

WHUB's 50th ANNIVERSARY
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Medley A Pioneer In Public Service

Luke Medley was a pioneer in radio in the Upper Cumberland, but his work in other areas, including government service and industrial development, is equally impressive.

Medley, who founded WHUB radio in 1940 and still serves as its owner-President, first entered public service in the 1930's as a member of the Putnam County Quarterly Court.

He was elected to two eight-year terms as Putnam County Judge, the country's chief administrative officer. These two terms stretched from 1950-1958 and 1966-1974. Sandwiched between these terms were two terms as Mayor of Cookeville from 1958-1966. Thus, for a period nearly a quarter century, Medley handed city and county government in this community.

Perhaps the most telling influence Medley had in shaping Cookeville and Putnam County over these years was his philosophy and belief in orderly, planned pro-progress.

As County Judge, Medley, working with the Quarterly Court, helped lead the way for improvements in schools and roads. As Mayor of Cookeville, he was instrumental in Cookeville being designated as a Model City in the middle 1960's. This enabled the city to gain government grants for purposes of upgrading services in several different areas. As a member of the State Highway Commission in the 1950's, Medley was instrumental in routing Interstate Highway 40 through Cookeville, instead of the proposed route some 10 miles north of here. He also worked with several local Upper Cumberland officials to locate Corridor J of the North-south Appalachian (111) Highway through Cookeville.

<http://www.ajalmbert.com>



REUNION – Members and friends of the WHUB radio staff gather for a 10th anniversary picture in 1950. In the first row from left are: Genira Chambers Qualls, Ed Zegarski, Tom Harris, Luke Medley, Joe Mabry, Stacey Mott and Henry G. Trent; second row, Dr. Sidney L. McGee, Sara Martha Jared, Felice Burch Bratton, Charles Burch, Katherine Beasley, Pauline Medley, Frances Harris, Mary Moss and Emily Richards; third row, Pat Qualls, Hubert Beasley, Bill Stamps, Jess Beasley, Hillard Brown, Royce Richards, Joe Golden, Frank Moss, and Martin Medley.