

WAY BACK WHEN: LOOKING BACK IN HISTORY
Happenings in the Cookeville area as recorded in the pages of the
Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN.

By Bob McMillian

1930's

(Compiled by Audrey J. Lambert)

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1930

(January 2, 1930) The E. P. Maxwell grocery store on West Main Street was destroyed by fire this week. The alarm was sounded too late for firemen to put out the blaze. The building, owned by Mrs. H. M. Mackie, was insured for \$800.

*Some 200 rural farm women, including some from this area, will meet at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville this week for UT's annual "farm women's short course" offered by the university's home economics department.

(January 9, 1930) Sheriff Warren and his deputies broke a ring of thieves this week. They arrested four young men at their homes after an intense investigation. The men were charged with a string of thefts, including this week's robbery of the Bank of Algood.

The sheriff tracked the four from the bank to where their getaway car was parked using bloodhounds and used the clues he found on the scene there to continue trailing them. The bloodhounds are owned and trained by the Pippin brothers from Double Springs.

(January 16, 1930) County road supervisor H. D. Whitson gave his annual road report for 1929 this week. Operating on a \$13,827 budget and using the labor of jail inmates and horse-drawn road graders, he reported that he graded a new road in Martins Creek, graveled the Buffalo Valley Road and Fisk Road, and did a considerable amount of work improving the Buck Mountain and Phifer Mountain Roads.

(January 23, 1930) The Cookeville Bowling parlor is about to open on West Broad in the new building just completed there by R. S. Greenwood. Alvin Winfree and Joe Miller are to be the operators. They promise it will be "up to date and modern in every respect," a place for the enjoyment of women and children as well as men.

*Sheriff Marion Warren has appointed a new deputy to replace C. L. Brown, who did recently. The new lawman is W. B. (Brown) Minor, 26, a young married man who is popular around town. He was a salesman at his late father's Swann Hat Co. until recently. His "beat" is to be west Cookeville, says the sheriff.

(January 23, 1930: **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**)

Bowling Parlor Opens in West Cookeville:

A bowling parlor on West Broad Street is the new building owned by R. S. Greenwood, opened last Monday under the management of Tom Walker of McMinnville, and operated by Alvin Winfree and Joe Miller, both of Cookeville and experienced in bowling alley operation.

The parlor is up-to-date and modern in every respect. It announces that it will be especially open to women who would like to engage in this healthy amusement.

It will be known as the Cookeville Bowling Parlor.

New Telephone System Soon To Be Completed By Gainesboro Co.

The new equipment of the Gainesboro Telephone Co., is being installed rapidly under the direction of James Bennett, who is an engineer of the American Electric Co., Chicago, builders of the switchboard, and who is an expert in his line.

The new system will be opened in about four weeks unless unforeseen trouble in the hook-up develops.

Under the new system the Cookeville subscribers will have access to the best telephone service obtainable; with abundant reserve the telephone company expects to expand its city area which is now within the limit of the plant's capacity, and long distance service will be improved to the extent of the city's needs.

The new switchboard embraces the newest and most up-to-date equipment the country has, excepting the dial system. The type is the flashlight signal, ensuring the apex of instant and satisfactory service.

*A paper milk bottle has been devised of waxer spruce fibre. The paper milk bottle is used but once.

(January 30, 1930) Dr. D. T. Pettross, a popular physician here, is moving to Nashville. He's a chiropractor and has been physician to the football team at Tennessee Polytech here since 1927 in addition to his private practice in Nashville, he'll work with Vanderbilt University's football team. He leaves a number of friends in Cookeville, according to the newspaper.

(February 6, 1930) The West Side Motor Co. advertises that it has the new Willy Six on its lot, a car that will go an incredible 72 miles per hour. It goes 48 mph in second gear. The car also boasts "rich broadcloth upholstery, "internal four-wheel brakes," shock absorbers and costs only \$850.

*Meanwhile, over at Notie's Beauty Parlor, \$5 will get you "any method of permanent waving" you prefer, according to an ad in this week's edition.

(February 6, 1930: **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): An Interesting Centenarian: Mrs. Betsy Gracey, who resides near Window Cliff, this county, was one hundred and four years old on January 12th. She is the widow of John Gracey, who has been dead for many years, and has lived her long life in the immediate vicinity of her present home. Her maiden name was Robinson, her father being a pioneer settler near the mouth of Falling Water, something near a century ago. Mrs. Gracey is reasonably strong physically and retains her faculties remarkably well. Recently she remarked to her son, Monroe Gracey, aged 56, with whom she lives, that she was 48 years old two weeks before his birth. Her children are all living: Hugh Gracey and Mrs. Illinois Anderson reside in TX, Jack Gracey is in OK, and Manse Gracey is in NB. Mrs. Lon Green lives near Burton, this county. Truly, a remarkable woman.

(February 6, 1930: **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Howell Acquitted On Murder Charge: Orley Howell, 22, was freed by a jury on the charge of murdering his wife, Flossie Lafever Howell last September, in the criminal court last Friday.

The jury deliberated some two hours and reported a disagreement, but upon further deliberation returned a verdict of not guilty.

Note: Flossie (Lafever) Howell, b. 19 July 1909 – d. 15 September 1929, md on the 12th of September 1929, Putnam Co., TN to **Orley Howell**, b. 6 September 1907, TN – d. April 1985, s/o **Columbus R. Howell & Adaville Massa**. Flossie Lafever Howell, d/o **William Thomas Lafever**, b. 26 June 1877, White Co., TN – d. 20 March 1957, White Co., TN & **Oma Ann Mills Lafever**, b. 4 August 1882 – d. 12 October 1955. William Thomas Lafever is buried in the Lafever Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Oma Ann (Mills) Lafever is buried in the Rhea Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Flossie (Lafever) Howell, is buried in the Rhea Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. Oma Ann Mills Lafever was also married to **William Mills**.

(Source: Tennessee State Marriage record, Putnam Co., TN, pg. 24: Orley Howell, age 21, Address: Cookeville, TN married 12 September 1929, Putnam Co., TN to Flossie Lafever, age 20, Address: Cookeville TN. Name of parent, Guardian or Next of Kin of Female: W. T. Lafever, Rt.2 Cookeville, TN).

(Thursday, February 13, 1930, **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): **Bill P. Hensley**, a prominent citizen and farmer of the 9th district of Jackson county, died Sunday at his home near Freewill. Funeral services were conducted by Elder Jon. W. Fox of the Church of Christ and burial in the family cemetery Monday, February 10th.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. **Lizzie Loftis Hensley** and several children. Numerous relatives and friends in Jackson and Putnam counties. He was a cousin of **Wm. A. Hensley** of this city.

(February 16, 1930) The county's farm agent suggests farmers consider the advantages of a new cash crop, burley tobacco, and gives away enough free seed to plant 40 acres. State farm officials say burley can be grown without interfering with other crops and with no additional help. An acre of burley tobacco will bring annual farm profit up from \$200 to \$500 on the average, he says.

(Thursday, February 18, 1930, **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Paralysis Fatal To Thomas F. Clouse: Funeral For Prominent Shoe Broker Held Tuesday.

Funeral services for Thomas Franklin Clouse, 55, prominent Nashville shoe broker, who died at his residence on the Franklin road, Sunday morning at 1:40 o'clock, following a stroke of paralysis Thursday, was held from the First Presbyterian Church at Nashville, Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. Dr. James Vance officiating.

Mr. Clouse, who is the brother of Wynne F. Clouse, referee in bankruptcy, of Nashville, has been identified in the shoe industry for the past thirty years, and was recognized as one of the foremost figures in the Southern field.

Mr. Clouse was born on the old Clouse estate near Cookeville, on October 28, 1874, was the son of Thomas Jefferson and Euneta Clouse. He attended the schools of Putnam County, finishing his high school work at the age of 15. He later went to Quincy City College, Quincy City, IL, taking his degree at the age of 19.

While engaged in the shoe industry of Nashville he did all possible for the advancement of his profession, not only in Nashville, but over the entire country. Many of his clientele have built their business along the lines which he advised, it was said.

He was widely known for his charity work, and the Christian spirit which was always the keynote of his activity. He was a member of the Free Will Baptist Church, but since moving to Nashville he has made the First Presbyterian Church the place of his worship, where he took an active part in all religious and charitable work.

Mr. Clouse had been a member of the Masonic Order since a young man, and all through his life exerted every effort possible to assist in the work of the lodge of which he was a member.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Pearl Ewing Clouse; a son, Ewing Clouse; five brothers, Judge W. F. Clouse of Nashville, J. N. Clouse of Monterey, W. J. Clouse of Cookeville, C. S. Clouse of Sparta and R. L. Clouse of Franklin; three sisters, Mrs. Amanda Lee of Monterey, Mrs. S. L. Hudgens of Sparta and Mrs. Mary Troglen of Culver City, CA.

Burial took place in the family square in Spring Hill cemetery Tuesday.

(February 25, 1930) Tennessee Polytech has broken a state record. Its prize purebred Jersey cow, "Flossie," broke the previous state production record recently at the end of a 365-day test period. She churned out 12,145 pounds of milk in the period and 636.7 pounds of butterfat.

*Meanwhile, Putnam Sheriff Marion Warren has been keeping a count of his own. This week he dumped another 75 gallons of "mountain dew" down the sewers on the Square here, bringing the total of illegal whiskey he's seized in his career here to about 500 gallons, he says. "Putnam County is an unsafe place for lawbreakers," he told the newspaper.

(February 27, 1930) Late fall rains and an early, severe winter have left farmers in Putnam County and across the state with the poorest prospects for seed corn since the winter of 1918, state agriculture officials said this week.

(March 6, 1930) Mrs. Minnie Jones, in a page-one note, tells readers that she's opened a new store in Chestnut Mound. It's stocked with "ready-to-wear" clothes, millinery and notions. She tells readers she'd appreciate their continued support in her new location.

(March 13, 1930) Reporter Sam K. Neal, writing in his weekly 'Sam's Scrapings' column, says preachers are calling young people today "a generation of sinners."

He notes, however, that elders have always complained that children "aren't what they used to be."

Young people today aren't that bad, he says, although he admits gangsters and thieves seem to be more prevalent than ever today. Part of the problem, he says, is that after the Great War, young men came back to their home towns and "weren't content with the old way of life.

Life had been fast for them." But today's young people as a whole do not qualify for the description, "a generation of sinners," he concludes.

(Thursday, 20 March 1930: **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): OVER FIFTY YEARS AGO:

In line with the Herald's suggestion and request last week for the names of all married couples who have lived together for half a century or more, the following brief sketch has been handed in and we are glad to publish it. We trust that other names may be sent in for mention in this connection.

J. Warren Morgan and Louisa Bryan Masters were married Sept. 11, 1872, by the Rev. Robert L. Mitchell at the home of the bride's parents in the third district of Overton county.

They spent the greater part of their life on Roaring River, Jackson county, where they reared a large family – 10 children. A most remarkable and unusual thing is the fact that all of their children are still living.

For the past ten years Mr. and Mrs. Morgan have resided in Cookeville.

"Uncle Warren" is nearly 80 and unusually active for his age. His companion of almost 58 years is five years his junior.

(Thursday, 20 March 1930: **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Modern Building On Public Square: Contract has been let by Charles K. Darwin to J. E. Allen, the well-known builder, for a modern stucco filling station on the lot recently purchased by him on the southeast corner of the Public Square, known as the Staley property. The two story brick store now on the lot will be razed to make room for the new building. Work will start at once and rushed to completion at an early date. The improvements will cost several thousand dollars.

(March 20, 1930) In Putnam County and all across America, farmers are separated from the marketplace for five months of the year by "barriers of mud," some 2 ½ million miles unimproved dirt roads in the U. S. There are about 5 million farmers in the U. S. living along those roads, according to the newspaper, and the push is on across the country to build "farm-to-market" road that will allow the farmer to get his goods to market all 12 months of the year.

(March 27, 1930) A Lebanon attorney, Walter Faulkner, filed suit this week on behalf of 22 Buffalo Valley property owners who say the Tennessee Electric Power Co. owes them for damages to their homes and businesses in the flood of 1929, which about washed away Buffalo Valley.

They contend that the flooding resulted from the erection of a dam at Rock Island by the company. They are asking for damages ranging from \$100 to \$3,500.

(March 27, 1930) The city is growing, says Cookeville postmaster Norman Massa. To keep up the pace, the Post Office is adding a new city delivery route to a large region in West Cookeville currently without free delivery service. That will bring the total numbers of mail carriers in the city to four. The Cookeville Post Office, Massa reports, now has nine rural carriers as well, who cover 252 miles each day delivering the mail.

(April 2, 1930) If you're looking for a dress from Paris, Neely-Harwell & Co. in Nashville is the nearest place to look. It's on the Nashville Square and it's one of several All-Queen Quality dealers in the Southeast introducing the new spring line from Paris this week.

Hope on the next Tennessee Central Railroad shopper train and see them, an ad in this week's edition suggest. "What a convenience! Avoid the effort of journeying to some far-away city, of prowling around in strange stores, of being barked at for breaking traffic laws. You don't have to order from a picture either. Go right on down to your nearest Queen Quality dealer and try on as many of these new spring Paris models as your heart desires," invites the advertisement. See you at the depot.

(April 10, 1930) Mrs. Amanda C. Carver, 80, died this week. She was the wife of Jackson County's oldest justice of the peace. Born in 1850, in Overton County, her parents moved to Cookeville when she was young and strayed there through the Civil War. Her father, a Confederate soldier, was killed in that conflict. She married Sam Carver in 1866 and they later moved to Jackson County.

(April 16, 1930) They're planning to remodel the building owned by First National Bank on the northwest corner of the Square. Formerly known as the Gibson Building, First National's quarters will be renovated into a "splendid modern banking house." The front will be restyled and a new "burglar-proof vault" will be installed. The bank is under the management of D.C. Wilhite, president, and O.E. Cameron, cashier.

(April 17, 1930: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN) Maddux & Proffitt Add New Department: Last week a deal was consummated whereby Bob Lee Maddux became the proud possessor of a genuine five and ten cent store, the one formerly operated on West Broad street under the name of **Loftis**, and has moved the entire stock to the basement of his big store on the Public Square, where it is being displayed. Additional lines will probably be added, and this department made to conform to the high standard of what has long been known as "Cookeville's Fastest Growing Store."

(April 24, 1930) The U.S. Census Bureau says Cookeville has grown 55 percent since 1920. That year there were 2,395 residents in town. Now there are 3,725 residents. Between 1920 and 1930, Gainesboro has gone from 351 to 555 residents, Smithville from 687 to 886 and Murfreesboro from 5,367 to 7,753 residents, the Bureau reports.

(May 1, 1930) A fire of unknown origin partially destroyed the Gentry Produce Co. on East Spring this week. Firemen promptly responded to the call but were unable to save most of the building. They were able to remove much of the produce, however. The business was insured for \$2,000 and its owner says he is unsure whether he'll rebuild. The Gentry cream, produce and grocery business is now operating out of its old stand until a decision is made on rebuilding.

(May 8, 1930) Cookeville's Dr. Geo Saunders Jr. advertised in the newspaper this week that he can fix you up with the Arneson-Peckham Squint Korректор and Exerciser if you need it. It corrects crossed eyes by exercising weak eye muscles. The ad is accompanied with a large "before" and "after" picture of a boy who used the device.

(May 15, 1930) Ex-Governor A. H. Roberts will be the commencement speaker at Algood High School when members of the school's senior class walk across the school's stage to collect their diplomas from Putnam School Board member Dr. J. T. Moore later this month.

Ann Epperson is the class valedictorian. She'll give her address to one of the largest groups to ever graduate from the school - 24.

(May 21, 1930) Tired of a raspy throat from those cigarettes you've been smoking? An ad in this week's edition invites you to try Lucky Strikes. "It's toasted," boasts the ad. "It's kind to your throat." Toasting, it explains, takes out all those harsh irritants from the tobacco. In fact, afterwards, the Lucky Strike company sells "these expelled irritants to the manufacturers of chemical compounds." So relax and be kind to your Adam's apple, says the ad.

(May 22, 1930) The newspaper looks back at Cookeville 55 years earlier, 1875, when the town's first drug store was only a year old. It was opened by Dr. J. B. S. Martin. Cookeville had four doctors that year, Drs. Jim Goodpasture, J. P. Martin, L. P. McClain and Simeon Hinds. Lawyers of the day here were Capt. H. H. Dillard, Holland Denton, Capt. Walton Smith, Alvin W. Boyd, Holland Denton, Capt. William Smith, Alvin W. Boyd and Houston S. Boyd. Most people rode horses or walked since few could afford buggies. There was no free rural mail delivery, no telephones and no telegraphs. The common dress of 1875 here was blue jeans for the men and long dresses and sunbonnets for the women.

(May 29, 1930) The Cookeville Mothers Club announced that it's opening the Epperson - Oaks children's playground again this summer on Washington and Alberta Avenues to give moms a place to send their kids for supervised fun. The park has a wading pool, playground equipment, and there will be storytelling. Miss Rose Dow, a teacher at the City School, is in charge this summer.

The Putnam Farm Bureau is promising that a motion picture it is showing in three communities here will be the most rip-roaring film ever seen by farmers here.

"The Farm That Jack Built" is the story of young Jack Powell, a recent graduate from agriculture college, who's hoping to marry the banker's daughter. The banker is a skinflint who insists that Jack prove himself first. He lets Jack try to turn "the old river farm" into a profitable operation. It has proved the ruin of numerous farmers before him, but Jack has college training in agriculture. Then a cloudburst turns the sleepy little river into a torrent and "everything he's accomplished appears to be doomed to a watery end." See the surprising outcome this week when the film is shown here at Buffalo Valley, Silver Point and Oak Grove.

(June 5, 1930) City residents won't have to worry as much now about the power going off. The city is installing floodgates in the dam under construction at Burgess Falls to create an ever-ready pool of water for power generation. At times in recent years the city's power plant at the foot of the falls has been at the mercy of drought - and sometimes floods - that have interrupted the flow of electricity to residents here in the city. The floodgates are being built by the Nashville Bridge Co.

(June 12, 1930) Sam Neal, in his weekly "Sam's Scapings" column tells of seeing a collection of old photos belonging to the newspaper's print shop foreman, Ralph Wirt. The vintage photographs are like windows looking back into the town's bygone days.

There's a photo of the Planing Mills here after it was wiped out by a tornado in the early 1900s. Another shows the original Tennessee Central depot, located a few hundred feet west of the present one. Alongside it is a giant of a steam locomotive. Engine 201, making a stop on its maiden run. The entire town turned out to see it, said Neal.

Another showed some of the old saloons on the town square where, at the turn of the century, a man could buy a drink for a nickel and could hold a party for a quarter. Many did, said Neal. "Twenty-five cents today wouldn't buy the aspirin tablets necessary for the morning after the night before," he added.

(June 19, 1930) Planning a overnight trip to Nashville? The Maxwell House hotel, one of several Nashville businesses to regularly court Cookeville customers, advertises: "You will thoroughly enjoy your Nashville sojourn when you stop at the Maxwell House, famous for its hospitality and true Southern traditions. Headquarters for politicians, travelers or those who wish to spend a pleasant weekend on business, shopping, recreation or reviewing historic points of interest." It's located centrally near "everything uptown," the ad also notes. Hop aboard the Tennessee Central and ride on down to Nashville, the ad suggests.

(June 19, 1930: Putnam County Herald Cookeville, TN) U. L. Lynn Buys Loftis Grocery: J. M. Loftis who has for several years operated a grocery store on Dixie avenue at the Tennessee Central railroad crossing, sold his stock of goods and rented the building to U. L. Lynn, who was recently manager of a bakery on the Square. Mr. Lynn has had some previous experience in this line of business and expects to make some improvements, particularly with a view of catering to the students at T. P. I.

Mr. Loftis has made no plans for further business activity but intends to spend some time fishing and in recreation.

(June 25, 1930) A steady day of rain was welcomed by a lot of farmers here, but not by Abe Kennedy, a Nashville contractor working on the new industrial arts building at Tennessee Polytechnic Institute. First off, the rain did \$500 in damage to the new building when water flooded its basement and ruined new doors installed there.

Next, when Kennedy decided to go home to Nashville for the day, his car overheated on the Nashville highway in front of the Millis Hospital in Baxter. And when he took off the radiator cap to put in more water, he was scalded and treated at the hospital in Cookeville.

He made it home after that, but his son, also heading home from Cookeville for Nashville later in the day, wrecked his car on the rain-slick road in Carthage in front of the Farmers' Warehouse. The son, Tommy Kennedy, is okay but the car is pretty badly torn up.

(June 26, 1930) Winners were announced this week in the contest to name the new swimming pool that is nearing completion west of town on the Nashville Highway. Sue Ray Carlen won the first prize – a season pass to the pool – for "Echo Valley Plunge," the name that will be given to the new pool, says owner C. M. Harris. It's fitting because the pool is located in a sort of a valley, he says, and he's certain it will "echo" the sounds of people having a good time. The second place winner, J. P. Hamilton, an agent for the Tennessee Central Railroad here, went for a more poetic name, "Swymmoor." Winners received all-wool swimsuit.

(July 3, 1930) Capt. Tim Stephens, a prominent political figure in Livingston, died of illness suddenly this week. It was "a profound shock" to his many friends and acquaintances," according to the newspaper. He was a noted Republican leader, a popular citizen, civic leader and a veteran of the Spanish-American War and the World War. He was commander of the Bohannon American Legion post in Livingston as well.

(July 10, 1930) Clara Fox Epperson, in her weekly movie column, "Screen Drama," writes that a source of dissatisfaction among the nations' women today is the lack of quality motion pictures for children. The recent "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves," which featured live actors, was popular, she notes. And she says that the nation's library shelves are filled with books that delight children and that would be ideal for conversion to film. Books like "The Wizard of Oz," for example, she says.

(10 July 1930: Putnam County Herald Cookeville, TN) Pendergrass Hdw. Co. To Enter Undertaking: The Sam Pendergrass Cookeville hardware dealers, are to place an undertaking establishment in connection with their store on West Broad street. The new department will be located in the building recently erected by Cooper Loftis between the Peoples Dry Goods Store and the Pendergrass main building.

Ambulance service also will be offered to the public, the firm having purchased an ambulance of the latest and most modern make.

Roy Farrar, of Jefferson City, TN, an experienced man in the business and an expert in his line, will have charge as undertaker.

(July 17, 1930) J. R. Carpenter, the manager of the P. G. Cooper Motor Co. in Cookeville, went to lunch one day this week and forgot to lock the office safe. When he came back, \$30 was missing. A 12-year-old boy who had been "hanging around" the garage was missing, too.

Later in the week, Carpenter was called to the Jere Whitson Hardware Store where he was able to identify some currency spent there by the 12-year-old, who'd bought a bicycle. The bike was returned to the store, the money was recovered, but police say the 12-year-old remains missing.

(July 26, 1930) It's an election year and a good orator can draw a crowd. About 1,000 turned out on the Square Wednesday night to hear L. E. Gwinn, a candidate for the Democratic nomination in the governor's race. Gwinn pledged to build better roads of concrete throughout the state. He also said that he would do away with many forms of state taxation.

This Saturday night, at least as many are expected to turn out to hear James P. Owen of Hartsville – a U. S. congressional candidate – speak on the Square. An estimated 1,000 listeners were also on hand last Saturday when Gov. Henry Horton spoke on the Square.

He was introduced by O. K. Holladay, a local attorney. Holladay praised Horton for making progress with Tennessee's roads and schools, the hottest issues of the day.

(July 30, 1930) The Cookeville City Commission announced this week that it is preparing to pave Broad Street. But it is not undertaking such a major project hastily. Town officials have set a public hearing on the project this week. They want to let anyone opposed to the work to have a chance to speak on the matter.

(August 7, 1930) An election this week placed 17 men on the Putnam County Court for the first time. The new magistrates are D. J. Wade, D. M. Peek, Jim Buckner, L. A. Gooch, Nate Welch, Amon Moles, Levi Nash, Clay Farmer, V. D. Jones, Fate Snodgrass, Lowrey Terry, A. W. Maxwell, Grady Jernigan, Amos Herren, Comer Brown, K. K. Bilbrey and V. D. Nunally.

In all, the county legislative body has 45 members.

*An ad for the Shell Motor Co. notes that 25 years ago, you were lucky if the price you paid for a new car included a steering wheel, much less a top for the vehicle. Today, the ad notes, tops are standard. So are steering wheels. And since your car is modern, your motor oil should be, too, the ad reasons. Why not get "1930 lubrication" with Shell Motor Oil, the ad urges.

(July 3, 1930, **Putnam County Herald Cookeville, TN**): Dr. Thomas H. Haile Dies At Celina:

Funeral services were held Sunday morning at the home of the deceased in Celina for Dr. Thomas H. Haile, and aged Confederate veteran, who died Saturday after several weeks illness. He was the father of our fellow townsmen, George B. Haile, and of Charles L. Haile, attorney.

(August 14, 1930) In an editorial, the newspaper tells readers that some are calling for the elimination of railroad crossings because of the number of car-train accidents in the country. But the editor notes that this year \$180 million has been spent in the nation's 48 states putting rails above crossings or crossings under rails — and there were still more than 5,700 car-train collisions this year.

The editor notes that the majority of crashes were caused by cars striking trains, not the other way around, and he concludes that motorists will simply have to be more careful around trains.

(August 21, 1930) Many here have waited for it for some time — especially those with cars.

The Cookeville City Commission this week opened bids on the paving of Broad Street "from curb to curb." There were nine bidders. T.C. Jones of Athens, the lowest, said he'd do the work for \$38,441.

The newspaper's writer comments, "With the completion of this paving contract, Cookeville will have a street equal to any in a city of larger size."

In other paving news, Highway 70 has now been completed from the Baxter crossroads to Carthage. Autos can now drive quickly and easily from the Cookeville Square all the way to Carthage on pavement.

*Tire prices are at an all-time low now, and tire quality has never been better. That's the word from Firestone's rubber statisticians in a page-one-article this week that looks at the cost of tires per mile today and earlier. Between last year and this, the cost per mile dropped 37 percent. This year it cost drivers on the average .000767 cents per mile for tires. In 1910, the cost was .0112 cents per mile and in 1919, the cost was .0030 cents per mile. Things are looking up, tire-wise, says Firestone.

(August 28, 1930) The recent election meant there were some new faces around the Putnam Courthouse this week. Will H. Wall, the county trustee, was succeeded by Charles L. Verble. Wall has handled the county's funds "so that not a dollar was lost," the newspaper notes. Haskel Grogan is being succeeded by Stant Elrod as register of deeds, and Haskell Nabors is being succeeded by Isham Rodgers as Circuit Court Clerk. Meanwhile, Sheriff Marion Warren is turning over his office to Hubert Crawford, a well-known veteran of the World War. Algood Moore, the County Court Clerk and a veteran of several elections, won re-election recently and began a new term as well this week.

(September 4, 1930) The State Highway Patrol put drivers here on notice this week that it is cracking down on those who "through neglect or indifference" disobey traffic laws. For instance, anyone caught speeding up and passing another vehicle on the crest of a hill will be fined, say THP officials. "Those who are in the habit of doing so will receive special attention from now on," the THP warned. Also, horse-drawn vehicles caught at night without lights will also be ticketed.

(September 11, 1930) Here are answers to some of the questions in the newspaper's question-and-answer column, The Query Box, this week: There are six Tennessee cities with city managers; New York is the city ranked healthiest in the U.S.; there are presently 31 Tennessee counties on the federal drought disaster aid list this year (Putnam is not among them); in a widely-publicized recent gasoline 'war' on the West Coast, the price of fuel dropped to two cents a gallon.

(September 18, 1930) This week's sudden death of Felyx "Felix" H. Jared, 68, has left many in town saddened and stunned. He was talking with friends and relatives in the hospital here following minor surgery when he suffered a heart attack. The member of a family that pioneered Putnam County, Jared was a successful merchant here for 40 years and owned one of the country's largest farms. He'd been a justice of the peace serving on the Putnam County Court for the past 36 years and was named to another six-year term in August. He's being remembered in town this weeks as a kindhearted, charitable civic leader.

(September 18, 1930) In the past 10 years, the newspaper notes, more than 500 fires have broken out in public, private and parochial schools across the country. They were due to various causes. Rubbish piles caught fire. Explosions happened in school labs. Wiring was faulty. Whatever the reason, the public has begun to demand new regulations for the materials used in the construction of schools. People think they shouldn't burn down so easily.

*Another article notes that a recent survey of 3,000 housewives indicates that they are shopping more shrewdly than ever for their household needs as the Depression settles in across the nation. Many housewives, the survey reveals, are performing services they once hired others to do. For instance, a number of housewives surveyed said they were buying special flour for cakes rather than going to the bakery.

(September 25, 1930) Readers were told in this week's edition that the oldest member of Congress, Rep. Charles Manly Stedman of North Carolina, is dead. He died of a stroke in the company of friends and relatives this week. He was the last member of Congress who had served in the Civil War. He attained the rank of major while serving under Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson.

(October 2, 1930) State Highway Commissioner Charles McCaleb told readers this week that the state's highway patrolmen have shown that they are completely capable of enforcing traffic laws across the state.

McCaleb said that in the first three weeks of September, troopers across Tennessee won 419 convictions in traffic cases in court. Two hundred sixteen involved drivers whose vehicles lacked a full set of headlights; 45 were reckless driving cases in which the motorist was caught passing another vehicle on the crest of a hill; 23 were for drunken driving; and 89 were for failure to register vehicles.

The fact that more vehicle cases were not filed in court is a sign that most Tennessee motorists are making an effort to learn about and obey new traffic laws, McCaleb said. For example, truck and bus drivers have been making a real effort to keep their vehicles mostly on the right side of the road, he said.

(October 9, 1930) With harvest time here, the thoughts of most people in the area are on their crops and on how well they did this time around. Readers learned this week of the world's largest watermelon. Grown in a patch in Hope, Ark., by Edgar Laster, it weighed 152 ½ pounds. Laster was pretty proud of it. He won a title of \$253 showing it at county fairs in his area. The article added that he didn't get to spend the prize money because he died of illness this week.

(October 16, 1930) In the newspaper's "Do You Remember" column, readers are reminded of the first football game in Cookeville. That was back on Nov. 12, 1910, when Cookeville High School fielded a team against Sparta High School. It was played in a cow field just north of Dr. Shipley's house, "a field long since covered with dwellings." The CHS coach was Joel M. Barnes, "an all-around athlete." He died a few years ago in an auto accident in Florida.

(October 23, 1930) Workers finished the new concrete circular road at Tennessee Tech this week. It runs for three-quarters of a mile and opens onto Dixie Avenue.

New classroom and office buildings are going up around the new loop too.

Meanwhile, elsewhere on Dixie Avenue city workers are digging up the old city water lines in the area. They're made of iron. They've corroded so that they break "at the slightest touch," say city officials. They're being replaced with copper lines.

Dixie Avenue has been closed to traffic for the past ten days due to the work. Once the lines are in, the city plans to repave the road with concrete.

Afterwards, no contractors will be allowed to cut into the new road surface as they have in the past to lay water lines to homes. That practice has created several "hog troughs" in the surface of the old road and the city will no longer tolerate it, say city officials.

*The "White Way" fund here grew by two more contributions this week. The M. H. Borden Jewelry Co. and the H. G. Hill Grocery wrote checks to the drive, said Cookeville Lion's Club committee chairman J. H. Carlen. The campaign, funded through donations from local merchants, professionals and residents, is designed to completely light Broad Street, making it a "White Way."

The city street is set for widening and paving with concrete later this fall. This week's contributions will buy two more lamp posts, said Carlen.

(October 30, 1930) Work is progressing on the new state highway to Hilham. It runs from Cookeville to Butler's Landing on the Cumberland River in Overton County.

The newspaper comments that the road is of great importance to the region. It will provide the only good road for sections of Overton, Jackson, and Clay Counties. The present Hilham road is "unsatisfactory." In the winter months it is often impassable.

(November 6, 1930) The Tennessee Central Railroad advertised two special fares this week, one for sports fans going to the Vandy game in Nashville this weekend and one to farmers hit by the recent drought. It will cost you only \$2.50 for a round-trip ticket to Nashville this weekend.

If you have kids under 12, they can go for \$1.25. And under a special drought program, hay and grain producers who have cut their prices can get a special rate to ship to farmers here on the Tennessee Central. Talk to your county farm agent for more details.

(November 6, 1930) It's molasses making time in Putnam County. The newspaper noted this week that about half the county's farms have sorghum mills and most of them will be working from now through Thanksgiving Day. The article ends with this: "Reporter's Note: The Herald office is open to any contributor of molasses who wishes a correct testimony as to the deliciousness of his sorghum." Afterwards, there was this: "Editor's Note: Same Here."

(November 13, 1930) The bankruptcy in Nashville of a widely known investment house, Rogers Caldwell, hit the state hard this week – the state had \$3 million invested in the failed bank.

After last year's crash on Wall Street and with a national financial crisis taking shape, the failure of a bank so close to home has people worried.

Cookeville and Putnam County officials were quick to say this week that no local tax dollars were in the Rogers Caldwell bank. All local tax money, they say, "is securely held in our own safe and sane institutions."

(November 20, 1930) In the newspaper's page one "Do You Remember?" column readers are reminded of the excitement caused here in 1896 when word spread about a new canning factory being built in town. It was open only a year, but the newspaper says it was an important milestone in the city's industrial development. For those of you who don't remember where it was, it was in the building being used this year by the Gregory's Handle Mill. After the canning factory closed, the structure was used temporarily as a public school, a "free school," between the time Washington Academy closed here and the new Cookeville City School was erected on Broad.

(November 27, 1930) This week's "Do You Remember?" column reminds readers of the first auto to drive though Cookeville. That was back on July 27, 1904. It came from Sparta. Two to three hours before it arrived, someone along the way called and told someone here. Word spread fast and a crowd was waiting here when the car finally arrived.

That same column speaks of a public drinking well in the town's early days just east of the depot. It's gone now paved over when Broad Street was hard-surfaced. At the time, it was especially popular during the county fair when crowds came to town. That was before bottled, carbonated drinks or soda fountains, and cool well water seemed sweeter.

(December 4, 1930) They say it was the best football game of the year for the Golden Eagles. Saturday, the team dueled the Murfreesboro Teachers to a 0-0 draw before a crowd of 5,000 fired-up fans. The newspaper's sports writers called it a "brilliant ball game."

(December 11, 1930) Looking for a "magnificent" Christmas present for someone special? Why not get them a nine-tube "Screen Grid Plus" Highboy model Philco radio for only \$145 (minus tubes). It comes in a walnut cabinet and boasts "tone control" dials that tune in so precisely to a station that it produces completely "lifelike tones," according to the ad. And the special "station recording dial" allows you to lock

in the dial settings of your favorite stations. All of this is available from the Westside Motor Co. on Cedar Street.

(December 18, 1930) There was a serious wreck on the Nashville highway, eight miles west of Cookeville, three nights ago. A heavy freight truck was hit head-on by a pickup that was passing another vehicle in blinding snow. It happened in front of the Millis Hospital. Two were seriously hurt.

*Jamestown, which lies in one of the richest timber sections of the state, is getting its own railroad, the Oneida and Western. Work crews in the last four months have completed laying 50 miles of track to the town of Oneida and Western. Work crews in the last four months have completed laying 50 miles of track to the town of Oneida. There, it will tie into the CNO & TP Railroad. A depot has been erected in Jamestown and railroad officials report that the town has plenty of yards for trains to turn around. The newspaper reported this week that a major celebration is planned in Jamestown this weekend to officially open the new line.

*A page-one note tells readers that all the students are gone from Tennessee Polytech this week. Finals ended yesterday and the Christmas holidays have begun.

(December 24, 1930) Why not treat yourself to a fancy new pair of eyeglasses for Christmas, suggest Dr. George Saunders in an ad in this week's edition of the newspaper. He's got "flattering eyewear" just like you've seen in the New Yorkers magazine – those round metal frames. They come in different colors, too. Shell. White. Pink. Why not stop by for a look?

*In another ad, Oscar Gaw reminds readers that he still has plenty of fireworks, firecrackers and "torpedoes" for your Christmas celebration. You can get them at this store north of town "just beyond TPI (Tennessee Polytech)."

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(January 1, 1931, **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Marriage Licenses for December:

Louis Lee and Mrs. Martha Herd.
Lee Judd and Mildred Gentry.
H. D. Mills and Martha Lafever.
Oscar Watson and Lousinda Sparks.
Earl Hensley and Bessie Brown.
W. T. Mathews and Lela Tinch.
Forrest Anderson and Ruby Huddleston.
Sam Anderson and May Haggard.
Vestal Rippetore and Ethel Fry.
Edgar Vinson and Sarah Lamb.
J. J. Fields and Esther Dishman.
Malbert Brown and Ora Mae Anderson.
Frank Miller and Marie Eller.
M. D. Phipp and Marie Vanderpool.
Sam McCulley and Dimple Breeding.
Willis Huddleston and Sallie Martin Harp.
Buford Mathis and Jewell Harris
Morris Williams and Ollie M. Smith.
R. Kelbe and Leota Welch.

*A promising young man from Gainesboro has died of a sudden illness in Washington, D.C. Navy Lt. Bruce Settle, the son of Mrs. M.Y. Settle of Gainesboro, died unexpectedly in his Navy shipyard office this week.

A Tennessee Polytech graduate, he won appointment to Annapolis in 1917, and finished a four-year course of study there in three years. He went on to study electrical engineering at Columbia University after a year of foreign service.

In 1930, Settle was assigned to shore duty in Washington and, among other work, became a White House aide. Folks back home in Gainesboro were stunned by the news this week.

(January 5, 1931) With the new year getting under way, H. W. Stanley, president of the Tennessee Central Railroad, reflects on the state of the railroad and the Upper Cumberland territory it serves. He notes that while the demand for passenger service is declining, freight service is steadily climbing. That's due to the growing prosperity in the region.

The Clarksville area is known as the world's foremost producer of black tobacco, he said. It's not uncommon for an entire trainload of black tobacco to come out of the Clarksville area during tobacco season.

And Carthage has begun to develop as a marketplace for tobacco, both black and burley, he noted. In the area of industry, the T. C. serves Old Hickory, where the Du Pont Rayon and Cellophane plant is gaining worldwide attention.

Meanwhile, Lebanon, Carthage and Rockwood now have creameries, packing houses and fine shirt and shoe factories. Cookeville's shoe factory is known as one of the best in the state, he said. With talk of hydroelectric dams being built on the Cumberland and Caney Fork Rivers, the region's prosperity seems assured, the railroad president concludes.

(January 8, 1931) John P. Huddleston was the county's oldest resident when he died this week at the age of 92. A life-long resident of Putnam County, he was one of the last living Civil War veterans here.

After his experiences in the war, Huddleston immediately joined the Salem Methodist Church here and was affiliated with it for the rest of his life. He was a prominent man in his community for the past several years.

*Algood suffered a major fire loss this week. The Algood Hotel burned to the ground. The two-story frame structure was once one of the most frequented hotels in the Upper Cumberland. It was built in 1894, the year after the railroad came here. From then until the O. C. Railroad was built to Livingston, the Algood station was the nearest railhead for Overton, Pickett, Fentress and Clay Counties. Patronage was heavy. Algood's volunteer firemen and other neighbors who pitched in to help were unable to put out the blaze or keep it from engulfing a large home in the adjacent lot. That home, which was also a total loss, was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Douglass.

(January 14, 1931) the Cookeville City Commission this week passed in ordinance forbidding the city fire department from fighting fires outside the city. The new policy came about because of public opinion, officials say. Last week, the city fire department responded to a call in Baxter. On the way there, the city fire engine smashed into the car of assistant fire chief Howard Huddleston. A fireman was hurt, and residents were talking about the incident this week.

(January 15, 1931) Putnam School Superintendent L. D. Dunavin says in a public report published in the newspaper this week that attendance is unusually good this year. A lot more students than usual came back after the Christmas holidays.

Dunavin notes that most years, attendance falls off sharply after the first two or three months of school. Of those students left, another plunge comes after Christmas.

But this year, for some reason for which Dunavin offers no explanations, classrooms are full and active this week despite the holidays.

By the way, he stated there will be the full eight months of school this year despite rumors that the Depression will cause schools to close down due to loss of funding.

(January 22, 1931: **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**):

Monterey Lawyer Moves to Cookeville:

V. C. Allison, a graduate of Cumberland University and an active attorney, since 1914, a world war veteran and resident of Monterey, where he practiced, was mayor, and a member of the county court, has moved his law offices to the Herald Building in Cookeville. He will resume his practice here.

Mr. Allison is one of the widest known men in the county, and his constant work to improve the general conditions of the county, together with his pleasing personality and his unquestionable integrity, makes him a welcome addition to the Cookeville bar.

(Thursday, February 5, 1931- **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Auto License Sales Exceed Those of 1930.

Putnam county automobile license sales reached a peak of 1,086 last Wednesday, in addition to 75 trucks and 15 free registrations, according to records in the county court clerk's office.

This figure exceeds that of last year, the 1930 registration being 931 private autos, with a slightly lower number of trucks. Complete registration hasn't been made.

(February 7, 1931) Algood has lost three homes here in the last two weeks that were centers of social activity in the 1890's and early 1900's. Fire took the Aubrey Clark home (built in 1894) and the J. L. Colvert home (built in 1900) this week. Last week, the Douglass home burned as well. It was built in 1900. Many here remember the parties, teas and other social functions once held in those three landmarks.

(February 14, 1931) There's a new parking ordinance in Cookeville. No longer will motorists be allowed to park their cars however they please in front of the Cookeville City School. In fact, they can't park in front of the school at all anymore.

The newspaper explained that the ordinance was enacted after "considerable difficulties caused by all-day parking of idle autos which resulted in traffic congestion and a general danger to motorists."

Also under the new ordinance, motorist who wish to park along Broad between Oak Street and the school will have to angle their cars into the curb at a 30-degree angle, and the cars can't be left there for longer than two hours. Officials here say that there's plenty of downtown parking space in the lot beside the Strand Theater at Broad and Walnut.

(February 16, 1931) Nearly all of Buffalo Valley, Putnam's 'lower county town,' burns as a fire that started in Walter Jared's home spreads to nearly every structure in town. In flames were Z.A. Medley's store and home, Luke Medley's store and home, the Jared Brother's stock barn, R.L. Maxwell's home, the old Maxwell house, the Shell service station and the Post Office.

(February 12, 1931: **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Tech Student Dies in Hospital Here: Henry Moore, of Decherd, Succumbs After Brief Attack of Spinal Meningitis:

Henry Moore, 17, of Decherd, TN, freshman at Tech, died in the City Hospital here Monday morning after a brief attack of spinal meningitis. He was taken to his home Monday for burial there Tuesday.

The popular young freshman was taken ill at about midnight Saturday, and after doctors pronounced his illness spinal meningitis he was removed to the hospital, where he grew constantly worse. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Moore, were notified and came here Sunday afternoon.

A grandfather of young Moore died at Decherd Sunday night.

Moore was a member of the freshman football squad at Tech, and was one of the brightest young men in the class. He was also a member of the Modern Woodmen basketball squad here.

His funeral was held at the Methodist church in Decherd Tuesday. President Q. M. Smith, Dean A. W. Smith, Coach P. V. Overall, and a number of football players went to Decherd for the funeral.

(February 21, 1931) Got a headache? Neuralgia? Muscular pain or "functional" pains? Or do you just have a sore throat? Dr. Mile's Apri-mint might be the thing for you, according to a colorful advertisement in this week's edition. It's a "well-balanced formula," says the ad. It's "standardized," too. Every batch is the same. It comes in a "stable, palatable, mint-flavored tablet." The pocket-sized package is 15 cents. The regular carton is a quarter.

(March 5, 1931) The big story this week is the burglary of the Smith County Bank. The vault door was blow torched by "yeggmen," says the newspaper, using a term of the day for safecrackers and robbers. They took \$20,000 from the bank and fled in a brown Ford sedan believed to have been used in a series of other bank heists in the Nashville area. Police believe a gang of professionals is at work.

Also this week, the newspaper ran an anonymous letter by a reader who came here in 1866. He tells of leaving his father's home in East Tennessee that year, crossing the mountains, and settling eight miles north of Cookeville. Anxious to hear from home, he haunted the Cookeville Post Office for mail from his parents.

The post office was "an old box house" on the north side of the Square. Dominating the Square was the then-new brick courthouse (which later burned). The streets frequently stood under six inches of mud.

The main store on the Square was a general store run by J.C. Freeze. There was also a saloon run by a man named Shaw where you could buy a beer over the counter and a flask of liquor under it.

"Religion was at a low ebb in those days in Cookeville," wrote the reader. There was one church in town in the days just after the Civil War, a Methodist church on Broad where the city school building (and later Cookeville City Hall) stood, was a two-story brick building with a school in the bottom and a masonic hall on top.

One mile east of town stood Buck College, an academy, and beyond that on the Walton Road was nothing until you reached Burton's Store in White Plains, he said.

(April 2, 1931) A Martha Lee toilet goods specialist will be coming to Marchbanks Drug Store this week and an ad for the store in this week's edition advises that you set up an appointment if you want to see her. She'll analyze your skin for free and she's set to give the new French pack facials. Private booths are set up in the store.

There'll also be ladies on hand who had the facials done during the specialist's last visit. You can take a look at them first before deciding to take your turn.

*Meanwhile, the Old Walton Road chapter of the DAR has postponed a dedication ceremony at the new marker at the William P. Quarles house in White Plains. The group had planned to honor the Revolutionary War soldier, but inclement weather and flu have changed their minds.

In the meantime, the group is making a list of grave sites of other Revolutionary War Veterans in Putnam County for future ceremonies after flu season is over.

(April 9, 1931) More than 150 gathered in the main hall at Baxter Seminary this week for a banquet to kick

off a fund drive in which school officials hope to collect \$14,000 in contributions for a new building on the campus. Dr. Harry Upperman told the crowd that the building will cost \$25,000. He said friends of the school in New York and Chicago have already pledged \$10,000 towards the project. And \$1,000 has already been raised locally. Now all the 23-year-old school just needs to raise is another \$14,000 for the project, said Upperman.

(April 9, 1931- **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): DR. S. GOLDEN – Has been called to Cookeville to treat several cases. He has been well known here for 35 years, during which time he has effected several wonderful cures. He will be in Cookeville for 30 days and may be found at the Shanks Hotel, telephone 41. No charge for consultation or examination.

Dr. S. Golden is an experienced Masseur and is a member of National Electro Massage and Swedish Movement. Massage being acknowledged by Medial Science as a Therapeutic Agent and recommended for all forms of Rheumatism, Nervousness, Torpid Liver, Poor Circulation, Constipation, Neuralgia, Stiff Joints, Obesity, Muscular Atrophy, Sprains, Indigestion, General Weakness, etc.

A thorough course for nay of the above ailments will afford a speedy relief. See Dr. Golden at once, Don't wait until last days of his stay here. – Advt.

(April 12, 1931) Charles E. Lufgren is the scheduled speaker at Tennessee Polytech this week. He's going to speak on "the human side" of his trip across Antarctica as the personal aide of Admiral Richard Byrd. He'll also show a motion picture shot during the expedition.

And for those looking for a little less-serious entertainment, the Heffner Vinson show is coming to town this week and it boasts a performance by "America's Premiere Acrobatic Dancer," Betty Noble of Miami. There'll also be other vaudeville acts, including various singers, dancers and skits.

(April 16, 1931) More than 200 Boy Scouts are expected here Saturday for a giant rally and contest of Scouting skills at the Putnam agricultural fairgrounds. Scout units are coming from Carthage, Sparta, Ravenscroft, Baxter, Monterey, Algood, Livingston, Crossville and Wilder. Activities will begin with a parade of Boy Scouts through town starting just past noon. The afternoon will be spent in competitions.

(April 30, 1931) It's the largest graduating class ever for Tennessee Polytech, says President Q.M. Smith. Next week, 34 seniors will march across the stage and get their diplomas.

The college is not the only one to see a large class of graduates. Central High, where 50 seniors are making preparations to leave 12 years of school behind, reports that this year is also on of its largest classes ever.

And the Cookeville Grammar School is also seeing a surge of graduates. There, 65 8th graders are about to graduate and go on to Central High.

(May 7, 1931) A well-known political figure here and in Nashville, Sidney F. Carr, died this week. The 66-year-old Silver Point native became register of deeds here as a young man in the late 1800s and served in that job for several years. In 1903, he went to work for state government, first as a clerk in the secretary of state's office, a post he held for 14 years. He was Putnam's state representative from 1919-21. Then, he worked for the state board of equalization for three years and as a clerk for various other state departments until 1928. That was the year he became a clerk in city hall in Nashville, a post he held until this week.

(May 21, 1931) Tired of a raspy throat from those cigarettes you've been smoking? An ad in this week's edition invites you to try Lucky Strikes. "It's toasted," boasts the ad. "It's kind to your throat." Toasting, it explains, takes out all those harsh irritants, from the tobacco. In fact, afterwards, the Lucky Strike company sells "these expelled irritants to the manufacturers of chemical compounds." So relax and be kind to your Adam's apple, say the ad.

(May 28, 1931) The Rev. Sam Edwards and a group of other local ministers met this week and passed a resolution condemning legislation proposed in Nashville to make it legal to show movies and put on "certain other entertainment or amusements" on Sundays. That's the Sabbath day, the pastors said. The idea originated down in Memphis.

Signing the resolution here were Edwards, a Baptist; J. E. Smith, a Nazarene; E. M. Steel, J. F. Tinnon, D. E. Ensor and W. V. Jarratt, Methodists; P. T. Evans a Presbyterian; and W. V. Henry, Church of God.

(June 5, 1931) The county board of education met this week and appointed teachers for the system's schools – and there are a lot of schools here. The Putnam system includes two high schools, 17 elementary schools, 24 two-teacher schools and 29 one-teacher schools. There are also five schools for black students here.

*Meanwhile this week. Alf Foutch, a rising young businessman here, announced that he has opened a new tourist camp on the Nashville Highway about three miles west of Cookeville. The facility boasts thoroughly modern facilities, including electricity, running water and garages for each of its camp house. The east-west route is still new but Foutch expects traffic to pickup quickly.

(June 8, 1931) They're tearing up the Mile O'Roses and the newspaper thinks something ought to be done about it. The Mile O'Roses is just that, several hundred feet of rose bushes along the fence on the J. Lee Epperson farm, halfway between Cookeville and Algood. The stretch of crimson, pink and white Dorothy Perkins roses is so popular that it has even become something of a tourist attraction. The problem is, tourists and local residents have been taking clippings and flowers from the Mile O'Roses to the extent that it's damaging the flowering hedge. The newspaper notes that the Eppersons are known to be generous and would likely give clippings to whoever asked for them. But it urges those taking the plants to stop before the popular attraction is devastated.

(June 11, 1931) Cookeville pilot Pennock Moore crashed through the roof of a building in Lebanon this week in his Waco. He and a student pilot went aloft to watch a man jump from another biplane and parachute to the ground. The parachutist had a smoother landing than Moore and the student. Moore is okay today. The student is still hospitalized.

*Meanwhile, the city is getting another paved street. City crews were throwing gravel out on Madison Avenue this week, preparing it for paving in the next few days. Madison, which connects Spring and Broad, is heavily traveled and has been in poor shape for some time, city officials say.

(June 18, 1931- **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): SHANKS-FRASA GROCERY WILL LOCATE HERE: Former Cookeville Dealer To Come Back in Wholesale Business:

Shanks-Frasa Co. Inc. wholesale grocers, with houses at Crossville, Dayton and Monterey, have added another link in their chain by acquiring the building formerly occupied by the Cookeville Cash Grain company, for the purpose of establishing a wholesale grocery here, to be opened about July 15.

Mr. Shanks needs no introduction in Cookeville, being a former resident here, and one of our local business men for many years. He has had wide experience in the wholesale grocery business, and his company is known throughout the Upper Cumberland section of the state.

The new Cookeville firm has leased the building erected this year on Cedar street, by L. T. Stone, and an addition is being made at the rear to provide more space. It was announced that Hermitage feeds would be kept in stock as heretofore.

Mr. Frasa is of Dayton, being a wholesale groceryman there before uniting with Mr. Shanks. They plan to pen a territory of approximately seven counties adjoining and including this county.

Mr. Stone has made no announcement on his plans for the future.

(July 2, 1931) The Old Walton Road Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated the

4th this week by unveiling a marker commemorating Lt. William P. Quarles, who rolled down off the Plateau on Christmas morning of 1805 in a caravan of wagons loaded with his family and several slaves to found White Plains here.

Quarles, a seven-year veteran of the Revolution moved here from Virginia along the Old Walton Road when it was brand new.

Four miles east of what is now Cookeville he built a blacksmith shop and store, around which grew the settlement of White Plains. He prospered. Located on a primary east-west route across the state, he often let travelers sleep for free.

Local history has it that this was his undoing. A man in the area named Phillips who ran a public tavern is said to have ambushed Quarles and killed him to stop his business losses.

Among those at this week's ceremony were the DAR's Miss Anne Trigg Robinson of Cookeville, one of those mainly responsible for the monument, and Dr. Walter McClain, a local historian who told the crowd the story of White Plains.

It was noted that a daughter of Quarles married Adam Huntsman, who defeated David Crockett in a bid for the US Senate just before the frontiersman left for the Alamo.

Also present was Capt. J. L. Quarles. He's better known as Uncle Fate. He's the last living son of William P. Quarles.

(July 9, 1931) The Cookeville City Commission and the Putnam Board of Education will get together this week to look over proposed sites for a new high school in Cookeville. They plan to call it Central High School. They've been offered several sites and it's expected to be a long meeting.

*Meanwhile, Wright's Variety Stores of Maryville is opening a branch here. It'll be in the building formerly used by J. Z. Barnes Shoe Store. The five-and-dime pledges it will sell nothing that costs less than five cents or more than a dollar.

(July 9, 1931 - **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): THOMPSON AND LOFTIS OPEN REPAIR SHOP: William Thompson, former employee of Bill Stamps, and Jordan Loftis, who has been located in Gainesboro, have opened an electrical and welding repair shop in the Diamond Service station. Both of the principals of the new concern are well known in Cookeville, Loftis having lived here for three years prior to 1920, when he moved to Gainesboro. Thompson has been connected with the Stamps repair shop for a number of years. They will specialize in electrical work, and battery charging.

(July 16, 1931) Mothers were reminded that the opening of school isn't too far off in a story in this week's edition about textbooks.

The state textbook commission has released its annual list of books that will be used in elementary schools in the coming school year. They can be purchased at Huddleston Brothers on the Square.

The newspaper adds that it has been asked numerous times, but no, the state will not be supplying free textbooks this year.

(July 22, 1931) Cookeville Postmaster Norman Massa says it will be nap time for any burglars foolish enough to try to break into the money-order vault at the post office here. It's fitted with a device that releases knock-out gas when the vault is disturbed.

In fact, many post offices across the nation are being equipped that way, he says. The gas device is something like a Rube Goldberg machine, the postmaster explained. Tiny wires are stretched across the

opening to the vault. When broken, they release a plunger that smashes a glass cell. That action sets in motion the gas device, which knocks out burglars for about 26 hours, plenty of time for them to be caught napping by the authorities, he said. Why would anyone attempt to break into the post office vault? Because it contains \$10 in cash, stamps and money orders, he said.

(July 30, 1931) The Cookeville Church of the Nazarene has found one of the largest tents ever used for a revival here and it's setting up on a lot just north of Tennessee Polytech near its church. The revival will feature the noted Collier Band, which is made up of the three members of the Collier family. The father, the Rev. J.A. Collier, plays the piano, the son plays the mandolin and the mother plays the drum. Services are set for 7:45 each night and large crowds are expected.

(August 13, 1931) Somebody brought a copy of a 1903 railroad souvenir booklet to the newspaper office this week, and the newspaper reports on what the publication says Cookeville was like at the turn of the century. There were 2,000 people here and 25 businesses, the town was unincorporated.

The town jail was called a "useless expense" because crime was negligible here. Manufacturing is flourishing here, the booklet reports. The town has a handle factory, a planing mill and a roller flour mill. There's also a bank and two phone lines. It's a healthy sort of place too. The clean mountain air makes Cookeville practically devoid of tuberculosis and malaria, says the publication.

(August 13, 1931 - **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Wright's Store To Have Its Formal Opening Saturday: Wright's 5 cents to \$1 store will be formally opened at 8 o'clock Saturday morning. It has been announced by M. V. Firmin, manager of the local house.

The store represents the modern trend in business, and is completely stocked with merchandise of the character sold in stores of its kind. Located in the building formerly occupied by J. Z. Barnes and company's shoe store, it has adequate room for large display. The building has been re-modeled throughout.

Mr. Firmin said that he would employ only local labor, and that he would have three girls working regularly. His interior fixtures, including show racks, display cases and counters, were built by J. E. Allen, Cookeville contractor, according to standards required by the largest five-and-ten stores in the country.

Wright's is the fourth of a group, two being located at Maryville, headquarters, and another at Sweetwater.

(August 13, 1931 - **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Putnam Countian To Speak Here On Thursday, Aug. 26: O. V. Myers, former resident of Putnam County and who more recently has been teaching school at Eveleth, Minn., will speak in the Courthouse at Cookeville at 8 o'clock Thursday evening, August 20. The subject of his speech is, "Trained Leadership and American's Destiny."

Mr. Myers is the son of the Rev. J. L. Myers, of Baxter, and is a graduate of Tennessee Tech and the University of Tennessee. He is a member of the Tennessee and Ohio bars, and expects to practice law. He will return to his teaching duties at Eleleth on August 31.

Mr. Myers' many friends will be glad to have him speak here, and will give him an attentive hearing.

(August 21, 1931) "Sullen and angry nationalism" has brought dark days to Europe, the newspaper told readers here this week. "The oldest and staunchest powers are admittedly on the edge of an abyss." Europe is in the grip of record unemployment, economic and political turmoil, and conflict, it says. But the governments involved cannot make agreements to cooperate with one another to solve their problems because if they did, "they would be overthrown in a jiffy."

"Forces almost beyond human control are in motion, threatening the old world with economic and political upheaval and possibly even revolution."

*Closer to home, Franklin Dyer, a young sports writer for the newspaper, has just returned from a hitch-

hiking tour of North Carolina and Georgia with some observations. The city needs electronically controlled gates over railroad crossings like other towns have, to cut down on the number of train-car crashes here. And, unlike some other cities, Cookeville's police do not arrest hoboes on sight, but wait until asked to do so by railroad officials. The hoboes, says Dyer, are simply "honest men looking for work and using freight trains to get there." Finally, Dyer noted that when he told people he encountered during his trip where he was from, they frequently responded, "Oh, you're from Little Chicago."

(August 27, 1931) Twenty-one years ago, 200 young men got behind a plow and pulled it to break ground for the administration building of what became Baxter Seminary. This week at the school, 300 Baxter grammar school students re-enacted the event. They pulled a plow to outline the foundation for a new academic building for Baxter Seminary, which many of them will attend in a few years. Hundreds gathered to watch the groundbreaking.

(September 3, 1931) There's not a lot of cotton grown in Putnam County, so why all the excitement about the price of cotton this year? Why does this week's edition of the newspaper proclaim in large type, "It's raining gold in Dixie?"

Because, according to a page-one editorial, cotton is selling for 6 cents a pound this fall and the South has had one of its largest cotton crops ever. It's a tremendous boost to the entire Southern economy.

Last year, there were food riots in Arkansas when a shortage developed. This year, Arkansas has already shipped 15 truck loads of food to Northern states suffering in the Depression like Arkansas did last year. In all, \$465 million is expected to be injected into the Southern economy this fall by cotton sales. Farmers will be buying a lot more than last years, people will be selling more, and manufacturers will be making more. "It's raining gold in Dixie."

(September 10, 1931) The Gibson County Telephone Company merged this week with Southern Bell, and the newspaper says it is another example of inefficient telephone exchanges bowing to progress. The newspaper goes on to point out that Cookeville is the largest town in Tennessee with two competing telephone exchanges, and indicates that it might be a good idea for them to follow the trend and consolidate.

(September 17, 1931) Lawsuits may be about to cost Cookeville the industry that made it the state's second largest chicken shipping center. The newspaper reported this week that the Columbia Produce Co. says that unless the "harassment" suits stop, it's going to move its factory elsewhere.

Four homeowners near the plant have filed suits seeking damages and contending that the plant – which processes poultry – is a nuisance. But plant officials say there were few homes near the plant when it opened and that in the case of one of the homeowners, the house was built adjacent to the poultry operation after it was built.

In its busy season the plant has a weekly payroll of \$500. It's made Cookeville the state's second-largest rail shipping point for chickens.

(September 24, 1931) The nation is struggling through the Depression, but you wouldn't know it strolling across the campus of Tennessee Polytech and listening to the college students.

The newspaper's reporter was on campus this week and said, "an air of good cheer prevails." He overheard a couple of conversations.

A young man told a friend, "I spent the summer doing absolutely nothing but eating my old man's biscuits and sleeping on his bed." And, a young woman was overhead telling a friend, "I got the CUTEST fall suit,

and here it is still summer. Do they expect me to wear these clothes?" And, despite the Depression, the college is expecting a record enrollment this fall – 500 students.

(October 1, 1931) It was a busy week in agriculture here. The 20 members of the Putnam County Corn Club took third place in the corn competition at the state fair in Nashville.

And the Algood Potato Association met to elect new directors. Members agreed that it has been a good year for the sweet potato crop in Putnam County. Meanwhile, the Future Farmers of America have organized a poultry show for Dec. 4.

Poultry is a hot item in Putnam County right now, and a large crowd is expected to turn out to see displays on the latest in chicken feeding and watering devices and brooding houses.

(October 8, 1931) The Foster Cleighton Co. of Nashville was awarded the contract this week to build the city's new high school, Central High. The \$90,000 contract calls for work to be done on the school by March 1 of 1932. Workers are already on the site moving dirt today.

(October 15, 1931) They say we're in a depression, but the newspaper questions that notion this week. It tallied up the new construction planned here, \$202,500 in all.

The owners of the Strand Theater here are planning to build a second theater on the "old Shirley property" on Broad Street. The county is planning to build a new high school, Central High. And there are plans to build a new Coca-Cola bottling plant at Cedar and Walnut. Depression? Not here, says the newspaper.

(October 24, 1931) Don't eat store-bought white bread just on party sandwiches, says the Modern Bakery in an ad in this week's edition. Use it in place of your usual biscuits or cornbread during regular meals too, the bakery suggests. "Snow White Bread — it's best by table test."

(November 5, 1931) A Putnam mother and three of her five children are desperately ill in Nashville's Vanderbilt Hospital this week after falling victim to a malady that hasn't been seen here in the last 40 years – milk poisoning.

Officials think the family cow ate milkweed and passed the toxins on to the family. The father and one of two sons don't eat or drink milk products, so they were not affected, says the newspaper, and an infant son who was still nursing was taken away from his mother when the illness was diagnosed.

Victims of milk poisoning suffer from vomiting and drowsiness and can lapse into a comatose condition.

(November 5, 1931: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN)

Eureka Hotel, Old Landmark, Will Be Replaced By New Movie Palace: Built by Silas Kuykendall, 43 Years Ago And Used For A Boarding House, Residence: Removal Adds To The Beauty Of Broadway In That Sector. By Samuel K. Neal.

About forty-three years ago Silas Kuykendall erected in Cookeville a little log cabin of three rooms on a site south of the "Nashville Road," now known as Broadway, and opened it for boarders.

A few years later the building was sold to Joe Carr, who in turn sold it to Potter Greenwood. Mr. Greenwood lived there several years and sold it to Virgil Jenkins.

Virgil Jenkins was a good hotel man, so he built a large addition to the log cabin; in fact, he built the building that was so familiar until the hands of carpenters this week began tearing it down. Mr. Jenkins built eight rooms upstairs and down, and named the handsome new place the "Jenkins House."

And it was known by that name for 15 years, when B. G. Adcock bought it and with Charlie Webb operated it under the name "Eureka Hotel." Two years later Mr. Jenkins again acquired it through Prof. W. B. Boyd, who was then president of Dixie college and used the Eureka as a dormitory for girls.

Was Landmark: Until recent years, and before the swift march of Progress began its irresistible tramp down the highway of Time, the Eureka was a place from whence distance on the "Nashville Road" was reckoned – people said it was one of the centers of the village, and often used the term in speaking of length: "As far as from here to the Eureka." It was a historic old landmark.

Built before the coming of the railroad, it stood out as one of the buildings composing a rapidly growing "skyline" in a "thriving trade center known as Cookeville." That was in 1888, and the railroad's coming helped make it a place where the owners could sit on its expansive porch or in its oak-shaded, impressive lawn and ponder over the onrush of new business – the opening of a new steel highway connecting their town to the outside world; where later, the progress of an army of Americans under Roosevelt, and an American navy under Dewey, down in Southern territory was noted and discussed.

Theatre Going Up: But that was years ago. The Eureka has seen many other old Broadway sites change just as radically, and could it speak, perhaps it would have told itself: "And that, too, is my doom. I shall go like they are going, and in my place will be built something finer, more beautiful – Progress shall not let me stay."

And Progress is removing it, in its place is to be built a modern movie palace: a showhouse that would do credit to a city of 50,000. It will be built and ready for opening by spring.

Progress so often removed a beloved tradition that brings a momentary ache to the hearts of people that it is almost a paradox that no person has voiced a regret over the removal of the Eureka hotel. It had become unsightly, and now that it is being taken away the section among which it projected its grimy wooden walls ahs taken on a new beauty, even before the new building arises.

(November 12, 1931) What do you do with your old razor blades? Over in Putnam jail they spent last week feeding them to a 19-year-old prisoner from Clarksville.

The newspaper reports in this week's edition that Grover McClanahan, just beginning a six-month jail term here for violating the Dyer Act, can eat and digest the steel blades with no apparent ill effects.

He performed his feat in front of several deputies and inmates and word of his unusual talent was passed rapidly around town this week.

(November 19, 1931) They're tearing down the Eureka Hotel to put up a "modern movie palace." The landmark was built on the "Nashville Road" — now known as Broad Street — 43 years ago before the railroad came to Cookeville.

It was built by Silas Kuykendall and sold shortly afterwards to Joe Carr, who sold it to Poller Greenwood, who sold it to Virgil Jenkins, who called it the Jenkins House. The eight-room hotel was renamed the Eureka Hotel 15 years later by Charlie Wells.

By then people had long gotten used to using the Eureka to give directions for getting around town, and Cookevillians had a saying: "Why it was as far from here to the Eureka." It dominated Cookeville's 1890s skyline.

In its later years, reporter Sam K. Neal writes this week, the Eureka had lost all of its luster and most of its paint. Neal says, "It is almost a paradox that no person has voiced a regret over the removal of the Eureka Hotel. It has become unsightly, but now that it is being taken away, the hole it is leaving gives its grimy wooden floors a new sort of beauty ..."

The Eureka, located on the northeast corner of Broad and Walnut, is being replaced by the Strand Theater.

(November 26, 1931) It seemed like old times here for the last two weeks – at least after 9 p.m. each night. From then until 5 a.m. every day the electricity has been turned off by the city to conserve power.

There has been a drought and water going over Burgess Falls has slowed to a trickle. That affects the city's electricity supply because the city's power generation plant is at the foot of Burgess Falls. No rain means no electricity in Cookeville.

A page one editorial this week says it's time for the city fathers to look elsewhere to supply the city with electricity. The nightly loss of power has meant goods going bad in some grocery stores here and manufacturing plants have been unable to work night shifts.

Even the newspaper has been affected. Its usual schedule calls for it to be printed here at night. No more.

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A lot of people in Cookeville are sitting in the dark now each night, fuming and watching for rain, according to the newspaper.

(November 26, 1931: **Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN**): Rollaway Rink Opens To Large Crowd Saturday: Cookeville's newest amusement enterprise, the Rollaway Rink in the Mitchell building on the square, opened formally Saturday afternoon and throughout the afternoon and evening sessions large crowds attended to enjoy the healthful skating.

Much interest has been shown in the new skating rink, and its obvious advantages as an amusement center for both children and grownups has been manifested by the steady attendance of skating lovers.

Conducted in a manner that has won praise because of the absolute cleanliness, the rink is a welcome addition to the city, parents say. And no more healthful or wholesome recreation is available.

(December 3, 1931) Two Putnam farmers, Will and Scant Webster, have won national recognition for their corn. They're at the Chicago International Hay and Grain show this week and they're going to bring home with them 5th and 6th place awards in the competition Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: 5 November 1931tion.

They won with specimens of Yellow Dent corn. They live here in the Enigma community.

(December 10, 1931) The newspaper says the Depression is probably to blame for the unprecedented rash of auto thefts in Cookeville in recent days – two cars taken in one week.

Earlier this week, Henry F. Carlen borrowed Phillip Webb's 1929 black-and-white Pontiac Coach to go to the Strand Theater to see a movie. He left the keys in the car and it was gone when he returned to the car a couple of hours later.

Then, P. C. McCannless, commander of the American Legion post here, drove downtown on business and left his 1929 Chevrolet parked beside the train depot. It too was taken. People here are outraged over the outbreak of lawlessness, the newspaper indicated.

(December 17, 1931) Overton County's oldest living Civil War veteran, Capt. A.L. Dale, 91, died this week following a long illness.

He served under several noted commanders, including Generals Felix Zollicoffer, Albert Sidney Johnson, Nathan Bedford Forrest and John Hunt Morgan. Dale fought at Shiloh, Chickamauga and, closer at home, at the Battle of Indian Graves on the Celina-Livingston road.

Dale surrendered at Carthage in 1865, one of the last Confederates whose surrender was accepted, according to local history.

After the war, Dale went into the lumber business and then ran a series of hotels in Livingston, Cookeville, Celina and Gordonsville.

(December 24, 1931) The exciting football game on Thanksgiving Day here between Tennessee Polytech and the Murfreesboro State Teachers lives on, and not just in the memory of those who were there on the sidelines that day. It was captured on moving picture film and will be aired in the TPI auditorium this week.

Dr. Harry Upperman will be manning the Bell and Howell projector. The game was filmed by one of the newspaper's photographers. The moving picture will be shown at no charge.

(December 30, 1931) A promising young man from Gainesboro has died of a sudden illness in Washington D. C. Navy Lt. Bruce Settle, the son of Mrs. M. Y. Settle of Gainesboro, died unexpectedly in his Navy shipyard office this week.

A Tennessee Polytech graduate, he won appointment to Annapolis in 1917 and finished a four-year course of study there in three years. He went on to study electrical engineering at Columbia University after a year of foreign service.

In 1930, Settle was assigned to shore duty in Washington and among other work, became a White House aide. Folks back home in Gainesboro were stunned by the news this week.

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(January 19, 1932) Speeding has screeched to a halt on Cookeville's streets after Mayor Ezra Davis, in the wake of a hit-and-run incident, announced that anyone caught going over 20 mph will be put in jail.

No one has been arrested so far under the order, the mayor said this week. But no one seems eager to top 20 mph to test the order either, he added.

Davis issued the decree after a young woman was seriously injured by a speeding motorist who is still being sought. Davis said he was empowered to issue the arrest order under the city's 1924 traffic law.

That same law states that all motorists must stop at all "Stop" signs and go slow at all "Slow" signs, and that no one under the age of 14 is allowed to drive in the city.

The law also forbids anyone from getting behind the wheel if they are "incapacitated from using their hands or feet."

(January 22, 1932) It wasn't too many years ago here that neighbor leaned on neighbor when it came time to clear land, build a barn or raise a log home. They got together this weekend east of Cookeville to relieve the old days.

Forty-four residents of the Macedonia community met at the home of Jimmie and Dibrell Walker and, according to the newspaper, had themselves a "real old-time log rolling." A good time was had by all.

*Meanwhile, the value of a good fox hound is holding strong against today's sometimes trying circumstances.

The newspaper says that "the much discussed financial depression, the new cost of high living, the tariff question, the cancellation of foreign debt obligations to the United States, the low price of agricultural products, the Sino-Japanese disturbance, interest in what Babe Ruth's salary will be and several other vital subjects seem not to have seriously affected the value of a good fox hound."

Boyd Burton of Silver Point is a good example. He sold a fox hound this week for \$200. The dog's name was "Hershell" and Burton said, "I hated to see him go."

*A prominent Cookevillian is dead this week of pneumonia and the Tennessee General Assembly has passed a resolution paying its respects to the man. He is Col. R. L. Farley, 62. Born in the Newark community of White County in 1869, Farley became associated with the Bank of Cookeville in 1906. Shortly afterwards he and A. G. Maxwell Sr. formed a partnership that spawned numerous companies. They included the Cookeville Veneer Co.; the Carthage Spoke Co., which had mills in Carthage and Algood; the Egg Case Filler Mfg. Co. of Nashville; and the Letcher Co., a lumber operation in Kentucky. He was among those instrumental in the founding and early expansion of Tennessee Polytech and was well known on the state level as a prominent Democrat.

(February 1, 1932) Sid Jenkins and Charlie Darwin are in New York City this week shopping for goods for their new Jenkins and Darwin store in Monterey.

The two men already own numerous Jenkins and Darwin dry goods stores across Tennessee and Kentucky and now they're opening one closer to home. The newest addition in their chain will be housed in the building formerly used as a motion picture house in Monterey.

They promise Monterey shoppers that the stuff they'll be bringing back on the train with them from New York will be "high class merchandise."

(February 7, 1932) After it rained in torrents for two days and two nights here this week, folks down in Buffalo Valley started moving their valuables to higher ground. They remembered 1927 too well not to.

That was the year that the community of Buffalo Valley washed away. It had to be rebuilt after the Flood of 1927.

This year, the Tennessee Central moved empty boxcars to its depot in Buffalo Valley when the waters began to rise. People put in their furniture and other valuables for safekeeping.

After rising two inches per hour at the peak of the rain, the river crested and began to fall. But the flood cut off traffic from Cookeville to Sparta and Livingston, and Martin's Creek was under water.

The city of Cookeville's electrical generating station at Burgess Falls survived the flooding this time, although water was reported to be "raging" at the falls at press time.

(February 12, 1932) E.C. Reeves is convinced that 'talkies' are here to stay.

He's the manager of the Strand Theater, the movie house here that's in temporary quarters on Broad Street while a new movie house is being built on West Side.

The new facility will be equipped with RCA Photophone talkie equipment, Reeves told the newspaper this week. It's especially designed so that the actors' words match the motion of their mouths. It's the latest.

*Meanwhile, County Clerk Algood Moore said this week that the number of people getting their new license tags for vehicles is down from last year.

Everybody buys their annual vehicle tags each January. This past January, 998 people bought car tags and 95 bought truck tags. Last year, 2,100 bought car tags and 100 bought truck tags. Is it the Depression?

(February 19, 1932) Sports fans from as far as 100 miles away are expected to flock to Cookeville this week to see Tennessee Polytechnic Institute's Golden Eagles play the world basketball champs, the Rosenblum Celtics.

The club team boasts "the greatest name in basketball," Joe Lapchick. It also has world-class hoopsters like Davy Banks and Dutch Denhert.

The newspaper says the players are known as "magicians with a basketball." Better get your tickets early.

(February 26, 1932) Christine Sadler, daughter of Phillip Sadler of Silver Point, is a feature writer for the Nashville Banner. This week she wrote of Buffalo Valley's beloved country physician, Dr. Samuel Denton.

Born in White County in 1854, Denton began his medical practice at the age of 24 after studying for two years under another physician, Dr. Henry Smith. Formal schooling was not the rule in the days after the Civil War here. Denton later went to Vanderbilt University and received his medical degree in 1890.

He first hung out his shingle in Algood, but stories about the abundant corn and tobacco crops being grown in Buffalo Valley soon attracted him there.

Denton made house calls on horseback in a five-mile radius of his office in Buffalo Valley, but later bought a Ford auto and began covering 25 to 30 miles in a day. When the Depression hit and clients were unable to pay, Denton continued treating residents anyway.

Then his Model T broke down. To keep him going, the wealthier residents of Buffalo Valley pitched in and bought him another car.

Miss Sadler writes that Dr. Denton's practice is thriving still, despite the current "specialist mania" that is breaking out in today's medical world.

*Meanwhile, Cookeville Police Chief Herbert Hughes said this week that a group of schoolchildren found three quarts of whiskey hidden down by Glade Branch just off Spring Street this week.

The kids turned the bottle into the police. Chief Hughes says the bottle is waiting in city hall for the owner to come by and pick it up. He added, however, that there may be a hefty fine attached to it.

(March 3, 1932) The Pants Thief has struck here again.

In recent weeks, several residents have reported to police that someone has broken into their homes and stolen pairs of pants, apparently to get wallets and other valuables in a hurry.

One night this week, Fate Fuqua had a closer encounter with the Pants Thief. Fuqua woke up in his bed and heard a rustling nearby. He said he first thought it might be a rat. Then he woke up a little more and saw the man standing beside his bed going through his trousers.

The man fled when Fuqua bolted upright in his bed. Within 10 minutes, police with bloodhounds were on the scene. Their hunt ended 300 feet from the Fuqua home when the pants were found lying in a vacant field. The Pants Thief made another getaway.

(March 12, 1932) Spring leapt backwards into winter this week as temperatures dropped into the lower 20s and snow fell.

The cold snap is being blamed by Putnam officials for a resurgence of colds and influenza. It also kept tow trucks busy on Cookeville's streets and garage dealers reported big sales of radiator alcohol.

*Meanwhile, Cookeville Mayor Ezra Davis warned this week that you'd better keep your dog penned up or on a leash loose dogs will be shot on sight. There's a rabies outbreak here.

Davis noted that three people here are already undergoing Pasteur treatment after being bit by rabid dogs in recent days, and several dogs have tested positive for the dreaded disease.

The mayor has told police to rid the streets of all strays and loose dogs.

(March 19, 1932) Bandits and bank robbers are making the nation's headlines regularly these days of the Great Depression. This week, a Rickman youth was in the news reminding people that they raise them pretty tough in Tennessee too.

Claudie Andrews, a recent graduate of Algood High School, was waiting on a bus in Tulsa, Okla., when a man shoved a gun in his face.

Andrews gave the man the \$32 he had in his wallet. Then he scuffled with him and took away his gun. Then, as the newspaper put it, Andrews "beat the stuffing out of the man."

*Central High administrators expelled three boys and two girls for drinking whiskey at school this week. School officials say the youths have been known to cut classes before to go drinking. They were caught in an intoxicated condition at a boys' basketball tournament this week. They'll be out for the rest of the school year.

(March 22, 1932) Worth Bryant, a colorful and well-known Cookeville attorney, spent a day this week in Carthage as special chancellor in the absence of the regular judge, and the Carthage newspaper wrote an article about his performance.

The newspaper reported Bryant was able, fair and industrious. He "dived" into the court docket immediately upon arriving. He was accompanied by Walter Carlen, an "affable gentleman and Clerk and Master of Putnam County."

During his busy day, Smith Countians noted what has become a trademark of Bryant here – his use of a “crock pipe with a cane stem” which he kept loaded with strong “hillside Navy tobacco.”

The newspaper here commented that while Smith Countians didn't mention it, Bryant's pipe bowl is usually marked by his practice of dipping it into a bed of live coals in the fireplace to light it. It saves matches – Bryant also is known for being frugal.

(March 31, 1932) The Cookeville Lions Club is getting ready this week to celebrate its 10th anniversary here. A group of professional and businessmen got together in early April 1922 to established the club here.

The newspaper looked back this week at some of the things the club has accomplished since it set out a decade ago to bring about civic improvements here.

Among its achievements, the club was instrumental in creating the White Way here that is, the erection of street lights along the 'main drag.' It also influenced town officials to pave a number of city streets and helped convince a shoe factory to locate here, creating new jobs.

(March 31, 1932: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN): 12 Gallons Liquor Netted In Raid Here: Oscar Brogdon, 42, and Whit Ray, 40, were bound over to the Federal grand jury by United States Commissioner D. H. Morgan Saturday on charges of unlawfully transporting liquor, Brogdon and Ray were arrested ealy Friday night by U. S. prohibition officer J. W. Plaxco, and sheriff Hubert Crawford, and deputies Brown and Minor, about four miles north of Cookeville on the Hilham road. The officers found twelve and half gallons of liquor in the car in which Brogdon and Ray were riding. Commissioner Morgan admitted the pair to \$500 bond each, which they made.

(March 31, 1932) Services were held here this week for Mrs. Sallie Freeze Chilcutt, 63, who died in her home on Dixie Avenue following an extended illness. She was the widow of John W. Chilcutt and daughter of the late Joseph C. Freeze, a pioneer merchant here. Freeze, the namesake of a Cookeville city street, became a major in the Confederate army. He went on to operate a general store on the west side of the Cookeville Square for 40 years.

(April 21, 1932) America has become a sex-obsessed nation and needs to turn back to the standards of purity found in the Bible.

That was the message this week from B.B. Pennington, evangelist and pastor of Belmont Methodist Church in Nashville. He was the evangelist at a two-week revival that ended here this week.

Pennington said that the nation's appetite for sexual matters is being fed by “the newsstands,” which are profiting off sin.

The evangelist, a native of the Cookeville area, was accompanied each night of the revival by popular singers Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Wall of Cookeville.

Meanwhile, every home on Cherry Street but two has been hit by burglars this week, including a visit at one home by the infamous Pants Thief.

The Pants Thief struck at the home of W.C. Gentry, who said he caught a glimpse of someone in his bedroom early one evening, but assumed it was his “house boy” coming to do the laundry.

The next morning he found a pair of his pants on the porch with its pockets turned inside out.

(April 28, 1932) The Cookeville Pants Thief has struck yet again.

Brice Quarles of 402 Whitney got up in the middle of the night to give another round of medicine to his child who was recovering from tonsillitis. Outside, a storm was rumbling.

While he was in the child's room, Mrs. Quarles was awakened by a sound and saw a figure by the bed holding Mr. Quarles pants, going through them. She shrieked, Quarles came running, but the Pants Thief dodged him and made it out the door into the storm with \$9 clutched in his hand.

People in Cookeville are just a little nervous these days.

*Meanwhile down in the Calkiller, James Farley, 87, died this week, marking the passing of another ex-Confederate soldier and the last living in that community.

In the war, Farley for a time rode with the forces of cavalryman Nathan Bedford Forrest.

(May 2, 1932) The wife of a Cookeville man in jail today says she thinks he's learned his lesson.

Earlier this week they got in a fight. He "smacked her," she said. She threw bricks at him. When an officer came to arrest him on charges of assault, the wife offered to post his bond. He said he'd rather go to jail. So he did.

But now, the wife says "He's down in jail crying like a baby for me to get him out."

She says she's taking her \$12.45 bond money on down to the jail to get him out.

(May 12, 1932) Cookeville's congressman, Ridley Mitchell has introduced legislation that's getting national attention. He wants to end nepotism in Congress.

People are saying the bill is doomed, of course. That's because 70 percent of the nation's lawmakers who are considering the bill have at least one member of their family on the payroll. But the public is tired of it and the nation's newspapers are applauding Mitchell's idea.

Of the practice, Mitchell says in this week's edition of the newspaper, "The congressman appoints some member of his family – his wife, daughter or son – who is placed on his payroll and the member's salary goes into the family treasury or into the member's pocket, less the small amount paid the working secretary or staff member.

"Sometimes the son or daughter is educated at schools here (in Washington) or they travel abroad, all at the public's expense."

Mitchell said the family member usually doesn't make many appearances in the office, but instead makes the rounds in Washington's "so-called society, going in pink tea entertainment and bridge games."

(June 2, 1932) Reporter Sam K. Neal says he knows a good story when he sees one. He spotted this one trudging up the highway in feathers, fur and horned hat.

Neal came across Chief Hip-Pi-Ko, a resident of the Texas-Oklahoma Indian territory, on Highway 70 just west of Baxter. He was walking there with his wife, Running Water, and his son, Rain-in-the-Face. It was their first time off the reservation, they told Neal.

The chief is on a speaking tour. He's traveling the country giving talks on "the Un-written History of the American Indian." It's sponsored by Baylor University and the YMCA, he said.

He's having a little trouble making it up Tennessee's hills. He's used to the flat prairies. He's also 100 years old, he told Neal. His mother, who died just a short time ago, was 131, said the chief.

Among his things is a display of Old West artifacts, including Indian bows and quivers, a set of six shooters reputedly owned by Jesse James and various Indian attire.

Chief Hip-Pi-Ko told Neal that he fought at the Battle of Little Big Horn. He fought for the winning side, he added.

(June 9, 1932) The Tennessee Central Railroad slashed rates for an excursion train to and from Nashville this week and saw something it hasn't seen in years – passenger cars filled with travelers.

It was a test to see if the TC will begin offering weekend excursions on its road, says TC President H. W. Stanley.

It seemed to work. The Cookeville Depot was crowded and lively when the train shooshed to a stop and dozens climbed aboard, taking advantage of 75-cent tickets.

Some were going shopping and sightseeing in Nashville. Some were Tennessee Polytech students going home for the weekend. Others were businessmen getting an early start on trips and taking advantage of the cheap fare. Some were visiting relatives in Middle Tennessee not seen since the Depression made travel money scarce.

Passenger service has been on the decline in recent years due to the growth of bus lines, which go where the rails don't and to private autos, which go anywhere roads do.

(June 16, 1932) Twenty-three students in Mrs. Quimby Dyer's kindergarten and summer school are back from a week of camping at Brett Johnson's farm.

They came back with awards for achievements during the week. Bobby Reagan won the award for the best-kept cot during the week.

In the tent that was judged "best-kept" for the week included Anna Walrath, Jean Russell, Virginia Rucker, Jean Walrath, and Ida Nell McMurray.

Boys in the second "best-kept" tent included Cooper Loftis, Jr., Tommy Lynn, James Rickman, Stacy Mott and Jimmy Walker.

(July 20, 1932) Robert Ray, the town constable in Cookeville for the past several years, makes his formal announcement that he is seeking reelection.

(Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: 15 September 1932)

BURIAL VAULT PLANT IN OPERATION HERE: S. E. Carr, experienced in monumental and concrete construction, has opened a concrete burial vault manufactory here, his plant being located on the Smithville road adjoining Chapin's store.

Mr. Carr manufactures a water-proof concrete burial vault, models of which are on display at the Whitson and Pendergrass funeral homes. He also makes composition grave markers, for those who cannot afford more expensive stones.

Mr. Carr for six years was granite inspector on the Arlington Memorial Bridge in Washington, and is an expert in concrete and granite work. He invites the public to visit his plant and inspect his product.

Better known as "Old Reliable," Ray says he'll "make no sweeping campaign."

"I'm just asking my friends to vote for me." He says he'll make no campaign promises except for one. "When I'm needed, I'll be ready."

(September 1, 1932) Federal agent John Plaxco and deputy Charlie Farley led a team of revenuers to a remote mountain site between Monterey and Ravenscroft this week, where they found and ruined an elaborate moonshine operation.

A crude home had been built in the rocks near England Cove. It was stocked with food and had been lived in recently by whoever was operating two stills. The agents think they'd been in operation for about 10 years.

A new batch of mash was being worked when they got there and axed the cooker.

A lot of people in town have cricks in their necks this week after standing outside and peering through smoked glass at an eclipse of the sun.

It began at 1:15 in the afternoon and reached its peak at 2:33 p.m. Hardware stores sold old broken glass which people smoked and looked through to protect their eyes.

One fellow, the newspaper reports, tried to smoke a pair of cellophane glasses and ended up burning them to a crisp.

(September 8, 1932) A former editor of this newspaper, William Young Bennett, died this week, bringing to a close a colorful 58 years of life.

Bennett was born in 1874 in Gallatin. His father had been a soldier in the Mexican War in the 1840s. As a young man, Bennett became a journalist, working first in Portland, Oregon and then moving to Liverpool, England, a job that led him to a post on the London Times.

The Times assigned him to cover the Boer War in South Africa and it was there that he was severely injured by a shell. He came home to America after a lengthy stay in a foreign hospital.

Bennett became the editor of the Livingston Enterprize for a period, and then created the Upper Cumberland News, which was headquartered in Cookeville. He then took a job briefly as editor of a Florida daily newspaper, and afterwards returned here in the mid 1920s.

That was when the Upper Cumberland News merged with the Putnam County Herald and Bennett served as the Herald's editor until just recently when a stroke forced him to retire.

Bennett was active in civic affairs and, among other things, helped establish the Cookeville Lion's Club.

He died this week of illness associated with his stroke.

(September 15, 1932) The county has its first school bus system to take students to Baxter Seminary and Cookeville's Central High School. It's a chance to get a higher education that many are now missing out on due to the difficulty in reaching school from outlying rural areas.

The county court this week boosted the school system's share of the county property tax rate by four cents to cover the cost of two buses. They'll run from the lower end on to Baxter Seminary and on to Central High.

Also this week, "Uncle George" Ragland died at the age of 76. The former slave was well-known and well-liked by most here.

He was a familiar sight around town, riding on a cart pulled by two small mules and smoking a corn-cob pipe.

He was born a slave to the Ragland family in the Flynn's Lick community. After the Civil War, he remained on the farm until moving to the Cookeville area about 30 years ago.

(October 6, 1932) Speaking here this week will be that war horse of the Tennessee Democratic Party, former governor Benton McMillan. He's here campaigning for Franklin Delano Roosevelt in his race against President Herbert Hoover.

McMillan, now 87, made his first campaign speech for fellow Tennessean Andrew Johnson when Johnson sought the presidency after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

He's been around a while. And McMillan says he plans to be around a lot longer too. He's already making plans to campaign four years from now in FDR's bid for reelection.

The newspaper reports this week on a joke that's making the rounds. It seems there was a hitchhiker in California who stood on the roadside wearing this large sign "Pick Me Up Or I'll Vote For Hoover." Word has it his feet never touched the pavement for more than 400 miles...

(November 2, 1932) Coal miners waging a bitter strike in Wilder blow up a concrete and steel trestle between the community and Crawford to keep rail cars from reaching the mines. Shortly, Cookeville's cavalry unit of the National Guard is patrolling the coal town and the railroad bridges to restore order.

(November 3, 1932) Want to get the results of the presidential election as fast as anyone else in town? Come on down to the newspaper's election party on the Square.

The newspaper, with help from Osco Masters of Masters Radio Service, is setting up loudspeakers all around the Square on election night.

The newspaper's staff, by telephone and radio, will gather the latest returns. A. W. Brodan will then read the results over the loudspeakers. Speakers are also being set up at the Shanks Hotel.

Entertainment for the party is being provided by Cookeville's American Legion Band and the Tennessee String Ticklers.

In the latest poll published by Literary Digest, New York Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt is carrying 41 of the nation's 48 states by a comfortable margin over President Herbert Hoover.

(November 8, 1932) Sheriff Alex Burton warned Cookeville residents today that with winter coming on and the hard times of the Depression getting worse, there is likely to be a wave of break-ins in the city.

Not only is there little he or his deputies can do to stop the nightly intrusions of the city's notorious Pants Thief, but there's likely to be a number of copy-cat prowlers seen in the coming months, said the sheriff.

The Pants Thief has stuck at will in Cookeville homes for more than a year now and authorities say they still haven't a clue as to who he is or how to stop him.

The sheriff advised residents this week to form neighborhood teams, with people taking shifts so that homes are watched at all hours during the darkness.

Republican President Herbert Hoover was swamped under the tide of votes cast this week across the nation for New York Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt. Given the state of the economy, it was a surprise to no one.

In Putnam County, FDR got 2,326 to Hoover's 1,267.

Nationwide, it was the biggest election turnout ever.

(November 19, 1932) Last week he lost the presidential race against Franklin D. Roosevelt and Herbert Hoover. This week William D. Upshaw came to Cookeville and declared that the real “war” has now just begun.

Upshaw was the candidate of the Prohibition Party, which is dedicated to keeping intact the nation’s 18th Amendment, which prohibits the sale of alcohol.

Upshaw said in talks here this week that he believes the chances of the 18th Amendment being voted out are “remote,” but he warned that anti-liquor forces across the nation must now be more vigilant than ever. There’s a new bunch in charge of the nation, and a new attitude that needs watching.

The former Atlanta congressman was left bedridden by illness in his teens and, at age 25, launched a wheelchair campaign for congress. He won. Today he gets around with the aid of crutches.

Upshaw declared in talks here that there are 54 million reasons for keeping the 18th Amendment — 26 million autos across the nation and 28 million boys and girls. Figure alcohol into the young people-auto formula and you have the recipe for disaster, Upshaw argues.

Coal miners waging a bitter strike in Wilder this week blew up a concrete and steel trestle between Wilder and Crawford to keep railroad coal cars from reaching the miners.

Meanwhile, miners were preparing to go to court in Jamestown this week in an effort to block the coal company’s efforts to evict them from their company-owned homes.

(November 24, 1932) Cookeville’s cavalrymen — Troop H of the 109th Cavalry of the Tennessee National Guard — are acting as state police in Wilder where striking coal miners are blowing up railroad bridges to keep coal cars from reaching the mines.

Patrolling the tracks and coal yards on horseback and mounted on railroad handcars, the cavalrymen are in a tense situation. Mine guards have been shot at and assaulted, and word is that the miners have stolen and cached enough dynamite to blow up the entire town of Wilder. Meanwhile, the Red Cross and other charitable agencies are trying to help the miners and their families make it through the coming winter. They’ve been on strike since July.

Most recently, miners and their families have been turning up on Cookeville streets this week asking for food and clothes.

(November 30, 1932) Local barnstormer Earl Sark is putting on an aerial exhibition here. He says he’ll offer a free airplane ride to anyone who can guess how high his airplane is when he drops a chicken out over the crowd.

(December 8, 1932) Several well-known Cookevillians will be tearing up the turf in a charity football game that has a little of something for everyone.

Tennessee Tech coaches Rupert Smith and Putty Overall will lead the All-Bad and the All-Worse teams. Keith Bohannon will referee and Philip Webb is the time keeper.

Local pilot and barnstormer Earl Sark has agreed to fly low over the city just before the game and bombard residents with fliers urging them to go to the big game.

During halftime, area preachers will take the field and demonstrate their prowess at the game.

Among those who've agreed to play on the two teams so far are Harry Gentry, Bob Cornwell, Morris Lee Robbins, Skinnay Carlen, Chic Jared, Sam K. Neal, Cotton Johnson, Franklin Dyer, Pinky Lewis, Jelly Watson, Gillem Maxwell, Howard Vaden, Lawrence Stamps, David Dow, Rhion McGee and Raymond Shipley.

Admission is 20 cents.

(December 20, 1932) Mrs. Benton Carlen credits a quick prayer this week with saving the lives of herself and her family.

Driving back from a Christmas shopping trip to Nashville on Highway 24, 17 miles west of Cookeville, their car hit a patch of ice and went careening down a 150-foot embankment studded with logs and stones.

In the car, as it tumbled down the hillside, were the driver, Walter Whitson, Mrs. Robert Lowe, her son, Jere, Mrs. Carlen and her children, Billy and Frances.

When the sedan was finally stopped by rocks and trees at the bottom, the shaken occupants found that no one was injured. Mrs. Carlen told a Herald reporter who arrived that she uttered a prayer for safety on the way down. "the Lord was with us," she said.

The mines at Wilder and neighboring coal towns are back in operation now, things are quiet, and Cookeville's cavalymen are coming home. Rail cars have already been sent for their horses and they'll be home on the next train after that.

The companies in recent weeks have been rehiring miners – all but the leaders of the strike. Out of the hundreds who walked out of the mines last summer, only 75 union leaders and determined followers are still out of the mines this week.

Many say what broke the back of the strike was the plunge in aid to mining families that came after miners started blowing up rail trestles to keep coal cars from reaching the mines.

(Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: 22 December 1932):

George Womack New Manager of Store:

George Womack Tuesday assumed duties of manger of Womacks', in the Hotel Shanks, after sale of the store to Ragland, Potter & Co. The popular confectionery will hereafter be known as George's.

Mr. Womack said that he had reduced prices on a large number of articles in stock in an effort to move them out to make room for new stock, and that many bargains will be found in his store.

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(January 3, 1933) The Cookeville Lions Club met

(January 12, 1933) Some things are slow to change. The newspaper said this week that Tennessee was infamous 55 years ago as a major producer of illegal liquor. It still is, it says.

An 1878 letter from Gov. James D. Porter to prominent Gainesboro attorney George Morgan was published in this week's edition. The governor was asking for help.

There's so much moonshine whiskey being made, sold and consumed in Tennessee (in 1878) that it has become "an embarrassment," wrote Gov. Porter.

He asked Morgan to assemble other prominent and influential people in Gainesboro, confront the area's moonshiners and "persuade those persons who are engaged in illegal distilling to abandon a practice that's bringing the state into contempt."

Morgan's son, Daniel Morgan, who found the letter and showed it to the newspaper this week, commented, "We have the same conditions here today."

(January 19, 1933) Reporter Sam K. Neal tells of a conversation between a judge and a man on the stand here in a divorce case. The judge asked the man, "And what is your connection with this divorce case?" The man replied, "Your honor, I'm the grounds."

(January 22, 1933) The new year is off to a good start for the Cookeville Home Telephone Co. It has already added 13 new customers, bringing the totals of its subscribers to 535.

The company has new officers for the coming year too, B. M. Carr is president, Howard Draper is vice-president, B. C. Huddleston is secretary and E. H. Buck is treasurer.

Meanwhile, Sid Phillips was reemployed as the company's manager. His wife will continue as his assistant.

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Meanwhile, Sid Phillips was re-employed as the company's manager. His wife will continue as his assistant.

(January 26, 1933) The newspaper prints an article on the outlook for farmers for 1933. With 10 to 12 million unemployed across the nation and the volume of wages about half what it was in 1929, authorities say things should begin getting a little better this year. The price farmers get for their products should get no lower. But they advise farmers to continue looking for ways to cut their costs and advise them to continue "rebuilding" the soil, which is worn out after generations of careless use.

*The Cookeville Home Telephone Co. is growing. It's added 13 new subscribers to its phone system this month alone. Now, 535 Cookeville homes are tied together by telephone lines strung about the town.

Running the company are new officers who were elected this month. They are B. M. Carr, president; Howard Draper, vice president; B. C. Huddleston, secretary; E. H. Buck, treasurer; W. H. Barr, general manager; and Sid Phillips, local manager. Mrs. Phillips' is assistant local manager.

The L & N and B & O railroads are offering a special deal for those who'd like to go to Washington for the inauguration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt on March 4.

Here's the offer: For \$31 per person, you can take the train from Nashville (you'll have to ride the Tennessee Central to get there from here) to Washington, see the festivities and rather than having to pay for a hotel room too, you can sleep in a Pullman rail car overnight. The price of the special ticket will bring you back home, too.

(February 2, 1933) The Cookeville American Legion band plans a "pageant of patriotism" in the Cookeville City School auditorium this Friday night. Some 25 first and second graders in colorful

costumes will reenact historical moments in the nation's history set to the music of the Cookeville American Legion band orchestra. Its members include Albert Brogdon, Carver O' Dell, J. E. Ledford, Sherrill Webb, Robert Thurman and Clifford Massa.

(February 9, 1933) The city's Central High School held its annual class elections this week. Clara Selby is "Miss Ugliness." He's also "Most Capable Pupil." Meanwhile, Henry Ferrell has been named "Most Handsome Boy." The "Neatest Girl" title goes this year to Maggie Mott, and Inez Isabell is the "Most Stylish Girl." Estelle Johnson has been named "Biggest Flapper" and Dolly Vittetoe is the "Jolliest Junior."

Middle Tennessee is in the grip of another cold wave. It got down to minus 4 here one night, only a little short of the record low here in 1918 of minus 15.

As if cold wasn't enough, it snowed too. Three inches of powder blew in on top of the ice this week, turning roads into treacherous propositions for drivers.

It got so cold that many cars here froze solid. Tow trucks were working overtime in Cookeville this week hauling autos to the garage to be thawed out.

Just before cold and snow closed local schools, Central High students voted to fill the school's honor positions. They include: Clara Selby, Miss Central High; Henry Ferrell, Most Popular Senior Boy; Charles Darwin, Most Handsome Senior Boy; James Murphy, Bachelor of Ugliness.

Also, Hardin Boyd, Neatest Boy; Maggie Mott, Neatest Girl; Inez Isbell, Most Stylish Girl; Kenneth Haile, Most Dignified; Delbert Musgrove, Freshest Freshman.

(February 16, 1933) Eight more National Guard troopers from Cookeville's 109th Cavalry have been called back home from Wilder this week. That leaves only eight there under the command of Capt. Hubert Crawford. They're patrolling the railroad tracks and the town under the supervision of Sgt. Zina Mitchell. Wilder has been the scene of violence and upheaval in recent weeks in the wake of a strike by coal miners. Many arrests have been made by the troopers for fighting and drunkenness.

(February 20, 1933) Sen. Cordell Hull, the pride of the Uppers Cumberland, is going to Washington again, this time as President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Secretary of State, it was announced this week.

The newspaper describes Hull, FDR's new right-hand man, as "the man who as a lad let his dreams take him far beyond the hills of his native Pickett County."

Hull has been Tennessee's senator for more than 20 years, and says that when he takes office next month after FDR's inauguration, he'll immediately begin working on Roosevelt's plans to stimulate international trade to bring back prosperity here and abroad.

The newspaper this week reprinted the program from the ceremony Cookeville threw to honor Putnam men in the First Tennessee Regiment shortly after they returned from the Philippines where they fought in the Spanish-American War.

The unit reached Manila on Nov. 28, 1898, and was mustered out on Nov. 23, 1899. In between those two dates, the local men fought in the battles of Manila, Iloilo, Jaro and Cebu.

Putnam men in the unit were Will Staley, Charles Regan, Walter Wirt, Clay Bryant, Mounce Speakman, George Rash, Virgil Baker, Sid Chisholm, Jack Chisholm, J. H. Whittaker, G. F. Whittaker, J. L. Jones, Felix Morrison, A. B. Blankenship, D. L. Steakley, S. J. Gillem, R. M. Anderson, E. M. Nunally, P. E. Sadler, Joe Hall and John Officer.

(February 23, 1933) Singer Sewing Machine Co. announced this week that it has reopened its Cookeville store in the First National Bank building. It has new and used machines and carries needles and oil. It also makes repairs and does hemstitching for 6 cents a yard.

Coming to Cookeville this week is the Major Bowes Original Amateur Hour, which radio listeners here listen to every week on the nationally broadcast NBC radio show of the same name. It features comedians, musicians, dancers, imitators and other talented people who in everyday life are bellhops, sales girls, stenographers and teachers just like everyone else. In preparation for the event, Mayor Ezra Davis has declared it "Major Bowes Week" here.

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(March 2, 1933) Clara Selby has won Central High School's top honor, the Balfour Award, which goes each year to the student with the top grades and most school loyalty. Other top honor students include James Murphy, with a 97.93 grade average for the year; Josephine Grace, with a 94.68 average; Margaret Barnes, with a 94.1 average; Charles Darwin, with a 93.7 average; and Elise Scarlett, with a 92.28 average.

*The term 'banker's holiday' took on a new meaning this week when Gov. Hill McAlister gave all banks in Tennessee a six-day 'holiday' as the Depression threatens to destabilize the state's financial institutions.

Hill stressed in closing the banks that Tennessee's banks are 'generally sound,' but said instability in bank's in neighboring states is creating a climate of mistrust for Tennessee's banks as well.

The six-day closing freezes depositor's funds while Tennessee lawmakers are speeding through legislation designed to protect and strengthen the state's banking system, said the governor.

A few banks across the state have defied the governor's orders, but both Cookeville's Citizen's Bank and First National Bank issued statements this week saying they are in full compliance.

*Meanwhile, most grocery stores in the county have gone to a strictly cash basis during the banking holiday, causing some here to wonder how they will make it through the week with their money locked up in banks and grocery stores suddenly not taking credit.

(March 9, 1933) The notorious "Cookeville Pants Thief" has been at it again. Early Saturday morning, he entered two houses here. In one, he snatched a purse with \$2 inside. In the second, the occupants awoke to see the thief standing in their bedroom. He got away through the front door.

He entered two homes in north Cookeville one night this week: The home of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. McGhee at 500 East 7th Street, where he took Mrs. McGhee's purse, and at the 407 East 8th Street residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Hill, who woke up to find a man standing in the dark in their bedroom and chased him out.

*On the heels of a week-long bank "holiday," ordered by Tennessee's governor, Franklin D. Roosevelt has taken office and this week kept banks closed across the nation while he and Congress hammer out the details of a controlled expansion of U. S. currency.

There were a lot of simple meals eaten in Cookeville this week. Preachers told congregations here that God is wreaking judgment on America for forgetting Him, and a lot of jokes about the Depression are making the rounds.

But the fact that everyone knows that everyone else is broke seems to be easing the bite of the current money shortage, says the newspaper.

(March 16, 1933) Dr. W. J. Breeding of the State Health Department this week presented Health Badges to 115 students in the City School who recently took part in a special program. Area doctors, dentist and oculists volunteered their services to inspect the children. The children all received clean bills of health.

*Meanwhile, in California, the death toll stands at 135 from a major earthquake that centered on the Long Beach area. Damage is wide-spread and severe.

(March 16, 1933) The infamous Pants Thief stuck yet again this week, and this time, authorities have a description of him from a little girl who woke up and found the nocturnal thief in her bedroom.

The home of Rev. Hugh Goodpasture at 304 Jefferson Ave. was latest to be hit by the Pants Thief. Police think he came in the rear door, looked over the house for clothing that might contain valuables, and then entered the bedroom of the Goodpasture's two young daughters. The youngest daughter later told police she woke up and saw a man walking towards her bed. She screamed. He fled.

She said he was using a flashlight and wore a cap pulled down low on his head to cover his face.

The Goodpastures told police that after he fled, they heard the Pants Thief roar off in an old Model T. Ford.

*California was hit by another earthquake, the newspaper reported this week. It was centered near Long Beach, much of which was wrecked by the trembler. Damage is estimated at \$60 million, and 135 residents of the city died.

(March 23, 1933) It's said to be the first victory in the state for railroads over freight trucks since the freight truck system was created a few years ago. A bill has passed in Nashville that says freight trucks can weigh no more than 18,000 pounds can be no wider than eight feet, and can be no longer than 35 feet in length.

The state's first restrictions on freight trucks also says that freight trucks can travel no faster than 35 miles an hour on state roads. While some are calling it "the railroad bill" because the railroads seem to benefit from it state officials say the bill is aimed at saving state highways from damage by trucks that are too large and weigh too much.

Beer sales could become legal again in Tennessee next month after President Franklin D. Roosevelt this week signed legislation allowing states to decide the question themselves. The Prohibition years are through. Fourteen states already have legislation in place to allow beer and wine sales on the day in April that FDR's action goes into effect. And Tennessee's legislature is moving swiftly to call a state convention to ratify or reject FDR's measure for Tennessee.

*Meanwhile, it's still illegal to buy liquor, as two Cookeville men were reminded this week at the Jackson County line. The men were on their way back from a visit with an undisclosed whiskey seller in Jackson County this week when they were stopped by federal prohibition agent John Plaxco, the scourge of area bootleggers. They explained that they didn't actually buy the liquor. No cash changed hands. They traded a radio for the seven gallons of whiskey Plaxco was looking at, they explained. Now they'll get a chance to explain it to the judge this week. Plaxco arrested them for illegal possession of alcohol.

(March 30, 1933) C. E. Brehm of the UT Extension Service told women in the annual meeting of Putnam home demonstration clubs that the Depression will gradually wear itself out and that the economy here and across the country will eventually return to normal.

He noted that Putnam has been spared the worst of the Depression and that the county has fewer mortgaged farms than the average Tennessee county.

The annual luncheon ended with entertainment by students in Mrs. Aubrey Johnson's dance class, who tapdanced for the women.

*The State House this week passed a bill calling for school superintendents to be elected rather than appointed by the Putnam County Board of Education. The bill is in response to concern that the school boards have become too powerful and that voters need to have more of a say in policies and operations of schools in Tennessee.

(April 4, 1933) The Rev. Hugh Goodpasture of Cumberland Presbyterian Church has been named the "Most Outstanding Citizen of the Year" by the Cookeville Lions Club.

Goodpasture is known for going outside the church walls and into the street to help the needy here. He led the drive to create the Cookeville Community Chest this year and in this winter's blizzard, he headed effort to get food and coal to area residents.

*Sibyl Webb was crowned "Miss Cookeville" this week in a beauty pageant on the stage of the Strand Theater. She's a student at Central High. The pageant was staged by Cookeville's merchants.

(April 6, 1933) Capt. Hubert Crawford is having his annual Easter egg hunt on his farm three miles east of Cookeville on the Knoxville Highway again this year. There'll be dozens of boys and girls under the age of 15 looking for eggs there near the Tennessee National Guard cavalry barn.

(April 13, 1933) The state's dry spell has ended. The Tennessee legislature this week followed the example of several other states and legalized the sale of 3.2 percent beer.

Under the new post-Prohibition regulations, beer can only be sold in Tennessee in premises licensed to serve meals.

Many Cookevillians have already been making the drive to Albany, Kentucky, in recent weeks after that state repealed Prohibition. Reporter Sam K. Neal notes that all he's seen coming back from the border is empty bottles.

*The Tennessee Central Railroad is celebrating Easter by offering a special fare to Nashville so you can get your Easter shopping done. A round-trip ticket to the state capital will cost you \$1.95 this week.

*In a cartoon feature called "Taxoddities" -- one copying the style of the popular Ripley's Believe It or Not series -- readers this week learned that the 7-cent gasoline tax in Tennessee is higher than that of any state bordering Tennessee. But, it notes that Alabama, with a 6-cent state tax, also has a federal gas tax in some parts of the state.

(April 20, 1933) A light bulb being replaced in the Strand Theater this week shorted out, sending a shower

of sparks into a box of movie film. But the time theater manager E. C. Reeves rushed out of the adjoining office, the projection box was engulfed in flames.

Reeves and his repairman made it out of the building just as the entire front was swept with fire. City firemen quickly responded and extinguished the blaze, but \$10,000 in damage was done.

Reeves says that new sound and picture equipment is being installed and the Strand is expected to open tonight or tomorrow night.

(April 25, 1933) The newspaper reports that the Tennessee Highway Patrol says that in the first four months of this year, 94 people died in accidents on state roads and highways. Of those, 28 percent involved drinking.

The THP attributes high speed to a number of the other deaths. It encourages drivers to stick to the legal maximum speed of 35 miles per hour: It's not only safer, it saves gasoline and tire wear too, the THP notes.

*For the first time in 22 years, the sale of beer will be legal in Cookeville again this week. And for the first few months, most of it will be "green" beer, beer not aged in bottles the usual full 90 days.

The end of prohibition came too fast for brewers to – legally – prepare for the resumption of sales of ripe beer.

(May 4, 1933) Striking miners at Wilder buried their murdered union chief, Barney Graham, this week. Hate, fear and violence have hit a new level of intensity there.

Graham was gunned down by seven shots from a .38 automatic as he walked down Wilder's main street on a Sunday night while most of the town was in church services.

Graham led Wilder's miners out of company mines on strike last summer and was known for his work helping strikers and their families get by in hard times.

Now, armed guards are stationed in the mines to protect those working after a series of death threats that everyone is taking seriously after Graham's murder.

It is uncertain whether Cookeville's cavalry unit for the National Guard will be called back to Wilder, where it served guard duty earlier this year.

*The hibiscus bush has been adopted as Cookeville's official flowering plant, and the Cookeville Lion's Club has raised funds to plant 1,000 of the bushes along Broad Street from the city's western to its eastern edge.

It's part of the city's annual spring clean-up campaign. Hibiscus bushes are also popping up in many private yards as well.

*For the first time in 50 years, beer was sold legally in Cookeville this week as Prohibition ended.

Cookeville's two local cafes, the only authorized sellers of brew, reported brisk business for the first two hours of legal sales -- and then sales leveled off.

Surprising to some here was the lack of "ribaldry" and drunkenness, the newspaper observed.

(May 11, 1933) A tornado zig-zagged through Overton County's Bethsaida community two miles east of Monroe during the night this week, cutting a ¾ mile-wide swath that left 20 dead and dozens injured.

The newspaper described it as the worst twister to ever hit this section of the state. Among the victims were a husband and wife and their seven children who were apparently killed in their sleep.

Reporter Sam K. Neal toured the wreckage and talked to witnesses who say the tornado flattened houses, took a barn and the heavy farm machinery inside it and swept it away like a matchbox, and snatched a new automobile hundreds of feet into the air and dashed it to the ground.

The morning after the storm, a square of linoleum flooring was found sliced into a tree, a fruit tree was found with pieces of straw driven into it like nails, and in the wreckage of a henhouse, two chickens were found nesting on eggs, apparently untouched by the violent storm that swept over them during the night.

(May 14, 1933) Sam Denton Poteet, a young businessman here, has been elected mayor of Algood. It's the first political office held by Poteet, who for several years was cashier of the Bank of Algood. He's presently with the Sam Pendergrass Hardware Co. in Cookeville. Others elected in Algood this week were aldermen N.C. Cooper, W.B. Swift, W.C. Huddleston and C.L. Burch. Tom Presley was also named town constable in the election. He succeeds A.M. Stone.

(May 16, 1933) Area sports enthusiasts are talking about the death, at his own hand, of an old rival, Middle Tennessee Teachers College coach Frank A. Faulkinberry, whose health has recently failed.

The often spirited rivalry between Tennessee Polytech's Golden Eagles and Middle Tennessee began under Faulkinberry, who came to Middle in 1926 and consistently fielded outstanding teams in all major sports. The rivalry has been particularly intense each Thanksgiving when Middle plays Tech.

Stories about Faulkinberry's tactics and antics were heard all about town this week. The drug store crowd and coffee shop patrons all seemed to have a Faulkinberry story.

Before the big annual grid game, he was known to drop in at local Cookeville hangouts lamenting that his team would do well to make a first down. If his team won, he'd feign surprise. If it lost, he'd suggest the game was stolen. He was a showman and a good sport, all agree.

*Meanwhile, Baxter Key of Carthage, the Assistant Attorney General, insists that he's still among the living no matter what the Army -- or a tombstone in France -- say.

A veteran of the World War, Key was wounded in battle and transported to a French field hospital, where he believes his dog tags were mistakenly switched with those of another badly wounded man who died shortly afterwards.

Now, Key's still listed by the military as "killed in action." Official records show he died after being shot five times by a German machine-gunner. A little wooden cross in France bears his name. His family was notified of his "death" and even received his military insurance benefits.

Key says he's just glad to be here. He still can't figure out how a man whose records say he is dead and buried was able to board a troop ship and return home.

(May 25, 1933) Edward E. Dorman, 72, a retired railroad engineer whose father drove the first train into Cookeville, died this week of a heart attack. His sister, Mrs. Carrie W. Walden, 64, of Chicago, followed him 20 minutes later.

Dorman was found dead in his home by his family one morning this week. His sister, here for a visit, suffered a heart attack 20 minutes after they found him and she too died.

Dorman retired from the Tennessee Central Railroad 30 years ago after driving steam locomotives up and down the hills of the Upper Cumberland for a decade, and after piloting trains on other lines for several years. He ran a machine shop here for several years afterwards and was well known.

It was Dorman's father, David, who drove the first iron horse into Cookeville on the Fourth of July 1890. The younger Dorman's death this week sparked a lot of talk about his railroading family and the early days of railroading here.

Reporter Sam K. Neal notes that Cookeville was in utter isolation before trains. Just nine years before the first train here, the stagecoach that was the only regular transportation service to Nashville was held up by a gang of "hooligans" at Silver Point.

When thousands gathered here in 1878 to see the hanging of Teke and Joe Braswell on Cookeville's Billygoat Hill, it took the pack of Nashville reporters two days to ride back to their offices by horse and it was days later before those editions reached Cookeville.

Mrs. Laura Copeland Bilbrey was a passenger on the first train to Cookeville. On a trip to Carthage Junction with Professor Samuel Yeargin to teach piano lessons, she heard that the Nashville & Knoxville line had just been completed, and decided to take a trip on the first train to her home town.

When none of the men on the train got up to give her a seat, "I thought all the men must have been from the North," she said.

The slow ride up the mountain and past Baxter ended at Cookeville, where there was no depot yet, only a pile of lumber to build it. She said that N&K Superintendent A. Vandivort, a passenger on the maiden voyage, seemed upset that all the townspeople didn't greet the train and throw a big barbecue to celebrate.

But shortly after the locomotive pulled to a stop, people began steaming up to it, said Mrs. Bilbrey. Soon every man, woman and child in Cookeville was there.

It became a custom up until just a few years ago for everyone who was free at the time to hurry down to the depot when they heard the train pulling in to see who got off.

(June 1933)

*The newspaper this week reprinted an almost 50-year-old article by the then-editor of Sparta's newspaper about his trip to an 1885 celebration in Cookeville.

The occasion was a reunion of the (Confederate) 8th Tennessee Cavalry at the fairgrounds near the Square. It brought out the largest crowd the town had ever seen -- 7,000.

Col. Mounce Gore formed the regiment on the Square. They were joined by 25 former infantrymen who came along on the march. Led by the Livingston Band playing "Dixie," they proceeded one mile to the fairgrounds where the ex-Confederate soldiers marched around the ring and the band again played "Dixie."

Afterwards, everyone ate and then stuck around for festivities at the fairgrounds, which included horse races.

"The cane and knife men, the flying jenny, picture tents and candy shops racked up the spare dimes of he people," said the editor, who noted that only two fights broke out despite the huge, hot crowd.

*William Reagan Bennett is now a supply clerk and C.M. "Junior" Smartt is now a commissary clerk after promotions they received while training with the Civilian Conservation Corps at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

(June 5, 1933) The city hospital has a new superintendent, Mrs. Mabel Goldman. She replaces Mrs. J.C. Barnes of Cookeville who has run the facility since the city recently bought the private hospital on Spring Street.

Goldman said new equipment is being purchased and a new staff of nurses is being added, including Emma Smiley of Livingston, Lillian Whitson of Cookeville and Allie Flynn of Monterey.

*Authorities have jailed 10 ex-coal miners in Jamestown and another five in Wilder and charged them with the shooting of Burton Brewer, 45.

Brewer was hired to work at the Wilder coal mines during the bitter strike there. He was ambushed and gunned down this week.

There was another shooting the same night. Two men riding in a car identical to the one owned by Fentress Sheriff John Peavyhouse was fired on and their vehicle took five slugs. They were on the road from Jamestown to Wilder at the same time as the sheriff, who was hurrying to the Brewer ambush scene.

Brewer is being buried this week in Putnam's Brotherton community, where he lived.

(June 8, 1933) Hubert Crawford's farm two miles east of town is already home to a cavalry unit for the National Guard. Now it's about to become home to a Civilian Conservation Corp unit as well.

It's part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's plan to revive the South's faltering timber industry. A group of men will arrive soon to begin building Camp Cordell Hull on the Crawford farm.

The camp will be headquarters to a group of CCC "enlistees" who will plant trees and conduct reforestation projects in Putnam and several surrounding counties.

*Pictured on page one of this week is another of FDR's projects, sprawling Wilson Dam at Muscle Shoals, Ala., where the newspaper's reporter, Sam K. Neal, recently went on tour of the world's largest hydroelectric dam.

Neal reports the FDR sees the dam as a way to boost the economy of the Tennessee Valley by controlling damaging floods and producing electricity to power a host of industries.

*Meanwhile back in Cookeville this week, 125 workers at the Menzies Shoe Co. went to lunch one day and never came back to work.

They're on strike for higher wages. They have no union. Workers say they aren't organized, just united in their disgust over low wages at the plant.

(June 22, 1933) The newspaper wrote about a suit filed in Judge Robert Ray's court this week by a bride who was left standing at the altar. She's seeking \$100,000 in damages from the ex-groom.

The 22-year-old woman was to have met the man at the Calvary Barn on Highway 70 at 5 a.m. for a dawn wedding. They were to have ridden their horses from there to the mountains of east Putnam and Fentress counties for an outdoor honeymoon which was to have included fishing.

But at 10 a.m. on the appointed day, the bride and her family and friends were still waiting for the groom to show up. By then she'd "reached the point of nervous prostration" and was hospitalized for six weeks in Cookeville City Hospital.

She says she later learned that the groom decided to skip the wedding after learning that she'd lost her money on "a bankrupt mouse trap factory."

*The Jarman Shoe Co. of Nashville, maker of "Friendly Five" shoes and one of the world's biggest shoemakers, is looking at putting a plant in Cookeville.

The talk is that Cookeville's day for industry has arrived. Located on federal highway US 70, blessed with an abundance of electrical power, thanks to a power generation plant at Burgess Falls, the city is ready to accommodate industry, officials say.

The shoemaker says it needs a suitable building, plenty of electricity and an advantageous tax arrangement with the city.

City officials are eager for industry here because the area's timber industry is in a slump.

(June 29, 1933) Opie Read, famous over two continents as the creator of the Southern fictional character, The Arkansas Traveler, is pictured on page one of this week's edition looking over the Civilian Conservation Corps camp at Ft. Oglethorpe, GA, where several young Putnam men are now in training.

They are training to fight the Depression by replanting the South's forests in hopes of reviving the timber industry. They're getting pay in the meantime working for Uncle Sam.

The celebrated humorist says under the photo that he's "deeply impressed with the beautiful plan of saving thousands of youngsters from despair and decay."

Pictured beside Read is the commander of the sprawling CCC camp, Col. Gordon Johnson of the 6th US Cavalry, who's famous in his own right. He is the commander who found and rescued the Lost Battalion in France during the World War.

(July 6, 1933) The US Department of Agriculture has declared war on ragweed and it's enlisting Putnam farmers.

Brochures are being distributed this week throughout the county urging farmers to cut down all ragweed on their property twice a year before it flowers.

Agriculture experts across the nation have decided that it's ragweed that's to blame for hay fever.

School Superintendent Wesley Flatt this week presented the school budget for the coming year to the Putnam county Quarterly Court. The magistrates adopted it after cutting off \$47,000 in proposed spending.

The new school budget will require a 47-cent share of the property tax rate to raise the \$28,000 the officials approved.

Schools will also receive \$61,000 from the state in school equalization funds to operate on in the coming year.

(July 11, 1933) The National Industrial Recovery act just passed by Congress will have an "incomprehensible" impact on the region, Dr. Arthur Morgan, chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority, said this week.

Speaking to Tennessee's editors and publishers at the annual Tennessee Press Association meeting at Red Boiling Springs, Dr. Morgan said that among other factors, new legislation will create funds to reforest the Tennessee Valley, which has been heavily and indiscriminately logged.

Such timber cutting, if allowed to go on for just a handful of more years, will make Tennessee "as barren as China," he warned.

(July 20, 1933) City firemen are campaigning this week to make the city's homes and businesses safe from fire, says Cookeville Fire Chief J. Foutch.

Firemen are inspecting homes and stores throughout the city. The worst fire hazard they're finding are pennies being placed in fuse boxes to fill in after fuses have blown, he said.

*Tennessee Tech students are gone for the summer. The six-week summer term for the college's 400 students ended this week.

The college is now looking at what to do in the fall. The Tennessee Legislature this month cut the school's usual annual funding in half. Belts are being tightened several notches all across campus.

(July 22, 1933) It's something most workers will probably remember for the rest of their lives – the day they had the number of hours in their work week cut and their pay raised at the same time.

Franklin D. Roosevelt's new National Industrial Recovery Act was unveiled this week, creating a 40-hour work week for a wide array of professions and setting minimum pay standards.

Many employers here and across the nation are stating publicly that they back the idea. The US government is mailing out forms for all the nation's employers to sign this week pledging to obey the new law.

Meanwhile, FDR has launched a campaign to whip up enthusiasm and patriotism to persuade the nation to get behind the program.

The Nashville Banner reported earlier this week that Gov. Hill McAlister had been given a set of old government documents bearing the signatures of his ancestors. Cookeville's John Howard told this newspaper he can top that.

Howard came down to the newspaper with papers signed by Tennessee governor Willie Blount on Aug. 31, 1813. The documents commissioned Howard's foster grandfather, Samuel Miller, as a lieutenant in the 35th Regiment of the Tennessee Militia.

That unit and others from the state fought at New Orleans under Andrew Jackson to beat the British. Miller also fought a series of Indian wars in Tennessee with the regiment, helping open the rest of the state to settlers.

(August 3, 1933) Cookeville Postmaster Norman Massa says his office has been swamped by employers wanting the new cards bearing the Blue Eagle. It shows they're for an end to the Depression.

Last week FDR unveiled the National Recovery Act, setting a new, shorter work week and minimum wage standards. All bosses across the US are being urged to sign pledges to obey the new law so they can post Blue Eagle signs at their businesses.

So, the rush is on at the post office to get pledge cards.

*Meanwhile, the new law, which went into effect August 1, will bring about changes in the way people shop here.

Cookeville's grocery stores say the work week will mean shorter hours for them. They will now open at 7 a.m. and close at 5 p.m., except on Saturdays, when they will be open until 8 p.m. Dry good stores will be open 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

(August 8, 1933) Readers this week learned more about the Civilian Conservation Corps camp -- Camp Ridley Mitchell -- that's being built here east of town.

The camp will help farmers fight erosion within a 90 mile radius of Cookeville. Upon request, CCC crews will help farmers terrace hillsides, build stone dams in badly washed gullies and undertake other measures to keep topsoil from washing away.

Area farmers who want to take advantage of the offer are advised to contact Dr. D.W. Matson of Cookeville.

*James Alloway is the head of a new car dealership here. He was in Detroit this week placing orders at the factory for new DeSotos and Plymouths he'll soon be selling here.

*Herman Terry died in a Nashville hospital this week at the age of 31 from a severe abdominal infection.

He ran the Vaughn & Terry Grocery on the Square along with Rex Vaughn.

Born at Hilham in 1902, Terry graduated from Livingston Academy and came to Cookeville as the first local manager of the H.G. Hill Grocery.

He later became partners with Vaughn. Their grocery store was a popular place for professionals and businessmen to gather on hot summer afternoons for a soft drink and a snack. Terry was widely known and liked for his friendliness.

(August 17, 1933) There's an unusual new sign up in Cookeville thanks to the efforts of B.H. Piepmeier and the Publicity Committee of the Lions Club here.

Piepmeier and the committee have hung a large arrow-shaped sign over the intersection of Dixie Avenue and Broad. It's in the colors of Tennessee Tech and it points the way up Dixie to the college.

Travelers and new students in town often have to stop and ask directions to Tech, said Piepmeier.

*"Interesting, thrilling and educational" is how the newspaper describes the blockbuster movie of the summer, "King Kong," which is showing at the Strand this week.

"How would you like to see a revival of prehistoric animals and men in this generation? King Kong, at the Strand Theater, offers some of the biggest thrills ever seen on the motion picture screen.

"In this picture, for example, you'll see an ape as big as a battleship and other giant animals that roved the earth before the dawn of history."

All that for just 25 cents a ticket

(August 24, 1933) Capt. Louis Lampke, commander of Cookeville's Civilian Conservation Corps, Camp Ridley Mitchell, has asked Putnam School Supt. Wesley Flatt for help.

Lampke says many of the young men in his camp can't read or write, or do so poorly. He thinks a night school will help. He told Flatt this week that such a school could also serve adults in the community who want to hone their literacy skills. Flatt is mulling it over.

The government reported this week that the Depression is a little less depressing. Some 400,000 factory workers went back to their jobs last month across the nation as Americans gained a little more buying power and factories got more orders for goods, apparently due to new programs by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Those returning workers represent a payroll of \$29 million, which will also be spent helping the nation's economy climb out of the pit.

At the Alexandria Fair this week in Smith County you can see quite a show. A horse named Silver Gold and its rider will jump through a wall of flames. A motorcycle will smash through a double wall with a resounding crash, and there'll be fireworks afterwards each night and the Cookeville American Legion Band will be on hand for a little night music. Admission is 35 cents for adults and a dime for children.

(August 31, 1933) It looks like Mrs. Homer Reeves is about to become the second woman to hold county office in Putnam County. She received the Democratic nomination for register of deeds in this week's primary. She's not expected to be opposed in November.

Mrs. Mary Denny was the first woman to serve in an elected office here and she's been Putnam trustee for two terms now.

*The largest crowd in Baxter's history gathered this week for homecoming at the Baxter Grammar School. The day was filled with swapping old memories, speeches by officials past and present, and a football game in the afternoon.

*The 11th annual Putnam County Agricultural Fair opened for a three-day run this week and fair secretary Oakley Massa says he expects a large number of exhibits.

*Only a few categories had to be cancelled this year because the hardships of the Depression kept anyone from entering those divisions, he said.

Meanwhile, there'll be horse shows, a big poultry show, games and contests and trick riding by members of Cookeville's cavalry troop, Troop A of the 109th.

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(September 10, 1933) "Get the money" advised the headline on the page one editorial in this week's edition.

It was referring to a massive new program of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in which \$3 billion is being made available to city and county governments nationwide, the National Re-Employment Act.

The newspaper's editorial said it's time for Cookeville officials to shake loose from skepticism, old thinking, and conservative spending and "get the money" to create jobs here.

Under the plan, cities and counties, which apply and which propose projects that are approved by federal officials, undertake civic projects that create jobs. Local governments have to pay back only a portion of the funds, usually through long-term notes that place little burden on taxpayers, says the editorial.

*Putnam County Central High School is up and running for another school year. Its enrollment so far stands at 375. When all students get through with this week's county fair and make it to school next week, enrollment at the high school is expected to climb to about 400, says principal W.M. Davis.

*And the Cookeville City School opens Monday. Principal Lester King says the school's teachers this year include:

Paul Moore, Henry Ferrell, Mrs. J.M. Hatfield, Mrs. Hubert Clark, Mildred Bohannon, Mrs. Curtis DuBois, Mrs. H.S. Barnes, Mrs. Frank Fowler, Floy Chopin, Edith Gentry, Mrs. Amy Johnson, Clara Starnes, Mrs.

Benton Terry, Mrs. Hunter Hill, Emily Stanton, Mrs. John McCluen, Gladys Bohannon, Avo McGlasson, Treva Coopera and Lelloline Johnson.

(September 14, 1933) The man who put Cookeville on the map as one of the South's major poultry shipping centers is dead.

R.P. Morgan, 66, died at his home on 105 First Street after a short fight with pneumonia.

Born in Jackson County, he came to Cookeville in 1890, just before the arrival of the railroad. He opened a produce house in West Cookeville on Oak Street. He'd previously operated a market wagon on a route between Cookeville and Gainesboro.

He soon became a poultry broker, buying chickens from producers throughout the Upper Cumberland and shipping them from Cookeville by rail, which brought the rest of Tennessee and markets across the nation to Cookeville's doorsteps.

Cookeville is now noted as the state's top shipper of chickens and is one of the biggest in the nation's Southeast region.

*Knoxville evangelist John Hazelwood is conducting a major tent meeting on the Capshaw lot on Broad Street. The theme of his talks is: "Does God Have a Hand in the Depression?"

From the newspaper's "Odd But True" weekly cartoon feature: The world's two best known celebrities today? They're Mickey and Minnie Mouse.

(September 17, 1933) Night school is operating again at Central High with about 40 adults enrolled. Operated by the Putnam school system, it gives adults a chance to earn their high school diploma at no cost to the student. It runs each night from 6 until 9:30 p.m.

(September 21, 1933) With more than 1,100 on the unemployment rolls in Putnam County and winter coming on fast, the public in general and the Cookeville Lion's Club in particular are spurring on the Cookeville City Commission to take a risk and participate in a new federal jobs program.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Re-Employment Act makes funds available to local governments for public works projects that create jobs.

The funds are paid back through low-interest, long-term notes, a debt city officials here have been reluctant to undertake.

Also, under the federal act, unskilled workers in Re-Employment projects must be paid 45 cents an hour and skilled workers \$1.10 an hour. City officials say that's too high.

But the Depression has taken such a toll here that the commission is coming under increasing pressure to do something.

The Lions Club recommends \$200,000 in civic works, including new streets, water lines, sewer line extensions and improvements to city hall. The commission is mulling it over.

*Sports writers are comparing Tennessee Tech's football team to David taking on a slate of Goliaths. The team's "Four Horsemen," Jimmy Barlow, Malcolm "Mutt" Quillen, Wink Midgett and Blondie Dickerson, are talented, quick and clever, but writers say they have more brains than brawn and need a strong line to help them beat the likes of Sewanee, Murfreesboro and Memphis. It remains to be seen how strong that line is this year.

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(September 27, 1933) Thirty four states now have declared September as the month to fight reckless driving. There were 29,000 auto deaths in the US last year, 1932 saw a decrease in the number of auto deaths but this year, the figures have begun stacking up again.

In an editorial, the newspaper declares, "The streets are a shambles for both persons and property." Making better roads is not the answer, says the newspaper. "The driver simply trusts to the engineers and operates his car even more recklessly."

The individual driver is the key to cutting deaths on the nation's streets and highways the editorial writer concludes.

(September 28, 1933) The Southern Continental Telephone Co. has bought the Van Buren Telephone Co. at Spencer and will begin serving its former customers beginning Oct. 1.

Southern Continental president James Cox got a rare bargain with the transaction -- an aged "old-timer" model telephone that was in another company's office in mint condition.

Cox says he plans to install the vintage telephone in his home.

*H.S. White, a graduate of the Southern School of Photography in McMinnville, has opened a photography studio in Cookeville in the newly-remodeled Citizen's Bank building.

He specializes in artistic family portraits.

(28 September 1933: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN)

H. S. WHITE OPENS PHOTOGRAPHY SHOP:

H. S. White, local photographer, has opened a shop in the newly remodeled Citizens Bank building, and is equipped to do high class portrait work, excellent samples of which he has on display in his rooms.

Mr. White is well known here, and has had twelve years of experience in his chosen profession. He obtained his ground work in photography in the Southern School of Photography, at McMinnville, and has worked with Atlanta photographers.

His work here has been acclaimed as being of high quality, and he is specializing in fine portraits. His equipment is the latest and best on the market, and he is prepared to give quick and satisfactory service, at reasonable prices.

Mr. White's many friends here wish him success in his venture.

(October 3, 1933) Whether or not Cookeville should go after federal dollars in President Franklin D. Roosevelt's new Re-employment Act is a hot question here these days, so hot that Mayor Ezra Davis thinks maybe it ought to be put to a vote.

Davis announced this week that he is considering a special election in which the voters can decide whether the city will participate in the project.

Under FDR's plan, the city would borrow funds from the government at low interest rates for public works projects to create jobs.

Davis and many others here -- including the newspaper, which has written numerous page-one editorials lauding the plan -- favor FDR's offer, but Davis says "certain Cookeville men are unwilling."

Let the voters decide, says Davis. They're close to a "revolt" now because of the Depression, he said.

(October 12, 1933) Nashville and Knoxville are on the list. So is Chattanooga and Memphis. Even Monterey is there, the newspaper lamented this week. Cookeville, it pointed out, is notably absent from the list.

The list is Tennessee cities that are requesting their share of Franklin D. Roosevelt's new public works funding under the new federal Re-Employment Act.

The newspaper has been editorializing for weeks, seeking to persuade city officials to seek public works projects funds to create jobs and get the Cookeville economy moving again.

It's the Depression and Cookeville charities say they can already see they won't have enough food, clothes, coal and other aid for everyone on their rolls this winter.

State officials published the list of Tennessee cities with public works proposals. Cookeville officials are still mulling the idea. And the newspaper notes that winter is coming on fast.

*There's a revival in interest in the Odd Fellows fraternal organization, the newspaper reported this week.

The organization, which was prominent in the closing years of the last century, has all but faded out here. But Odd Fellows lodges in Livingston and Jamestown have already been revived, and there may be a move afoot here to revive the Baxter lodge as well.

*At Floyd Bennett Airfield in New Jersey this week, another world record fell. Racing pilot Roscoe Turner touched down there, setting a new benchmark for crossing the country from west to east.

Turner's racing plane lifted off from Burbank, California, in the dark, climbed to 11,000 feet to wind its way through mountain passes, and then sped across the Arizona desert. He made it to Kansas to refuel at dawn. He touched down to refuel in New York City again by lunch and by early afternoon, 18 hours after leaving, he was at the ocean in New Jersey.

(October 19, 1933) Little Jimmy is coming to Cookeville.

The five-year-old, whose singing is heard daily on radio stations across the South, has a repertoire of more than 200 popular mountain songs and has appeared on WSM and the Grand Ole Opry.

He's also set a world record. In a single day he received 13,384 fan letters.

Appearing with him in the City School auditorium this week will be the Algood Ramblers, a popular string band, and the Colored Jubilee, a talented local group who will sing spirituals.

*The Pants Thief has struck again after laying low these past few months.

And he's no stranger to his victim, J.H. Goolsby, a merchant who lives in his store on Buffalo Valley Road, two miles west of town. Goolsby's store/home has been hit by the nocturnal Pants Thief five times already.

On this, the sixth excursion, the Pants Thief didn't bother going through Goolsby's pants pockets. He cracked the store safe and made off with \$50.

(October 26, 1933) The newspaper in a page one editorial complained this week that electric rates in Cookeville are higher than the surrounding area, especially for the residential customer.

Residential users, who in Cookeville usually have nothing electrical in their homes but light bulbs, pay 2 cents per kilowatt hour more than the surrounding areas. What gives? The paper asks the city.

There's a lot going on in the air over Cookeville this week.

The FFA here is sponsoring a massive air show this weekend involving an 'air circus' of 10 stunt planes. The show will feature trick flying, air tours of the city for a dollar, a daredevil parachute jump, and a "deadstick" landing by one of the pilots.

*It loomed up over the city's southern horizon, turned nearly sideways and coming on fast with a steady purring and thumping sound. It was the famous Graf Zeppelin and hundreds stood in yards and on the street as it passed overhead.

The airship had flown from Germany, across Europe, south along the East African coast and across the ocean to Rio De Janeiro, where it turned north up the continent. It refueled at Miami and then aimed for Chicago for an appearance at the 1933 World's Fair.

Its journey took it straight across Cookeville, where it created the biggest sensation since the first auto and the first airplane were seen here, observers recalled.

The dirigible, flying low and fast, was 175 feet longer than two football fields and was powered by five huge aircraft motors. Whenever it landed, a ground crew of 100 was necessary to lead the huge ship to a mooring tower.

(October 28, 1933) Tennessee Polytech's boosters know it won't be popular with all the merchants here, but they're asking them to close on Armistice Day, the day TPI plays Murray, Kentucky's football team, the Teachers.

It's expected to be a big day and the boosters want the whole town to turn out. TPI's "Overall men" (named for their coach, 'Putty' Overall) beat Union 14-0 last week before a crowd of 2,500. The boosters are hoping for an even bigger crowd this Saturday afternoon.

(November 2, 1933) The city is alarmed after 13-year-old Aline Moss was struck this week by a car on her way home from school. She was only bumped and bruised, but the accident happened in a school crosswalk.

Mayor Ezra Davis has issued an urgent appeal to all drivers to take greater care, especially around the school, and a Page One editorial repeats that message this week.

The newspaper notes that it is a law in Cookeville that all drivers will stop at school crossings. It is not enforced.

Aline was treated and released by the hospital, and everyone is saying this week that she was lucky.

*The new Ideal Beauty Shoppe this week advertised that it "dispenses nothing but the latest word in beauty."

Located in the Shanks Hotel, it's the place to get your hair permed or waved, your nails manicured and your face rejuvenated.

(November 9, 1933) The city is planning its biggest Armistice Day celebration ever, an all-day affair to mark 15 years of peace.

The American Legion is rounding up all veterans in the county who, along with two marching bands and several floats built by local merchants, will parade around the Square.

There, Tennessee Polytech President Q.M. Smith and Attorney General John Mitchell, both popular orators, will speak to the crowd.

The afternoon will see a football game between the TPI squad and Murray, and a band concert and minstrel show by the American Legion ("Burnt Cork Barrage") will top off the evening in the City School auditorium.

*The son of a man killed in one of Cookeville's few unsolved murders years ago has himself been convicted of murder in Knoxville.

Jim McAffrey, a 40-year-old electrician, was found guilty this week of shooting his wife, Zola, to death earlier this year during a drunken spree.

A 40-year-old electrician, Jim McAffrey, was convicted by a jury of the first-degree murder of his wife, Dora, this week and it sparked talk of the death of his father, "Daddy" McAffrey, in 1912 here. His murder was never solved.

He was a young boy when clothes belonging to his father were found in a pile at the city reservoir beside the town electric plant one morning in 1912. The Reservoir was drained and the body of "Daddy" McAffrey was found at the bottom.

The night before was cold and foggy, remembers E.L. Wirt, who was editor and publisher of the town's newspaper at the time. He was setting type late that night in the newspaper's office on the southwest corner of the Square when the town's night patrolman, Bood Choate, stopped by and called him outside.

Wirt said it seemed like all the dogs in town were howling, not merely barking at one another, but letting loose "blood-curdling howls." It continued for more than an hour. He figures it was about the same time that McAffrey was being beaten to death.

Police soon arrested Bill Harris, who worked at the livery stable on the Square. But he was soon turned loose. There was no evidence, police said. The murder still remains unsolved.

(November 14, 1933) Cookeville's merchants, encouraged by predictions that the newest east-west route across Tennessee, Highway 70, will bring hundreds of visitors through town each year, are busy sprucing up town.

In particular, the merchants' Decorating Committee is getting the town ready for Saturday's big UT-Vandy football game. Storefronts are being decorated and a series of new signs are being placed to easily guide newcomers along Highway 70 through east and west Cookeville.

During last year's football season, football fans made weekly pilgrimages through this area along Highway 24 south of Cookeville, but that is an older, less direct route.

*The new Highway 70 has been heavily advertised by the state as being the most modern and quickest route across the state.

Meanwhile, a page-one editorial this week urged Cookevillians to stay home when shopping this holiday season.

The editorial notes that a dollar spent here builds the community, while a dollar spent elsewhere builds *that* community.

(November 22, 1933) After months of coaxing by the newspaper, civic groups and community leaders, Cookeville has applied for \$230,000 in Public Works Administration funds for civic improvements and to create jobs.

If they get the federal loan, town officials plan to spend \$35,000 for a 35-bed addition and a new modern lab for the city's hospital and most of the rest on new streets and improvements to existing ones.

Also, the city will build an emergency "electric light plant," a backup power generation system that will be used in those times when the main power plant at Burgess Falls is damaged by flood or left high and dry by low water at the falls.

The projects will put hundreds to work here.

*Dr. Harry Upperman, back from another swing up the East Coast to see friends who have donations for his school, Baxter Seminary, has also brought back a little something for all school kids in the county -- cod liver oil. Several cases of it.

Teachers throughout the county have been directed to come by Supt. Wesley Flatt's office, or to send someone by with a bucket or other containers to take the oil back to their schools.

The oil will be a nutritional boost to the county's malnourished children, says Upperman.

(November 23, 1933) Traffic in Cookeville was unusually heavy last Saturday and Sunday as hundreds going to the University of Tennessee? Vandy game gave in to the power of advertising and drove Highway 70 rather than the "southern" route, Highway 24.

The state and area boosters had boasted in a recent ad campaign that new Highway 70 is a safer, better route to travel. The UT-Vandy game was a test of the campaign because it was billed as the biggest game in the South last weekend.

(November 30, 1933) City officials plan to use more than \$200,000 in federal funds on 13 civic projects in the coming months that will create 559 new jobs here, they announced this week.

One of those new projects may be a federal airport for Cookeville, says Cookeville's congressman, Ridley Mitchell. He's working in Washington to persuade federal aeronautics officials that one of the new federal airports they're planning belongs in Cookeville.

The other projects here include a new concrete stadium at Tennessee Polytech and various road projects.

*President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed the nation on the radio this week from Warm Springs, Gal,

where he's celebrating Thanksgiving at the spa that helped him overcome infantile paralysis.

He urged the nation to "give humble thanks for the blessings bestowed on us the year past by Almighty God."

America should give thanks and be "grateful for the passing of the dark days," he said. Those 'dark days' are the Depression, which he's begun to help the nation overcome.

(30 November 1933: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN):

JOE CRONK OPENS STORE IN WEST CITY

Joe Cronk, for fifteen years a merchant near Baxter, has opened a store in the building formerly occupied by Will Chapin on the Smithville Road in West Cookeville.

Mr. Cronk, who has had large experience in merchandising, has announced that he will carry a complete line of general merchandise, and he invites his friends to come see him in his new establishment. He is putting new stock on his shelves, and will have a variety of good.

(December 7, 1933) The newspaper writes about unusual names found on the rolls of the new Civil Works Administration here, names such as Sear Roebuck Calvin Coolidge, Clouse, Major League and Noah Ark. They and others on the list are unemployed and are seeking work though the Depression-era federal relief program.

(December 13, 1933) Santa Claus rolled into town this week on the back of the city's fire engine amid the blare of trumpets and the beat of drums.

It was the annual Cookeville Christmas Parade, led by the American Legion Band and climaxed by Old Saint Nick.

Across town, the Cookeville Lions Club has put up evergreen boughs and mistletoe on all the light posts to get the city in the holiday spirit.

And Depression or not, merchants report adding extra help this year to get ready for the holiday shopping rush.

Another group of Cookeville soldiers is getting ready to spend Christmas away from their homes and families. Cookeville's cavalymen, members of the Tennessee National Guard, are spending their holidays patrolling the mountainsides and muddy lanes in and around Wilder, Davison, Twinton and Crawford where striking miners are at war with the coal company.

In an article by an unnamed cavalryman, the newspaper gives its readers a glimpse into the soldiers' daily routine.

After making several arrests for public drunkenness and after raiding a number of stills tucked away in area hollows, the soldiers have made the mining towns a lot more sober.

The troopers have named Cookeville's Private C. Caruthers as unofficial police chief of Wilder for his zeal in cracking down on public tippling. The article reports that the "chief" can usually be found these days at his headquarters, the company store, which by the way is also the local hangout for teenage girls.

The mines are back in operation and shoes are being seen on children's feet again now that wages are being paid again to those who will risk retribution from the strikers.

The cavalymen are well fed thanks to the efforts of Capt. Preston Blair, the unit's mess officer, and its cook, Bailey Dobbs.

The writer ends commenting that the weather "is nothing to brag about." Mud is everywhere and it's thick, and an icy fog usually hangs over the mining towns and their mountains.

(December 14, 1933) Two were hurt this week when an eight-passenger Fokker monoplane, traveling with a troupe of stunt planes, was forced down in a plowed field near Monterey by an empty fuel tank. The group was going from Asheville to Chicago. The two were hurt when the aircraft flipped in the soft soil, destroying it.

*Leona Byrne, who taught hundreds of kids here during her years at the City School, died this week of heart problems in San Antonio.

The newspaper writes that "she was a lady of rare culture and her life was one of ennobling service."

Born in Granville, she taught as a young woman for several years at the Cookeville City School. In her later years, she taught at a missionary school in Cuba before returning to San Antonio.

*The newspaper declared this week that it's time to put an end to sheep-killing dogs in Putnam County.

Packs of dogs have killed several sheep in recent weeks, in some cases, entire flocks.

And this week, the Rev. Dow Ensor lost not only most of his sheep, but several hogs too. Something has to be done, says the newspaper.

*John Sadler, 80, one of Baxter's most prominent citizens, died this week.

A member of the Putnam County Quarterly Court for the past 30 years, he was also postmaster at the St. John Post Office in Martin's Creek.

An incessant reader of history, he was known as a captivating conversationalist and a strong believer in good roads and good schools.

*For the Christmas shopping season, the Tennessee Central Railroad has reduced its fare to make shopping in Nashville easier. A round-trip ticket will cost you \$1.75 from now through Christmas.

(December 21, 1933) The talking motion picture "These Thirty Years" will be shown this week in the auditorium of the Cookeville City School this week.

It's the story of Henry Ford, who, as a young man in the beginning of the "horseless carriage" era, dreamed of an automobile parked in front of every American home. The film brings us up to date with Ford's auto empire today. There's no admission.

*A singing quartet made up of John Devlin, Harry Burgess, Jim Dyer and Heflin Carver will be strolling through Cookeville's neighborhoods in Christmas Eve and the night before singing Christmas carols and spirituals.

They're raising Christmas money for poor black families in the county. If you want them to stop by your house, put a candle in your window.

(December 28, 1933)

A special Christmas present — the Depression is loosening its grip on Putnam County and the nation. "Men are at work and a new cheer pervades the air," the newspaper reported this week. "1934 is sure to hold much good in store for everybody."

“Money is beginning to flow as if the Depression had never existed.”

Hugh Goodpasture, chairman of the Community Chest here, told the newspaper that the number of families placing their names on the charity list for this Christmas season was down 75 percent from last season.

Meanwhile, nationally, railroads are recovering, new construction is climbing, and car sales are up 115 percent over last December.

(December 28, 1933)

DO YOU KNOW THAT IN THE CITY OF COOKEVILLE:

It is unlawful for a person to appear in a public place in the dress of the opposite sex?

An election was held April 22, 1915, and \$25,000 bond was voted to establish the Tennessee Polytechnic Institute?

A citizen is allowed \$1.20 on his water account because of a leakage in the pipe?

Fortune tellers, hypnotists, spiritualists, palmists, etc., have to pay a fee of \$500.00 per annum?

If one is notified to remove debris or filth off premises, it must be moved within five hours or the owner must pay a fine?

No drawn vehicle is permitted to operate in city limits without sufficient brakes to keep vehicle under absolute control?

No child under ten years of age shall be left alone in any drawn vehicle or any street or square?

No sweepings, trash, lumber, straw, leaves, or any other combustible material shall be burned from sunset, or 6 o'clock p.m., to sunrise, or 6 o'clock a.m.?

Fireworks of any description cannot be sold or given away in the corporate limits?

Barbed wire fences cannot be built abutting the streets? Another law similarly unknown to most readers says that fortune tellers, palm readers and spiritualists operating in the city must pay an annual licensing fee of \$500.

Citizens are required to keep streets and gutters in front of residences or places of business free from all debris?

An ordinance was passed in 1912, making it unlawful for a drug store to sell anything but necessary medicines on Sunday?

That in the same year the speed limit was six miles an hour?

Children under 16 years are not allowed on the streets from 8 p.m. to 4:30 a.m., unless accompanied by another person?

And if you're planning to hitch up your wagon or buggy, a Cookeville law on the books this year says you can't ride it inside the city limits unless it has brakes good enough to keep your vehicle under full control at all times.

1934

(1 March 1934: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN):

FLORAL SHOP MOVES:

Mrs. M. O. Weyenberg has announced the removal of Metcalfe Flowers to East Spring Street, opposite the Methodist Church. A greenhouse has been added to the building where flowers are on display. The shop was formerly in the First National Bank building, and an electrical shop will be installed there.

***SCHOOL MEETING AT GENTRY FRIDAY NIGHT:**

A Mass meeting of all persons interested in the building of a new school house to replace the one recently destroyed by fire at Gentry will be held in the church at that place Friday night. Several prominent speakers will be present, also the County Board of Education is expected to attend and everyone interested is urged to be present.

***AGEE NEW MANAGER OF COLUMBIA PRODUCE CO.:**

Virgil Agee has been transferred in Cookeville from Nashville as manager of the Columbia Produce Company's packing plant replacing W. H. Johnston, Jr., whose death recently left the vacancy.

Mr. Agee worked with Mr. Johnston in the plant here for two years after it was established, and then was sent to Nashville. He is an experienced produce and packing plant man, and will be here indefinitely.

***TRAIN WRECK PILES UP T. C. FREIGHT CARS:**

Traffic on the Tennessee Central railroad was temporarily tied up here Wednesday morning while wrecking crews worked to clear the line of a freight wreck near Bilbrey. Freight train No. 81 was derailed coming down the mountain and many cars were thrown from the track and damaged.

No cause had been fixed for the accident by officials here.

Passenger train No. 4 and freight No. 84 were tied up here Wednesday morning and left shortly before noon. Traffic was resumed Wednesday afternoon.

(8 March 1934: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN):

SKATERS SHOULD BEWARE:

Cookeville boys and girls who skate on streets have as much right there as automobiles, wagons, bicycles, trucks, etc., but it is a dangerous pastime. This practice has been going on for months and Mayor Ezra Davis is anxious to avert accidents to skaters.

While children exercise reasonable care in skating on streets, it has been suggested by highway safety experts that they skate on the left side of the street, just as they would walk. In this way, they are safer and have a better chance to avoid the danger of being struck by a car.

A person on skates is nothing more than a pedestrian on wheels, as it were, and by being as careful as he would be when walking he is not likely to be hurt. However, the Mayor asked those who skate to stay on the left side of the street and in case of impending accident jump to the sidewalk on the left side.

Mayor Davis did not care to prohibit children from skating, he said, but wanted them to be careful while doing it and do everything to avoid being run over by a car.

***HUGO FOX OPENS CAFÉ IN WEST COOKEVILLE:**

Hugo Fox has announced the purchase of the Hug City Café in West Cookeville and the change of its name to the Fox Café. He has taken over its management with Ritchie Judd, famous for his dishes, as chef.

Mr. Fox has had much experience as a restaurant manager and knows what the customers want. He has issued an invitation for all his friends to come to see him in his new establishment.

***COUNTY COURT WILL APPROPRIATE FOR HOME:**

Most important business to come before the Putnam County Court when it meets in quarterly session here Monday will be the appropriation of \$5,000 for the new county poorhouse, a proposition by which the county can get federal aid in construction of a home far superior to the one now in use.

Routing business will come before the Magistrates, and other items of importance may be brought up during the day.

(5 April 1934: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN):

CROW-KILLING CONTEST TO BE HELD IN COUNTY:

A crow and hawk-killing contest will be held in Putnam county soon, local sportsmen have announced, for the purpose of ridding the farmer of an unwelcome guest and to prevent the destruction of game birds.

Complete details of the contest will be announced later. It is understood that any Putnam countian is eligible, but the crows and hawks may be killed anywhere. Heads will be brought to Cookeville for record.

Valuable prizes will be awarded the winner in the contest.

***TO NAME CARTHAGE BRIDGE TO HONOR OLD ROAD BUILDER:**

Perpetuation of the memory of Capt. William Walton will be sought by the chapters of the D.A.R. and S.A.R. by naming the new bridge to be constructed at Carthage the "Captain William Walton Bridge." The Old Walton Road Association, which caused a bill to be passed by the 1931 Legislature designating Highway No. 24 from Carthage to Crossville and Highway No. 1 from Crossville to Kingston as the "Old Walton Road," and naming this new bridge will be another step toward connecting his name with permanent works.

Capt. Walton constructed the first road from the east to west over the Tennessee mountains, and the section of Highway No. 24 through this immediate region follows the route taken by Capt. Walton. The complete road from Carthage to Kingston is over the trail he took, and present construction reveals the skill Capt. Walton showed as an engineer. He moved to Carthage and lived there for several years, where he died and where he was buried.

A new bridge is to be constructed across the Cumberland River at Carthage, and its being named after Capt. Walton will be an honor to his memory and the D.A.R. chapters along the Old Walton Road route who have worked so hard to perpetuate his memory.

(12 April 1934: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN):

TRIO PLEADS GUILTY TO CHICKEN THEFTS:

Walter Randolph, John Randolph and Lex Davis pleaded guilty Monday to charges of chicken thief, and were bound over to await action by the May Grand Jury by City Magistrate J. B. Dow.

The men were charged with having taken about 20 hens from Mrs. Virgil Hunter – Friday night, and carrying them to Hartsville, where they were sold at a produce house. They were arrested Saturday morning in Carthage by Sheriff Gann, of Smith county, and admitted the thefts to Sheriff Alex Burton.

Each was admitted to \$1,000 bail.

(3 May 1934: Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN):

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDING IN WEST CITY STARTS:

Construction of a new building on West Broadway on the site of the old W. W. Brown store building is to start immediately. It has been announced by C. P. Maloney and Charlie Darwin, builders.

The building, one of the largest construction jobs for business houses here in some months, will be completed at a cost of between \$10,000 and \$15,000, Mr. Maloney said.

The structure is to be 125 feet long with a 38 foot front. The old Brown building will be torn down.

Mr. Maloney said that workers would begin tearing down the old store immediately.

(May 12, 1934) Cookeville's new airfield just north of town is formally dedicated.

(June 1, 1934) C.H. Gragg of Cookeville heard this weeks that his grandson, Charles A. Wirt of Nashville, is going to West Point military academy.

Charles is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin B. Wirt and was born in Cookeville.

Meanwhile, other Putnam troops are being honored this week, those who fought for the South in the Civil War. It's time for Confederate Memorial Day again.

Flowers will be laid at the graves of Confederate veterans all across the county, and there'll be a public ceremony at the Courthouse featuring oratory about the Lost Cause. Meanwhile, the Cookeville Band, under the direction of Albert Brogdan, will perform a medley of patriotic music.

1935

(1935) A portion of Spring Street is being widened in a major project here. It calls for several stores to be moved back from the right-of-way so more pavement and sidewalks can be put down.

The city is widening Spring from the Square west to South Dixie.

Along that short stretch, the new road will be 80 feet wide. And from South Dixie for another block or so west, the city plans to widen Spring to 60 feet.

The project will mean moving back a number of stores and businesses that are now too close to Spring. They include the L.T. Stone Lumber Company warehouse, Hawkins Feed Mill and the Metcalf Flower Shop.

(January 3, 1935) Cookeville has received an \$88,000 federal grant from the Public Works Administration in Washington. The funds are to be used to lay in sewer lines here. They will tie into the small, existing sewer system and will allow practically every home in the city to be on sewers, say officials here.

The newspaper has a candidate for the popular "Believe it or Not" film features: an ear of "Tennessee Red" corn grown on Bob King's farm east of town. It's on display in Grover King's restaurant on Broad Street. Growing out of the end of the ear of corn is a cluster of kernels that resemble "a perfect baby's hand."

(January 3, 1935) District Attorney General John Mitchell says that after all the complaints he's heard lately from parents, he's taking the matter before the grand jury and has asked Sheriff Alex Burton to conduct an investigation.

The problem is 'roscoe' machines, gambling machines found in several Cookeville businesses that illegally pay off sinners in prizes or goods or in some cases, cash.

Mitchell says he's been told by angry parents that some children are spending their lunch money playing the games rather than eating, and that some children over the course of a month spend several dollars.

Worse, store owners are paying off children who win at the games in goods like cans of tobacco, he said.

Sheriff Burton in inspecting Putnam establishments this week and Mitchell warns that those found in violation of the law will be taken before the grand jury.

(January 7, 1935) A wave of influenza this week prompted the Cookeville City Commission to direct City School principal Lester King to close the school. On the day the order came down, 135 students were absent.

It's the first time such a thing has happened since the end of the World War when thousands died across the nation as an influenza epidemic swept the county.

Several died here in the epidemic, and, with that in mind, officials this week decided not to take chances.

Meanwhile, doctors are advising those who feel like they might be coming down with the flu to drink lots of water, to not eat much, and to stop sitting in drafts.

(January 10, 1935) Cookeville City School was closed this week due to an influenza epidemic. It was the first time that the flu caused school to shut down here since the end of World War I when a nationwide flu epidemic killed millions and was blamed for the deaths of hundreds in this area. Physicians advise those with the flu to drink lots of water, get lots of rest, avoid sitting in drafts and avoid overeating. They also advise that you call the doctor at the first sign of flu. "Only with quick treatment and supervised care is an influenza patient saved from the ravages of the disease," the newspaper tells readers.

(January 11, 1935) The Silver Point native, Si Scudder, has hit the big time with a song he composed, "I'm Simply Wild About You." It's being played on all the radio stations and will be featured "in a national hookup over NBC radio" later this week, according to the newspaper. It's Scudder's first effort. It's described as "a melody fox-trot tune." It's being well received by "radio artist and orchestra leaders" as well as the general public.

(January 14, 1935) Cookeville's volunteer firemen had a lively discussion over automobiles, prominent citizens, and the abuse of power during their annual meeting in the upstairs dining room of the TPI Café this week.

It came after Fire Chief Jess Foutch talked about the department's 78 fire calls last year (An average of 11 Firemen showed up at each blaze). Foutch said that fire hydrants are getting to be a problem for firemen.

More specifically, motorists are parking in front of the hydrants despite a new city law forbidding it (The new law also forbids motorists from driving their cars over fire hoses during a fire. It breaks them). Foutch said something's got to be done about motorists parking their cars wherever they want.

Mayor Ezra Davis was there and told the firemen he's ordered police to arrest anyone caught parking their car in front of a hydrant.

But the firemen wanted to know about a certain 'prominent citizen' who is telling police he'll park where he pleases and will get any officer fired who doesn't like it.

Mayor Davis told the crew of firemen, "I've seen too much partiality shown men of prominence during my lifetime. I'm disgusted with it."

If anyone parks in front of a fire hydrant, he'll be arrested, Davis repeated.

(January 14, 1935) An ad this week for the Atlanta Sunday American newspaper tells readers, "You can no longer be finicky about the hideous reality of the new war on the home front." Now you can see the nation's war on crime, three full pages of photographs every week in the Atlanta Sunday American.

Closer to home in that "war," Assistant Attorney General Baxter Key Sr. this week launched an intensive hunt for gambling machines across Putnam County. Sheriff Alex Burton's deputies are seizing the machines as fast as Key can find them.

Among the machines he's seeking are those "Roscoe" machines that parents have been complaining about. The machines pay off winning players in tobacco. Some school kids have been losing their lunch money in the machines regularly and parents are furious.

(January 14, 1935) District Attorney General John Mitchell this week instructed Sheriff Alex Burton to investigate "gaming tables" and "Roscoe machines" operating in Cookeville and to prepare a report for the Putnam County Grand Jury.

The probe comes after the DA received complaints that gambling in Cookeville has become so common and so accessible that school children are gambling away their lunch money here.

Mitchell told of one case in which a school boy won a can of tobacco playing a Roscoe machine. The machines routinely pay off in free games, but some also issue cigarettes and candy to winners, the DA said.

(January 17, 1935) Stacy Wilhite, president of the Mid State Theater Co., announced plans this week for a stately new moving picture house in Cookeville. Its semi-Gothic façade will face Broad. It will feature a spacious lobby and foyer, 750 seats, and enough 'tilt' to the floor so that every seat in the house is a good one, he said. It will have a balcony, floors covered with rugs, and a stage large enough for vaudeville acts. There'll be an orchestra pit too. It will be heated and cooled with the latest in scientific advances, he added, making it one of the finest theaters in the state.

(January 17, 1935) Cookeville Fire Chief Jess Foutch, in the annual banquet meeting of the city's volunteer fire department, reported that a total of \$4,910 in property damage was done by fire in Cookeville in 1934.

Mayor Ezra Davis was at the annual meeting, and soon had his car bent by several of the firemen who complained that too many vehicles are still parking in front of fire hydrants.

In fact, firemen told the mayor they'd heard that a handful of prominent citizens here have let it be known that they'll be sure that any policemen who ticket them for parking in front of fire hydrants will be abruptly unemployed.

Davis responded that he will fire any policeman who fails to ticket anyone who blocks a fire hydrant with a vehicle. His answer satisfied the volunteers.

*Three teens, an 11-year-old, a 15-year-old and a 16-year-old, were sent off to the Tennessee Industrial School this week after the court found them guilty of burglarizing Wright's 5 & 10 cent store here.

The boys confessed that they'd taken \$8 from the cash register. Not so, said the store owner. He said \$14 was missing after the break-in. The court sentenced the boys to five years.

(January 24, 1935) A snowball fight at school and the punishment doled out for it by Professor W.M. Davis at Central High has drawn fire from the newspaper in a page one editorial. It compares Davis with

Germany's chancellor, Adolph Hitler.

Fourteen boys at the school started tossing snowballs after this week's winter storm and one of the balls went astray, breaking a lightbulb outside the school. Davis suspended the boys for a week.

The newspaper writes that Davis himself recently damaged school property when, angry with a student's poor performance, he threw an inkwell against a wall, which had to be repainted to cover the stain.

"Snow is white. Ink is black. Draw your own conclusions," says the editorial writer.

*Winter came back with a bite this week after temperatures shot up to 70 degrees over the weekend. Hard rains followed, bringing rivers in West Tennessee and the Cumberland to near flood levels.

Then the mercury plunged and wet roads turned to icy ones. The snow that followed did little to give more traction.

The newspaper comments that motorists were seen using "all sorts of devices" to keep ice off their windshields. A common tactic was to place a small candle on the dashboard to warm the inside of the windshield, and to smear a mixture of glycerin, alcohol and salt on the outside to keep it from freezing up.

*Former Silver Point resident Si Scudder has written a popular fox trot tune, "I'm Simply Wild About You."

It's been well-received by radio artists and orchestra leaders across the country and will be performed live in national "radio hookup" on NBC one night next week.

(January 27, 1935) Buford L. Scarlett, the last surviving member of Putnam County's Civil War unit, died this week at the age of 91 at his home in Anita, Iowa, where he'd lived since 1872.

Born on "the old Scarlett farm" two miles southwest of Cookeville, he was among dozens here who joined Co. F of the 16th Tennessee Confederate Infantry and marched away from the Cookeville Square in the spring of 1861.

Scarlett and his unit served under three local commanders, H. H. Dillard, a lawyer who left the unit when he was promoted; Professor John Boyd Vance, a prominent teacher who died in the fighting at Perryville; and Dr. F. M. Amonette, a doctor who led the company until the end of the conflict.

Of those who went to war from here in 1861, 24 were killed in battle, nine more died of disease and 31 others were seriously wounded. Most of those lost a leg or arm.

After the war, Scarlett left the South for Iowa, but kept track of Cookeville by subscribing to this newspaper.

Friends said that for the last 70 years, he "has cherished his memories of the Lost Cause."

(January 31, 1935) Here's another one for Ripley's Believe It or Not, says the newspaper. It was brought to the attention of the newspaper by its correspondent in the Buckner community. Roscoe Bartlett, a member of the Putnam County Court, has a new son, born in November. The child is his 11th son. He was born on the 11th month of the year. Bartlett is the justice of the peace for the county's 11th district. Believe it or Not.

City Commissioner H.S. Hargis, in charge of Cookeville's public utilities, says the city is cracking down on customers who don't pay their electric bills.

The city has just signed a "standby" agreement with the Tennessee Electric Power Co. to provide electricity here when the demand exceeds the city's ability to generate it.

Not long ago, flooding knocked out the city's power plant at Burgess Falls, and interruptions are still not infrequent.

"This assurance of continuous electrical service is enjoyed by few, if any, of the smaller towns in Tennessee," said Hargis.

But it's costly, he said. So the city is taking a more aggressive stance towards bill collection. No payment, no power, said Hargis.

*Herman Mott of Mott's Produce on the Square said this week he's sent out his largest shipment ever of furs from the region -- 3,000 hides.

They were mostly gray fox, but there were also skunks, albino raccoons, mink, and white weasel skins brought in by trappers in the region.

Come by his storage house on the Square if you're interested in buying or selling furs, he said.

(February 5, 1935) A Cookeville landmark was saved from fire this week.

Only \$250 in damage was done by fire to the residence of Walter McCormick. No one knows how it started, but it was quickly put out by volunteer firemen manning the fire hall 50 yards away on Broad Street.

The prominent house on Broad has been known for years as "the Old Brown Place."

*The newspaper noted this week that Bob Ray is marking his 22nd year as janitor at the Putnam Courthouse, where he is widely known for his dedication and cheerfulness.

He's also been a county constable for 12 of the years he's spent serving the courthouse.

*UT's Agricultural Extension Service reported this week that 85 percent of all land in Tennessee is dangerously eroded.

On 11 million acres across Tennessee, sheet erosion has occurred so badly that from 75 to 100 percent of the topsoil is completely washed away, says UT.

(February 5, 1935) A mass meeting has been called for this week in the Putnam Courthouse to talk about the pros and cons of Gov. Hill McAlister's proposal for a general sales tax for Tennessee.

Some farmers are strongly in favor of a sales tax because the plan calls for it to replace the state property tax, which many farmers say is forcing them to sell their farms.

Costs are high and earnings from farm produce are low because of the Depression, they say. A state property tax on top of that is putting an unfair burden on farmers to finance state government, they say.

There's already a state sales tax on gasoline and tobacco. The general sales tax would be three-cents for every dollar spent. Farmers say it spreads the burden of financing state government out more fairly. It's a hot topic of conversation here this week.

(February 6, 1935) Rural schools in 30 Tennessee counties will fall far short of completing their usual eight-month school year without new federal funding, the State Department of Education reported this week.

State appropriations have already been spent, county funds are exhausted, and dozens of schoolhouses are on the brink of closing down, says the state.

*B.G. Adcock, 74, a prominent attorney for more than 50 years and a former state senator, died this week at the home of his daughter, Mrs. R.L. Maddux.

Born in DeKalb County, he was the son of pioneer citizen and Confederate officer, Captain Perry Adcock.

He was elected to the state senate in 1892, moved his law office to Cookeville in 1902, and after 19 years here, moved to West Palm Beach, Fla., where he established a large law practice.

He returned here in 1934 and was staying at his daughter's home for the last month after becoming ill.

(February 7, 1935) The Cookeville Bar Association has endorsed a bill in Nashville that aims at ending "fee grabbing" by county magistrates, members of county courts who are also known as justices of the peace.

The bill would take away the JPs' power to write warrants and collect fees for them, placing their power to prosecute cases in each county in the hands of the county attorney. That official would be paid a flat salary and would not collect fees for each warrant he writes.

For years now, there have been stories of widespread abuse by JPs accused of writing questionable warrants in order to "grab fees."

*The 20 employees of the Cookeville Post Office gathered this week in the TPI Cafe to honor outgoing Postmaster Norman Massa and the incoming one, Thurman Whitson.

Route carrier C.A. Reagan acted as master of ceremonies for the event, presenting Massa with a gold watch from the men who worked for him these last 12 years.

Postal employees here include Reagan, Arthur Johnson, Walter Smith, Bynum Greenwood, Jim Ensor, Cordell Elrod, Dillard Peek, Jasper Terry, Jarvis Matheney, Campbell Lee, Oliver Rice, Clifford Massa, Morris Lee Robbins, Harry Gentry, Herman Carlen, Edgar Phillips, Wade Bussell, Manfield Howell and F.D. Stanton.

(February 11, 1935) Tennessee Polytech lost the two-story wooden building behind its Science Building to fire this week. The structure was used as a storage facility. No one was hurt, but TPI's carpenter, George Carr, lost a coat and all his carpentry tools. Faculty members pitched in and replaced them. Now everyone is looking for the wild cat and kittens that lived in the old building. They haven't been seen since the fire. Before, they were a common sight about the campus.

(February 12, 1935) Who will be Miss Cookeville in the upcoming pageant in Nashville to choose a Miss Tennessee? The question will be answered in the auditorium of the City School next week at the end of a colorful pageant.

The evening will begin with another sort of pageant, a Tom Thumb wedding performed by a cast of children. Nancy Jane Clark will be the bride and Philip Carlen Webb will be the groom. The best man is Lee Sadler Darwin Jr., and Jane Davis is the maid of honor. Bobby Wilhite will be the train bearer and 'officiating' at the service as minister will be Billy Proffitt.

(February 13, 1935) The new Tennessee Valley Authority is looking at the city's power plant at Burgess Falls with an eye on a partnership.

TVA is proposing to upgrade the plant for \$50,000 and buy power the city doesn't need and distribute it across the county. Cookeville would be the second city in the state with such an arrangement with TVA.

The city would also be able to buy power from TVA if the demand here exceeds the plant's ability to generate.

Two Cookeville men, Walter Phillips and M.N. Diden, were in Flemington, New Jersey this week when an historic courtroom drama climaxed with the death penalty for a German carpenter.

They paid \$3 each to squeeze into a courtroom packed for the trial of Bruno Hauptman, who was accused of kidnapping and killing the infant son of aviation legend Charles Lindberg.

They got to see several key figures in the trial -- including "Jafsie," who delivered \$80,000 in gold certificates to a shadowy figure in a cemetery to buy back the child -- but never saw Hauptman himself.

Hauptman was found guilty and sentenced to the electric chair on March 18.

(Feb. 14, 1935) Who will be Miss Cookeville in the upcoming pageant in Nashville to choose a Miss Tennessee? The question will be answered in the auditorium of the City School next week at the end of a colorful pageant.

The evening will begin with another sort of pageant, a Tom Thumb wedding performed by a cast of children. Nancy Jane Clark will be the bride and Philip Carlen Webb will be the groom. The best man is Lee Sadler Darwin Jr., and Jane Davis is the maid of honor. Bobby Wilhite will be the train bearer and 'officiating' at the services as minister will be Billy Profit.

(February 15, 1935) Stacy Wilhite, president of the Mid-State Theater Co., announces plans for a stately, new semi-Gothic moving picture house on Broad Street in Cookeville which will become the Princess Theater. The facility's plans feature a spacious lobby and foyer, 750 seats and a 'tilt' floor. It opens in September with its first film, Will Rogers in 'Doubting Thomas.' Tickets are a quarter for an adults and a dime for children.

(February 19, 1935) The Cookeville Lions Club voted this week to ask the State Highway Commissioner to erect highway markers along US 70. The route is apparently going to be one of the primary highways crossing the US from east to west.

But the Lions Club here notes that, while US 70 is marked on the map, it's not marked between Nashville and Knoxville with road signs. Travelers -- there are more of them every day now -- are getting confused and lost, the Lions say.

(February 20, 1935) Fire this week destroyed the old white frame building at the western edge of Tennessee Polytech. It was filled with supplies and engineering equipment.

It was the school's foundry, and its loss set TPI back \$30,000. It was not fully insured, says TPI President Q.M. Smith.

Built in 1918 when the school was used to train troops in World War I, it housed soldiers, says the school's carpenter, George Carr. It was later a machine shop and a vehicle repair center for the school.

Until this week, the structure was the school's foundry. The fire also damaged the TPI science building 50 feet away.

*Long-time Cookeville postal worker Albert Brogdan died this week en route home from a medical clinic in Colorado. He'd been ill for the last four years.

Brogdan was a well-known and popular Cookeville native.

*The Cookeville Lion's Club this week passed a resolution urging the State Highway Dept. to erect highway signs along US 70 here.

The new road that bisects Cookeville stretches across the nation from east to west and is now on most road

maps, the club notes. But travelers reaching Cookeville often have to stop and ask which road to take out of town. The federal highway is not marked.

(February 21, 1935) The Cookeville Lions Club voted this week to ask the State Highway Commissioner to erect highway markers along U.S. 70. The route is apparently going to be one of the primary highways crossing the U.S. from east to west.

But the Lions Club here notes that, while U.S. 70 is marked on the map, it's not marked between Nashville and Knoxville with road signs. Travelers — there are more of them every day now — are getting confused and lost, the Lions say.

(February 26, 1935) Upper Cumberland native and Grand Ol' Opry star Uncle Dave Macon is coming to the Rickman High School gym for a performance this week. He and the Delmore Brothers are heard here regularly over WSM radio.

With his trademark "gold teeth and plug hat," Macon will perform "a list of number that will drive your blues away." Ya'll come.

*You've heard about them, and now one's coming to Cookeville. The city's having a soap sale. Representatives from all the major soap and toiletry companies are coming next week with their wares. Lux Toilet Soap. Rinso. Lifebuoy and other big name soaps. They'll be in several stores listed in a large ad in this week's edition and they'll be sold at bargain prices. Plan to stock up this week.

*Also coming this week, "Crazy Politics," a comedy with a cast of more than 150 local residents. It's being called "the craziest show ever staged in Cookeville." Sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, it's the story of a small town election in which a woman is nominated for office. But she's away on business, and a wisecracking male reporter ends up impersonating her. Plot twists eventually have several men posing as women.

The show also features something new called a "syncopated rally." It involves 40 high school girls performing "snappy" dances and tunes. Later in the show, 30 prominent women here perform similarly. The play is in the City School auditorium. Tickets are 35 cents.

(February 28, 1935) Should the state enact a sales tax? Yes, says the newspaper this week in a page one editorial. It's the lesser of two evils, it argues.

Right now, the tax burden falls on property owners -- farmers and businessmen. They've been hit hard enough by the Depression, says the newspaper.

It cites the rate of delinquent taxes, which has been at a historic high in recent years. So high, in fact, that Tennessee officials say any further property tax hikes would mean widespread ruin and wholesale foreclosures.

The better alternative is to enact a sales tax, says the newspaper.

*Residents in a mass meeting at the county courthouse this week said overwhelmingly that yes, the city should go ahead and apply for federal PWA funds to improve Cookeville's sewer system.

City officials have been looking at a plan to borrow \$88,000 to extend sewer service to 95 percent of the city's homes and businesses.

According to city attorney John Holliday, the funds will be strictly repaid by sewer department revenue, but officials wanted to see how residents here felt about the idea before proceeding.

(February 28, 1935) Upper Cumberland native and Grand Ol' Opry star Uncle Dave Macon is coming to the Rickman High School gym for a performance this week. He and the Delmore Brothers are heard here

regularly over WSM radio. With his trademark "gold teeth and plug hat," Macon will perform "a list of numbers that will drive your blues away." Ya'll come.

(March 4, 1935) They sang spirituals for President Franklin Delano Roosevelt this month and, this week, Nashville's A&I College Concert Singers will sing in the Cookeville City School auditorium.

The performance is the climax of a fair here featuring exhibits and activities for students in area black schools.

The black choir was praised by FDR, who said he particularly liked their rendition of "Hand Me Down The Silver Trumpet, Gabriel."

(March 7, 1935) State lawmakers are talking about doing away with appropriations for Tennessee Polytech and other state "teacher colleges," instead requiring them to charge students \$3 per credit hour to raise funds to operate.

TPI president Q.M. Smith told lawmakers in Nashville this week that that would cost students at least \$144 a year, something most of them cannot afford.

It would "break down the moral of the student bodies who have placed confidence in the state of Tennessee," said Smith.

He said charging such a fee "would discriminate against the very class of people for whom these colleges were created."

Instead, he urged the legislators to appropriate \$110,000 for TPI this year and next. Without that, the college can't continue to survive.

One enlightened lawmaker responded, "There are too many teachers and the teachers' colleges ought to be closed."

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Representatives from all the major soap and toiletry companies are coming next week with their wares. Lux Toilet Soap. Rinso. Lifebuoy and other big name soaps. They'll be in several stores, listed in a large ad in this week's edition and they'll be sold at bargain prices. Plan to stock up this week.

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The show also features something new called a 'syncopated rally.' It involves 40 high school girls performing 'snappy' dances and tunes. Later in the show, 30 prominent women here perform similarly.

The play is in the City School auditorium. Tickets are 35 cents.

(March 12, 1935) Baxter Seminary has a lot of friends around the country. That became evident after Dr. Harry Upperman, head of Baxter Seminary went on a trip to Milwaukee this week to get a truck given to the school by a supporter.

On the drive back, Upperman made several stops along the way to pick up a diversity of items offered by other supporters of western Putnam County's church-sponsored high school.

Packed in and lashed onto the truck when Upperman rolled into Baxter were lab supplies, electrical equipment, a piano, a radio, 61,000 envelopes, a collection of other stationery, and parts for a printing press.

Upperman, at the end of the three-day, 650-mile trip, said a man in Nashville offered the school a load of hay too, but Upperman said he didn't swing that far west on the trip home.

(March 14, 1935) The infamous W.K. Henderson was in Cookeville this week. The newspaper commented, "Fortunately for Cookeville, Mr. Henderson didn't stay long and he didn't say when he'll be back.

Just a year or so ago again, Henderson, owner of a Shreveport, La. radio station, launched a national campaign to put chain stores and mail order houses out of business. Hundreds of grocers and dry goods store owners contributed to Henderson's war chest.

Then, to their dismay, they learned that Henderson had taken the money and opened his own mail order coffee business. He apparently somehow escaped prosecution and now travels extensively.

*Eastern Airlines mail pilot Paul Charles was blown 100 miles off course in a storm and found himself over Putnam County this week late in the night and perilously low in fuel.

He buzzed the town, trying to get someone's attention for help. Service station operator Charles Stone heard him. So did Comer Cannon, Harry Emory and Billie Chapin. Stone and the other group rushed separately to the airfield north of town.

In the dark, Stone built a fire to light the landing field. Meanwhile, the other trio lined the strip with their cars and turned their headlights on. Just before dawn, Charles landed his biplane safely.

An hour later he'd refueled, eaten a bite, and was on his way again with the US mail.

(March 17, 1935) Reporter Sam Neal, in his column in this week's edition, writes about government red tape and...feet.

Neal (apparently tongue-in-cheek) tells the story of a government worker who recently decided that an old farmer and his son needed shoes. On the porch of their mountain cabin one fall day, he measured their bare feet. He made out a report on the proper form and sent it to Washington.

A committee in the capital convened, discussed the report, voted on it, and ordered the two pair of shoes.

Late in spring, the shoes arrived and the government worker took the shoes to the mountain cabin. They wouldn't fit. The farmer's son had grown too much and the farmer's feet, now propped up on the porch rail warming in the sun, had swollen larger than last fall when they'd been measured cold.

The worker filled out another report on a different form and sent it to Washington. The committee met, debated – and recommended that legislation be drafted to combat the swelling of feet.

(March 26, 1935) Preston Virgil "Putty" Overall has turned Tennessee Polytechnic's football team into something of note in the 10 years he's coached at the college. Now, he may be leaving.

Rumors have flown about town this week that Putty Overall was preparing to leave for a position at archival Middle Tennessee Teachers College. It's widely known that he's had offers before in recent years as he made a name for himself and TPI.

The newspaper's reporter, Sam K. Neal, confronted the rumor this week. He caught up with Overall outside Marchbanks Drugstore on main street. Is the rumor true? Maybe, says Overall. He has had an offer. He's considering it, he says.

(March 28, 1935) Sam K. Neal, reporter and columnist for the newspaper for the last seven years, is leaving. A page one story tells readers that he's going to work next month for the Nashville Banner. The Cookeville native will be heard from again later for his work in World War I and after that, when he became state safety director.

Ailing? Try Miller's Herb Extract, formerly known as Herb Juice. It's good for constipation, indigestion and liver and kidney disorders. It's available "at most reputable drug stores."

(March 30, 1935) A page-one editorial in this week's edition says it would be a good thing to keep Tennessee's state colleges. Not everyone wants to.

Senator H. H. Draper was in town this week seeking to rally public support for a 3-percent sales tax in Tennessee. Without it, the state may have to close several if not all of its state colleges. Draper says there are many legislators in Nashville who would rather do that than pass a sales tax that might be unpopular with the folks back home.

The newspaper's editorial argues that state colleges like Tennessee Polytech and Murfreesboro Teachers College are functioning well as teacher training schools.

The editorial notes that Tennessee teachers are required to have less certification than most others in the nation, and as the state seeks to change that, state colleges will play a vital role.

(April 4, 1935) Does Tennessee have too many teachers? Many in the state legislature think so. With the state facing financial difficulties due to the Depression, some lawmakers want to stop funding state colleges and let them survive solely on fees.

In a page one editorial, the newspaper says the impression that Tennessee is oversupplied with teachers is false. There are, in fact, only 15,711 elementary school teachers across the entire state, it notes.

And of them, only 10,062 have had the full two years of college instruction that the state required. If Tennessee required three years of college, as most states now do, 12,343 of the state's elementary school teachers would not qualify.

The newspaper concludes that "teachers" colleges like Tennessee Polytech do the state a service and that they could not survive on fees charged students along.

*The Cookeville Boys Band kicks off another concert season Sunday with the afternoon of music on the courthouse lawn. Visitors are expected from as far as Alexandria and Sparta.

The concert is expected to include military marches, popular tunes, waltzes, an operatic medley and "several amusing novelties."

(April 4, 1935) A vaudeville tent show is setting up on a vacant lot on Cedar for a series of shows this week.

It's the Heffner-Vinson Show, boasting the "South's favorite comedian," Jimmy Heffner and his "leading lady, an accomplished actress, Beatrice LeRoy."

They're backed by a cast of 45 "talented players," including acts by the Lamont Sisters, blues soprano Josephine Royster, and Dick Caldwell, "the boy with the foolish feet."

Admission is 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children.

*A representative of TVA's Electric Farm program will be at Tennessee Polytech this week for a four-day seminar on "Electricity in the Home." It's for home economics majors and it will include lectures such as

"Electricity as Heat," "Electricity as Light," and Electricity as Motion." The last one focuses on electric appliances such as washing machines, vacuum cleaners and so on.

At the end of the summer, there'll be a free public demonstration of the various types of lighting illuminated by electricity.

*The newspaper's weekly "Seen and Heard" columnist comments on recent bad radio reception here. He says that he hopes that while station engineers are fixing the static, they can do something to filter out "long-winded" speeches like those of Louisiana governor Huey Long.

(April 9, 1935) The Cookeville Boys Band entertained several hundred people Sunday afternoon on the Cookeville Square in a concert on the lawn.

Here's a list of some of their tunes: "Step Lively March," "Let's All Sing Like the Birdies Sing," "The Old Spinning Wheel," "Indian Boyd," and "When You and I Were Young, Maggie."

(April 13, 1935) Residents this week are talking about the big explosion in Helenwood on the Kentucky line. A group of children, left at home unattended, accidentally set fire to their house. They got out safely, but the general store next door caught fire.

The store was used as a storehouse for gunpowder and dynamite for the nearby mines. When it caught fire, a merchant, R. H. Cecil, ran through town firing a pistol into the air to alert residents of the impending blast. The townspeople fled into the nearby hills and woods.

The blast threw the building into the air. The rail station 200 yards away was flattened. Houses shook in Oneida, six miles away. No one was injured.

(April 16, 1935) The Cookeville Lions Club has formed a committee to examine the question of whether the city should repair streets.

The question came up because the federal government has approved a \$4.8 billion appropriation to improve the nation's streets for the automobile.

Cookeville can now borrow federal funds for street repairs and does not have to pay back 30 percent of the loan. The city has 20 years to pay off the rest of the debt to Uncle Sam.

The Lion's club plans to look into the program and into the city's needs. Then it will take over with the city commission.

Meanwhile, teachers will be paid this month. Stage tax collections are up, so state officials are telling teachers to bring in those checks they've been stacking up. Teachers will be paid for this month and for a month or so back as well.

(April 18, 1935) Members of the Cookeville Lion's Club this week said that the condition of Cookeville's roads is bad. In fact, many are in such bad shape that they don't need repairs. They need rebuilding.

With that in mind, the club passed a resolution urging the Cookeville City Commission to seek one of those new government loans that Franklin D. Roosevelt made possible when he persuaded Congress to pass a multi-billion-dollar public improvements program earlier this year.

The Lion's Club says the city can well afford the loan. Under the FDR plan, 30 percent of the loan will never have to be repaid and the rest can be paid over a 20-year period.

*Central High's junior class is rehearsing this week or its spring play, Crashing Society. It's the story of a millionaire who dies and leaves his country cousins a whopping fortune.

The cast includes Charline Gracey, Ledora Maddux, H.S. Barnes, Juanita Terry and Kathleen Davis.

(April 22, 1935) Putnam Countians and the world mourned the death today of the humorist and homespun philosopher who came across the radio air waves into their homes and made them laugh and think. Will Rogers died in an air crash in Alaska this week.

Rogers and globe-circling aviator Wiley Post were on the last leg of a 500-mile trek from Fairbanks to Ft. Barrow, Alaska.

Their biplane flew into a fog bank and they set it down to get their bearings. An Eskimo pointed them in the right direction, they took off, and the engine misfired. The powerless plane wheeled over on its right side and, before Post could regain control, it slammed into the mossy bank of a small river.

(April 24, 1935) The newspaper printed a group shot this week of the seven sets of twins attending Central High this year. They are Ralph and Merle Pedigo, Kenneth and Lenneth Shipley, Ola and Rola Bullington, Lois and Ruth Crowley, Eugene and Willene Huddleston, Harold and Howard Bradley, and Lawrence and Clarence Bartlett.

(April 25, 1935) The Esso Cruiser, a Buck Rogers-style \$50,000 "land boat" that travels the country promoting Esso oil and road safety, rolled into town this week and everyone is taking a look at the futuristic vehicle.

It's a double decker with a traveling crew of seven. It has sleeping quarters, an electric range stove, hot and cold running water, showers, a lounge and an observation deck.

The pilot of the Cruiser sits high above the road in a wrap-around glass cockpit built like an airplane's.

The Esso Cruiser is parked this week on the vacant lot next to the Strand Theater and crew members will be giving talks on the importance of highway safety during their stay here.

They'll also be showing a motion picture on a screen that rolls down from the back of the Cruiser.

*Meanwhile, the newspaper published an editorial this week urging motorists to use common sense when driving. A paper boy was killed here this week by a speeding hit-and-run driver.

The editorial calls for more stringent traffic laws across the nation. Presently, there aren't many.

In a time when property tax delinquencies are high and counties are financially-strapped, teachers' pay has been slashed and some have gone unpaid for months.

Meanwhile, children have few textbooks and sit shivering in classrooms poorly dressed for the cold, the report finds.

Reporter Sam K. Neal comments on the "help" farmers are getting from new government programs.

He writes that farmers are being urged by Uncle Sam to sign up for the new tobacco reduction program, in which they are paid "not to grow the weed."

If they refuse, they have to turn one-fourth of their crop over to the government after harvest. But they still have to pay full state and county taxes despite the loss.

If they are a day late paying their taxes, they're assessed a penalty and interest. If they can't pay, they lose their farm.

Meanwhile, the government is funding "transient camps" paying "bums" to learn skills like sweeping the floor. When they decide to move on, the government pays their way, says Neal. "And farmers are taxed to the quick to pay for it."

He concludes, "If you work, you lose. If you sit, you win. Ah Utopia!"

(April 25, 1935) This year's Cookeville mule market was a success. Twenty-six railroad cars full of young mules were sold at B. M. Carr's sales barn here during the sale season, which began in September and ended here last week.

Officials here say that the Cookeville mule market has grown into one of the bigger ones in Middle Tennessee. The \$80,000 worth of young mules sold here this year – 748 mules in all – brings Cookeville close to Columbia in mule sales.

Besides young mules bought for use here, farmers here sold 720 aging mules in the sale for a total of \$100,000.

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The editorial calls for more stringent traffic laws across the nation. Presently, there aren't many.

(May 1, 1935) Henry Mott is the latest resident here to get one of those crazy chain telegrams. A lot of people are taking part in the craze, hoping to get rich. Mott's telegram reads: "chain telegram. Stop. Don't break it. The chain should spread like wild fire. Stop. Wire five dollars to the first name. Copy if for five kindred spirits. Stop. Fugitive from Chain. Stop."

(May 2, 1935) Baxter this week became the first town in the state to apply for one of the new federal PWA loans for public improvements.

Congress recently set aside \$4.8 billion for the program, and Baxter this week asked for \$40,000 of it to build a waterworks system.

*Meanwhile, a new employment opportunity came available this week. The newspaper carried an ad for the Columbia Produce Co. It reads: "Wanted: 50 chicken pickers. At once."

(May 2, 1935) A freight truck driver from Cookeville, Willie Tinch, was killed this week in a mishap on a highway near Nashville when he was struck by a passing vehicle: He'd been standing beside his truck cranking the motor.

*Cookeville has a radio station. Two Tennessee Polytech engineering students, Earl Evans of Lebanon and Cookeville's W. Hoyte Epperson have been licensed by the FCC to go on the air with 'amateur' radio station W4BBC, a 100-watt station.

The two students, both licensed radio operators, built the transmitter as a school project.

*The Lion's Club is holding a 'Burro Ball' exhibition game at TPI this week as a fundraiser.

Riding on burros, TPI's varsity baseball team will play a team of freshmen from the school in the first game. Then, the Lions Club will play a Putnam 'all-stars' team. Admission is 25 cents to each game.

(May 5, 1935) Henry Mott is the latest resident here to get one of those crazy chain telegrams. A lot of people are taking part in the craze, hoping to get rich. Mott's telegram reads: "Chain telegram. Stop. Don't break it. Stop. This chain should spread like wild fire. Stop. Wire five dollars to the first name. Copy it for five kindred spirits. Stop. Signed, Fugitive from Chain. Stop."

(May 6, 1935) It's the latest in radios -- the L. Tatro Radio -- and Masters Radio Service here has them. "Handsomely finished and beautifully designed," the innovative radios use standard storage batteries rather than the special "B" or "C" batteries needed in most radios. It's also unusually precise. It "reaches into the most distant corners of the continent" and it features automatic volume control so you won't be blasted deaf with squeals and squelches when you go from station across the dial. Prices range from \$47.50 to \$99.50.

(May 7, 1935) Chain letters have become so popular that the newspaper has decided to get in on it too. An ad that ran in this week's edition notifies readers that they can pick up blank forms for chain letters at the newspaper's office.

A stack of five forms sells for 10 cents. In amounts above that, the newspaper charges a penny each.

Women who want to lose weight are advised in another ad in the paper this week to give Krushev Salts a try. One woman testifies that she lost eight pounds in two weeks using the salts.

The ad says you just take half a teaspoon in a cup of hot water each morning. "It tastes fine with the juice of half a lemon added," the ad adds. It's said to be safe to use, and it costs "but a trifle."

(May 9, 1935) The volume of mail at the Cookeville Post Office has been up 25 percent lately thanks to the latest fad sweeping the country — the chain letter.

The current one making the rounds invites the recipient to join the 'Prosperity Club,' a pyramid game in which you mail letters to six friends asking each to in turn mail letters to six friends.

Each recipient is also supposed to mail a dime to the person at the top of the list of names on the letter and eventually, each person who keeps the chain unbroken is supposed to receive \$1,562.50 in dimes.

That's mathematically impossible, postal officials point out. But it's not keeping hundreds from playing the game in Cookeville and hundreds of thousands across the nation.

*The newspaper this week tells of an exciting new radio device developed by Larry L. Smith of Monticello, Ky. — the 'air phone.'

It's a kind of wireless radio that was put through a field test at Fort Knox this last weekend by mechanized Army units.

It allows portable radios in vehicles to both receive and send voice transmissions.

It is expected to revolutionize police forces across the nation, which can now talk by radio to police patrol cars from headquarters, but those cars can't talk back because radio transmitters are too bulky to put in vehicles.

It's also being looked at by the railroads as a better means of communicating with trains.

*Readers learned this week of tests conducted by the military at Ft. Knox that might make jobs easier for policemen, railroad workers and others who depend on efficient communication to do their jobs. Authorities conducted field tests on a new invention, the "air phone," which works like a telephone -- one party does not have to "break" in order for the other to speak. Its inventor predicts we'll be hearing a lot more about the air phone.

*Women who want to lose weight are advised in another ad in the paper this week to give Krushev Salts a try. One woman testifies that she lost eight pounds in two weeks using the salts.

The ad says you just take half a teaspoon in a cup of hot water each morning. "It tastes fine with the juice of half a lemon added," the ad adds. It's said to be safe to use, and it costs "but a trifle."

*Meanwhile, at the Strand Theater this week, there'll be a live performance by Duke Art Plastique, who is billed as being "a cross between a glorified mud slinger and a high speed sculptor." During his act, he takes members of the audience and deftly creates likenesses of them from clay.

(May 16, 1935) Parents and children here are invited to a special free night of entertainment at the City School auditorium, a night of "talking pictures."

School personnel will set up the projector and show a series of films, including "A Trip Through the World's Fair," "Keeping Up With the Jones," "Smart as Tomorrow" and "A Trip Through a Modern Automobile Factory."

(May 20, 1935) Fire destroyed one of the buildings at the transient camp two miles east of Cookeville on the Monterey highway this week. The building housed offices, a weaving room, a toy shop and a large supply storage area. A new addition had just been made to the building. Also destroyed were many of the toys and rugs made by the transients for the poor.

(May 21, 1935) Taylor Bilbrey is an honest man, says Sheriff Alex Burton.

Bilbrey, who lives some seven miles south of Cookeville on Sparta Road, this week contacted the sheriff to report that he'd stumbled across 12 cases of Kentucky whiskey hidden on his property.

Deputies went to Bilbrey's property, collected the cases of illegal spirits, and carried them back to the jail where they are today being held until they can be poured out, says the sheriff.

*Pearl Whitson, the 14-year-old daughter of F.C. Whitson of Rt. 4, Cookeville, shook up her family this week when she disappeared for a day. They feared she'd been kidnapped.

But Hulon Rogers, a neighbor, put the family to ease during a trip to Nashville this Sunday. There, walking down one of Nashville's busiest thoroughfares, he spotted Pearl, who he said was "apparently having a nice time visiting the city."

She'd apparently hopped a train and went to see the big city for herself. Rogers escorted her home again.

*The transient camp two miles east of town on the Monterey Highway suffered a setback this week when fire burned down one of its buildings.

The building housed the camp's offices and was being used to store mended toys and rugs made by transients under a government work program.

(May 21, 1935) Tillman H. Phillips, a teacher at Algood School, is the county's new school superintendent. He was named to the position this week by the Putnam County Court after it filed a lawsuit and ousted Superintendent Wesley P. Flatt.

The county magistrates were dissatisfied with Flatt because of the way he handled the school system's finances.

They were particularly put out when they learned that he drew a \$1,200 salary his last year in office. They'd budgeted the position to receive \$1,000 annually.

Superintendent Phillips is a graduate of Tennessee Polytech and has taught for the last nine years.

He was elected by the magistrates on a roll-call vote at the insistence of magistrate Luke Medley. Medley argued that a secret ballot which many magistrates wanted would be unfair to the county's citizens. The audience applauded Medley.

(May 22, 1935) Twenty-one years ago when W. M. Stockton was working on his brother's farm five miles north of Cookeville, he caught a turtle and carved his initials in its shell.

The turtle didn't linger around very long after that. But it popped back up this week.

B. E. Stockton, the brother, was plowing a field when his plow hit something. It wasn't a rock. It was the turtle, still alive and somewhat larger than the last time he'd seen it.

On its shell was the inscription: "W.M. Stockton – May 1911."

W. M. Stockton is now a barber in Barberton, Ohio.

*Meanwhile, the Royal Café on the corner of Cedar and West Broad is in new hands this week. It's reopening under the capable management of Pack Fox, who also operates the popular TPI Café, and Red Storie, a well-known restaurateur here.

(May 23, 1935) Dollars are flowing from Washington these days to get the nation out of the Depression, and federal jails in Winchester and Columbia are being upgraded. The Cookeville Lions Club thinks a federal jail might be built here too.

The club this week heard from Chief Deputy US Marshal W.H. Hensley, who told the club it's a good time for Cookeville to ask Washington for a federal jail here too.

The club formed a committee to study it and to make a recommendation to the three-member Cookeville City Commission.

*Fire destroyed one of the buildings at the transient camp two miles east of Cookeville on the Monterey highway this week. The building housed offices, a weaving room, a toy shop and a large supply storage area. A new addition had just been made to the building. Also destroyed were many of the toys and rugs made by the transients for the poor.

(May 28, 1935) A respected veteran of the World War is a candidate for Putnam County Sheriff this year. John V. Minor, who now runs a bus line from Cookeville to Detroit and back, announced his candidacy this week.

The son of Beverly Minor, he worked here for seven year as a deputy sheriff. "During that time," says the newspaper, "he was instrumental in the apprehension of numerous malefactors."

“He has been recognized as one of the most careful and intelligent law enforcement officers the county has ever had,” says the newspaper.

Minor fought in the Great War, serving for 19 months in France. During that time he was involved in several major battles, including those at St. Michael, Argonne, and Chateau Thiery.

Lately, Minor has been running a bus service, taking Cookevillians north to Detroit to find work.

(May 29, 1935) Cookeville's Jasper N. Cox spoke to University of Tennessee graduates at commencement this week, telling them they face an exciting future.

Cox said that just in his lifetime, most of the prophecies of New England's Old Mother Shipton had come true. Today, ships are flying through the air and under the water and there are horseless carriages and other "wonders" like the telephone.

It's an amazing time, but young people like the graduates before him, he said, are taking such marvels for granted. He predicted by the time they are his age, they'll be saying the same thing to future generations of youth.

*Meanwhile the Tennessee Valley Authority is busy extending electrical service throughout the rural South. Radio waves are covering the earth and something called television is said to be just around the corner.

(May 30, 1935) A representative of the Upchurch Mattress Co. of Nashville will be in town Saturday. The company can rebuild your old mattress like new at a reasonable cost, according to a full-page ad in this week's edition. The company is sending a truck, too. It'll pick up mattresses within a 10-mile radius of Cookeville, take them to Nashville and return them later this month.

(June 2, 1935) Former Putnam Sheriff G.W. Alcorn died this week after a stroke.

Nicknamed "The General" by childhood playmates because he often pretended to be Gen. George Washington, Alcorn was first elected sheriff here in 1896.

He served for several years in that office, then went on to become a state marshal for the Middle Tennessee Supreme Court and in his later years, Alcorn was police chief in Cookeville.

*T.F. Moore, the father of popular physician Dr. J.T. Moore of Algood, died this week at the age of 86, after a sudden illness.

Moore was a prominent farmer and merchant in the Calfkiller Valley community before moving to Algood, closer to his son.

He operated a general store next to Johnson's Church in Calfkiller for several years.

*Another landmark burned here this week.

The two-story wood frame building on the south side of the Square, the Moore Building was built in 1888 by J.H. Moore on the site of another public building that burned a year earlier.

It was first used as a general store. Over the years, it housed the medical office of Dr. Henry Algood, a drug store, and later the town's first bank, the old Bank of Cookeville.

In more recent times, it has been a restaurant, a barber shop, and the meeting place of the Odd Fellows fraternal organization.

The fire started in the kitchen of the restaurant and quickly spread, officials said.

(June 4, 1935) Physicians from throughout the Upper Cumberland made their way to Red Boiling Springs this week to sip mineral water and talk shop.

It was the annual meeting of the Upper Cumberland Medical Society. The organization's 300 members gathered in the dance pavilion of the Palace Hotel.

Dr. Z. L. Shipley of Cookeville is the Society's secretary. Dr. J. P. Sloan of Jamestown is its president.

(June 4, 1935) Looking for a good used car? Don't want to pay over \$500? Try Carlen Motors on Broad Street.

The local auto dealer this week advertised a 1935-model Ford Tudor Sedan with low mileage for \$425.

Too high? There's also a four-door 1931 DeSoto on the lot for \$125.

Whichever one you buy, you can get new tires for it at Jeff Loftis & Sons Firestone at 29 Oak Street, according to another advertisement in this week's edition.

Selections range from \$5.50 to \$7 per tire. These are "high speed" tires with "gum-dipped" intertubes like the ones used on all Greyhound buses, says the ad.

Or, for the same price as a tire or less you can get your hair crimped and curled in the latest perm of the day at Charm Beauty Shoppe on Church Street in Monterey.

For "tiny totos" there's the Shirley Temple perm for \$2.50 "School girls" can have that "oil wave" look for \$3.50. "Young matrons" may want to consider "The Aristocrat" for \$7.50 and for the "Older matron with white or grey hair," there's "La Petra," for \$7.50.

(June 5, 1935) Caddies at the local golf course went on strike this week. That came after the 30 youths met with the committee running the golf course and committee members offered the caddies a raise from 35 to 40 cents for toting golf bags around the course for 18 holes.

The boys decided to hold out for a raise to 50 cents. The panel balked. The caddies walked.

Their strike began abruptly Sunday afternoon, so abruptly in fact that several men were left stranded on the course and had to carry their own clubs. The golf course committee heard from several of those gentlemen, but it held firmly to the 40-cent figure. That was four days ago. By today a few of the caddies had returned to work, but most are still out.

(June 6, 1935) The newspaper reported this week that the softball craze that's sweeping the nation has apparently taken hold in Cookeville, too.

A softball game Tuesday night between Webb's Pharmacy "Pill Pushers" and the Lions Club team brought out 250 spectators. The Pill Pushers beat the club 32-9.

Now, several other teams are forming up, according to the newspaper. Broadway Service Station, the Modern Woodsmen and the Duroil Co. are all said to be forming teams to play this summer.

There's even talk of getting the funds together to put up lights on the field so night games can be played like they are in McMinnville, where softball caught on last year.

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Dr. Z.L. Shipley of Cookeville is the society's secretary. Dr. J.P. Sloan of Jamestown is its president.

(June 11, 1935) The US Coast Guard and Geodetic Survey is about to build a 50-foot tower on the Tennessee Polytech campus here to help make better maps of the United States.

The tower, which will be here for only a few weeks, is part of a 100-mile-long string of towers used in the project and shifted systematically from site to site.

Surveyors will climb the tower on campus at night and shine powerful lights from tower to tower to help them triangulate positions. By doing so the surveyors will be able to better calculate longitude and latitude lines for mapping.

A work crew of some 65 men and 30 trucks is staying outside Livingston while the tower is in use here. Soon, they'll take it down and put it up someplace else. All that will be left to make the tower's spot on campus will be a set of permanent surveyor's reference marks.

(June 11, 1935) Mayor Ezra Davis and a group of local businessmen are trying to persuade the owners of Menzies Shoe Co. to negotiate with their workers, who are on strike. The owner, a Mr. Nichols, said 'no' to talks this week.

In a rambling letter to the mayor, Nichols said he wouldn't talk because he feels he's already done enough for the workers by keeping the factory open during the Depression, even though that and competition are eating into company profits.

The town is angry. It already considers the company high-handed and unresponsive, the mayor said this week. Many are saying they would be glad if the plant did fold and leave town, except for the jobless problem it would leave in its wake.

Men at the plant are presently making 15 cents an hour. Women get 10 cents an hour. The strike broke out after the company flatly refused the workers' demands for 30 cents an hour for men and 20 cents an hour for women.

Work hours are also a sore spot. The plant, before the strike, worked 57-hour weeks. The workers want that cut to 45-hour weeks.

Nichols told the mayor that while he won't talk further now, he may be making a trip here later in the summer. Maybe he'll meet with some of the workers then, he indicated.

*Miss Ruby Witherton has opened a studio here this summer teaching drama, speech, public speaking and dance to area children.

Dancing will include 'comedy' dancing as well as tap, 'musical,' ballet and 'Spanish' dancing.

The courses will climax at the end of the summer on the stage of the new Princess Theater, which has agreed to slate its grand opening to coincide with Miss Witherton's graduation ceremonies.

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(June 13, 1935) Famous Upper Cumberland native Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, spoke to the graduating class at the Pennsylvania Military Academy this week and the newspaper carried the text of his speech. In it, Hull said that the nations of Europe are in an arms race that has reached the point that their production of civilian goods is almost paralyzed. It's a vicious cycle, said Hull, a "menace to international sanity."

(June 13, 1935) The U. S. Coast Guard and Geodetic Survey is about to build a 50-foot tower on the Tennessee Polytech campus here to help make better maps of the United States.

The tower, which will be here for only a few weeks, is part of a 100-mile-long string of towers used in the project and shifted systematically from site to site.

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(June 20, 1935) The Cookeville Boys Band has announced another series of summer concerts. There are two this week. The first will be in Baxter Friday night. It's sponsored by the Epworth League there and will be on the lawn of the Methodist Church. An ice cream supper will follow. And Sunday afternoon the group will give a concert on the courthouse lawn in Gainesboro. The band is directed by Albert W. Brogdon, who is also instructor for the amateur musicians.

(June 20, 1935) Cookeville this week joined the ranks of big Tennessee cities like Knoxville, Nashville and Chattanooga when it was named district headquarters for the federal Works Progress Administration.

Col. Harry S. Berry, Tennessee's director of the federal public work program, said this week that WPA offices across the state will follow President Franklin D. Roosevelt's orders to "make dirt fly" and put Americans back to work.

*Meanwhile, the Putnam County Bar Association this week elected new officers. George Haile is the new president, Grover Boyd is vice-president, Leslie Myers is secretary and Linnie Bullington is treasurer.

Among those at the meeting were these familiar faces on the county judicial scene: lawyers Q. M. Smith, Elmer Langford, Jim Thompson, Tom Passons, Howard Vaden, Levi Cooper, J. O. Parris, Bill Sallows and Walter Keith Crawford. Also there were Judge O. K. Holladay and Judge E. H. Boyd.

(June 25, 1935) Will Wall, the WPA director of the Cookeville district, this week tossed out a few of the things the WPA hopes to accomplish here this year.

They include sidewalks around the Square, making bricks for school renovations, a new football field and a new gym for Monterey High and crushing stone for street work in Cookeville and Baxter.

The WPA will also try to build a dam and recreation area between Cookeville and Algood on the Falling Water River, he said.

Cookeville's volunteer fire department is showing the movie, "The Whole Town's Talking," to raise funds for equipment.

It's the story of a small town bookkeeper who is the exact double of a big-time gangster. Both parts are played by Edward G. Robinson.

Firemen stress that the film "does not glamorize gangsters or demoralize hard working, average folks".

(June 25, 1935) A story on page one of this week's edition tells of the death of a progressive man here, T. F. Moore of Algood.

Moore, the father of Dr. J. T. Moore, was a native of the Calfkiller community and was the city judge in Sparta for a number of years.

He moved to Algood to live with his son 13 years ago. This week he died after being ill for several weeks. One of his last requests was that a post-mortem exam be performed so doctors could learn what killed him and that the findings be shared to save future lives.

Friends of his son performed the autopsy and discovered that T. F. Moore was killed by a stomach tumor.

The newspaper wrote, "this request is unusual but if more people would agree to post-mortem examinations, it would be a blessing to the medical profession and the sufferer of the world."

(June 25, 1935) A lot of local history went up in smoke when the Moore Building on the Square burned to the ground here this week. The two-story wood frame building was erected in 1882, on the site of another historic structure, the old stock store building. It burned in 1881.

The Moore Building was erected by J.H. Moore and his son, Mike. The entire building was a general store for a few years until the Moores rented out the eastern half of the structure -- top and bottom -- to Dr. Henry Algood. He turned it into a drug store.

In 1889, Algood built his own building on the west side of the Square and moved out. The Moores then had the old Bank of Cookeville -- the town's first bank -- as a tenant. It moved out later and reopened at the Arnold Building on the east side of the Square.

After that, a series of merchants used the east half of the Moore Building as quarters, including Mike Moore, W.J. Byrne, Byrne and McDonald, D.C. Williams and S.S. Stanton and Sons.

Most recently, the eastern half of the building has been a restaurant operated by Fowler Judd. It closed a

few weeks ago. Meanwhile, the western half of the Moore Building housed the Cookeville Courier newspaper for a time.

That's the one published first by H.C. Henry, and later by John Denton and Dr. Walter McClain. The Odd Fellows have used the upper story of that half of the Moore Building as a meeting hall for the last several years.

The oldest building now standing on the Square is the 53-year-old W.J. Byrne Building. It's on the north side of the Square.

(July 1, 1935) The federal WPA program comes to Putnam County, creating jobs on public works projects, benefiting the public and generating optimism in the dark days of the Depression.

(July 2, 1935) Ten Cookeville Boy Scouts are just back from two weeks of summer camp at Camp Overton near Rock Island.

Among them Jere Lowe, who was elected Best Camper and who was awarded his Eagle Badge in a Court of Honor at the camp; H. J. Childress, Jr., who was elected Camp Goat for being the best entertainer and all-around sport; and Hargrave Piepmeier, who was elected Water Dog for taking first place in several of the Water Carnival events.

Also, Finis Harris, Jr., was leader of the Cookeville tent that took first place in the camp inspection.

Other Cookeville Scouts at the camp this summer included Jimmy Massa, Billy Carlen, Jack Moore, Joe Allison, Charles Holladay and Sanford Shipley.

They were among dozens of boys at the camp this week from Nashville, Tullahoma, McMinnville, and Murfreesboro.

(July 2, 1935) Punishment was swift this week for a 20-year-old who stole a car and spent the day joyriding in it.

Twenty-four hours after the theft, he was in state prison serving a one-year sentence. The young man stole a 1931 Chevy sedan from in front of a house in Cookeville. He spent the afternoon in it making several trips to and from Monterey Lake/

By 5 p.m., Sheriff Alex Burton had spotted and arrested him. The grand jury happened to still be in session, it heard the case and it indicted the youth. The next morning, he went before Judge O. K. Holladay, who found him guilty and sent him off to the slammer. Before noon he was in Nashville wearing prisoner's strips.

(July 2, 1935) Former Putnam Sheriff G.W. Alcorn died this week after a stroke.

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He served for several years in that office, then went on to become a state marshal for the Middle Tennessee Supreme Court and in his later years, Alcorn was police chief in Cookeville.

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It was first used as a general store. Over the years, it housed the medical office of Dr. Henry Algood, a drug store, and later the town's first bank, the old Bank of Cookeville.

In more recent times, it has been a restaurant, a barber shop, and the meeting place of the Odd Fellows fraternal organization.

The fire started in the kitchen of the restaurant and quickly spread, officials said.

(July 3, 1935) Justice was swift in Cookeville this week. A young car thief stole a car one morning and was in state prison serving a year's sentence 24 hours later.

The thief stole a 1931 Chevrolet sedan parked in front of the home of H.S. Hargis. It belonged to a friend staying overnight, Earl Harris of Livingston. Inside were a change of clothes and a valuable set of engineering tools.

Sheriff Alex Burton says the car was spotted later in the day after the young man made several trips to Monterey Lake joyriding. He arrested him in time to get him before the grand jury the same day.

Early the next morning, the judge heard the case, found him guilty and gave him a year in prison. The sentence was lightened when the young man led deputies to the stolen clothes and tool set.

*Rufus Bennett, 58, a well-known telegraph operator for the Tennessee Central Railroad here, died of a sudden illness at home this week.

He was a long-time employee of the railroad and was known as a good father and good neighbor.

*Cookeville's Boy Scout troop is back from two weeks at Camp Overton near Rock Island, where they learned scouting and competed with dozens of boys from across the state.

The local Scouts included Jere Lowe, Jimmis Massa, Billy Carlen, Finis Harris, Hargrave Piepmeier, Jack Moore, H.J. "Junior" Childress, Joe Allison, Charles Holladay and Sanford Shipley.

Childress was voted "camp goat" by the campers after he became known as the best entertainer and sport. Piepmeier was named best "water dog" in swimming competition and he was also voted the most popular boy in camp.

(July 4, 1935) Remember Sam K. Neal? He's the Cookeville reporter who not too long ago went to work for the Nashville Banner. He's back. This week he's announcing that he and Franklin Dyer are the new representatives for the Norge Refrigerator Co. here. They're authorized to sell refrigerators and other electrical appliances in the Cookeville area. They're located on the ground floor of the Odd Fellows building on East Broad.

(July 4, 1935) Punishment was swift this week for a 20-year-old who stole a car and spent the day joy riding in it. Twenty four hours after the theft, he was in state prison serving a one-year sentence.

The young man stole a 1931 Chevy sedan from in front of a house in Cookeville. He spent the afternoon in it making several trips to and from Monterey Lake. By 5 p.m., Sheriff Alex Burton had spotted and arrested him. The grand jury happened to still be in session, it heard the case and it indicted the youth. The next morning, he went before Judge O.K.

Holladay, who found him guilty and sent him off to the slammer. Before noon, he was in Nashville wearing prisoner's stripes.

(July 8, 1935) Fresh orange juice is in Cookeville every day of the year now thanks to a new marketing technique, according to a page one story in this week's edition.

Dairy companies across the nation are teaming up with the Bireley fruit juice of California to distribute and sell fresh orange juice all over the country.

Here, the Pilot Knob Dairy will carry the new juice on all its trucks. J. J. Wright, the dairy's owner, says the partnership is a smart move. Fresh juice spoils fast if it's not kept cool. Dairies have refrigerated trucks, he noted.

(July 11, 1935) It's midsummer in Cookeville. The Cookeville American Legion Band this Sunday afternoon will give a free open-air concert on the courthouse lawn. There'll be military marches, waltzes and overtures.

The band will also perform two tunes it played at the State Legion convention in Nashville last fall, "Determination," an overture, and "Queen City," a march.

And the Cookeville Boy's Band will perform Sunday evening at the Baptist Church, preceded by a sermon by the Rev. Harold Stephens.

*Saturday afternoon at Burgess Field in Algood, Cookeville's black baseball team will play Nashville's H.G. Hill Co. team in what is expected to be a spirited game. Admission is 25 cents.

(July 14, 1935) It's midsummer in Cookeville. The Cookeville American Legion Band this Sunday afternoon will give a free open-air concert on the courthouse lawn. There'll be military marches, waltzes and overtures.

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*Saturday afternoon at Burgess Field in Algood, Cookeville's black baseball team will play Nashville's H.G. Hill Co. team in what is expected to be a spirited game. Admission is 25 cents.

(July 17, 1935) The WPA has come to Putnam County, creating jobs, benefiting the public and stirring up optimism during the Depression.

Will Wall has been appointed by State WPA director Harry Berry as director of the Cookeville WPA district office.

Wall, a World War I vet, has been clerk for the state legislature since the war, except for a stint in 1928 as Putnam County Trustee.

He'll be in charge of supervising WPA projects in the 18 counties served by the Cookeville regional office.

Among those projects:

-- Algood has just received \$35,000 in WPA funds to build a water system, including a new pump house, a 100,000 gallon water storage tank and water lines. In all, 30 men will be employed in the project.

-- The county also got word again that it will receive \$42,000 in WPA funds for road work in Putnam County this summer.

(July 18, 1935) Pretty soon you'll be able to turn on a tap in Algood and get fresh drinking water. Algood is getting a public water system. The Bush Building Co. of Nashville says work should be finished by Aug. 1. Most of the trenches have been dug and water lines have been laid throughout the town.

And a brick water pump house, fitted with an electric pump, is just about finished, too. The system will also include a 100,000-gallon storage tank, which is already up.

It's being done at a cost of \$350,000 and is funded by the federal Public Works Administration.

(July 25, 1935) The 1935 Tennessee agriculture census is finished. It found that there are more farms and more acres being farmed in Tennessee than in 1930. It also found that farmland is worth considerably less than five years ago.

Results of the census were detailed in this week's edition. Officials say that Putnam County increased from 2,913 farms in 1930 to 3,640 this year.

The number of acres being farmed in Putnam County rose from 206,145 to 215,454 over the period, the census found. But, the total value of farmland here has dropped from \$6.8 million to \$4.7 million.

That's the pattern elsewhere in the region, too. Since 1930, the County's dropped \$205,940, Jackson County's decreased by \$2 million and DeKalb's fell \$1.9 million.

The Depression lingers on.

(July 25, 1935) Will Wall, the WPA director of the Cookeville district, this week tossed out a few of the things the WPA hopes to accomplish here this year.

They include sidewalks around the Square, making bricks for school renovations, a new football field and a new gym for Monterey High, and crushing stone for street work in Cookeville and Baxter.

The WPA will also try to build a dam and recreation area between Cookeville and Algood on the Falling Water River, he said.

*Cookeville's volunteer fire department is showing the movie, "The Whole Town's Talking," to raise funds for equipment.

It's the story of a small town bookkeeper who is the exact double of a big-time gangster. Both parts are played by Edward G. Robinson.

Firemen stress that the film "does not glamorize gangsters or demoralize" hard working, average folks.

(July 25, 1935) Martha Armistead, a contract operator for the Southern Continental Telephone Company, has won a contest to see which operator could increase toll calls the most on her line. Mrs. Armistead handles a toll line in the Baxter area, where in a six-month period toll calls increased by 50 percent. Southern Continental officials attribute that to the area's business climate, which is improving despite the Depression, and to Mrs. Armistead's quick courteous service.

(July 25, 1935) The 1935 Tennessee Agriculture Census is finished. It found that there are more farms and more acres being farmed in Tennessee than in 1930. It also found that farmland is worth considerably less than five years ago.

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The number of acres being farmed in Putnam County rose from 206,145 to 215,454 over the period, the census found. But, the total value of farmland here has dropped from \$6.8 million to \$4.7 million.

That's the pattern elsewhere in the region, too. Since 1930, the value of White County's farms dropped \$1.4 million, Cumberland County's dropped \$205,940, Jackson County's decreased by \$2 million and DeKalb's fell \$1.9 million.

The Depression lingers on.

(July 27, 1935) A story on page one of this week's edition tells of the death of T. F. Moore of Algood.

(August 1, 1935) Bob Ray celebrated his 22nd anniversary as janitor of the Putnam Courthouse this week, the newspaper reported on page one. He's known by just about everyone in town.

Ray has also been a town constable for the past 12 years. Counting that and his years of service as courthouse custodian, he told the newspaper he figures no other public servant in Tennessee has quite the same record.

*Meanwhile, Casto Dunavin was back in town this week visiting relatives and looking up boyhood pals. While most of them just watch motion pictures about the Wild West, Dunavin went on to become a western sheriff.

The Putnam native was recently elected to a second term as sheriff of Bent County, CO. He came back to town this week appropriately decked out in a cowboy hat and boot.

(August 1, 1935) The travels of four teenage scofflaws came to an end here this week when they were arrested by Deputy Walter Shipley. An 18-year-old girl started the whole thing when she stole a 1934 Ford coupe from her mother's boarding house in Asheville, N.C., and hit the road with her girlfriend. They had \$30 between them. In Morristown, they were joined by two 16-year-old boys. The boys added their \$15 to the kitty. They drove on.

Seven states later, they were in Cookeville. The car was somewhat more streamlined because its bumpers, spare tire, and glass out of a window were missing. The teens sold them one by one for road money. A garage owner here became suspicious when they tried to sell him a car door. He called the sheriff's office and deputy Shipley soon had the teens in custody.

Federal authorities are on their way. The teens have been charged with violating the Dyer Act -- transporting a stolen vehicle across a state line.

(August 3, 1935) "Why should he want to shoot me?" That's what Sen. Huey Long of Louisiana asked an ambulance attendant this week on his way to the hospital after being shot down on the floor of the Louisiana legislature by a young eye doctor.

It was a question no one could answer. Not Dr. Carl A. Weiss. The Baton Rouge eye specialist turned assassin was immediately killed by Long's army of bodyguards. He was shot 61 times.

The newspaper told readers here this week that Weiss walked up to and shot the infamous Louisiana political boss -- the most powerful state leader in the history of the nation -- "while he was directing one of his many dictatorial sessions of the legislature."

In the hospital, doctors fought intensively to save the politician, who received numerous blood transfusions. State political figures lined up to give him their blood. But two days after Weiss shot him, Long died.

His body lies in state in the Louisiana state Capitol today.

(August 5, 1935) A Cookeville landmark was saved from fire this week.

Only \$250 in damage was done by fire to the residence of Walter McCormick. No one knows how it started, but it was quickly put out by volunteer firemen manning the fire hall 50 yards away on Broad Street.

The prominent house on Broad has been known for years as "the Old Brown Place."

*The newspaper noted this week that Bob Ray is marking his 22nd year as janitor at the Putnam Courthouse, where he is widely known for his dedication and cheerfulness.

He's also been a county constable for 12 of the years he's spent serving the courthouse.

*UT's Agricultural Extension Service reported this week that 85 percent of all land in Tennessee is dangerously eroded.

On 11 million acres across Tennessee, sheet erosion has occurred so badly that from 75 to 100 percent of the topsoil is completely washed away, says UT.

(August 6, 1935) A Cookeville man narrowly escaped serious injury this week during a road trip to Gallatin when his car lost control in a curve and flipped over.

Authorities say the driver's life may have been saved because he was tossed from the car and received scratches and bruises instead of being crushed by staying in the vehicle.

The Cookeville man, General C. Lee, was on his way to visit his brother, Robert.

And in Carthage this week there's a lot of excitement over the word that Albert Gore, now in his third term as school superintendent, is seriously thinking about running for the US Senate.

Carthage, which gave Tennessee a governor – Benton McMillin – and a US Secretary of State – Cordell Hull – is ready to make a third try for political fame, locals say.

(August 8, 1935) An Algood farmer who for years had stuffed currency and stocks and bonds in his bed mattress rather than trust banks this week got a rather nasty surprise when he returned home from a trip, the newspaper reported.

His wife decided the mattress was getting to lumpy and it was time to put in a new tick.

She burned the old one.

Then she remembered her husband saying something about putting some money in there.

In all, the farmer said he lost about \$17,000.

There's excitement in Carthage this week. The word is going out that young Albert Gore is getting ready to run for Congress next summer.

The 4th District already has a history of producing state and national leaders like former Tennessee governor Benton McMillin and Cordell Hull.

Gore has been active in local politics recently and has 'won his spurs,' political observers say, especially as campaign manager in Smith County for the Gordon Browning campaign for governor.

People are saying he has the vision and charisma to go all the way from Carthage to Washington.

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And in Carthage this week, there's a lot of excitement over the word that Albert Gore, now in his third term as school superintendent, is seriously thinking about running for the U.S. Senate. Carthage, which gave Tennessee a governor — Benton McMillin — and a U.S. Secretary of State — Cordell Hull — is ready to make a third try for political fame, locals say.

(August 13, 1935) There's another big air show planned for the city airport this weekend, this one featuring a giant airplane with three engines, the Tri-Motor Stimson.

The aircraft has a cruising speed of 125 miles per hour and can reach an air speed of 150 miles per hour. Seven local dignitaries are to drive to Lebanon prior to the show, board the aircraft and fly here to open the presentation.

Closing the show will be a display of dare devil skydiving by Floyd Stimson, who will wait until he's only 1,000 feet above the crowd to pull his ripcord.

(August 14, 1935) In his first bid for public office, Sam Denton Poteet last night won the Democratic nomination for Sheriff, beating four other opponents.

Poteet got 1,138 votes cast in the election, with the other four dividing the remainder.

Also receiving the Democratic nomination were J. H. Robertson, Trustee and Wilburn Dyer, Tax Assessor. None of the men face Republican opposition in the general election this fall.

A large crowd began gathering on the Putnam Square early Saturday evening to hear results as they came in from polling places broadcast over speakers provided by Oscoe Masters of Masters Radio.

Another August tradition, baseball, was in full swing here this week as Cookeville's baseball team played a doubleheader Sunday afternoon against the team from Rickman.

One on the diamond at the Cavalry barn east of town, Cookeville's team won one 7 to 2 and lost one 12 to 9. They play Granville here next Sunday.

(August 15, 1935) A Cookeville native is in the news in The New York Times. Hulon J. Capshaw, a judge in New York City, who grew up here, ruled this week that a young man was not guilty of disorderly conduct when he refused to leave an elevator in the Fashion Center Building. The elevator operator had ordered him off because he was not wearing a coat.

The young man, an investigator for a credit jewelry house, didn't like the operator's suggestion that he ride the freight elevator with all the other coatless workers. He wouldn't budge, so the police were called. In court, Judge Capshaw ruled that the man was within his rights. The ruling is being hailed today by supporters of a movement to allow coatless attire in New York in the summer.

(August 22, 1935) Putnam Countians and the world mourned the death today of the humorist and homespun philosopher who came across the radio air waves into their homes and made them laugh and think. Will Rodgers died in an air crash in Alaska this week.

Rodgers and globe-circling aviator Wiley Post were on the last leg of a 500-mile trek from Fairbanks to Ft. Barrow, Alaska.

Their biplane flew into a fog bank and they set it down to get their bearings. An Eskimo pointed them in the right direction, they took off, and the engine misfired. The powerless plane wheeled over on its right side and, before Post could regain control, it slammed into the mossy bank of a small river.

*The biggest bream ever caught in Tennessee waters?

Danny Headden, director of the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission says it was a game fish just shy of a foot long and was seven inches wide. It was caught in Reelfoot Lake this month, he said.

And it's not just a fisherman's tale, he said. It's mounted and hanging on display in the Tennessee War Memorial Building in Nashville, said Headden.

Now he's asking Tennesseans if they can produce evidence of any bigger bream caught in Tennessee.

*Carlen Motors this week advertised the new Chevy roadster with all the new features, including "a solid steel turret top," weatherproof cable-controlled brakes, "knee-action" wheel mounts and a "shockproof" steering wheel.

The auto dealership invites you to drop by their Spring Street lot today.

(August 22, 1935) It's described as one of the most promising enterprises ever proposed for Cookeville, a cheese plant that may be in the works. Members of the Lions Club here are in talks with representatives of the H.E. Grimes Cheese Co., which says Cookeville is a logical place to build a major cheese facility. But there's a need for dairy farmers here to produce a lot more milk. Presently, dairy farms in the area are selling about 1,000 pounds of whole milk a day. The cheese company says it requires 30,000 pounds per day for production. Officials estimate that dairy farmers in the area will have to buy about 300 more dairy cows to meet the cheese plant's demand if it is built here.

(August 26, 1935) The Cookeville Booster Club just got back from a tour of the Upper Cumberland promoting the idea of a cheese plant in Cookeville that would also benefit dairy farmers throughout the region.

It was the club's first such tour and leaders of the 150-member delegation say the response was good.

A Chicago company, Wilson and Co., is interested in opening a cheese plant here, but says it needs a commitment from the region's dairy farmers first. It would use the milk of 3,000 cows each year to produce cheese.

The club told area officials that it would not only mean a steady source of income for dairymen, it would also create jobs for men to collect the milk and drive it to Cookeville each day.

Accompanying the Cookeville caravan was the Cookeville Band, led by conductor Albert Brogdan. It played at every stop in the 110 mile tour.

A graduate of the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Agnes Willoughby Bancroft of Baxter is now serving as a Christian missionary in the African nation of Ethiopia, the school announced today.

(August 27, 1935) America is obsessed with speed. Every day or so there's news about the latest race car or race plane to break the latest speed record. And now there's the race tractor.

This week's edition of the newspaper included a piece on a pair of remarkable tractors that readers can see if they catch a train and roll down to the state fair at Nashville next week.

The two high-powered Allis Chambers tractors will race around a track at the fairgrounds. They can do better than a mile a minute.

The article says the speedy farm vehicles are made to make it on today's highways, which are being built for speed. Faster tractors are needed to travel with faster cars.

The article also notes that by owning a race tractor, there's also the advantage of being able to get your crop to market more swiftly when prices peak.

(August 27, 1935) From the classifieds in this week's edition comes this cost saver: "Look! It is more economic to resilver your old mirror than it is to buy a new one." Stop by and see S. M. Shoemaker in the basement of Borden's Jewelry for more details.

*Meanwhile, an ad for Dixie's Beauty Shoppe says it's right next door to the TPI Café. Its perms are put in by "experienced operators" and they begin at \$2.

Finally, there's an ad for Miss Ruby Witherinton, teacher of "expression and dancing." She operates studios in the City School and Central High here. Call 148W for an appointment.

(August 29, 1935) The Cookeville Booster Club just got back from a tour of the Upper Cumberland promoting the idea of a cheese plant in Cookeville that would also benefit dairy farmers throughout the region.

It was the club's first such tour and leaders of the 150-member delegation say the response was good.

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*A graduate of the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Agnes Willoughby Bancroft of Baxter, is now serving as a Christian missionary in the African nation of Ethiopia, the school announced today.

(September 3, 1935) The good news is that President Franklin D. Roosevelt has approved funds for the construction of a veteran's hospital for which Cookeville has worked for the past three years.

The bad news? A federal committee will be looking for a site not only in Middle Tennessee but in Northern Alabama, too. How Northern Alabama got into the running nobody here knows or much likes. Alabama already has two veterans hospitals. The Cookeville American Legion and other clubs and organizations initiated the idea of a veterans' hospital in Middle Tennessee three years ago, of course with the idea that it would be placed here to boost the local economy.

They lobbied with local legislators. They wrote letters. They sent delegations to Washington several times to push the cause there. Now the funds are approved and the fight is on to land the facility here.

(September 8, 1935) Authorities this week got a tip that an escaped convict was working at Isabell's Handle Mill over by the Tennessee Central train tracks. They went to get him. He ran.

He shot off down First Street headed towards Dixie Avenue. Deputies cut him off. He hopped into a field and angled in the direction of the Walter Greenwood house on Dixie. The law officers stopped the convict in his tracks by firing shots over his head.

When the Greenwoods returned home later that day they heard about the commotion and found that a stray bullet had broken a French door at the rear of their home.

It sailed on to break a vase on a table in the sun parlor. They found the spent bullet resting on the edge of a bookshelf.

(September 6, 1935) A long campaign by the Lions Club and the American Legion post here to land a federal veterans hospital in Cookeville took a giant step this week when Franklin D. Roosevelt approved funding for one somewhere in Middle Tennessee or north Alabama.

That was the news this week in a rare special edition of the newspaper.

Now the fight is on by local officials to be sure Cookeville is the selected site. Officials say it would be a major boost to the city's economy.

A page one editorial this week exhorted readers to get involved in lobbying for it. "The progress a town makes does not depend on the numbers of people in town as much as it does on the spirit of the people who make up the population of the town," it said.

(September 7, 1935) "Why should he want to shoot me?" That's what Sen. Huey Long of Louisiana asked an ambulance attendant this week on his way to the hospital after being shot down on the floor of the Louisiana legislature by a young eye doctor.

It was a question no one could answer. Not Dr. Carl A. Weiss. The Baton Rouge eye specialist-turned assassin was immediately killed by Long's army of bodyguards. He was shot 61 times.

The newspaper told readers here this week that Weiss walked up to and shot the infamous Louisiana political boss — the most powerful state leader in the history of the nation — "while he was directing one of his many dictatorial sessions of the legislature."

In the hospital, doctors fought intensively to save the politician, who received numerous blood transfusions. State political figures lined up to give him their blood. But two days after Weiss shot him, Long died.

His body lies in state in the Louisiana state capitol today.

(September 12, 1935) Services were held this week for Charles Jernigan, 67, of Double Springs. He was one of the area's most widely-known traveling salesmen.

As a young man, Jernigan taught in the public schools here, then operated general stores in the Brotherton and Poplar Grove communities for a time.

He then became a traveling salesman for Phillips and Buttram of Nashville, making his rounds through the territory for 30 years before retiring six years ago to operate a small farm at Double Springs.

(September 12, 1935) The newspaper tells readers that the new Highway 56 from Cookeville to Smithville is now completely finished and offers the motorist "31 miles of scenic splendor."

Meanwhile, the road from Cookeville to Hilham is also completed. The newspaper notes that the Overton town is one of the region's oldest and has a rich, colorful history.

However, the route on from there to Celina is still stalled and the newspaper says Celina residents seem to have had no success persuading the state to speed up construction.

*There's a new dance studio "Alma's School of The Dance" in Monterey.

The news article on the studio's opening reports, "She comes highly recommended by the 'Eva Thompson School of Dancing' and by William Busby, Master of Social Dancing."

She offers instruction in ballet, 'modernistic dance,' tap and social dancing. Lessons are \$2.50 per month for group classes, or \$3 per month for private instruction

(September 12, 1935) Overton County's last surviving ex-slave died this week. She was 92. She died at her home in north Livingston. She was the widow of the late Robert Copeland, and was the daughter of the late Emily Capps, a slave of Doak H. Capps, one of Overton County's pioneer merchants. She remained with the Capps family for several years after the Civil War and slavery ended.

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He then became a traveling salesman for Phillips and Butram of Nashville, making his rounds through the territory for 30 years before retiring six years ago to operate a small farm at Double Springs.

Services were also held this week for Overton County's last surviving ex-slave, Vestine Capps Copeland, who died in Livingston this week at the age of 92.

She was the daughter of Emily Capps, who was the slave of Doak H. Capps, a pioneer merchant in Overton County.

(September 18, 1935) There was a dinner on the grounds of the Methodist church at Brotherton last Sunday to honor 25 residents of the community who are 75 years of age and older. The two better-known honorees were the Rev. William S. Tabor, 82, a veteran Baptist minister, and "Uncle Jeff" Swallows, who is 88.

"Uncle Jeff," who is proud to say he can trace his ancestry back to a Scot who came down the gang plank to the New World in 1609 at Norfolk, VA, helped build Monterey – literally. He cleared the land for the first building in Monterey, the office of the Cumberland Mountain Coal and Land Co., the development company that laid out and sold lots to create the mountain town.

Among the buildings in Monterey that "Uncle Jeff" helped construct was the old Park Hotel, which is now an apartment house. He also has the distinction of being one of the county's last living Confederate soldiers.

(September 19, 1935) Need someone to cook or clean house? If so, you could help a country girl get an education.

That's the word from Central High School Principal Fowler Clark to readers this week.

A high school education is a valuable thing that can open many doors in the business world today, but not everyone can get one. Not everyone lives close to a high school.

Many rural students board in Cookeville while attending high school. That costs.

Principal Clark wants to help. He has a list of girls who want to clean house and cook to earn room and board and money for school supplies. They want that diploma, he says.

(September 24, 1935) It is now the age of the auto, the newspaper indicates, and there are new roads in the area to drive those cars on. Many here have never driven to Smithville, it is reported.

It's a pleasant drive down Highway 24 to Highway 56 near Baxter. From here, 56 takes you through Boma to Silver Point, and from there along the Caney Fork River through scenic hills and valleys to Smithville.

There's a new, easier way to reach Hilham now too. The Hilham Highway from Cookeville to the area's oldest town has been finished.

(September 24, 1935) There's a new moving picture house in town, the Princess Theater. It's opening with a lot of popular films.

First on the great silver screen this week is "Ginger," with Jane Withers and Jackie Searl, "plus two good cartoons in natural color." Admission is 10 cents.

In the nights to come, the Princess will reel out "Bank Night," "Doubting Thomas" with Will Rogers, "Dawn Rider" with John Wayne, "Top Hat" with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, and "Curly Top," with Shirley Temple. Start saving up your dimes.

(September 26, 1935) It is now the age of the auto, the newspaper indicates, and there are new roads in the area to drive those cars on. Many here have never driven to Smithville, it is reported. It's a pleasant drive down Highway 24 to Highway 56 near Baxter. From there, 56 takes you through Boma to Silver Point, and from there along the Caney Fork River through scenic hills and valleys to Smithville. There's a newer, easier way to reach Hilham now too. The Hilham Highway from Cookeville to the area's oldest town has been finished.

(October 3, 1935) Congress recently authorized the construction of a new Veterans Administration hospital in Tennessee or northern Alabama, and hometown officials are scrambling in both states to see who can lure the facility to their community.

In the most recent wrangling, Sparta's Civitan Club has agreed to throw its weight behind Cookeville's bid for the VA hospital.

In return, the newspaper reports this week, Cookeville officials are to use their influence to help Sparta land federal funds for a recreation facility for Cumberland Mountain.

*At the Strand Theater here this week: "The Avenger," starring Buck Jones. Also, Buster Keaton in the short feature "One Run Elmer" and a cartoon, "Fireman Save My Child." Admission is 10 cents.

(October 3, 1935) The Ideal Grocery here has just installed the most modern equipment for displaying meat and produce that you could find anywhere between Nashville and Knoxville. It's a dry ice cabinet that keeps produce and meat fresher longer.

(October 3, 1935) With much fanfare, the new Princess Theater opened on Westside this week.

The Rev. Hugh Goodpasture, speaking to a packed house on the opening night, said the area's residents congratulate the new theater's owners, the Mid State Theater Co., on erecting such a fine building.

The interior is plush maroon and gold throughout. The line to get in formed early and grew long fast.

The opening film, "Doubting Thomas," starred Will Rogers as the husband of a stage-struck woman angling to become a star.

Admission was 25 cents for adults and a dime for children.

(October 7, 1935) State Senator K. D. McKellar told residents this week that he believes the Depression "is substantially over" and that the unemployed should be able to find jobs within the next 60 days thanks to President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his New Deal recovery program.

He says that he recently made the drive from Chattanooga to Memphis and didn't see any need for much more government relief efforts. Streets were filled with shoppers and public squares were crowded in each town through which he passed, he said.

And he said he also saw signs that FDR has been generous to Tennessee. There are new post offices in nearly every town in Tennessee.

(October 8, 1935) Several hundred students, faculty and supporters of Baxter Seminary stood around a large wire basket in front of Ivy Hall one day this week as dusk gathered and marked the end of a 25-year struggle for the school.

The basket was full of tiny scraps of paper, what had the day before been \$150,000 worth of mortgages and bank notes on the school. Now, they were being used to feed a fire. The crowd cheered as the presidents of each class of the school dropped bits of paper into the flames, lighting the night.

It's the Depression and the fact that the school was able to pay off its notes is considered something of a miracle. The school's enrollment and revenue has been down in recent years.

But gifts from former students and friends, as well as the ingenuity of the school's founder and president, Dr. Harry Upperman kept the school afloat.

Upperman told the crowd this week that the school is now taking on a new struggle – finding ways to stay out of debt.

(October 10, 1935) The Putnam County Court this week expressed its displeasure with the Putnam School Board in how it handled the recent hiring of a new principal for Central High School.

The board last month voted to hire Wesley Flatt as the new principal. Then, in a meeting this month, with no explanation, reversed itself and placed Fowler Clark in that position instead, on a vote of 3-1.

This week the county JPs passed a resolution stating that should Flatt file suit because of the school board's actions, the three board members who reversed themselves will be "personally responsible" for it.

*The American Legion, spearheading Cookeville's effort in the intense competition to land a federal Veterans Administration hospital in Cookeville, this week rolled out the red carpet for the VA's chief engineer.

Last month President Franklin D. Roosevelt approved funding for the VA to build a major new hospital somewhere in Middle Tennessee or North Alabama, setting off a hot race to see which town will get the advantageous new facility.

Cookeville's Legion post treated the VA official to a banquet where he met top civic and city leaders and took him on a tour of 11 sites they say are available and suited for the coveted government medical facility.

The engineer told the city he was 'impressed' by what he saw here. But, he said, the final decision is in the hands of a VA panel in Washington.

*An ad in this week's edition describes the Ringling Barnum & Bailey Circus that rolled into Nashville this week: 100 double-length train cars with a crew of 1,600 workers, seven herds of elephants, 1,009 other assorted lions, tigers and circus animals, and 700 horses.

For those who don't want to ride the train to see the Nashville circus, the Seils Sealy Circus will be in Cookeville this week. The "four-ring" circus features a variety of horse acts, including "horse comedy riding" and acrobatics performed on, over and under galloping horses.

(October 14, 1935) A lot of people here are making plans to take the train on down to Nashville to see the Circus. The circus pulled into the state capital earlier this week, packed into 100 double-length rail cars. It is composed of 1,600 people, 700 horses and 1,009 other animals.

The big top seats 16,000 per show, and each show takes place in seven rings as well as a giant hippodrome. And it's not just a big circus; it promises to be a colorful one too. There's Col. Tim McCoy and his Indian Village, an encampment of dozens of real-life Sioux, Arapaho, Crow and Shawnee Indians.

And there's the famous Flying Walenda family on the high wire. There's even Mary the Rhinoceros of Tarzan movie fame. Better make plans now.

(October 15, 1935) The latest honor roll is out at Central High. Freshman on it included Nancy Travis, Louise Johnson, Kate Fitzpatrick, Anna Mahler and Bonnie Hix.

Making the grade in the sophomore class were, among others, Elizabeth Carlen, Oliver Minor, Jimmie Isabell, Lloyd Knight, Clara Maynard, and Dorcas King. From the junior class: Louis Grimsley, Elise Rhea, Gordon Hunter, Dimple Bullington and Etta Franklin.

And the list included seniors Ruth Wirt, Cecil Chaffin, Anella Smith, Frances Ensor, Mildred Morgan and Brownie Jo Witherington.

The newspaper this week published attendance figures for Sunday school in Cookeville churches. Last Sunday, the Methodist Church had 209 in Sunday school, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church had 88, the Baptist Church had 257, and the Freewill Baptist had 41. The Church of Christ here had 235 in attendance. The Nazarene Church had 56.

(October 17, 1935) The Gregory Handle Mill on First Street went up in flames this week.

The frame building, housing the company's machinery, was a total loss, but volunteer firemen managed to keep the flames away from an adjacent building that was full of finished handles and from a nearby gasoline tank owned by the Independent Oil Co.

The burnt building, owned by Mr. and Mrs. T.J. Gregory, was uninsured.

*New license plates for 1936 will be blue on a field of white, the newspaper reported this week. The new tags were designed by the wife of Gov. Hill McAlister.

State officials say if money lasts, they may also use her other ideas and put the outline of Tennessee on the border of the new plates.

(October 24, 1935) Tennessee Polytech's Golden Eagles made history this week, according to Tennessean sports writer Red O'Donnell. They'd probably just as soon it not go down in the history books ...

In its game against Murray, the team lost 13-0. That's the good news. The bad is that Eagles players fumbled and recovered the ball three times behind their own goal line, scoring 'safeties' for the other side each time.

According to O'Donnell's research, no other college team has given its foe three safeties in any game since college football began in 1877.

O'Donnell, in his weekly column, said he suspects TPI will be getting calls from sports writers all over the nation this week about its new collegiate record.

*Porter Judd, 54, a prominent Brotherton community saw mill operator and member of the Putnam County Court for the past 20 years, died of a heart attack this week.

A merchant and mill operator, he was also postmaster of the Brotherton Post Office for eight years.

He'd gone to borrow a saw from a neighbor and, when his mill workers noticed he'd been gone an unexpectedly long time, they went to find him and discovered him lying on the ground dead, holding the borrowed saw in his hand.

Tributes were paid to Judd at his funeral by Judges E.H. Boyd, O.K. Holladay and B.C. Huddleston.

(October 24, 1935) He's pictured in this week's edition in Arab attire and he's coming here to speak at the Nazarene Church this week. He's the Rev. A.H. Kaufman, a missionary to Jerusalem for the last decade. He's coming to tell the people of Cookeville about his experiences among the Arabs in the land of the Bible. He has dozens of color photos showing the daily life of the people too. Make plans to attend now.

(October 24, 1935) The Nazarene Church's upcoming speaker was pictured in this week's edition wearing an Arab headdress and robes. He's the Rev. A. H. Kaufman and he hails from the Holy Land.

Kaufman, who will speak here this Saturday, has been a Christian missionary to Jerusalem for the past several years and he says he's seen a great many changes in that ancient land in recent times.

As part of his talk, the newspaper says he'll show "true color" pictures of notable sites in the Holy Land.

At the Princess Theater this week: "Bonnie Scotland," starring Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. If you go to the matinee, you can see the 70-minute film for a dime. It'll cost you a quarter for a night-time showing.

(October 27, 1935) Forty nine days ago after finishing a hearty meal, a Cookeville man who for some time had suffered from a stomach ailment said he'd had enough. The newspaper reported that the man vowed to not eat again if not eating would hurt him less than eating and suffering from stomach pains. So, he just drank water.

Two weeks ago, a friend of his – a doctor – strongly cautioned him that he couldn't live without food. The man reaffirmed his vow not to eat. Services for the man were held here this week. Burial was in the City Cemetery.

(October 28, 1935) Heavyweight boxer Joe Louis is widely popular these days, and many young black men here are on fire with "fighting fever," says the newspaper this week.

They dream and talk about nothing but knockouts," said the writer.

Local boxing matches here are heavily attended, and this week, they're holding one on the square. The main event pits Franklin Hale against William Jennings, both weighing in at 145 pounds. They'll go six rounds.

In the preliminaries, Jim Bohannon fights Robert Burgess, and Houston Haile goes against George Burgess. Admission to the match is 25 cents.

(October 31, 1935) Algood founder Carney H. Rickman dies: 1935 –

Carney H. Rickman, one of two men credited with establishing the town of Algood and the namesake of the Rickman community, died suddenly this week at his home in Springfield.

Rickman and John A. Epperson opened a retail store at the turn of the century in what would become Algood, shortly after Samuel A. Epperson built a handle factory here.

Their store quickly became the biggest retail/wholesale center between Nashville and Knoxville and they showed their thanks to the community by building schools, churches and streets in Algood.

In its day, in the early part of the century, Algood was one of the most successful and scenic towns in the Upper Cumberland.

Rickman and his family moved on to Springfield in 1925, and he was elected mayor there in 1926 and again in 1935.

*Services were also held here this week for Jeremiah Hale, 87, who vowed to stop eating on Sept. 10, did so, and has now perished from starvation.

Hale, for years, had suffered a painful stomach ailment. On Sept. 10, after eating what the newspaper describes this week as 'a hearty meal' and suffering for it, Hale vowed to stop eating if that would hurt him less than continuing to eat.

He let nothing but water pass his lips since then and, two weeks ago, his physician warned him he would die unless he ate. At that time he repeated his vow never to eat again.

Hale is buried in City Cemetery.

(November 4, 1935) The East Side Café has installed a modern device to better serve its customers, according to a page one story in this week's edition. It's a "portable address system," the article reports.

It allows a person to take orders in the front of the restaurant and radio them to the cook in the back without having to waste time walking back there. Customers say they're impressed.

(November 7, 1935) "Cicero Steps Out" is being presented by the American Legion Auxiliary this week-end in the City School auditorium. The three-act musical comedy boasts, among other things, the talents of "twenty well-trained children," says the newspaper.

The cast includes Paul Moore as Dr. Bohunkus, Lucy Whitson as his wife, Mrs. Bohunkus; L. A. Allen as Cicero Smith; John Regan as Charles Smith; Avo McGlasson as Miss Whiffle; Harry Allison as Simpson the Butler; and Felice Burch as Poll Stanton, a popular student.

Auxiliary officials promise, "The tunes will haunt you – pleasantly – for weeks."

*Cookeville is seeing its biggest building boom in a decade.

There are presently 10 new brick homes here, the newspaper reports, and another 10 new frame houses are going up.

Meanwhile, two new brick business houses are being erected in town.

The town is also spending \$92,000 this fall and next spring to lay new sewer lines in areas of town, and Spring Street is being resurfaced from the Square to Mill Street, making it one of the city's best paved streets.

Even with the new homes being built here, the newspaper reports there is a housing shortage. There's not enough rental housing for all the new families moving into town.

Even the East Side Cafe on the southeast corner of the Square is getting on the bandwagon. It has completely redecorated and installed a new modern "portable address system" to allow employees in the front of the cafe to talk to the 'chef' in the kitchen in the rear and swiftly relay orders there.

(November 13, 1935) The biggest football game of the year in Tennessee was to be played in Knoxville this weekend between UT and Vandy and a good part of the traffic headed for the game would pass through Cookeville now that Highway 70 is well-marked, the newspaper notes.

And there's a drive on to welcome the visitors. Merchants are being urged to choose up sides and decorate their store fronts in either orange and white or black and gold, depending on which team they support.

Meanwhile, motorists here are being asked to take a few extra precautions. For instance, drivers are asked to be sure they pull up to the curb when they park on Broad. Officials don't want the football traffic blocked.

(November 14, 1935) "For discriminating people," reads the advertisement for Model Dry Cleaning in this week's edition of the town's newspaper. It tells those people with superior tastes that the dry cleaning system, the "Dri-Sheen Process" system is being used here. It's "the greatest improvement in dry cleaning in the last ten years," says the ad.

And yes, Model Dry Cleaning will still clean and block your felt hats. The charge is 50 cents.

*Meanwhile across town, the Bishop H. M. DuBose, bishop of the Methodist Church in Tennessee, is coming to speak in Cookeville this week. His topic? Archaeology.

(November 14, 1935) Will Wall, who directs the WPA office for the Cookeville area announced this week that another 113 men and 23 women have been added to the WPA work rolls for new WPA projects funded here.

Those new projects include a new \$20,000 fairgrounds for Putnam, a sewing project for women, the extension of Cookeville water lines to West Cookeville's black community, and repairs and renovations to 12 of the county's more than 50 rural schoolhouses.

The new workers ring the total on WPA rolls here now up to 475 men and 90 women.

*In South Dakota this week there was another milestone in aviation history, the newspaper notifies readers.

"Explorer II," a balloon, lifted off near Rapid City, S.D., and rose to a height of 14 miles above the earth, the highest man has ever gone.

Eight hours and 14 minutes later, Capt. Orvil Anderson and Capt. A.W. Stephens gently settled back to Earth.

The first model of the Explorer balloon exploded.

(November 17, 1935) If you've been wanting to play one of those new pinball machines but you're afraid it might be considered gambling, relax. A Nashville judge this week ruled that it's a game of skill.

The case involved a Nashville businessman who ordered three of the machines and then refused to accept them when he saw what they were. He said they were gambling machines. The manufacturer took him to court, asking the judge to decide.

The judge looked the machines over, flipped a few balls, pondered the question, and then said that the "coin operated bell machines" are not gambling devices.

He said that there seems to be a certain degree of skill involved in how to release the spring-powered plunger just right so that it sends the metal ball to strike the bell and ricochet into the scoring hole.

(November 21, 1935) The WPA sewing project here is currently providing jobs for 48 Putnam women who are working in the county courthouse sewing clothing for the needy, the newspaper reported this week.

They're making towels, sheets, baby clothes and other clothing articles, which are being stored in a local warehouse until the weather turns bad this winter, when they will be distributed to the needy.

*If you're an enthusiast of one of those new coin-operated 'bell machines,' you can relax and play the game now without fear of being arrested for gambling.

A Nashville chancellor has ruled that the new (pinball) machines are games of skill, not chance, and therefore, the payoffs winning players receive is not ill-gotten gain from gambling.

The judge made his ruling after an in-court demonstration by the maker of the machines. In the game, a steel ball is dropped into a slot and shot across a field of electronic targets, ringing bells and flashing lights.

Two convicts escaped from the county road gang this week while it was patching the Martin's Creek Road. One was serving time for assault and battery. The other was working off his sentence for public drunkenness. They're still at large at press time today.

(November 26, 1935) An Upper Cumberland native is in the world news this week. Secretary of State Cordell Hull served notice to the Italian Embassy this week that the US won't sell war supplies to Italy.

The newspaper reports this week that Hull also told the Italians that America won't see war materials to Ethiopia either.

Those nations are at war and the US, a "lone eagle," has a strict policy of remaining neutral. We're staying out of foreign wars.

The Ideal Grocery and Market is running a Thanksgiving sale to help you get ready for your holiday feast.

Green peas are selling for 35 cents for two cans; a one-pound can of Heinz mincemeat is 25 cents; a pint can of oysters runs 29 cents.

You can get two pounds of cranberries for 45 cents or dressed hens for 28 cents a pound. Baby beef steaks are going for 30 cents a pound and pork roast is available at the Ideal Grocery and Market for 22 cents a pound.

(November 27, 1935) A portion of Spring Street is being widened in a major project here. It calls for several stores to be move back from the right-of-way so more pavement and sidewalks can be put down.

The city is widening Spring from the Square west to South Dixie for another block or so west, the city plans to widen Spring to 60 feet.

The project will mean moving back a number of stores and businesses that are now too close to Spring. They include the LO. T. Stone Lumber Co. Warehouse, Hawkins Feed Mill, and the Metcalf Flower Shop.

A 60-man crew is doing the work, including pouring concrete for the new road surface.

(November 28, 1935) An Upper Cumberland native is in the world news this week. Secretary of State Cordell Hull served notice to the Italian Embassy this week that the U. S. won't sell war supplies to Italy.

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(November 28, 1935) Sixty local men have employment for the next four to six months through a public works program in which the city is widening Spring Street with federal funds.

It's a massive project involving the moving of several buildings. The plan is to widen Spring from the Square west to South Dixie to 80 feet of pavement. From South Dixie on to Mill Street, the plan calls for 40 feet of pavement.

Already moved or jacked up and ready to go are the L.T. Stone Lumber Co. building, the Hawkins Feed Mill and the Metcalf Flower shop.

Curbs are also being installed in the project, new drainage is being put in, and the route will be paved with concrete, which is currently the rage with progressive cities and states.

*Meanwhile, across the state, a foul up in Washington has halted all WPA projects in Tennessee and idled 7,500 men and women on WPA rolls.

The federal government has approved funding for the projects, but the check for \$1.2 million somehow never got mailed and the state can't pay them.

Gov. Hill McAlister says his staff has contracted WPA officials in Washington, but, "We haven't heard a word."

(December 3, 1935) A local World War I ace is dead. Donald Russell, 42, a salesman for the Proctor & Gamble Co. here died at his home of a heart attack after returning from his sales route to be with his family for the Thanksgiving holidays. He's lived here for about 18 years and has been active in civic affairs.

In the World War, he won 'ace' status as an aviator who shot down five or more enemy aircraft in combat.

(December 4, 1935) Donald Russell, 42, a Cookeville civic leader and traveling salesman who made it home from his rounds in time to celebrate Thanksgiving with his family, died of a heart attack Thanksgiving night here.

Russell had Thanksgiving dinner with his family, went to the TPI homecoming game against Murfreesboro with his wife and children, and that evening became suddenly ill and died.

A Nashville native, he was educated at TPI and briefly coached at the college before the World War. As a U.S. serviceman, he was an aviator, flying a biplane high above the trenches in France.

He lived in Cookeville 18 years after the war and was active in the Lions Club and the American Legion.

*Cookeville merchants got a boost this month when the WPA spent \$3,788 on needles, shovels, crowbars, wheelbarrows and other supplies for WPA workers here.

Stores that got the business were Jenkins and Darwin Brothers, the Jere Whitson Hardware Co., Sam Pendergrass Hardware and Draper & Draper Co.

(December 5, 1935) The Cookeville Lions Club has started beautifying the city for Christmas. They're selling Christmas trees to pay for it.

The club plans to line the business district with streamers made of spruce and cedar boughs and strings of colored lights. You can help them by buying a tree. The good ones cost 50 cents.

You'll find the trees for inspection at the rear of the Telephone Building. Ask for Mr. Piepmeier.

He tells readers this week, "Speak for a good one in advance and it will be held for you."

(December 10, 1935) An article in this week's edition told readers what Cookeville was like 60 years ago.

In 1875, there were three new doctors in town, Dr. J. P. Martin of Sparta, Dr. L. R. McClain and Dr. Simeon Hinds. They filled the gap in medical care left by the death the previous year of the town's first, and for many years, only doctor, Dr. Jim Goodpasture.

They may have driven a buggy to their patients' homes, but hardly anyone else could afford one. Nearly everyone rode horse along muddy lands. The railroad wouldn't be here for another 15 years.

If you lived in the country, you rode your horse to town to get your mail. There was no free rural mail delivery. And you probably wore jeans, a homespun shirt and boots like all the other men. Women wore sun bonnets.

In the summertime, cool well water was about all you could expect to cut the heat. There was no ice cream in Cookeville. There were no soft drinks.

If you wanted to talk to neighbor or relative, you couldn't pick up the phone or send them a telegraph from Cookeville. You had to put on your jeans and boots, climb on that muddy horse, and ride to see them.

There was only one church building in town, the old "union" building. It was shared by Methodist, Cumberland Presbyterian and Disciples of Christ congregations.

(December 11, 1935) There's good news here for the Christmas holidays for those out of work. The city's widening of Spring Street will require 50 more workers.

Some 75 are presently employed by the contractor, Ellen and Olsen Contractors, and that crew will be expanded by 50 more when it comes time to pour concrete on the widened route.

Spring Street is being widened from the Square west for a number of blocks.

(December 12, 1935) Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:

The grocery stores are located in different parts of the city, making all kinds of food supplies within easy reach of every resident.

They are stocked with fresh and up-to-date food articles. Employees are courteous, efficient and capable, and all orders are taken care of promptly.

Bennett & Bennett Stores.
D. C. Barlow.
W. J. Byrne.
City Grocery & Produce Co.
Joe Cronk.
Charlie Daniels.
Dixie Avenue Market.
Farmer Grocery.
Thomas Flanigan.
Foutch Bros.
H. G. Hill & Compnay
Holoway Cash Store.
Ideal Grocery.
Mahler & Poe.

McClain's Store.
Speck Grocery.
Square Cash Grocery.
Sullivan Cash Store.
Vaughn & Murphy.
West Side Grocer.

Retail grocery men in Cookeville always have what is wanted because we have the following wholesale groceries:

Ragland-Potter & Company.
L. P. Shanks & Company.
W. T. Sewell & Company.

(December 12, 1935) One hundred and forty four men are making Christmas brighter this year for their families – they have public works jobs laying new sewer lines in the city.

Common laborers are getting 45 cents an hour, semi-skilled laborers get 70 cents an hour and skilled laborers get \$1.10 an hour in the project, which is federally funded.

Another 60 men are working in a similar project for the city this week widening Spring Street from the Square west to modern road width standards.

*The newspaper this week took a look at the history of newspapers in Cookeville, which saw a series of attempts and failures beginning in the 1870s with the Monticello Times, founded by Jonathan Buck. It quickly folded as did the Chronicle and the Echo.

In the late 1870s, Jack Cope of White County followed in their wake with a newspaper so short lived that its name is not recalled by old timers here. A "Mr Womack" had similar luck with his newspaper in the same decade.

The first significant effort, the Cookeville Press, was opened in 1886 by Capt. Walton Smith, editor, and publishers Rutledge Smith and Joe E. Gore. In 1892, the Cookeville Courier opened and eventually came to be owned by John S. Denton and W. S. McClain. It absorbed the Cookeville Press, and then shut down in 1910.

In 1895, the Cookeville Citizen was opened by W. S. McClain, who sold it to Charles Sims of Sparta in 1897. It folded.

The Southern Republican, owned by a stock company "with money to burn," quickly came and went during that period.

I was bought by John Oliver, who changed its name to the Mountaineer. Oliver sold it to Professor Amonette Draper, who sold it to Quimby Dyer, who changed its name to the News Reporter. Two years later, he closed it down and sold its equipment to a newspaper in Newport.

In 1889, Walter Wirt opened a printing shop here. It thrived. He sold it to his brother, Elmer Wirt, who, in 1903, expanded the print shop into a newspaper, The Putnam County Herald. It is the newspaper being read by Cookevillians this week.

Since then, there's been one other effort at newspaper publishing, the Upper Cumberland News, opened in 1923, by J. F. Gentry. It merged with the Herald in 1927.

(December 14, 1935) You can't just go and park your car any which way on Westside anymore. That's the word this week from Cookeville Police Chief Harve Quarles.

He told readers this week that too many people have cars these days to let people continue parking in a jumbled fashion. Especially along Broad Street, a US highway where motorists are having problems weaving their way past all the jutting-out rear ends of trucks and cars. The city has marked off parking spaces. Use them, advises Quarles.

Broad Street is 40 feet wide from curb to curb. Quarles said that parking spaces now take up 10 feet on each side of Broad, leaving 20 feet in the center for 'through' traffic, he explained.

Meanwhile, Quarles said people not only need to watch how they park, they need to slow their driving down too. The speed limit is 20 miles per hour, but Quarles said that some drivers barely slow down when they reach the city limits. They just roar on through town.

Drivers are going "entirely too fast" past the City School on Broad. Slow down for the children's sake, he urges.

(December 18, 1935) The Rotary Club has a special speaker lined up for this week, arctic explorer Capt. Earl Hammond.

Hammond was with Ronald Amundsen when he went recently to salvage the dirigible Norge, which crashed at Teller, Alaska, in 1926.

He's bringing with him his team of muskie sled dogs. They were featured in the recent MGM film, "Eskimo." The dogs will be taken to several schools while Hammond is in town.

But, according to the Rotary Club, the dogs have to head back North shortly. Santa needs them for work around the toy factory. Hammond, by the way, is in charge of one of Santa's factories, the Rotarians note.

(December 19, 1935) Police Chief Harve Quarles says Cookeville motorists will no longer be able to park any-which-way along Broad Street. The city has marked off parking spots.

City workers this week completed the painting of parking spaces along each side of the city's busiest street. It leaves 20 feet of right-of-way in the middle for drivers.

Broad Street, especially along Westside, has long been a problem for tourist and travelers trying to pass through Cookeville because local drivers parked in a haphazard way that often left the rear ends of their vehicles sticking out in traffic.

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Meanwhile, Quarles said people not only need to watch how they park, but they need to slow their driving down, too. The speed limit is 20 miles per hour, but Quarles said that some drivers barely slow down when they reach the city limits. They just roar on through town.

Drivers are going "entirely too fast" past the City School on Broad. Slow down for the children's sake, he urges.

*A local merchant, Mike Moore, 83, is dead following failing health in recent years.

For the last 65 years he's operated a mercantile store on the Square which was opened by his father.

Moore, born in 1852 two miles east of town, got his start in the business as a store clerk for his father. He died of heart problems this week in his home on East Spring Street.

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But, according to the Rotary Club, the dogs have to head back North shortly. Santa needs them for work around the toy factory. Hammond, by the way, is in charge of one of Santa's factories, the Rotarians note.

(December 24, 1935) The founder and first editor of the Putnam County Herald died this week of a heart attack at age 72 while walking to mail a letter.

Elmer Wirt, born in Olmstead County, Minnesota in 1863, learned the newspaper profession from the ground up, starting his career hand-setting type for several daily papers as a young man.

He worked for a while in the 188's as a railroader, riding the cold Great Northern Railroad's routes. Then, in 1891, Wirt became the publisher of the Farmer's Alliance in Elbow Lake, Minnesota.

In 1903 he came to Cookeville. His brother, Walter, was already here operating a print shop. Together they decided to open the Putnam County Herald. It was soon aggressively leading the fight to incorporate the town.

Elmer Wirt was an avid baseball fan and promoted and watched the game until his death. He also relished politics. He was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1915. There, he authored a bill that created Tennessee Polytechnical Institute.

A big crowd is expected at his services this week. He's to be buried in the Cookeville City Cemetery.

(December 25, 1935) A Cookeville native has risen to a lofty level in the prestigious S.H. Kress & Company department store chain. W. H. Lollar, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ray, has been named manager of the chain's flagship store, the Kress on 5th Avenue in New York City. It's the largest store in the chain.

Lollar began working for the company in its shipping department in Nashville 21 years ago. He rose through the ranks there and in Seattle before moving to New York City.

(December 26, 1935) Across the nation, the effects of FDR's Depression relief and job creation programs are apparently bearing fruit.

Merchants here and across the country this week reported the best shopping season since 1930, with spending up 20 percent above last year's levels.

(December 30, 1935) Barlow Smith, adjutant of the American Legion post here, says the organization will be holding its monthly meeting this week. Among the items discussed will be the post's position on a new statement of beliefs by the national organization.

Nationally, the veterans believe that widows of veterans of the World War and their children ought to be supported by the government.

The American Legion believes that the nation should stay out of foreign wars and should deter others from aggression against the US by having a strong defense.

"Americanism" should be the primary thought in the mind of each and every American. Legionnaires believe. Let other nations take care of themselves.

And official recognition of Soviet Russia should be withdrawn and all “un-American documents” should be banished from the land.

Those are a few of the things local veterans will be mulling over this week.

1936

(January 2, 1936) An array of local notables braved the bitter cold, ice and snow here this week to Cookeville’s oldest citizen.

Dr. McClain also has the distinction of being the oldest member of the Odd Fellows. He’s also the oldest lodge secretary of any secret fraternal order in the nation, and the oldest practicing doctor in Tennessee. He turned 91 this week.

Dr. McClain has been a member of the Odd Fellows for the last 62 years and has been a Mason for 68 years.

He was honored in a banquet by Judge Ernest Boyd, who is a past Grand Master of Tennessee’s Odd Fellows, Judge O. K. Holladay, Prof. J. M. Hatfield, Mayor Ezra Davis and several others.

(January 9, 1936) President Roosevelt’s Agriculture Adjustment Act was tossed out the window this week by the US Supreme Court, and farmers here and across the country are wondering what the struggle in Washington means to them.

The court ruled that the AAA, which has paid \$1.1 billion to farmers since 1933, oversteps the federal government’s authority and impinges on the “reserved rights of states.”

The plan, devised to stabilize crop prices by controlling what is grown, pays farmers not to raise certain crops. Federal payments have saved more than one farm here during the Depression.

Meanwhile this week, the Putnam County Quarterly Court voted to match the City’s \$150 to erect a shed on the empty lot next to the Strand Theater on Broad to serve as a farmers market.

Home Demonstration agent Wilma Schubert told the magistrates that a similar market run by farm women on the fairgrounds this summer raised \$2,000 for farm families here.

(January 16, 1936) Hopes were high here this week after a visit by the Federal Hospital Board. The board toured Cookeville in its search for a Middle Tennessee site for a new “neuron-psychiatric” hospital for the Veterans Administration. Board members visited the Clover Bottom farm here and stayed overnight in the Shanks Hotel, where they were entertained by the Lions Club.

(January 23, 1936) The Future Farmers are establishing a fund to provide hot lunches to undernourished school children here. At businesses houses throughout town, they’ve stationed milk bottles. Contributions will be appreciated.

*And fire this week did \$32,000 in damage to the two-story frame building that housed the Cumberland Mountain High School. Built in 1921, the building was insured for \$16,000.

(January 30, 1936) Hillary Essex, the popular principal of the Maple Shade School here, died in his home this week of pneumonia. He had been a teacher and school administrator here for the last 30 years. He was 50.

Services were held this week for one of the men pioneering telephone service here, W. Comer Moore, 57, who died in a car wreck on a slippery road near Lebanon, Ky., when his car hit a bus.

Moore, traffic manager for the Continental Telephone Company, was on a business trip, riding with Continental's district manager, J.L. Zeig and the company's auditor, Charles Stanton. His companions received minor injuries in the wreck.

Moore began his career in the telephone industry in 1902, as the clerk for a crew of the Gainesboro Telephone Company, laying toll lines between Somerset and Glasgow, Ky.

Except for a two-year stint beginning in 1909 as a machinery salesman, Moore stayed with the budding phone industry here, working first for the Gainesboro company and later for the company that bought it, Southern Continental.

*Services were also held this week for John Benjamin Phillips, 85, of the Post Oak Community.

The son of pioneers from North Carolina, Phillips was educated at Buck College, east of Cookeville, and taught public school here for numerous years.

He was among the organizers of the Old Small Change Church at Post Oak, a Cumberland Presbyterian congregation.

(February 6, 1936) Putnam County will apparently have enough funds to make it through the regular school year despite the Depression, but schools in 30 Tennessee counties will be closing before the full eight-month school year is done, say state education officials.

They'll close early unless the federal government can aid the state with \$300,000 in funds.

And state relief officials report that the names of those on the relief rolls are at an all-time high in Tennessee. Some 15,000 are getting direct state aid to survive. Another 60,000 are employed through various relief work projects in Tennessee, officials report.

(February 12, 1936) Two months ago, three men, using a hand-carved wooden knife, escaped from the state prison in Nashville by taking the warden hostage and releasing him when they were safely away. One was quickly recaptured.

But Gus McCoig, 24, and Pete Dean, 18, managed to elude an intensive manhunt throughout the state until this week when they were found staying in a tourist court west of Cookeville.

In between bank robberies, McCoig even managed to marry a Rockwood woman and honeymoon in Cookeville during his two month vacation.

The pair amassed more than \$4,000 during their spree of bank heists.

The owner of the tourist court saw their pictures in the newspaper, recognized them, and called the Sheriff, who, with his men, was able to arrest the two peacefully.

*The newspaper reported this week that there are now 52,783 Tennesseans on the state's WPA roles doing a variety of public works projects in return for paychecks.

Cookeville's district added 400 more this week to reach its quota of 6,164 jobs.

And the newspaper reported that state toll bridges in Tennessee collected \$40,000 in tolls in December, bringing the total take for the year to \$500,000. The state is using the tolls to retire bridge bonds.

(February 13, 1936) If you're a subscriber to *The Nashville Banner*, an advertisement in the local newspaper says that beginning Sunday, you'll be getting a new weekly magazine too, *Screen and Radio*. It's "an all-color weekly that brings you the latest news and gossip of the famous stars of Hollywood and

Radioland – their loves, ambitions and struggles – all the intimate details of their glamorous lives.” Just dial “6” on your telephone to subscribe.

(February 20, 1936) Winter's freeze and thaw have left the county's roads in their worst shape 'since the coming of the motor age,' reports the newspaper this week.

The dirt and gravel lanes that make up most of the county's rural road system have turned to mush, and motorized vehicles haven't been able to use them for weeks.

It's causing troubles for physicians serving outside the town. One doctor told the newspaper of riding a mule down several miles of muddy roads to visit a patient on a maternity call.

School attendance has dropped precipitously too. Students can't reach school and neither can many teachers.

*Services are set for later this week for Fannie Algood, widow of Dr. Henry Algood, who was Cookeville's druggist for 50 years before his death a year ago.

Mrs. Algood, a lifelong Cookevillian, died of a heart attack while visiting a sister in Atlanta. Her body is being returned by train today for burial here.

A bronze plaque bearing her name and that of her late husband was placed last year in front of Cookeville Methodist Church, honoring them for their long service to the congregation.

(February 27, 1936) Princess Theater manager E.C. Reeves announced that his patrons on Wednesday night will be treated to a special show. In addition to the regular movie, they'll also hear Nashville radio station WSM's "Salute to Cookeville" over the theater's "vitaphone."

(February 28, 1936) The state highway patrol has helped the Cookeville Grammar School set up its first school safety patrol as more and more autos roll onto the town's streets and concern is rising over the safety of school children.

Part of a movement across the state to make drivers and school kids more safety-conscious, the school patrol will be run by a six-member council.

Elected by 6th, 7th and 8th graders this week were James Grogan, president; Cecil Montgomery, vice president; Walter Whitaker, secretary; Ollen Carr, captain of patrolmen; and Jean Russell, captain of monitors. Faculty member Professor Henry Ferrell is the council's advisor.

Boys who will serve as patrolmen are Ollen Carr, Howard Tinsley, James Bush, L.S. Richardson, Leonard Judd, Ralph Mahler, Preston McCannless, Hargrave Piepmeier, Carson Stanton and Doyle Rogers.

Girls serving as monitors include Jean Russell, Virginia King, Louise Hensley, Ruth Cowan, Dimple Bilyeu, Mary Jane Lawrence, Mary Frances Ferrell, Mildred Wallace, Pauline Jones and Nannell Harding.

(March 6, 1936) Winter here hasn't been as bad as elsewhere, the newspaper reports. Cookeville's Ruth Wirt tells readers of a letter she got from her cousin Florence Wirt of International Falls, Minn. For the last 37 days there, the average temperature has been 19 below zero. Minus-39 was the lowest reading there so far. It's just been hovering a little above zero here for the past several days.

(March 12, 1936) The City School has posted its honor roll for the last school grading period. Among those on the list were eighth graders Willette Hyder, Billy Buck and Jo Drake; seventh graders Mary Chaffin, Christine Spivey and Ralph Mahler; sixth graders Eleanor Drake, Robert Judd, Wesley Flatt and Billy Profit; fifth graders Fred Bussell, Foy Knight, Evelyn Harris and Roy Fitzpatrick; fourth graders

Billy Mattson, Sarah Goodpasture, Charles Ford and Alice Katherine Davison; and third graders Ray Newman, Silas Anderson, Charles Hunter and Sue Flatt.

(March 12, 1936) Pauline Roberts, a teacher at Independence School in Overton County and a 1934 graduate of Tennessee Polytechnic here, is a new bride. She married one of her 8th grade students this week.

Immediately after the service by the Rev. Porter F. Taylor, she and her new husband, Harlin Reeder, returned to school and resumed their roles as teacher and student.

*Tennessee Senator K.D. McKellar this week in a radio speech said you can't always believe what you read in the newspapers. He said that despite what newspapers are saying about FDR's New Deal, he thinks it's a good thing for America.

McKellar said that while newspaper editorial writers say the New Deal is a lot of tax dollars being spent on few benefits, he's convinced New Deal programs are putting America back to work and are bringing "prosperity and happiness" back to Americans. The idea that President Roosevelt is squandering tax dollars is simply "untrue propaganda," said the Senator.

*The recent bitterly cold weather has killed 5,000 ducks across the state, state wildlife agents report. Reelfoot Lake was recently littered with duck carcasses.

But it's not expected to hurt the next hunting season, they say. An unusually large northward migration of game fowl is expected this year.

(March 19, 1936) Cookeville, after weeks of being assured by officials in Washington that it had a good chance, has failed to make the list of Middle Tennessee towns being considered for a new federal Veterans Administration hospital.

Nashville, Columbia, Tullahoma and Murfreesboro made the list, disappointed officials learned here this week.

"Our people made a good fight," the newspaper said in a page one editorial.

*Four young men are being held in the county jail today for the murder of a 23-year-old 8th District farmer, Albert Dilldine.

Dilldine's brother, Leo, says he and Albert were in a group walking down the road one night this week near their home when Albert got into an argument with a man.

Shouting turned to shooting and stabbing, and the group scattered. Leo says he hid in a nearby barn while the four accused of the murder searched up and down the road for him for several hours while Albert lay dead in a ditch.

*Services were held this week for James M. Cass, 91, one of the county's last few Confederate veterans.

In the Civil War, Cass served with a White County unit led by a Major Dibrell. He was wounded in the battle of Murfreesboro.

He was buried this week in Old Zion Church Cemetery in White County. (March 19, 1936)

(March 19, 1936) State Highway Patrol Chief Benton McMillin says that there will be no extensions given to motorists who don't renew their auto tags. Those caught with 1935 tags on their cars after April 1 will be fined \$10 and court costs on top of the cost of a new tag.

And McMillin notes that as of this week, only a fourth of the tags expected to be needed by drivers in the coming year have been sold. An 11th hour rush is expected just before April 1.

(March 26, 1936) Four men sawed their way out of the Putnam County jail Saturday night and all four are back behind bars again today. They were nabbed walking down Buffalo Valley Road shortly after their escape. They included an accused murderer, two federal prisoners being held on auto theft charges and a moonshiner. Authorities say a teenage girl smuggle in two hacksaws and they slide down a rope made from a blanket once they got through their cell bars.

(March 30, 1936) The Happy Days Show is arriving by train this week. It's a carnival company featuring 10 rides, including the caterpillar, the double Ferris wheel and the loop-the-plane. It also has a 16-girl revue, a motordrome, sideshows, and a minstrel show.

(April 2, 1936) "Wanted at once," read an ad in this week's newspaper, "a couple to be married at the Happy Days Show here next month." The ad promises that the couple selected to be married publicly during the show will have all their expenses paid, including the cost of the minister, the rings and wedding gifts from several local merchants.

The first couple to apply will be the first selected, says the ad. Call 189 at the Colonial Inn for more information.

*In a tragedy in the 8th district this week, a 72-year-old man died when the millstone he was operating shattered. Authorities say that the auto motor he was using to power the mill overtaxes the millstone, causing it to shatter. He was hit by several fragments of it and was killed.

(April 12, 1936) You say you don't trust your car's tires at today's high speeds? Broadway service Station and One-O-One Service Station advertise Goodrich's new "Silvertown" tires, the ones designed to take the heat of modern driving rather than blowing out like so many others do today.

(April 16, 1936) Bitter March winds and cold weather were not the only maladies residents in Tennessee had to contend with last month. Cases of meningitis and influenza jumped, according to state health officials. There were 77 cases of meningitis in March as compared to 37 the previous month. And there were 2,011 cases of influenza in March as compared to 1,129 in February. Pneumonia was up, too. There were 673 cases of it in March. February saw 653 reports of it in Tennessee.

(April 23, 1936) Cumberland Maytag advertises the new Maytag washer. It features a "one piece cast aluminum tub" with gasoline-powered Gyrator washing action and a rolled water remover. There are "many other advantages," too, says the company's ad in this week's edition. Stop by and see it or call store manager J. A. Starnes at 343.

(April 30, 1936) Coming to the Princess Theater this week for a three-day run: Eddie Cantor's musical extravaganza, "Strike Me Pink." A million and a half dollars have been spent on the lavish production, which features Ethel Merman, Sally Eilers, Parkyakarkus and William Frawley along with "a glorious new array of Goldwyn Girls."

Cantor plays a timid tailor whose secret passion is to become a night club singer. He takes a mail-order self-help course ("Man or Mouse, Which are YOU?") and inherits a large amusement park. He is soon confronted by a gang of slot machine racketeers who have pressured each previous owner into using their machines. Make your plans now to attend.

(May 7, 1936) Floyd Crabtree, a farmer in the Alpine Community of Overton County, lost two mules this week but kept his own life. He was plowing his farm when his two mules suddenly vanished into the ground before him so hard that it jerked the plow handles out of his hands. They broke through a thin crust of soil over a hidden sinkhole and plunged 45 feet to their deaths.

(May 14, 1936) Col. Harry S. Berry, state administrator of the federal Works Progress Administration, told officials here this week that he's still working on getting Washington to release the \$25,000 in funds earlier approved to improve the Cookeville airport. Plans are to upgrade the facility so it can be used by larger airplanes now flying the Nashville to Washington air route, and by other air routes that criss-cross the skies over Cookeville.

(May 21, 1936) On the average here last year, teachers earned \$412 for the year. The national yearly average for teachers was \$1,192. At the same time, factory workers and shop clerks earned an average of \$984 for the year here. Last year there were 166 teachers in Putnam County teaching a total of 6,262 students scattered across the country in 71 small rural elementary schools.

(May 28, 1936) I. B. Shepherd of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Co. told area officials here this week that as rural electrification spreads, independent telephone companies like Southern continental her will have to upgrade their systems in order to fit into the patchwork quilt of phone systems that now provide telephone service from coast to coast in the U. S.

(June 4, 1936) Voting in the August general elections here? Then you'd better be sure your poll tax is paid. The deadline to pay the poll tax this year is in four days. But, there's a new twist this year. If you're over the age of 50, you're exempt from paying the tax in order to vote.

(June 12, 1936) An advertisement tells of a "big double feature talking picture show," and it's not showing at the Strand Theater where filmgoers here usually see movies. It's in the auto showroom at Carlen Motors.

The ad says, "The first showing in this city of an interesting comedy-drama, 'The Frame Up,' produced by Oldsmobile under the supervision of Hollywood directors.

"Also, an educational feature picture on the vital problem of safer motoring: 'Safe and Sound.' Added attraction: a movie depicting the history of the automotive industry. 'Heritage of the Years.' Admission is free.

(June 15, 1936) Veterans of the World War have finally gotten the bonuses Uncle Sam promised them for each day they served on foreign soil. In Putnam County checks totaling \$350,000 were received by about 500 local veterans.

(June 18, 1936) Coming to the Princess Theater: The "Chicago Follies," a live vaudeville show presented by Col. Ches Davies. It features "Ted Harris and his Rhythm Aristocrats," "The Skating Trio," blues singer Anita Muth and "Bobby Bedford, the Silver-Voiced Tenor." There'll also be a two-reel musical comedy and a cartoon on the screen. The show opens with a midnight showing Sunday night here.

(June 18, 1936) Last week the federal government announced that it was at last paying the bonuses it promised veterans of the World War - \$1.25 for each day of service they spent on foreign soil. This week the newspaper is full of ads from businesses that think they know how the vets can best spend those bonuses.

Some 500 Putnam County veterans will be splitting the \$350,000 check being sent to Putnam County. Advertisers suggest they use the money to buy new trucks, appliances, remodel homes or build completely new ones, or buy land.

(June 19, 1936) Jimmy La Verre, professional stage and radio artist and an extra in numerous Hollywood films, is in Cookeville this week directing and starring in a three-act musical comedy, "See You Later."

He's guiding the creative efforts of a cast of 80 local players, including Donald McKay, James Barbour, Sibbie Lee Webb, L. T. Reeves, Emily Stanton, Max Winningham and Walter Greenwood.

(July 2, 1936) Many communities will be celebrating the Fourth of July with fireworks and “an ocean of oratory” this year, but the Cookeville Golf Club plans something a little special, it says. It plans a “Flag Tournament.” Each player puts a small flag in the ground where his last ball of the games comes to rest. The player who “advances his ball the furthest” wins. There has been lots of rain so far this summer, so the club suggests you get an early start out on the course on the Fourth.

(July 3, 1936) The latest political slugfest came to the region this week as Gordon Browning took shots at his opponent in the governor’s race, Burgin Dossett, before crowds in Gainesboro and Livingston.

Browning told a crowd of 500 in Gainesboro that Dossett has been insinuating that because he was an enlisted man and Browning was an officer in the Great War, that Dossett is more in touch with the average voter.

But Browning said Dossett didn’t plan it that way. He notes that his opponent was “busted” out of officers’ training camp in the war and was busted back from a corporal to a private at least once.

Browning proudly goes by the title of “captain,” saying it demonstrates his leadership abilities.

Later this week in Livingston he promised to clean up state politics if elected.

*Services were held this week of Joseph A. Leftwich, 79, who died at his home near Baxter this week. More than 50 are Masons turned out for the funeral.

Leftwich was a successful farmer until ill health forced him to retire a few years ago.

He was severely injured falling down the stairs at his home a couple of months ago and never fully recovered.

*Putnam native Christine Sadler has the distinction of being the first woman to fly out of Nashville’s new WPA airport, which is considered one of the finest in the nation.

The former Putnam teacher is now a reporter for the Nashville Banner and was aboard the Douglas monoplane that carried the first load of dignitaries on a trial flight from the facility. She was the sole woman aboard.

(July 9, 1936) Is your washing machine worn out but you’re afraid you can’t afford a new one in these hard times? O. C. Master Radio Service advertise new washing machines you can afford, it suggest. You can have one for only \$4.50 down and \$2.19 per month for two years. Or you can buy one outright for \$49.50.

*In another ad in this week’s edition, Southern Continental Telephone Co. officials suggest a way to beat the July heat and still honor your social and business obligations. Why not have a telephone installed in your business or home? Then you can call on friends and clients without going outside.

(July 16, 1936) A 45-year old Sparta Woman is in serious condition after she and three others in her family were trapped on a train trestle here by an approaching train. She’d almost made it off the tracks when the train struck and injured her. Her 13-month-old baby didn’t get that far. The infant had been dropped by the mother – but was untouched as the steam locomotive and seven freight cars rumble over it.

(July 26, 1936) A small page-one note in this week’s edition tells readers that there’s a worthwhile show on the National Broadcasting Co. radio this week, “Coast to Coast On a Bus.” It airs at 7 o’clock on Sunday morning: “It consist of both vocal and instrumental numbers by children form a very few years old to those in their teens. In addition to the music, quite a bit of dialogue is included.” Don’t turn that dial.

(July 30, 1936) The peaches are about ripe at the Hub City Peach Grove, 3 ½ miles west of Cookeville. In an advertisement in this week’s edition, owner A. J. Pedigo says he has 600 bushels of Belle of Georgia,

Elberts and Hales to sell. His prices "are always in line with other markets at the time of ripening," he adds.

(August 9, 1936) If you go out to the Cookeville airport this Sunday afternoon, you can ride over the city in a "licensed J6-5 Commandaire airplane piloted by Gus M. Jones. He's got 3,500 hours of flying experience." His wife, Mrs. Jones, will also fly. She's one of the few girl pilots.

"Mrs. Jones demonstrates how a lady should do her high flying," according to an ad in this week's edition. Also, while you're there, you can watch a car "crash through three solid burning board walls." There's something for everyone in this week's air show.

(August 13, 1936) It's "radio's newest marvel," says the advertisement placed this week by Jere Whitson Hardware on the Square. If you buy a new "Focused-Tone" radio by GE, "You'll be fascinated when you see the GE "Colorama" dial flash from red to a brilliant green as the GE Focused Tone radio *automatically* snaps into precision tuning of the station you are dialing." Models begin at \$29. You can have one today for just \$5 down.

(August 14, 1936) The newspaper's readers this week were reminded what Cookeville streets and sidewalks were like three decades earlier at the turn of the century. In the page-one "Do You Remember...?" column, the writer told of the days when pigs and cattle were allowed to roam the streets here and did so freely. In fact, they were "so thick that you could hardly walk on the sidewalks."

But residents received at least one benefit from the town's livestock. The pigs and cattle ate the watermelon rinds that littered street sides this time.

(August 20, 1936) Cookeville City School is starting its year again this week, principal Lester King announced in this week's edition.

Among the faculty are Henry Ferrell, Clara Starnes, Paul Moore, Floy Chapin, Susan Barnes, Amy Johnson and Osia Williams.

Central High starts this week too, says principal Fowler Clark. He expects registration to top the 450 mark this year.

The high school's faculty includes David Terry, agriculture; Pauline Hudgins, English; Mary Della Pointer, home economics; Bob Hudson, math; and Mary Barbour, foreign language.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Gene Autry in "The Singing Cowboy" and Warner Orland in "Charlie Chan at the Circus."

*Baxter Seminary opened its school year this week with more than 200 students enrolled. The high school academy's dormitories were filled to capacity, officials say.

Meanwhile, Tennessee's fight against an outbreak of infantile paralysis has held the malady to just one new case since July 1. In all, now there are 133 cases being treated in Tennessee, mostly in eight counties along the state's southern border.

(August 27, 1936) Following the recent election here, Sam Denton Poteet this week succeeded Alex Burton as sheriff; J. H. Roberson took the place of Brett Johnson as county trustee; Frank R. Adams became school superintendent to succeed Tillman Phillips; and William Dyer began another term as Putnam Tax Assessor.

(August 28, 1936) At the request of the newspaper, long-time resident John B. Dow this week describes the Cookeville Square as he first saw it in 1868.

Dow's father had been awarded the contract to build a new Putnam Courthouse in 1867. The county's first courthouse, said Dow, had burned down during the Civil War and a vacant lot stood at the heart of the Courthouse Square.

He came to Cookeville with his father in 1868, "when to know the Square was to know Cookeville – most of all the town being grouped around the courthouse then."

He watched the new courthouse going up. The two story frame building, big for its day, cost the county \$4,700. It was used by the county for 30 years before fire destroyed it on May 13, 1899.

It was the site of several dramas, including the sensational trial of the Braswell brothers, Joe and Teke, who were eventually hanged here on Billy Goat Hill for the robbery-murder of a Baxter man.

In 1868, there was no Jere Whitson hardware store dominating the southeast corner of the square. In fact, seven of the 12 corner lots were empty that year.

The sole building on the north side of the square was a large log structure, the B. D. Hunter dry goods store and post office.

The south side of the square had the most buildings, including Shaw's Saloon, Shaw's Inn and the McKinney Hotel. In all, the Square in 1868 boasted 14 businesses and three private homes.

Showing this week at the Strand Theater "Joan Blondell, Zasu Pitts and Ruby Keeler in "Dames."

(Sept. 3, 1936) Friday is the last day you can pay your poll tax and vote in the upcoming presidential election, announced Putnam Trustee Bret Johnson this week.

The law say you have to pa to vote and have to pay no later than 20 days before an election, he said.

The 14th annual Putnam County Fair starts a three-day run this week, and Putnam Fair Board Secretary Oakley Massa says you'll find plenty of new attractions.

There's a new grandstand and a new set of \$19,000 livestock barns, built by WPA workers here.

As usual, there'll be no game so of chance permitted on the carnival midway. But children and adults as well will get their thrills on rides like the Ferris Wheel, the Chair-O-Plane and the Merry-Go-Round, said Massa.

Putnam County's new sheriff, Sam Denton Poteet, this week announced who will serve on his 26-man roster of deputies.

They include Chief Deputy L. P. Speck, jailer Clay Buck, and Harve Qualls, Sam Rice, Sam Boles, Charles Campbell, Joyce C. Jared, Lee Ashburn, Horace Milligan, Ridley Maddux and Mack Wade.

(September 10, 1936) A judge awarded Cookeville oil dealer Charlie Maloney \$490 in damages from the oney's oil trucks was involved in a minor wreck near Livingston with one of the circus trucks.

That fender bender set free a Bengal tiger than enjoyed a romp through the countryside for several hours until a group of Overton County men tracked it down.

The newspaper says they used "Frank Buck" tactics to recapture the beast. Buck is currently famous as a wild animal collector for circuses. His exploits in Africa have been featured in newsreels and on the radio.

There was excitement in East Tennessee this week when President Franklin D. Roosevelt visited the Smoky Mountains.

FDR was met at the Knoxville airport by Gov. Hill McAllister, ex-Congressman E. H. Crump of Memphis and a group of state notables.

They caravanned up to Clingman's Dome at Newfound Gap on the new federal highway recently completed there. FDR then went on to a brief vacation at a mountain resort outside of Asheville.

Know of any unmarked Confederate grave? The newspaper this week told readers that the folks in Washington will erect a marker for free over any as-yet unmarked Confederate graves here and anywhere else they can be located.

"It's a gratifying indication of the passing of Civil War animosity," the newspaper remarks.

(September 10, 1936) Thirty-seven schools in Putnam County were among those in 91 Tennessee counties that served hot lunches to students in the 1935-36 school year, according to a report from Putnam School Supervisor Jonnie Bilbrey this week. The schools were able to serve hot lunches with help from the Federal WPA program, workers of which planned special gardens to supply the school lunch program. Here, quilts were also made and sold by volunteers to help fund the food program.

One thing school officials here learned from the experience last year was that attendance tended to be better in schools where students knew they'd get a hot lunch.

(September 11, 1936) Pearl Kuykendall, owner of the Hat Shoppe here, tells readers in an ad in this week's edition that "smart women in Paris" this fall are wearing the new "little cap hats," and are wearing them in such a jaunty fashion far back on their heads that all you see looking head-on is their hair and foreheads.

Mrs. Kuykendall has such hats in her shop for \$4.95 each. They are "made shallow enough to wear way back and shaped to stay there," she explains. Stop by her shop and see what she's talking about.

(September 17, 1936) A new law firm in town this week, Haile & Cox. Prominent local attorney George B. Haile has taken on a partner, Robert A. Cox, who just recently was admitted to the bar.

An attorney for the past 11 years here, Haile is currently president of the Putnam County Bar Association.

Their offices will be in the Herald building in space formerly occupied by attorneys W. L. Swallows, Attorney General John Mitchell and Congressman J. Ridley Mitchell.

Robert A. Cox, the son of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Cox of Cookeville, passed his bar exam in June.

The two are said to have the most complete law library in the region.

*The Putnam County Fair last week drew the biggest crowd ever in its three-day run, according to county officials this week.

More than 12,000 people looked at exhibits, watched the free acts and prowled the carnival midway during the fair here this year.

Meanwhile, if you're going to the Tennessee State Fair in Nashville this week you might want to make plans to watch a sport that's fast gaining popularity across the South, race cars competing on a dirt track.

A rising star in that sport, Shano Fitzgerald, the "Lucky Irishman," will be a featured racer.

The superstitious Fitzgerald refuses to race unless he's wearing his lucky beat-up crash helmet, the one he wore in Florida last winter when he was involved in a spectacular five-car crash that killed one driver and injured all the others – except Fitzgerald, who walked away unhurt.

*New officers for Putnam County Central High's senior class this year include J. C. Henry, president; Walter Shipley, vice president; Elise Rhea, secretary; Donald Russell, treasurer; Dillard Daniels, reporter; and Ralph Steward and Terry Bullock sergeants-at-arms.

(September 17, 1936) There was an unusual contest in this year's Putnam County Fair sponsored by the Morgan Produce Co. A rooster was placed in a coop with a gallon jug full of shelled corn. Residents were asked to guess how many grains of corn would be left at the end of the three-day fair. Sarah Harris won first place by guessing 3,500. The actual number of grains left: 3,457.

Company officials say the contest was helpful in telling them how much livestock there is in Putnam County.

Each of the 1,778 people who made guesses were asked to fill out a questionnaire on livestock they own.

The tally: 130,802 chickens, 4,028 milk cows, 2,002 horses and mules, 940 dogs, 206 turkeys, and 1,666 ducks and geese.

Company officials say livestock figures are up 25 percent from a similar contest last year.

(September 20, 1936) Motorists are complaining about a detour on Highway 70 between Cookeville and Crossville, where workers are laying new asphalt. The detour takes them over the 'old route,' which has not been traveled — or touched by roadworkers — in several years, the newspaper reports.

It will be 60 days before that section of Highway 70 is ready for travel again. Meanwhile, the state promises to do "some work" on the detour route.

(September 24, 1936) Cookevillians are in for a real treat in the auditorium of the City School later this week. Birch, a famous stage magician, will saw a "beautiful girl into four parts and in the twinkling of an eye restore her in all her resplendent life and beauty," according to the newspaper. There's more. The illusionist will make a Shetland pony disappear "into thin air." He'll "shoot a live canary into a burning Mazda light bulb," and he'll escape from inside a chained strong box. The items it takes to put on his show are being brought to Cookeville in a freight truck packed in 38 separate crates. Assisting Birch on stage will be Miss Mable Sperry, "a brilliant young xylophonist, star of radio and concert." She'll play her famous ""World's Fair Marimba," which she's bringing "direct from the Century of Progress" exhibition in Chicago. The price for this extravaganza? Thirty-five cents for adults and 20 cents for children.

(September 26, 1936) Tennessee Polytech's Golden Eagles trounced the Alabama State Teachers College of Troy, AL, 33-0 this week.

The beating never let up, even after TPI coach P. V. Overall put in the team's relief players to give them some time on the field.

Contributing to that score early in the game was Raymond "Bull" Brown, who kicked a field goal to an extra point.

All across the nation this week, the T-men struck.

Treasury agents in another nationwide sweep arrested 1,086 dope peddlers, counterfeiters, smugglers and moonshiners in simultaneous raids.

A similar sweep last May resulted in a conviction rate of 90 percent.

Showing this week at the Princess Theater on Westside: Gary Cooper and Jean Arthur in "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town." Also, John Wayne in "Oregon Trail."

(September 28, 1936) Veterans of World War I from across Tennessee, and North and South Carolina who served in the 13th Division of the American Expeditionary Force got together last weekend in Nashville for the first time since 1918.

They had dinner with Gordon Browning, a governor candidate in Tennessee and attended a "men's only" burlesque show. They also marched past Nashville's War Memorial Building in a parade. The reunion was held in Nashville's Hermitage Hotel.

One thing that was decided about next year's reunion in Greenville, SC, was that everyone would chip in to pay for extra rooms to house those who did not come this year because they couldn't afford a room. A great many couldn't.

(October 1, 1936) Veterans from the "Big One" in Europe who served with the 30th Division got together for their first reunion since 1918 in Nashville for a big blowout.

The 30th Division, composed of men from Tennessee and North and South Carolina, "took the town, and deployed through the downtown streets in search of buddies they had not seen in years," says the newspaper.

The affair included a special "Gordon Browning Dinner" and burlesque show "for men only" in honor of Tennessee's former military commander-turned politician.

There was also a big parade through downtown Nashville past the War Memorial Building.

Several of their members didn't show up. They couldn't afford downtown hotel and meal fares so the veterans picked Greenville, SC next year and vowed to be sure there are accommodations for all their former Army pals.

*The Cookeville Lion's Club this week reported on the activities of the Cookeville Federal Savings and Loan Association, which it and the citizens of Cookeville sponsored. The association made six home loans in September despite the present economic depression. The loans went to buy \$12,500 worth of materials to build six new homes here. The Lions Club notes that the savings and loan is locally owned and directed by businessmen and professionals "who are familiar with out local conditions."

*Showing at the Princess this week: Cary Grant and Jean Hawlow in "Suzy."

(October 7, 1936) There was a wedding in Livingston this week that is the topic of many conversations here. Crusoe Buck, 91, a former slave, married Ollis Cullom McDonald, 67, the daughter of a former slave. The Rev. W.M. Hunboard, of Lebanon, performed the ceremony.

Buck owns a farm in Algood and is known here for the stories he tells of his time as a slave for Abraham Buck, a German immigrant who settled in Cookeville.

(October 8, 1936) A well-known local educator, Prof. Shela Bedford Starnes, has died this week at the age of 63 after being in failing health for the past two years.

Born in DeKalb County, Prof. Starnes attended Professor Yeargan's private school to teach for 42 years without ever missing a day for illness.

He taught mostly in DeKalb and Wilson County, but in his later years taught Cookeville students as well.

Overton County residents this weekend will dedicate the new Standing Stone Forest Project, a \$175,000 federal project to reforest and rehabilitate an 8,500 tract of land north of Livingston.

The project will also include recreational facilities, including cabins and picnic facilities.

The area was heavily logged during the region's timber heyday, but when the timber market dropped here, it suffered extensive erosion.

Ex-loggers found that so much topsoil had washed away that they could not even make a go at subsistence farming, and the area is largely depopulated today.

*There'll be a few changes over at the City Grocery starting next week. That's the word from owners W. C. Davis and Herman Mott in an ad in this week's edition. The store is going to begin operating strictly on a "cash and carry" basis. They're selling their delivery truck, and you'll have to come to the store itself from now on to pick up your groceries. And you won't be able to charge your purchase or pay for it in barter any longer. That's the "cash" part of their new style of operation. Many groceries are closing in these days of the Depression, and ones still in business are having to tighten their belts and adjust.

(October 12, 1936) Veterans from the "Big One" in Europe who served with the 30th Division got together for their first reunion since 1918 in Nashville for a big blowout.

The 30th Division, composed of men from Tennessee and North and South Carolina, "took the town, and deployed through the downtown streets in search of buddies they had not seen in years," says the newspaper.

The affair included a special "Gordon Browning Dinner" and burlesque show "for men only in honor of Tennessee's former military commander-turned politician.

There was also a big parade through downtown Nashville past the War Memorial Building.

Several of their members didn't show up. They couldn't afford downtown hotel and meal fares so the veterans picked Greenville, SC next year and vowed to be sure there are accommodations for all their former Army pals.

Showing at the Princess this week: Cary Grant and Jean Harlow in "Suzy."

(October 12, 1936) One of the nation's 170 Western Auto stores has opened in Cookeville at Main and Cedar, allowing residents to buy merchandise directly rather than by catalog.

(October 15, 1936) Eva Thompson Jones, the Cookevillian who made a name for herself across the nation as a talented dance instructor who has produced dancers for many of today's leading stage productions, is opening a studio here, the newspaper announced this week.

Ms. Jones presented a troupe of her students to an enthusiastic audience of students from Central High, City School and the TPI School this week. They performed a "mini-vaudeville" routine, says the newspaper.

And now you too can enroll for instruction under the master.

Her school offers courses on piano, violin, guitar – both Spanish and Hawaiian – ukulele, wind instruments, and dancing – fast dancing, rhythm, tap, ballroom, ballet and "acrobatic" dancing.

To sign up, call Paul Ponzano at the TPI Café at 223R.

Veterans of Company K of the 117th Infantry who fought in the Great War convened in the Shanks Hotel this week. The weekend climaxed with their parade down Broad Street.

You could tell when they were coming. Their marching column was preceded by "a barrage of aerial bombs, dropped by a low-flying airplane," the newspaper reports.

*There'll be a few changes over at the City Grocery starting next week. That's the word from owners W. C. Davis and Herman Mott in an ad in this week's edition. The store is going to begin operating strictly on a

"cash and carry" basis. They're selling their delivery truck, and you'll have to come to the store itself from now on to pick up your groceries. And you won't be able to charge your purchase or pay for it in barter any longer. That's the "cash" part of their new style of operation. Many groceries are closing in these days of the Depression, and ones still in business are having to tighten their belts and adjust.

(October 22, 1936) The Old Walton Road Chapter of the DAR this week dedicated markers at two sites of historical significance to Putnam Count.

The first was placed on the Knoxville Highway east of town directing motorists to the White Plains home and resting place of William P. Quarles.

Quarles was one of the first residents of the county, coming here after serving as an officer for the colonies in the Revolutionary War.

His plantation at White Plains was also the site of the first post office in the region.

The second marker was set on the Nashville Highway near the home of Mary Lowe Jared where the Raulston Stand once served as a tavern, inn and trading place for pioneers in the area.

Meanwhile, a somewhat newer facility is causing a lot of talk here this week – the new Western Auto Store opening at Main Street and Cedar.

For years, many of those who own vehicles have received in the mail the "Auto Owner Supply Book" from Western Auto, a catalog offering everything for the motorist from special clothing for driving to motor oil and tires.

Soon, Cookeville will have one of the Kansas City firm's 170 stores across the United States where they can buy car merchandise directly rather than through the mail.

Showing this week at the Princess Theater: John Wayne in "Winds of the Wasteland" and a brief sportscast by Grantland Rice. Admission is 25 cents for adults and a dime for children.

(October 29, 1936) All the glitz and glamour of a Hollywood premiere will be on display one night this week in the City School auditorium when a traveling group of actor impersonators perform.

Their show recreates the opening of a new film in Hollywood and all the hoopla that goes with it.

The 'star' who will shine will include Bing Crosby, Joan Crawford, Shirley Temple, Clark Gable, Laurel and Hardy, Jean Harlow, Polly Moran and Wheeler and Woolsey.

Proceeds go to the local fund for undernourished school children. Tickets are a dime for students and 30 cents for adults.

(October 29, 1936) Tennessee Polytech will get its first look ever at Moorehead College's Teachers this week on the playing field. Nobody knows what to expect of the Kentucky team. Last week the Teachers beat Transylvania 7-0.

*Cookeville has a new attorney, Wesley P. Flatt, who took his bar exam not long ago and has now received his license to practice law. He was sworn in this week by Judge O. K. Holladay. Flatt says he is still looking for a suitable office in town and will let the newspaper know later on when he finds one. Meanwhile, persons interested in his services can reach him by calling 318-B.

(October 29, 1936) Willie Hunter is back with Terry Brothers Store on the Square after taking the summer off to be a traveling evangelist, the store announced in a large ad.

The ad notes that he may have a limp. Although he had a successful summer winning souls to the Lord, he was involved in a car crash in Kentucky from which he is still recuperating.

Showing this week at the Strand Theater: Katherine Hepburn and Fredric March in "Mary of Scotland."

(November 5, 1936) Harry Snodgrass, "the original king of the ivories" and "generally acknowledged to be the greatest of all piano players," will appear at the Princess Theater Monday and Tuesday for matinee and evening performances. His is quite a success story. The newspaper says Harry was "plunged into the world of forgotten men" by a felony conviction and a long prison sentence. From prison, he "won the hearts of the entire nation playing from behind prison walls on the radio."

*Appeals for his release poured in, and he was soon freed. He went on to become "one of the world's most popular stage and radio stars." And now Harry Snodgrass is performing here. He's performing in conjunction with a showing of "Wedding Present," which features Cary Grant and Joan Bennett.

(November 11, 1936) – Across the nation this week it was a Roosevelt landslide as Franklin D. Roosevelt handily won reelection to another term over opponent Alf Landon.

The Republican Party lost all but two states, Maine and Vermont. Tennessee went for FDR by a 2-1 vote.

In Putnam County, Roosevelt got a total of 2,528 votes to Landon's 1,454.

*Meanwhile, 306 Tennessee banks are now insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the state announced this week in a bid to assure Tennesseans that it's once again safe to take their money out of mattresses and put them back into banks.

Since FDIC went into effect, the state says that only four banks have gone under, and 98 percent of their customers' money was paid back.

State officials said it is yet another sign that FDR's programs are taking effect and the Depression is loosening its grip.

And in Cookeville next week, federal judge John Gore will hear arguments from 19 small electric companies that claim in a federal lawsuit that the Tennessee Valley Authority was illegally created by Congress.

The companies are seeking to stop TVA's electrification program, under which power lines are spider-webbing across Tennessee presently, bringing electricity to thousands.

(November 12, 1936) Gold and black and yellow and white are the colors you'll see decorating storefronts in downtown Cookeville this weekend as the town goes all out to welcome football fans passing through town on Highway 70.

It's an annual fall ritual here, and this weekend is one of the bigger rivalries, Vanderbilt versus the University of Tennessee.

The newspaper urges residents and merchants to "make every effort to make visitors welcome."

"The welcome spirit should prevail among all Cookevillians. So let's use our best effort and make our visitors happy – even though some may be a little downcast on their way home Saturday evening."

If you're not one of those going to the big game in Nashville but want some entertainment, stop by the Princess Theater Saturday afternoon and see "Buck the Wonder Dog" in "The Country Beyond," with Rochell Hudson and Paul Kelly.

It's a tale about "the Mounties in their biggest manhunt," says the ad. Tickets are 30 cents for adults and a dime for kids.

*Franklin D. Roosevelt has just been reelected, and that has bolstered the confidence of many here in the nation's economy. The Mrs. A. W. Waldrow Business School, located at 321 S. Washington Ave., tells readers in an ad that "prosperity is assured for the next four years." I add, "This is the ideal time to properly prepare for a government position. It is with pardonable pride that we can point to the outstanding success of our graduates." The school gives certificates of proficiency to all who qualify.

(November 15, 1936) The heirs of R.B. Capshaw gave the county a site for a new elementary school here this week. It was the northwest corner of the R.B. Capshaw farm.

The heirs, Coran P. and Hulon J. Capshaw live in New York City now where they have done well in the practice of law. Hulon Capshaw is now a judge. They both say they're interested in keeping up with Cookeville's progress.

The elementary school to be built on what was their father's land is one of three new grammar schools planned for Cookeville.

(November 19, 1936) The heirs of the late R. B. Capshaw, Hulon and Coran Capshaw, have deeded to the county school system a site for a new grade school.

It lies on the northwest corner of the Capshaw farm, and is one of four new grammar schools planned for the city.

A second will be built in Cookeville on the Barnes property, the newspaper told readers this week.

The Capshaw family owns a sizable plot southeast of the Square and the two sons now live in New York City, where one, Hulon, is a noted judge.

*A double treat is in store for the audience at the Princess Theater this week. For the price of a single ticket they'll see "Little Miss Nobody," with Jane Withers.

The show will be preceded by a live stage performance by "Calvert," a "well-known magician," according to the newspaper.

*A show coming to Nashville is creating something more of a sensation, however. Famous Broadway producer George White is bringing "Scandals" To Nashville's Ryman Auditorium for a series of sold-out performances.

The play, coming to Music City following a highly successful run on Broadway in New York, requires six railcars full of costumes, sets and stage equipment.

*Riding railcars is a common- and illegal-way to get around these days. It sometimes leads to tragedy. That was the case for a 15-year-old Crawford boy who this week rode the rails all the way to Muncie, IN. There, he raised his head atop a freight car as it passed under a low bridge. It broke his neck. His body is being returned to his family by rail this week for burial.

(November 26, 1936) Tennessee Polytech's fall quarter enrollment figures have been released. Here's a breakdown of the 468 students currently enrolled there. There are 293 men and 175 coeds enrolled. Of those, 83 men are agriculture majors. The business department, the largest on campus, has 81 men and 44 women. Three men are in chemistry, 17 in electrical engineering, 21 in civil engineering, 14 in general engineering, and two in mechanical engineering. There are 31 women majoring in English and 11 men. History has 35 male majors and 20 women. The Home economics Department has 74 coeds as majors.

(November 29, 1936) A campaign is underway here and across Tennessee to implement a driver's license law. This year, there have been 700 people killed in auto accidents in the state, 73 percent of them in rural areas. Officials say that if persons had to pass some sort of driving skills test to get a license, auto deaths might drop.

(Dec. 3, 1936) One of the country's leading Republicans died this week.

Robert F. Shanks died in his home in western Putnam County in the 7th District.

A farmer all his left, he was twice married and was a life-long Methodist.

County Judge O. K. Holladay got an unusual gift this week from a supporter, a cedar lard paddle carved by Hiram Knight from the bottom of a lard bucket that was in use for 100 years before it recently fell apart.

Knight is known as "the best whittler and knife trader in this section," says the newspaper.

The bucket was given to him by his mother, Susan Knight, who used it to hold lard from cooking for 50 years before passing it on to her son. Knight himself used it 50 years until it finally disintegrated earlier this month.

Hulon Capshaw, a noted New York City judge whose family has roots in Cookeville, is known for his wry comments from the bench.

The newspaper this week picked up a wire service story quoting Capshaw's reaction when police brought in a man who had taunted four US Marines in a subway and subsequently became involved in a brawl with the leathernecks.

"Magistrate Capshaw looked at the swollen bruised face of the defendant and remarked. "Anyone silly enough to get into a boxing bout with four Marines undoubtedly has been punished enough. Sentence suspended."

(December 10, 1936) Another Cookeville landmark is being torn down, the newspaper reported this week.

The frame building on the corner of Washington and Freeze Street was used by a Church of Christ congregation here for 28 years, from 1877 when it was built until 1905 when the congregation erected a new brick church on Broad Street.

Then it became the offices of the Cookeville Press newspaper operated by Rutledge Smith from 1905 until it closed in 1913.

Afterwards it was a blacksmith shop for several years until it fell into disrepair and Col. James Cox bought the building and property.

Now, Cox is tearing down the old building, which is one of the few still standing from Cookeville's earliest days, says the newspaper.

The top headlines this week were made not in Cookeville but in England where King Edward VIII announced he is giving up the throne of England to marry an American divorcee, Wallis Simpson.

The Cookeville Fire department this week issued its annual report. It responded to 57 fire calls during 1936. Most were grass fires or chimney fires.

The biggest loss was the ice plant, which burned earlier this year. It was valued at \$20,000. There were also two houses lost to fire this year, each valued at about \$3,000.

*Doris Carr, daughter of Mattie Carr of Cookeville is the seventh place winner in the statewide Sally Ann Bread Company's latest contest. Like the six other winners, she got to choose between a new pony or a bicycle. She took the bicycle. She won by filling out an entry blank like those found in all of the Murfreesboro company's loaves of bread.

A page-one editorial in this week's edition poses this question to readers: Do you know of any other city in Tennessee with 1,000 or more residents that does not have sidewalks leading to its schools? Algood, Monterey, Smithville and Crossville all have fine sidewalks leading to their schools, notes the newspaper.

Here, children walk in the mud to get to Central High School, which has an enrollment of more than 400 students.

Fowler Clark, the school's principal, says the average daily attendance at Central isn't what it should be because students with wet feet are often sick and miss classes. It's a disgrace going on now for the fifth year, the newspaper declares.

(December 17, 1936) Sure, the nation is in the middle of the Depression, but the buying power of the American farmer is at its highest level on the average since World War I, according to officials in the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. But that high level is not being enjoyed uniformly across the nation, the officials add. Some sections of the country are hard hit by drought and flooding. In all, farmers nationwide produced 10 percent more this year than last year.

*People are telling the newspaper this week how much they enjoy the Christmas music and chimes being broadcast by loudspeaker from the Square. They do it in the business district in Nashville where many Cookevillians ride the train and shop, and somebody thought it was time Cookeville had public Christmas music, too.

So, Earl Evans, a licensed radio operator and instructor in the engineering department at Tennessee Polytech, volunteered to set up his Cumberland Sound System in the tower on the county courthouse here. It will broadcast chimes, carols and choir music from now until Christmas, city officials say.

(December 21, 1936) Over in Cumberland County, the Homesteaders got a Christmas present from Uncle Sam — electricity.

They began tossing away their oil lamps there this week as TVA extended its power lines to the 155 homes in the federal Homestead project. New TVA lines already circle Crossville as well.

(December 24, 1936) There's good news for the state economy this Christmas. After years of tough times caused by the Depression, the number of jobs in the private sector is picking up. The newspaper gathers this from figures showing a decline in the number of young men enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps. From May 1, 1933, to Dec. 1 of this year, 29,000 Tennesseans have been listed on the CCC's rolls. As of this year, nearly 8,000 of those have dropped out. The reason? They found jobs.

From May 1, 1933 until Dec. 1 of this year, 29,000 men in Tennessee have been enlisted in the CCC. And as of Dec. 1, 7, 710 have been "discharged" and are now working in other non-governmental jobs.

Meanwhile, progress shined its light on Cumberland County this week when 155 homes in the federal Cumberland Homestead project snuffed out their oil lamps and flipped on light switches and watched electrical lights flash on.

TVA power line loops now surround Crossville, bringing electricity to hundreds of homes on the Plateau.

Cookeville is decked out for Christmas. Broad Street is especially colorful this year lit by colored electric lights and ever-green boughs hanging on storefronts and the doors of homes.

And the city announced the winners in this year's Christmas decoration contest. The Algood Carlen home won first place in the home category and Southern Continental won first in the business category.

(December 31, 1936) There's a cheery news this week. There were 935 non-government jobs filled by the State Employment Office in the month of December across Tennessee. Most of them were factory jobs, which means that the economy is moving again. That's an increase of 454 percent above the new private jobs created a year ago in December, state officials not.

*What's showing at the Princess Theater the week of Christmas? "When Ladies Meet," with Greer Garson, Joan Crawford and Robert Taylor' "Sheriff of Tombstone," with Roy Rogers; and Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour in "Caught in the Draft."

1937

(January 14, 1937) Arnold Lacy and Oliver Sherrell have opened a new pottery plant on the west end of Spring Street, the newspaper announce this week.

They've already sent the first load of pottery ware through their kiln and homemakers who've seen it are giving their work high marks.

Meanwhile, the Cookeville American Legion Band and the Cookeville Boys' Band are just itching to perform at a wedding. Their only problem: No bride and groom.

So, the two musical groups this week announced that they and a "large number of valuable gifts" are available to the first bride and groom who volunteer to assist them.

The musicians assured prospective couples that the ceremony will be legal and somber in tone - - and will e accompanied by music from the two bands.

Showing at the Princess this week: Gary Cooper and Jean Arthur as Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane in Cecil B. DeMille's "The Plainsman."

(January 21, 1937) Cookeville City School has announced its honor students for the last six week grade period.

Among those making the honor roll were:

Eighth graders Idanelle McMurray, Billie Mott, Ruth Danner and Jean Russell.

Seventh graders Joseph Plaxco, Vida Fox, Dorothy Burgess and Roy Fitzpatrick.

Fifth graders George Johnson, Frances Carlen, Nellie Pryor and Mark Harris.

Fourth graders Ray Newman, Frances Starnes, Herman Pinkerton and Sue Flatt.

And third graders Bob Lowe, Joe Scarlett, Horace Choate and Philip Carlen Webb.

(January 28, 1937) Women may soon outnumber the men at Tennessee Polytech, college officials reported this week when the winter term enrollment figure were in.

Winter enrollment at TPI hit 500 this January, the highest ever, they noted.

Of the 43 new students this winter, 24 were women.

This fall, men only outnumbered women at TPI by 118. This term there are only 83 more men than women there.

*Members of the Sparta and Cookeville Lion's Clubs got together this week for an update on the state's progress on plans for a new road between the two towns.

It would be the first link in what officials across the region hope will one day be a road stretching from Lexington, KY to Chattanooga.

Hubert Carlen, chairman of the Cookeville Club's Highway Committee, reported that the state has been successful in buying all but three sections of right-of-way along the route.

*The state's economy continues to improve. Another 1,081 unemployed Tennesseans found work in private industry in December, according to the State Employment Service.

That's a 191 percent increase in the number of Tennesseans working this December compared to those working in December a year ago.

(February 4, 1937) The annual President's Birthday Ball in the Tennessee Polytech gymnasium was another rousing success this year, says the Cookeville Rotary Club. A "goodly sum" was raised for the Crippled Children's Fund, the newspaper reports.

Of the \$58 gathered in the fundraiser, Gideon Lowe, chairman of the Rotary Club's Ball Committee, says \$17.41 will be sent to a club-sponsored facility at Warm Springs, GA, and the remaining \$40.61 will remain here in the club's Cripple Children's Fund.

"The Merchant of Venice" will be performed here next week by a troupe of Shakespearean actors from New York City.

Tickets are 40 cents for adults and 25 cents for students, a full dime more than the cost of a movie here.

But the newspaper assured readers this week that the troupe will put on "the full acting" version of the play, with period costumes and an array of props."

If Shakespeare isn't your cup of tea, showing this week at the Princess Theater is "College Holiday," a comedy with George Burns, Gracie Allen, Ben Blue and Mary Boland.

(February 12, 1937) Gov. Gordon Browning signed his name five times in Nashville this week and brought the federal Social Security program to Tennessee.

The five bills he signed, which adopt various portions of Franklin D. Roosevelt's sprawling welfare program for the nation, are designed to "alleviate poverty for the aged, the blind, young people and the widows of Confederate war veterans," says the newspaper.

Applications will soon be available for the elderly to sign up for "old age pensions," it adds.

In part, the federal government though the program will pay up to \$24 per month to the impoverished elderly, up to \$12 per month to poor children under the age of 16, up to \$25 per month to the blind.

In all, some \$4 million in welfare aid will be spent by Social Security in Tennessee in its first year.

Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "The Gorgeous Hussy," with Joan Crawford, Robert Taylor and Lionel Barrymore.

(February 17, 1937) Tennessee and 39 other states have introduced legislation to make drunk driving a serious crime and punishments range from “whipping at the post” to lifelong revocations of driver’s licenses.

(February 19, 1937) The Daughters of the American Revolution have had an active chapter in Cookeville for some time, and this week, a chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution was on the verge of being created.

The 20 local men who have the genealogical credentials necessary to be part of the patriotic organization and other potential members will meet this week to pick a name for the local chapter and to choose officers.

Among the 20 already accepted by the Nashville chapter are Alfred Algood Carlen, Henry Carlen, W. B. Carlen, J. N. Cox, Robert Stockton, John Holladay and his brother, Oscar K. Holladay, Gideon Lowe, George Shanks, Thurman Whitson and John Allison Bullington.

The community this week was shocked by the death of T. J. Gregory, 86, owner of the handle mill that was one of the city’s prime industries.

The newspaper notes that Gregory, who died at home following a brief illness, was “one of the most highly esteemed citizens” in town.

He built the T. J. Gregory Handle Works at Lafayette in 1881 and moved it to Cookeville in 1895. “It has ever since been one of the city’s leading industries,” the newspaper reports.

Born in Macon County, Gregory served as county court clerk of that county for 16 years and in 1891 represented Macon in the Tennessee General Assembly.

After moving to Cookeville he served for several terms on the Cookeville board of aldermen.

Meanwhile, 8th grader Idanelle McMurray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam McMurray, won the annual City School spelling contest this week.

Professor A. L. Campbell of Tennessee Polytech was the judge. In all, 14 students participated.

Arintha Bowman and Nola Choate tied for second place.

(February 25, 1937) Z. Taylor Webb, 89, now nearly blind and living in Bloomington, Illinois, wrote the newspaper this week asking it to run a short article on him to let friends and relatives know he is about to mark his 90th birthday.

Born, in 1848 just east of Cookeville, his father, William Webb, was one of the first Justices of the Peace when Putnam County was created.

He notes that he left Tennessee just days after the death of William Jennings Bryant, scopes Monkey Trial in Dayton, TN, but who died there resting after the trial.

Webb says that waiting for the rain to refuel in Dayton, he stepped off the train and ran into Tennessee Governor Austin Peay.

In their conversation, Webb writes that he urged the governor “not to let those lawyers take the case to the Supreme Court.”

Meanwhile in Jackson County this week, services were held for America Buck Dyer, 93. She died at her home near Gainesboro after a brief illness.

She was the daughter of an early pioneer here, Abraham Buck.

The newspaper noted this week that 40 states this year, including Tennessee have introduced legislation making drunk driving a serious crime.

Punishment for drunk driving in the pending bills ranges from “whipping at the post” to life-long revocation of driver’s licenses.

Owned by Drs. W. A. Howard and H. H. Taylor and dentist J. P. Terry, the new brick building one block west of the square on Broad Street will house their practices.

It will also house the offices of Dr. W. S. McClain and State Highway Engineer J. G. Coble.

(March 3, 1937) The boys outspelled the girls in the latest countywide spelling bee held this week in the auditorium of the Cookeville City School.

Charles Oakes, Jr. of Jere Whitson Elementary was the top speller in a field of 31 contestants from across the county. He won \$3 and an expense-paid trip to Nashville to compete later this spring in the state spelling bee.

Freeman Waddell of Silver Point was the second place winner in the bee.

Lloyd Knight, a junior at Putnam County Senior High, was announced this week as the winner in a essay contest sponsored by the Southern Agriculturist magazine. Contestants were asked to write on “What I want to be and why.”

Young Knight wrote that his ambition is to be a farmer, “but not just a plain farmer, but one who knows real farm economics.”

He says he plans to major in agriculture in college.

(March 11, 1937) The sale of beer outside of Putnam’s incorporated areas will be regulated beginning Saturday night. That’s when rules drawn up by the newly created Putnam Beer Commission go into effect.

Under the new rules, beer can no longer be sold on Sunday and it cannot be sold within 2,000 feet of a church, school, dance hall or tourist camp.

Two more arrest have been made in the recent sniper shooting of Fentress County Sheriff Wilford Smith. That brings the total of arrests in the shooting to eight now.

The sheriff and a group of deputies were fire on at the Zenith mine near Jamestown while guarding 50 non-union miners during a strike.

The sheriff was wounded, then broke his leg falling down. He’s in the Jamestown hospital this week recuperating.

Mackie Shanks, a Cookeville native now conducting a popular band in Birmingham, will now be heard by thousands of Alabama residents next week when he begins his new show on Birmingham radio station WSGN.

As a professional bandleader, he’s going by the name “Mack Terry.”

(March 12, 1937) President Roosevelt has announced a program to provide loans and financial training to help tenant farmers buy land of their own. According to the latest census figures, 41 percent of the county’s 23,759 residents and their families are classified as tenant farmers.

(March 18, 1937) Cookeville Police Chief Harve Qualls said this week that officers are going to be cracking down on two problems plaguing the city this week, “One-eyed cars” and free-ranging chickens.

“Too many local citizens are driving around the streets of Cookeville without the required lighting on their cars and this is not only dangerous to the owners of the cars but it is also dangerous to other motorists,” he said.

Fix those broken head and tail lights or get a ticket, he said.

He reminded drivers that state vehicle laws require all drivers to carry a spare bulb in their vehicle at all times.

Meanwhile, the city has long had a law against letting your chickens, turkeys, geese and guinea hens run loose and now that spring gardens are about to be planted, birds found running loose will be confiscated, he said.

*President Franklin D. Roosevelt is proposing a program of comprehensive aid for the nation’s tenant farmers and the newspaper this week looked at how many there are here.

Based on the last census figures, the newspaper says, that 41 percent of Putnam’s 23,759 residents are tenant farmers and their families.

Statewide, 46 percent of all Tennessee farmers rent farms rather than own them.

FDR’s program provides loans and financial training to encourage tenant farmers to buy land of their own.

(April 1, 1937) Putnam County’s version of Sgt. Alvin C. York, World War hero Mark Conley, is finally being honored for his exploits in France during the war.

Congress is about to award the rank of retired captain to Conley to pay homage to his heroism.

On Sept. 29, 1918, Conley became separated from his platoon in heavy fog and when it cleared, observed a group of German machine gunners fleeing an aerial attack.

He followed them to a bunker and single-handedly captured 18 enemies’ soldiers.

General John J. Pershing personally congratulated the Putnam man and cited him for gallantry in action.

Since the war, Conley returned home and resumed the quiet life of a farmer. Few today were aware of his exploits until news from Congress reached Cookeville this week.

*To call attention to the newly completed renovation of the Putnam Jail, Sheriff Sam D. Poteet has arranged for the Cookeville Boy’s Band to give a free concert on the lawn of the facility Sunday afternoon.

Meanwhile, nine students from Central High are going to Murfreesboro this week to compete in a regional Latin tournament. It’s the first time Central has fielded a team for the event.

The team includes Joe Lane, Nancy Travis, Grace McBroom, Betty Jeanne May, Bryan Wiggins, Anita Wall, Catheryn Walker, Joe Drake and Houston Boyd.

(April 8, 1937) Coal miners were fired on again this week near Jamestown as non-union miners continue to operate mines during a violent strike here.

Fentress County Sheriff Wilford Smith, still wearing a cast on his leg from when he was shot by a sniper guarding miners a month ago, sent a posse of deputies out after the latest sniping incident.

Shots were fired on miners at the same mine where Smith was wounded, the Zenith mines 18 miles from Jamestown. The mines are almost completely surrounded by high bluffs. Many of the strikers are farmers

who live in the hills about the mines. Work began at the Zenith mines on March 8 after being closed for 70 days in the strike.

*The Bobby Burns Circus rolled into town this week in a 60-truck caravan. No circus parade is scheduled, but the circus band is expected to give a concert on the Courthouse lawn Saturday afternoon.

(April 10, 1937) To pay homage to his bravery, Congress has awarded the rank of retired captain to Putnam County's World War I hero Mark Conley, who single-handedly captured 18 German soldiers on Sept. 29, 1918 after heavy fog separated him from his platoon.

(April 15, 1937) Gov. Gordon Browning was the guest speaker here this week at what the newspaper described as "one of the most brilliant affairs ever held here," a five-course meal for 200 in the TPI Cafeteria.

The occasion was the annual banquet of the Cookeville Lion's Club and in attendance were area officials like State Commissioner of Labor Albert Gore. Music was provided by the TPI Orchestra under the direction of Charles Bryan.

One of the guests was former Herald reporter Sam Neal, who now works for the Nashville Banner and who came back home to cover the governor's speech.

A variety of entertainment lightened the tone of the event, including magic tricks by Lions Club member Dr. Harlan Taylor.

The UT Extension Service reported this week that a cooler than normal March coupled with numerous unexpected hard freezes have held back the county's grain crop and other winter crops.

Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Git Along Little Doggies," with Gene Autry.

(April 22, 1937) Old Jared House In West Cookeville Razed: The old "Jared Hotel" building on the south side of West Broad street, has been torn down to make room for a modern brick business house. This old building has been in bad repair for several years.

The building, originally built for a residence in 1890, was purchased about 1891 by the late Brice B. Jared, who enlarged it and converted for many years and until his removal to Nashville, where he was engaged in the hotel business at the time of his death.

This old building was one of the last landmarks of the old West Cookeville business section.

*The Heffner-Vinson Players will be here for two nights next week in a large tent on the Capshaw lot on Broad Street.

The 50-member vaudeville troupe is headed by Jimmy Heffner, who according to his advance publicity is "one of the favorite comedians in the South."

Other featured members of the troupe include Betty Rose, a "whirlwind acrobatic dancer," Alice Randell, "the personality girl," and Margarette Marsh, "a torch singer from Old Virginia."

*Showing at the Princess Theatre this week: Marlene Dietrich, Charles Boyer and Basil Rathbone in "The Garden of Allah."

(April 29, 1937) The Cookeville Boy's Band is tuning up for a series of eight Saturday afternoon concerts in downtown Cookeville and they'll look their best when they perform, too, now that their new uniforms have arrived.

The band will play for half an hour each Saturday at the square and then move down to West Cookeville and play at the Depot for half an hour.

They'll be wearing blue hats and blue ties bought through donations. They wear white shirts and slacks too.

Present members of the Cookeville Boy's Band are Phil Hutcheson, Billy Davis, B. Fox, Dillard Hutcheson, Ernest Terry, Ridley Parkerson, John Mott, V. C. Allison, Charles Stanton, Eugene Huddleston and Layton Stanton.

There was a commotion in front of the Jenkin and Darwin store here this week when Boon Hunter, janitor for the TPI Café, started to park his car at the curb.

But instead of hitting the brakes, he says he got it backwards and stomped on the accelerator instead – and went through the store's front window.

Two men standing on the sidewalk at the time leapt out of the way just in time.

(May 6, 1937) Two members of Venezuela's Olympics team passed through Cookeville this week on their way to the National Boy Scout Jamboree in Washington D. C. They were on foot.

The pair since Jan. 11, 1935 when they left Caracas on foot have walked 9,300 miles and have worn out ten pair of shoes in the good-will publicity tour.

They've hiked alone pulling a two-wheeled cart with their belongings and have slept along the roadside. They're both wearing broad-brimmed regulation Boy Scout hats.

They were escorted into Cookeville by Police Chief Harve Qualls, who, when they said they didn't speak English very well, chatted with the pair in their native language. Qualls worked for two years drilling for oil in Venezuela a few years back.

After the Scout Jamboree, the pair plan to return to their country a little quicker than they came – by train and by ship.

(May 13, 1937) The new Cookeville Country Club is getting started Saturday at the Cookeville Airport with an Olympic shooting exhibition designed to arouse interest in the sport and the new club here.

The exhibition will feature a display of shooting skills by Olympics Winchester rifle medalist Jim G. Levack, known internationally for his trick shooting.

*Meanwhile in Double Springs, the town is getting ready to hold elections, its first in some time.

Double Springs, a railhead on the Tennessee Central Railroad, incorporated in 1899, but elections haven't been held there in several years, according to the newspaper. The community lost interest in being a town.

The hottest race in the Double Springs Election is the mayoral race, which pits Ed Pippin against Dow Pippin, says the newspaper.

(May 20, 1937) The Strand Theater in downtown Cookeville is about to get a makeover.

The owners told the newspaper this week that they are installing a new tilting floor like those in big city movie houses so that everyone in the audience will have "perfect vision from every seat in the house."

They're also putting in new draperies and carpeting.

The management says that once the work is down, the Strand will be open a full 6 days a week (no movies are shown here on Sundays) and that all the films will be "high class."

*Dr. W. S. McClain came across a January 12, 1878 copy of the old Cookeville Chronicle newspaper this week and showed it to the staff of the existing newspaper here.

Some items of note from that old edition:

1. Barber H. J. Brown announced that he is quitting giving haircuts here for anything less than ten cents "and if they don't like it I will neither charge nor cut."
2. Due to the recent inclement weather, mail due to arrive here by stagecoach from Nashville on Saturday has been delayed until Sunday. An 11-inch deep snow held up the coach an extra day.
3. J. A. Welch has just opened a new establishment on the Cookeville Square. It features a "family grocery" along with a confectionery house and a saloon with "the purest drinks for only five cents."

(May 27, 1937) Miss Geraldine Terry, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Terry, will be crowned "Queen of the Poppies" Saturday by the American Legion Auxiliary preceding the annual Poppy Day parade here.

The festival commemorates Allied soldiers who fell in Europe in the World War in 1918, many in Flanders Field in France on a carpet of brilliant red poppies, which have now become their symbol.

The parade starts Saturday on Westside and heads up Broad to the Square.

The proclamation setting this year's parade and Poppy Queen coronation notes that in 1917 and 1918, 25 Cookevillians were among the more than 100,000 Americans who died in the conflict in Europe.

*Services were held this week in Terrytown, New York for America's first billionaire, John D. Rockefeller, who was 97. The people who work in his oil empire around the world paused at their posts and observed a five-minute silence this week in his memory.

(May 27, 1937) The US Supreme Court recently ruled that the Social Security Tax is legal, and the ruling unleashes 42 federal agents who are preparing to crack down on the estimated 10,000 Tennessee employers who haven't been paying the new tax.

Multi-millionaire John D. Rockefeller is dead at 97. In what his family says will be a small, closed ceremony at his New York estate, there are more than 50 friends and relatives, and several hundred employees of the estate who pay their final respects. Just before the services, 50 carloads of flowers arrived.

(June 17, 1937) Cookeville's Clara Cox Epperson, prominent club woman, author and the Poet-Laureate of Tennessee died here this week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. A. Howard.

Born in Gainesboro, she was the daughter of Capt. Robert A. Cox, a Confederate soldier, and Nancy Draper Cox. She finished school at Price's College for Young Ladies in Nashville in 1887 and taught school at Dixon Springs, Smith County and Jackson County until her marriage in 1891 to John A. Epperson.

Three years later they moved to Algood where he ran a store and a wheel spokes plant. He died in 1918 and she lived with her daughter ever since.

She was one of the founders of Old Walton Road Chapter of the DAR and the Book Lovers' Club and over the years was active in numerous women's organization here.

She served as president of several.

Many of her articles, essays and poems were published in regional or national magazines and in 1934, she was named the Poet Laureate of Tennessee.

(June 19, 1937) Algood's Robinson Crusoe Buck, believed to be the oldest black Democrat in the US, has attended the National Association of Crusaders convention in Washington D.C The former slave was the grandfather of Daniel West, whom President Roosevelt recently named Vice Commissioner of the Virgin Islands in the first known appointment of a black man to a high government post.

Buck, in the early part of the century, was a buggy driver and often drove Cordell Hull when he was Upper Cumberland Circuit Judge.

(June 21, 1937) Cookeville's Clara Cox Epperson, Poet Laureate of Tennessee, has died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W.A. Howard.

(June 24, 1937) Quiet has been restored in Jamestown after the arrests of 11 men in the fatal ambush shooting of Casper H. Wood, 25, the general manager of the strife-torn Zenith Coal Mine.

Several of the men arrested were striking coal miners who once worked at the plant and the arrests of some resulted in additional charges of assaults on deputies.

Meanwhile, US Secretary of State Cordell Hull sent word back to friends in Tennessee this week that he has no intention of running for President.

This came as the movement to draft him as the Democratic candidate began to pick up steam this week across the state.

It started earlier this month when the Democratic Party in Wilson County voted to endorse Hull, an Upper Cumberland native now in the world's spotlight, as candidate for president.

Wilson County Democrats urged other county Democratic parties to do the same, and several have gotten on the bandwagon.

Then last week, the Tennessee Press Association in its annual meeting at Red Boiling Springs voted to endorse Hull as a presidential candidate.

The problem is Hull says he has no plans to run. But he thanked his would-be supporters nonetheless.

A just-completed study by the Columbia Broadcasting System concludes that 9 out of 10 American families now has a radio.

They're becoming so popular that 28 radios are sold every minute of the day, says CBS. In just the last three months, more than 1.3 million radios have been sold in the US.

It added that besides those in homes, 4 million automobiles now have radios too.

(July 10, 1937) Twenty carloads of CIO labor union representatives paraded around the Cookeville square this week with banners and signs and then circled the Washington plant here and did the same following trouble at the plant last week.

Last week at the Washington plant, four CIO workers from Nashville say they were assaulted and harassed as they were passing out fliers to workers leaving their shift.

Police were called and the four charged 13 factory workers with assault.

This week in a show of force, the caravan from Nashville passed through town circling the square and factory. A large crowd of residents turned out to watch. The cars never stopped and after they'd made the rounds, the string of autos returned to Nashville without further incident.

*Algood's Robinson Crusoe Buck, believed to be the oldest black Democrat in the US, was in Washington this week to attend the Nationals Association of Crusaders convention.

The former slave is the grandfather of Daniel West, who President Franklin D. Roosevelt recently named Vice Commissioner of the Virgin Islands, the first known appointment of a black man to a high government post.

Buck in the early years of the century was a buggy driver and often drove for Cordell Hull when he was a circuit judge in the Upper Cumberland.

(July 10, 1937) The Old Walton Chapter of the DAR this week dedicated a new water fountain on the lawn of the Putnam Courthouse and placed a large stone by in commemorating "our revolutionary ancestors and Putnam County pioneers."

Now courthouse workers are trying to find an old well on the courthouse property to feed the fountain. The well shaft was covered up some 30 years ago when water lines were run to the courthouse, according to the newspaper.

*Dr. Henry C. Martin, a retired physician, won't be playing many of those old tunes for a while, it appears. Someone has stolen his 125-year-old fiddle.

Martin, a former state representative, has owned the vintage fiddle for the past 50 years and is known to play a lively tune, says the paper.

But this week, "Feeling the musical urge again, he reached for his fiddle only to find that the case was empty," the newspaper reports.

It adds that he is "mounting a diligent effort" to recover the stolen instrument.

(July 16, 1937) Assistant Scoutmaster Robert Lee and Cookeville Boy Scouts Hargrave Piepmeier, Billy Carlen and Lawrence Lamb are back from a week in Washington D. D. attending an international Boy Scout Jamboree.

What was most impressive about their trip? Carlen says Mt. Vernon, Lamb, the Smithsonian Institute, and Piepmeier was most fascinated by a visit to the FBI headquarters.

They also saw all sorts of Boy Scouting uniforms from around the world. Scottish scouts wore kilts, Scouts from England and Canada sported blue uniforms, and Scouts from India, China and Mexico attended in attire reflecting their unique cultures, the boys reported in an interview in the newspaper here upon their return.

*Dozen of rural elementary schools across Putnam County open their doors for the new school year next week, hoping to get in instruction time before the fall harvest and winter weather sets in.

Teachers are to report to the Central Office to sign a new one-year contracts and pick up school supplies, starting with one-room schoolhouse teachers first.

(July 29, 1937) Cookeville needs more sidewalks, says Mayor Ezra Davis, and the city has petitioned the federal WPA Administration to build more here.

The latest petition, the mayor notes, will give a second chance to those residents who wanted in on the first recent sidewalk project, but who failed to gather the required neighborhood petitions.

Under the WPA program, sidewalks in the program are laid by WPA workers at a cost to the property owner of 25 cents per linear foot.

Meanwhile, Cookeville police are getting complaints again about dogs running loose and killing chickens in the city.

Police say that some packs of dogs have become so vicious that mothers have complained they are afraid to let their children play in their own yards.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: William Boyd as Hopalong Cassidy in "Trail Dust."

(August 5, 1937) It's the first known case of its kind here: flying while intoxicated.

Sheriff Sam Denton Poteet and Cookeville patrolman Paul Thompson met a Pennsylvania pilot at the Cookeville airport when he touched down around midnight Saturday night.

He'd been buzzing the city, flying low and erratically, for some time and the two lawmen decided to look into the situation. When he landed, Poteet said the man was drunk.

"He was mighty high to be flying so low," said Sheriff Poteet.

The pilot is in jail awaiting a hearing today.

*As more cars are being bought and driven on Tennessee roads, the Tennessee High Patrol recently doubled the number of troopers patrolling those roads across the state.

In the 14-county district head-quartered in Cookeville, commander Joe Boyd Williams has put in a request for funds to buy 75 more motorcycles to put his new troopers on area roads and highways.

(August, 12, 1937) State road officials met with Cookeville Mayor Ezra Davis and other town officials this week to discuss a new road between Cookeville and Sparta.

The new route will eliminate a number of dangerous curves and hills, state road builders say.

Davis and other town fathers hope the new route south will give them leverage in their efforts to get a new route north as well.

Area officials have long talked about the need for a good road running north from Cookeville to the state line, and they say the new Sparta Road could easily continue north from the Square to Kentucky.

*Showing this week at the Palace Theater in Monterey: "Sundown Saunders," a cowboy shoot'em-up with Bob Steel, and Hoot Gibson in "Ridge Avenger."

(August 17, 1937) State road officials have met with Cookeville Mayor Ezra Davis and other town officials to discuss a new road between Cookeville and Sparta, eliminating a number of dangerous curves and hills along the present route.

(November 24, 1937) When Cookeville stopped enforcing its decades-old nightly curfew for youths several years ago, town police were still ringing a bell to warn children they were to head for home or be in violation of the curfew.

This week the curfew was reinstated by Cookeville Mayor Ezra Davis, who modernized the warning signal to match the city's now-larger size.

A siren will sound to let youths under the age of 16 know when it's 9 p.m.. time to be indoors. The curfew lasts every night until 4 a.m.

*Tennessee's mountain families are getting smaller, and so are their farms, according to a report just released by University of Tennessee sociologist W. E. Cole.

Cole says that the average Tennessee mountain farm family now has 4.8 members. The last time the figures were collected – 1900- the average mountain farm family had 5.3 members.

And the present mountain farm is 61 acres on the average in Tennessee, as compared to 94.7 acres in the 1900 study.

(November 25, 1937) Tennessee corn liquor is still in demand in Kentucky despite the fact that with prohibition gone, several brands of liquor can now be bought there legally, say federal liquor agents.

They came to this conclusion after raiding a moonshine still in Jackson County that yielded 80 gallons of corn mash ready for distilling.

Trucks were being loaded for runs through Kentucky at the time of the raid, federal agents said.

The raid in the No Man's section of Jackson County also resulted in the arrest of six Jackson County men.

*The pilot of a small passenger plane en route from Los Angeles was highly complimentary of the Cookeville airport this week – after he used it for an emergency landing.

The pilot had refueled in Nashville and was headed for the Crossville airport to refuel. The trouble was, he couldn't find the Crossville airport. Lost and low on fuel, he did manage to find the airport north of Cookeville where he quickly touched down before being forced to.

He and his passengers decided to spend the night in the Shanks Hotel before flying on.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Tarzan Escapes," the first Tarzan film in two years and it's another talkie, according to the newspaper. It stars Johnny Weissmuller.

(December 2, 1937) Cookeville's jail was one of the seven in Middle Tennessee that failed a federal inspection. Other jails included ones in Manchester, Clarksville, Murfreesboro and Nashville.

(December 30, 1937) Eight Person Were Lynched in 1937: According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 8 person lynched in 1937. This is the same number 8 as for 1936; 12 less than the number 20 for 1935; and 7 less than the number 15 for 1934, the report shown. All of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 3 were taken from jails, and 5 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the victims were tortured with a blow torch; then one was shot to death and the other was burned to death, according to records.

There were 56 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. 5 of these were in Northern States and 51 in Southern States. In 51 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 5 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 77 person, 5 white men and 72 Negroes, 2 women and 70 men, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 person lynched, all were Negroes. The offenses charged were: rape, 1; crime against nature and robbery, 1; murder, 4; wounding officer of the law, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 3; Georgia, 1; Mississippi, 2; Tennessee, 1.

1938

(October 23, 1938) The Putnam County Court has appropriated \$50,000 for school repairs. Half is to be spent on rural schools and the other half will be spent on schools in Cookeville, Algood, Baxter and Monterey.

(November 30, 1938) Gene Autry, the singing cowboy of film and radio fame, stopped by the home of Princess Theater manager E.C. Reeves here on a trip from Nashville to Knoxville this week. The word got out that he was in town and several residents decided to "drop in" on Reeves and meet the star.

Autry's horse, "champion," passed through town earlier unnoticed in an unmarked van.

1939

(January 19, 1939) Cookevillians will join millions of other Americans this week in wishing President Franklin Delano Roosevelt a happy 57th birthday.

For FDR's birthday bash, Cookeville is holding a dance at Tennessee Polytech. David Terry is chairman and the college's composer and conductor, Charles Bryan, will be there with the TPI Orchestra.

Proceeds go to the fight against infantile paralysis, of which FDR is a victim.

* Meanwhile in Southern China, a wire service photographer made a picture of Japanese invaders that ran in this week's edition of the Cookeville newspaper.

It shows a column of small Japanese tanks churning a small country lane into a muddy streak as they roll into the Chinese interior.

(January 26, 1939) The newspaper liked an article this month in the Rotarian magazine so much that it shared it on page one with Cookeville readers. In it, dramatist and playwright George Bernard Shaw explains why there will not be another world war despite increasing tension around the globe.

Nazi and Italian troops are presently aiding Francisco Franco in his fight against the Spanish government in a civil war that will ultimately kill one million Spaniards. The war is the first time that modern war planes have been used to bomb civilian populations, and they are bombing them at will while the world watches.

Shaw writes that modern war is so horrible that just the threat of bombings will keep war from igniting the globe again as it did in 1914.

"What would happen first in a world war?" asks Shaw. "The airplanes of countries A, B, C, and D would bomb the cities of E, F, G and H so effectively that white flags would be hoisted at approximately the same time in several capitals."

"Pleas for peace would cross each other in the air," he writes.

Shaw reasons that since it is impossible to defend civilian populations from modern war planes, the threat of mass mutual destruction will forever be a deterrent to world war.

"Governments of civilized countries are well aware of this fact" he concludes.

*Showing at the Princess this week, "Dawn Patrol," with Errol Flynn. That film is followed later in the week by, "Just Around the Corner," with Shirley Temple.

(January 30, 1939) The old gray mare ain't what she used to be in Tennessee. There were only 832,000 mules and horses in the state two years ago, and that figure has dropped by 400,000 since then.

That's the word from a report in this week's edition from the U-T Extension Services.

UT agricultural experts say Tennessee horses and mules are fading from the scene due to increased mechanization on modern farms.

A couple of years' worth of drought forced many farmers to sell their animals, and a bout with a round of sleeping sickness took even more beasts of burden from Tennessee farms, says UT.

*Meanwhile, filmgoers at the Strand Theater this week can see "Mr. Doodle Kicks off." Included in the price of admission is a Betty Boop cartoon and the 11th chapter of "Dick Tracy Returns."

(February 5, 1939) Mayor Gid Lowe reminded drivers here this week that they're supposed to stop at all four corners of the Square. To help them remember, town workers have painted the letters S-T-O-P on the pavement there, he said.

People have gotten a little loose with their driving lately, he said. And with more and more people driving, there could be trouble ahead, he cautioned.

* Tennessee Polytech's winter quarter enrollment has hit an all-time high, 577. There are 350 men and 225 women enrolled at the college this week.

* Putnam Jail inmates are now wearing stripes instead of civilian clothes. The Putnam County Court decided inmates should stand out, and the funds have just now come through for the striped suits.

* Readers learned this week that the new federal park in the mountains near Knoxville is beginning to catch on. More than 12,400 visitors were logged in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park last month, and a fourth of them were from states other than Tennessee and North Carolina.

(February 19, 1939) W. L. Swallows, an attorney and chairman of the Putnam County Board of Education, was honored this week by the Algood Booster Club. Swallows was awarded a citizenship trophy.

The club says Swallows has been largely instrumental in getting several streets in Algood repaved, in getting some new streets built, and with getting a driveway to the Algood school.

*Inside this week's edition was a photo of the US Army Air Corps' newest aircraft, the XP-38. It almost made a transcontinental flight.

The photo shows only part of the experimental aircraft. Military personnel are standing all around it trying to block it from view of photographers. The reason? It crashed.

It took off earlier this week from a California military airfield and had landed at Mitchell Airfield on Long Island, N.Y. to refuel before making the last hop over to the east coast. Taking off, it failed to clear the trees. The test pilot is okay.

(February 27, 1939) Barney Presley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Presley of Cookeville, won the Golden Gloves boxing title in the bantam weight division in Nashville this week.

The Nashville newspapers reported that when Presley arrived, "the curly-headed Cookeville boy looked just like any other ordinary fighter in the Middle Tennessee event."

But the Nashville press said that with each match in the tournament, Presley's performance improved. He "really came into his own" in the closing match, in which he "routed" his opponent, Fletcher Beaumont of Clarksville.

Presley now goes to Chicago next week to box in a national tournament there.

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(February 13, 1939) The Cookeville Lions and Rotary Clubs this week sent the invitation to Sparta's civic clubs to meet with them this month to talk about a new highway the US War Department is talking about.

The highway, being studied for more rapid troop movement in the event of a war, would start at Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga. and head north through Chattanooga. It would end just past Ft. Knox at Louisville, Ky.

That route would pass through Cookeville and Sparta, creating the only good north-south highway through the Upper Cumberland and the midsection of Tennessee, officials say. They're for it.

So far, Hayes' convoys haven't lost a single ship to the U-boats. He's been in the Navy since the fall of 1941.

(March 2, 1939) The newspaper this week published a feature article on Wash Ray of Monterey, who still logs and farms with a team of oxen rather than mules. Ray says his beasts of burden are stronger and steadier than mules.

Ray uses the oxen, Buck and Benny, to snake logs down the mountain to England Cove. He doesn't use reins, but steers the animals with voice commands, "gee" to make them turn right and "come 'ere" to make them veer left.

When he's not logging, Ray uses Buck and Benny to plow his fields.

And Buck and Benny are not for sale, notes Ray.

(March 15, 1939) Cold weather and heavy rains this week are blamed for an outbreak of influenza and a high rate of absenteeism in Putnam schools.

Attendance at the Cookeville City School and Central High are way down. At the high school, four teachers and 77 of the school's 400 students were out for the week.

Officials report that attendance was also off at Algood and Monterey schools.

*One sure sign of spring in Monterey is Uncle Oot France and his sassafras tonic. He's pictured in this week's paper boiling up a batch of his medicinal brew.

The newspaper notes that Uncle Oot, who is now 63, has made and sold his sassafras tonic each spring since he was a young boy.

Uncle Oot is widely known in these parts for his knowledge of herbs.

(March 21, 1939) Cookeville City School this week released its latest honor roll. Among those on it were third graders June Sparks, Bonnie Stone, Willene Daniels, Tommy Joe Wilhite and Ann Wall.

Fourth graders on the list included Scotty Dulin, Gene Mayberry, Rosemary Ellis, Betty Flo Morgan and Harry Kellogg.

Fifth graders include Billy Darwin, Juanita Patton, Janie Mae Hill, Obie Littrell and Delma Grogan.

The list included these 6th graders: Amy Ruby Judd, Mary Sue Flatt, Ernest Petty and Herman Pinkerton.

And these 7th graders: Frances Tinch, Raymond Lacey, Evelyn Flatt, Janette Draper, Sarah Goodpasture and Catherine Howard.

Eight graders on the list included Harville Craddock, Louise Fletcher, Hilda Painter, Jean Whitson and Catherine Carlen.

(March 23, 1939) Miss Wanda Rae Redwine of Kansas City, the daughter of former Monterey residents, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Redwine, is a radio star of sorts.

Young Miss Redwine can be heard in a series of winter and spring productions of the Children's Civic Theatre in Kansas City.

Her sister is even better known for her radio work. Blance Redwine has been heard in the role of Babs Ryan in performances with the Fred Waring, Hal Kemp and Ray Noble orchestras.

Pictured on page one this week was German Chancellor Adolf Hitler and his generals looking over a map of Central Europe. His storm troopers have just occupied Bohemia and Moravia.

(March 30, 1939) Smiley Burnett is coming to the stage of the Princess Theater this week and the place is expected to be packed.

Burnett, better known as 'Frog,' has appeared in several movies as Gene Autry's sidekick. He has the unusual talent of being able to lower his voice from tenor to bass in mid-sentence, something he does at least once a picture.

He's touring the South with a comedy troupe this month. After his live performance, the Princess will show his latest motion picture, "Charlie Chan in Honolulu."

(April 8, 1939) Putnam's last surviving Confederate veteran, Amos K. Williamson, 97, has died at his home in Algood.

(April 20, 1939) Laurel Allegra Kuykendall, 13, a student at the Pippin School here, won second place this weekend in the Nashville Banner's statewide spelling competition at Hume Fogg High School.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Kuykendall, Laurel is a student of B.M. Cooke at the Pippin School.

A feature article in this week's edition focused on Professor J.P. Romines, a teacher at the Woodcliff School near Monterey. He's been a teacher for 49 years and plans to teach at least through next year, the half-century mark.

The Putnam native began his career in education teaching in western Arkansas in 1890. He returned to his home county in 1900.

He's known by his students as a teacher who can bring history alive, and he has the talent of being able to instill a love of learning in his students.

Although he studied for four years at a "teachers' normal school" in Arkansas, that school's records were lost and he was never fully certified in Tennessee. He's taught for years, making \$15 or \$20 less per month than most of his colleagues, but that has never failed to dampen his enthusiasm for his profession.

(April 27, 1939) Go to the New York World's Fair this summer and you may be able to telephone the folks back home for free. That's the word this week from James N. Cox, president of the area's telephone system, Southern Continental.

American Telephone and Telegraph is promoting its growing system of toll lines, which allow Americans to call to distant places.

AT&T has an exhibit at the world's fair and is entering into agreements with phone systems all over the US like Southern Continental. If you don't mind standing in long lines, you can call Cookeville from New York for free, says Cox.

*The Heffner-Vinson tent show is coming back to Cookeville this week and will set up over on the Capshaw lot. It features 12 vaudeville acts.

Among them are the talents of jitterbug champs the Lee Sisters, 'modernistic' dance by Marigold Lawrence, Billy Arnold, 'the boy with the foolish feet,' and music by 'Dixie's hottest swing band,' The Rhythm Boys. There'll be chorus girls too.

Admission is 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children.

(April 30, 1939) Cookeville City School graduated 63 eighth graders in ceremonies this week.

Among them were Harold Davis, who won the spelling medal, Lula Elise Wall, winner of the DAR history medal, Catherine Cox, Vida Fox, and Roy Fitzpatrick.

Also, John Martin Horner, Clifford Massa, Fred Bussell, Ezelle Brown, Irene Presley, Bob Welch, Tom Mason, Harve Kellog, Jean Walton, Carl Cummins and Sara Ruth Smith.

(May 11, 1939) The Tennessee Press Association is holding its annual convention in sunny Havana. The public is invited and there are special group rates.

Cookeville's newspaper staff is inviting Cookevillians to come along with them. The group will ride the rails to the coast, and then take a streamer on to Havana.

There, the festivities include a reception at the presidential palace, a review of Cuba's modern army and military facilities, and a trip through the \$22 million in new buildings the government has built in Havana recently. The group will be met getting off the boat by a brass band.

The whole package will cost you \$99.77. Call the newspaper office for details.

(May 24, 1939) T. E. Hixon, 63, of Monterey, makes musical instruments. He'd already talked the construction of a banjo, four guitars, a violin and a mandolin when he decided to try something a little different. He decided to make a violin out of matchsticks.

The full-sized instrument is composed of 3,200 wooden matchsticks glued to a thin celluloid backing. It took Hixon 60 days of near-constant effort to make it and he says he won't be making another one.

He won't sell the one he has either. He told the newspaper this week that a man offered him "a fine car" for it and he turned it down.

The violin makes good music too, says Hixon, who plays all the instruments he makes.

The hardest part of the matchstick violin was the bridge, which he made from polished cow horn. He made the screws for the bridge from cow horn, too.

(May 25, 1939) Watson E. Bockman left his boyhood home in Double Springs several years ago and headed west. He eventually opened the country's largest pottery plant in Los Angeles. He kept close ties with home, and he hired a number of Putnam men to work in his California plant. Now, at age 64, he's dead from a sudden illness.

(June 8, 1939) Putnam County is expanding its school system. The Putnam Court has approved new school construction in several communities here.

Glade Creek is getting a new brick schoolhouse to replace an aging wooden building. Pleasant Ridge is also in line for a new brick schoolhouse. It's present one is tumbling down.

And the Board Valley and Bumbalough communities are to see new wooden school buildings under the expansion.

The Algood School, meanwhile, is getting a new gymnasium. And classrooms to be built under that structure will be used instead of the rented rooms the school is using a half-mile from the school itself.

The federal government is paying 45 percent of the cost of the work through a grant to the system. The work will put the estimated worth of Putnam's school system to just over \$1 million, officials says.

(June 15, 1939) Up in Celina this week they're having a blowout to launch the campaign for presidency of a native son, Cordell Hull. He's seeking the Democratic nomination this summer.

Hull, who first practiced law in the river town and whose parents are buried in Celina, is currently the nation's popular Secretary of State.

Dignitaries on hand for his campaign kick-off this week are to include Tennessee Senator K. D. McKellar and A. T. Stewart, Tennessee Governor Prentice Cooper, and Kentucky Governor A. B. Chandler.

Meanwhile, one of Hull's opponents was making news this week up on the Canadian border.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt this week met the King and Queen of England on the border and rode a special train with them to Washington where the royalty was to meet with numerous US leaders this week to form firmer ties with the US as the chance of war in Europe steadily grows.

Traveling with the national leaders were an entourage of Secret Service agents, a British Calvary unit, and several Scotland Yard agents.

(June 22, 1939) Putnam Sheriff Sam Denton Poteet and Cumberland Sheriff Albert Frey and deputies treaded back into a remote mountain site 20 miles east of Cookeville this week to catch a moonshiner and put him out of business.

The old mountaineer, caught at his still, freely admitted his crime as deputies axed his 35-gallon 'pot.' And he told them why he began making 'shine.

He was tired of walking to Cookeville for "relief groceries," he said. For quite a while now he's been making the monthly trip to and from Cookeville for free government commodities on foot. The round-trip took him two days and a night each time. Selling moonshine was a lot less work, he said.

(July 10, 1939) Whitson Funeral Home has opened on Dixie Avenue.

(August 5, 1939) Luke Medley of Buffalo Valley has been issued a construction permit to build Cookeville's first radio station, WHUB.

(September 19, 1939) L.A. Parton and 'Bub' Heflin pulled into town this week in a stage coach and parked it in front of the Princess Theater. There, they engaged in selling souvenirs and "lucky" horseshoes.

The two are the remnants of a troop of cowboys who left Mineral Wells, Texas, this summer heading for New York and the 1939 World's Fair. The troupe included 21 cowboys, a six-piece hillbilly band, 10 horses and Parton and Heflin in their vintage stagecoach.

The venture had the support of civic groups in Mineral Wells, says Parton. Unfortunately, it was only after the troupe got on its way that it was found out that there was no financial support from the clubs.

In Texarkana, Arkansas, the caravan disbanded, broke. Parton and Heflin continued, financing their trip selling souvenirs and carrying mail. The stagecoach originally delivered passengers and mail from Lordsburg, New Mexico, to Tucson, Ariz., in 1840. It's been in storage for several years.

Now, it carries letters to the World's Fair, where they'll be postmarked and mailed. Parton and Heflin hope to make it there by late October.

They're in debt \$1,100 already, but Parton says, "The mail must go through."

(October 9, 1939) Four liquor runners were jailed this week after they failed to even slow down for the stop sign at the Baxter-Bloomington Springs, Nashville Highway crossing.

State patrolman Brown Minor was sitting there waiting for them. He stopped their auto and says he smelled the strong odor of alcohol wafting from the vehicle. Inside he found five 10-gallon kegs of moonshine headed for Nashville from stills in Jackson County.

A committee of Putnam sportsmen headed by Sam Epperson have traveled to Quincy, Illinois, and purchased 50 fox squirrels. The men released them in Cookeville to bolster the squirrel population here. The group is asking that boys with BB guns and older residents with squirrel rifles leave the newcomers alone long enough for them to get a foothold here. Consider them pets, says Epperson.

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(November 16, 1939) Some 5,000 Cookevillians turned out for the annual Armistice Day parade here this week. Capt. Hubert Crawford headed up the cavalry — Cookeville's Troop I of the 409th Cavalry of the National Guard.

Behind them marched 75 Cookevillians who fought in the World War. After them came the American Legion Band. Then came the speeches. Orators recalled for the crowd the history of the terrible World War. And they couldn't help casting an eye on the situation in Europe, which America says it is determined to say out of.

Another big clash is on the minds of football fans here. The Cookeville Cavaliers play the Baxter Bees this week on the Tennessee Tech field.

Everyone says they think the Cavs will win. But they note that Baxter won its last three games. The Bees beat Carthage 12-0, Celina 2-0 and Gordonsville 18-0.

And Cookeville has two of its best players injured. Fullback Red Jared hurt his foot in last week's game against the Lebanon Blue Devils and halfback Wahoo Billings got knocked out.

Here's the Cav's lineup for the big game: Hargrave Piepmeir, guard; Charles Bullock, tackle; Carson Stanton, guard; "Chick" Childress, center; Jimmy Massa, guard; Sam Jackson, tackle; Vincent Whitson, end; Charles Brown, halfback; and Albert Thompson, quarterback. Gerald Hendricks is the team's coach.

(November 23, 1939) The largest flock of turkeys ever raised here is out strutting about the farm of prominent Cookeville dairyman J.J. Wright. Mrs. Wright is raising 125 gobblers, and says she couldn't have done it without the help of her Great Dane, Princess.

Mrs. Wright bought the Great Dane pup at the same time she purchased 150 turkey chicks in Nashville. She said this week that hundreds of turkeys are shipped here by rail each holiday season and she decided earlier this year to test the market for locally raised birds.

Princess has grown up acting as a turkey herd dog. Once recently when a large limb broke off the tree in which the birds roost, agitating the gobblers, Princess woke up Mrs. Wright, who came and calmed the turkeys and kept them from injuring themselves.

Now Princess is about grown and the birds are ready for market. Mrs. Wright invested \$200 in the project and figures she'll sell the flock for about \$400. She's pictured in this week's edition with the birds, Princess and her son, Jimmy.

(December 11, 1939) The Central High Cavaliers are champions of their conference this week. The area's top football team got together for a page-one group photo published in this week's edition. The team

includes Hargrave Piepmeier, Charles Bullock, Carson Stanton, Jimmy Massa, Billy Proffitt, Hugh Bussell, Vincent Watson, Ezell Whitson, Charles Brown, Perry Roe Harris, Charles Billings, Albert Thompson, Butler Bush, K.C. Smith and Odell Newman.

Also Bob Poteet, Thurlow Walker, Will Maynard, Morrison Lowe, Howard Tinsley, Will Glenn Crawford, Wesley Flatt, Harold Tinsley, Clifford Massa, Paul Judd, Alvin Jared and Hugh Childress.

The team's coach is Gerald Hendricks and the team's manager is Fred Warren.

National Guard training has been stepped up in response to the growing hostilities in Europe, and 63 men and three officers in Cookeville's Guard unit spent six days last week patrolling, scouting and conducting combat exercises near Tullahoma at Camp Peay.

The cavalry unit sent its mounts by rail and followed in a car caravan.

They were in training on Thanksgiving Day and paused long enough for a big turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Afterwards, Lt. Paul Moore was picked to act as an observer in a military plane from Nashville.

In the course of his cold, bumpy open-cockpit ride, Lt. Moore, according to the newspaper report, "scattered his Thanksgiving dinner over a large section of Coffee County."

(December 11, 1939) Deputy Bunker Brown heard there was gambling going on this week at the rail yards by the depot and went to have a look. He found a group of men gathered around \$2 in change and two dice on the ground. No one claimed either. Brown picked up the money and the dice and says the owner can claim the dice – if he doesn't mind paying a fine.

*A supply of toys is in at Muddux & Proffitt in time for Christmas. You can buy toy trucks and cars, blackboards for 50 cents, dolls for 10 cents and wheel toys for prices ranging from 25 to 50 cents.

(December 12, 1939) Construction has resumed on the new Cookeville City Hall, which is being located across Broad Street from the Federal Courthouse.

(December 21, 1939) It's the Christmas season in Cookeville.

The American Legion Big Brothers have raised \$600 in cash to buy gifts for the needy this Christmas. And 300 toys were collected at the annual Toy Matinee at the Princess Theater, in which kids brought a toy to see the picture.

TTU students have gone home for the holidays and this Friday is the last day for students in public schools and at Baxter Seminary until January. The Rev. Harold Stephens of First Baptist Church has authored an original Christmas pageant entitled, "The Story of Jesus Never Grows Old." The five-act pageant is being put on this week by a cast of 50 from the church. And the newspaper this week looked back at earlier Christmases here through the eyes of some of the older residents.

T.D. Ford, 77, recalled for readers the day the church broke.

That was back in the 1870s or 80s when Cookeville only had some 200 residents. The big holiday event was a special service at First Methodist Church, then located a bit south of the Square.

The building had recently been jacked up and its supports replaced with new limestone pillars. Just about everyone in town turned out for the service. Under their combined weight, the church settled and shifted and a loud crack was heard as one of the supports snapped. Everyone stampeded out into the cold night, said Ford.

(December 28, 1939) The newspaper took a look this week at the year just ending.

It was the year that saw Gid Lowe sworn in as Cookeville mayor and Robert W. Lowe take office as Comptroller of the State of Tennessee. Herman McCormick also became County Road Supervisor.

Buffalo Valley — again — was inundated with floodwaters this year, although not as severely as in the Flood of '29.

Meanwhile, a wave of influenza that swept the country closed all the schools here in the spring. Everyone was glad it didn't develop into the terrible sort of epidemic that killed hundreds of thousands across the country in 1918.

The Cookeville Lions Club this year marked its 20th anniversary, and Tennessee Polytechnic passed a turning point as well. It was admitted this year into the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

Services were held this week for W.W. Lacy, 77, who died at his home following an extended illness.

Lacy, a Jackson County native, was regarded as one of the South's most experienced brick and pottery kiln operators. He was superintendent of the Cookeville Pottery Company for numerous years until illness forced his early retirement.

He was a member of Cookeville's Baptist Church.

*Read more 'Way Back When' articles at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>