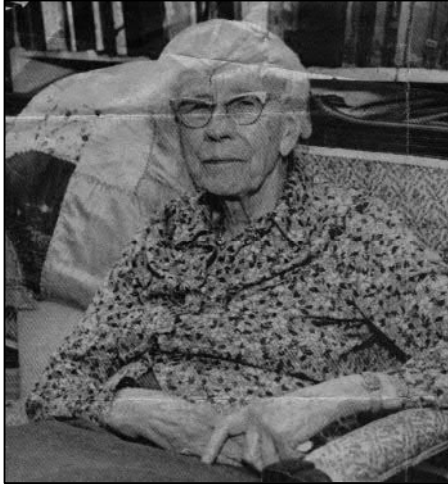


ETHELYN HILL MARKS 62 YEARS AS TEACHER

By Donald Farmer

One of Putnam County's best loved teachers is enjoying her 62nd year in education. Ethelyn Hill would have been required to retire 24 years ago if she had been teaching in



the public school system, but as a teacher at DeBerry Military Academy she is allowed to continue doing what she does best – even at the age of 89 years young!

The most consistent element of Hill's long teaching career is that she has always taught high school students "I wanted to teach children who were old enough to understand the same things I do," she explained. "Younger children just understand what they want to understand."

(Pictured: Ethelyn Hill is celebrating her 62nd year as a teacher in Putnam County. Hill teaches Latin at the DeBerry Military Academy in Bloomington Springs. DISPATCH photo by Donald Farmer)

She was a familiar face on the former DeBerry/Baxter Seminary campus in Baxter for 50 years. The campus has been vacant since DeBerry moved to its current Bloomington Springs locations several years ago, but Hill still has fond memories for her many happy years there – and looks forward to the years of teaching still to come.

Hill's specialty as a teacher has always been in Latin, and she believes that the importance of learning Latin cannot be under-estimated. "People talk Latin and don't even know it," she says. "You've got to work to get it, but when you do it's wonderful."

Hill has also taught French and Spanish, and says she studied Greek and Hebrew during her own school days. "I've taught about everything under the sun," she says, and there are thousands of her former students around the country who can verify that statement.

Hill worked for 35 years with the late Dr. Harry Upperman, after whom Upperman High was named, and she sees little difference between students today and those she taught 62 years ago.

"Students don't seem different. You have very good students and some who don't know much about anything. But they behave themselves here. And this being a military school, you see a lot of marching."

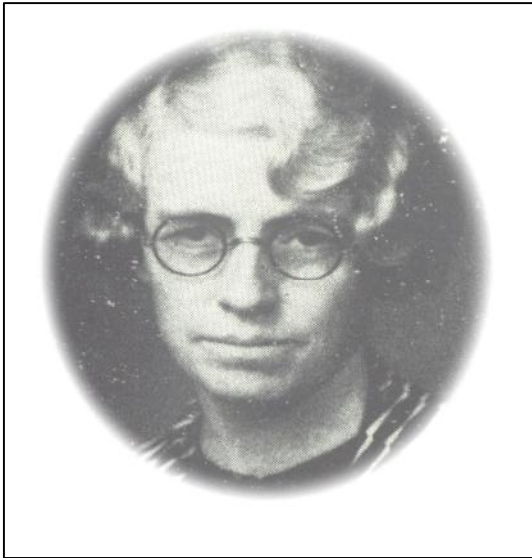
Hill says there are several advantages to attending a military school like DeBerry, such as "everybody knows everybody else, and they get more personal attention here."

There's little question that Hill is one of Putnam County's living treasures, and the work she has done over the past 62 years is reflected in her students and those fortunate enough to know her.

Miss Ethelyn Pauline Hill Obt.

b. 28 August 1894, Shiawassee Co., MI – d. 2 January 1990, Cookeville, Putnam Co., TN, d/o **Herbert Henry Hill** (1853-1941) & **Idell May Chapman** (1863-1931), both buried in Pine Tree Cemetery, Corunna, Shiawassee Co., MI: Plot West Add. Burial: Section B. Lot: 9. Grave: 9.

BLOOMINGTON SPRINGS, TN: Funeral services for Ethelyn P., Hill, 95, will be held Thursday, January 4, at 2 p.m. at United Methodist Church in Baxter where she will lie in state one hour prior to services. Burial will be in the Crestlawn Cemetery.



Miss Hill died at Cookeville General Hospital January 2, 1990.

Born August 28, 1894 in Shiawassee County, Michigan, she was the daughter of the late Herbert and Idell Chapman Hill.

She attended high school in Owasso, Michigan, and graduated from Albion College in Michigan, in 1922.

She started her teaching career in 1922 at Onaway, Michigan. In 1924, Dr. Harry Lee Upperman, president of Baxter Seminary offered her a position as dean and classroom teacher at the Seminary which she held until her retirement in 1959.

Her summer vacations were spent in centers of higher learning, studying Bible in Israel, library science and Latin at Peabody College and taking refresher courses in various disciplines. Through the years, she served as librarian and teacher of Bible, French, Spanish, German, Latin, English, typing, shorthand, bookkeeping, algebra and general science. After retiring from the Tennessee public school system, she started classroom teaching the same year at Junior Military Academy, later DeBerry Academy in Bloomington Springs where she retired in 1984. Her teaching career extended over a period of 62 consecutive years.

Until her health declined, she was an active member of the Baxter United Methodist Church, teaching Bible classes and participating in the Women's Missions activities. She maintained membership in the American Association of University Women, National Education Association, Tennessee Education Association, Putnam County Education Association, and the Putnam County Retired Teachers Association.

Her family includes one sister, Viva Park of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Louella Crewdson and two brothers, Orol and Irving Hill.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home after 3 p.m. today.

Active pallbearers will be Charles Nunally, Dan Maxwell, Arnold Brown, Max Blankenship, Bill Jones, Jr., J.T. Jones, Jeff Stout, and Rex Hitchcock.

Honorary pallbearers will be Dorothy Nell Swallows, Mae Phillips, Ophelia Sliger, Ruth Blankenship, Juanita Waller, Virginia Smith, and Nell Bain.

Dr. Richard Diemer and Bro. Paul Fox will officiate at the services.

Hooper & Huddleston Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

*Read more about the people and places in Putnam Co., TN (Schoolyard Tales) & surrounding areas at:

<http://www.ajlambert.com>