

HUDDLESTON'S OBSERVE 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
by Alice Keith Ford

It was a homey visit enjoyed with Judge and Mrs. Beecher Huddleston on Sunday at their home on Lowe Avenue when an informal wedding anniversary celebration was observed. While the gathering of the family was informal the vent was outstanding as their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding date was Feb. 18 but due to the snow and various hindrances the family couldn't be with them until Sunday when a special dinner was served at the noon time.

Following dinner when some guests arrived the Judge was busily engaged in feeding his pet kittens and no pictures were available until this daily task was completed to his especial liking but then thereafter was an affable host throughout the friendly visits.

He and Mrs. Huddleston native Putnam countians and members of pioneer families, chatted interestingly as they reminisced they told of their wedding day of 60 years ago. Both had been previously married, she was Mrs. Ruth Hyder Walker and had one daughter, Myrtle, who attended the wedding and the Judge's only son, Clarence, was too small to be present. As they recalled the day, Judge told of his coming to town, then quite a journey from the present suburban Salem community. The homeplace of the Huddleston family, to secure the license from Henry Carr, the county court clerk also a Presbyterian minister, who the next day went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Burch Dowell, also members of pioneer families the scene of the wedding to perform the ceremony. It was snowing just about it has been yesterday and today, the Judge recalled and Mrs. Huddleston added my daughter Myrtle, now Mrs. Frank LeRoy of El Cajon, CA and Emma Dowell (Mrs. D. J. Wade) of the Monterey road are the only ones living besides us, who were present that day. The Dowell place on the Monterey road is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Willard McCormick, who reside there.

The Bible, a wedding present to Judge Huddleston's mother from her father is one of his prize possession as are numerous pictures of the two families and other antiques. One of especial interest was their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary picture, incidentally although they are ten years older, neither look it. In this connection they are still actively engaged in the civic, religious and educational interests of their county and town. Mrs. Huddleston is a charter member o the Salem Home Demonstration club, attends church group meetings and last summer she practically stole the sow at the various parties given to her bride granddaughter, Mrs. Robert Epley.

Judge Huddleston who served as county judge for a period of sixteen years pertinent to being secretary of Putnam Soil Conservation District board and other organizations, and on Sunday, their daughter, Mrs. Arnold Hunter was busily engaged in having a group picture made but it was impossibly as their father had to attend a Putnam Co-op meeting and had numerous activities for the day regardless of the rare event and the snow storm.

Furthering the pleasurable visit was sharing the anniversary cake, and shipping coffee as seated at the dining room table centered with a gift bouquet of red roses and white gladioli. The conversation as enjoyed with the cordial hosts, their son, Willis

Huddleston, Mrs. Huddleston, Mrs. Clarence Huddleston, Mrs. and Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. S. C. Huddleston, Mr. and Mrs. Beverdge Huddleston, Mrs. Rush Hunter and Mrs. Mildred Wilhite, and near relatives and life long friends. Clarence Huddleston, who came from Alabama to be with his parents for the day had returned and Charles Huddleston, a grandson, there at the dinner hour had gone at this time.

Judge Huddleston is the son of William and Caroline Davis Huddleston, and Mrs. Huddleston's parents were Crockett and Sophia Dowell Hyde of the Poplar Grove community.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy were the only members of the immediate family absent and absent also were several grandchildren.

Though quietly observed the day provided much happiness for the honored two as it did for those privileged to share it with them and with their current interests, energy, contributions to the pleasure of others and their looking forward attitudes they no doubt will be permitted to share their 61<sup>st</sup> wedding day.

February 1960

Note: Beecher C. Huddleston, b. 19 April 1870 – d. 1968 md Ruth (hyder0 Huddleston, b. 1872 – d. 1967, both buried in the Salem Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

\*See Huddleston files at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>