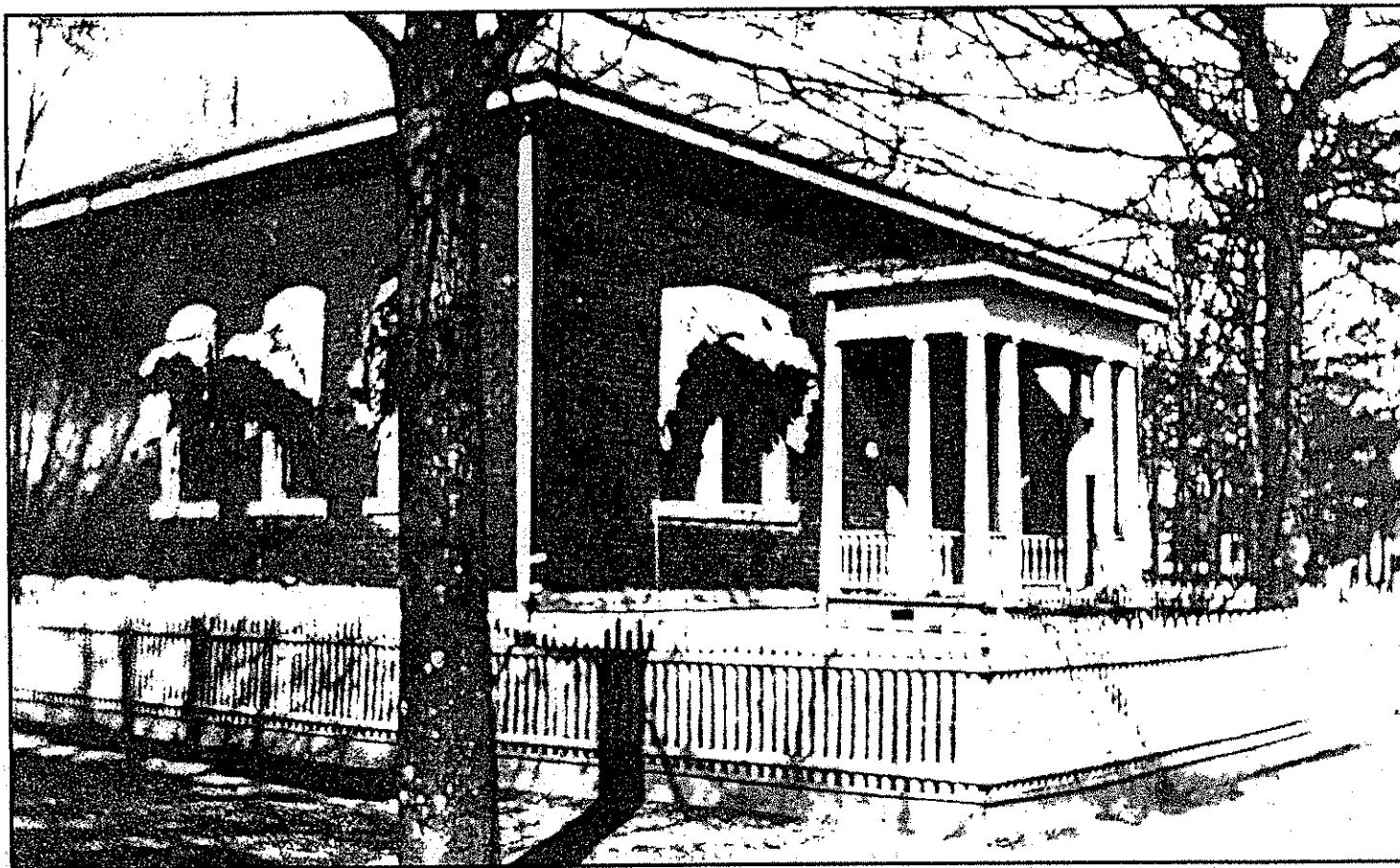
APRIL 1990, GOOD NEWS, PAGE 13



The Gertrude Comer Community Hospital was another of the modern facilities that made Pell City a model cotton mill town of its time. Many other facilities were provided by Avondale Mills.



Special Bell City Centennial Edition



This view of the Avondale Mills office building, complete with picket fence and striped awnings was made about 1905.



The



Pilkington



People

Pilkington tells of yesterday

By CINDY WARNER
News-Aegis News Editor

ODENVILLE—When you ask Wes Pilkington a question about the "good old days" in St. Clair County, you can see his eyes light up as he quickly comes up with an answer.

For you see, even though he is 85 years old, his mind is still as sharp as most 21-year-olds. And, he loves nothing better than telling stories of his childhood and about the days he spent working on the farm of Dr. W.T. Farmer.

"I worked 32 years and never missed a payday. I did miss a couple of days one time when I sneezed and broke right half into," he joked.

Pilkington moved into the farmhouse in 1956. He still lives there with the blessing of Dr. Farmer's heirs.

Pilkington moved to St. Clair in 1935 from Talladega. He said he still remembers walking from the Stemley Bridge area (where The Shack Barbecue is located now) to catch the train to go to Birmingham.

"You could buy a Coke anywhere you wanted during the 1920s except on the train because they were so expensive," he said. "They cost a quarter."

The price of postage wasn't quite what it is today either, he said.

"You could buy a postcard for a penny," he said. "And that bought the card and the postage."

Pilkington said one thing he remembers well is the hard

"It was tough then," he said. "You could get paid \$1 to pick 300 pounds of cotton. That \$1 would buy about three bushels of corn."

Pilkington said one of the first industries he remembers in Pell City was the cotton mill.

"They built the cotton mill in 1902," he said. "There used to be a depot where 3B Foods is now and the railroad used to come through from Pell City to Coal City. And there was a big sawmill where the gas business is across from the Pell City Post Office."

The coal mining business was also big in St. Clair County, Pilkington said.

"There were several coal mines in Coal City and one in Margaret," he said.

During the two World Wars, Pilkington said jobs were available for anyone who wanted to work.

"I was around 40 during World War II and I didn't serve," he said. "But jobs were plentiful to support the war effort. If you wanted a job you could find one."

Pilkington said he missed the first World War due to age also.

"I was only seven then," he said. "But I remember in 1917 we saw about 100,000 soldiers who were training, march down Hwy. 21 from Ft. McClellan to Talladega. I was just a kid but I can still remember what an awesome sight it was."

The things most of us take for granted now as necessities, such as cars and telephones, were luxuries when Pilkington was young

that were around when I was young were the kind with the cranks on the side," he said.

"Doctors were the first people to have cars," he added. "Those things would scare people's old mules half to death."

Pilkington said times were much more relaxed back then and people weren't so rushed for time.

"People had more time then," he mused. "Neighbors would come and visit and sometimes stay a month at a time."

He said resourceful children could usually figure out ways to enjoy their favorite pastimes and make a little money at the same time.

"I used to save up my money and spend it on fishing supplies," he said. "The supplies would usually cost around 75 cents. But after I would go fishing I would sell the fish. I made \$75 dollars one time for the fish I caught."

Pilkington's father outlived four wives and left behind fourteen children.

Pilkington has outlived two wives and has four children—Merle, Minnie, G.W. and Frances.

His first wife, Fanny, died in 1969 and his second wife, Mary, died six years ago.

"I have plenty of grandchildren and great-grandchildren to keep me busy," he said. "They come by here to see me and my dog Joe."

One thing is for certain, anyone who happens to get a chance to talk with Wes Pilkington is in for a walk down



SINGING SCHOOL—These students were photographed in 1904 at the Reeves Grove Baptist Church singing school. The people in the picture are identified as (front row, l-r) Clara Bell Sheffield, Stella Jones, and Deliah Sheffield. (Second row, l-r) Pluma Tellis, Annie Reeves, Della Vinuard, Mary Parlowm Chessie Mikle, Lonia Beason, Lee Mostella, Della Reeves, Essie Autry, Rosey Partlow, Pearch Sheffield, and Fannie Partlow. (Third row, l-r) Jack Puckett, Bertie Bell Puckett (daughter), Ovada Puckett, Alley Beason, May Vinyard, Maude Mastella, Lou Allaman, Kate Early, Delene Sheffield, Syble Mattison, Marion Partlow, ? Pruitt, Farris McCain, and Elvin Baggett. (Fourth row, l-r) Luther McCollough, Harry McCain, Wallace Beason, Will Battle, ? Vinyard, Claude Ball, Jim Autry, Fate Vinyard, and Rosco McCollough. (Fifth row, l-r) Joe Reeves, Dave Allaman, Porter Vinyard and Alfred Partlow.



Decades ago determined pioneers joined together to ensure this area had reliable, affordable electric light and power. Theirs wasn't an easy job. Neighbors had to be convinced of the worth and safety of their investment.

Hundreds of poles were set and miles of line strung. Money had to be borrowed from the REA way off in Washington.

Times have changed, but the job is still tough, the investment priceless; and it still takes concerned member-owners to keep the system going. A new generation of members with vision and determination - you - is carrying on the mission of the forefathers who literally lighted up a nation.

With your interest and participation in your electric system, we'll keep the lights burning brightly, and we'll keep working to meet your demands for reliable electric service at the lowest possible costs.





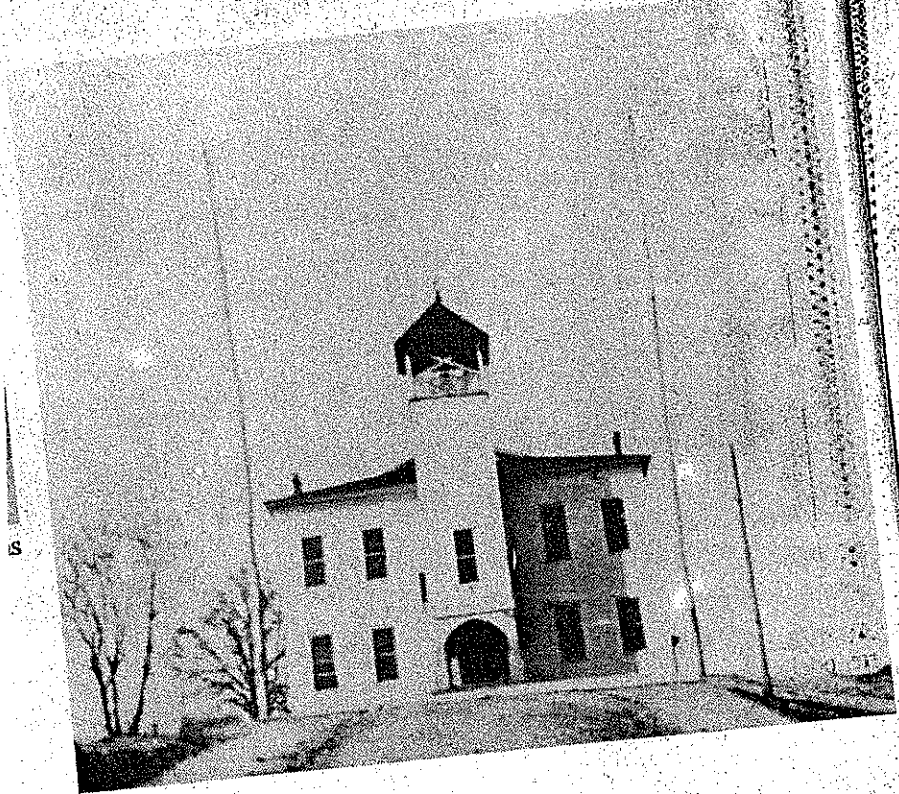
SPRINGLAKE COLLEGE—This picture of Springlake College was taken in the late 1800s. The school contained a second story dormitory for the boys, while the girls were housed in a private home. The college was destroyed by fire in 1912.



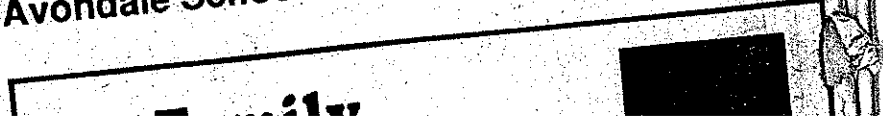
BROOM DRILL—These girls, who attended Reeves Grove Baptist Church in 1902, were all dressed up to perform in the school play. The girls performed a "broom drill" in the play that was about the state. Pictured (l-r) are Alley Early, Lennie Mostella, Mary Tucker, Minda Reeves, Delena Field, Rosey Partlow, Eunice Beason, Dealy Green, Maude Mostella, and Fannie Partlow.



Newport School

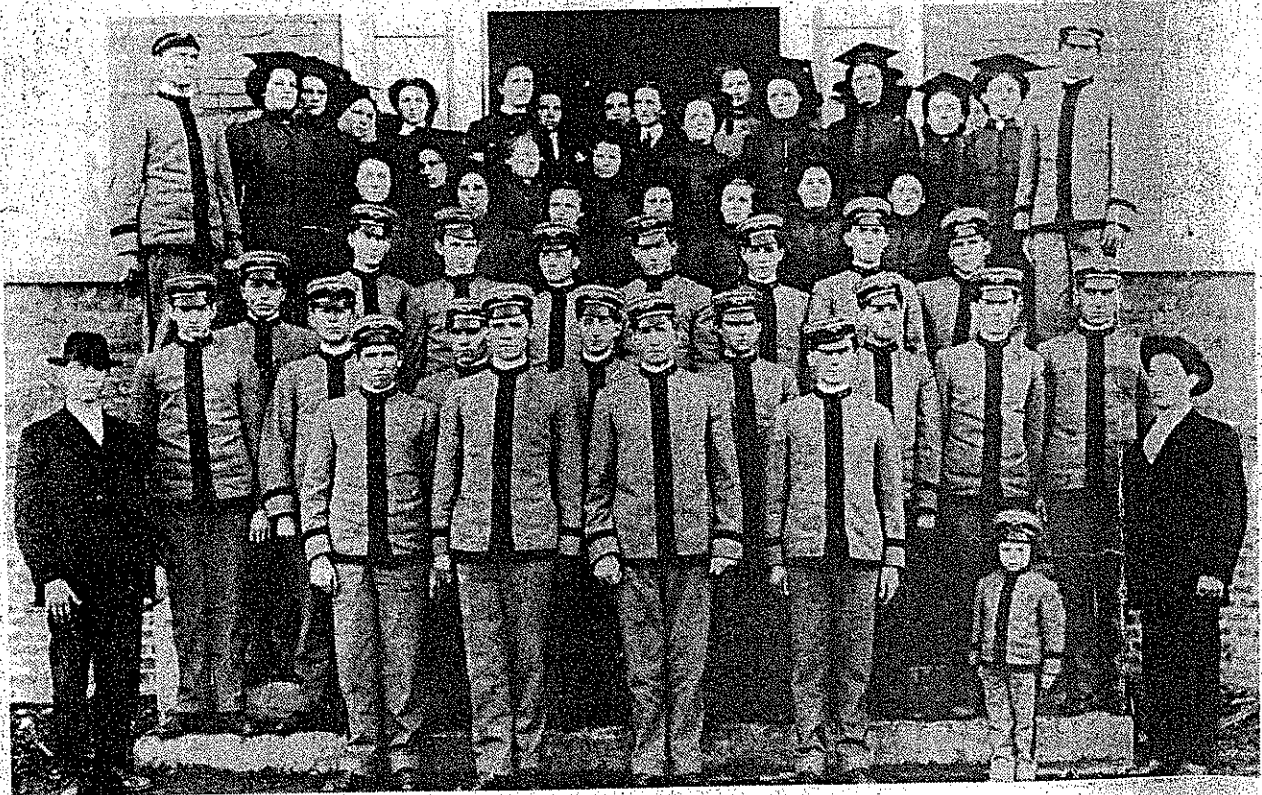


Avondale School





BETHEL SCHOOL—Students at Bethel School in Moody were Era Taylor Gibbs, Joy Coupland Phillips, Rena Harris, David Moore, Willie Hawkins, Oscar Harris, Cleaston Clements, Coy Hurst, O.C. Harris, J.C. Kerr, Oscar Ballenger, Curtis Armstrong, B.H. Green, Rexil Crowe, Willie Mae Armstrong, Grace Kerr, Nellie Lee, Alta B. Kerr, Willard Harris, Clearland Breaden, Odell Clements, Melvin Hardwick, Randolph Clements, James Watson, Ruby Lee, Elsie D. Harris, Willie Lee, Eugene Harris, Lyle Taylor, Marie Harris, Mildred Ash, Josie Mae Horsley, Mildred Lee, James Ash, Mr. I.W. Inzer and Miss Prickett. The picture was taken about 1927.



CLASS OF 1909—These St. Clair County High School students attended the only state school who wore uniforms. The girls made their uniforms and the boys ordered theirs.



H SCHOOL—This picture of the original St. Clair High School featured in the 1947-48 yearbook. The building was torn down in 1960 when the new school was built.



... of the American Revolution used to have a school for Hopewell Church. The school was later destroyed and was taken in February, 1924.



AVONDALE SCHOOL BURNS—One of the main schools in the area was the majestic white frame Avondale School that sat at the end of 26th Street. The school burned in 1923.

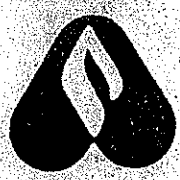
Alfa is insurance made easy.

Call Alfa



Make one quick call for home, car and life coverage.

Jim Shigley, LUTCF
1000 Martin Street So.
Forrest Place, Ste. 1102
Pell City, AL. 35125
Off.: 884-3470



Alagasco
is

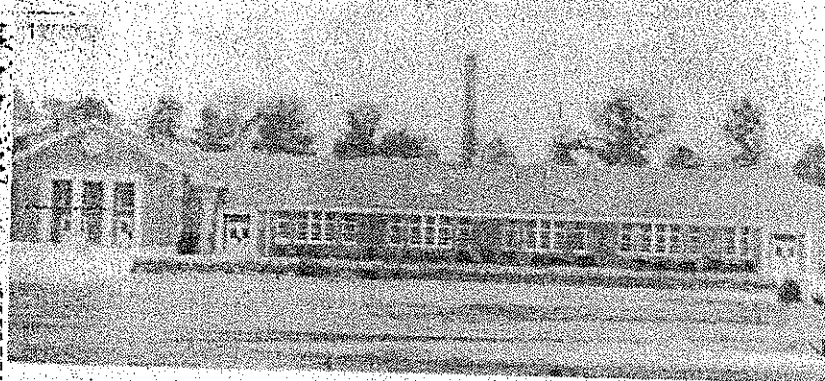
ALABAMA GAS CORPORATION
AN ENERGEN COMPANY

Proud To Be A Part Of The Progress Of St. Clair County

REMEMBER WHEN?



CLASS OF 1943—The entire senior class of Ragland High School included (front, l-r) Madelyn Shaddix Jackson, Rubye Hall Sisson, Inez Newton (married name unknown), Bonnie Mae Barber Beasley, and Frances Pettus Hermiz; (back, l-r) Jack Rich, Helton Savage (deceased), Charles Kieffer, Buddy Gardner and Ralph Mitchell. Inez Newton is the only one who has not been located for their upcoming 50th reunion. If anyone knows how to locate her, please contact Rubye Sisson in Ragland.



THIRD PELL CITY HIGH SCHOOL—This was the third Pell City High School building. It was built to replace the school that burned in 1945 and was torn down when the present school was built a few years ago.

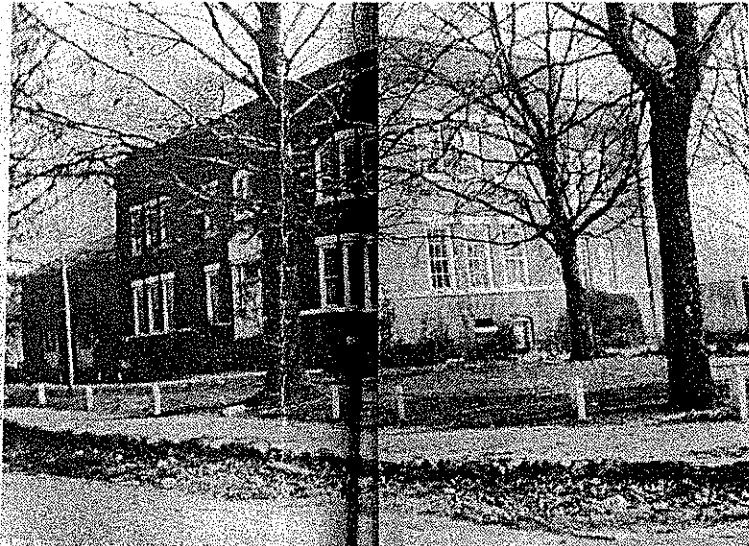


ST. CLAIR COUNTY
Clair County High School
The building was constructed
new building was constructed

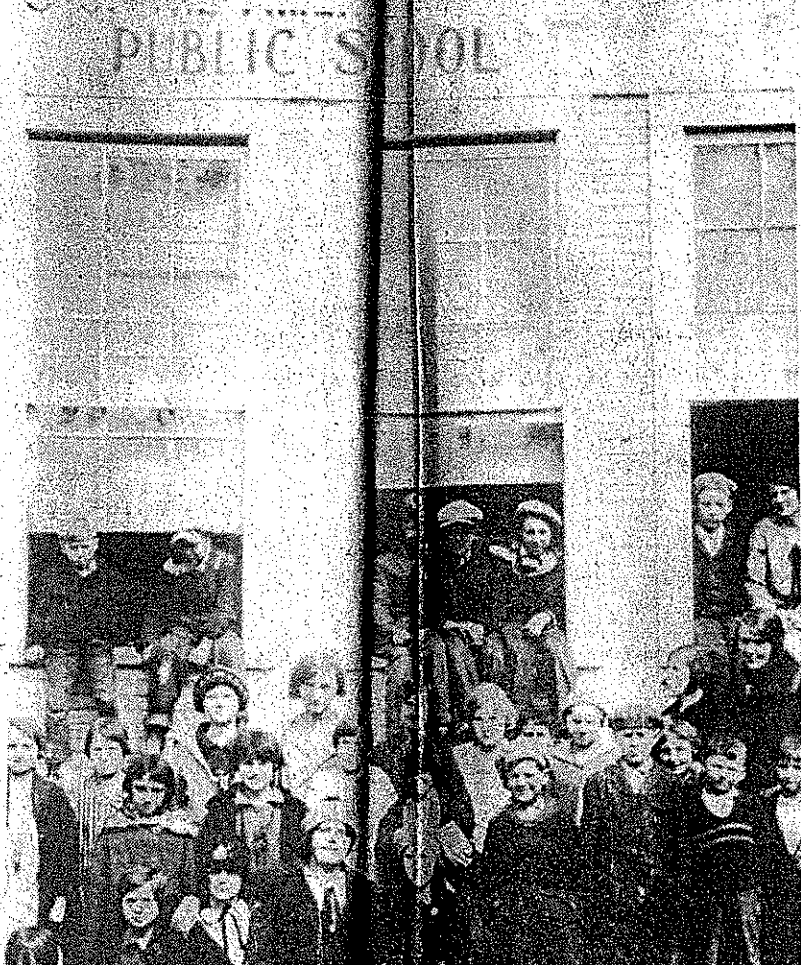
PUBLIC



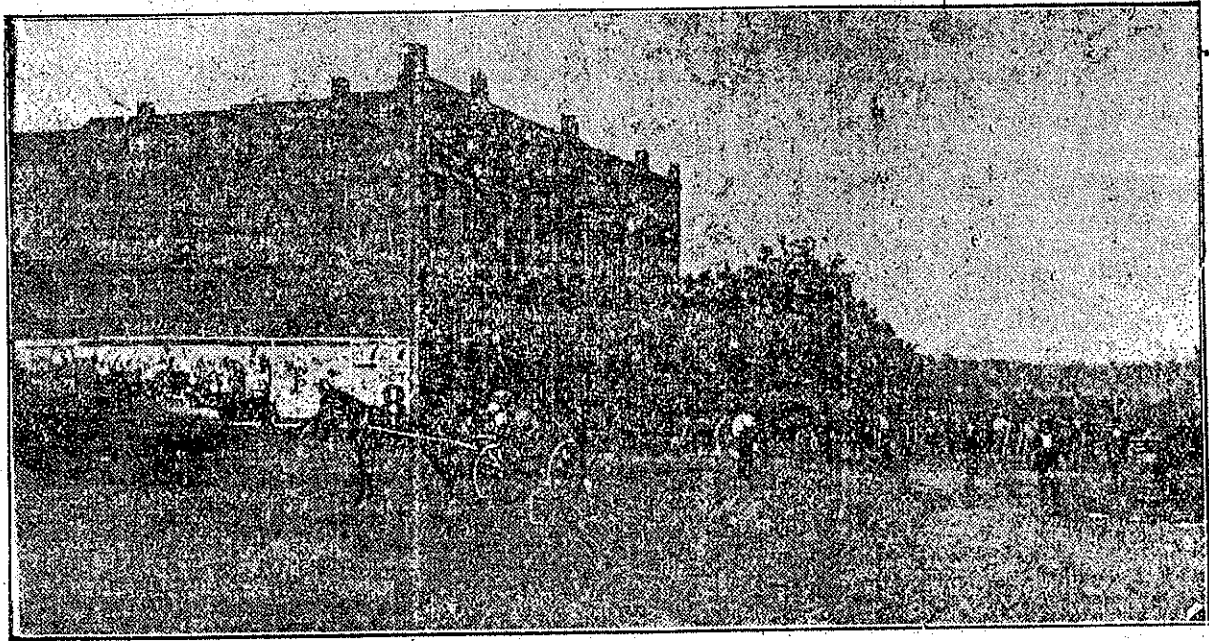
DAR SCHOOL—The Dar School was a school located in Asheville, N.C. It moved to Grant, Ala. This year



ST. CLAIR COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL—This picture of the original St. Clair County High School building featured in the 1947-48 yearbook. The building was constructed in 1919 and was torn down in 1960 when the new building was constructed.



Al
w
St



MAXWELL BLOCK.

First Brick Building Erected in Pell City, Embracing Four Stores—Erected by Hon. John Maxwell and the Pell City Land Company—It is Now the Business Center of Howard Avenue.

(Continued from Page 8.)

ble and airy hotel buildings in North Alabama. It is located opposite the new depots of the Southern railway and the Seaboard Air Line, and is also within a block of the court house and the business center of the town. Porters meet every train and guests are given every attention that heart could desire from the moment they alight at the station. The present building was occupied on November 1, and already, though it is an unusually large building, it has proven too small for the accommodation of the guests who ask for rooms. As a consequence, Mr. Cornett will, in a few weeks, commence the erection of a large addition which will soon be ready for the accommodation of guests and provide ample room for the business of the house.

Mr. Cornett is one of those warm-hearted, cordial gentlemen who seem born to the hotel business. He seems to have the faculty of anticipating every want of his guests and stands ready to supply every need.

The house is furnished throughout with splendid new furniture and comfortable beds, a feature that every tired traveler appreciates as much as he does the most excellent table fare of the house.

The rapid increase of the patronage of this excellent hotel is but an index to the fact that Pell City is fast being recognized as a town of considerable commercial importance and a central point from which to reach easily many other towns. The part that the Cornett house, with its splendid service, has played in bringing about this recognition of the town's importance is

for their employees. These houses are all located upon high ground and each room will be lighted with electricity, and each house will be supplied with an abundance of pure spring water piped into the house. In no other mill village in the south do the employees enjoy such luxuries.

The company owns a splendid water works plant, supplying 1,500,000 gallons of water daily by gravity from a large never failing spring.

In a few days work will begin on a handsome large school building which will be equipped with all modern conveniences and appliances, and the school will be free to the children of operatives.

Taken all together, the plant and village of the Pell City Manufacturing Company makes a model cotton mill community.

BANK OF ST. CLAIR.

One of the most appreciated and needed institutions to be established in the Coosa Valley within the history of its development was the Bank of St. Clair County, which was organized at Pell City, in February.

Mr. Sumter Cogswell, who has large property interests in this section of the State, is the president, and Mr. Mautz, an experienced young banker, is cashier. The directorate includes among its membership many of the leading citizens and business men of the county and the bank starts off its career under most favorable auspices.

HON. JOHN MAXWELL.

One of the Pioneer Citizens of Pell City—A Prominent Developer.

these years a monument to the enterprise and indomitable courage of the builder.

On the memorable night of December 17, 1902, an explosion of a large quantity of dynamite in a burning depot caused so much damage to the building as to necessitate the entire rebuilding of the front and while this work was going on, Mr. Maxwell came on from the east and superintended the general overhauling of the entire building, making the rooms look like new.

Mr. Maxwell was born in New Glasgow, Canada, in 1830, moving at an early age to Massachusetts, where he has spent most of his life, excepting a period of seven years spent in Philadelphia, learning the leather trade which as an extensive tanner, he has followed as a calling until his retirement from active business a few years ago. For many generations, the Maxwells have been in the leather business. In his chosen line of business, Mr. Maxwell was eminently successful, and was succeeded by his son, Mr. S. G. Maxwell, who built and is interested in the largest tannery in the United States, at Titusville, Pa., and who has the record of building five large tanneries in different parts of the country during the year 1902, a record which has never been equalled before in this country. Four of these new tanneries were in the south, one each in Maryland, West Virginia, Tennessee and Georgia. He now owns and successfully operates nine tanneries and is arranging to build another at Pell City at an early date. Mr. Maxwell's idea is to locate the tannery where oak bark is abundant, thereby saving the expense of freight charges and reducing the cost of production.

10 feet
orkabl

H

Amon
nants i
name o
foremos
file bus
and is r
est and
the cou
store ar
desirabl
ply of a

Besid
has thre
Pell Cit
at Coal
At Pe
lished
erected

A C

Char
by on
Railroa
from th
little v
the ear
has be
but it
it assur
it has
Street
broad
er a l
are tw
city so
and a s
abunda
high st
the str
from y
acres a
of Cro
1,200 f
at Cro
3,500 f
Station
handli
Loca
of Cro
Blue S
feet de
compu
of 2,00
as wa
would
of wat
other
ple su
10,000
other
and th
suppli
ber of
section
splend
Fou

seam will widen to a
ness.

GUY, MERCHANT.

most prosperous mer-
entire Coosa Valley the
Guy stands with the
has been in the mercant-
at Eden for many years,
ed as one of the strong-
reliable business men in
He carries in his Eden
sive stock of the most
s to be found for the sup-
ing community.

Large Stores.

store at Eden, Mr. Guy
r establishments—one at
at Easonville and one
the business was estab-
ber, 1902, in a house
wned by Mr. W. H. Mil-

ler, who is in charge of the business
of that house.

At Easonville the business is carried
on under the style of Guy & Jones, and
the firm enjoys an extensive trade,
covering a large area of territory. This
store has been successfully operated
since 1900.

The business of Mr. Guy at Coal City
is under the management of Mr. Wal-
ter Tuck, and has been successfully
carried on for more than three years.
At this point the trade differs largely
from that at the other places where
Mr. Guy is in business, in that here
the patrons of the store are largely
miners employed in and around Coal
City, in the Broken Arrow district.

No man in the mercantile business
in this section of Alabama reaches as
many people with his stock of goods
as does Mr. Guy. On account of the
heavy duties devolving upon him and
the strain upon his health Mr. Guy has
almost decided to sell one or more of
his stores.

dairy than at Riverside, Ala., where
the Southern railway crosses the Coosa
river. The lands in this valley are
as fertile as any in Alabama, and the
ease with which it can be cultivated
makes it especially valuable as agri-
cultural land.

One half mile from Riverside depot
is a tract of twenty acres of beautifully
located land under high state of culti-
vation with many kinds of fruit trees
in bearing, while situated in the midst
of this little paradise is a splendid
nine-room residence, comfortably ar-
ranged and elegantly finished.

This property is located on a rise of
ground overlooking the great steel
bridge across the Coosa river and is
sixty feet above the river.

Located conveniently to the resi-
dence is a fine carriage house and other
out buildings.

This property is an ideal home for a
person desiring a retired residence, and
is offered for sale at a bargain, the
price being only \$2,000.

One-half mile from the above resi-
dence property and only one mile from
the Riverside depot, lies a splendid
plantation of 800 acres of fertile farm-
ing land.

Two hundred acres of this plantation
are now under cultivation and nearly
all of the remaining 600 acres are sus-
ceptible of the same high development.
Or it can be used in its present con-
dition for grazing purposes and is ad-
mirably adapted for stock raising.

The entire plantation, as it now
stands, is especially adapted to dairy
purposes and stock raising, and offers
the advantage of being located close to
a railroad reaching by fast trains two
of the largest cities in the south, be-
sides the advantage of river transpor-
tation.

Every acre of this vast tract is ex-
ceptionally good cotton land, and, be-
cause of the close proximity of one of
the largest cotton mills in the south,
insuring the highest market for the
staple, it is especially valuable as a
cotton plantation.

The entire plantation is offered at
the price of \$5 per acre on easy terms.

These two valuable pieces of prop-
erty are offered for sale separately, or
together, at the prices named and very
easy terms will be made the purchaser
if desired.

For information concerning this
property, address Mr. Frank Lathrop,
at Riverside, Ala., or 420 Woodward
building, Birmingham, Ala.

**NORTH ALABAMA COAL, IRON
AND RAILROAD COMPANY.**

The Largest Mining and Iron Com-
pany Operating in the Coosa
Valley—Owners of the Bir-
mingham and Atlantic
Railroad.

**JOHN C. SOLEY, GENERAL MAN-
AGER.**

The most important and by far the
most extensive mining and iron-making
industries in the Coosa Valley are those
carried on by the North Alabama Coal,
Iron & Railroad Company.

in 1900, and is operated with success
and profit.

EASONVILLE CREAMERY.

One of the Greatest Industries in the
Coosa Valley—Supplies the Fa-
mous Easonville Creamery,
Depot in Birmingham.

Among the most important indus-
tries in the Coosa Valley are the Waite
Dairy Farm and the Easonville Cream-
ery, situated one-half mile from Eason-
ville.

The Waite Dairy Farm is one of the
finest in all Alabama and is admirably
adapted for stock raising, embracing
as it does some of the finest land in
the state, besides an abundance of good
pasture land.

Easonville Creamery has one of the
best equipped creamery plants in the
south including three large barns, and
a large dairy house with all the mod-
ern apparatus besides an abundance of
pure spring water for cleaning and
purifying everything about the place
and furnishing power to actuate a large
water wheel for pumping and driving
some of the machinery.

Many Birmingham people are ac-
quainted with this splendid dairy and
speak in the highest terms of its man-
agement, equipment and beautiful loca-
tion. As is well known the Easonville
Creamery has a depot in Birmingham
from which are distributed the cream,
butter and milk of the Easonville
Creamery and these products have the
reputation of being the very best ob-
tainable.

Traveling men who visit the Eason-
ville Creamery speak in the highest
praise of the institution and it has a
reputation among them which extends
all over the south. After once seeing
the source of supply, the Easonville
dairy depot in Birmingham has new
charms to the lover of pure, rich dairy
foods.

The Easonville Creamery is supplied
with its milk from the Waite Dairy
Farm, upon whose property it is lo-
cated. This farm pastures in the nei-
ghorhood of 400 cows and to see the
sleek, well-kept creatures grazing in
grain or grass of rich luxuriance is a
sight to convince any one that it is im-
possible to produce a better quality of
milk than is made from this splendid
stock.

The Easonville Dairy Depot, at 303
North Twentieth street, is headquarters
in Birmingham for these superior dairy
products.

A LETTER FROM MR. MAXWELL.

The following communication from
Hon. John Maxwell, of Pell City, Ala.,
appeared in the Woburn (Mass.) Jour-
nal of March 6.

FROM THE SUNNY SOUTH.

Pell City, Ala., Feb. 27, 1903.
Editor Hobbs:—I have been down
here in Alabama since November, 1902,
and as things are beginning to turn my
way after a long delay, I thought per-
haps a few lines from the old tanner
might be interesting to you.

CROPWELL

ing Village Full of Good People—Home of an En-
terprising Firm.

located in the Coosa Val-
Birmingham and Atlantic
only a short distance
Coosa river, is the thriving
of Cropwell. Ever since
lemer, of the state there
settlement at this point,
t until after the war that
uch prominence, although
trading point since 1853.
off in every direction are
of fertile farm lands un-
ate of cultivation. There
es of land—a gray, grav-
it and easily cultivated,
red clay, which produces
s and is susceptible of a
cultivation, as it retains
of fertilizers of any kind
year. Many hundreds of
cultivated in the vicinity
and of cotton alone from
bales are annually ginned
in, while something like
e shipped from Cropwell
rson & Son buying and
it half of the crop.
half mile from the town
a westerly direction, is
said to be more than 150
in which the daily flow is
be it the neighborhood
ation of water as pure
be. This great spring
a never failing supply
a cotton mill or some
ndustry and has an am-
r the supply of the town
tants. There are many
ings in the neighborhood,
ion of the valley is well
excellent water. A num-
farm) are located in this
county on account of the
r supply.
a day reach the town, put-



J. FALL ROBERSION,
Member of the Firm of Roberson &

noble traits of his father's character,
and is one of the foremost business
men of his section of the state. He was
educated in the county schools and
subsequently received a collegiate
course at Howard College at East
Lake. He graduated from this splen-
did institution of learning in 1895 and
at once returned to Cropwell and took
a situation in the store of Roberson &
Jones as a clerk, continuing in this ca-
pacity until the change in the firm,
when he became a partner with his
father, the Robersons succeeding the

of Pell City who
way possible endorse
good work of Landlord

CITY MANUFACTURING CO.

operating the Pell City Cotton Mills.
Largest Mill of Its Kind in
the South.

The Pell City Manufacturing Com-
pany are now erecting and equipping
the largest and most complete cotton
mill plant for the making of domestics
in the south at Pell City.

The company was organized April
3, 1902, with the following officers:
resident, George W. Pratt, of Charles-
ton, S. C.; treasurer, Arthur J. Draper,
of Hopedale, Mass.; secretary, A. E.
Edyard, of Meridian, Miss.; superin-
tendent, E. T. Garsed, of Greensboro,
N. C.

The following gentlemen compose
the board of directors: G. W. Pratt, C.
Riley, A. J. Draper, J. D. Cloudman,
Chapell, Sumpter Cogswell and W.
Sears.

The capital stock of the company is
500,000, fully subscribed and paid in.

The location of the mill is in the
edge of the town of Pell City, and liter-
ally in the cotton field, the old stocks
of last year's crop having actually to
be cleared away to make room for
some of the buildings.

The mill will give employment to
from 500 to 600 people. The buildings
cover exactly four acres of ground.

The main building is the largest in
the south, being twice as wide as any
other. The dimensions are 640x225
feet, all under one roof. And herein
is one of the most modern and perfect
features of the building—the roof.
Notwithstanding the size of the build-
ing, which is only one story high, the
roof is so constructed that light is
evenly and perfectly distributed
throughout the entire space of this im-
mense building. This is accomplished
by what is known in architecture as
the "saw tooth" plan of structure, the
light all being admitted through the
short angles of the roof from a north-
ward direction, thereby avoiding reflect-
ed light and obtaining a uniform dis-
tribution, which is of great advantage
in operating the mill.

The dye house, which is one of the
largest and best equipped in the coun-
try, is 104x133 feet, and provided with
very modern appliance.

The engine house is 100x50 feet; the
drier house, 100x60 feet; the ware-
house, 109x345 feet; the opening room,
60x100 feet; the finishing room, 50x100
feet, and the machine shop, 50x250 feet.

The equipment of the mill, which
is now being placed, is the most mod-
ern and up-to-date that genius can in-
vent or money secure. The entire pre-
paration and spinning machinery out-
let was made by Howard & Bullough,
American Manufacturing Company, of
Auctucket, R. I. The mill contains 21-
00 spindles, and 640 Northrop looms,
manufactured by the Draper Company,
Hopedale, Mass. This is the largest
and best loom on the market, being
automatic in every feature. They also
own a ginnyery of the latest type of
machinery.

The product of the mill will be 26-
00 pounds or 52,000 yards of indigo
cottons per day. They will consume
5,000 bales of cotton per year.

F. P. Sheldon of Providence, R. I.,
the engineer who planned the mill
and on August 4, 1902, the first brick
was laid. The rapidity with which
resident Pratt, and his able assistants
have pushed the work can be best real-
ized when it is stated that the mill

in the year 1902, when Pell City was
in its infancy—in fact, before there
was a Pell City. Mr. John Maxwell
came here as a pioneer and, having
faith in the future development of
what he then and still considers one
of the best town sites in Alabama, he
proposed to the Pell City Land Co. to
join them in the erection of a number
of fine brick business houses—or rather
that if they would put up such houses
that he would erect a like number of
similar buildings, to stand as mater-
ial evidence of his abiding faith in the
proposed town. The proposition was
accepted in part by the land company,
and they erected two houses, Mr. Max-
well putting up a similar number of
handsome two-story brick business
store buildings which have stood all

time president of the Titusville, Pa.,
board of trade, an incorporated com-
mercial body that has done much
to build up the city and establish its
industries.

Mr. Maxwell's youngest son,
H. Maxwell, owns and is oper-
ating a large tannery at Lewistown, Pa.,
a capacity of 1,800 sides per day.

Mr. John Maxwell has extensive in-
terests at Fort Payne, Ala., where he
made heavy investments at about the
same time he came to Pell City.

The citizens of Pell City have a uni-
versal love and regard for Mr. Max-
well for his undying faith in the town
and for his sterling social and business
qualities which mark him as one of
nature's noblemen.

COAL CITY, ALA.

The Center of the Coal Producing Section of the Coosa
Valley—A Thriving and Populous Village.

Mining operations were commenced
at Coal City in 1883. At that time the
town was called Broken Arrow, a name
derived, it is said, from that of an old
Indian chief once famous in that sec-
tion of the state. The place retained
the name of Broken Arrow until 1891,
when it was changed to Coal City.

Coal City is said to be the oldest set-
tlement in the Coosa Valley, and it has
been known from the earliest days of
its settlement that its rugged hills
were rich with coal.

In 1883 Major Peyton Rowen of
Jacksonville, Ala., and associates or-
ganized the Broken Arrow Coal and
Mining Company and opened the first
mine at what is now Coal City. Con-
tinuous mining operations have been
carried on there during all these years,
and now there are ten mine openings
within a radius of two miles of the
original Broken Arrow mine.

Coal City is located on the East and
West Railroad, about seven miles from
Pell City, the southern terminus of the
line. Recently the Seaboard Air Line
Railroad acquired the East and West
road, and active preparations are now
being carried on grading a new line
from Atlanta to Birmingham, passing
about one-half mile from Coal City, at
which point there will be established
one of the stations of the new line.

The population of Coal City is at
present about 600 people. With the
opening of new mines the number is
growing rapidly, and it is predicted
that in six months the population will
be three times greater than at present.
As a trading center the merchants of
the town already enjoy the patronage
of at least 2,000 people.

Lying close to the town are several
rich beds of brown and red iron ore,
and it has been rumored that men of
means have recently been making in-
vestigations relative to the building of
a furnace plant in that section of the
valley, though it could not be learned
whether their plans had taken definite
shape. News of the matter will be
awaited with interest by the people of
that community.

ALVERSON & MOORE.

The business now conducted at Coal
City by Alverson & Moore was estab-
lished by B. F. Alverson & Son in 1871.
They continued to carry on the busi-
ness under that firm name until 1884,
when the present firm of Alverson &
Moore was founded. They are the old-
est firm now doing business in that
section of the valley.

For four years they operated coal

by the community in which they have
carried on business for so many
years. No firm in this section of the
state enjoys a more extensive trade or
stands higher in the confidence of the
people of the community. To say that
an article came from Alverson & Moore
is equivalent to saying that it bears the
guarantee stamp of par excellence.

On the night of March 30, 1902, the
firm lost by fire their store, building
and entire stock of goods. As they
were only partially covered by insur-
ance the loss fell heavily on them, but
they at once began to rebuild and now
have the most modern and convenient
store building in that part of the Coosa
Valley, two stories high and modern in
plan and architecture. This large
building is heavily stocked with the
best grades of goods to be had in the
markets of the kind called for by the
patrons of the house and they are
now doing a better business than ever
before in their history.

The firm consists of Mr. R. M. Al-
verson and Mr. J. W. Moore, two of
the leading citizens in all of St. Clair
county.



Located two miles west of Pell City,
on the Southern Railroad, is the beau-
tiful little village of Eden. Here are
several large mercantile houses and a
lumber and planing mill of consider-
able size. Near the town is one of the
finest springs to be found in the entire
Coosa Valley, and the citizens are at
this time putting forth a strong effort
to secure

A Cotton Mill.

No more desirable location could be
found than at the spring mentioned
above. It is an ideal mill site in every
particular.

Eden is one of the most beautiful
villages to be found in St. Clair county,
and at the time of the locating of the
new court house it stood second in the
race with Pell City. It is a most del-
ightful place at which to establish a
summer resort for the entertainment
of over-heated and suffocating city folk



JAMES R. ROBERSON
Member of the Firm of R
Son, Cropwell

ting the people in close touch
outside world, and they also
phone connections with the
Union telegraph office and
cal points.

One-half mile east of the
rich deposit of brown iron
ore, while to the west, in the
hills, is a very rich deposit.

The community of people
well and upon the farms
the valley near by are of
bred, refined, law-abiding an-
ticated class, among whom it
ure for any well disposed
live. The typical old-fashion-
ern hospitality is a strong
istic of all the Cropwell men.
The people are thrifty, prosper-
happy.

ROBERSON & SON

The Oldest Mercantile House
Section of the County—
Business

In the year 1853 John W.
established a mercantile busi-
ness store house at what is
well. This business he ran
years, selling out to Mess
This was the beginning of
ness now conducted by R
Son. Mr. Jones subsequently
back to Cropwell and resumed
mercantile business, having at
times several partners. In
James R. Roberson, the senior
of the present firm, acquired
ness, and a few years later
son of Mr. Jones, Mr. J. M. J.
partner. Under the style of
& Jones the business contin-
out change in the firm for
years.

On December 5, 1900, the
firm of Roberson & Son
Roberson & Jones in the bu-
this old house, and they are
only one of the oldest busi-
nesses in the county, but
among the best and most suc-
cessful merchants in North Ala-
bama. Mr. Roberson is a typi-
cal self-made man and his
life is due largely to his high
honor and indomitable per-
severance against every obstacle. His
success is evident from the

Firm of Roberson & Jones.

In 1899 a new business house was erected, which is a model of convenience, being probably the best arranged country store building in North Alabama, if not in the entire state. It is built of brick, is two stories high, and of very large dimensions. The interior is arranged with a broad gallery around the entire front half of the store. Instead of a full floor space on the second story, thereby doing away with the inconvenience of a two-story building, and at the same time giving the needed increase of floor and shelf space. The entire interior is finished in heart pine in natural finish, and makes a most charming appearance in contrast with the well arranged stock, which embraces every item of merchandise needed in the community. It is indeed a complete department store.

With its customers the firm does a very extensive credit business, but in buying they pay cash for everything, saving all discounts and giving their customers the benefit of the purchasing power of their large capital. They do an annual business of many thousand dollars and cover an extensive territory with their goods. Their reputation is known for miles in every direction. The firm has an interest in the Cropwell ginery, which gins from 1,200 to 1,700 bales of cotton each year.

The firm also owns a large cotton warehouse, and a noteworthy feature of their cotton business, and one which is characteristic of all their dealings with their customers, is the fact that the moment a bale of cotton is placed in their warehouse by one of their customers it is insured against fire so long as it remains there free of charge. This is of course a great protection to the owner of the cotton and an inducement for them to bring their cotton to the Cropwell market.

Besides the mercantile interests of the firm Mr. James R. Roberson owns two very large river plantations on the Coosa river not far from the town. On these two farms he has many acres of land under cultivation, raising about 125 bales of cotton each year, besides a great quantity of corn and grains and a diversity of other products. Mr. Roberson is a great believer in a rotation of crops as a means of keeping lands in good condition.

BEAUTIFUL HOME FOR SALE.

Fine Residence With Twenty Acres of Splendid Land—800-Acre Plantation—An Ideal Location for Stock and Dairy Farm. It would be hard to find a more ideal location for a great stock farm and

quarters at Talladega, but carrying on most of their extensive business in St. Clair county.

They own and operate many mines at Coal City, also the Birmingham & Atlantic railroad, running between Talladega and Pell City, and a large furnace plant at Talladega, where are also located a large battery of coke ovens and the shops of the railroad.

At Coal City the company has several mine openings and a battery of sixty coke ovens. The oldest mine now in operation by this company is known as Broken Arrow mine, taking its name from the creek running through the valley.

At Cold Branch mine they also operate a well developed slope with a large output. A new slope has been opened at what is called Marion mine, entering the seam below the Broken Arrow vein. This slope has been driven about 300 feet and will be in full operation in about ninety days. Another new slope has also been started at what will be known as Rutella mines. Work at this point is being pushed rapidly.

At a point two miles north of the town is located another new mine of the company. Underlying this vein is a stratum of fire clay about fourteen feet in thickness.

Five miles up the valley the company also have three mines. One slope has been worked to a depth of 1,000 feet, while the other two are comparatively new mines, having been worked only to a depth of about 350 feet each.

The coal output of the company's mines is now about 600 tons a day, but it is expected that within ninety days the development of the new mines will have been carried to such an extent that the output will have been increased to nearly double the present amount.

Mr. John C. Soley, the general manager of all the company's interests in this section, is one of the best posted men in the south on the subject of mining and iron-making and his successful and profitable management of the Birmingham & Atlantic railway demonstrates also that he is a railroad manager of much ability. Mr. Soley is ably assisted in his arduous labors by Mr. W. H. Lane, who is directly in charge of the coal division and who spends much of his time at Coal City.

The furnace properties of the company consist of full equipment and a stack of about 130 tons capacity, located at Talladega. This plant was thoroughly overhauled and remodeled

tons of dynamite, together with 12 kegs of giant powder, exploded at the depot here, killing two and injuring eighteen persons, besides wrecking every building in town. My brick block (the best in town) suffered to the extent of about \$100 and has taken up all my time, and now have got it repaired. I am now in connection with the whole building lot and occupied, rent to be paid in advance at a very liberal rental, \$1,200 a year.

The great Southern railroad has a fine new depot about completed and on the other side of the tracks the Seaboard Air Line will build another fine depot.

The cotton mill will soon be in operation. It will be one of the most modern in the south, and will be fitted with all the latest improvements. They will bleach their own goods as they have plenty of the purest water adopted for that purpose. It is their intention to start building another large mill, and also another large cotton seed mill. The mill that is about completed will cost about \$750,000. The Drapers, Rileys, and others of Boston have millions behind this great enterprise, "and it must go."

Here is the county seat, the new court house, with a fine new bank building, brick and stone, and in operation. We have also the grand railroad centre of five trunk lines, the Coosa River and the Coosa Valley, cotton product 20,000 bales of long staple, the best that grows, except the Sea Island of South Carolina.

Pell City, thirty-five miles from Birmingham, the Pittsburg of the south. Very good for Pell City. But again Fort Payne unexpected comes to the front and will start up her dormant industries again very soon and the beautiful little city, after a long sleep, will bloom once more. They have already started the ball in motion and the clay plant that cost \$30,000 in 1890, and made some fine samples of terra cotta, drain pipe, fire brick, and sent some of their fine clay to Philadelphia and had returned a remarkable sample of a very fine china-ware, all finished and ready for the table.

Expect to be home in ten days and will be pleased to see you in person.

Hoping this will find you well and happy, from your friend, the Old Tanager.
JOHN MAXWELL.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

That one strong point of a wasp is not in his favor.

Among other things that won't bear the light are shadows.

A cynic is a man who laughs at the world with tears in his eyes.

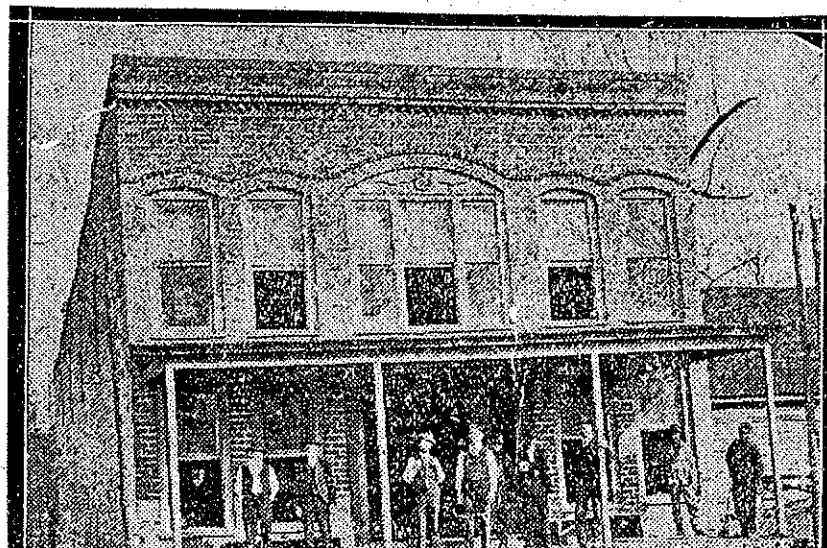
Short-sighted people seem to think others should look through their glasses.

Women are beginning to think of spring bonnets. It doesn't cost much to think.

Willing workers achieve much, provided they do not try to work the wrong man.

Love may be the ruling passion, but the almighty dollar occasionally takes a fall out of it.

A drowning man may clutch at a straw, but it is folly for a poor man to clutch at the early strawberry.—Chicago News.



January — New officials take

The year 1979 started out with St. Clair County Hospital signing an agreement with Suburban Ambulance Company of Birmingham for emergency ambulance service after a local company, St. Clair County Ambulance Service, shut down operations just a few weeks before leaving the county uncovered for nearly 24 hours.

Also, the first week of the new year saw Circuit Court Judge Edwin Holladay administer oath of office to several newly elected public officials. They included Commission Chairman Dr. James H. McClendon, Commissioners M. B. Ferguson Sr., Bill Franklin, James Ingram and Paul Manning. Also Sheriff Clemons

Roe, Tax Assessor Mike Harvey and Tax Collector Ed Hollis.

During this month many St. Clair Countians prepared for the inauguration of Governor-elect Fob James. The Pell City and Springville high school marching bands participated in the parade along with a number of local dignitaries.

A number of local citizens

also traveled to Montgomery to say goodbye to out-going Governor George C. Wallace. Students as well as politicians traveled to the state capitol to say farewell.

An Ashville man and his eight-year-old daughter became two of the first accident victims in St. Clair County. Both perished in a fiery crash in Rainbow City.

The St. Clair County School Board approved two transfers from Moody Elementary School because of asbestos ceilings and appointed Dr. Stanley Horn as principal of the Moody schools.

St. Clair County Hospital Administrator Sam Jones was appointed to the Birmingham Regional Hospital Council Board of Directors.

A suspect identified as Henry Lewis Black was arrested and charged with the robbery of the Dam Road Grocery as well as a series of other holdups.

y — New officials take office

Also, the first week of the new year saw Circuit Court Judge William Holladay administer his office to several newly elected public officials. They included Commission Chairman Dr. James H. Clendon, Commissioners M. Ferguson Sr., Bill Franklin, James Ingram and Paul Manning. Also Sheriff Clemons

Roe, Tax Assessor Mike Harvey and Tax Collector Ed Hollis.

During this month many St. Clair Countians prepared for the inauguration of Governor-elect Fob James. The Pell City and Springville high school marching bands participated in the parade along with a number of local dignitaries.

A number of local citizens

also traveled to Montgomery to say goodbye to outgoing Governor George C. Wallace. Students as well as politicians traveled to the state capitol to say 'farewell'.

An Ashville man and his eight year-old daughter became two of the first accident victims in St. Clair County. Both perished in a fiery crash in Rainbow City.

The St. Clair County School Board approved two transfers from Moody Elementary School because of asbestos ceilings and appointed Dr. Stanley Horn as principal of the Moody schools.

St. Clair County Hospital Administrator Sam Jones was appointed to the Birmingham Regional Hospital Council Board of Directors.

A suspect identified as Henry Lewis Black was arrested and charged with the robbery of the Dam Road Grocery as well as a series of other holdups.

Water service was made available in the Argo community. An Ashville man was killed in a one-vehicle accident on U. S. Hwy 231 south of Ashville. James Layton was killed in the accident which occurred in front of the county shop.

Dowzer Electric, a new million dollar industry, announced plans to locate in Pell City. R. B. Graham was named Pell City's Fireman of the Year.

While attending a Super Bowl party in Louisville, Kentucky a former Ragland man was killed by an attacker who was refused admittance to the party. Bobby Gene Parnell, 47, was killed at the scene and a son wounded.

Two men, state prisoners, escaped from the Ashville jail. The county commission laid off 16 CETA workers. The Pell City Drama Club won several top awards in state competition.

February—

Odenville water system underway

Construction crews began installing water lines for the long-awaited Odenville Water System. Work was begun in the Cool Springs, Margaret and Evergreen Road areas. Members of local fire departments, law enforcement agencies and rescue squads participated in a disaster drill.

An escaped convicted murderer was captured by Riverside Police Chief Leland Gossett during a routine traffic stop. It was later learned that Beauty Collins had escaped on November 10, 1953. State officials stated they still wanted Collins but because of a legal snafu, the escapee was released on bond and has not been seen since.

The St. Clair County Grand Jury met during their spring session and returned 46 indictments and also recommended that the county employ more sheriff's deputies.

Russell Earl Jordan, one of two escapees who left the County Jail in Ashville just the week before was recaptured in Irondale. A suit charging St. Clair Sheriff Clemons Roe, Chief Deputy Lewis Brown and Springville Police Chief Hoyt Mann was dismissed in federal court in Birmingham.

A 14-year-old, certified in district court as an adult, was indicted by a county grand jury in the death of a 11-year-old Pell City girl. Larry Winstead was indicted in the strangulation murder of Elizabeth Beasley near the Plaza Shopping Center the year before.

Ashville announced the prospect of getting a new dentist for their community. The community of Moody kicked off their \$25,000 fund raising drive for a new football field.

In an effort to achieve a lower insurance rating, the Pell City Fire Department started enforcing fire lane codes much to the anger and anguish of

some local citizens.

St. Clair County Commission received an opinion from county attorney and the state that the board of commissioners are not and should not act as a parole or pardon board. This practice of pardoning county prisoners has been an accepted duty in the past.

An escapee, Terry Lynn Teat, 18, was recaptured by Birmingham law enforcement authorities and returned to the St. Clair County Jail in Pell City.

First hint of a possible strike by County road and bridge workers appeared when the local chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees met with the county commission to hear the workers demands.

John Ellis Sparks was found guilty by a Calhoun County jury of assault with intent to murder in connection with an shooting assault that left Donna Tucker dead and Mark Martin critically and permanently injured.

An ice storm hit St. Clair County late in the month causing power failures throughout the county and roads blocked from fallen trees.

The timberlands of the county were also damaged.

St. Clair County schools were hit with a tandem effect from inflation and the governor's announced proration program. A project progresses to make the Coosa River navigable.

A Clay community truck driver was shot and robbed by two men on I-20 near the Brompton exit. And a Birmingham woman was killed in a traffic accident on I-20 between the Chula Vista and Cooks Springs exits.

participated in a disaster drill.

An escaped convicted murderer was captured by Riverside Police Chief Leland Cossett during a routine traffic stop. It was later learned that Beauty Collins had escaped on November 10, 1953. State officials stated they still wanted Collins but because of a legal snafu, the escapee was released on bond and has not been seen since.

The St. Clair County Grand Jury met during their spring session and returned 46 indictments and also recommended that the county employ more sheriff's deputies.

Russell Earl Jordan, one of two escapees who left the County Jail in Ashville just the week before was recaptured in Irondale. A suit charging St. Clair Sheriff Clemons Roe, Chief Deputy Lewis Brown and Springville Police Chief Hoyt Mann was dismissed in federal court in Birmingham.

A 14-year-old, certified in district court as an adult, was indicted by a county grand jury in the death of a 11-year-old Pell City girl. Larry Winstead was indicted in the strangulation murder of Elizabeth Beasley near the Plaza Shopping Center the year before.

Ashville announced the prospect of getting a new dentist for their community. The community of Moody kicked off their \$25,000 fund raising drive for a new football field.

In an effort to achieve a lower insurance rating, the Pell City Fire Department started enforcing fire lane codes much to the anger and anguish of

been an accepted duty in the past.

An escapee Terry Lynn Teat, 18, was recaptured by Birmingham law enforcement authorities and returned to the St. Clair County Jail in Pell City.

First hint of a possible strike by County road and bridge workers appeared when the local chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees met with the county commission to hear the workers demands.

John Ellis Sparks was found guilty by a Calhoun County jury of assault with intent to murder in connection with an shooting assault that left Donna Tucker dead and Mark Martin critically and permanently injured.

An ice storm hit St. Clair County late in the month causing power failures throughout the county and roads blocked from fallen trees.

March —

Weather, basketball top news

The Pell City High School Band of Gold captured first place and other honors during performances in the Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans.

St. Clair County lawmen raided a bingo hall located at the former Frontier Club on U.S. Hwy 411 north of Ashville, making several arrests and confiscating equipment. Those arrested later pleaded guilty to reduced charges and the club has been closed since.

The Coosa River claimed its first drowning victim of the year when an Alabaster man drowned during a fishing tournament.

Negotiations continued in the contract talks between union road and bridge members and the St. Clair Commission.

Former players, friends and relatives gathered at Ashville High School to honor winning coach Coy Smith who, after taking his basketball team to

the state finals, announced his retirement in coaching.

Weather again took headlines, this time it was flooding in parts of St. Clair County which seriously damaged some bridges and caused property damage.

In Springville, local citizens and businessmen organized that communities Chamber of Commerce. Ashville announced plans to expand its water system.

A traffic study was started in Pell City with target areas on U.S. Hwy 231. The county health department announced that without additional funding, the department would be forced to cut back on some services.

Margaret's health board got under way with formation and bylaws and plans for a nurse practitioner clinic.

An Ashville man, Jimmy Forman, was killed in a two-car

accident at the intersection of St. Clair County Road 26 and St. Clair 33. St. Clair County lawmen arrested two brothers, former residents of the county, with the robbery of the Vincent bank.

Prescott bridge first entered the headline picture after recent flooding caused the old structure to create concern in that community. The floods knocked out a support beam from underneath the bridge.

Meanwhile, Sen. John Teague asked that Governor Fob James name St. Clair a disaster due to recent flooding and James asked President Jimmy Carter to do the same.

Pell City City Council adopted an anti-liter campaign. The Alabama Forestry Commission issued a fire caution and the Odenville Fire Department started their fund-raising drive to purchase a second fire truck.

A family of eight who had a dozen children in all lost their home and all their belongings in a house fire. They were denied emergency food stamps because of a legal catch in regulations. The result was U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland entering the case, changing the national policy regarding emergency food stamps.

In a troubled time for Ashville City Council, two members, Jack Bowling and Earnest Cone, resigned their council seats.

The News-Aegis conducted a cooking school at the Pell City Civic Center attended by well over 300 persons as a public service.

A proposed fourth floor addition to the St. Clair County Hospital got the green light from the board members after being discussed.

April —

Pell City beautification program starts

A jury hearing the robbery trial Michael Artrip ended deadlocked, causing a mistrial in the case.

The long worked on, long-awaited 208 water quality improvement study was recently completed and hearings were held in the county. The proposal was also presented to local governments for endorsement.

Three Prescott community men were arrested and charged with operating a still in that community. Sheriff's department officers destroyed the still.

which were produced for public television. The film centered around the history and historic homes of the Ashville community.

St. Clair County Superintendent George Eden, who chose not to run for reelection, completed 31 years in the St. Clair County school system, was treated to a ceremony honoring him.

An Ashville man, Sammy Mack Williams, was arrested and charged with the shotgun slaying of Freddie Britton, a Calhoun County man.

beautification program. Mrs. King's work was such an inspiration and success that she later was named to several honors including Citizen of the Year by the Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce.

St. Clair County Engineer Blake Livingston, announced that bridge conditions in St. Clair were poor in most places and warned that something would have to be done to repair many bridges.

In the middle of April, St. Clair County was hit a double-whammy from yet another

Keeping their word, county road and bridge crews went on strike following eight meetings with the county commission over higher wages.

Griffin's Jewelry Store on Cogswell Avenue was robbed of over \$11,000 in diamonds and rings by three black women. One was later arrested.

Members of the St. Clair Resource Development Board met and proposed conducting a seminar on attracting new industry for local governments. Wanda Bridgewater was appointed to start the work.

place and other honors during performances in the Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans.

St. Clair County lawmen raided a bingo hall located at the former Frontier Club on U. S. Hwy 411 north of Ashville, making several arrests and confiscating equipment. Those arrested later pleaded guilty to reduced charges and the club has been closed since.

The Coosa River claimed its first drowning victim of the year when an Alabaster man drowned during a fishing tournament.

Negotiations continued in the contract talks between union road and bridge members and the St. Clair Commission.

Former players, friends and relatives gathered at Ashville High School to honor winning coach Coy Smith who, after taking his basketball team to

retirement in coaching. Weather again took headlines, this time it was flooding in parts of St. Clair County which seriously damaged some bridges and caused property damage.

In Springville, local citizens and businessmen organized that communities Chamber of Commerce. Ashville announced plans to expand its water system.

A traffic study was started in Pell City with target areas on U. S. Hwy 231. The county health department announced that without additional funding, the department would be forced to cut back on some services.

Margaret's health board got under way with formation and bylaws and plans for a nurse practitioner clinic.

An Ashville man, Jimmy Forman, was killed in a two-car

St. Clair County Road 26 and St. Clair 33. St. Clair County lawmen arrested two brothers, former residents of the county, with the robbery of the Vincent bank.

Prescott bridge first entered the headline picture after recent flooding caused the old structure to create concern in that community. The floods knocked out a support beam from underneath the bridge.

Meanwhile, Sen. John Teague asked that Governor Fob James name St. Clair a disaster due to recent flooding and James asked President Jimmy Carter to do the same.

Pell City City Council adopted an anti-liter campaign. The Alabama Forestry Commission issued a fire caution and the Odenville Fire Department started their fund-raising drive to purchase a second fire truck.

dozen children in all lost their home and all their belongings in a house fire. They were denied emergency food stamps because of a legal catch in regulations. The result was U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland entering the case, changing the national policy regarding emergency food stamps.

In a troubled time for Ashville City Council, two members, Jack Bowling and Earnest Cone, resigned their council seats.

The News-Aegis conducted a cooking school at the Pell City Civic Center attended by well over 300 persons as a public service.

A proposed fourth floor addition to the St. Clair County Hospital got the green light from the board members after being discussed.

April—

Pell City beautification program starts

A jury hearing the robbery trial of Michael Arttrip ended deadlocked, causing a mistrial in the case.

The long worked on, long awaited 200 water quality improvement study was recently completed and hearings were held in the county. The proposal was also presented to local governments for endorsement.

Three Prescott community men were arrested and charged with operating a still in that community. Sheriff's department officers destroyed the still.

The community of Ashville was featured in a series of films

which were produced for public television. The film centered around the history and historic homes of the Ashville community.

St. Clair County Superintendent George Eden, who chose not to run for re-election, completed 31 years in the St. Clair County school system, was treated to a ceremony honoring him.

An Ashville man, Sammy Mack Williams, was arrested and charged with the shotgun slaying of Freddie Britton, a Calhoun County man.

Pell City came under attack—literally—that is—when the city employed Mrs. Willie King in its

beautification program. Mrs. King's work was such an inspiration and success that she later was named to several honors including Citizen of the Year by the Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce.

St. Clair County Engineer Blake Livingston announced that bridge conditions in St. Clair were poor in most places and warned that something would have to be done to repair many bridges.

In the middle of April, St. Clair County was hit a double-whammy from yet another flood. This flood caused extensive damage to already suffering roads and bridges.

Keeping their word, county road and bridge crews went on strike following eight meetings with the county commission over higher wages.

Griffin's Jewelry Store on Cogswell Avenue was robbed of over \$11,000 in diamonds and rings by three black women. One was later arrested.

Members of the St. Clair Resource Development Board met and proposed conducting a seminar on attracting new industry for local governments.

Wanda Bridgewater was appointed postmaster at Cooks Springs and Glenda Warbrough officially assumed the post at the Wattsville post office.

May —

Strike carries into month

A rapid blazing inferno completely destroyed the L. F. Haney home located on the Old Stovall Florida Road in Pell City.

An impasse was declared in negotiations between the county and striking road and bridge workers and the union called on professional union negotiators to aid in the talks.

Eight St. Clair County families were honored by the county Historical Development Commission with certificates for living in or owning historical homes at a banquet.

St. Clair County Civil Defense Director Bob Timmons informed the county commission of upcoming dam inspections of all dams in the

county. The federal government called for 44 dam inspections in the county.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held in Ashville for new government subsidized housing. Steele announced plans for construction of a new city hall and fire department.

St. Clair and other area counties were plagued by a green-masked rapist who assaulted women in a four-county area. A local woman escaped harm from the intruder who had gained entry to her home.

The Town of Odenville held hearings on an annexation proposal. Moody was forced to layoff some full-time and part-time officers, then rehired the officers who were laid off a second time.

A car accident in Riverside caused some anxious moments when a stolen car crashed into

the back waters of the Coosa River. It was later learned that the occupant escaped from the submerged vehicle.

The strike between the county and county road and bridge workers finally ended. W. Bradford discovered a billfold lying beside the road containing over \$5,000 and returned it to its rightful owner.

A burglary suspect, Jimmy Dale Hall, was arrested and charged with the burglary of a doctor's office in Odenville. A Steele man, James Warren Mostello, was hospitalized after being shot in the head during a domestic incident.

Pell City announced that it may be forced into the landfill business after wrestling with escalating rates from a private contractor.

The Ku Klux Klan marched in Leeds in a demonstration, seeking support for their cause.

June —

Tragic deaths mar month

Financially crippled Moody voted to install a sales tax and make a loan in order to provide services city fathers stated citizens expected.

A missing Wattsville man, Michael Crump, was found murdered near a construction site in Hoover after being reported missing for four months. Crump was believed to have been shot.

An 18 year-old girl, April Sparks of Odenville, was killed in a traffic accident in Moody and fire raxed a 150 year-old landmark in the London Community.

Jim Aldridge joined the

Alabama Cooperative Extension Service in St. Clair County as county agent, replacing agent Les Pair who left to return to Calhoun County.

A former St. Clair woman, working as a night clerk at a convenience store, Sandra Upton Keefover, was reported missing. She would later be found murdered and a Talladega man charged with the crime.

The body of a man identified as Joe Northcutt, who was scheduled for burial, suddenly turned out not to be Northcutt at all. After hearing reports of his

death, Northcutt called his home, informing shocked relatives that he was indeed alive and well.

A plane owned by Southern Natural Gas Corporation crashed at the St. Clair County Airport in Pell City but both occupants of the plane were able to escape from the burning wreckage.

The independent truckers strike affected St. Clair County and there were some reports of violence in the county with assailants firing at moving trucks.

A Springville man was struck and killed by a vehicle after his

car became disabled on an interstate in Birmingham. Mr. Thomas Ramsey was killed in the accident and his wife injured.

A major mishap on Chandler

h

...posed
...ed that
...on the
...ounty
...bridge
...W
...billfold
...laminated
...folios
...laminated
...ed and
...at of
...wife. A
...Warren
...ed after
...uring a
...that it
...landfill
...ng with
...private
...ched in
...station
...cause

r news headlines

bled on an
ingham. Mr.
was killed in
nd his wife
ore Chandler

Mountain near Steele resulted
in the death of a 20 year-old

below.
An alligator was found in a
small farm pond near Pell City,
causing quite a ruckus before
being captured and turned over
to the Birmingham Zoo.

July —

Richey takes over a

J. W. Shag Richey of Ashville took over the reins as superintendent of schools for St. Clair County, facing financial problems and overcrowding as the new administrator. The communities of Ashville and Riverside held community fourth of July celebrations. The Riverside firefighters auxiliary sponsored a barbeque and raised money to purchase

equipment for the volunteers. Terry Byers of Rt. 1 Ragland, was killed in a one vehicle traffic accident in Pell City. The county was warned to be prepared for Skylab falling back to earth. The St. Clair County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 50 received property for a new lodge hall located on

the Spanish Garden Cutoff. Pell City natural gas customers were hit with yet another rate increase. Bluther McCain was named Undersheriff for the county

under a new legislative act. A 24-year-old Steele woman, Joyce Rennamen, was killed in a traffic accident on U.S. Hwy 11 between Whitney Junction and Steele.

August —

ver as St. Clair superintendant

slative act A 24
woman, Joyce
killed in a
on U.S. Hwy 11
Junction and

Members of the St. Clair
Sheriff's Department
confiscated and destroyed a
still in the Prescott community.
A open house was held in Pell
City to greet new doctor, Dr. W

H. McClanahan.
A Springville girl, Sheree
McCain, was attacked by a man
wielding a hypodermic needle
in a Birmingham YWCA
St. Clair authorities charged

Julia Ann Bice with the shooting
death of her husband in
Woodland Village trailer park
in Moody. A nine-year-old
Gadsden boy drowned in the
Oosa River near the Henry

Neely Dam.
A Pell City man charged
a series of burglaries in
Ashville area escaped from
St. Clair County Jail in
61

Accident claims military personnel

Unity Baptist Church was
struck by lightning during a
rainstorm and suffered damage
to the roof of the structure. Pell
City firefighters were aided by
Riverside in fighting the blaze.

Eddie Martin set a new world
speed record at the Alabama
Motor Speedway in Talladega
County when a drove a heavy
wrecker over 109 miles per hour
at the track.

The St. Clair County Sheriff's
Department, District
Attorney's Office and the
Alabama Farm Bureau chapter
in the county announced a new
identification program to aid
homeowners in protecting their
property from theft.

The Pell City Community
Players held two performances
of Fiddler on the Roof at the
Pell City Civic Center. Under
the sponsorship of the Pell City
Civic Chorus, the production
was termed very successful.

Two persons were arrested on
arson charges in separate
incidents in that community. A
county grand jury
recommended that a substation
of the sheriff's department be
placed in the Moody community
and that the county employ
additional deputies.

Harkey's Chapel United
Methodist Church held its 150th
anniversary with all-day
festivities and services.

A Moody area man, Douglas
Evans, was shot by Moody
Police Officer Don Lowe after
the victim fired a rifle at the
officer who was responding to a
disturbance call.

A Birmingham man drowned
near a boat launch at Kelly
Creek during a family outing.
Senators Howell Heflin and Don
Stewart visited St. Clair
County.

The St. Clair County
Commission held discussions on
proposed truck weight limits
and held a hearing on the
matter.

Two soldiers—one a Military
Police officer and the other a
military prisoner—were killed
when their van was struck
headon by a coal truck near the
St. Clair-Shelby county line on
U.S. 231.

The county commission voted
to hike tax millage in an effort
to recover tax lost due to a state
mandate. An accident claimed
the life of James Lee
Hollingsworth on Alabama 77
north of Lincoln.

September —

Prison, pine beetles

Margaret Police Chief Albert McIntyre was injured in a daylight attack by a Margaret citizen. Albert Kynard was arrested and jailed on assault with intent to murder charges.

Blue Ridge citizens appeared

before council on several occasions in an attempt to air complaints about the Moody subdivision.

St. Clair County was hit by an epidemic of Southern Pine Beetle which cost timberland

owners thousands of dollars and placed the county at the top of Alabama's countys suffering from the epidemic.

St. Clair officials were shocked to learn that the state

was pl
prison
commun
plans le
and th
comman
Pel ©

beetles and murder trial

ousands of dollars and county at the top of countys suffering epidemic.

officials were learn that the state

was planning on locating a prison near the Odenville community. Word of the state's plans leaked to the news media and the issue is still commanding headlines.

Pell City Police Officers Bill

Gurley and Rick Simmons nabbed two burglary suspects in connection with a burglary at the Coosa Valley Grocery.

Union official Billy Briggs, who represented the union of county road and bridge workers

during strike negotiations, was killed in a traffic accident near his home in Hueytown.

A 20-year-old Cleveland man was arrested and charged with two counts of manslaughter in connection with a head-on collision that claimed the lives of two military personnel in the county the month before.

The financially troubled county School system asked the school board to consider a tax to raise funds.

The community of Steele landed a new multi-million dollar industry when Alabama Feed Products announced they would build a new plant in that community.

Estell Weems of Trussville was killed in a car-truck accident at the intersection of the Eden Cutoff and Alabama 17 near Pell City.

Ragland High School students had an exhibit promoting the total home economics program at the Alabama State Fair in Birmingham.

The media center at Nunnelle Tech in Childersburg was named after long-time support Congressman Bill Nichols during ceremonies.

An Odenville man, 26-year-old James Irwin, was sentenced to life imprisonment after being found guilty of murder in the shooting death of Billy Clayton Allison, 33, at the Allison home in Branchville.

The St. Clair County Commission was accused by the News-Aegis of holding a secret meeting to discuss condemnation of land sought by the state for a prison site.

October —

Commission adopts record budget

The St. Clair County Commission approved the opening of a sheriff's department substation in the Moody community, acting on a recommendation of the county grand jury.

Three area citizens, Larry Kline, 35, of Springville, Jackie Lee Perkins, 38, of Pell City and James A. Griffith, 60, all died in traffic accidents which occurred outside St. Clair County.

The Town of Steele wrestled with the proposal of selling the

town's natural gas system in the face of additional demands on the system, which is being serviced under allocations.

A tractor mishap claimed the life of 52-year-old Lawrence Martin of Margaret. An arson case against a Moody man was dismissed due to lack of evidence.

The Springville Chamber of Commerce compiled the city's first map and council approved raises for employees during budget hearings.

Leeds Telephone Company

announced a million dollar cable project. The company services the communities of Leeds, Moody, Branchville, Odenville, Springville and Ashville.

The St. Clair County Commission adopted a record budget of over \$3 million during their regular commission meeting. The commission held hearings on federal revenue sharing monies and heard requests from several agencies on funding.

A Leeds man was charged with the rape and robbery of Woodland Vileage woman. Her trailer home in Moody truck driver was hijacked in Irondale and forced to drive on a sideroad in St. Clair County.

Dr. John Haynes of Pell City received the EMS provider of the year award from Birmingham Region Emergency Medical Services.

A former Pell City family assaulted in their Okla

pts record budget

ed a million dollar project. The company the communities of Moody, Branchville, le, Springville and St. Clair County son adopted a record over \$3 million during regular commission The commission held on federal revenue monies and heard from several agencies

A Leeds man was charged with the rape and robbery of a Woodland Vileage woman in her trailer home in Moody. A truck driver was hijacked in Irondale and forced to drive to a sideroad in St. Clair County.

Dr. John Haynes of Pell City received the EMS provider of the year award from the Birmingham Regional Emergency Medical Services Systems.

A former Pell City family was assaulted in their Oklahoma

home with the parents, Marilyn and Rev. Richard Douglas shot to death and their two children wounded in an attack. Two men were later arrested and charged in the brutal slayings.

The St. Clair County Historical Society announced plans for their annual fall festival at the Looney House near Ashville.

An escaped monkey led law enforcement officers and citizens on a two-day chase in the Evergreen community after the animal allegedly attacked a woman, sending her to a Birmingham hospital.

A trustee being used in janitorial services at the courthouse in Pell City was arrested and charged with grand larceny. A Leeds youth, 17-year-old Frank Bonaventure, died in a traffic accident on U. S. Hwy 78 near Leeds.

The county commission denied superintendent Shag Richey's request for a one cent sales tax for county schools.

county engineer, appointed Blake Livingston.

Two men were arrested and charged in the Steele Branch of the Ashville Savings Bank robbery. The two were arrested after an hour-long chase around

November —

Salary vote ends in tie

A 12-year-old Birmingham youth, Richard Morgan, died in an accidental drowning incident at the Cooks Springs Baptist Church Camp in what was called the first drowning in the 70-year history of the camp.

St. Clair was represented at the annual meeting of the Tallapoosa Highland Lakes Association meeting at Cheaha State Park. The meeting was held to promote local tourism in the state.

Phyllis Diller and a traveling companion visited Shoal Creek Valley and St. Clair County and purchased some property while

the entertainer was in Alabama.

A vote by St. Clair Countians ended in a tie and thus failed to grant the county tax assessor, tax collector and coronor expense and salary adjustments. The vote ended in a 651-651 tie.

Ragland council awarded a cable franchise to Bob Dickinson of Ragland Telephone Company and the Department of Pensions and Securities announced that food stamps would be issued through the mail.

Ashville was the recipient of a new industry, a multi-million dollar coal washer for the Whitney Jet community. Making the announcement were Ray Marsh and Elwyn Thomas of Calvert-Marsh Coal Company.

Mom and Pop Chamness of the Ashville community were honored at an open house. The Chamness have been parents for 71 foster children.

An Ashville man, Anthony Cartrell, was killed in a car accident on Blount Mountain, U.S. 231 North near Ashville.

The home of Kenneth and Brenda Crews burned to the ground.

Joe Yates, Mr. 4-H to many St. Clair County school children retired from his post and was honored with several parties and gatherings.

St. Clair County judges were thanked for the part in reducing court docket loads. Receiving congratulations from the court management office were Judge Ed Holladay, Judge Carl NeSmith and Judge Charles Kerr.

The Broken Arrow Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated their 25th anniversary with festivities at the Pell City Civic Center.

Sedden Shores community citizens appeared before the Pell City Council to voice their opposition to the location of a sewage treatment on the Hanner farm in their community.

The Springville community mourned the loss of high school principal Charles Jarrett who died after suffering a heart attack.

The Ashville Savings Bank held an open house for their new branch building located in Odenville.

Attorney General Bill Baxley at a recent banquet.

Representatives of Arco Oil Company declined to comment on published reports that they would conduct exploratory drilling in St. Clair County for gas.

Springville announced it would purchase an additional site for industrial use. St. Clair and Moody authorities investigated the robbery and assault on the Joe Gilley family in Moody. One arrest was later made.

The St. Clair County Commission went on record as supporting a proposed tax on the wholesale price of gasoline to raise money for the county road fund.

A 31-year-old Pell City man, Terry Rodgers, survived a jolt of 7,200 volts electricity in an accident in Cullman County.

December —

Steele bank robbed

Three St. Clair County letter carriers were honored by the National Safety Council for traveling a million miles or driving for 25,000 hours without a single accident. The three honored are Ed Burtram of Springville, Charles Forman of Odenville and Aubrey Watson of Ragland.

St. Clair and Riverside law enforcement officers investigated the mysterious death of a Talladega area woman at the Riverside Holiday Inn who died of an apparent over-dose of drugs. Melissa Howard died a day after being found unconscious in her room at the Riverside hotel.

A 32-year-old Ashville man, Ralph Williams, Jr. of 10th

Street, was charged with the shooting death of George C. Cook III. The incident occurred in the Little Mississippi community and both persons involved in the incident were black.

Two persons were killed in a grinding head-on collision on I-59 just north of Steele. George Bearden, 66, of Ashville and Marsha Vinyard, 37, of Birmingham were killed instantly. Officers stated that Bearden was traveling north in

the south-bound lane.

Fire swept through the Childersburg home of Alabama Senator John Teague. No one was home at the time of the fire, which extensively damaged the house.

Betty Haynes, Willie King, Wille Kirkland, L. O. Payne, Myrtha Roe and Paul Turner were nominated for the Citizen of the Year honor. Mrs. King was the recipient of the award which was presented by former (See December page 4B)

State Park. The meeting was held to promote local tourism in the state.

Phyllis Diller and a traveling companion visited Shoal Creek Valley and St. Clair County and purchased some property while

Dickinson of Ragland Telephone Company and the Department of Pensions and Securities announced that food stamps would be issued through the mail.

for 71 foster children.

An Ashville man, Anthony Cartrell, was killed in a car accident on Blount Mountain, U.S. 231 North near Ashville.

management office were Judge Ed Holladay, Judge Carl NeSmith and Judge Charles Kerr.

The Broken Arrow Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated their 25th anniversary with festivities at the Pell City Civic Center.

Sedden Shores community citizens appeared before the Pell City Council to voice their opposition to the location of a sewage treatment on the Hanner farm in their community.

The Springville community mourned the loss of high school principal Charles Jarrett who died after suffering a heart attack.

The Ashville Savings Bank held an open house for their new branch building located in Odenville.

Attorney General Bill Baxley at a recent banquet.

Representatives of Arco Oil Company declined to comment on published reports that they would conduct exploratory drilling in St. Clair County for gas.

Springville announced it would purchase an additional site for industrial use. St. Clair and Moody authorities investigated the robbery and assault on the Joe Gilley family in Moody. One arrest was later made.

The St. Clair County Commission went on record as supporting a proposed tax on the wholesale price of gasoline to raise money for the county road fund.

A 31-year-old Pell City man, Terry Rodgers, survived a jolt of 7,200 volts electricity in an accident in Cullman County.

The County Commission announced they had hired Steven G. Hurley as the new county engineer, replacing Blake Livingston.

Two men were arrested and charged in the Steele Branch of the Ashville Savings Bank robbery. The two were arrested after an hour-long chase around Chandler Mountain which ended in Oneonta.

December — Steele bank robbed

Three St. Clair County letter carriers were honored by the National Safety Council for traveling a million miles or driving for 25,000 hours without a single accident. The three honored are Ed Burtram, of Springville, Charles Forman of Odenville and Aubrey Watson of Ragland.

St. Clair and Riverside law enforcement officers investigated the mysterious death of a Talladega area woman at the Riverside Holiday Inn who died of an apparent over-dose of drugs. Melissa Howard died a day after being found unconscious in her room at the Riverside hotel.

A 32-year-old Ashville man, Ralph Williams Jr., of 10th

Street was charged with the shooting death of George C. Cook III. The incident occurred in the Little Mississippi community and both persons involved in the incident were black.

Two persons were killed in a grinding head-on collision on I-59 just north of Steele. George Bearden, 66, of Ashville and Marsha Vinyard, 37, of Birmingham were killed instantly. Officers stated that Bearden was traveling north in

the south-bound lane.

Fire swept through the Childersburg home of Alabama Senator John Teague. No one was home at the time of the fire, which extensively damaged the house.

Betty Haynes, Willie King, Willie Kirkland, L. O. Payne, Myrtha Roe and Paul Turner were nominated for the Citizen of the Year honor. Mrs. King was the recipient of the award which was presented by former (See December page 4B)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

April 11,12-Horsepens 40 School Day
April 12,13,14-Horsepens 40 Native American
Festival

April 20-PALS St. Clair County Cleanup Day
MAY

May 4-Pell City Airport Annual Air Fair

May 5-Springville Old Tymes Day

May 10,11,12-Horsepens 40 Bluegrass
Festival

May 18-Alpha Ranch Annual Auction

May 31-June 1,2-Horsepens 40 Civil Way
Reenactment

JUNE

June 7,8,9-Homestead Hollow Summerfest

June 14,15-Horsepens 40 Tomato Jubilee

JULY

July 4,5,6-Horsepens 40 Arts & Crafts Festival

July 19,20-Horsepens 40 Bluegrass Festival

July 29-Pell City Miss Logan Martin Pageant

AUGUST

August 10-Horsepens 40 Country Music

August 31-Sept 1,2-Horsepens 40 Arts &
Crafts Festival

SEPTEMBER

Sept 20,21-Horsepens 40 Country Music

Sept 28-Ragland Trout Creek Day

OCTOBER

Oct 4,5-Horsepens 40 Country Music

Oct 4,5,6-Homestead Hollow Harvest Festival

Oct 12-John Looney Pioneer Homestead
Festival

Oct 18,19,20-Horsepens 40 Bluegrass Festival

Oct 31-Ragland Depot Museum Ghost
Stories

NOVEMBER

Nov 1,2,3-Homestead Hollow Christmas in
the Country

Nov 28,29,30-Horsepens 40 Arts & Crafts
Festival

DECEMBER

Dec 5-Odenville Christmas Parade

Dec 12-Pell City Christmas Parade

Contributors:

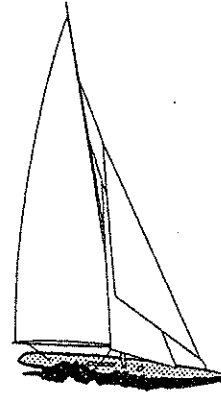
St. Clair County Commission

L A H Realty

St. Clair County Tourism Council

St. Clair County Extension System

ST. CLAIR COUNTY



Welcome!

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

ONE OF THE FIRST & BRIGHTEST STARS TO FALL ON ALABAMA

St. Clair County is located in north-central Alabama at the southern tip of the Appalachian Mountain Range. Its beauty is marked with wooded mountains and quiet valleys through which run sparkling streams. The eastern edge is delineated by the Coosa River. The river has two dams located in St. Clair County, the Neely Henry and the Logan Martin, creating backwaters offering all kinds of water sports: fishing, boating, waterskiing, sailing, swimming. The county also has two interstate highways, Interstate 59 connecting Birmingham and Chattanooga and Interstate 20 connecting Birmingham and Atlanta. The bustling city of Pell City is the industrial center of the county offering convenient shopping centers, fine dining, and motels. The civic center complex has facilities for many activities, indoor and outdoor. The adjoining lake has boating and fishing activities. Moody, only a few minutes from Birmingham, has also become a growing industrial center. Straddling Interstate 20, Moody has large shopping centers, fine restaurants and the largest auto auction in the southeast. Ashville steps back in time with many historic homes and museums. History comes alive as one walks

through the homes built almost two centuries ago. In the mountains north of Ashville, unusual rock formations amaze visitors. It has been reported that Indians used the rocks as a corral for wild horses, hence its name, Horse Pens 40. Nearby is Legion Town, a replica of an old western town where gun fights are often staged during hot summer days. Southeast of Ashville is a authentic museum which recalls the year 1820 when John Looney settled in the county. He built an unusual log house with a double dog trot. A dog trot is an open-ended hall through the middle of the house. John Looney's cabin has one upstairs and one downstairs.

For those who prefer a more modern setting, the Greensport Marina is nearby. The marina offers picnicking, boating, fishing, and other water sports.

Springville has retained the old town flavor in its restored store buildings. Most of the towns of St. Clair County have the same irresistible charm of small town living.

While the waters teem with fish, the forests are filled with wildlife: deer, rabbits, squirrels, quail, wild turkeys. Hunting and fishing were activities pursued by the early settlers and today many residents of and visitors to the county do the same.

Whether you prefer the exciting activities (motor boating, water skiing, tennis, swimming, auto drag racing) or the slower paced (fishing, sailing, hunting, hiking, museum browsing, shopping) St. Clair County is the place to be.

ASHVILLE

Ashville, with a population of 1490, is a small, quiet town with many amenities of a larger town. It was established in 1822 as the county seat. The courthouse has records, marriage, deed, estate, etc., dating back to the early 1800's.

HISTORICAL SITES
Ashville Museum & Archives, Masonic Lodge Museum, Inzer House Museum, all located within walking distance of courthouse. John Looney Pioneer Homestead, built about 1820, is a two-story log house located near Ashville.

THINGS TO DO
The City Park has tennis courts, softball fields, walking trails. Greensport Marina has picnicing, boating, fishing. Horsepens 40 has unique rock formations and various activities during the year. A Civil War re-enactment of Rousseau's Raid is held annually, coordinated with a Tour of Historical Homes. Several gift & antique shops offer unique shopping.

PLACES TO STAY
The Roses & Lace Bed & Breakfast Inn offers rooms in a historic home.

WHERE TO EAT
Sandra's Restaurant, Johnny's on the Square, Sharp's Bar-B-Que.

For further information, call Town Hall 594-4151 or Margaret Evans 594-7002 or Hope Burger 594-5517.



The John Looney House
Pioneer Museum



BRANCHVILLE

Branchville, population about 1000, is an old town but was not incorporated until 1967. The town was settled around 1818 by a man named William Watson. When the mail was carried by Pony Express and Stagecoach, Branchville was a mail stop on the Gadsden to Montevallo route. The Nelms family owned a grist mill & lumber mill. In front of their lovely home was a drinking fountain constructed of rock & a goldfish pond. Many converts were baptized in the pond. The fresh, cool water, supplying the fountain & pond, came from the Eliza Jane Medicinal Springs. Water from this spring flowed to residents by means of gravity.

HISTORICAL SITES
The Robison-Smith House, c. 1900, the Nelms House, built in 1879.

PLACES TO STAY
The nearest lodging is in Moody. Camping Holiday Travel Park 900 Old Ashville Rd. 640-5300, Moody.

WHERE TO EAT
Jiff's Bar-B-Que.
For further information, call Ken Hodges 629-5481.



Robison-Smith House
c. 1900

MOODY

Moody, with a population of 6500, is a small country town with big city conveniences. It is the home of ADESA, the largest auto auction in the southeast.

HISTORICAL SITES

The Epps Moody Home on Park Ave. was built over a hundred years ago. The town is named for Mr. Moody.

THINGS TO DO

Moody Youth Assn. sponsors softball, baseball, basketball, & football with over 900 youths involved. The Homer Dome, 2441 Moody Parkway, offers batting cages. Skate Express, Ashley Drive is a skating rink. Moody Driving Range, 3043 Moody Parkway, offers an opportunity to practice golf.

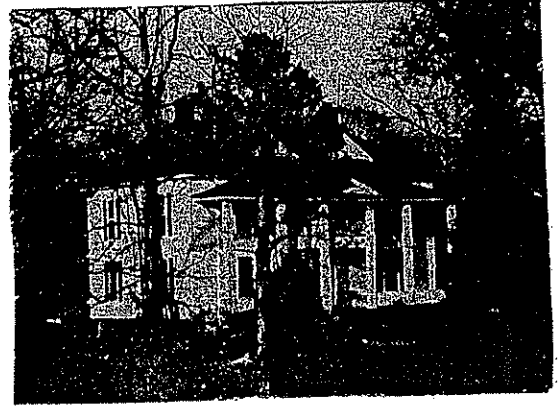
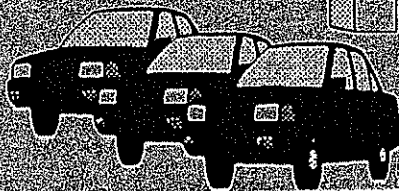
PLACES TO STAY

Super 8 Motel (50 rooms), 2451 Moody Parkway 640-7091
Comfort Inn (50+ rooms), The Village
Moody Shopping Center, Camping Holiday
Travel Park, 900 Old Ashville Rd.
640-5300

WHERE TO EAT

Arby's, 2033 Village Dr. 640-2606
Bamboo House, 2001 Moody Parkway 640-2888
Bobby's Sports Lounge, 2325 Moody Parkway
640-9979
Carlisle's Bar-B-Que, 2333 Moody Parkway 640-6880
Cracker Barrel, 2003 Village Parkway 640-2478
Pizza Hut, 2030 Village Dr. 640-6042
Shaw's Bar-B-Que, 740 Park Ave. 640-5023
Subway, 2170 Moody Parkway 640-2542
Twin Dragon Chinese Rest., 2731 Moody Parkway 640-7990
Waffle House, 2140 Moody Parkway 640-4579
Wendy's, 2210 Village Dr.
For further information, call Randy Smith 699-2284.

CAR AUCTION
MOODY AL



The Will Watson Home
Odenville
1911

ODENVILLE

Odenville, a quaint, quiet town, has a population of 796. It has several very old homes and churches.

HISTORICAL SITES

Liberty Cumberland Presbyterian Church 1850; Maddox-Whitten Home 1904; Ed Ware Home 1906; Hagwood-Scoggins Home 1906; Watson Home 1911; Riddle Home 1912; Masonic Hall 1922.

THINGS TO DO

Odenville has a very picturesque park with a walking trail under the trees and over a small stream. There is a Christmas Parade the first Thursday after Thanksgiving.

PLACES TO STAY

The nearest lodging is at Moody.

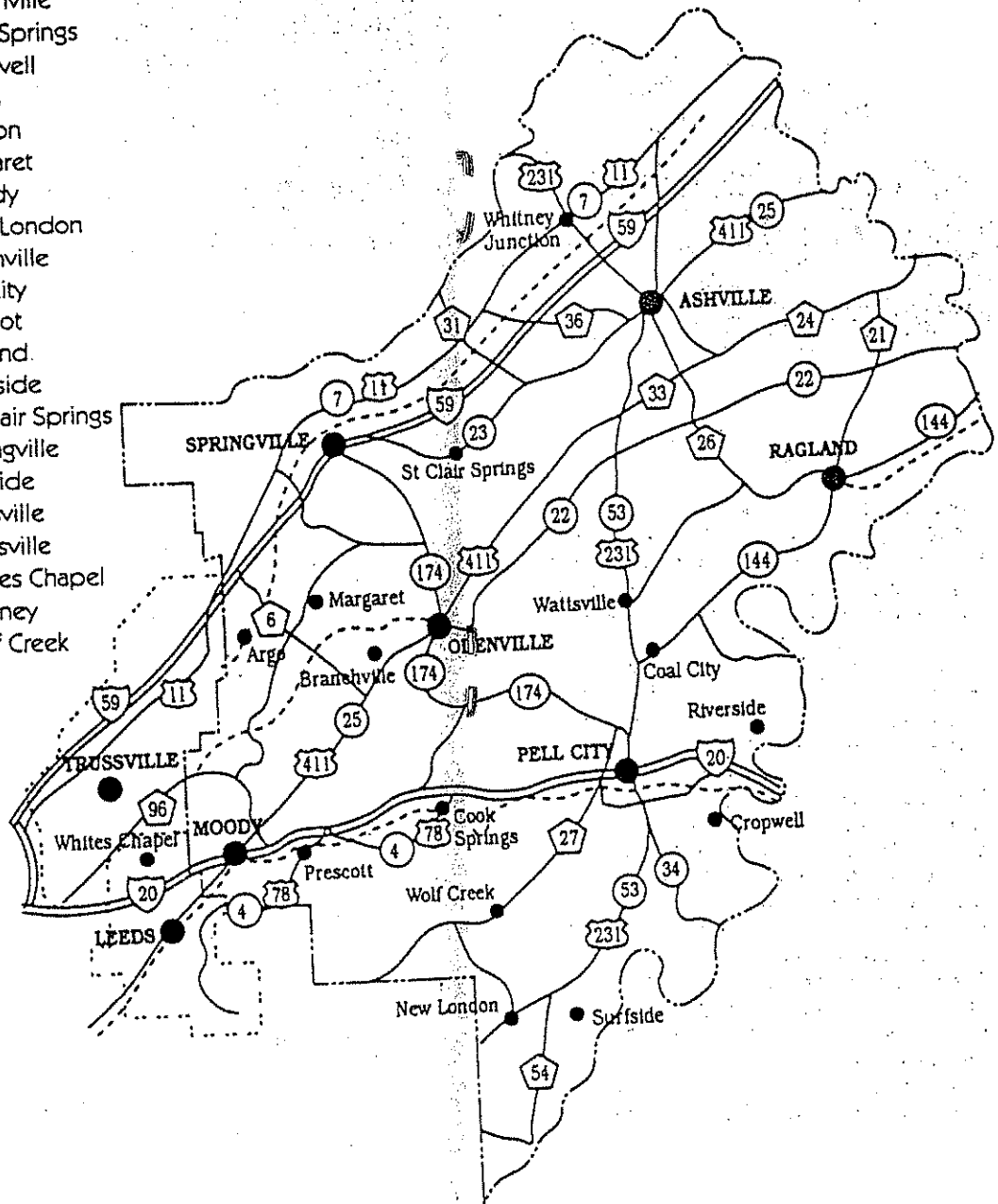
WHERE TO EAT

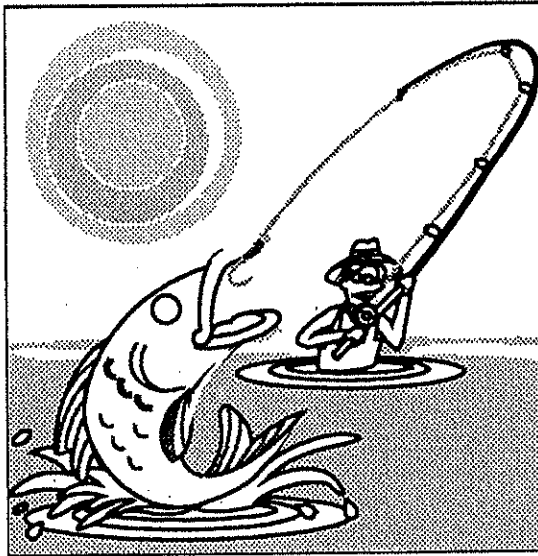
Chuck's Restaurant, 46 Burgess Dr. 629-5710; Mama D's Pizza, 13700A US Hwy 411 629-2255

For further information, call City Hall 629-6366 or Joe Whitten 629-5575

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

1. Argo
2. Ashville
3. Branchville
4. Cook Springs
5. Cropwell
6. Leeds
7. London
8. Margaret
9. Moody
10. New London
11. Odenville
12. Pell City
13. Prescott
14. Ragland
15. Riverside
16. St. Clair Springs
17. Springville
18. Surfside
19. Trussville
20. Wattsville
21. Whites Chapel
22. Whitney
23. Wolf Creek





PELL CITY

Pell City, with a population of approximately 17000, is the largest city in St. Clair County. It is on Interstate 20 between Birmingham and Atlanta and on US Highway 231, known as the short route to Florida. Nestled comfortable in the foothills of the Appalachians, it offers a breathtaking view from the surrounding mountains. Pell City was made the second county seat in the early 1900's. For many years, St. Clair was the only county in America with two full-service county seats.

THINGS TO DO

Logan Martin Lake offers all forms of water sports. The Pell City Civic Center has numerous activities during the year including exercise classes. Next to the Center is the Lakeside Park offering nature trails, picnic facilities, boat launches and piers for fishing. The grounds of the Center has tennis courts and baseball & softball complexes. A walking trail is located on Hwy 78E. A nine-hole golf course is available to the public. Yearly events include the Annual Air Fair, the Christmas Parade and the Miss Logan Martin Pageant.

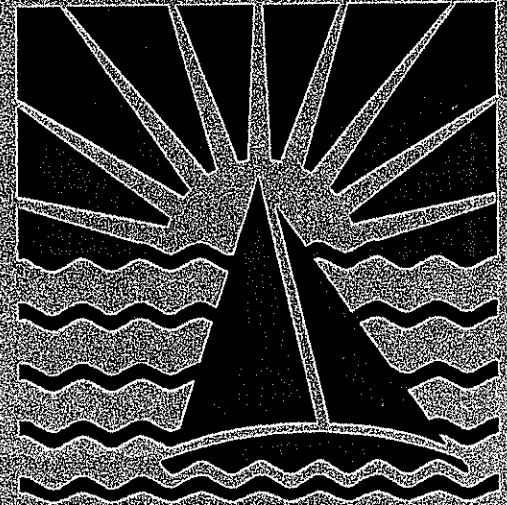
PELL CITY

PLACES TO STAY

Ramada Limited 1410 Park Hill Pkwy 338-1314
 Big Bull Motel POB 975, 231 South 338-3344
 Best Western Riverside Inn 11900 Hwy 78E 338-3381

WHERE TO EAT

Ark Restaurant Hwy 78E 338-7420; Big Bull Restaurant Hwy 231S 338-7172; Burger King Hwy 231N 338-4303; Charles Catfish Hwy 78E 884-3474; Dairy Queen 502 Martin St 884-2445; D's Grill Hwy 231S 884-0158; Domino's Pizza 306 Martin St 338-4780; Hal's Hungry Bear Hwy 78E 338-3889; Hardee's Hwy 231N 884-3700; Jack's Hamburgers 305 Martin St 338-3040; McDonald's 600 Martin St; Kentucky Fried Chicken 701 Martin St 338-3221; Paul Manning Bar-B-Que Hwy 231N 884-2760; Pell City Steak House 212 24th St N 338-7714; Pizza Hut 2201 7th St N 338-2211; Rital's Kitchen Hwy 34 338-9368; Subway 506 Martin St 884-7827; Taco Bell 611 Martin St 884-4010; Uncle Willie's Bar-B-Que 2301 Martin St S 338-9700; Waffle House Hwy 231N 338-9887; New China Market Place Plaza Hwy 231S; Guadalajara Hwy 231S
 For further information contact the Pell City Chamber of Commerce (205) 338-3377



RAGLAND

Ragland, originally known as Trout Creek, has a population of 1807. Trout Creek was a farming town until coal was discovered. Coal and other minerals brought industrialists from Atlanta, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. It quickly became the industrial center of the county, having brick and cement manufacturing as well as coal mining. Ragland was incorporated in 1899.

HISTORICAL SITES

The old Ragland Bank Building, c. 1910, has been renovated and is now an art studio. The train station has been restored as the Ragland Depot Museum and houses many artifacts of railroad history and Ragland history. The Higgs home is a Sears/Roebuck house ordered from the mail order company about 1922. A monument near Ragland recalls Fort Strother, a supply camp built by Andrew Jackson in 1813 and used during the Indian Wars.

THINGS TO DO

Fishing, boating, picnicking & swimming are activities enjoyed above & below the Neeley Henry Dam near Ragland. Antiques can be seen & purchased at Chandler's Antique Shop. The annual Trout Creek Day brings vendors with arts & crafts, entertainment & food.

PLACES TO STAY

The nearest lodging is at the Ramada Inn in Pell City.

WHERE TO EAT

Chef T's, Lil' Cheryl's

For further information, call Town Hall 472-2151 or Ruby Sisson 472-2992.



The Ragland Depot
Museum

RIVERSIDE

Riverside is a town of 1200.

Established in 1882 as Readmon, the town was renamed and incorporated as Riverside in 1886. For years it was the county's largest industrial center. In 1964, the main part of town was raised over 14 feet to allow for construction of the Logan Martin Dam.

HISTORICAL SITES

Coleman House, Coleman Ave., built in 1848.

Morris House, Morris St., built in 1876.

Bukacek House, River St., built in 1872.

Old River Bridge, built in 1841 as a part of the Bankhead Hwy. The bridge has the classic structure of bridges built during that era.

Coleman Cemetery, Cemetery Rd. founded in 1841.

THINGS TO DO

A town park & playground offers picnicking & recreation, walking track & ball field. Fishing & boating are popular sports on the Logan Martin backwaters.

PLACES TO STAY

Best Western Riverside Inn at Interstate 20's exit 162 has a 70 room capacity. Phone 338-3381 or 1-800-528-1234. Camping, Dogwood Meadows Campground, Hwy 77 & 78, Lincoln.

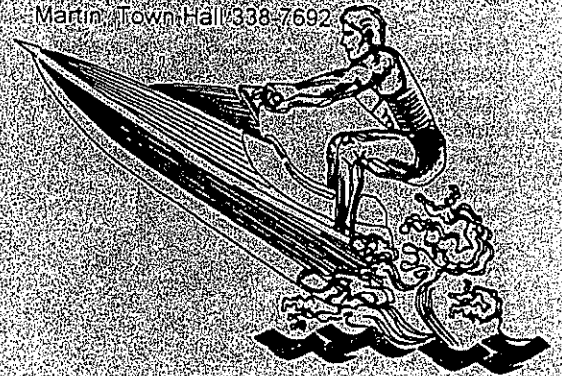
WHERE TO EAT

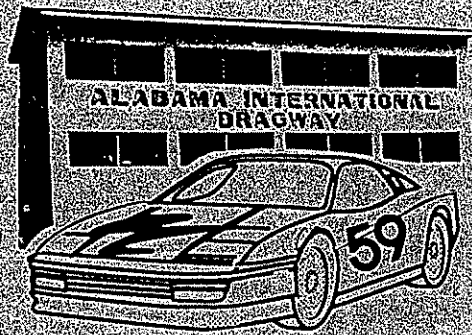
The Ark, Hwy 78 East, 338-7420.

Hall's Hungry Bear, in the Best Western Riverside Inn, 338-3889.

Fincher's, Hwy 78 West, 362-4366.

For further information, call Rhonda Martin, Town Hall, 338-7692.





STEELE

Steele, located off Interstate 59, has a population of 1046. The spirit of friendliness and cooperation among its inhabitants has led to the saying, "If you once live in Steele, you will always want to live there."

HISTORICAL SITES

Steele Hotel, built 1870; Curtis G. Beason Home, built 1840; Union & Deerman's Chapel; United Methodist Church; Shiloh Primitive Baptist Church.

THINGS TO DO

Horse Pens 40, located on Chandler Mountain near Steele, was once a hiding place for Confederate troops. A highlight of the area is the Rock Zoo, a collection of unusual rock formations resembling animals. The Alabama International Dragway is a new attraction. Carrara Cultured Marble, Inc. offers custom made marble tubs, showers & vanities.

PLACES TO STAY

Gadsden offers the nearest lodging.

WHERE TO EAT

Ole Supper Club.

For further information, call Town Hall 538-8145.

SPRINGVILLE

Springville, population about 2000, is a town out of the past. The old store fronts are so unique that scenes of the movie, Vern Miller, set in the 30's, were shot here. The town is easily accessible from Interstate 59.

HISTORICAL SITES

The Masonic Lodge, circa 1860, housing a museum & the town library; the Woodall building, circa 1880, one of the oldest known hardware stores; the Allison-Kirkland building, probably built in 1892; the House of Quilts.

THINGS TO DO

Homestead Hollow, near Springville, offers a look into pioneer life. There are a number of annual events held at the site. Springville holds an Old Tymes Day in May.

PLACES TO STAY

Nearest lodging can be found near Birmingham on Interstate 59.

WHERE TO EAT

In addition to Jacks Hamburger (Fast Food) at intersection of I 59 & Ala Hwy 174 & Main Street Pizza, Dairy Dip, & Granny's Restaurant (all located on Main Street), Springville has a four star restaurant, Cafe Dupont, also located on Main Street. For further information, call Terry Lynn Barrett, Chamber of Commerce 467-2339.



Old Tymes Day
May

MEMORIES OF PELL CITY'S EARLY DAYS

By: A Pioneer Citizen

Reading the FEM PICTURE of Pell City it brings to me memories of years gone by.

I went to Pell City in March 1901 as night operator, my first job, to say I was scared and nervous dont explain my feelings at all, I got \$40.00 per month for 30 and 31 nights, I got board at the Cornett and Hazelwood Hotel for \$10.00 per month, and it was good grub and a fine room, in S/W corner of what was known as the Maxwell Bldg, now occupied by A&P Store, their store room was then our dining room.

Mrs Cameron Ran a boarding house in same building up stairs over store now the Hill store, at that time Mrs Spears had the Post Office in that room.

Mr W. W. Zeller had a small grocery store in building now known as Pell City Gro Co, operated by James Ingram, that was the entire business of Pell City when I went there in 1901. I will now give the population of

Pell City in 1901.

Mr & Mrs H. A. Cornett

Mr. & Mrs. J. Z. Hazelwood

Mrs Cameron and daughter Lizzie

Mr & Mrs W. W. Zeller

Col and Mrs Spears, three daughters, Misses Hortense, Ellen and Pratt, they were the only young ladies of the City.

Mr S. D. Kilgroe, Agent Sou, E&W, and B&A RR'S and his family, (INCLUDING RANDALL) who was a small but smart kid, he could telegraph when just tall enough to stand at table and reach the key.

Joe H. Willingham, Clerk for the 3 Railroads, and one of my best friends. In those days Salesman could come to Pell City with large trunks and work the country in hacks, Cornett and Hazelwood operated a Livery Stable, LAWSEY Stuart and Austin Hazelwood were their drivers. Now I will give you the list of Col (colored) that I knew. Sam Harby was employed as Porter at Depot, Bibb Castleberry was flunky at Hotel, Allen -----cant remember his name was cook at Hotel. I think thats all of our col that was at Pell City when I went there.

I think I am correct as to names of people there in 1901, if not just lay it to my memory or to an old man 71! as you will learn as years go by you forget. I shall never forget the day Mr. Cogswell moved to Pell City.

Life was very dull to me as I worked and slept days, would get up about 2PM, no place to go, only to depot, and hang out until supper time, all we got to see was the E&W and B&A come in with their passengers, then the Sou trains. The day Mr Cogswell unloaded his H H goods it was a sight to me; they unloaded one Bay horse, one Surry, which amused me very much as it was the first buggy I had ever seen with FRRIGE around the top, and the first ever to come to this country, one bird dog, white and brown, named Jack or Dan, I cant recall which and several loads of HH goods. Jack AND Julian were small boys, I remember a boy Slaton, he did not stay at Fell very much. I had just traded jobs with an Operator by name of Reop when the depot blow-up happened, I WAS working nights at Leeds, heard Reop tell the dispatcher, "this depot is on fire", the Dispatcher told him to save a key and scouder, (that was a cut 3:30 AM) I WENT out on platform and lay on a bale of cotton looking to see the fire, though mountains cut off the flames. I heard the wires go dead then knew something had happened. I returned to office grounded by wires east told the Dispr I had them grounded, he told me to leave it on, in about 20 minutes I heard the opr at Riverside calling the Dispr, he had strung a wire through Atlanta, Chatt, Nashville to Eham, all he knew was there had been an explosion at Fell, some time after No 11 came on to Leeds Gave me a message to have Ambulance's meet train at Terminal. I shall never forget the remark Col Speers made, he had one of his arms broken, said a jug of whiskey hit him, he said he had quit whiskey several years ago and now whiskey would not let him alone. There were several hurt and one that I now of a Mr Hall, (our hot joint man) WAS KILLED, it broke windows out of several houses and shook country for several miles, I was then sent back to Fell and worked with a Mr Simpson as Agt, he was sent from Washington to straighten out the Fell City Office as all records were destroyed.

My first meeting with Mr Cogswell was on a Saturday night. No 74 a freight train arrived at Fell about 1030PM I had orders for them. The Engineer George Garrett came in office waiting for Condr to come, we heard a shot and ran out a man come running around depot and said get me a place to lay down, I have been shot. I fixed him a place on the trucks and he lay down, the train left though the Condr Bill Little told me his flagman name Black shot the man, it was up to me to get help. I sent Bib Castleberry the flunky at Hotel who slept on mail bags in office at night, for help, he got Mr. Cornett, Hazlewood and Cogswell.

While they were coming I questioned the boy as to his name and adress, he said he was a casket maker, his name Walter Ratree, Mother Rachel, lived 38 Walnut St Atlanta Ga. When the bunch got there, Mr Cogswell said we have to get a Dr, some one went to Eden and got Dr Gray, when he examined him he said there's no chance for him, he was shot twice through the breast, balls came out just under lower ribs, said balls crossed. Mr Cogswell went off and returned with a cot, we placed him on the cot Mr Hazlewood got a laprobe from Stable and spread over him we then took off his shoes and tied them to cot, then we wired his M ther, had a message from her saying if he died bury him there as she had no money, Mr Cogswell suggested we buy a ticket pin it on him and ship him to Atlanta, which we did. I sold Dick Alford the ticket. When he arrived in Atlanta the Sou Ry had him on their hands to sent to a hospital, then the big thing came off. The Sou Ry wanted to know who sold the ticket and who to. That put me up a tree, all I could do was forgot who got the ticket, and thats what I did, my job was at stake and I needed it, we all

went into pockets and paid all expenses. This man lived. I saw him a few years later on the streets working out a fine for hobnobing, he told me he was not able to work, told me about being shot at Fall. I went to the Mayor Dr Brown and told him about the shooting and he sent for him and found it true, he went home got a pair of shoes told Walt to put them on and start walking and never return to Riverside. There are many things happened in Fall while I worked there that come to me at times though think I have stated enough. This is for Elisabeth Cogswell Starnes, of my past days while working at Fall City I hope she will enjoy reading when her mature days come

Tom S. Coleman, Sep 8th 1950

S/ Tom S. Coleman

Original

Loaned to Blair Jones by Mrs. Elizabeth C. Starnes, Nov. 16, 1966.

The St. Clair Anthem



George Williams

Not every county has its own song

Story by Jane Newton Henry
Photos by Jerry Martin

Lou Betts Bevill, who was born and raised in the Acmar area, may be best remembered in St. Clair County as the wife of the late Congressman Tom Bevill. But to former members of the Pell City Civic Chorus and a few other old timers, she is known for composing the county's official anthem.

An accomplished musician, she wrote "St. Clair Song" in 1976 at the request of Harold King, who was president of Peoples Bank, now BB&T, in Pell City and a board member of the local Chamber of Commerce.

The first verse of this pastoral ode to the county sets the tone for the rest of the song, as it evokes the natural beauty of the area and the perseverance of its early settlers:

*"Ye St. Clair sons and daughters arise,
join in our song.
As our forefathers before us, God's grace
will guide us long.
These wooded hills, these lakes and rills
bespeak the beauty of our land
So may we go forth, remembering we are in
our God's strong hand."*

She presented the song to the Pell City Chamber of Commerce at a news conference after composing it specifically for the newly formed Pell City Civic Chorus.



Lou Betts Bevill presents "St. Clair Song"
(From left) Harold King, George Williams,
Lou Betts Bevill and Ron Partain.

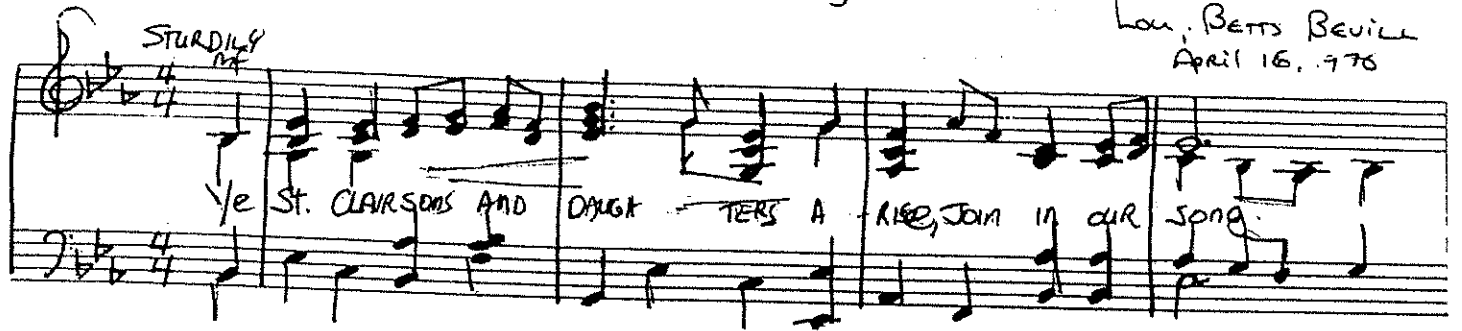


Lou Betts Bevill receives resolution from Shirley Satterfield.

St. Clair Song

Lou, Betty Beville
April 16, 1976

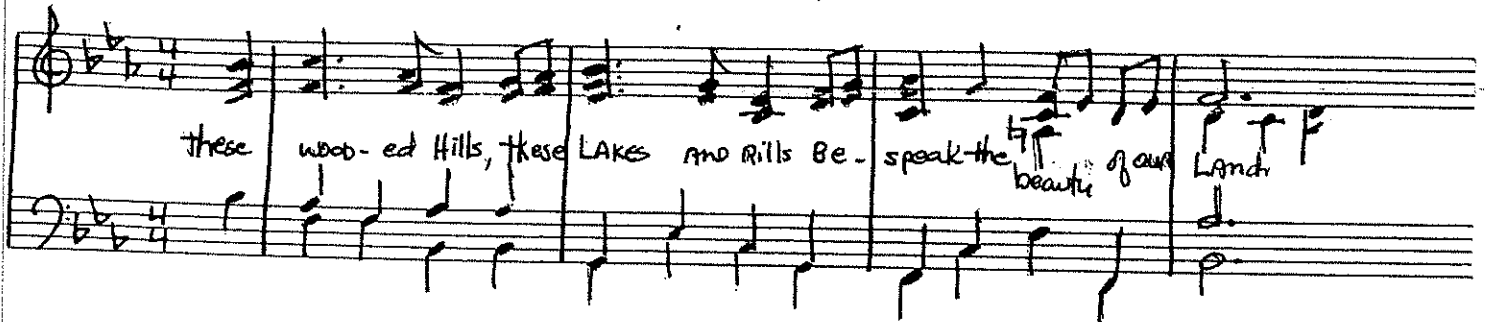
STURDILY
mf



Ye ST. CLAIRSONS AND DAUGHTERS ARISE, JOIN IN OUR SONG.



AS OUR FOREFATHERS BEFORE US GOD'S GRACE WILL GUIDE US LONG.

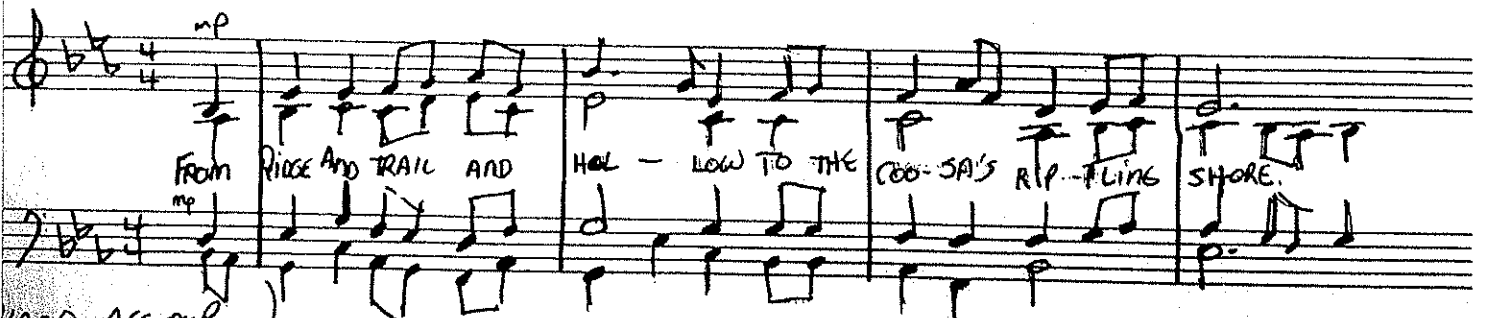


THESE WOOD-ED HILLS, THESE LAKES AND RILLS BE-SPEAK THE BEAUTY OF OUR LAND.



SO MAY WE GO FROM MORN - BRING WE ARE UNDER GOD'S STRONG HAND.

mp



FROM RIDGE AND TRAIL AND HOLLOW TO THE COOSAS RIPPLING SHORE.

HAND ACCOMP.
OR REHEARSAL

The St. Clair Anthem



Top and Facing Page: Pell City Civic Chorus in concert

Below: Program cover for the first concert of the Pell City Civic Chorus

George Williams, a retired Alabama Power manager in Pell City, recalled the evening that the chorus was first discussed.

"It was in December 1975, and the Chamber of Commerce was having a dinner meeting," Williams said. "When the chamber's president, Bill Gossett, realized that the speaker hadn't shown up for the meeting, he asked me for suggestions about what to do. We opened up the meeting for general discussion, and the idea of having a civic chorus came up."

The chorus was officially formed on Dec. 18, 1975. Williams, who was named organizing chairman of the chorus, soon began soliciting members from the Pell City area, including towns such as Ragland and Lincoln.

"We had some fantastic talent," he said. "A lot of the members came from church choirs, and a lot of us joined just because we enjoyed singing."

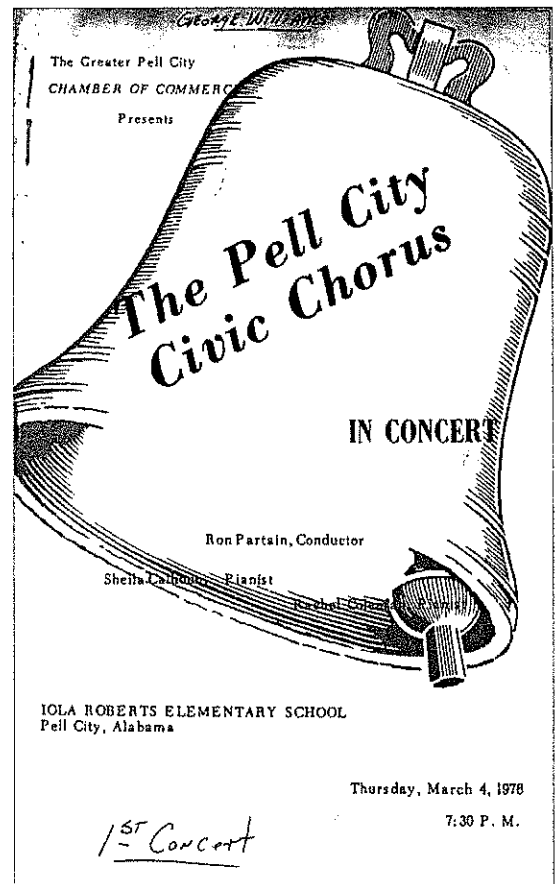
Pell City resident June Brascho came to the chorus from the choir of the First United Methodist Church of Pell City. A founding member of the chorus who served as its president, she estimates that the group performed for about 15 years.

With more than 100 voices, the chorus performed about three concerts a year, presented Broadway musicals in the summers, and once sang the national anthem at an Atlanta Braves baseball game.

Ron Partain, the first director of the chorus, said he was grateful to have served in that position. "It was a unique time in the life of the city," he said. "Members of the chorus made a big commitment of their time and talent."

Partain called the song "an outstanding piece of work by a gracious lady." He described it as "hymn style with the first verse in unison. The second verse is a four-part harmony, and the chorus is obligato with a full voice ending."

At his invitation, Bevill returned to Pell City and conducted the chorus when it performed her composition at its first concert on May 1, 1976, at





Iola Roberts Elementary School. The concert began on a patriotic note as the group sang "The Star Spangled Banner" and "America the Beautiful" before debuting "St. Clair Song."

The anthem's chorus reflects the love she felt for her native St. Clair County:

*"O St. Clair, O St. Clair
Our heritage is true
From forest fields, from vales and hills,
We sing our love to you."*

At the close of the concert, Shirley Satterfield, then chairman of the St. Clair County Commission, presented Beville with a framed copy of a proclamation that adopted "St. Clair Song" as the county's official anthem. St. Clair is believed to be the only county in Alabama that holds the distinction of having its very own anthem.

A *News Aegis* editorial at the time called it "fitting during the nation's Bicentennial year in that it honors the men and women who 'toiled and tilled these fields so rich in lore.' The song pays tribute to St. Clair County's forefathers and the tradition of liberty they have passed on to succeeding generations." ●

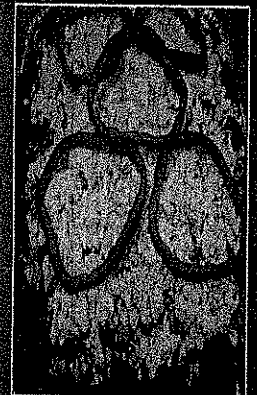
GRILL

It's GREEK TO YOU FROM US

Let Pappas' Grill do the cooking for you,
your family, your friends and colleagues.

Catering

Pappas' can turn you into the perfect host or hostess with catering for home or office. Check out our catering menu online at thepappasgrill.com.



Lunch or Dinner

Don't feel like cooking? Don't worry! Trust Pappas' to make any meal into a special occasion.



Casseroles

Need a little help with the main course? Call today for casseroles made to order.



Check out the full menu and pricing online at www.thepappasgrill.com or call us at 205-823-4458.
1066 Montgomery Hwy., Vestavia Hills, AL 35216

BURIED SECRET



County's oldest cemetery a little-known find

Story and photos by Jerry Smith

Most of Pell City's departed are nicely memorialized in several spacious, well-known cemeteries; among them Oak Ridge, the largest; Valley Hill (which lies neither in a valley nor on a hill); New Hope (Truitt); and Mt. Zion. But the city's original burial ground lies sequestered on an overgrown hillside at the edge of town, known only to a few family members and the historically inquisitive. It seems even the customary cemetery mockingbirds have deserted it.

Donated to the city around 1900 by Pell City's co-founder, Lydia DeGaris Cogswell, this property provided final repose for a host of Pell Citizens during its brief service before the city's main cemetery was established at Oak Ridge in 1940.

First known as Pell City Cemetery, it was eventually called Avondale Mill Cemetery and the Company Cemetery because so many cotton mill workers were buried there. The Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance lists it as Avondale Cemetery aka Village Cemetery. The latest marked burial, William R. Green, was in 1935, although other unmarked graves may have been added since. Oddly, it's once again called Pell City Cemetery in Mr. Green's Pell City News obituary.

Over the last few decades the grounds have gradually slipped into a rather gloomy state of upkeep, and thus it remains today. Causey family member Donna Baker says, "... my Father told me the last burial was 1945. He said he used to go with my Grandmother and a lot of other relatives to clean the cemetery every year. He said the last time it was cleaned was in the 1970s."

It's hardly recognizable as sacred ground anymore unless one accidentally stumbles over one of the few formal tombstones still standing there. The plot was partly a potter's field, hosting the remains of an estimated 50 or more local decedents, most of whose survivors could not afford more than a simple fieldstone or diminutive fragment of plain marble to mark their final rests.

Unlike other local cemeteries, there's only a few simple, early-20th-century tombstones with badly eroded lettering and a couple of crude stone surrounds. The only visually imposing grave marker belongs to Dock Causey, placed by Woodmen of the World in 1928.

Sunken graves appear randomly throughout the property. Those who visit here must be careful of tripping over small fieldstone markers hidden under inches of fallen leaves, which leads us to wonder how many others are interred here with no markers at all.

In Pell City's early days, diseases unfamiliar to most people today took many young lives. In fact, three of the 10 scripted gravestones are for infants of less than one year of age. This is true of most other urban cemeteries of that era, but here we could probably assume that, for every marked infant's grave, there's likely to be



BURIED SECRET



many more whose parents could not afford a proper one.

In a *St. Clair Times* story by Rob Strickland, local historian Kate DeGaris said, "It's very old and, as I understand it, both black and white people are buried there. The relatively large number of children's graves ... can be attributed to health conditions of the early 1900s".

Mrs. DeGaris continues, "It is known that, periodically, epidemics would come through the area, such as diphtheria, smallpox and typhoid, so I'm not surprised that a lot of children are buried there." The sadness deepens as one reads their bitersweet epitaphs, such as: Our Darling Has Gone to Be An Angel or Budded On Earth To Bloom In heaven.

Indeed, even Nature seems to contribute to the mournful ambience by littering the grounds with fallen cedars and oak limbs whose fibrous cores have eroded over several decades to resemble a faint, bleached bones.

If ever a local site deserved restoration, this one surely does. Long tree trunks lie across stone walls, some having barely missed tombstones as they fell. Other jagged logs have been pulverized into coarse

Story and photos by **Jerry Smith**

Most of Pell City's departed are nicely memorialized in several spacious, well-known cemeteries; among them Oak Ridge, the largest; Valley Hill (which lies neither in a valley nor on a hill); New Hope (Truitt); and Mt. Zion. But the city's original burial ground lies sequestered in an overgrown hillside at the edge of town, known only to a few family members and the historically inquisitive. It seems even the customary cemetery mockingbirds have deserted it.

Donated to the city around 1900 by Pell City's co-founder, Lydia DeGaris Cogswell, this property provided final repose for a host of Pell City residents during its brief service before the city's main cemetery was established at Oak Ridge in 1940.

First known as Pell City Cemetery, it was eventually called Avondale Mill Cemetery and the Company Cemetery because so many cotton mill workers were buried there. The Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance lists it as Avondale Cemetery aka Village Cemetery. The latest marked burial, William R. Green, was in 1935, although other unmarked graves may have been added since. Oddly, it's once again called Pell City Cemetery in Mr. Green's Pell City News obituary.

Over the last few decades the grounds have gradually slipped into a rather gloomy state of neglect, and thus it remains today. Causey family member Donna Baker says, "... my Father told me the last burial was 1945. He said he used to go with my Grandmother and a lot of other relatives to clean the cemetery every year. He said the last time it was cleaned was in the 1970s."

It's hardly recognizable as sacred ground anymore unless one accidentally stumbles over one of the few formal tombstones still standing here. The plot was partly a potter's field, hosting the remains of an estimated 50 or more local decedents, most of whose survivors could not afford more than a simple fieldstone or diminutive fragment of plain marble to mark their final rests.

Unlike other local cemeteries, there's only a few simple, early-20th-century tombstones with badly eroded lettering and a couple of crude stone surrounds. The only visually imposing grave marker belongs to Dock Causey, placed by Woodmen of the World in 1928.

Sunken graves appear randomly throughout the property. Those who visit here must be careful of tripping over small fieldstone markers hidden under inches of fallen leaves, which leads to wonder how many others are interred here with no markers at all.

In Pell City's early days, diseases unfamiliar to most people today took many young lives. In fact, three of the 10 scripted gravestones are for infants of less than one year of age. This is rare of most other urban cemeteries of that era, so here we could probably assume that, for every marked infant's grave, there's likely to be



JOE WHITTEN, THE GRIM READER

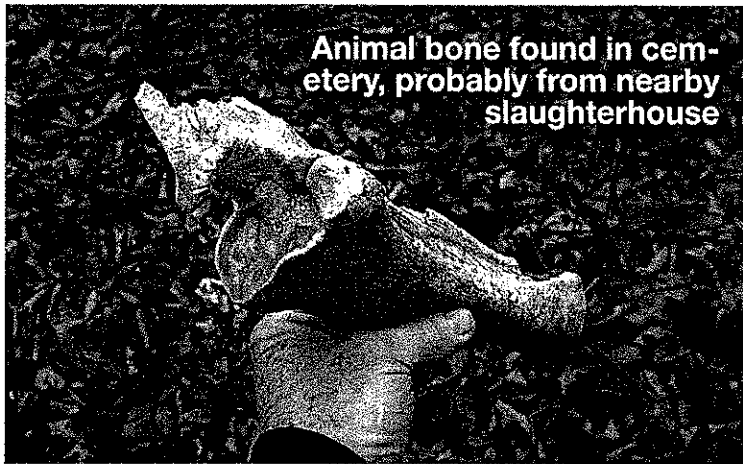
To learn more about St. Clair's vintage deceased, try *Wedding Bells & Funeral Knells* and *By Murder, Accident & Natural Causes*. Both books, compiled by Odenville historian Joe Whitten, are available in most local libraries, and currently sold at Odenville's Fortson Museum as a fundraiser.

In these two works, Whitten has put together a bewildering array of obituaries, announcements and other personally newsworthy items from local newspapers, including some obituaries for burials at this cemetery.

Most are at least a hundred years old. Some items are highly amusing. All were penned in the enchanting form of prose used by yesterday's writers. The reader learns at least a hundred inspired ways to say someone has died.

In addition to valuable historic and genealogic data, these books provide a warm and fuzzy glimpse inside the lifestyles, tribulations and simple triumphs of early St. Clair folks. It's down-to-earth reality in a newspaper clipping format.

Animal bone found in cemetery, probably from nearby slaughterhouse



sawdust and chips by insects, birds and decay. Briers, saplings, even young trees encroach upon almost every marker.

Although a state-required access path has been cleared on the western side of the property, visitors quickly encounter a hazardous maze of prickly Southern foliage and sunken pits. Boots and a walking stick are a must, especially during warmer months when snakes are an assumed peril in such terrain.

To access the site, drive southward from Cogswell on 19th Street to 10th Avenue South. Turn right, then an immediate left onto 18th Place South. Drive to the end of the road and look for a wide path into the woods on your left.

There are "No Trespassing" signs which you should respect unless you have a valid reason for going there. Once onsite, be very careful of rocks, concealed sinks and clinging foliage. Please disturb nothing, take only photos and notes, and leave behind nothing but footprints.

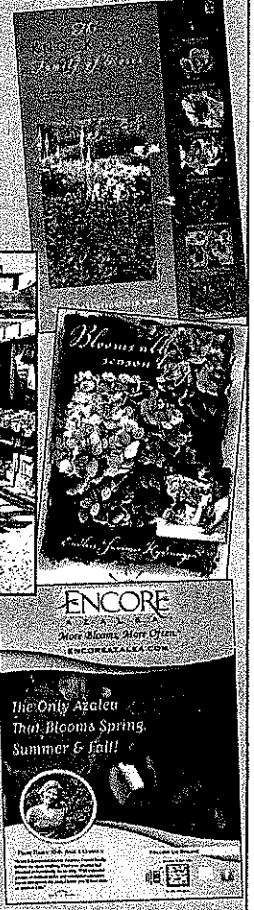
Treat this place as you would the final repose of your own kin. Who knows? Perhaps they are. ●

GROWING PLANTS FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT



CRAWFORD'S NURSERY

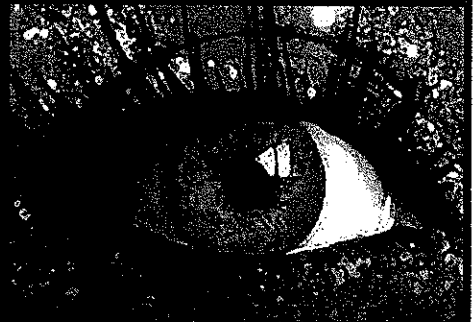
9701 Hwy 411
Odenville, AL 35120
205.640.6824



Design^R

PRINT & ONLINE MARKETING THAT'S TAILOR MADE

Let us
focus
attention
on you

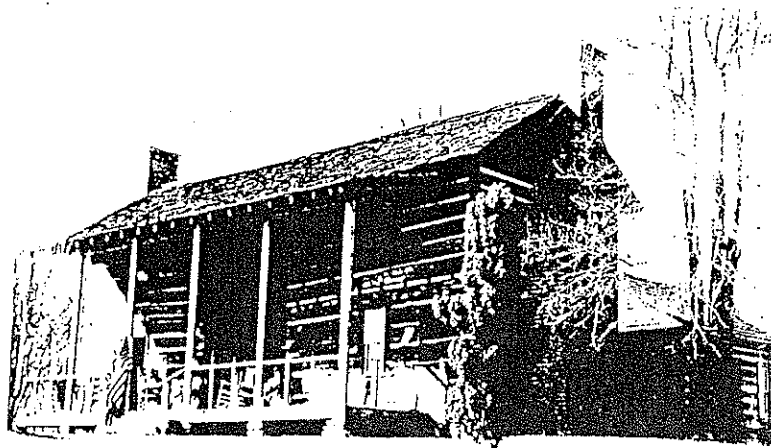


Partners by Design is a team of key multimedia professionals whose experience in publishing and Web-based products spans two decades of work together.

With a track record of success behind Partners by Design, our company builds upon those successes to create effective marketing materials, logos, communication plans, Web sites, electronic newsletters and other Web services for communities, companies, organizations, schools and candidates.

cpappas@partnersmultimedia.com • Phone 205-335-0281
6204 Skippers Cove, Pell City, AL 35128

*St. Clair
Historical
Society*



John Looney House (Circa 1820) Ashville, Alabama

THE
SAINT CLAIR COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ESTABLISHED 1972

1989 - 1990 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT.....MARIE WEST CROMER

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT.....JENNIE STONE

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT.....DAVID BRYANT

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT.....CARDLYNNE SCOTT

FOURTH VICE-PRESIDENT.....HELEN TEAGUE

RECORDING SECRETARY.....RANDY SMITH

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.....ALMA SMITH

TREASURER.....JEAN SMITH

HISTORIAN.....CHRIS & MISSY CLARK

PARLIAMENTARIAN.....ELMER WELCH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HOPE BURGER

TRACY BURGER

POLLY CREITZ

WILL FINK

NIOMA LEE

ISOBEL WELCH

Articles of Incorporation
of
ST. CLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

STATE OF ALABAMA)
)
St. Clair County)

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That we, the undersigned incorporators, for the purpose of forming a corporation not for profit, pursuant to the provisions of the "Alabama Non-Profit Corporation Act" (Act No. 578, General Acts of 1955, page 1254, being Title 10, Sections 203, et. seq., Alabama Code 1940 as amended), do hereby associate ourselves into a corporation not for profit, under the provisions of the foregoing laws, and to that end do hereby set forth and adopt the following Articles of Incorporation:

ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation shall be "ST. CLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC."

ARTICLE II

The duration of this corporation shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE III

This corporation shall not be for profit, that is to say, no part of any income which it may have shall ever be distributed to its members, directors or officers, and no part of the net earnings of the corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any private member, director or officer, or any other individual. All property of this corporation shall be irrevocably dedicated to the educational, charitable and non-profit purposes herein set forth. In the event of the dissolution of this corporation, any moneys or properties in possession of or to which any right, title or interest is claimed by the corporation shall be transferred, given and disposed of (and only to) such one or more organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States of 1954 (the "Code") as the trustees shall determine, provided that any such transferee shall at that time have tax-exempt status by virtue of the ruling or determination under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

ARTICLE IV

The objects and purposes of this corporation are:

(a) To stimulate, increase and diffuse knowledge of and a greater appreciation for sites and structures of historical or architectural interest

Directors shall consist of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Fourth Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Parliamentarian, and all Past Presidents who are members of the Society, and six (6) Directors elected from the membership rolls. The members shall elect two (2) Directors each year at the annual meeting, and the Directors shall serve for a term of three (3) years. The Board of Directors shall have control and management of the corporation's property and activities, determine all policies, elect or discipline members, and shall generally supervise the affairs of the corporation. The Board of Directors shall meet at such time and place and upon such notice as may be prescribed in the by-laws.

The initial Directors of the corporation and their respective addresses are as follows:

Mrs. Karl L. Scott, St. Clair Springs, Alabama
Miss Mary Mays, Pell City, Alabama
Mrs. Joseph R. Creitz, Ashville, Alabama
Mrs. Ab Crow, Ashville, Alabama
Mrs. John Savasta, Springville, Alabama
Miss Marie Tuck, Ashville, Alabama
Mrs. Elma Watson, Ragland, Alabama
Mrs. Cecil Qualls, Steele, Alabama
Mr. Frank Watson, Odenville, Alabama
Mr. Marcus Pearson, Springville, Alabama
Mrs. H. K. Blackmon, Leeds, Alabama
Miss Tera Traummell, Steele, Alabama
Mrs. W. F. Lamar, Springville, Alabama
Mr. Tom Adams, Ragland, Alabama
Miss Sally Inzer, Ashville, Alabama

ARTICLE VI

Membership in this corporation is open to men and women who are interested in promoting learning and knowledge of history. Membership shall be divided into four classifications, student, active, contributing and honorary. All members shall have voting rights and each member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to the membership for a vote. Membership dues shall be as fixed in the by-laws.

ARTICLE VII

The office of the said corporation shall be at Rt. 1, Box 241, Springville Alabama 35146; and the registered agent thereat shall be Mrs. Karl L. Scott.

ARTICLE VIII

The names and addresses of the incorporators are as follows:

Mrs. Karl L. Scott, St. Clair Springs, Alabama
Miss Mary Mays, Pell City, Alabama
Mrs. Joseph R. Creitz, Ashville, Alabama

in and around St. Clair County, Alabama; to acquire, hold, improve, preserve, develop and restore sites, buildings, residences, or other structures of historical or architectural interest in and around St. Clair County.

(b) To receive and administer funds and properties of all kinds for the above purposes and to that end to take and hold by bequest, devise, gift, purchase, loan or lease, either absolutely or in trust, for said purposes or any of them, any property, real, personal or mixed, without limitations as to amount or value, except such limitations, if any, as may be imposed by law or by the provisions of these, its articles of incorporation; to sell, convey, and dispose of any such property and to invest and reinvest the principal thereof, and to deal with and expend such principal or income therefrom for any of the purposes of the organization, either by direct action of the organization or by means of trusts created by it, without limitation, except such limitations, if any, as may be contained in the instrument under which such funds or property are received; to receive any property, real, personal or mixed, in trust, under the terms of any deed, will, deed of trust, or other trust instrument for the purposes of the organization, and in administering the same to carry out the directions and exercise the powers contained in the instrument under which the property is received, including the expenditures of the principal as well as the income for one or more of such purposes, if authorized or directed in the instrument under which it is received; to receive, take title to, hold and use the proceeds and income of real estate, personal estate, stocks, bonds, obligations or other securities of any person or persons, corporation or corporations, domestic or foreign, for the purposes of the organization; and in general to exercise such other powers as the Directors may deem requisite to promote the general purposes of the organization as are permitted by law to corporations of its class, and to have all other powers with which such corporations are endowed.

(c) To conduct campaigns for raising of funds and to accept contributions from individuals, corporations and other bodies, foundations and organizations. It shall have power to print, edit, and publish, make, display, and sell books, magazines, pictures and slides, as may be necessary or desirable for the accomplishment of the purposes of the foundation; to buy, sell, and generally to deal in appropriate and related souvenirs, curios, mementos and publications.

(d) For the accomplishment of its exclusive educational, charitable, scientific, literary and non-profit purposes, this corporation shall have all the powers conferred upon non-profit organizations pursuant to said Act No. 578, General Acts of 1955, and all such powers as well as all other relevant powers contained in the laws of the State of Alabama shall exist in this corporation as fully as if specifically enumerated herein.

ARTICLE V

The management of the corporation shall be vested in the hands of its active Directors, who shall be elected for a one year term by the members of the corporation at the annual meeting of the foundation. The Board of

Mrs. Ab Crow, Ashville, Alabama
 Mrs. John Savasta, Springville, Alabama
 Miss Marie Tuck, Ashville, Alabama
 Mrs. Elma Watson, Ragland, Alabama
 Mrs. Cecil Qualls, Steele, Alabama
 Mr. Frank Watson, Odenville, Alabama
 Mr. Marcus Pearson, Springville, Alabama
 Mrs. H. K. Blackmon, Leeds, Alabama
 Miss Tera Trammell, Steele, Alabama
 Mrs. W. P. Lamar, Springville, Alabama
 Mr. Tom Adams, Ragland, Alabama
 Miss Sally Inzer, Ashville, Alabama

ARTICLE IX

The corporation, as herein above provided, shall have the power to adopt by-laws for the regulation of its internal affairs and for all other purposes not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama and with these Articles of Incorporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands, this the 19 day of Oct., 1972

Mrs. Karl L. Scott
 Mrs. Karl L. Scott

Miss Mary Mays
 Miss Mary Mays

Mrs. Joseph R. Greitz
 Mrs. Joseph R. Greitz

Mrs. Ab Crow
 Mrs. Ab Crow

Mrs. John Savasta
 Mrs. John Savasta

Miss Marie Tuck
 Miss Marie Tuck

Mrs. Elma Watson
 Mrs. Elma Watson

Mrs. Cecil Qualls
 Mrs. Cecil Qualls

Mr. Frank Watson
 Mr. Frank Watson

Mr. Marcus Pearson
 Mr. Marcus Pearson

Mrs. H. K. Blackmon
 Mrs. H. K. Blackmon

Miss Tera Trammell
 Miss Tera Trammell

Mrs. W. P. Lamar
 Mrs. W. P. Lamar

Mr. Tom Adams
 Mr. Tom Adams

Miss Sally Inzer
 Miss Sally Inzer

STATE OF ALABAMA
ST. CLAIR COUNTY

IN THE PROBATE COURT

TO: MRS. KARL L. SCOTT, MISS MARY MAYS, MRS. JOSEPH R. CREITZ, MRS. AB CROW,
MRS. JOHN SAVASTA, MISS MARIE TUCK, MRS. ELMA WATSON, MRS. CECIL QUALLS,
MR. FRANK WATSON, MR. MARCUS PEARSON, MRS. H. K. BLACKMON, MISS TERA
TRAMMELL, MRS. W. P. LAMAR, MR. TOM ADAMS AND MISS SALLY INZER.

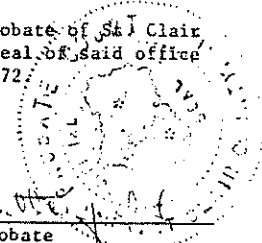
WHEREAS, Mrs. Karl L. Scott, Miss Mary Mays, Mrs. Joseph R. Creitz, Mrs. Ab Crow, Mrs. John Savasta, Miss Marie Tuck, Mrs. Elma Watson, Mrs. Cecil Qualls, Mr. Frank Watson, Mr. Marcus Pearson, Mrs. H. K. Blackmon, Miss Tera Trammell, Mrs. W. P. Lamar, Mr. Tom Adams and Miss Sally Inzer have filed their certificate in this Court under the provisions of the Code of Alabama authorizing incorporation of non-profit corporations; and,

WHEREAS, the said incorporators desire to become a non-profit corporation to be known as "St. Clair Historical Society, Inc.", and,

WHEREAS, the said incorporators in all respects complied with the laws of the State of Alabama.

NOW, KNOW ALL MEN that Mrs. Karl L. Scott, Miss Mary Mays, Mrs. Joseph R. Creitz, Mrs. Ab Crow, Mrs. John Savasta, Miss Marie Tuck, Mrs. Elma Watson, Mrs. Cecil Qualls, Mr. Frank Watson, Mr. Marcus Pearson, Mrs. H. K. Blackmon, Miss Tera Trammell, Mrs. W. P. Lamar, Mr. Tom Adams, Miss Sally Inzer and their successors are duly organized under the laws of the State of Alabama as a non-profit body corporate under the name of "St. Clair Historical Society, Inc.", having all the powers, rights and provisions by law authorized to corporations of a non-profit character and as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I Shirley Satterfield, Judge of Probate of St. Clair County, Alabama, hereunto subscribe my name and affix the seal of said office to these presents, this 28 day of Oct, 1972



Shirley Satterfield
Judge of Probate

The State of Alabama, St. Clair County.

I hereby certify that the within instrument was filed in this office for record on the 28

Day of Oct, 1972 at 10:00 o'clock AM, and recorded in _____ Record

Page _____ and examined. JAMES S. SATTERFIELD, Judge of Probate

2.00
Per Fee 12.25
Total \$ 14.25

BY-LAWS
OF
ST. CLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ARTICLE I

CORPORATE PURPOSES AND POWERS:

SECTION 1.1 The purposes of this corporation are to foster, promote and increase the knowledge of history exclusively by presenting to its members and the public in St. Clair County, Alabama, classes, lectures, seminars, courses of instruction and other activities. It shall be the objectives of the corporation to promote study, learning, research, in historical subjects. It shall promote the location, preservation and restoration of historical sites and areas; acquire, hold, improve, develop and restore sites, buildings, residences, or other areas and structures of historical or architectural interest in St. Clair County.

The corporation shall be operated exclusively for educational, charitable, and non-profit purposes as set forth in its Articles of Incorporation.

All purposes of these by-laws are made subject to all restrictions on corporate purposes, powers and activities which are set forth in the charter of corporation.

No part of the corporation shall be devoted to carrying on propaganda and it shall not participate in any political campaign in behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE II

SECTION 2.1 Charter Members. The incorporators shall be the charter members serving on the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2.2 Meetings of Members. Regular meetings of members shall be held at such time and place as the Directors shall from time to time, designate, and in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions of Alabama Law.

SECTION 2.3 Ownership of Assets. None of the members, officers or directors of the corporation shall at any time have any interest in any money or other property belonging to the corporation.

ARTICLE III

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 3.1 The corporation shall be managed and operated by a Board of Directors as set forth in the charter of the corporation. All original members of the Board of Directors shall serve until May, 1973, and until the election and qualification of their successors; thereafter, the term of members of the Board of Directors at large shall be three years, and officers of the Board of Directors shall be one year.

Interim vacancies on the Board between annual meetings shall be filled by the active directors subject to election of such interim appointees by members of the Society at the next regularly scheduled meeting. If a Board member absents himself/herself from three (3) consecutive Board Meetings without proper cause, he/she shall be removed from the Board.

SECTION 3.2 The annual meeting of the Society and the Board of Directors shall be in May of each year. Notice of such annual meeting shall be mailed by the Recording Secretary to each member of the Board of Directors at his last known post office address at least seven (7) days prior to the date of such meeting.

SECTION 3.3 Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at such time and place as shall be designated in the call of the meeting, and may be called by the President or one-fourth of the members of the Board of Directors at any time. Notices of special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be given by or under the direction of the Secretary to each member of the Board by mail or by telegram, at least five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting.

SECTION 3.4 Notice of special meetings of the Board of Directors shall state the purpose or object of the meetings, and any and all business which may come before any special meeting of the Board, but such statement shall be required in notices of the annual meeting and any business may be transacted at any annual meeting. The members of the Board of Directors may, before or after any meeting of said Board, waive any notice thereof, and, if two-thirds of the members of the Board are present in person at any meeting, the fact that due notice of the meeting was not given shall not in any way affect the validity of the meeting or the business transacted at such meeting.

SECTION 3.5 One-half plus one member of the Board of Directors shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board, and a majority of the members present may decide any question which may come before the meeting. If a quorum shall not be present at any meeting of the Board of Directors, the members present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without notice other than announcement at the meeting until quorum shall be present.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

SECTION 4.1 The officers of the corporation shall consist of a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Fourth Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and Parliamentarian, all of whom shall be members and hold office until the following annual meeting of the corporation and of the Board of Directors, and thereafter until his successor shall have been elected and qualified. An officer or active member of the Board of Directors may be removed from office by a two-thirds $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the Board at any time. All officers and members of the Board of Directors shall serve without compensation.

SECTION 4.2 Subject to the authority and direction of the Board of Directors, the President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall have active charge of the affairs of the corporation.

The President shall preside at all meetings. The President shall appoint all standing committees and committee chairmen, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

The President shall make annual reports as to the property and assets of the corporation and matters which affect the interest of the corporation and which may require action. The President shall have such other rights, powers and duties to perform as are incidental to the office.

SECTION 4.3 The First Vice-President shall serve in the absence of the President and shall have all of the powers and shall perform all the duties of the President. The First Vice-President shall serve as General Chairman of the Membership Committee and to secure names of prospective members and their families to be invited to the general membership of the Society. The First Vice-President shall also serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee and shall notify all members of their dues when payable.

SECTION 4.4 The Second Vice-President shall serve as Program Director. The programs shall be planned and announced in advance for particular purposes to stimulate, increase and diffuse the knowledge of historical interest and its importance to the Board of Directors and to the membership of the Society.

SECTION 4.5 The Third Vice-President shall serve as General Chairman of the Activities and Projects and shall coordinate and interpret the work of the projects deemed necessary by the Board of Directors and the members of the Society.

SECTION 4.6 The Fourth Vice-President shall serve as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee to plan and execute money-raising activities of the Society.

SECTION 4.7 The Recording Secretary shall attend all Board Meetings and the members' meetings and shall keep records of all such meetings and shall issue and mail notices, or otherwise give notice as directed pursuant to the By-Laws, of all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Society; shall be the custodian of the annual reports and of all other records of the Society.

SECTION 4.8 The Corresponding Secretary shall have charge of all general correspondence from the Board of Directors and the Society. The Corresponding Secretary shall also keep a current list of names, addresses and telephone numbers of all members entitled to vote. In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary shall perform all the duties of that office.

SECTION 4.9 The Treasurer shall have the custody and care of all money and securities of the corporation and shall keep accurate records of all accounts and of all transactions of the corporation, and shall, as often as shall be required by the Board of Directors, prepare and certify proper statements of the financial conditions of the corporation and of all receipts and disbursements by the corporation. The Treasurer shall submit reports at meetings and give annual reports. The Treasurer shall deposit all money and other valuable effects of the corporation in the name and to the credit of the corporation in such depositories as shall from time to time be designated by the Board of Directors and shall be the custodian of the annual reports and of all other records of the Society. The Treasurer shall have charge of the seal of the corporation and shall attest all instruments in writing to which the seal of the corporation must be affixed.

SECTION 4.10 The Historian shall keep records of the happenings of the Society and shall keep a scrapbook of newspaper clippings, brochures and other matter published by or about the Society. The Historian shall be in charge of research where a project is planned that needs background data.

SECTION 4.11 The Parliamentarian shall be present at meetings to see that correct procedures are followed in all business. He shall advise the President when a matter is out of order, following Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE V

CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DRAFTS, ETC.

SECTION 5.1 All payments in writing, such as checks, drafts and orders for the payment of funds of the corporation shall, unless otherwise directed by the Directors, be signed in and on behalf of the corporation by the President and the seal of the corporation shall be affixed thereto and attested by the Treasurer.

SECTION 5.2 All checks, drafts and orders for the payment of funds of the corporation shall, unless otherwise directed by the Directors, be signed in the name and on behalf of the corporation by the Treasurer and either one of two officers designated by the Board.

ARTICLE VI

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 6.1 Membership shall be open to all persons interested in the objectives of the Society. All members shall have voting rights and each member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to the membership for a vote.

SECTION 6.2 Membership shall be divided into four classifications, student, active, contributing and honorary. Honorary members shall be elected by the Board of Directors and shall be limited to those who have made an outstanding contribution to the Society.

SECTION 6.3 Annual dues shall be payable upon joining the Society and are renewable one year from date of payment. Membership dues shall be fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors and a two-thirds majority of the membership present.

SECTION 6.4 Upon failure of any member to pay dues a letter shall be sent to the member by the First Vice-President. Failure to pay after due notice shall cause delinquent member to be automatically dropped from the membership.

ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 7.1 The corporation shall have the power to amend by-laws for the regulation of its internal affairs and for all other purposes not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama and with these articles of Incorporation, except that Article 1 hereof shall not be amended.

SECTION 7.2 The Constitution may be amended or rescinded by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority vote of the membership present provided the amendment has been approved by the Board of Directors and prior notice sent to the membership.

MEMBERSHIP

Mr. & Mrs. John T. Aldridge
Route # 1, Box 171
Springville, AL 35146
594-5927

Mr. & Mrs. T. Claxton Alexander
P. O. Box 671
Pell City, AL 35125
338-7178

Mr. & Mrs. L. Murray Alley
752 Montgomery Drive
Birmingham, AL 35213
871-9948 or 594-7643

Mr. & Mrs. James F. Anderson
Route # 2, Box 47-B
Ashville, AL 35953
594-7649

Mr. & Mrs. C. Doyle Armstrong
Route # 1, Box 402
Odenville, AL 35120
629-5755

Mr. & Mrs. E. R. Balcomb
Route # 1, Box 122
Ashville, AL 35953
594-4245

Mr. & Mrs. Euel A. Banks
Route # 1, Box 150
Ashville, AL 35953
594-7787

Mr. & Mrs. W. T. Benefield
Wonda Benefield
836 - 9th Circle North
Pell City, AL 35125
338-9780

Mrs. Linda L. Beverly
629 Vann's Avenue
Bessemer, AL 35020
428-1576

Mr. & Mrs. H. K. Blackmon
530 Montevallo Road
Leeds, AL 35094
699-8210

Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Blake
Route # 1, Box 150
Pell City, AL 35125
884-4014

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Blanchard
Route # 1, Box 154-C
Ashville, AL 35953
594-7604

Mr. & Mrs. Charles B. Braswell
P. O. Box 217
Ashville, AL 35953
594-4411

Mrs. J. F. Bridges
Route # 2, Box 500
Trussville, AL 35173
655-4599

Mr. & Mrs. David Bryant
Route # 1, Box 600
Cropwell, AL 35054
525-5683

Mr. & Mrs. Tracy B. Burger
Route # 1, Box 86-A
Ashville, AL 35953
594-5517

Mrs. Ben Burttram
P. O. Box 365
Steele, AL 35987
538-6296

Mr. & Mrs. Fitzhugh A. Burttram
Route # 2, Box 154-C
Ashville, AL 35953
594-5541

Mrs. K. B. Burttram
Route # 1, Box 83
Springville, AL 35146
467-2168

Mr. & Mrs. William L. Clapper
4782 Linda Street
Charleston Heights, S.C. 29405
803/744-3456

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher E. Clark
Route # 1, Box 264
Steele, AL 35987
594-7878

Mrs. Jack Cole
Route # 2, Box 29
Springville, AL 35146
467-7893

Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Cort, Jr.
Route # 4, Box 791
Pell City, AL 35125
338-4413

Mrs. Imogene S. Coupland
108 Westwood Street
Odenville, AL 35120
629-6227

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph R. Creitz
Route # 1, Box 155
Ashville, AL 35953
594-5429

Ms. Marie W. Cromer
Route # 3, Box 2781
Pell City, AL 35125
640-7463

Mrs. A. B. Crow
1104 Cloudcrest Drive
Birmingham, AL 35210
951-3847

Ms. Jo Carole Dawkins
P. O. Box 478
Springville, AL 35146
467-6034

Mr. & Mrs. William G. Eden
20 Seddon Point
Pell City, AL 35125
884-3766

Mrs. Virgil D. Edge
Route # 2, Box 64
Odenville, AL 35120
640-6734

Mr. & Mrs. Richard C. Ely
P. O. Box 183
Pell City, AL 35125
338-2165

Mr. & Mrs. Dave Evans, Jr.
Route # 1, Box 185
Ashville, AL 35953
594-7002

Mr. & Mrs. Will Fink
P. O. Box 561
Ashville, AL 35953
594-5976

Mr. & Mrs. George R. Franklin, Sr.
P. O. Box 484
Pell City, ALK 35125
338-3190

Mr. & Mrs. Calvin S. Gibson
P. O. Box 297
Ashville, AL 35953
594-7209

Mrs. Jimmie S. Gray
2021 - 3rd Avenue North
Pell City, AL 35125
338-2457

Miss Margaret Green
7 Rhonda Drive
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Mrs. Howard C. Gunter
Route # 5, Box 5040
Oneonta, AL 35121
274-2698

Ms. Annette B. Hendrix
Route # 6, Box 5570
Pell City, AL 35125
338-7023

Mr. Robert B. Hezlep, Jr.
104 Davis Drive
Odenville, AL 35120
629-5751

Sgt. Lelas Hitchcox
Route # 2, Box 238
Ragland, AL 35131
472-2655

Mr. & Mrs. B. G. Housh
Route # 1, Box 121
Ashville, AL 35953
594-5414

Mr. & Mrs. James E. Ingram
429 Old Wagon Road
Pell City, AL 35125
338-7144

Miss Anna V. Jackson
Route # 1, Box 160
Ashville, AL 35953
594-7686

Mr. & Mrs. W. D. Jackson
918 North 25th Street
Pell City, AL 35125
338-7060

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Jester
Route # 1, Box 165
Ashville, AL 35953
594-7468

Mrs. Charles H. Jones
1129 Main Street
Springville, AL 35146
467-7943

Miss Mabel M. Jones
P. O. Box 202
Springville, AL 35146
467-6646

Mrs. Sam Jones
161 Robinson Street
Springville, AL 35146
467-7719

Mr. & Mrs. Frank J. Keaton
10 Montecito Road
San Rafael, CA 94901
415/453-4144

Dr. Harold D. King
1815 Martin Street, South
Pell City, AL 35125
884-3200

Mr. & Mrs. Fred M. Knapp
4922 Olympia Drive
Houston, TX 77019
713/622-0959

Mrs. W. P. Lamar
Route # 1, Box 86
Springville, AL 35146
467-7418

Mr. & Mrs. Charles B. Lanier
Route # 4, Box 518ue
Pell City, AL 35125
338-1319

Mr. & Mrs. W. Ray Laseter
2527 Caldwell Avenue
Birmingham, AL 35205
939-3733

Miss Nioma Geneva Lee
2018 Third Avenue, South
Pell City, AL 35125
338-2988

Mrs. C. Y. Linder
Route # 2, Box 664
Oneonta, AL 35121
589-2263

Mrs. Judith D. Littlefield
320 Brentwood Avenue
Trussville, AL 35173
655-2946

Miss Elizabeth Lonnergan
P. O. Box 64
Ashville, AL 35953
594-4251

Mr. & Mrs. John W. Looney
228 Finley Drive. N. W.
Decatur, AL 35601
355-7744

Dr. & Mrs. James H. McClendon, Sr.
1300 Jones Road
Springville, AL 35146
467-6168

Mr. & Mrs. Leon F. McGinnis
P. O. Box 269
Springville, AL 35146
467-6378

Mr. Paul Manning
P. O. Box 102
Wattsville, AL 35182
884-0383

Mr. & Mrs. Clay T. Mayfield
Route # 2, Box 103
Ashville, AL 35953
629-6371

Miss Mary Arminda Mays
2108 Third Avenue, North
Pell City, AL 35125
338-3670

Mrs. Margaret Evans Meinzer
Route # 5, Box 3720
Pell City, AL 35125
338-7133

Mrs. Elvie R. Milam
Route # 5, Box 3720
Pell City, AL 351255
338-7133

Miss Rosemary Morse
2312 Highland Avenue, Apt. 3
Birmingham, AL 35205
324-7755

Mr. & Mrs. William Mosley
5747 Seddon Shores Drive
Pell City, AL 3512546
338-9776

Ms. Karen Sue Murphy
1590 Highway 23
Springville, AL 35146
467-6607

Mr. & Mrs. R. Seldon O'Donnell
2417 Dvorak Drive
Linden, AL 36748
295-5677

Mr. & Mrs. Billy E. Price
P. O. Box 660
Ashville, AL 35953
594-4328

Mrs. Vivian Qualls
P. O. Box 426reet
Steele, AL 35987
538-6308

Mrs. Joseph L. Reddoch
123 Leslie Street
Monroeville, AL 36450
743-2798

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry D. Rich
670 Woodgate Circle
Sunrise, FL 33326
305/389-7428

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph H. Riker
P. O. Box 202
Springville, AL 35146
467-6646

Mrs. Gloria V. Roberson
P. O. Box 428
Pell City, AL 35125
884-1520

Mr. & Mrs. Karl Scott
Route # 1, Box 241
Springville, AL 35146
467-6242

Mrs. J. Odell Sims
Route # 1, Box 552
Cropwell, AL 35054
525-5645

Ms. Robye Sisson
P. O. Box 117
Ragland, AL 35131
472-2992

Mrs. Alma Mowery Smith
2100 - 3rd Avenue, South
Pell City, AL 35125
338-7248

Mrs. Fred L. B. Smith
Route # 3, Box 390
Odenville, AL 35120
629-6316

Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Smith
801 First Place, South
Pell City, AL 35125
338-9550

Mr. James Brian Snider
Route # 1, Box 111-A
Odenville, AL 35120
640-7617

Miss F. Virginia Snyder
5012 Northumberland Drive
Birmingham, AL 35210
956-4026

Mrs. Orr Starnes Stewart
1801 - 2nd Avenue, North
Pell City, AL 35125
338-2836

Mr. Joseph Daniel Stewart
Route # 2, Box 945
Pell City, AL 35125
338-9354

Mrs. C. C. Stine
1012 Cogswell Avenue
Pell City, AL 35125
338-2662

Mrs. Frances N. Stone
Route # 3, Box 260
Odenville, AL 35120
629-5965

Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd L. Stone, Jr.
Route # 3, Box 260
Odenville, AL 35120
629-5965

Mr. & Mrs. M. S. Sullivan
P. O. Box 25
Springville, AL 35146
467-9011

Mr. & Mrs. Hoyt Teague
P. O. Box 131
Odenville, AL 35120
629-6205

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Howard Tucker
Route # 1, Box 177
Cropwell, AL 35054
525-5341

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Turner
927 - 25th Street, North
Pell City, AL 35125
338-7427

Mr. & Mrs. Emory Austell Vaughan
P. O. Box 493
Pell City, AL 35125
338-2631

Mr. & Mrs. Joe E. Voss
P. O. Box 513
Pell City, AL 35125
338-3740

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Waldrop
Route # 1, Box 158
Ashville, AL 35953
594-5923

Mr. & Mrs. Elmer T. Welch
Route # 1, Box 350-A
Odenville, AL 35120
629-5521

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Whitten
P. O. Box 125
Odenville, AL 35120
629-5575

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Williams
2924 Hastings Road
Birmingham, AL 35223
251-8100

Mrs. Gillis B. Williams
1741 Woodbine Court
Birmingham, AL 35216
942-8841

Mrs. Nancy T. Willison
1010 Riviers Avenue, S. E.
Huntsville, AL 35802

Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Wilson
Route # 2, Box 101
Ashville, AL 35953
594-5967

Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Winter
304 Red Oak Road
Birmingham, AL 35206
833-3799

Mr. & Mrs. Brandon Wood
606 Truss Ferry Road
Pell City, AL 35125
338-3445

Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Wyatt
Route # 2, Box 165-E
Ashville, AL 35953
594-5409

Mr. & Mrs. Richard W. Zeltman
120 Zeltman's Hill Road
Pell City, AL 35125
338-2357

Ashville Citizens Excited About Inzer House

Ashville citizens are excited about the restoration of one of Ashville's best loved landmarks - The John W. Inzer house. Many who knew and are related to the Inzer family are willing and ready to have a part in the restoration. They hope that members of the SCV will give them the opportunity of being involved in this community effort.

Below is an article written by Marie Tuck who was at the time (1975) correspondent for the St. Clair Observer.

When Marie Tuck was Ashville's reporter for the St. Clair Observer, on November 6, 1975 she wrote about the Ashville Bicentennial Day. Closing her story of the occasion, Marie had this to say:

"This correspondent's own Bicentennial Thought for the Week."

Miss Sally V. Inzer's home here in Ashville holds more history per cubic foot (yes, floor, ceiling, walls - all) than any other place this side of the Smithsonian. And her generosity in sharing it with those who are interested in the preservation of our historic past is something for which

she should be commended. Her home was on the Bicentennial Tour on October 27. The crowd came by bus, in cars, and on foot, and many wanted to linger - some asked if they could come individually later.

Assisting Miss Inzer as hostess to this group for the occasion were Mrs. Lee Gibbs, Mrs. Bill Keltner, Mrs. Buron McBrayer, and Miss Marie Tuck.

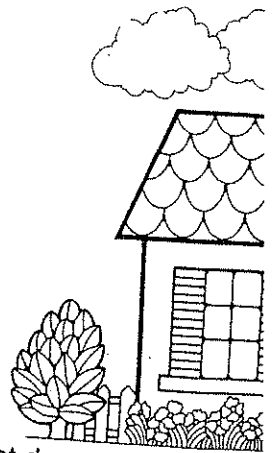
Miss Inzer will long be remembered for her generosity in sharing all that she called her own with her friends. A group of these friends has ask permission of the SCV - who now owns the Inzer house - to redecorate her (Sally's) own room, known as the "green room" in its original beauty to honor her memory.

For Sale

1981 Yamaha 750
Only 7,000 miles. \$995.00
338-1519 12-9 p.m.

ATTN HOME SAVE \$ HEATING/COOLING

There is a **NEW** product. Energy Center, 4 major Utility customers---that will cut your energy bill. It is a **FREE** 17 minute video which shows how the product carries a **100% satisfaction guarantee** there is no addition.



P.S. What do you have to lose to view a video. Remember, there is no cost to you. Call Denise Sawyer



ST. CLAIR COUNTY HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

2108 Third Avenue North
Pell City, Alabama 35125

November 27, 1978

Miss Mary Lou Price
Historical Resources Coordinator
Alabama Historic Commission
State of Alabama
725 Monroe Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Dear Mary Lou:

I want to thank you for your letter to us suggesting that we nominate Camp Winnataska as a land mark to the Alabama Registry of Land Marks and Heritage.

The reason for the slight delay in answering has been due to the fact we have been busy gathering information on Camp Winnataska in preparation for the time we could nominate it to the registry.

Mr. W. D. Jackson, County Agricultural Agent in St. Clair County, who is also a member of the St. Clair County Historical Commission, has served as Chairman of a committee to gather this data. We now think we have it in complete form and are today submitting it to you for consideration. We believe the information is very complete and are most anxious to hear the results of our nomination.

If for any reason you were to need an additional information, feel free to either call on Mr. Jackson or me.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Mary Mays
Chairman, St. Clair County
Historical Development Commission

available to landowners by Denver, Col., psychiatrist, and late 1965, the researchers re- Mrs. Robert L. Gunn Jr., of port. *Bhara - Post - Board* Jasper, both U. of A. graduates.

St. Clair County residents enjoying new prosperity

PELL CITY, May 29—St. Clair County is "growing, going, and glowing" in every way with new prosperity and a better way of living for its residents, Probate Judge Hoyt Hamilton believes.

And the judge has plenty of facts and figures to back up his belief.

Spurred by the creation of Logan Martin Lake by Alabama Power Co., the county is getting new industry, new commercial and recreational facilities, and new residential construction programs all over, especially along the lake.

The court of county commissioners has worked with the State Industrial Development Board in attracting many new industries.

Judge Hamilton pointed out that National Cabinet Corp. and Southeastern Enameling Co. have located at Springville. Cement Asbestos Products Co., representing an investment of

several million dollars, has located at Ragland.

DURING THE past six years, more than \$2,211,995 has been spent on highway and road construction on county roads. This does not include funds received from Alabama Power Co. for replacement of inundated roads. The road work has been financed by county, state and federal funds. It includes bridges, resurfacing, grading, paving, drainage and other work.

A 5,000 foot airstrip is under construction by the county near Pell City. It will have a paved runway 4,000 feet long and 80 feet wide. Also being erected are a utility building and T-type hangar with a capacity of 12 to 15 aircraft.

Some \$265,655 has been spent on remodeling and modernizing the courthouse at Ashville and work at the Pell City Courthouse. A county health center has been constructed at Pell City at a cost of \$86,742.

The county bought and installed 22 voting machines.

The present commissioners' court includes Clude Morrow, District 1; Hurshel Mize, District 2; James B. Walters, District 3, and Charles Williams, District 4. County engineer is J. S. Pilkington.