

**“ALGOOD OLD FIELDS” NOW IS A
PROSPEROUS LITTLE TOWN**

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Editor's Note: This is the first of a series of articles on the towns and communities of Putnam County, and are being prepared in an effort to better acquaint our readers and the general public with the features and advantages of the various sections of our county.

In 1857 Joel Algood built a residence on a spot of land known for miles around as the “Algood Old Fields: which later was chosen as the site for the little town which came to be known as Algood, one of the four largest towns in Putnam County.

Today, Algood has a population of approximately 1500, it was stated today by Mayor Fred Goolsby, recently appointed, on the resignation of O. t. Brown, by the three aldermen. Present aldermen are Fred Moore, Paul Goolsby, H. T. McGugin, and Hershel Wright. Frank Sevier is city recorder and Sam McCulley town marshal and city police.

The town officials state that their books are open for inspection. In August or 1945 they owned \$4,000 interest on water works bonds (incumbered in 1935) and nothing had been paid on the principal. To date, interest has been paid and \$2,000 on the principal. In 1945 there were only eighty water users in the town whereas, today there are 225 to 230. Also, in 1945 an indebtedness of \$3500 sidewalk bonds hovered over the group of officials who can now boast of no bonded indebtedness whatsoever. In addition, a City Hall, at a cost of \$2400, has been erected.

What Algood-ers are most proud of, seemingly, is their high school basketball teams; their girls being runners up and their boys winners in the recent district meet held at the Tennessee Tech gymnasium. The Algood boys have won honors four out of the past five years.

Citizens of Algood are justly proud of their school, which has recently been repaired and modernized to the tune of \$45,000. The combination grammar and high school building now contains 17 classrooms, a gymnasium, kitchen and large cafeteria. Gaskell Gragg, principal, has served in that capacity for a number of years, and other teachers in the school include, Frances Gragg, Virginia Maxwell, Johnny J. Lynn, Roy Hugh Sullivan, Rosalind Stover, Hazel Brewington, Odell Dunavin, Myrtle Harris, Katheryn Huddleston, Madgty Lawhorn, Frances Speck, Irene Stockton, Iva Lee talent, Beulah Walker, Mayme Langford, and E. B. Speck.

Churches of the town include Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, and Church of Christ.

The largest industries claimed by the town are its 20-employee chair factory, a furniture factory and the Ferris Lumber Company each employing 40 people, and Charlie Kuykendall's lumber mill with 10 ro 15 employees.

Other businesses claiming mention would be Fred Morre's Drug Store, the Sinclair Refinery, Pointer's Grocery and Meat Market; Goolsby's Grocery and Meat Market; Stockton & Vincent Hardware; Thompson's Barber Shop; Judd & Swallows' General Store; Huddleston's Service Station and Garage; Dixon's Garage; Bryant's Café; Algood Café; and Phillips' Produce.

Plans for the near future are to enlarge on the park facilities, such as basketball, tennis courts, and slides, for the kiddies' entertainment as well as the older group, who may sill enjoy their croquet, etc.

Served by the Tennessee Valley Authority, street lights have recently been installed. Plans for additional lights are under way. Another recent improvement has been oiling of the streets.

Algood is served by two doctors, Drs. J. T. Moore and J. A. Butler; and two rural routes with Mrs. W. L. Swallows as postmistress.

A theater and three business houses now under construction, complete the tour of the thriving and prosperous Algood.

*Read more History of Putnam Co., TN and surrounding areas at:
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