

**AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE NEWS**

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN

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**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, 24 May 1917

**NEGRO FIEND BURNED AT STAKE:**

Near Memphis In Presence of Thousands of People. Body Cut in Pieces:

Eli Persons, a Negro, was burned at the stake near Memphis on Tuesday morning. He was slowly roasted to death over a gasoline soaked log and after death his body was dismembered.

On the night of April 30 Antoinette Rappel, a 15 year old school girl was outraged and murdered her head being cut off with an axe. Later Persons was arrested and confessed that he committed the crime. He was taken to Nashville for safe keeping. Deputy sheriffs were taking him to Memphis by way of Alabama and Mississippi when he was taken from them and carried to the scene of his heinous crime.

Three other Negroes were implicated according to Persons' confession, and they are being hunted for.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, 31 May 1917

**NEGROES SHOULD STAY AT HOME:**

According to reports of race riots and labor troubles in many Northern cities many Negroes who have gone North are in serious trouble. Perhaps it would be better for them to stay at home.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

24 May 1923

**COLORED CITIZENS ENJOY FESTAL TIME:**

Mary L. Floyd of Knoxville was the recent guest of Fex H. New and wife. She was invited to our town by Riverstate Household of Ruth, No. 5710. G.U.O. of O. F. of this place, to participate in the annual thanksgiving services held Sunday, May 13, which was one of the most impressive gatherings of this kind held at this place.

The services were held in the Methodist Episcopal church under the auspices of Beauty of Cookeville Lodge No. 5564 and Riverdale Household of Ruth No. 5710, G.U.O. of O. F. The entire household was dressed in white and wore their beautiful new regalia. The order marched to the church and filled the front pews. The master of ceremonies made a few preliminary remarks, after which the program was entered into, which consisted of:

Responsive reading – By the Order Odd Fellows Opening Ode – By the Order.

Scripture Reading – By Rev. J. H. Devlin.

Prayer – By Rev. F. H. New.

Coronation Hymn – By entire Order.

After the responsive reading and prayer by the order, the inmates of the household sang their song, entitled "Ruth."

Welcome Address – By Bro. F. M. Huck.

The master of ceremonies then introduced Mary L. Floyd, who made a very grand lecture, making a lengthy discourse on the vital problems which confronts us as race, and emphasized greatly the necessity of organizing labor among out group of people In her talk, great stress was laid upon race – and home pride. She insisted that we build up our own town by laboring and spending our money here, and stop immigrating to the north. The writer considered this timely advice. The annual sermon followed by Rev. Felix H. New, who discussed briefly the subject “Duty.” The contribution was \$58.71.

Music for the day was furnished by the inmates of the Household (both vocal and instrumental). After dismissal the lodge and Household lined up in front of the church and were photographed by Mrs. G. A. Johnson. The march was then continued to the hall, where a sumptuous dinner was served.

In the afternoon the order and congregation engaged in praise service. Bro. W. F. Roberts of Sparta presided at the organ and also addressed the assemblage in a few well-chosen words.

We welcome to our community men and women who inspire our people in greater efforts for the betterment of their surroundings.

Monday, at 10 o'clock the Household met in a called session. Three new members were initiated and we were again greatly benefited by instructions and a splendid address from our district's most noble governor, Mrs. M. L. Floyd. During her stay here Mrs. Floyd was the honoree of several interesting occasions. Sunday afternoon she was motored to the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Buck, where she was given a cordial welcome. Later in the afternoon she and others were entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eph Glover. At 6:30 p.m. a must inviting menu was served, after which Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Felix New and daughter and Mrs. B. W. McClellan accompanied her on a pleasant trip through town and down the Sparta pike thence they were driven up Dixie avenue, around by T. P. I. and one or two other streets to give the visitors a glimpse of Cookeville.

Hubert Berry was the chauffeur and the delightful trip was made in Mr. and Mrs. B. W. McClellan's new car. Last but not least, Monday at 7 p.m. Riverdale Household of Ruth entertained Mrs. Floyd at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. W. McClellan. This was a most enjoyable social affair. An elaborate five-course luncheon was served. Mrs. Floyd left Tuesday – going by Rockwood to visit the Household of that place. We trust she carries with her pleasant memories of Cookeville and that our community can behold some of the good that has resulted from her trip. MILBRIA F. NEW.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

19 July 1923

**THE COLORED LADIES' POLITICAL CLUB COMING:**

The Old Man has been quizzing around a little and has discovered that the minstrel to be put on by local talent the City School Auditorium tomorrow (Friday) night, is going to be a humdinger. The title is “The Colored Ladies Political Club,” and it will be strictly down to date.

It is this way – the ladies are giving this minstrel the 12<sup>th</sup> and on the 19<sup>th</sup> the men folks are to give a minstrel just to see who can put on the best show, and the girls swear that they are going to win, hands down. It is in order to judge for yourself incidentally Prof. S. L. Gipson, Mrs. J. M. Hatfield, Miss Cora Ford, Mrs. A. G. Maxwell and E. L. Wirt, have been named as judges to settle the all important question of superiority of the sexes in the roll of blackface minstrels.

Admission 15 cents and 25 cents reserved seats, 35 cents, the latter on sale at Womack's East Side and West Side drug stores.

The Palladian Literary Society will sell tickets at T.P.I.

Money goes to pay for curtains in school building – so everyone should be there.

Following is the cast of characters:

Mrs. Simon Pure (Mrs. Ben Vaden Jr.)  
Mrs. O'Kay (Kate Davis)  
Mrs. Welland Strong (Johanna Noonan)  
Mrs. Jap A. Lack (Naomi Vorgele)  
Mrs. Fine N. Dandy ( Elizabeth Yeargan)  
Mrs. Cloe D. Weather (Louise Yeargan)  
Mrs. Mack N. Tosh (Julia Neal)  
Miss Cue (Mary Harden)  
Miss Tike (Mae Morrow)  
Miss Rosie Redd (Prietta Terry)  
Miss Lilly White (Mrs. Herbie Shanks)  
Mrs. P. Ann Ola (Christine Gregory)  
Janior (Mrs. Clendenning)  
End Men: Blanche, Rosalind and Mrs. Clendenning)  
Interlocator (Mrs. A. S. Chapin)

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

10 December 1923

**MRS. ANN MARCHBANKS GOES TO HER REWARD:**

Mrs. Ann Hunter Marchbanks, colored, widow of the late Matt Marchbanks, died at her home two miles north of Algood, Nov. 27, 1923.

She was born in Dry Valley, June 20, 1851, married Matt Marchbanks in August, 1871. Lived on a farm purchased in 1869 by her husband, who was set free at the close of the Civil War.

She leaves seven sons, four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, four sisters, two stepsons, and two stepdaughters, besides a host of friends and other near relatives to mourn her loss.

Her spotless Christian life of more than 50 years is worthy of emulation. Her exemplary citizenship reflected undefiled loyalty to her community.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

13 December 1923

**COOKEVILLE TO HAVE A COLORED BAND:**

Hershel Blackman, a well known young man of Cookeville, under directions of the Traveling Conservatory of Music has succeeded in perfecting a fourteen piece band. The members of the band are: Hershel Blackman, Norman Apple, E. W. McClellan, Garfield McClellan, Hubert Betty, Hoyton Bohannon, Vergie Click, Desbon Robertson, Lester Sowell, Claude Crook, L. M. Carver, Mikie Sutters, Alex Pleasant, Alex Farley.

A set of fourteen C. G. Coan, Ltd., band instruments will leave, Elkhart, IN, December 12, and arrive in Cookeville on, or about the 15<sup>th</sup>. They were ordered through the N.C. Davis Music Co., of Nashville, as they have the Conn agency for this territory.

These boys have launched a \$1,000 campaign to raise enough money to pay the balance in full on their instruments by the 18<sup>th</sup> of December, and buy their uniforms at once, hence they are asking every citizen in Putnam county to give not less than \$1.00 each. Already many of their white friends and well wishers have

given them five times the amount they are asking for. Note the advertisement they have in this paper, and you will see that the boys are keeping a very strict record of all contributions received. Make your check payable to Cookeville Colored Band, and address it c-o Hershel Blackman, Cookeville, TN. The writer is hoping that every citizen in Putnam county will mail the boys a check for one dollar before Dec. 18. Wish them a Merry Christmas and mail them a dollar. Thanks in advance.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

23 January 1930

TEN LYNCHED IN 1929:

In its annual report on lynching's in the United States, the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama places the number of person put to death at the hands of mobs during 1929 to 10. This is one less than in the previous year, and the lowest recorded since records have been kept.

Of the 10 person lynched last year, three were white and seven were negroes. Florida was the scene of four lynchings. Texas had three, while Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee had one each. In 27 instances, the report states, mobs bent on lynchings were thwarted by officers of the law. Thus 12 white men, 20 negro men and two negro women were saved from death by mob violence.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

23 January 1930

WOMAN IS SHOT MONDAY NIGHT:

Taft Weston, colored, is being held in jail for shooting John Lee Hatcher, also colored, through a widow at the residence of Dick Darwin on Dixie Avenue, Monday night between six-thirty and seven o'clock,

Weston, it is alleged, had made a threat to kill Hatcher Monday afternoon and later attempted to with a butcher knife. He returned later with a twelve gauge shotgun loaded with buckshot and fired through the kitchen window where the negress was cooking dinner. The shot glanced, some taking effect in the scalp.

Weston was immediately arrested and lodged in jail by Sheriff Warren, and the Hatcher girl was taken to the City hospital where she received first aid. Her wounds are not serious.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, 30 January 1930

NEGRO GETS TEN YEARS:

Taft Weston, colored, was sentenced to the State penitentiary for ten years for the shooting last week of John Lee Hatcher, cook at the residence of R. H. Darwin.

The jury deliberated only a few minutes before returning the verdict.

**Putnam County Herald Cookeville, TN:**

3 July 1930

DO YOU REMEMBER:

WHEN the Masonic and Odd Fellows' lodges held their regular meetings in the upper story of the old brick Washington Academy building?

WHEN Miss Susan M. Quarles conducted her private school at her home on East Broad street?

WHEN T. C. Holladay & Son engaged in the general mercantile business in Cookeville, and when Shirley & Greenwood Brothers were dealers in "All Kinds of Merchandise, Produce, etc."

THE old Stage Coaches which operated between Cookeville and Lebanon during the years prior to the building of the N. & K. Railroad to Cookeville in 1890.

These old stage coaches, as they were called, carried passengers to and from Nashville.

John M. Rayburn, a one-legged Confederate soldier who lost his leg in the battle of Murfreesboro, was one of the best known of these old stage drivers. Commencing soon after the close of the Civil War, he continued as a stage coach driver from Cookeville to Lebanon until the coming of the railroad put an end to his avocation. **Other well known old time stage coach drivers were two colored men, Henry Cannon and Ike Burgess.** All of these old time stage drivers are now dead but their memory lingers with all of our older citizens. In hot weather and in cold, with patience, endurance and uniform kindness, they provided the means of passenger transportation from Cookeville to the railroad at Lebanon for all who desired to make the trip from Cookeville to Nashville and return, in the days when Cookeville and the Upper Country were without railroads.

**Putnam County Herald Cookeville, TN:**

18 December 1930

DO YOU REMEMBER (articles about old days previous to 1930):

WHEN Cookeville had a large tobacco factory? The present, "Sidwell Hotel" building, South of the Public Square, was erected for a tobacco factory and it was in this building that William B. Ford and Mort Ellison conducted their tobacco factory for about three years. This factory opened for business in 1890. Among the large number of employees of this tobacco factory, two stand out in bold relief in the memory of numerous citizens of this community, who at that time were boys or young men. The memory of those two interesting characters will never be effaced from their memory. One of these men was at the time a man well along in years, his name was George Washington Pigg, he twisted the straight twist, the brand of which was "The Alliance Straight Twist," a large straight twist of tobacco which sold at retail for five cents. In those days the "Farmers Alliance" was a powerful organization of farmers and the brand of this twist of tobacco was intended to appeal to the numbers of that popular organization. "Uncle Wash" Pigg, who all day long twisted the "Alliance Straight Twist," was a great character. He spent the entire day singing old time songs as he twisted and two small boys stemmed tobacco for him. One of his favorite songs was, "Psalms of Victory," and those who heard him sing it as he worked will never forget it. **Dick Edwards, a shrewd, tall, slender negro man, then middle aged, was a great natural actor. His favorite diversion was to "throw a hard fit" on occasions when the factory would be crowded with unsophisticated visitors. He would fall backwards on a pile of tobacco with a large knife in his hand and would wall his eyes like a dying calf, at the same time uttering the most terrible and agonizing shrieks and groans. This performance upon his part always had the immediate effect of clearing the factory of all spectators and many small boys never desisted from their flight until they had reached a safe distance from the building. Dick Edwards always wore a derby hat and carried a gold headed cane and, with a luxuriant mustache, he born a likeness to the pictures of some of the presidents of Haiti. He twisted the "sweet twist," or twist which had licorice in it.**

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

14 May 1931

DO YOU REMEMBER: Putnam County's Old Churches:

Shady Grove Methodist Church (colored):

Until the close of the Civil War negro slaves held their church membership in the white churches to which the families of their masters belonged.

In the more costly and commodious church buildings, galleries were often built for the slaves. In less commodious church buildings of that day, certain portions of the main auditoriums were set apart for the negroed.

The old church records of several of the white churches of this county, of the different denominations, show that, until the close of the Civil War, negro slaves were included in the membership. In most instances it was a few years after the Civil War before negro church buildings were erected and the former slaves received their church letters from the white congregations of their former masters and organized their own colored congregations.

The first negro congregation organized in Putnam County was the Shady Grove Methodist church. It was organized a few years after the close of the Civil War. The church building was located about two miles from Cookeville, between Cookeville and Algood, near the present site of Breeding's filling station. It was the only colored church in this community prior to the coming of the railroad in 1890. After the construction of the railroad, negro church buildings were erected in Cookeville and Algood and the old Shady Grove church began to wane. However, the Shady Grove building continued to be used for school purposes for several years thereafter, and the members of the old Shady Grove Church had transferred their membership to the Cookeville and Algood colored churches, they continued for several years to hold occasional revivals in the old building. The old Shady Grove negro cemetery being located near by, funerals were conducted in the old building until the church property was sold and the building torn down about ten years ago.

There are several old people in Cookeville who very vividly recall the time a few years after the close of the Civil War, when the former slaves of this community, who belonged to the white Cookeville churches in which the families of their masters belonged, called for and were granted their church letters that they might assist in the organization of the Shady Grove colored church. One old negro woman, well known and respected throughout this community, Eliza Cannon, insisted on retaining her membership in the Cookeville Cumberland Presbyterian church for a few years after the Shady Grove colored church, located near her home, was organized.

When she did conclude to ask for her church letter to join the colored congregation she requested that a "farewell" sacrament be administered to her, and old people now living who were present at that Sunday service state that "aunt Eliza's" grief and shouting on that occasion moved the entire congregation to tears.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

24 September 1931

**COLORED REVIVAL HELD:**

For the past ten days, a union revival has been in progress at the Colored Methodist church. Great interest is being manifested and colored people from all of the adjoining counties are attending the services.

Each service is attended by a large crowd. The meeting is in charge of Rev. Adams and Rev. Stanton, of the local Colored Methodist and Cumberland Presbyterian churches.

Many white people have attend during the progress of the meetings.

The colored ministers of Cookeville are worthy and capable leaders of their race. They enjoy the confidence of their own people and the respect of the entire community. They are doing a good work. With very few exceptions Cookeville's colored population is a law abiding and industrious one.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

31 March 1932

420 BILL IN BUTTON, BUTTON, WHO'S GOT THE BUTTON, ROLE:

Remember when you played "Button, button, who's got the button?"

George Thompson, negro, is playing it today with the "button" a \$20 bill.

Friday morning he dropped the bill on a sidewalk on West Broadway. He claimed that Howard Jones, negro shine boy in a West Side barber shop, picked up the bill and ran. Patrolman Herbert Hughes found Jones, searched him, failed to find the bill, but took him to City Court anyway.

Under pressure Jones said that he picked up the bill, but that he put it in a hind pocket of Ed McClullen, another negro, employed at Jenkins & Darwin Bros. McClellan denied he had seen the bill.

McClellan was bound over to the grand jury by City Magistrate J. B. Dow, and Jones will be given preliminary hearing before Magistrate Dow Friday afternoon.

Meanwhile, George wants his twenty dollars, and is tired of playing button, button, who's got the button.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, June 23, 1932

Buffalo Valley To Be Host At Fourth July Celebration:

Two Baseball Games, One of Them Colored, Will Be Staged During Day:

Mitchell Will Speak:

Well, children, we come to that Day of Days, the fourth of July, again, and the only possible difference between the approaching one and the others you have seen in that month will mark the 157<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States, and Buffalo Valley will be the scene of a gigantic celebration.

This is how they plan to entertain you, we being permitted to let the cat out of the bag for a few little jumps around just to invigorate your appetite for such things.

Most important, perhaps, especially, to those who enjoy the pleasure of masticating products of expert cuisine, will be a barbecue which the Buffalo Valley Lakeis Aid Society is planning to serve.

Expert testimony in the form of experience warms you that the barbecue will be good stuff, and worth going many miles to taste.

Other articles intended to satisfy the pagns of hunger and thirst will be plentiful, including pink lemonade, white lemonade, and other drinks necessary making it a grand old Fourth; we, of course, exclude hard drinks, such as brandy, beer, liquor, etcelers, because the cops will be there and you won't want to be caught doing anything like that.

Plenty of Water:

One of the best wells in the state is located in Buffalo Valley, and promoters of the celebration declared Monday that it is as good as ever, which makes it perfect, and that it will be ready to quench the thirst of all who come

For another attraction two baseball games have been arranged, on eo fthem will be played between white boys, and will be a good one, two of the best amateur independent teams in the state having been secured for the exhibition.

The feature of the day, will be a baseball game between two colored teams. It really doesn't matter who the teams are, because that is of secondary importance, it would neither add nor detract from the spectacle. Suffice it to say, two colored baseball teams will meet in Buffalo Valley on the Fourth of July.

Merchants Getting Ready:

Marking a new era in Buffalo Valley's rapid travel from a community almost wacked from destructive fires and floods to the important agricultural and shipping center that it was, local merchants have gotten themselves ready.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, June 30, 1932

Big Doings Will Be At Buffalo Valley:

Buffalo Valley is ready to entertain one of the largest crowds it has ever had next Monday when a Fourth of July program will be given.

Hundreds from the lower section of Putnam county, and from the adjoining sections of Smith and DeKalb counties are expected to be present.

Two baseball games will be included in the day's events, one of them to be a game between negro teams. The Buffalo Valley Ladies' Aid Society will serve free barbecue, and Congressman J. Ridley Mitchell will speak.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

21 September 1932

George Ragland Obt.

b. 1856 – d. 9 September 1932, Putnam Co., TN, md Ida (Graves) Ragland. George Ragland is buried in the Burton Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

George Ragland, A Former Slave Passes Away:

“Uncle George” Ragland, aged about 76, an old time negro and former slave, who enjoyed the respect and esteem of this community and of all who knew him died Friday of heart trouble, at his home just East of town, where he had lived for many years.

He was an expert gardener, and for many years had worked each year for many families in Cookeville. “Uncle George” was an industrious man and each year he made a small crop. In the winter he did hauling and draying and always smoking his cob pipe as he drove his small mules, he was a familiar character in Cookeville, but his old wagon and plows and his small mules will know their owner no more.

As a slave “Uncle George” belonged to the Ragland family (William Marshall Ragland) of Flynn's Lick, with whom he continued to reside after the Civil War until he moved to Cookeville about thirty years ago. He was a devoted member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and his honesty and integrity was never questioned. He is survived by his aged wife, “Aunt Ida,” whose love for flowers, and flower gardens, containing almost every species of flowering plant, is known to almost every woman in this community.

Funeral services were conducted at the Burton graveyard, near Algood, Saturday afternoon by the Rev. Dan Stanton, of the Colored Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Almost the entire colored population of Putnam and Jackson counties attended the funeral services, as did many white friends of the deceased.

“Uncle George” belonged to a day and type which is rapidly disappearing with the passing of the years. Peace to his ashes!

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, 19 January 1933

**LARGE CROWD HEARS NEGRO PRESENTATION:**

“Heaven Bound” a pageant with a cast of 50 local Negroes was presented to a large crowd in the City School auditorium Tuesday evening under the auspices of the Cookeville Parent-Teachers.

The presentation was a conception of the trials besetting Christians seeking to live a life worthy of heavenly reward, and the many temptations offered by the devil. Thirty-six songs composed the program, and they were sung in a manner which portrayed an interesting conception of present day living.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

14 December 1933

**NEGRO JUBILEE SINGERS TO SING CHRISTMAS CAROLS:**

The Cookeville Jubilee Club, well known Negro quarter, will sing Christmas carols on Friday and Saturday nights of next week, for those who place candies in their windows.

The quartet, composed of John Devlin, Jim Burgess, Harry Burgess, and Melvin Carver, sang last year, and they were in such demand that one night was insufficient for them to answer all requests. Two nights have been set aside for the singing this year, and they hope to answer every call.

Funds derived from their singing will go to aid the Negro poor, in co-operation with the Community Chest.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

29 March 1934

**COOKEVILLE WILL PLAY GORDONSVILLE SUNDAY:**

The Cookeville Negro baseball team, fresh from a 11-6 drubbing of Pikeville last Saturday on Burgess field, near Algood, will meet the Gordonsville nine on the same field Sunday afternoon in one of the season's most promising battles from the standpoint of real baseball.

The locals easily took the Pikeville game, playing a heads-up game that showed plenty of hitting power. Gordonsville is recognized as a stronger team, and the game will be more interesting.

The pitching will be divided between two men Sunday, few other changes will be made in the line-up. A bus will run from Cookeville to the field.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

31 May 1934

**NEGROES BEAT GORDONSVILLE; WATERTOWN TO BE NEXT VICTIM:**

The Cookeville Negro baseball team, led by the excellent pitching of Ford Gibson, won a tie play-off from the strong Gordonsville nine on Burgess field Sunday afternoon by getting an 8 to 7 decision. The last inning was pitched by Franklin Haile.

The Sunday game was the third the team has won this year out of five starts, losing to Pikeville and tying one with Gordonsville. They will play Gordonsville there again June 10.

Watertown is the next victim to come before the onslaught of the former All-Stars, who also seek another name for their hard-hitting, fast-playing combine. The game with Watertown will be played on Burgess field Sunday afternoon, and a real exhibition is promoted.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:  
Thursday, 4 October 1934

#### SAM JARED UNKNOWN WHEN APPELLATION 'BO' IS APPENDED:

The following little story about a couple of Putnam countians, taken from Sunday's Banner, written from Washington, will be of interest to the many friends of both parties:

Last week Capt. Joe H. Jared motored to Washington from his home in Buffalo Valley, TN, bringing with him a colored chauffeur. When he reached Pennsylvania Avenue he got out of his motor to inquire of a policeman the way to Senator Bachman's apartment. Due to Capital traffic signals the chauffeur was waved on and sometime later Mr. Jared arrived at the Senator's apartment. In anything but a happy frame of mind and explained that his chauffeur had driven off with the car and his clothes, especially a new suit which he had brought for the purpose of wearing when he paid his respects to Secretary of State, Cordell Hull. Later in the day Mr. Jared went to call on his cousin, Sam Jared Jr., at the Veteran's Administration and related his story of the missing chauffeur, and clothes and said he told the chauffeur he would stay at the Ambassador Hotel and was going to thence see his cousin, Sam Jared. The darky had not put in his appearance at the administration so Mr. Jared's messenger, Thomas Reed, was given a description of the Tennessee colored boy and told to look for him. Sometime later the messenger walked up to a boy wearing a brown coat and stripped trousers and said, "Has you seen anything of a colored boy from Tennessee what's lost?" "That's me!" was the ready response and grasping the messenger's arm he walked with him to the Veteran's Administration Building. When he reached the door the boy told the messenger he had been to the building before but was told Mr. Sambo Jared, Jr., didn't work there. "Well, where did you get the 'Bo' from," exclaimed the excited messenger. "Everybody would have known Mr. Sam Jared, Jr., was head of the investigation division if you had a-said his name right."

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:  
24 October 1935

#### LOCAL COLORED BOYS TO STAGE BOXING MATCH AT COURT HOUSE, NOV. 2:

The phenomenal rise of Joe Louis in the pugilistic world has inspired the colored boys in and around Cookeville to an unusual fighting fever. In fact, they dream and talk of knockouts and occasionally in training for the big fight someone is K O'd.

As to the question, "Who is the greatest in the local colored kingdom, will be definitely settled Saturday night, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Court House, when Franklin Hale and Wm. Jennings fight six rounds. Each contentent promises a knock out in the first round. Their average weight is 145 and they are keeping the most rigid training from laying aside cigarettes to an early dawn three mile hike.

The preliminaries will be of no less interest as Jim Bohannon and Robert Burgess, averaging 165 pounds, Huston Hale and George Burgess, averaging 145, fight four rounds each.

The fight begins at 8 p.m. and the admission will be 15 cents and 25 cents.

The proceeds of the fight are in the interest of West Side High School.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, 30 December 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.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, 17 February 1938

DID YOU KNOW;

Oddities in the history of Tennessee gleaned from the files of the American Guide, Federal Writer's Project, Works Progress Administration, Nashville.

In 1806 a dentist in the old Talbot Hotel of Nashville, advertised that he could cure scurvy of the teeth and gums and transplant artificial teeth. He secured teeth from slaves or purchased them when necessary and planted them in place of the lost teent.

After the death of Andrew Jackson, his body servant, "Uncle Alfred" was asked if he thought his master had gone to heaven. "Yes, auh, I knows he did," was the reply. "But," persisted his questioner, "how do you know it?" Uncle Alfred, his eyes flashing, drew himself up and replied, "Well auh General Jackson say he was goin' there, an' when he say he was goin' any place he sho went."

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

13 July 1939

**Ida (unknown) Ragland Obt.**

b. ca. 1864 – d. 5 July 1939, md George Ragland. She is buried in the Negro Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

DEATH OF RESEPECTED OLD COLORED WOMAN;

"Aunt" Ida Ragland, aged about 75, widow of "Uncle" George Ragland, a well-known and highly respected old-time colored woman of this community died Wednesday, July 5, at her home, after an illness of several weeks.

Funeral services and burial took place Thursday afternoon.

“Aunt: Ida was a devoted member of the Methodist church. She had been a resident of Cookeville for about forty years, moving here from Jackson county. She is survived by her sister, “Aunt Jane” Settle, who lived with her.

“Aunt Ida’s: love for flowers was well known, and her flower garden, at her humble home, was one of the show places of the community.

**NEGRO CEMETERY** – Source: Putnam County Tennessee Cemeteries by Maurine Patton, pg. 365.

This cemetery is located on Pickard Avenue south of Twelfth Street. The information was given by Isaac Bohanon who interviewed an elderly woman who had personal knowledge of the burials. Shady Grove Methodist Church was on present site of “The Dispatch”, but we do not know if the cemetery was church related or a family burying ground.

List of people buried in this cemetery are:

Vina Burton, Matt Farley and his wife Lou Farley, Jane Suttles, Mike Suttles, Joe Suttles, Josh Holford, Ann Holford, Ida Ragland, Sid Bartlett, Sibby Bartlett and Matt “Uncle Matt” Quarles, b. 1844 – d. 27 August 1921.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

10 September 1942

**PUTNAM COLORED MEN TO BE INDUCTED AND ONES ALREADY IN SERVICE:**

The following colored men will report for induction into the armed services of the United States for military service at an early date: Isaac Peek Carver, Haywood Haskell Carr, Thad Holladay, Charles France Buck and Billie Ray Bohannon.

The following have already been inducted into the service from the county: George Hubert Burgess, A. B. Ray, Rolie Buford Roberts, James McKidley Robinson, Hooper Morgan, Henry Peek, and Jesse Haile.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

1 October 1942

Robert Burgess, Lieut. U. S. Army, has been here recently for a brief leave with his parents, Jim and Ida Burgess on the Algood Road. He was commissioned as a second Lieutenant after completing the Officers’ Candidate School at Fort Sill, OK, and is believed to be the first Cookeville Negro to be commissioned as an officer since the beginning of World War II. Lieut. Burgess was born and reared on a farm East of Cookeville and volunteered for service in the United States Army in October, 1941. He received his elementary and high school education in Putnam County. Working his way through high school he was employed during the four years by Mayor and Mrs. J. N. Cox and Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Darwin. He received his college training in Pineywood College, Pineywood, MS. He is at present stationed at Camp Custer, MI, with the 795<sup>th</sup> Tank Destroyers. His brother, George Burgess, also stationed at a Michigan camp spent his leave here recently.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

20 May 1943

**TWO NEGRO GIRLS ENLIST IN WAACS FROM PUTNAM:**

The first Putnam County girls having the distinction of being the first to volunteer and be accepted for service in the WAACS at the Nashville headquarters are two negro girls.

Auxiliary Purney D. Strobe, daughter of James Clark Strobe, of Cumminsville, enlisted February 27, and is now stationed with Co. 2, 33<sup>rd</sup> Reg., Ft. Denvens, MA.

Auxiliary Opal G. Johnson is the daughter of John Johnson of Silver Point. She attended Darwin High school in Cookeville for two years, and was a student at A & I, Nashville for the same length of time. Volunteering for service on March 4, she was sent to Ft. Devens, MA, for training, and is also with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Regiment.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

2 March 1944

PUTNAM MEN ACCEPTED FOR MILITARY SERVICE:

The following is a list of Putnam County draftees who have been accepted for military service:

Army: Ollie Orville Alloway, Jr., John Smith Pointer, Halbert Wilson Phillips, Robert Patterson Ramsey, Sherman Trisdale, Henry Horace Jones, Clyde Vanderpool, Terry Dyer Bullock.

Navy: Robert Washington Whitaker, Daily Phillips, Roy Benton Davis, Willie Walter Dixon, Frank Reams Adams, Haskell H. Livesay.

**Army: Alfred Paul Click (col.)**

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

20 April 1944

COLORED EVANGELIST TO BE AT LOCAL CHURCH SUNDAY:

M. Keeble, widely known colored evangelist, will come from Nashville on Sunday and will preach at the Bush Town Church of Christ in the afternoon at three o'clock and again in the evening at seven-thirty.

The public is cordially invited to attend both services.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

1 June 1944

NEWS OF COLORED BOYS IN SERVICE:

Pvt. John Lee McClellan, with the Military Police stationed at Ft. Huachuca, AZ, spent one week of his 21-day furlough with his parents, Fannie and Albert McClellan. From here he went to Detroit, MI, to visit his sisters and brothers. He was inducted into the service in Detroit. He has been stationed at Ft. Huachuca about 14 months, as an M. P., he believes if one treats his fellow soldier right, there will be no trouble in getting along. He was an employee of the Hotel Shanks about seven years.

S/Sgt. Thomas H. Eldridge, stationed at Camp Shelby, MS, is spending his 12-day furlough at home with his wife, Donie Eldridge, and his mother, Mary Lue McClellan, and other members of his family. He has spent much of the time since entering the service at Camp Silbert, AL, and Camp Shelby in the Infantry, but recently was transferred to the Q. M. Det.

W. C. Erwin, of Algood, has two sons in the service for more than a year. Thomas Howard Erwin is with the U. S. Navy, and Pfc. Hubert Erwin, Engineering Air Corps, is in New Guinea.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

26 July 1945

Haskell and Della Carr, highly respected colored citizens of the Rock Springs community, have sent four sons into the service of their country. They are: Cpl. Virgil Carr, attached to the 3420<sup>th</sup> Q. M. Trk. Co., who is now with the army of occupation: Pfc. A. A. Carr, serving in the Pacific area; STM 3/c Willie F.

Carr, stationed at the U. S. Naval Training Center, Bainbridge, MD, was home for a recent leave, and Pfc. Haywood Carr, with the 39<sup>th</sup> TNG Regt., is stationed at Camp Livingston, LA. He was formerly located at Fort Benning, GA

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville TN:**

6 February 1947

WHUB TO BROADCAST  
GORDON BROWNING'S SPEECH  
FRIDAY, 7:30

The auditorium of the Putnam County courthouse is expected to be crowded to capacity tomorrow night by veterans to hear an address by Col. Gordon Browning who returned from Germany late in December from heading an occupation group.

Comdr. Don Veville, of the local American Legion, has announced that Radio Station WHUB will broadcast the speech from 7:30 until 8 o'clock, since it is anticipated that the courtroom will not accommodate everybody who has expressed a desire to hear the former governor of Tennessee speak on the "Occupation of Germany and the Possibility of Her Becoming a Democratic, Peace Loving Nation." Neville said that he hoped every veteran would make an effort to attend. **There will be a special section for members of the Negro American Legion Post.**

Now Chancellor of Eighth Chancery Division, a position he held before war broke out, Col. Browning will drive from his Huntingdon home tomorrow afternoon. He is expected to arrive at the Shanks Hotel at 5:30 o'clock when a committee from the American Legion, sponsoring organization, will meet him. The reception committee and Col. Browning are planning to have dinner at the B & B Café before the speaking.

Colonel Browning is an overseas veteran of both wars, and holds a number of high decoration for outstanding service. He volunteered his services shortly after the Pearl Harbor attack. He spent many months in Europe during the fighting and served for several months after the firing ceased at the army's request, and his love for spreading the principles of democracy.

Criminal Judge John Mitchell, a close personal friend, will introduce Colonel Browning. Judge Mitchell is also a veteran of both wars.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville TN:**

10 April 1947

**FIVE MEN CHARGED WITH SHOOTING NEGRO BOY 'IN THE BACK':**

Two Detroit, MI men were still in jail today and three Cookeville men had been released on bond in connection with shooting William Montgomery, 17-year-old orphan who works at the Campus Grill, in the back Friday night as he ran from them in the yard of his home at Springs Street and Highway 70.

Arrested in connection with the shooting and later charged with assault and battery with a shotgun with intent to kill were Howard "Sonny" Wilhite, Talbert Bice Jr., and Herman Goad, all of Cookeville, and William Wright and Louis Stout, Detroit, who were visiting here.

All five were bound over to the grand jury at a preliminary hearing Tuesday, and all their bonds were set at \$1,000 except that of Goad, who, according to Sheriff Harvey Higgenbotham, admitted to pulling the trigger. His bond was set at \$2,000.

According to investigating officers, the white men, all of whom were drinking heavily, and had been in an argument with a group of Negroes near the intersection of Spring Street and Highway 70 several minutes before the five returned and found Montgomery and James McClellan, also a Negro, sitting in Montgomery's front yard. Neither had been in the argument.

The Negroes told officers that the officers that the white men alighted from the car and told them to “get going.” When asked what they meant, Goad pulled a double-barrel .12 gauge shotgun from behind him and said “we mean get going.” With that, the Negroes ran in the opposite direction around the house as the shots were fired.

About 20 shot hit Montgomery in the back, and the second shot missed McClellan. Officers and Montgomery must have been 40 yards away when stuck, but his injury would have been serious if the gun had been loaded with large shot. The gun barrel was 32 inches long, and they were using birdshot.

Officers said the men had borrowed the gun, and after the shooting had hid it under Goad’s house. Two of the men were arrested first on durnkness charges, and Goad was found to have several shotgun shells in his pockets. This, with a meager description of the automobile they were driving, and the talking to prisoners about having “killed to Negroes” was said to have led to the admission by Goad.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville TN:**

13 May 1948

Reprinted from the ‘Progressive Farmer’, April, 1948.

“How Fur You Gwine, Cap’ni”

Walking along a roadside near our home on a day in late winter a drizzle came up...suddenly a somewhat dissipated Ford stopped by us, and a middle-aged Negro we did not know but who had a kindly face looked out.

That was a little thing, of course. But we mention it because it is one of those little things that help keep friendship strong between best white people of the South and our best colored people – no matter how much violent demagogism Northern and Southern, may try to do to break down such kindly relations. And just such little things are occurring each day. For example, when a member of our household had to go to a hospital for a week, a Negro servant who had been working half time voluntarily came whole time and could not be made to take any pay for the extra time and work, saying, “I shouldn’t feel like a Christina if I did.” Again, the writer’s wife this week was one of the women from half a dozen white churches who not only raise funds for the nearest Negro hospital but join in a once-a-month work meeting to make bandages, towels, and everything they can for it.

Sometime ago a Texas subscriber suggested that we ought to observe each year a “Good Will Day” when every white person would try to do some good turn for a Negro, and each Negro for some white person. To this the reply came that such action should not be thought of as something to practice on rare occasions but regularly. Right now we should especially like to urge the cultivation of such friendliness. In other sections there are men and women who would force on the South policies of compulsion that would hurt both races. In the South we have leaders who treat the rights of Negroes with such neglect as to make other sections feel that national interference is justified. As Ralph McGill wrote recently in the Atlanta Constitution” “We wrote our laws to say that while the races were to be separated, we would provide ‘separate but equal’ educational, travel, recreational and other facilities. This we have not done.” But this we must do. As the Arkansas Gazette wisely suggests, while we of the white South must oppose vicious forms of outside compulsion, we must accept the special responsibility that falls upon the dominant race-giving the Negro proper educational, economic, and other opportunities “not because we are forced to but because we recognize his right to them.”

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

14 October 1948

County Court Aids:

The Negro fair at Darwin High School came in for \$100 donation from the court for prize money.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

27 January 1949

**COOKEVILLE NEGRO STABBED SATURDAY:**

Bonnell Western, 23, Cookeville Negro, died of stab wounds in the throat Saturday night, which Sheriff Charlie Pierce said he received about midnight in a fight with James Click, 19, another Negro, in front of a café in Bushtown, Negro section of Cookeville.

Sheriff Pierce stated that Click, who was employed as counter boy in a Cookeville café, told him that he and Western had had an argument over a basketball game. Click was cut on the neck and left arm with a razor, allegedly wielded by Western.

At preliminary hearing yesterday, trial was set for today before Judge John A. Mitchell.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

24 March 1949

**NEGRO SPIRITUALS TO BE VESPER SERVICE FEATURE:**

A program of Negro Spirituals will be presented by the Choirs of the First Baptist Church, Sunday, March 27, at 5:00 p.m.

“Christ the Provider” is the them of this, the fifth Vesper Service in the series “We Would See Jesus.”

The entire program is under the direction of W. F. Wagner. The public is invited.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

13 October 1949

**Colored Team To Meet Hartsville Eleven On Overall Field:**

Saturday, October 22, at 7:30 p.m., Darwin High School will play its third football game in history against a strong Hartsville eleven on Overall Field.

The local squad, captained by Bobby Hill, 179 pound center, from Sparta, and coached by C. E. Stanley, ex-Johnson C. Smith University quarterback, will employ the T-formation. The opposition will use the single wing.

Four weeks ago, the McMinnville eleven rated one of the strongest aggregations in Middle Tennessee, defeated the stubborn Hartsville eleven by only seven points.

This will be the first time that local fans have had an opportunity to see the local eleven in action. The game will serve as a homecoming for the Darwin squad.

The local squad boasts of three classy runners in John McClellan, Walt C. Buck, and James Webb, a fancy ball handler in John Dibble, and three outstanding linemen in Robert Carrick, Ulysses Culley and Captain Bobby Hill.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

20 October 1949

**Colored Squad To Play First Game Here (picture in the paper):**

The first colored football game ever to be played in Cookeville is scheduled to take place next Saturday night, October 22, at 8 p.m. when the local team shown above from Darwin High School will meet the colored team from Hartsville High School, on Overall Field.

This game sponsored by the Cookeville Jaycees, has been widely advertised and it is expected that a large crowd will turn out to witness the event. Admission will be 50 cents to everyone. Proceeds of the game will be used for the benefit of the colored school.

The starting lineup will probably include Robert Carrick, LN, William Carrick, LT, John Savage, LG, Bobby Hill, C, Reggie King, RG, Ulysses Culley, RT, Gerald Irwin, RE, John Dibble, QB, John McCullan, LH, James Webb, RH, and Walter Buck, at FB. The Darwin High team is coached by C. E. Stanley, and Bobby Hill is Captain.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

10 November 1949

Services At Silver Point For Herman Johnson, 48:

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for Herman Johnson, 48, at the Silver Point Church of Christ (colored).

Johnson died at his home near Silver Point after a short illness.

Survivors include his wife, Willie McKinley Johnson; two daughters, Mrs. Rosa Mae Gardner of VA and Miss Virginia Johnson, Silver Point; three sons, J. Willard, Willie Floyd and Garry Johnson, all of Silver Point; and one brother, Chester Johnson of MI.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, 25 January 1951

COLORED SINGERS AT COURTHOUSE FRIDAY:

The Derricks Colored Chorus of Knoxville, will present a program of spirituals at the Putnam County Courthouse Friday, Jan. 26, beginning at 8:00 p.m.

The group of singers is directed by Clevant Derrick, widely known Negro evangelist and song writer, author of many popular spiritual songs, including "When God Dips His Love In My Heart" and "Just A Little Talk With Jesus Makes It Right."

The program is sponsored by the Putnam County Singing Convention, and proceeds will be used for rebuilding a Knoxville colored church which burned recently.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

26 April 1951

COLORED CHURCH TO BE DEDICATED MAY 13:

The First Baptist Church of Cookeville has just completed for the colored people of this city a new church building, valued at \$5,000.00.

The work was begun last Fall when the old building was razed to make way for the new one at which time Rev. Bob Ramsay was pastor of the First Baptist Church. The work was supervised by Rev. John Brown, Mission Pastor, who has also spent much of his time and energy towards completing this work. He was assisted by Rev. Leroy Jackson, pastor and colored missionary, who has served for about six years in this area with the assistance of the State Mission Board.

We are also grateful for the work and gifts which have been contributed in interested white friends.

The first service will be held in the new building on April 29 and dedication services on the second Sunday in May.

The Finance Committee from the First Baptist Church, which has been of great assistance in this work, is composed of H. J. Shanks, Dillard Massa and A. B. Wright.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

17 May 1951

SERVICES HELD FOR MRS. LOU BOHANNON

Funeral services for Mrs. Lou Bohannon, 68, who died at her home on Algood, route 1, were held Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock at the Officers Chapel (colored), Algood. Interment was in the Officer's cemetery.

A daughter of Frank and Jane Jones Phiffer, she was the wife of Tom Bohannon.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Mattie Lou Deowell, Detroit, and Mrs. Laura Cobbs, Memphis; four sons, Andrew and Joe Billy Bohannon, Detroit, Gastel Bohannon, Algood and Jesse B. Bohannon, Bassa, AL; one brother, Hugh Hardy, Detroit; and one sister, Mrs. Grace Burns, Chattanooga.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, 19 February 1953

MILITARY RITES FOR CPL. JAMES O. HILL

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock for Cpl. James O. Hill, 21, negro soldier who was killed in Korea in December. The services were held at the Wright's memorial Methodist Church and burial with full military honors was in the Buck Cemetery.

Hill was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hill and his wife is his only immediate survivor.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

Thursday, December 24, 1953

SOME OLD PUTNAM COUNTY CHURCHES, by Ernest H. Boyd

Negro Churches:

Prior to the emancipation of the Negro slaves, they practically all attended the churches of their white master, where portions of the white churches were reserved for them. After the close of the Civil War, the white churches, through their Missionary Boards, and by donations made by white individuals, commenced the erection of Negro church buildings and Negro congregations were organized. Shortly after the close of the Civil War two Negro Methodist congregations and one Negro Cumberland Presbyterian congregation were organized in this county, and church buildings were built. They were the old Shad Grove Methodist Church, two miles North of Cookeville, on the Livingston road; Caney Ridge Methodist Church in the 15<sup>th</sup> District, and Rock Springs Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in Rock Springs Valley.

Shortly after the building of the Nashville and Knoxville Railroad to Cookeville, in 1890, and the building up of the Negro suburb in the West end of the town, the Negro Methodist and Cumberland Presbyterian church buildings were erected.

Upon the building of the Railroad to Algood and the founding of that town, in 1893, a Negro Methodist Church, Burton's Chapel, was built in Algood.

At later dates, the following other Negro churches were erected in this county; the African Methodist Church in Algood; the Negro Church, of Christ at Silver Point; the Negro Church, of Christ in Cookeville; the Negro Holiness Church, in Algood and the Negro Baptist Church, in Cookeville.

For several years, there were Negro congregations in both the 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Districts, but most of the Negro families moved from those communities and the Negro congregations in those districts ceased to exist.

Cookeville now has four active Negro churches.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

24 November 1955

William Marchbanks Rites Set Saturday:

Funeral services for William Marchbanks, 85, (colored) who died Tuesday morning at his home in Algood, will be conducted Saturday at the Masonic Hall in Algood with Rev. Hobert Stokes officiating. Burial will be in the Algood Cemetery. Hooper and Huddleston Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include one sister, Mrs. Almire Officer; and several nieces and nephews.

**Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:**

29 December 1955

MOONSHINE SEIZED IN WEST COOKEVILLE:

A. B. Carr, colored resident of West Cookeville, was arrested by Sheriff Ernest Webster on a charge of illegal possession of two gallon and a quart of white moonshine whiskey. The whiskey was captured in a raid on Carr's home Saturday. Hearing has been set for Friday.

\*Read more Putnam County, TN history at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>