

Muskogee County Genealogical and Historical Society Quarterly

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Do you remember the GASOLINE SERVICE STATIONS? This is what they were called early on, consisting of a polite, friendly owner, usually from the neighborhood and employees who would check the oil, tire pressure and clean the windshield, all at no extra cost to the consumer.

In today's hectic life style we have 24-hour, self-service, pay-at-the-pump stations with very little of the personal attention we once enjoyed.

In this issue we have included photos and brief histories of a few of the service stations of the past. If you have additional photos you would like to share of some of these establishments, particularly from your neighborhood, please feel free to share them with us for future publications.

One of the most familiar remnants of the original service stations is the small, domed building on the corner of Seventh Street and Emporia. Easily recognized by its dark red building topped by a brighter red roof and dome make it one of our special local landmarks.



More of its history in our "Filling Stations" section, Page 46.



About the Muskogee County Genealogical & Historical

Our Purpose

The MCGS was formed in 1983 for the purpose of promoting the general study of genealogy through workshops, seminars, and monthly programs; and to discover and preserve any material that may establish or illustrate the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families.

Meetings

MCGS meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 6:00 PM at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK. The Board of Directors meetings are held the third Tuesday at 5:30 PM at the library. All members are invited to attend the Board meetings.

Membership

Membership in MCGS is open to anyone promoting the purpose of the Society. Individual or family membership is \$21 per year and includes the Quarterly publication. An \$11 per year membership is available for those that do not wish to receive the Quarterly.

To defray the cost of postage, we ask that members pick up their Quarterly at the March, June, September and December meetings whenever possible.

Members may also choose to have an electronic version (.pdf) sent to them via email.

Publications & Research Our Research Policy

is outlined on our website or you may write to us for a Research Request Form at:

Muskogee County Genealogical Society

c/o Muskogee Public Library,

801 West Okmulgee,

Muskogee, OK 74401

Or visit our website at:

<http://www.okgenweb.org/~mcgs/>

Manuscript Submission

Persons wishing to submit manuscripts or material for publication in the MCGS Quarterlies are requested to send their electronic files in Rich Text format to the following email address:

mucogeso@yahoo.com

All other material may be mailed to the address listed above. Material that has been previously published must be noted.

MCGS Quarterly

Publication Information

Editorial Policy: The Editors invite contributions of public records, articles, Bible records, and transcripts from members and non-members. Contributions should be those focused on the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families. Neither the Editors nor the Board of Directors of the Muskogee County Genealogical & Historical Society take responsibility for errors of fact/data submitted. The views expressed in articles and reviews are those of the authors concerned and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, the Board of Directors, nor the Members of the MCGS. The Editors retain the right not to publish material that is inconsistent with the policies of the MCGS.

Quarterly Copies: The MCGS Quarterly is published four times a year: Mar, Jun, Sep and Dec. Back issues of the Quarterly are available for \$5 each plus \$1.50 for postage.

Books

MCGS publishes books of genealogical interest focused on Muskogee County and Muskogee Indian Territory. A current price list of our publications is provided on our website at:

<http://www.okgenweb.org/~mcgs/>

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MCGS Member Information

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Rosanne Nunley
Mary Ruth Six
John and Polly Hatcher

ARBOR DAY HONOREES

Pete and Mickey Hagan

(See follow-up on Page 47)

We would like to extend our warmest Welcome to our new members and Thank You to all who have renewed their memberships. All new members and renewals are encouraged to submit one chart a year, as it may help someone else researching your surnames.

!!!!SPRING WORKSHOP WINNERS!!!!

During our latest workshop, several door prizes were given throughout the proceedings. The winners were:

Vickie Lang, Mary Downing, Randy Painter,
Donna Thornton, Mary Rouse, Lavona Shoemaker,
Elizabeth Griffin, Rita Milam and Lulu Boggs.

Congratulations to all the winners and see you at the Fall workshop, October 3, 2009.



WAGON TRAIN TO TEXAS

Second of Three Installments

It was necessary to keep the several groups of cotton choppers together for the rows were a half-mile in length. If left on their own some would lag farther and farther behind. To prevent this the faster ones would keep the slower ones up; also the children, who were large enough to work, were kept up in this way.

There was one black woman who was always behind and showed no desire to keep up. When questioned by Grandfather she said, "Massa, Ize jist not able to wo'k." "What's wrong with you, Liza?" "De witches rides me eber night, Suh. Dey makes stirrups in Ma ha'r and rides me all ober de creation, thru de briahts, brambles, and brushes an ah gits no res'. Ize jist not able to wo'k."

Then she showed him scratches on her arms and legs.

Grandfather said, "Well, go the the house and your missus will look into your case. But tell me first what about the broom or sifter all you darkies put in your doors at night to keep these witches out?"

"Dis heah witch jist don' pay no 'tention to dem. Dis is a 'ceptional witch," she said.

Well, go to your mistress and I suspect she will prescribe a big dose of bitters for you." Grandfather replied.

The chopping groups were weary for this was the second time for the half mile strip, and their eyes looked longingly for the water cart. When the mule pulled the cart up with the barrel of water, cold from the spring, the workers shouted and vied for places in the drinking lines. Gourd dippers hung from nails under the outside rim of the barrel and order was kept while this watering took place.

Grandfather called to all groups and said, rest a spell then see who can be the first to the end of the stretch back toward the house, to get the big plugs of sweet tobacco hidden there." Although they raised their own tabacco they surely loved the molasses sweetened plug kind.

Plowmen followed the choppers to gently throw the dirt up to the growing young plants, and young Titus, on looking up saw one of the coming. He said "Massa, why caint Ah plow instid of chop? Ize a good plowman, Ah plows old Boss and Tom in lan' breakin' time. Let me plow an res' Ma se'f and let him chop ' while. Plowin' wid dat Georgy stock and light footed mule look ezy."

"You can break land with big footed Boss and Tom, Titus, but gently laying the soil up against the tender young cotton plants takes skill on the part of Joe, in both banking the row, and in preventing the small footed mule from trampling on the row. You have a job, keep at it" said Grandfather.

He turned and called to the overseer with one of the other groups and said, "See to Titus here; I have other matters to look after now."

Everything was prospering on the plantation and time went fast with much being accomplished. One day one of the field workers, Zeb, a young man about twenty years old, came to Grandfather with the request that he might be married. Grandfather had the authority to marry his own slaves, so he told Zeb it was all right with him, and said he would see about getting a cabin ready.

"Oh, Massa, Ah is to marry a gal ober at de plantation to de no'th ob heah."

"What! Can't you find a suitable gal here at home?"

"No, Suh, Ah loves de gal at de oder plantation, Suh," said Zeb.

"Well, I will see if I can make arrangements with her Master." Grandfather replied.

He went over and tried to buy the girl, but the planter wanted too much for her and no deal could be made. He then asked his boy to look among the home group for a wife.

"Can't you see what a fine bunch of gals we have here? That little skinny gal won't make you as good a wife as one of these buxom girls we have here." said Grandfather.

"Oh, Massa, Ah don' loves one ob dese, Ah loves de skinny one. Don't Yo know dat de closer de bone de sweeter de meat."

Grandfather laughed, and since no arrangements could be made, Zeb would work all week at his own plantation, then go to his wife on Friday night and stay until Sunday night. This was not a very good deal because if there were any increase it would go to the other planter as the baby always belonged to the mother, and the mother to the master.

Prosperity was very evident on the plantation now, and much cotton was going down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. One time after a big shipment was sold Grandfather went to the slave market and saw among those to be sold, a perfect specimen of black manhood. He talked to the young man about his age and physical condition, felt his muscles, and looked at his teeth, then asked him if he ever ran away?

"No, Suh, if dey's good to me."

"What is your name and age?" asked Grandfather.

"Mose is ma name, and Ah is 22 years old, Suh."

"Would you ever ran away if I bought you?"

"No, Suh, if Yo was good to me." answered Mose.

Grandfather was taken with him and bid when he was put on the block. There was much bidding for his physique was perfect, and big muscles rippled under his shining black skin. Grandfather made the last bid which was \$2,200, more than he had ever paid before, even for a man, wife and baby. He had bought several slaves, but he didn't sell them. Most of his slaves were born on his premises.

But Mose proved a regular Jonah to Grandfather. He was resentful and belligerent, and ran away many times. Since he was single man he was placed in a cabin with a young man and wife. Grandfather hoped he would marry, settle down, and have a cabin of his own. But Mose's mind was set on other things, Freedom! At every opportunity he would get up on a stump in the field and make speeches to the others about running away over the Mason-Dixon Line. The overseer had trouble all the time with him and would catch him before he got far and would bring him back.

The Civil War had started now and Mose wanted to join the Union forces. There was a rumor that President Lincoln was going to give the head, or prospective head, of all slave family's forty acres and a mule. Mose wanted in on this. But this rumor did not materialize. Grandfather was good to his slaves and tried to keep them contented. He gave them every Saturday off to use as they pleased. They worked their gardens and tobacco patches, cleaned themselves up, went fishing, swimming, and sometimes to the corner store to sell and trade their surplus produce.

Then there was the preparation for the big Saturday night dance. It was held in the street between the cabins where the ground was packed almost as hard as pavement by the pressure of many feet.

The fiddles, banjos, bones, and gourds were brought out and tuning started. The dance was a big event and every one on the plantation went, some from the Big House, and my Father never missed after he was large enough to go. He said the fiddling, picking, knocking, and gourd scraping, was the prettiest music he ever heard, and the dancing was something spectacular. Mose was among it, but his mind was set on Freedom.

Late one evening the overseer came and told Grandfather that Mose was preparing to leave again. Grandfather went to the cabin and stood in the doorway. Mose was squatted before the fireplace putting roasted sweet potatoes in his shirt bosom. "Well, I see you are fixing to leave again, Mose." "Yes, Suh," replied Mose, then he walked straight to Grandfather, took him under the arms, lifted him to one side, bolted into the yard, leaped the fence and was gone.

Grandfather saw the overseer coming and told him to saddle three horses, one for himself, one for Grandfather, and one for my Father who was past eleven years old then. He told the overseer to Old Sal, the bloodhound, and her pups. When all was ready the dogs were released and the man hunt started, hound and pups mouthing on the trail.

Mose used all the tactics of a hunted animal. He waded the creek, then climbed a tree, swung to other trees by branches or vines, took the creek again, and repeated the same. Then he doubled back for a distance and came out on the opposite side of the creek and took off at right angles, to confuse the dogs.

Old Sal and the pups were hot on the trail and they let him know it. Old Sal stopped when she got to the creek and she made wide circles crossing the stream from side to side. This gave Mose much progress, but when she found the trail again the barking was renewed in earnest. Mose was running for his life and he was strong and fast. The men let the dogs have the chase and took their time. Grandfather knew Sal would find Mose and would let them know when she did.

As dawn was breaking they heard Sal bay, and hurried on. They found Mose up a big tree with the pups yapping excitedly around the trunk. Grandfather looked up and said, "Well, Mose, you can make your choice; you can come down, take the black snake whip and fight Sal and the pups or you can take a mile start and try to beat them back home." Mose knew that even with the whip he could not beat the bloodhound and the six pups, for they would have his clothes torn off him, and his legs would be riddled.

He said, "Ah! I take de mile start." The men caught the dogs, secured their collars, and tethered them to a tree. Then Mose came down and the overseer accompanied him to the mile mark and blew the hunting horn for the dogs to be loosed. By the time the horn was raised to the overseer's lips Mose was gone. He ran with leaps and bounds and the yelps of the pups and Sal's deep bark gave him extra strength. Grandfather and my Father hurried toward home and just about sunrise they saw Mose reach the ladder to the hay loft of the barn, with the pups leaping at his feet.

Mose did not run away again, but he was still rebellious and had nothing but freedom on his mind, and he was still planning his escape.

My Grandparents had something that happened in the immediate family that distressed them very much. In 1858 their daughter Molly, who was sixteen and their daughter Elizabeth who was fourteen, were being prepared to be sent to boarding school in South Carolina for two years of private schooling. Their trunks were packed and all plans were completed. However, the girls had other ideas. When their pleas to stay home were not accepted, they eloped with the neighbor boys, Mack and Ephriam Harris. Molly's and Betty's father was so enraged when the girls eloped he refused to let them come home for a while. He finally forgave them. When Betty was nineteen years of age and had three or four children, the story goes she cried because she was getting so old.

My Grandfather was fond of his slaves and most of them loved him. Mammy especially was devoted to the family. She was a kindly, buxom woman who was assistant housekeeper and nurse to the small children, while Grandmother managed the household in general and was head of the loom house, and the issuance of rations. Mammy often had to keep peace between the kitchen maids and housemaids.

When Grandmother was at her other duties there were often clashes between these workers, disputing about who was to take orders from whom. One day a kitchen maid accosted a housemaid, accusing her of being uppity, saying she thought herself so grand because she wore a white apron, and a white cap on her hair when she waited on company in the dining room. But Mammy brought her down by telling her she would lose her place in the kitchen and become a field worker if she didn't mend her ways, for turning the barrel churn in the cool spring house, and tending milk and butter was better than swinging a hoe in the hot sun.

The small children were very fond of Mammy. My father said sometimes he got rough with his younger brothers, Ripley and Ruffin, who were called Rip and Ruff; they deserved it too, for they ripped and ruffed it a plenty. But baby Warren was too little for such frays.

On one particular day my Father was extra hard on the two boys and Mammy descended upon him with drawn brows and piercing eyes. She said "Marse Charles, Yo is a incompetible and stubborn boy, and Yo go on an git Yo

little behimes out ob heah. Shame fo treatin' Yo little brers in such a way. Go on out and think how bad yo hav ben, and ast de Lawd to forgive you and he will do hit. Den when you do dat Mammy will 'ceive Yo wid open ahms, but don't cum back till Yo do."

My Father knew when she called him Marse Charles he was in Dutch with her, for she usually called him Buddy. He said he came back and brought her a bouquet of roses for a peace offering.

My Father was called Bud, as he was the oldest boy. He had a special black playmate, Toby, who was the son of the cook, Mandy. Grandfather gave Toby to my Father to be his own, playmate now, and to be a manservant later. These two had many happy days together as Toby would never be a field worker, but stayed around the house doing errands for Mandy and the kitchen maids. He also helped Jim with the yard and garden work, carried water from the well, went to the garden for vegetables, and was a general roustabout. But there were many trips to the creek with my Father where they swam, fished, and went afrogging.

Malaria was common in the southern states then, and many people came down with ague unless precaution was taken. There was much home doctoring and a planter had to know how to handle his own. Large jugs of bitters were prepared which consisted of wild cherry bark, peach tree leaves, May apple leaves, sassafras root, poke root, red oak bark, watermelon seed, and blackberry root. These were boiled, poured off and strained through cheese clothe, then to this liquid was added some quinine, sulfur, sorghum molasses, and blackberry juice. This mixture was brought to a rolling boil and when cool enough a quantity of whiskey was added for preservation, then poured into sterilized jugs and tightly corked. These jugs were kept in the storehouse.

This made a good ague medicine and many Negroes prided themselves on their ability to concoct bitters, and they were pretty good doctors too, going about among themselves with their concoctions.

The family in the Big House attended church several miles away. One Sunday my Father was slightly with a light fever and headache. Grandmother gave him a dose of bitters and they left him in the charge of a housemaid while the rest of the family drove away in the three-seated carriage.

Toby soon came by and was told by the housemaid that Buddy was upstairs. When he saw my Father in bed he said, "What Yo doin' in bed, man, ain't Yo had no bitters?"

"Yes, I've had bitters."

"Well then, com on you'll be a'wright."

My Grandfather had built a church house on the plantation for the workers and there was a natural preacher among their number. He could neither read nor write but would come to the Big House every Saturday afternoon, and with hat in hand he would knock on the side door and say, "Please, Sur, Ah would be so much 'bliged if Yo would be so kind as to read to me from the sacred scriptuah, that Ah might take a tex' for Ma people.

On this occasion Grandfather read about the taking of the city of Jerico by the Israelites; how God told his people to march around the walled city once a day, the priests were to continually blow the rams horns, as they marched, the armed men going before the priests, then the ark of the covenant, followed by the people. They were to do this for six days, but on the seventh day they were to march around the city seven times; then as the priests were blowing the rams' horns, Joshua said " shout" and the people shouted with a great shout and the walls come tumbling down.

This black preacher man had a gift for his people. They could literally see the great army marching; the armed men first, the priests blowing the rams' horns, then the ark of the covenant, followed by the people.

"Yeah, bretern and sistern, dis dey done for six days, priests blowing dem horns, and goin' 'round onct, and on de sevant day dey went 'round seven times, de priests blowing der horns, and when Joshua say "shout" de people shouted wid all dey might and de walls come a tumblin' down. Yeah, dem high rock walls come a tumblin', 'cause dey do jist what de Lawd say do. If we do like dat and do what de good Lawd say do, we be waved jist like dem chillen of Israel was saved from dem idolaters who would have kilt dem wid de sword and spear if dey hadn't



Pete and Mickey Hagan
2009 Arbor Day Honorees

The Muskogee County Genealogical Society have chosen **Pete and Mickey** to be honored at this year's Arbor Day ceremony at Honor Heights Park.

Evert (Pete) Hagan and Mildred (Mickey) Hooper were married 26 Aug 1955 and have been married for 53 years. They met at Purity Drugstore #5, located at Third and Broadway in Muskogee. She was a soda jerk and he had just finished two years in the Army. Pete and Mickey now have two children, Terry and Kevin Hagan, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Pete was part owner in Hagan Excavating in Muskogee for about thirty years. He worked in Asphalt Paving about eight years and twenty-two years with Hagan Tractor Parts. Mickey has worked with Hagan Tractor Parts for twenty-two years. Pete retired from the Oklahoma National Guard after twenty-five years of service. They are currently in partnership with their two sons as half owners of Hagan Tractor Parts located in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

Pete and Mickey were charter members of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society from 1983 and served in various offices of the organization in its beginning years.

1983 Hagan	Pete	Treasurer
1984 Hagan	Mickey	Secretary
1984 Hagan	Mickey	Treasurer
1985 Hagan	Mickey	Treasurer
1986 Hagan	Mickey	Member at Large
1987 Hagan	Mickey	Treasurer
1988 Hagan	Mickey	Treasurer
1989 Hagan	Mickey	Vice-President
1990 Hagan	Mickey	Vice-President
1991 Hagan	Mickey Hooper	President
1992 Hagan	Mickey Hooper	Prior President
1993 Hagan	Mickey Hooper	Treasurer

The Muskogee County Genealogical Society would like to thank them for their contribution in creating such a great foundation for the rest of us to build on as the society continues to grow and develop. What an example they have set.



Left: Kevin Hagan, Pete and Mickey's son, with Bob Van Brunt. Photo by Karen Wagner

Right: Sarah Hagan, June Hagan and Rebecca Hagan. Sarah and Rebecca are the granddaughters of Pete and Mickey. June Hagan is their daughter-in-law and Kevin's wife. Photo by Karen Wagner



Left: Mickey and Pete Hagan with the "Emerald Green", planted in their honor for Arbor Day. Photo by Karen Wagner



Right: The plaque placed at the base of the "Emerald Green", honoring Pete and Mickey Hagan.

Photo by Linda Stout

GASOLINE SERVICE STATIONS.....



Filling stations, full-service, self-serve.....whatever the terminology, the “service” has changed greatly through the years. These are some of the photos and brief histories of a few of the “oldies” that have been tracked through the Polk’s City Directories and what



No longer in use as a service station, this lovely building sits on the corner of North 7th and Emporia Streets. Through the years its address has varied from 501 N. 7th, to 703 Emporia and back again. The earliest listing

found in the city directories is 1930, Barnsdall Refining Co., filling station, 700 Emporia; 1940 Vandle T. Smith filling station; 1950 Towns Service Station, 703 Emporia; 1960 Highee Service Station, 501 N. 7th, MU2-3737; 1970 Calhoun Service Station, 501 N. 7th and the same location, 1980 Teague Garage and in 1990 Teague Garage, auto repair. The last date of service is not known. Sadly, no “before” pictures could be found at press time.

Photo by Nancy Lasater, May 2009.



In researching this wonderful photo from Sue Tolbert from a collection at the Three Rivers Museum, no reference could be found showing a service station listed as Price Skelly, particularly on that corner. However, the only Skelly Station found in that area first appeared in the Polk’s City Directory for 1963 as Phelps Skelly Service Station at 112 North 32nd. Through the years the station was: 1965, Phelps Skelly Service Station, MU2-4090; 1966-1968, Pence Skelly Service Station; and in 1969 it became Ker-McGee Service Station No. 6, one of

several established in the Muskogee area. The name Pence leads one to believe that may have been the intended name on the photo. In any case, it was too nice a picture of what service stations used to be, to be omitted from this article.



Bill Hall, 321 E. Okmulgee, then and now: This service station began as Southland Refining Company filling station, first listed in the 1940 Polk's City Directory. In the 1950 City Directory, it was listed as Hall Oil Company. Finally in 1960 it was listed as W. H. "Bill" Hall Oil Co. MU7-6491. More recently it has become a truck rental office.

This picture of President Harry S. Truman in a motorcade on the way to Spaulding Park was possibly taken from the location of the Bill Hall station across the street from this location, which would have been taken in the 1940's and at that time it appears to be a Phillips 66 station. The location, 322-324 E. Okmulgee has been listed in the city directories as: 1950 Joe Ray Garage; 1960-1970 Shepherd Garage; 1980 Neal's Tire & Auto Repair. The insert is a picture taken May 2009. It is nice to see the integrity of the building has been kept.



Photos: Above left and lower right, courtesy of Sue Tolbert at the Three Rivers Museum. Insert photos taken by Barbara Downs.

Motorists Take 'High Road' to Jack's Super Service Station

There is some question as to what part of the station, pictured here as Jack's Service Station remains at the corner of W. Okmulgee and S. 24th Street. The actual address of the property is listed through the years as 2323 W. Okmulgee. City directories identify it through the years as: 1930 J. E. Anthis filling station; 1940 Anthis Conoco



The large top picture is an exterior view of Jack's Super Service station, owned and operated by Jack Eichenberger at the corner of Twenty-fourth street and West Okmulgee avenue. In the bottom picture is shown a display of a few of the many items handled by this service station. Shown in the picture are such items as Philco radios, Dupont Zerone anti-freeze, Mobil Upperlube, Exide, B. F. Goodrich and Globe batteries, Dupont Zerex anti-freeze and anti-rust, Prestone, Mobil stop-leak for emergency repairs, Mobil-lustre cloth, Mobil radiator flush, Mobil spot remover, Mobil Hydrotone, Dupont Motor-Mend for repairing cracked motor blocks, water jackets and valve ports, Siloo Hypoid flush for hypoid differential gears, seat cushions, Mobil grease, Mobil wax and car heaters. The round heater in front at left is an automatic gas fired heater, which provides living-room comfort inside your automobile regardless of how low the temperature is outside.



Station;

1945 newspaper article, Jack's Super Service Station; 1950 Fred H. Finical Conoco Station; 1960 Clem's Conoco Service; 1970 Muskogee General Service Station; 1980 James Dause MFA Insurance Agency. Part of the confusion is that the current building, located left in the insert, is set on an angle of 24th and W. Okmulgee corner, while the above picture appears to be on a straight part of the street (24th). In either case, it is again nice to see the original buildings have not been torn down to make room for a parking lot.

Article and top photo originally published in the Muskogee Daily Phoenix 24 Oct 1943, Pages 2-5. Picture of the items referred to in the article omitted here. Available on microfilm at the Muskogee Public Library. Submitted by Nancy Lasater

Insert Photo taken May 2009 by Nancy Lasater



Filling Station,
Eisenhower Era.



Filling Station
Poster



Copies of post-
cards submitted
by Carol Payne



??????? MYSTERY PHOTO ??????

Loral Munson is attempting to identify the school pictured above, probably located in southern Muskogee County. **The back of the photograph has the name “Ralph Richey: and a date which appears to be 1906.** Ralph Richey, age 20, and his mother, Mrs. Edd Richey, and paternal grandmother, Mary Richey, are listed on the 1920 U. S. Census in Vann Township. Ralph Richey is not found on the 1912 School Census for Vann School, but may have attended another in the area.

If you recognize the school, please contact the Genealogy and Local History Department at the Muskogee Public Library, 918-682-6657. **The photograph background doesn't appear to be a town scene, but it could be located at the edge of a town.** Many rural schools were located in rural Oklahoma at this time, however, few were the large two story structure pictured.

Submitted by Nancy Calhoun, Muskogee Public Library

PORUM RANGE WAR

By Virginia Vann Perry

Trouble between T. L. Hester and the Davis brothers had been brewing **about 20 years before the final battle at Pony Starr's ranch. Hester had charged** one or the other of the Davis brothers with cattle stealing. They would appear in court, post bond and were acquitted. Of the four brothers who settled around Porum, Sam (the oldest) was semi-retired and lived in Muskogee, but was always supportive and arranged bond when needed. His home was a large white two story house across from the Porum water tower.

Cicero Davis was murdered September 11, 1906, as he stopped to open the gate leading to his home.

John (Jack) Davis had settled on a ranch near to Eufaula. His son was Joe Davis.

Bob Davis still lived near Porum and was tired of the harassment of the warrants served against him and with all the time spent away from his ranch and cattle. When Deputy Jim Work came to serve another warrant he was killed. Charges were filed against Bob Davis, Leonard McCullough, and Ammon **Davis who was a son of Bob's first cousin Lorenzo Dow Davis who lived at Briartown.** Both Lorenzo and Ammon are buried in the Davis cemetery near the Briartown Cemetery. The three were captured in Denver, Colorado, and returned to Muskogee to stand trial. By jury trial starting on September 11, 1911, **all three were found "not guilty"**.

With Sam semi-retired in Muskogee, Cicero dead, Bob in jail indicted for murder, Jack on his ranch near Eufaula it left Joe Davis, only 19 years old to keep check on the Davis land and cattle. Jack and Bob had cattle interest with Pony Starr. Joe went over to deal with a problem of 22 head of their cattle that Hester had moved to his ranch. Sheriff Dobson of Muskogee was sent to Porum to serve a writ of replevin on Hester to return the cattle. He deputized J. A. Shoemake and Charlie McClure to accompany him. Hester and a group of men locked them in the smokehouse and rode for the Starr ranch. They wore black **stocking masks and "Mother Hubbard dresses"**. **The gun battle erupted and** when it was over, 11 horses and 5 men lay dead or dying. Among the dead was Cliff Hester, 20 years old. A special train was sent down the Midland Valley to pick up the dead and wounded. They were loaded into a boxcar with two doctors and a nurse who had been sent from Muskogee with the train.

In October, 1911, my grandfather and father began to search for a suitable ranch thru Texas, into Old Mexico, up to Arizona, finally taking an option to purchase near Clovis, New Mexico. However, my grandfather died in 1912 before a move could be made and my father continued ranching in southern Muskogee County. Later the body of Sonny Dunagan, nephew of the Davis boys, was found near Checotah still with mask and dress on. A day or so later another dead man was found under a bridge near Porum. Charlie Shoemake, who witnessed the battle **from start to finish from Dr. Vowell's yard in Porum where he was delivering feed**, said the mob removed two more bodies from the ground that were dead. Carlile Vowell, a young boy, also witnessed the battle standing on the railing of their front porch.

During the battle, Pony was shooting from inside the house thru the windows. Mrs. Starr had fled to the barn and Joe was shooting from the corner of the house. Neither was wounded. After the mob scattered in fright, Joe and Pony **rode to Jack Davis' ranch near Eufaula straight through the main street of Porum**. They sent word to the sheriff in Muskogee they wished to give themselves up. Two deputies were sent for them. On June 19, 1911, 22 arrests were made on indictment for inciting and participating in the Porum riot. Joe Davis and Pony Starr had held off 30 masked men in self-defense and were not charged.

My grandmother, Elizabeth Davis Vann, was first cousin to the Davis brothers. **My mother's uncle, Charlie McClure, was murdered August 26, 1911, near the high school, shot in the back by two men.** Jack moved lower into the Choctaw Nation. Sam and Bob moved to Tahlequah. Bob owned Davis Truck Lines there. Joe was arrested and convicted of robbing the Golden State Limited in Arizona. He was pardoned and employed by the page estate in Sand Springs. He was only 24 in 1916, surrounded by violence, hard work and responsibility at an early age. He deserved to live out his life in peace.



Editor's note: The newspaper article on Page 53 gives a full list of those men who were included in these indictments. Thank you Virginia for giving this a special touch with your family's history during this incident.

FREDERICK W. SCHERUBEL

Submitted by Linda Stout



Frederick Scherubel was a hotel man. He began his career as a bellboy at the Windsor Hotel in Pierce City, MO, clerked at the Joplin House in Joplin, MO, and was the assistant manager of the Keystone and Joplin hotels in Joplin. All this before he arrived in Muskogee in 1905 to manage the new \$100,000, 6 story, Turner Hotel in a partnership with F. R. Letcher. It was located at 3rd and Court. There was a gala grand opening banquet held March 29, 1905. All of the prominent Muskogee citizens attended and enjoyed a fine meal with speeches by many notables. At midnight a ball was held in the Opera House across the street. Business was good and by December, 1906, a 4 story Annex was completed. The Turner Hotel was hailed as the largest hotel in the State of Oklahoma with 182 rooms. Fred Scherubel was known as the **“Prince of Landlords”** according to the **Muskogee Times-Democrat**, and was only 38 years of age at the time the Annex was completed. By this time he was the sole proprietor.

Joining him in Muskogee was his brother, Joe. Both men appear in the 1906 Muskogee City Directory, Fred as the proprietor of the Turner Hotel and Laundry, and Joe as the chief engineer and electrician of the Turner Hotel. By 1907 Joe was married but both men still lived at the Turner. Their father, George, arrived in 1909 and resided on Fondulac Street.

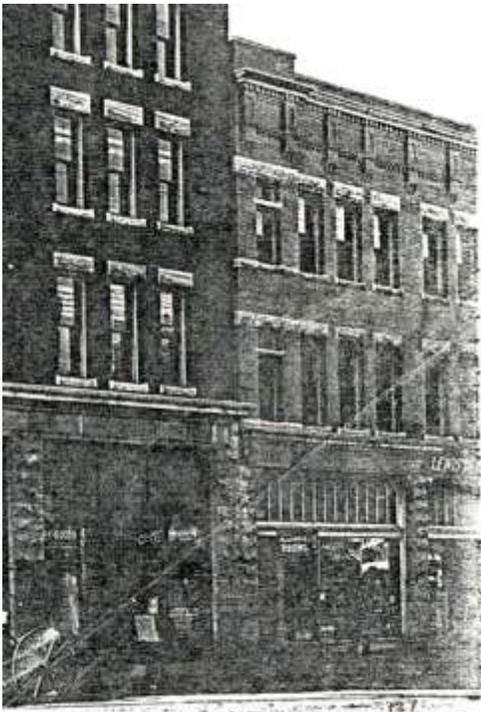


In September, 1909, Fred brought suit against Governor C. N. Haskell for non-payment of rent in the amount of \$1,122.25. This legal action was widely discussed in the newspapers with charges flying in both directions. Governor Haskell failed to appear in court seven times until final judgment was finally granted to Scherubel for the full amount.

In 1908 Fred sold his interest in the Turner and turned his attention to the Lyric Theater which he managed from 1908 to 1911. His residence moved from the Turner Hotel to the Illinois Apartments located in the 200 block of West Okmulgee. Joe became proprietor of the Auto Livery Taxicab Line and his wife, Kate, was proprietor of the Little Booster Cigar Store on Wall Street.

Fred traveled extensively between the time he left the Turner Hotel and 1911. He studied the management of hotels in Berlin, Cairo, Paris, Budapest and London to prepare himself to manage even better hotels.

Fred met his future wife, Catherine Martin, during that time and they were married at the Illinois Apartments on July 4, 1911, in the home of Mrs. Ottilia Sharp, the groom's sister.



Illinois Apartments

Rev. Melvin Putnam, pastor of the First Christian Church, performed the ceremony. The bride was a graduate of the Chicago Conservatory of Music and had a lovely singing voice. According to the Muskogee Times Democrat, the new Mr. and Mrs. Scherubel left on the Flyer for Chicago to select furniture for the new Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City which had been leased by Mr. Scherubel. They were to spend ten days in Chicago before returning to Muskogee to await completion of the Skirvin. Fred Scherubel was leaving but he had made his mark with his ownership and management of the Turner Hotel and the Lyric Theater and his involvement in civic affairs.

The Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City was one of the most modern and finest hotels in the southwest. Under the able management of Fred Scherubel the hotel was profitable and

became “the” place to stay or entertain. Mrs. Scherubel was active in society and often sang at public events. In addition to his hotel duties, Fred was heavily involved in the civic affairs of Oklahoma City and organizations such as the Masons and Elks.

He rarely slept more than 6 hours a night and liked to rise early to personally supervise preparations for the day's work. In 1912 his physicians encouraged him to take a vacation and rest but he returned in less than two weeks. He suffered from chronic stomach trouble and had surgery to remove his adenoids. This surgery left him in constant physical pain. In April, 1913, Fred succumbed to the pain and took his own life in his apartments at the Skirvin Hotel. The Oklahoman documented the elaborate funeral attended by hundreds of people. He was laid to rest in Fairlawn Cemetery, Oklahoma City.

Sources:

- Photo of Illinois Apartments, Turner Hotel and Lyric Theater courtesy of Three Rivers Museum, Muskogee, OK
Photo of Frederick W. Sherubel, The Daily Oklahoman (Oklahoma City, OK) 19 May 1912, Page 7.
Muskogee Democrat (Muskogee, OK) 30 March 1905, vol. 11, p 1
Muskogee Times-Democrat (Muskogee, OK) 8 December 1906, p. 6, col. 1-2
Muskogee Times-Democrat (Muskogee, OK) 15 September 1909
The Oklahoman (Oklahoma City, OK) 7 April 1910, p. 8
Muskogee Times-Democrat (Muskogee, OK) 5 July 1911, p. 6
The Oklahoman (Oklahoma City, OK) 19 May 1912, p. 7
The Oklahoman (Oklahoma City, OK) 18 April 1913, p. 1
The Oklahoman (Oklahoma City, OK) 19 April 1913, p. 5
The Oklahoman (Oklahoma City, OK) 20 April 1913, p. 8
The Oklahoman (Oklahoma City, OK) 21 April 1913, p. 1
Certificate of Marriage, Frederick W. Sherubel to Kathryn E. Martin, 4 July 1911, recorded in Muskogee, Oklahoma, marriage book 5, page 338
Quarterly (Muskogee County Genealogical Society, Muskogee, OK), September 1989, Vol. 6, Issue 2

VINTAGE POSTCARD

Here is one of grandma's penny postcards. It was sent to my great uncle, Keith Thronson, by his sister, Louise in April, 1909. She lived in Cherokee, Kansas and he was still at home in Farlington, Kansas. They had a sense of humor. In going through these cards I found clues that led me to find my great grandfather's sister and her family.

Linda Stout



GAUNT-WEST-SLAGLE PHOTOS

These are the pictures that were omitted from an accompanying article submitted by Ann Gardner and published in the MCGS Quarterly , Volume 24, Issue 1, Pg. 17, March, 2007. In the email that accompanied these pictures Ann describes the people as:

“The couple are H. H. Gaunt and his wife Emiline West, sister of Kinch West. The single lady is their daughter Sarah Elizabeth Gaunt on her wedding day to Conrad Slagle. So, it runs in the female line: Emiline West Gaunt, Sarah Elizabeth Gaunt Slagle, Dot Slagle Thomas, Dorothy Thomas Arfstrom and me.”

Thank you, Ann for reminding the editor these had not been printed with the other information.



Even though it has been a while since the article publication, these photos are too good to just file away. The captions on them read:

Above “Harden Haines Gaunt and Emaline West Gaunt.”

Right: “Sarah Elizabeth Gaunt taken at the time of her marriage to Conrad Slagle, age 16 years.”

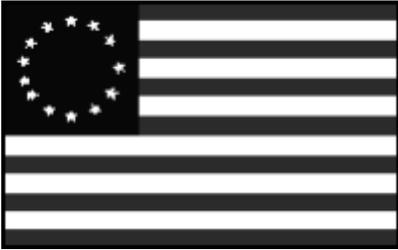
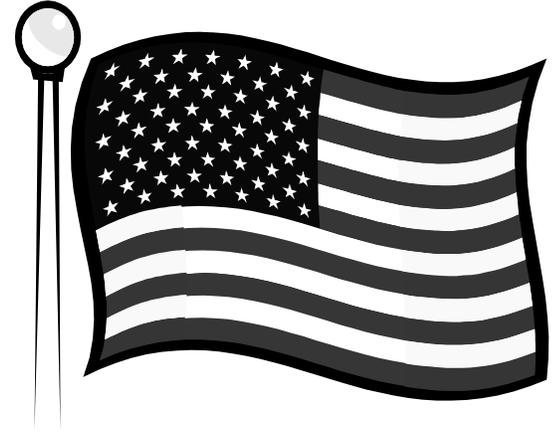
Do you have some old photographs you would like to share. Please submit them and give a brief history of the content.



FLAG DAY

On **June 14**, 1777, the Continental Congress approved the design of a national flag..

Since 1916, when President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation establishing a national Flag Day on June 14, Americans have commemorated the adoption of the Stars and Stripes by celebrating **June 14** as Flag Day. Prior to 1916, many localities and a few states had been celebrating the day for years. Congressional legislation designating that date as the national Flag Day was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman in 1949; the legislation also called upon the president to issue a flag day proclamation every year.



According to legend, in 1776, George Washington commissioned Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross to create a flag for the new nation. Scholars debate this legend, but agree that Mrs. Ross most likely knew Washington and sewed flags. To date, there have been twenty-seven official versions of the flag, but the arrangement of the stars varied according to the flag-makers' preferences until 1912 when President Taft standardized the then-new flag's forty-eight stars into six rows of eight. The forty-nine-star flag (1959-60), as well as the fifty-star flag, also have standardized star patterns. The current version of the flag dates to July 4, 1960, after Hawaii be-

Originally Published in
Muskogee Daily Phoenix
18 Mar 1938, Page 3.

PENNEY'S SUIT SCOOP!
A SWELL NEW SELECTION
STYLES THAT COME IN WITH SPRING!
Romantic Fashions for This
Young Romantic Spring!
WOMEN'S
SWAGGER SUITS
\$6⁹⁰
shed your air of win-
try glamour! Come
see these enchanting
lovely suits, they're
just arrived... the newest Spring fashions—everyone a winner!
sketches... here... here... here—come from
Spring's Newest Colors!

Penney's Famous
GAYMODE
HOSIERY
79^c
• Every Pair
Four Quality
• Easy, Per-
manent
• Top-Grade
Cotton
• Four-Thread
Knot

73 BODIES REMOVED FROM INDIAN GRAVES



Graves of Indians dead more than 50 years were opened in the bed of the new 1000-acre Cookson lake last week and the remains transferred to a new cemetery in McLain township. Permission to open the graves was granted by the state department of health and supervised by licensed embalmers. UPPER LEFT – A view of the Scott family burial ground, the first from which bodies were taken; LOWER LEFT – The original burial ground of the Sarney and Yahola families, from which more than 20 bodies were taken; AT RIGHT – The first grave opened. It bears inscriptions in both English and Cherokee, and contains the remains of Archie Arch, who died in 1879.

State Health Officer Issued Removal Permits and Muskogee Embalmers Complete Transfer.

Bodies of 73 Indians, some of whom died as long ago as 1878, were moved out of the Cookson hills lake bed, near Braggs, by the truckload last week, and reburied in a modern Indian cemetery in McLain township.

Permits to open the ancient graves and move the bodies were issued by Dr. C. M. Pearce of Oklahoma City, state health officer, and the actual operation was supervised by Paul Hess and William Lescher of Muskogee, licensed embalmers.

Indians themselves requested that their dead be protected from waters which soon are to back up behind the huge Cookson lake dam, and named Willie Scott, Indian historian to work with state and federal authorities.

Nothing in some Graves

It is an Indian custom to bury dead in family groups near the old homestead, and five of such burial grounds were located in the lake bed. In addition, there are a few scattered graves throughout the 1,000 acres to be inundated, making a total of 86 graves which are to be opened. Hess said that many of the graves produced nothing. In such cases, he said, Scott has ordered that eight shovels of dirt from the grave be transferred in a coffin, which is sealed and buried with other bodies.

In many cases, only a bone or two is found. In the graves of persons who died more recently, caskets are found in comparatively good state of preservation, and are moved without being opened.

Eight Transferred at Once.

If the casket is in good condition, only one body is moved at a time. The transfer is made by truck, and the second burial is had without religious ceremony.

In cases where only bones are found, as many as eight bodies are transferred at the same time, Hess said. In every case, Scott must give his consent before the coffin is sealed.

Aged Watt Sam, full-blood Cherokee who does not speak the English language, has been employed to carve headstones for every new grave. The new cemetery, purchased by the farm security administration a few miles from the damsite, has been planted in Bermuda grass and will be kept by the employees of the Cookson hills administration. Graves are being arranged in orderly rows and the burial ground is expected to be one of the most attractive in the eastern part of the state.

Indians Stay Away

In the cemetery, however, the bodies are arranged in the original family groups at the request of the Indians.

Despite intense interest in the program, Indians have refrained, for religious and sentimental reasons, from visiting the burial grounds during the process of moving the bodies, Hess said. They have entrusted that task to Scott.

The family burial grounds are as much as a mile apart, he said, and contain from 15 to 20 graves.

The new cemetery is five miles south of Braggs, to the right of Oklahoma highway No. 10.

Houses are Moved from Proposed Lake Bed

In addition, a number of houses in the proposed lake bed, from which residents were ordered to vacate last month by Federal Judge Eugene Rice, were moved from the area during the last week. The region is now virtually ready for waters of the new lake.

Indians whose bodies have been moved are Daniel Yahola, who died in 1935; Jenny Pa-nos-key, who died in 1906; Betsy Comsey Yahola, who died in 1906; Ka-ho-ga Harris, who died in 1918; Tom Harris, who died in 1916; Hannah Soolowakjkey, who died in 1911; Jimmy Sarney, who died in 1896; Polly Sarney, 1893; Joe Sarney, 1934; Sallie Sarney, 1920; Jack Yahola or Tecumseh, 1902; John Sarney, 1926; Jimpsey Sarney, 1918; Creek Sarney, date of death unknown; Adam Levi, 1913; Sam Harris, 1894; Marria Mekko, 1919; Betsey Mekko, 1918; the infant child **of Maggie Snell and Johnnie Johnson, 1931; Mary Proctor, 1926; Allen Bullet, 1909; Jim Sam 1897; Susie Sam 1885; Nellie Sam, 1892; Josiah Scott, 1892; Mac-9-gee, 1890; Summa Scott, 1884; Nutty Scott, 1880; Madgey Scott, 1885; the daughter of Cha-wa-oka, 1891; Jim Hawkins, 1879; Lizzie Beaver, 1888; the son of Jim Hawkins, 1878; Amy Scott, 1893; Cha-wa-oka, 1895; Nellie Ned, 1916; Charley Marty, date of death unknown; Celia Marty, date of death unknown; Mettie Mooley, 1897; the twins of Mooley Harjo, 1889; Susie Martey 1894; Mooley Zey, 1897; Oja-lad 1892; Moo-ley Hargo, 1907; Anna Bullet, date of death unknown; Ona Wagey (Peggy) Sam, date of death unknown; Jacksey, 1878; Davey Jacksey, 1884, and Nancy Bullet, date of death unknown.**

Inscriptions on most of the tombstones had been effaced, Hess said, but Indians were able to supply the necessary information. It was compiled by Scott.

A Deadly October

Submitted by Linda Stout

Spanish influenza swept through the country in 1918, killing over 600,000 people. Some say that it began at Fort Riley, Kansas, in March, 1918. Others were sure that it began in Europe and found its way here during the war. No matter where it began, Muskogee was not immune and many, many of our citizens were stricken and died.

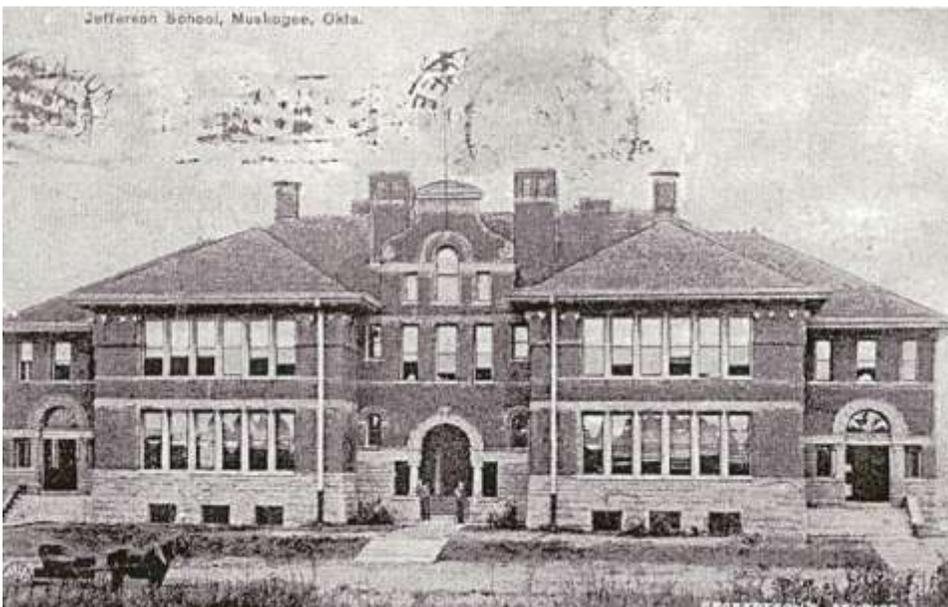
The virus didn't discriminate. It took down the prominent and poor, young and old. No one was safe. Whole families sickened together and many died together. The medical resources of the time weren't adequate. Many "preventive" measures were taken including spraying the streets with crude oil to keep the germs from being distributed by blowing dust.

At a meeting of the presidents of all the civic, educational and health organizations, it was reported by Dr. I. B. Oldham that he expected every home in Muskogee to be touched by the flu. He said that he had visited a home the previous Friday to attend a woman dying of pneumonia and found two other adults in bed and five children on pallets on the floor suffering from various stages of the disease. Other doctors in town were facing similar situations on a daily basis.



Dr. I. B. Oldham

Muskogee's Physicians and Surgeons Hospital was full to capacity so the authorities were forced to find a second location to treat the victims. They selected the Jefferson School building at 8th & Boston. Persons suffering from the flu or pneumonia and too sick to remain at home were sent there for nursing care. Calls went out to the community for any and all able bodied persons to aid in caring for the sick. There was a shortage of supplies as well as personnel. The Red Cross had mobilized and Mrs. W. C. Jackson, head of the nursing division, appealed to the public for nurses and linens. All of the local doctors and nurses worked around the clock and doctors were exempt from observing parking ordinances as they drove around town to attend the sick.



The Indian communities were also hard hit and the local Indian Agency received requests for additional nurses and supplies. Thirty employees of the Agency were ill. It was hoped that nurses could be recruited from rural districts where the disease **wasn't so rampant but still** a large number of their people died.

Muskogee shut down. The fashion of the day was a

face mask made of three layers of gauze to keep germs from being inhaled. Schools and churches were closed. Four women who sang together at a funeral all came down with the flu on the same day even though they had no sickness in their families – all gatherings were either stopped or severely limited

The county Court Clerk, Dr. J. H. Gaines, left his elective office to help treat the sick in Warner. The draft board was decimated by illness. No court proceedings were held as it would have been practically impossible to get a jury, witnesses or lawyers.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. asked subscribers to restrict their telephone usage because one-third of their workforce was ill.

Dr. F. W. Ewing, county health officer, closed city schools October 7 and all county schools followed thereafter. Theaters were closed. Even church services and Sunday schools were halted. All public gatherings were discouraged. The Times-Democrat reported deaths daily, notably: Dana M. Tisdell, musician; Sumner J. Lipscomb, local attorney; and Elmer L. Trimble, **Muskogee's chief of detectives. Employees of the city parks were sent to Greenhill Cemetery** to assist in digging graves for the many people being interred daily. The superintendent of the cemetery also fell ill and was unable to attend to this unhappy duty.

The disease finally ran its course. The epidemic officially ended in November although sporadic cases continued to occur. Muskogee gradually returned to normal as schools and theaters reopened and people could gather again without fear. It had been a most deadly October.

Bubba Explains History of Phrase Blackberry Winter

As with the Outhouse Diaries, during an otherwise normal conversation came the question, "Does anyone know what the term 'Blackberry Squall' means?" Well, the editor has heard this expression all her life and what it always meant to her was the last bad spell of weather before Spring was officially over. Thus came the discussion of other sayings and this came in the email from Karen Wagner.

GREASEPIT GRAMMAR: Welcome to Swampscum, where Bubba and his pals meet regularly around the greasepit at Wade's Dixieco to perfect the English language.

John S. Breed has found that Texans don't always understand plain English. "A few mornings ago, Houston awoke to a colder-than-usual day," he said, as he twisted the top off a Coke at Wade's Dixieco. "I told my co-workers it was blackberry winter - as opposed to Indian summer, which comes in the fall," John said. "I'm sure I heard this term as a kid playing with my country cousins in Alabama. My co-workers say I'm nuts; I think I'm homesick. What would Bubba's diagnosis be?"

Bubba thinks John Breed is perfectly healthy in mind, spirit and vocabulary. Professor Copernicus Claptrap of the Swampscum Polytechnic Institute and Barber College says the blackberry crop is a handy benchmark for measuring the seasons. Blackberry winter is the name for that last gasp of winter when the cruel season snatches back a few days from spring just as the blackberries are ready to bloom. When this occurs around Easter, it's called the Easter snap.

The Dictionary of American Regional Expressions says some parts of the country even have blackberry storms and blackberry squalls.

BUBBA C/O GENE OWENS at 1004 Cobbs Glen Drive, Anderson, SC 29621, or e-mail at WadesDixieco@aol.com.

A Great Emergency

Southwestern Division
American Red Cross

1250 Railway Exchange Building, St. Louis

October 4, 1918.

FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION RED CROSS OFFICIALS

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST EPIDEMIC OF SPANISH INFLUENZA

1. The American Red Cross War Council, at the urgent request of the United States Public Health Service, has agreed to assist the Government in combating the spread of Spanish Influenza. It is impossible to tell when or where the disease will show itself, and no community should fail to take every possible precaution. The fact that you have no cases today is no reason why you may not have fifty tomorrow. A telegram from one of our large Chapters today discloses a serious situation where that community was free forty-eight hours before. Immediate action is imperative.

2. The United States Public Health Service has issued a special bulletin, which it has requested the Red Cross to reproduce in large quantities and, through the agency of Red Cross Chapters, get to as many civilians as possible in the shortest possible time. Immediately upon receipt of the Washington wire, this office engaged a printer who ran his presses all night to get this bulletin to you as soon as possible. It is being sent to you in liberal quantity by the fastest delivery.

YOUR GOVERNMENT ASKS YOU TO DROP EVERYTHING ELSE AND SEE THAT EVERY CITIZEN OR HEAD OF A HOUSEHOLD GETS A COPY OF THIS BULLETIN AT ONCE, and your Red Cross leaders are relying on you to perform that service in as efficient a manner as possible.

We are sending this bulletin to Chapters, to Branches and to Auxiliaries, and a copy of this letter is going with each package of bulletins. The Chapter Executive Committee should immediately call a meeting to discuss ways and means of getting this bulletin to the people in as effective a manner as possible, and should see that the Branches and Auxiliaries carry out the instructions. In handing out this bulletin the following suggestions are offered:

A. Place it in the hands of every school child through the agency of the public schools, with definite instructions to take it home to their parents and relatives.

B. Hang it in drug stores, post offices, street cars, railroad stations, manufacturing plants and other public places where people can have access to it.

C. Have rural free delivery carriers place one in each mail box.

D. Ministers should be asked to refer to the leaflet during the sermon and to urge members to read it carefully.

E. Newspapers will gladly reproduce the leaflet and will write a story urging their readers to take the necessary precautions.

F. Health departments and physicians will co-operate in its distribution.

G. Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls might be used to assist in the distribution of the pamphlet.

H. Follow the same instructions in the distribution of the special dodger signed by Dr. F. G. Pernoud, Medical Advisor to the Southwestern Division Red Cross.

MOBILIZE NURSING SERVICE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Kinds of Nurses wanted:

First: Graduate Nurses—as many as can be secured.

Second: Nurses' Aids.

Third: Undergraduate Nurses.

Fourth: Practical Nurses.

Fifth: Lay Women Helpers. (The women who have taken the Red Cross course in Elementary Hygiene and Home Care of the Sick, and who have their certificates.)

Every person falling within these classes should be interviewed at once and told of the probable need of their services and the possibility of their being called for immediate service at any time.

First: Branch and Auxiliary Action.

Every Branch and Auxiliary will immediately interview every woman falling in the above five classes and get her definite answer as to whether or not she is available for service, either in the community or elsewhere, if needed. As fast as interviews are held her name and address should be sent to the Chairman of your County Red Cross Chapter at the earliest possible moment and a definite statement as to whether she accepts or declines the call. The information on each woman should include the points enumerated in the paragraphs immediately below, covering the Chapters.

Second: As to Chapters.

A. The Chapter Chairman in conjunction with the Chairman of the Chapter Committee on Nursing Activities should immediately card index the reports from branches and auxiliaries,—3 x 5-inch cards. Each card will show the name, address, age and training of the person who offers her services, and as to what class of the five kinds of nursing personnel she belongs.

The card should also state whether or not she is available for immediate service, and whether that service is offered for her own community or on call elsewhere.

B. Chapter Chairmen will immediately write the Division Office, sending us, upon cards 3 x 5 inches, one name to each card, an exact copy of the card index on file in their office of those available for **service elsewhere** and the class to which they belong. This record should be sent without delay, and continued from day to day as fast as the cards are filed in Chapter headquarters. Do not wait to get eight or ten people but send in the names filed each day. We will add to your list as fast as you notify us of additions to your personnel.

Each card should show the name of the Chapter and the Chapter headquarters.

C. Large Chapters should aim to register for mobilization their nursing service in units made up of the following personnel:

One Graduate Nurse, to be the head of a unit of from five to fifteen undergraduate nurses, nurses' aids, practical nurses and lay women helpers; there to be more than one graduate nurse, if possible.

Such a Graduate Nurse can easily train and direct a unit so made up to handle an emergency in a given situation, and if such a unit is needed for service elsewhere, when offered, it will be called as a unit.

Large Chapters will immediately bend every effort to secure as many of these units as possible, and to notify the Division Office, by wire, as fast as each unit is ready for mobilization, sending the name and address of the graduate nurse in charge. Considerable newspaper publicity will be required to put this over.

Immediately upon the formation of the unit, they should be called together and given instructions by leading physicians, and by the graduate nurse, on the care of patients stricken with influenza, so as to be as nearly prepared as possible if called for service.

Compensation of Nurses.

You are authorized to inform people offering themselves, or who are drafted for the service, that when called into service by the Southwestern Division Red Cross Committee on Influenza, that the Graduate Nurses will be paid \$75.00; undergraduates, practical nurses, nurses' aids and laywomen helpers (Class 5 under "Kinds of Nursing Service Wanted") will be paid from \$35.00 to \$50.00.

Both the above rates of pay will be with expenses, which will include maintenance, transportation from their own community to the point of difficulty, and traveling expenses of \$4.00 per day, coming and going. Full details on this point will be sent later.

How Nurses Will be Called.

Nursing Personnel will be notified either by direct wire from the Southwestern Division Red Cross Committee on Influenza to the Chapter Chairman, or to the head of the unit.

Additional instructions on this point will be sent later.

Other Steps to Take.

Call immediately on the Mayor of the City, the Commissioner of Health, and other interested public officials, and advise them that you are distributing the bulletin above mentioned, and that in accordance with instructions from the Division Office you are registering for mobilization your nursing service for any emergency.

Inadequate Hospital Supplies and Medicines.

The Division Office may be able to help you to secure emergency hospital supplies of all kinds, in case there should be a shortage in your city. Keep us advised on this point.

Relatives Should Not Go to Cantonment Towns.

Chapter Chairmen should give wide publicity to the statement that it is undesirable for relatives to go to cantonment towns to be near soldiers in the towns who may be sick in base hospitals with influenza. There can be no guarantee that a person who thus leaves their home and their friends can receive even reasonable care in a cantonment town which is already overcrowded, and which may in turn have an epidemic fall upon it. Use every precaution to keep your people in their own community.

If the Spanish Influenza should make its appearance within the jurisdiction of your Chapter, we will expect you to handle it to the best of your ability without calling for outside aid. However, we do not expect you to take any chances, if, in the judgment of your Executive Committee, and upon the advice of your health authorities, you believe that additional assistance is needed in the way of nursing service, hospital supplies, etc., you will be expected to notify us by wire of the exact situation, detailing the number of people afflicted on the day before, as well as on the day on which the telegram is sent.

If the spread of influenza can be checked, we will be able to assist you easily enough. We can make no promises of definite assistance in the way of nursing personnel, but we will do the best we can. The ability to mobilize and send personnel depends absolutely upon the rapidity and thoroughness with which Chapters individually organize and mobilize the nursing personnel and report same to the Division Office.

Additional Action.

American Red Cross will co-operate further with the Federal Health Service upon their request from time to time. As soon as the Washington plans are formulated, definite instructions will be sent Chapters regarding the kinds of service and method of organization to meet the emergency.

Southwestern Division Red Cross Committee on Influenza.

We have organized a committee at Division Headquarters to meet all emergencies caused by the spread of the influenza, as this emergency may arise at any place in the Southwestern Division. This committee is made up of the several division directors who are concerned, and several other strong Red Cross members.

An efficient organization is being perfected, so that no matter what the call, we will be able to render some service. The Committee will keep its office open day and night until the emergency is over.

All telegrams and letters bearing on the subject of this letter should be addressed to the Southwestern Division, Red Cross Committee on Influenza, 1250 Railway Exchange Building.

Conclusion.

Here is one of the greatest tests that we have been called upon to face, and I am relying with confidence on each Chapter Chairman to see that the above instructions are carried out in every particular, and that additional instructions which will come from time to time are promptly handled.

Yours for service,

GEORGE W. SIMMONS,
Manager of Southwestern Division.

Suggested Uniform Enrolling Card.

(Size 3 x 5 inches)

Name of Chapter.....
Address.....
Name in Full..... Telephone No.....
City or Town..... State.....
Permanent Address.....
Enrolled Red Cross Nurse.....
Home Defense Nurse.....
Nurses' Aid.....
Practical Nurse.....
Lay Woman Helper.....
Entered Service..... Date.....
Relieved from Service.....
Other information (state on back of card).....



New!
Fall Hats

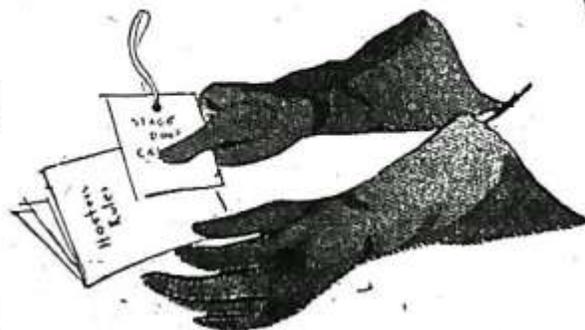
Punctuate your Fall costumes with a flattering head-turning hat . . . made with the deft touch that wins compliments! Whether you need a casual type or dress-up style, you're sure to find it in this varied selection. They're sleek and eye-attracting as the new Autumn fashions.

Drape styles, pill-boxes, high crown beauties, draped crowns, casual berets, bonnets, wonderfully becoming head-hugging silhouettes.

\$2.00 TO **\$10.95**
 • Second Floor •



Fall Gloves



"Aris," hand-made fabric gloves beautifully styled in beige, gold and tobacco, 1.00 to 1.98 and new shipment capeskin gloves, new colors, town brown, turf tan and black, \$2.49 to \$3.98.

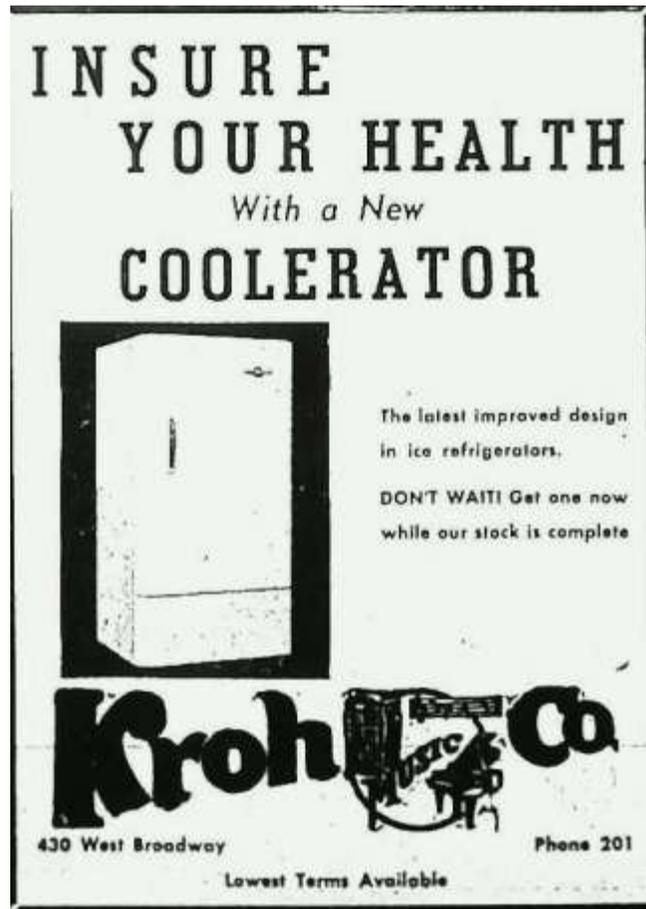
HUNTS

• Ask for S. & H. Green Stamps •

Muskogee Daily Phoenix 03 Oct 1943

Pages 2 and 3.

Submitted by Nancy Lasater



Published in Mus-
kogee Daily Phoenix
10 Jun 1943

TRIVIA

For your information: At five minutes and six seconds after 4 on the 8th of July this year, the time and date will be:

04:05:06: 07/08/09

It will never happen again in our lifetimes.

Remember Burma Shave Signs?

AT INTERSECTIONS
LOOK EACH WAY
A HARP SOUNDS NICE
BUT IT'S HARD TO PLAY
BURMA SHAVE



CAR IN DITCH
DRIVER IN TREE
THE MOON WAS FULL
AND SO WAS HE
BURMA SHAVE



HEIRLOOMS FROM OUR FAMILY

Do you like to cook? Do you know some who does and would love to receive a new cookbook as a gift? Well, the Muskogee County Genealogical Society has just the thing for you, or your friend.

We have arranged for the publication of the ***“Heirlooms From Our Family”*** cookbook of recipes that have been submitted by our members. It is a total of 164 pages with an index for easily locating a particular type of recipe you might need.

The cost of each cookbook is a mere \$11.00 and you may purchase it at any of the MCGS monthly meetings, *mail order or from the Muskogee County Genealogical Society, 801 W. Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK 74401.

*Please add \$3.00 per book for shipping and handling

Muskogee County Genealogical & Historical Society ***12 Scenes Per Box*** ***\$10.00***



In an effort to preserve the history of our town, the Muskogee County Genealogical Society has created the first in a line of note cards depicting early Muskogee. There will be other offers, but this premier set depicts some the city's earliest scenes and buildings. You may purchase the note cards for \$10.00 per box by mail*, at any of the MCGS monthly meetings or the Muskogee Public Library, 801 W. Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK 74401.

*Please add \$3.00 per box for shipping and handling

Muskogee County Genealogical Society

801 W. Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK 74401

Application for Membership

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ Email Address: _____

_____ 1 Year Membership with a Quarterly Subscription \$21.00

_____ 1 Year Membership without a Quarterly Subscription \$11.00

Membership shall begin with payment of dues and shall continue for the calendar year thereafter.

Make check payable to: MUSKOGEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY or MCGS.

Quarterly back issues are available at \$5.00 each. Queries are free to members and \$1.00 for non-members. Articles and contributions for the quarterly should be sent to the above mailing address.

MCGS meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 p. m. There is also a "How-to" session at 6:00 p. m. which focuses on instructions for genealogy research.

SURNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING: _____

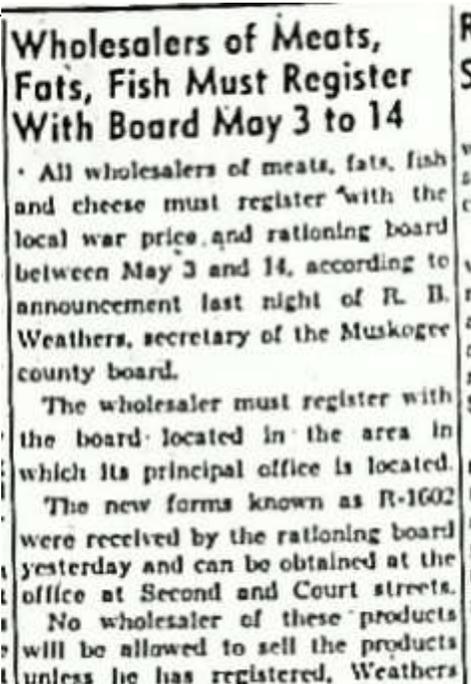
I hereby release this information for a surname exchange or publication by the MCGS.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please submit an ancestor chart with your application.



Left:
20 Jun 1943
Right:
20 Apr 1943
Muskogee
Daily
Phoenix



**Muskogee County Genealogical
& Historical Society**
801 W. Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

Return Service Requested

Quarterly Publication
April—June 2009



Jun 16	5:30 Board Meeting
Jun 23	6:00 General Meeting, BBQ dinner/Research Night
July	No scheduled meetings
Aug 18	5:30 Board Meeting
Aug 27	6:00 Bill Avery, Arkansas River Historical Society
Sep 15	5:30 Board Meeting
Sep 24	6:00 General Meeting, Speaker To Be Announced
Oct 03	Fall Workshop
Oct 13	5:30 Board Meeting
Oct 22	6:00 General Meeting
Oct 23-25	Gregath Retreat 2009, Grove, OK.
Nov 10	5:30 Board Meeting
Nov 19	6:00 General Meeting
Dec 08	5:30 Board Meeting
Dec 17	6:00 MCGS Christmas Party