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History of Foley, Ala.

By

James T. Dumas

Donated by
Edward Kryder
Descendant of James T. Dumas

Please note there are two sections to Mr. Dumas' history of Foley.

Both sections have been indexed by Foley Library
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Introduction

James T. Dumas' entire family eventually came to settle in Foley and were part of the "pioneering days" of the southern end of Baldwin County. Mrs. Dumas' sister, Emma Dumas married John Kryder, the lineage line of Eddie Kryder who has donated this copy of the original material to the Alabama and Genealogy Collection of the Foley Public Library.

A copy can also be seen in the Foley Depot Museum.

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H I S T O R Y

O F

F O L E Y A A L A .

B Y .

J A M E S T D U M A S

P R E F A C E .

The Writer came to Foley in 1908, while still a young man just twenty one years of age. Having taken a vital part in the early life of Foley and on through the past fifty one years, this book will necessarily become his own autobiography, as well as the biography of numerous other early settlers, and business men, who had a part in bringing Foley from just a dot on map, to the thriving City it is to-day.

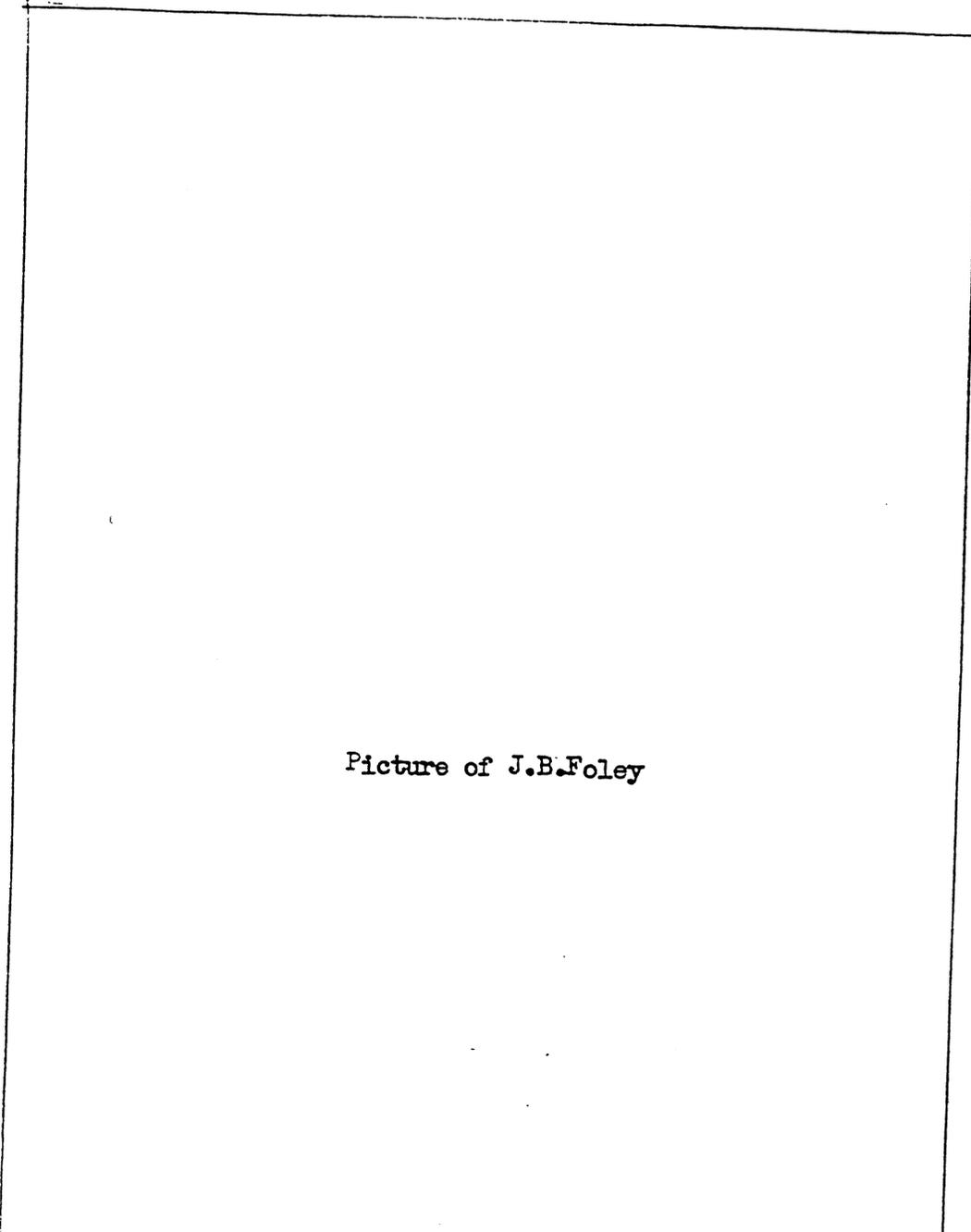
This book will be an authentic history of Foley Ala. from the time of it's inception until it's incorporation as a Municipality in 1915, and will be written in two sections. The first section will deal with events that transpired between 1901 and 1915. The second section will give a synopsis of each Mayor's Administration, recording his main accomplishments, and the facts contained in this section are taken from the city records.

The facts recorded in the first section go back to 1901 and were given the Writer by John B. Foley personally, and as the Writer lived and remembers them. The Writer opened the first Drug Store in Foley in 1908 and later when Foley was incorporated he served eight years on the city council, four of these years he served as Mayor during some trying times.. He is well able to give a true picture of Foley before and after incorporation.

The Writer was one of the early settlers, who helped to organize the Foley Progressive Club, which took the place of a Chamber of Commerce and sponsored all social activities. The Club Building had a big dance floor, ante-room and kitchen; A banquet was served once a month for members and their guests and the wives of the members did the cooking. New settlers were invited to these banquets as guests, in order that they may get acquainted, and made to feel that they were among people who were interested in their welfare. After dinner we usually had speakers who would dwell on our accomplishments, as well as on our short comings, both of which would be discussed pro and con by the members and their wives, who had a voice in all discussions.

In later years when Foley grew large enough to support a Chamber of Commerce; a charter was obtained from the State Chamber of Commerce at Montgomery giving us the right to act as such.

The Writer was elected as the first President of the newly formed Chamber of Commerce, and at the expiration of his first term was re-elected for a second term. On retiring from the office of President the following citation was presented to him by the membership, signed by the new President and his Board of Directors.



Picture of J.B.Foley

JOHN B. FOLEY

Mr. Foley was a successful business man in Chicago Illinois engaged in the manufacture of patented formula remedies for the relief of the average family ills.

Among these was the famous Foley's Honey and Tar for coughs and colds. Also Foleys Kidney Pills and numerous other household remedies. His business grew until the Foley Medicine Co. had a National reputation, requiring a salesman in every state in the Union, as well as in the Latin American Countries.

As his business needed a lot of cartons and labels, Mr. Foley decided to open up his own printing shop. This was so successful that he started to do printing for other concerns, until his printing business grew to where it equaled the Medicine business in volume.

Mr. Foley was progressive, honest and venturesome. He was a pioneer in spirit and loved to do big things. I had many private talks with him and absorbed a good deal of business knowledge from him. I always remembered one thing he told me; Show me a man who says he never borrowed any money, and I'll show you a man who has never been actively engaged in business.

Mr. Foley said he did not think anything of going to the bank to borrow seventy five or a hundred thousand dollars to carry him over slack months in business.

Mr. Foley also took part in politics and became a Republican committee man from Chicago. Being in politics brought him in contact with men of National importance, and on the meeting such men hinges the birth of the Town of Foley Ala.

Here is the story as told to me by J.B. Foley personally. When President McKinley was shot in 1901, Mr. Foley went to his funeral. On the train he met a lot of successful business MEN who were also Politicians and came from many states.

In a general conversation in the smoking car Mr. Foley made the remark; that the way for a man that had money to invest was to go some place where land was cheap and buy up a lot of it and hold it until it became valuable.

Overhearing this remark was John M. Green Republican committee man from Baldwin County Alabama. Mr. Green was in the real estate business at Bay Minette Ala. and had all of the cut over timber land of the Southern States Lumber Co.

This strip of land reached from Elberta to Magnolia Springs some ten miles long and five miles wide. But instead of holding this land as he had at first planned; He decided to develop it and build a town in it's center and call it Foley Ala. To do this he had the land surveyed and laid out in forty acre tracts with suitable roads on all section lines. Then he had the Foley townsite surveyed at it's present location one and a half miles long, north and south, and one mile wide east and west. He had the foresight to make all the main streets one hundred feet wide.

The down town lots were made twenty five feet wide by one hundred and fifty feet deep. The resident lots were made fifty feet wide and one hundred and fifty feet to the alley.

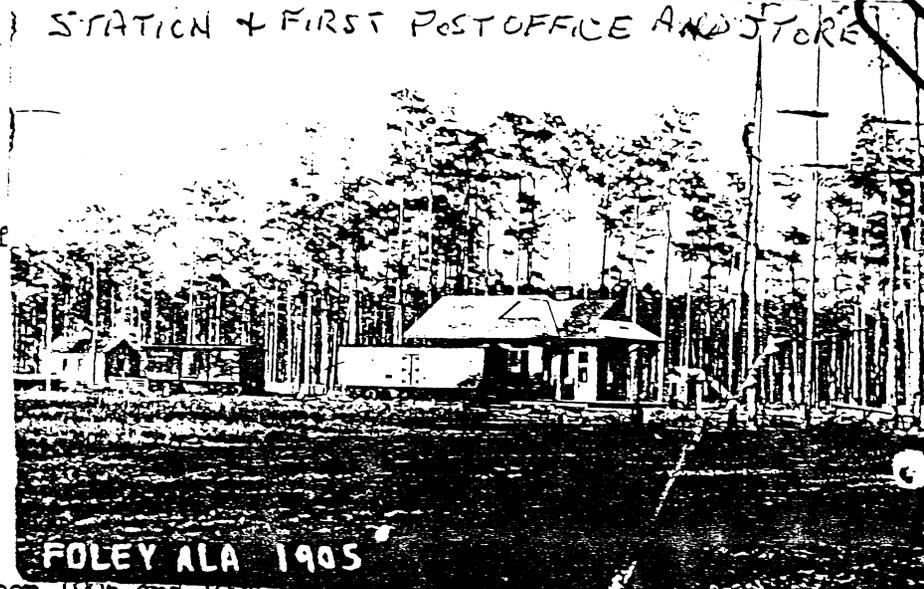
Now he was ready to bring people down to settle on his land and interest business men to move to Foley and open up stores to supply the wants of the new settlers. At this time the only people living here were a scattered few native families who had range cattle in the woods, and some turpentine camps which were owned by white men and worked with negroes. Of course they were some families left over from the big logging operations of the big saw mills. Such as the Swift family at Bon Secours along with the Pattersons, Wenzels, Coopers, Coopers, Steeles, Browns, Willis, Calloways, Roberts, Ards, Underwoods, Hadleys, Fells, Merchants, Mannings, Lays, Shelbys, Lewis, Amisons, Finckleys and English, families. There was no railroad to Foley at this time and piney wood trails went in all directions. You had to drive to Bay Minette to catch a train or you could come to Baldwin County by boat from Mobile, landing either at Fairhope, Marlowe or Magnolia Springs. Mr. Foley along with the Hamm Bros. who had purchased land at Summerdale and Oscar Johnson who had started a Swedish settlement at Silver Hill planned to get the L.&N. to build a spur line from Bay Minette to Foley.

The L. & N. made the various land companies the following proposition. If they would furnish the right of way and contribute money and ties for the laying of the tracks, they would put on the rolling stock. Mr. Foley donated twenty five thousand dollars in cash toward the project and gave the necessary right of way through his property, and the right to cut ties from his timber. Thus came into being the rail road from Bay Minette to Foley with a station at Stapleton, Loxley, Silver Hill and Foley, as it's terminus.

It might be well to mention that, at that time the station was

F. M. Foley

Here is a picture of Foley Ala. in 1905 showing the depot and the post office in the back ground and a section house on the left.



Picture of

What happened between 1905 and 1908 the time of the writer's arrival can be summed up as follows. Mr. Foley had incorporated his holdings into the Magnolia Springs Land Co. with himself as President Frank Blair as Vice President. Frank Blair was also Vice President of the Foley Medicine Co. He later became a very prominent figure in a National way. He was elected President of American Proprietary Medicine Association. That led him still higher up when he became President of the Cantaur Co. of New York, the manufacturers of Fletcher Castoria a baby medicine which was a must in every family home in America.

Frank Blair took a great deal of interest in the development of Foley and visited here often until he moved to New York. In 1928 to 1930 when the writer was President of the Alabama Pharmaceutical Association I attended a drug meeting in New York at which Frank Blair was the principle speaker. You can imagine his surprise in seeing me and I spent a full hour talking to him and bringing him up to date on the progress of Foley from 1888 to 1908 to 1928.

Now as to the activities of the Magnolia Springs Land Co. between 1905 to 1908. Mr. Foley had appointed a number of land agents in the mid western states who contacted farmers and some factory workers who might be interested in buying farm land in Baldwin County. They had printed a prospectus with pictures showing what could be accomplished in the way of farming.

On account of the grass having been burned each year by the cattle men, the ground had been robbed of its natural humus, and it became necessary for the new farmers to use commercial fertilizers in order to force the growing of crops. This method would put fresh vegetables on the market before they even started planting in the northern States.

Mr. Foley had built what was known as a Model Farm just across the Yankee bridge just three miles ~~east~~ of Foley towards Magnolia Springs. This bridge was just a quarter mile north of the present concrete bridge crossing upper Magnolia River. This bridge was built of pine logs and saplings and the natives called it a quarter row bridge. It was called the Yankee Bridge because this is where the Yankee Army crossed on their way to Fort Morgan. It might be interesting to note that John Manning a pioneer blacksmith was the Yankee Army guide during their march through Baldwin County.

Mr. Manning opened the first blacksmith shop in Foley just across the street from my drug store and the above information was given me, by him. At the Model Farm Mr. Foley built a large house with enough ~~rooms~~ bed rooms to house the land seekers as there as yet, was no hotel in Foley. John C. Lehr was in charge of this farm and the farming was done by man and mule power. Two of their mules were named Honey and Tar, after Foleys famous Honey and Tar cough medicine. The L. & N. Railroad put on two monthly excursions from the north on the first and third Tuesday in the month. They called it the Homeseekers excursion and the fare from Chicago the Foley was twenty dollars a round trip. This was the L. & N.'s contribution towards developing Baldwin County and paid them big dividends in later years when Baldwin County became the richest agricultural County in Alabama.

In later years when a few of ^{the} old settlers went to meet this train on excursion day, they called it the sucker train. The land agents who accompanied these land seekers sometimes handled the truth carelessly and painted a glowing picture of how they could live cheap, that deer were plentiful, and if they needed some pork, all they had to do was go into the woods and shoot a razor back hog. This later got some of the new settlers in trouble with the law, and threats of violence from the native stock owners. We even had night riders ordering people off their land giving them twenty four hours to clear out. However the Federal Government stepped in here and put some of the night riders in Jail.

In all fairness to Mr. Foley let it be said that he would not tolerate a dishonest land agent. He would not sell a home seeker any land unless he had at least two thousand dollars to tide him over until he could clear his land and make a crop.

Of course some of the new comers failed and had to go back where they came from. But a number of them by hard work and sticking out hard times, eventually were successful and later became the back bone of what to-day is the most prosperous County in Alabama.

Mr. Foley's first thought for the development of his Town and farm land was to get a news paper in Foley. To this end he made a deal with Frank Fessler who started the ONLOOKER, a weekly paper. All of the type had to be set by hand and Mr. Fessler had only one assistant by the name of Tom Tew who came here from Mobile having worked for the Mobile Register.

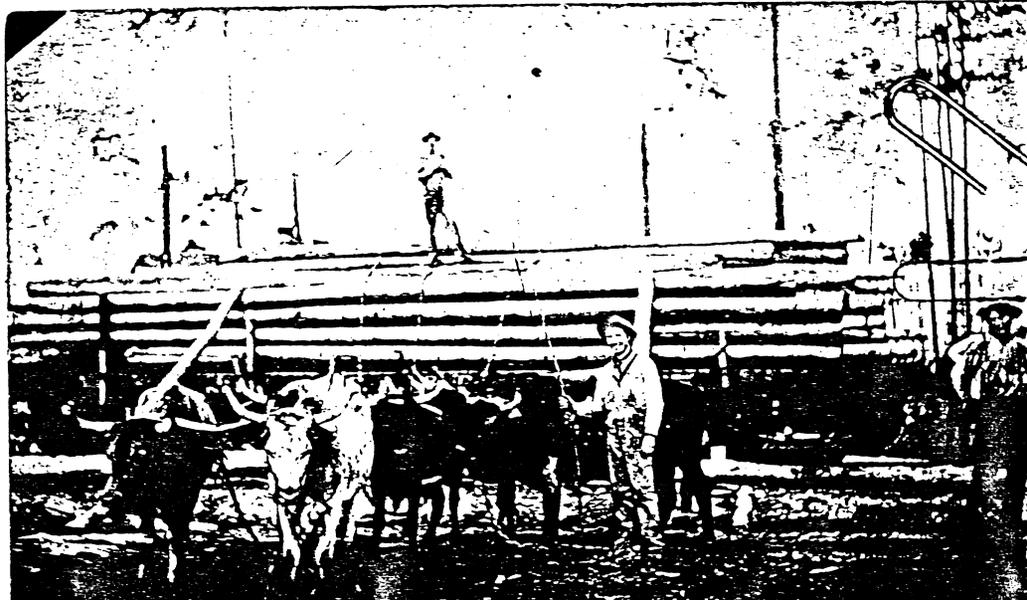
Tom Tew and I were room mates and both played on the first Foley Ball Team. The Onlooker had the support of all of the land companies. They bot advertising space and bought copies for distribution to the northern farmers, who could read about Baldwin County and learn what was going on in a social and business way. The Onlooker is still with us and has progressed with the Town. It now has quite a staff and all modern linotypes and printing presses. Mr. Fessler sold out to Frank Barchard in 1916 and moved to California. Today the Onlooker is owned by Ernest (Sparky) Howell and considered the best weekly newspaper in the entire south. In order that the new settlers could buy lumber cheap, Mr. Foley built a saw mill on sandy creek about two miles east of Foley. Good heart lumber could be bought for ten dollars a thousand board feet. Finished lumber could be bought from Swift Lumber co. at Bon Secour or D.Z. Groves at Marlowe.

Another big land company which brought all their prospects through Foley, was the Baldwin County Colonization Company, headed by H.C. Bartling. They had acquired fifty thousand acres of land in Elberta, Josephine Lillian and Perdida Beach. They were catering to German and Hungarian farmers who had migrated to America. They built a nice hotel at Elberta and soon established a thriving community. To-day Elberta is incorporated, the farmers are all prosperous, and they have the only bank in the County that withstood the depression of 1930. The credit for the success of this bank must be given to their conservative Bankers, Mr. J.C. Lehr was the first Cashier followed by Alfred Newman who was the cashier at ~~the bank~~ of the Elberta State Bank during the depression.

While Alfred Neuman is now retired this bank continues to be prosperous, under the able leadership of it's new President H.L.King and John Haupt as Vice President . Chas.Koehler Jr. is now Cashier. While this bank started on a small capital it is now capitalized at \$50,000.00 and has resources of \$2,561,870.29 . and is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The land all over south Baldwin County was dotted with small ponds. A number of these still had alligators in them, and it was common sport for the new settlers to bait and catch them. This was done by sharpening a spike on both ends and putting it in a hunk of meat floating on a board. The spike would have a wire or small chain attached to it and be staked on shore . When the alligator swallowed the meat the spike would get cross ways in it's stomach and could easily be led ashore.

A lot of these ponds had juniper and cypress trees growing in them. These trees made excellent telephone poles and the Southern Bell Telephone Co. had a crew of men, cutting these poles and bringing them into Foley by oxcart and loading them on flat cars for shipment. This really was Foley's first industry, and this picture was taken fifty years ago on McKenzie St. just opposite of Foleys first store buildings.



We were educated in the Reedsville public school, which was a grammar and high school combined. As we were brought up in the German Lutheran religion, it was necessary for us to attend the German Lutheran school for one year to learn to read and write German. We studied the Bible in German and were confirmed in the Lutheran church in that language.

As you well know the state of Wisconsin was settled mostly by Germans, who brought their religion and customs with them. The Writer was an apt Bible student and was offered a scholarship in the Lutheran Seminary at Watertown Wis. But as a young boy I always was intrigued by a drug store and had made up my mind to study Pharmacy. As my oldest sister Mimmie had gone to Chicago and ~~was~~ got ^{to} married to Wm. Rapp, I was invited to come to Chicago to live with them while I studied. At that time the Illinois State Board of Pharmacy required that young men expecting to study pharmacy had to take an apprentice examination and get an apprentice certificate before they were allowed to act as an assistant to a pharmacist. This test was equal to a high school examination to show that the student had a foundation for higher learning. From the date of his apprentice certificate he had to serve four years under the supervision of a registered pharmacist and before he was allowed to take the state board he had ~~sho~~ to furnish affidavits from his employers to that effect, and have had two years of pharmacy at a recognized school of Pharmacy. After taking the State Board examination at the Northwestern School of Pharmacy I became a licensed pharmacist in Illinois. I now got my mother and sisters to move to Chicago and my sisters got positions in the main office of the Rock Island Railroad ~~office~~. We pooled our salaries and rented a flat and Mother Dumas kept house for us. In December of 1907 I recieved a letter from ~~John B. Foley~~ John B. Foley wanting me to go to Foley Ala. to open a drug store. As I had not given going into business for myself a thought, especially way down in Alabama, I just ignored the letter. Two weeks later I got a second letter from Mr. Foley asking why I had not answered his letter. So my rother suggested that I go to see Mr. Foley and ~~sho~~ hear what he had to say. So I made a special ^{trip} to Mr. Foley's office which was located on the north side of Chicago in the Foley Medicine factory. When I entered the office I saw about seventy five stenographers making out invoices for the shipment of their medicines. Frank Blair the Vice President met me at the office gate and I introduced myself to him. I was invited into Mr. Foley's private office

I have land agents through out the northern states who are interesting farmers to move to Baldwin County where they have mild winters and can grow three crops a year on the same land. We are running two excursion a month down there for twenty dollars a round trip. These excursions have special rates and leave Chicago on the first and third Tuesday in the month, and our land agents accompany the home seekers on each trip.

Take a trip down there and look over the possibilities of a drug store in Foley. You are a young man and it won't take much capital for you to start. You can grow up with the country and eventually it might amount to something. So I talked it over with my mother and sister and they were all in favor of me making the trip.

I left Chicago on the first Tuesday in February 1908 and there was two feet of snow on the ground when I got on the train. There were a lot of other home seekers on the train along with a number of land agents. When we arrived at Bay Minette it was warm and raining. We boarded the pine knot special to Foley, when we arrived it was still raining and as Foley had no side walks we had to wade in water to what is now known as Bollers corner. At that time the store belonged to H.J. Coenen who came from DePue Wis. Here we were met by a large farm wagon and a team of mules driven by J.C. Lehr who took us out to the model farm located about half way between Foley and Magnolia Springs. Mr Lehr had charge of this farm and was an agreeable host. The rain and piney woods trails made things look gloomy to me and I was somewhat scepticle of this country's future. But when I woke up in the morning the sun was shining bright and the Gulf breeze and the smell of pine trees was stimulating to my spirits. They did not take us back to Foley ^{US} the first day, but brought us to Magnolia Springs and showed the beautiful Magnolia river and homes of some wealthy and aristocratic people who had found their way to this haven of rest and good fishing. There was a fine hotel called the Woodbound, with it's own ice plant and a long wharf down to the river on what is ^{to-day} known as Bemis Bay. Mr. Will Thomas had the post office in what to-day is Mrs. Roy Yoeman's beauty parlor.

Schindler and Larson owned the grocery store which is now known as Moore Bros, only it then was located directly on the river with a wharf for unloading freight.

There was the steamer Baldwin which made three trips a week to Mobile and carried freight and passengers between Mobile, Fairhope, Marlowe and Magnolia Springs. They also took in Point Clear. The land on the east side of the river was purchased in 1871 by Lizzie E. Breed from Stephen Douty. Later she married Otis S. Lyman and their holding were platted into Lyman's Addition of Magnolia Springs, and recorded at the Baldwin County Court House in 1894. This shall be a brief treatise of Magnolia Springs and its origin as I found it on my first visit and in no way a complete history of all the early land owners, adjoining on the west side of the river.

Ed Frank Brunnell a wealthy newspaper man who owned the daily racing form of Chicago and New York had purchased some choice property between the Devils Hole and Bemis Bay. Here he built a nice home and spent a good deal of money in growing a Satsuma Orange grove and a small dairy farm. He also built numerous cottages on what to-day is known as the Magnolia Club property owned by Hugh Reeves. Mr. Brunnell's old home is now owned by Dr. L. E. Morton. The writer owns a block of this property now with a new brick home on it. The balance of the Brunnell estate was purchased by Emma Holk, wife of Arthur Holk, and she has built her own home on the river, as well as other homes, some of which she sold and others that are for rent. Mrs. F. H. Brunnell Frank Nellis a daughter of F. H. Brunnell owned the largest and most expensive home on the river, which she recently sold to Dr. Morseley from New Orleans. She then purchased the new Wilson home, where she lives at the present time.

Ed Corrigan a race horse man from Chicago owned the property across the street from the Magnolia Club cottages, and had built a large house where he lived in retirement. This home was later purchased by Wm. Harding and became a boarding house. To-day the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cowan from Chicago. Dr. H. L. Howe was the only Doctor in Magnolia Springs, and he practiced Medicine by horse and buggy over the lower part of Baldwin County. To call on a patient at Lillian was an all day trip and his fee for this call was \$28.00. As money was scarce in those days, he had to be a trader and collected most of his fees in eggs, chickens, calves and hogs. I called on him at his home and he had quite a barn yard full of animals.

Magnolia Springs was so named on account of the numerous Magnolia trees and the pure water that oozed out of the ground in many spots forming little springs.

The main spring being beside a small stream near the Breed home. A rustic bridge had been built across this stream with a latticed summer house in its center. This was a picturesque setting and people came from miles around to sit and drink this cool water which analyzed 99.5 % pure. People with kidney trouble and diabetes claimed it made them feel better, and a lot of northern people bottled it and took it home with them. Dr. H.J. Howe told me he came here as a young man with a bad case of diabetes. The water did him so much good that he decided to stay here and practice medicine. That he lived to the ripe old age of eighty nine years is ample proof of the water's worth. Now the writer will leave further reference of Magnolia springs, later pages of this book, and go back to Foley where I spent my second day in Baldwin County. When I entered the H.J. Coenen store at Foley I recognized a desk he had, as having been built ~~and~~ by my father and used in his mercantile business in Reedsville Wis. I asked Mr. Coenen how he came into possession of this desk, and he informed he ~~he~~ had bought it from an uncle of mine in De Pere Wis. Mr. Coenen was anxious for me to start a drug store in Foley and offered to build me a store building with living rooms upstairs and rent it to me for ten dollars a month. I told him I would take him up on it, as soon as I had definitely made up my mind to come. A young Doctor by the name of James Cooke, who lived on the Dixie Road between Summerdale and Marlowe came to Foley to meet me. He carried me home with him to spend the night and talk over the prospects of a drug store in Foley. The next morning he hitched up his horse and buggy and carried me over a piney woods trail to Fairhope. Here we boarded a boat for Mobile where Dr. Cooke introduced me to the Van Antwerps who had the biggest Drug Store in Mobile. They had just completed the first skyscraper for Mobile some ten or twelve stories high. It was quite a revelation to me to see such a successful drug business. They were also in the wholesale Drug business and their retail store had the biggest Soda Fountain in Mobile. They had their own dairy and made all of their own ice cream. The Soda Fountain was built the full length of the store and people were standing three deep trying to get waited on. I was told that their Soda

Dr Cooke brought me back to Foley and I told Mr. Coenen to go ahead with the building, and that I would go back to Chicago and make arrangements to come down.

As my capital was limited, I decided to build my own fixtures and Soda Fountain. I bought a cooling coil which I placed in the ice cabinet of the fountain on which I could place one hundred pounds of Ice. Then I bought a goose neck which came out on top of the fountain bar to dispense carbonated water. I then bought two iron tanks which could be filled with water and charged with carbonic acid gas. I also bought my own gauge and drum of gas so I could charge the tanks myself. Then I purchased a big ice cream freezer so I could make my own ice cream. This freezer had a fly wheel on it and had to be turned by hand. I had a carpenter build my prescription case and wall shelves to hold my Tincture bottles and patent medicines. A small room in the back of the store could be used for a doctor's office or a traveling Dentist who came to Foley once a week, as there was not enough business for a full time Dentist. I then went to Mobile to purchase my crude drugs, and ~~prescription specialties~~ ^{N.E.O.E.} for the manufacturing for my U.S.P. and National Formula preparations.

Two of the grocery stores sold me their stock of patent medicines, and quit handling drugs. One of the stores wouldn't sell out to me, as he was of the opinion that a drug store would not be successful in Foley. I remember the first day I opened my store I took in eighteen dollars. Which I considered fair and I had confidence my business would grow. As there was no doctor in Foley at this time, I had to give first aid to all accidents and people would wake me up in the night when any one of their family got sick and I had to do a lot of counter prescribing. I remember one night when Mrs. Oscar living north of Foley came in and put her baby in my lap who was in convulsions and begged me to save her baby. As convulsions are generally nature's way of breaking a high fever, I just relaxed the child on a couch and gave it a mild sedative and it soon got well.

About this time the Magnolia Hotel was completed and John C. Lehr and his family moved in from the model farm and took charge. Tommy Tew who was employed as a printer in the onlooker office and I roomed together above my drug store and we ate our meals at the Magnolia Hotel. As there was no electricity in Foley we had to burn kerosene lamps in the

As there was nothing in the way of entertainment for the young folks in town, they usually congregated at my store in the evenings. I would let them dance in my store, and for music, David Gear would come over with his violin. One of the boys would scrape a broom handle on the floor to imitate a bass fiddle, and an other would blow in a jug to imitate a bass horn.

We had a good time and were nick named the Foley Indians. Here is a picture of my first Drug store, with Foley's first hardware store on the right and the building on the left that looks like a big dry goods box was Foley's first barber shop, run by George Huff.



Foley's first Drug Store, Hardware Store and Barber Shop.

Mr. Wm. Stelk the new hardware owner, moved here from Chicago and he played the accordian quite well, so we added him to the Foley Indian Band. Before he moved his stock into his new store we had a house warming and big dance and invited all of the new and old settlers from miles around.

As there was no telephone service in south Baldwin County, a few of the leading farmers and business men organized the South Baldwin Telephone Co. with I Munn as president and Jesse Crouch as manager of the construction.

In August of 1908, H.J.Coenen sold his general store to C.A.Boller from Chicago, and moved his family to California. Charlie and Rose Boller became an important addition to the social life of ~~the~~ the Foley Indians. We had a good many parties where we would make Charlie Boller our Indian Chief, by throwing a blanket over his shoulders and sticking a feather duster in the back of ~~his~~ his neck, and he would lead the tribe in an Indian War Dance.

The Train Crew spent the night in Foley, and Conductor Andrew Martin, Engineer S.J.Feagin, Flagman Jim Porterfield as well as Hugh J. Feagin who later followed in his fathers foot steps as Engineer, all were considered part of the Foley Indians. Whenever there was a dance at Summerdale or anywhere on the line between Summerdale and Foley, Conductor Martin would load us all on the train and take us to the festivities.

I remember one night we went to a party at the Dan Mac Farren farm, about three miles north of Foley, where John Sute now lives. Some one ~~was~~ of our crowd got sick, and we put him on the train and backed it ~~back~~ to Foley, so we could ~~the patient some~~ give the patient some medicine; then took the train back to the party.

Of course the L.&.N. Officials never knew about these trips, and no one ever told them. We felt the L.&.N.Railroad was due us some consideration, for pioneering this Hinterland, and making the Railroad Spur from Bay Minette to Foley the best paying thirty five miles in their entire System

Cut of Pine Knot Special

Here is a picture of the Pine Knot Special and her train Crew, as well

15AA

Street Scene, Foley, Ala.



Street Scene Showing C.A. Bollers Store , James Clarke Real Estate
Office, Foley OFFLOCKER Office and Magnolia Hotel

S. J. Reagan
George J. Reagan
Jesse P. Reagan
H. J. Reagan

In August of 1903 H.J. Conen sold his ~~store~~ store to C.I. Boller from Chicago and moved to California. Charlie and Rose Boller became an important factor in the social life of Foley and were invited to join the Foley Indians .

The train crew spent the night in Foley and Conductor Martin and the engineer and brakemen also joined the Foley Indians. When there was a dance anywhere along the line between Summerdale and Foley. Conductor Martin would load us all on the train and take us to the festivities. I remember one night we went up to the Mac Ferran farm which was about three miles north of Foley, where John Sute now lives. Some one of the crowd got sick and they backed the train back to Foley so I could give the patient some medicine, and then went back to the party.

Of course the L. & N. never knew about these trips but we felt the rail road was do us some consideration, for pioneering this hinterland and making the spur from Bay Minette to Foley the best paying thirty five miles they had in their entire system.

My sister Emma Dumas now moved down to Foley from Chicago to keep house for me and to assist me in the Drug Store. Also Ida Hein came down from Burlington Iowa to keep house for her two brothers ~~was~~ John and Joe Hein who had purchased a farm near Foley and were both bachelors. Ida Hein rode in each day on horse back to get the mail, and of course she always had to stop at the drug store.

It wasn't long before I fell in love with her, and on July 7th 1910 we wre the second couple to get married in Foley. Laura Montieth and Mr. Richards having been the first couple. My wife and I left on the Pine Knot special for New Orleans on our honeymoon and everybody was at the depot to see us off. The engineer blew the whistle all the way to Bay Minette. At the re cent Sesquicentennial Celebration at Bay Minette, my wife and I joined the crowd on the Pine Knot Special for sentimental reasons, as we were married 49 years ago and wanted to relive our Honeymoon. ~~Before going on with our history~~

Before going on with with the history of Foley, I want to give the biography of some of the native settlers and those new settlers who traded in Foley and took part in it's social and cultural developments.

My sister Emma Dumas now moved down to Foley from Chicago to keep house for me and to assist me in the Drug Store. Ida Hein who had come down here to keep house for her two bachelor brothers, Joe and John Hein, became my sister's best friend.

Ida Hein rode in on horse back each day to get the mail, and of course she always had to stop at the Drug Store .

It wasn't long before I fell in love with her , and on July 7th 1910 we were the second couple to get married in Foley. Laura Montieth and Richards having been the first couple.

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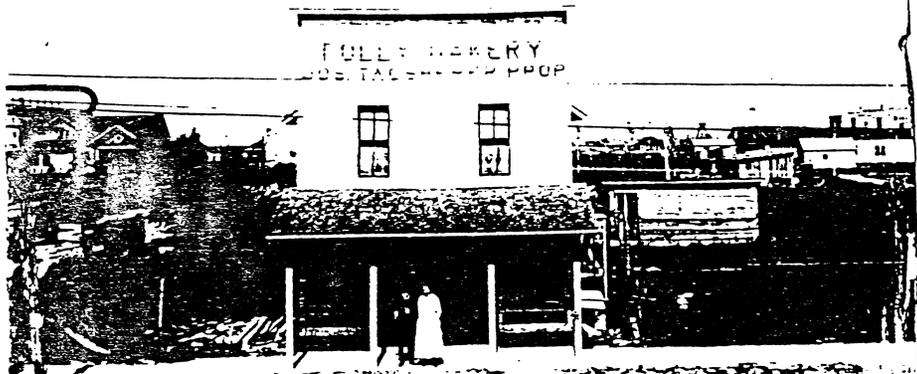
As the old saying goes, all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy; So it was with the pioneers of Foley and the surrounding communities. We never missed an opportunity to attend a party or dance; Be it at Bon Secour, Elberta, Magnolia Springs, Marlowe or Summerdale.

Most everyone had a horse and buggy or a team of mules that could be hitched to a wagon or surrey and used for transportation. These affairs usually lasted until after midnight and it would be early morning by the time you got home. I remember well my own knock kneed horse, called "Blackie" who could pull a buggy through the piney woods trails with the lines tied to the dash board, and never hit a stump. When my wife and I would wake up, Blackie was standing before the barn door waiting to be unhitched.

Our Sundays were taken up with picnic trips to the Gulf Beach, which was usually accomplished By going to Orange Beach and crossing Cotton Bayou, or going straight south to Shelby's Home and crossing the Lagoon by row boat. Other popular picnic spots were along the Magnolia River, or the south shores of Mobile and Weeks Bay. Then we organized Foley's first base ball team, and Sunday afternoon base ball games became popular. As most of our players had past experience, either as an amateur, or semi pro ball player, we really had a good ball team. John B. Foley felt proud of us, and bought our first base ball uniforms; These uniforms were light gray with Foley in black letters across the front of the shirt. The caps had two black stripes around the crown. Our first base ball diamond was out at the Woodward farm about two and a half miles from Foley on the Magnolia Springs Road. We later moved it into town just north of the present Municiple park. Bon Secour had a ball team and their diamond was on the Bon Secour River near Joe Browns store. Summerdale, and Reheatabile, combined with the Foley team.

The late William Harrison Mann of Foley

15BB



As time went on Bay Minette, Robertsdale, and Fairhope developed good teams and we had plenty of competition.

Now let us come to the serious side of this story and tell of the handicaps that the pioneer settlers of Foley and South Baldwin County had to face. There was only one bank in Baldwin County and it was at Bay Minette. This was a good bank but its resources were limited, and their loans were restricted by State laws. The Banks of Mobile even as late as 1920 would not make loans on Baldwin County property.

So it was a case of root hog or die for the Baldwin County farmer and business men. The average farmer or business man had to pull himself up by his own boot straps or perish. I had purchased the lots across from the Foley bakery and wanted to build my own drug store building. As I had no bank to turn to for a loan, I was lucky to find a farmer in Elberta, who had come to Baldwin County with about forty Thousand Dollars that he had made raising sugar beets in Illinois. His name was Fred Sievert and he was interested in making first mortgage loans that paid 6% interest. I submitted my plans to him and he loaned me \$2900.00 to build a double store building with two flats upstairs. This contract was given to Arthur Holk a good friend of mine from Magnolia Springs, and was his first job as contractor in the Town of Foley. His son Ted Holk now carries on his father's business, and I questioned him on what the probable cost of the contract would be to-day. He said he could not duplicate the same building to-day for less than twenty thousand dollars. As lumber to-day is worth over ten times as much, and labor would be in the same ratio.



It soon dawned on John B. Foley that the people in his Empire, were at the mercy of Tiberious, when they needed financial help. He realized that it was time he did something about this; So he organized the Foley State Bank with a Capital of Ten thousand dollars. Being a man of Means, he deposited enough of his own Capital in this bank to give it stability, and resources enough to meet the needs of it's customers.

John C. Lehr who had operated the Model Farm, and later the Magnolia Hotel for Mr Foley was made Foley's first Bank Cashier. He studied up on banking procedures, and soon adapted himself to his new position, and became a well liked and successful Banker.



Fo
co

In later years Mr. Foley turned over the bank to Wm. Stoddard, who was with the Crosby Drug Co. Wm. Stoddard was interested in the bank and for him to handle, and help place it with a capital.

As Foley had no Picture Show, I decided to build one next to my Drug Store. For this venture I needed a loan of ten thousand dollars. As this was more than the Foley Bank could legally loan, Mr Stoddard advised me to go ahead, and he would help me to his limit, when he would help, at which time he would help me find someone who could handle the loan over a ten year period; He lived up to his promise and accompanied me to Pensacola where we placed the loan with W.R. Taylor a prominent business man.

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Bank Bldg

Foleys first Bank Building located on the southwest corner of McKinzie and Violet

In later years Mr. Foley sold out his interest in the Foley State Bank to Wm. Stoddard, who moved the Bank into the ~~Stek~~ Building, now occupied by Crosby Drug Co. William Stoddard was a well like and successful banker; He was interested in seeing Foley grow, and if a proposed loan was to big for him to handle, and he felt it had merit, he would go out of his way to help place it with a larger bank, or find some individual who had the needed capital.

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About this time some business men thought that the Foley State Bank needed some competition, and the South Baldwin State Bank was organized with the backing of A. N. Hayseldon, Mr. Mc Intosh George Strong and Mr. W. Hilcher. Geo. Strong was made Cashier. This new venture in the banking business proved to be a big mistake, as in their zeal to get business a good many questionable loans were made. Mr. Wm. Stoddard president of the Foley State bank took sick and died in October of 1925; And Jack W. Randall who was president of the Loxley State Bank took over his duties by commuting daily between Loxley and Foley.

Jack Randall soon realized that Foley was not big enough at that time, to make two banks profitable, so he took steps to consolidate the two banks into one strong bank. This was duly accomplished when a merger was effected and the two banks were consolidated into the Farmers and Merchants Bank. Herbert McCain who had been with the Alabama State Banking Dept. was employed to be the new cashier, with Miles Morris as Assistant Cashier, and Jack Randall as President.

Jack Randall continued to commute between Loxley and Foley until he lost his life in an automobile accident just outside of Foley City limits. He was in the car by himself when he hit a sand bed in the road, going at a fair speed, which caused him to lose control and the car over turned. Miles Morris the assistant cashier was also in bad health and had to resign his position, and here is where E. Frank Sanders steps into the picture.

The story of E. Frank Sanders is the typical success story of an American boy, who knows what he wants to do, then applies himself to his task, overcoming all obstacles thrown in his path, until he reaches the highest rung in his ladder of achievement. E. Frank Sanders was born in Cordo, Pickens County Ala. on June 20th 1905. He graduated from the Cordo High School and went to work for the Merchants and Farmers Bank in Cordo. On July 4th 1926 he came to Foley and accepted a position as Teller of the Farmers and Merchants Bank. He held this position until the depression of 1932, when every bank in Baldwin County except the Elberta State Bank had to close their doors on account of being insolvent. This of course was true of most of the banks in the United States, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared a banking holiday, so these banks could liquidate their assets and settle with their depositors on an equitable basis. As is well known by the people who went through this depression, when the stock market crashed, most of the banks were holding stocks and bonds as collateral which almost over night depreciated in value to such an extent that all depositors had to stand their prozata share of this loss.

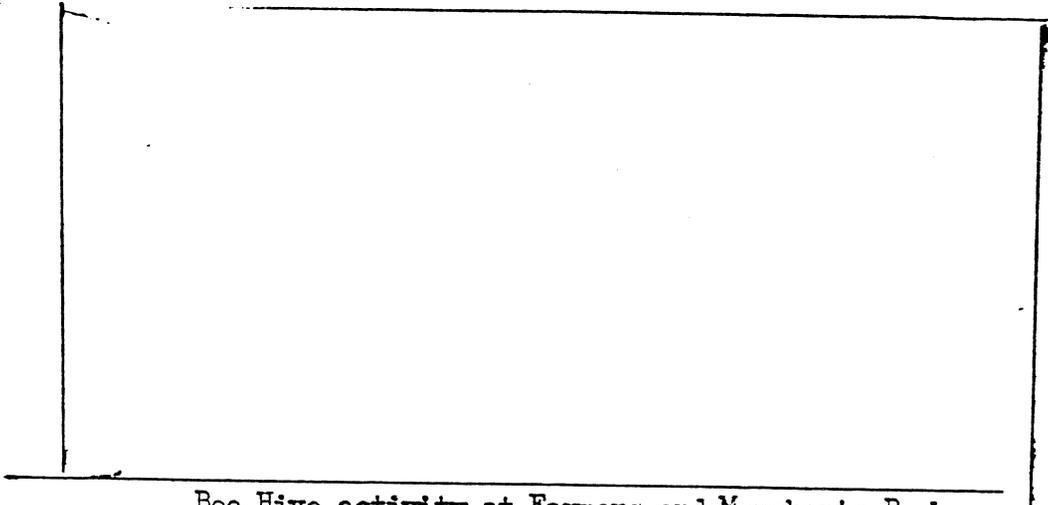
The Farmers and Merchants Bank was

Gus Schultz now holds the position of Vice President and Anthony Sute is Cashier. To-day this bank employs fourteen people to take care of it's bookkeeping department and it's assets total right close to six million dollars, as recently published by a bank statement in the Foley Onlooker.

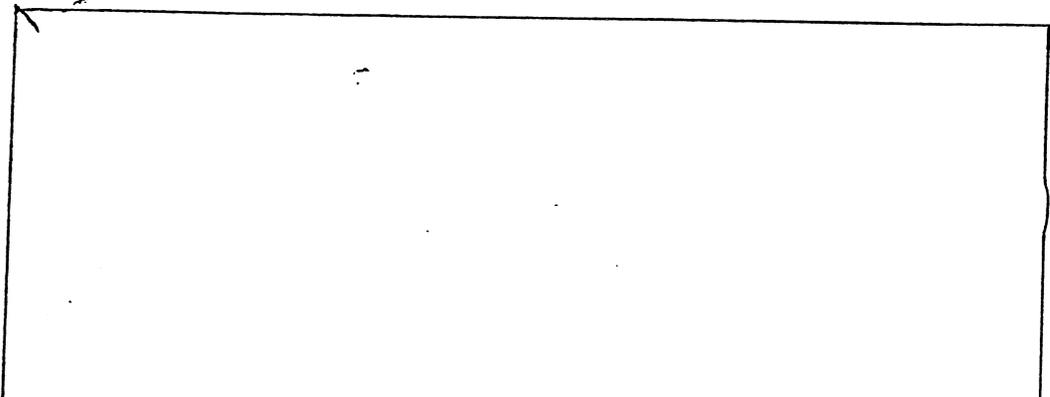
Frank E. Sanders married a Foley girl, Elizabeth Dempster whose parents moved to Foley in 1918 from Hinsdale Ill. Elizabeth graduated from the Wilmette High School in Wilmette Ill. The Sanders have one adopted daughter Jeannie Sanders. They maintain a lovely home in Foley and a summer cottage at Perdido Beach.

The present directors of the Farmers and Merchants are as follows;

Gus Schultz ; E.F. Sanders ; W. Max Griffin ; Chas. J. Ebert ; C.P. Taylor.



Bee Hive activity at Farmers and Merchants Bank



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Foley's School System.

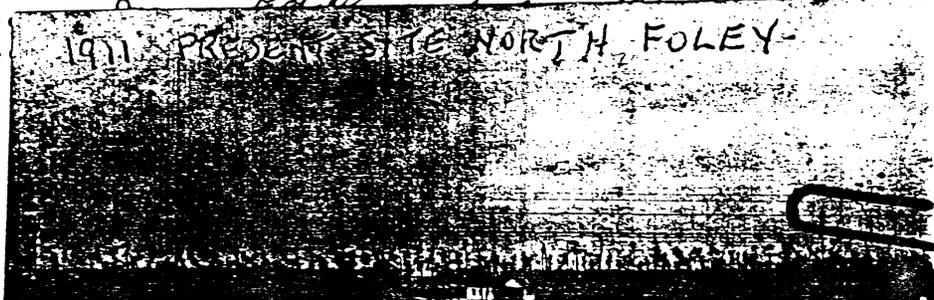
Beginning with a one room school house in 1906 with 30 pupils, we now have a modern grade and high school covering about four ~~blocks~~ city blocks, with a lighted foot ball field and modern auditorium with stage and basket ball court. The enrollment of the school as of 1959 was _____ pupils.

The writer had the pleasure of interviewing Edna Pedro who was Foley's first school teacher in 1906. She later married Norman Suarez and they now live in Myrtle Grove Florida, where they recently celebrated their fifth ~~th~~ wedding anniversary.

Edna Pedro was born in Chicago on Nov. 28th 1886. She came to Loxley Alabama in 1898 with her parent MR. and Mrs. J.W. Pedro who had retired from the grocery business. They had five children; Harry, Edna, Zoe, Don, and Hazel. Edna was educated at the Alabama State Normal School in Livingston Ala. She taught school at Stapleton Ala in 1905 and came to Foley in 1906 to be Foley's first School teacher.

She informed me that Frank Kuhn and Morris Drietzler were the School Board members in charge and gave me the names of the families whose children attended.

- Mannings five *MARIA, WILLIAM, SARA, ANNA, FANNY, PERCY*
- Ammisons six *BOB, GALLY, MITTIE, JIM, EMMA, FRANK*
- Hess three
- Dahlstrom one ... *Edna*
- Kuhn three .. *Elmer, Edith, and Edna*
- Drietzler..... Two. .. *Leola and Seldon*
- Monthieth..... One .
- Agnes Manning from Mifflin one
- Mary Resmondo From Mifflin one
- Fred Yancey from Summerdale one
- Roy Kell From Summerdale one
- Cousins three... *FRED, BOB, EDWARD*
- Jack Metz one
- Stephens..... Four
- Jones.....
- Powers



The Suarez Family

While William A. Suarez and Norman Suarez are the only members of this historical family who participated in the early life of Foley Alabama, their ancestry goes back five generations, all of them having lived in the Perdido Bay section of Baldwin County, and some still do.

Joseph Suarez their great grandfather was born in Cuba in 1796 and migrated to Baldwin County in his teens, along with his father and other members of his family, and settled at Spring Bluff on Perdido Bay about three miles west of Lillian Ala. on a land grant given them by the King of Spain. At that time Perdido Bay was a fresh water lake ~~of the bay~~ as it had no direct connection with the gulf of Mexico. The only entrance to Perdido Bay from the Gulf was to go up Old River between Florida Point and Ono point. Ono Island as we know it to-day was part of the main land of Bear Point. J.D. Johnson who lived at Bear Point is responsible for drastic changes in the geographic formation of Perdido Bay.

Mr. Johnson's daughter Mary Mildred married G.R. Suarez on the 22nd of December 1878. The Johnsons were natives of Mississippi, where they had been prosperous as cotton farmers. But due to reverses during reconstruction after the civil war they moved to Bear Point where Mr. Johnson got interested in Salt water fishing. As it was fifteen miles to go way around Ono Point and Old River to get into the Gulf Mr. Johnson conceived the idea of a cut off. He and his sons dug a ditch across point Ono near the end of Florida Point. At first they could get on each side of a boat and partly ~~drag it through the ditch~~ float and drag it through this ditch. But in a brief period strong currents flowing between the Gulf and Bay washed out a good sized channel of sufficient width and depth to allow small craft to easily pass through. To-day this cut off is about half mile wide and allows the salt water of the Gulf of Mexico mingle with the fresh water of Perdido Bay and is responsible for the creation of Alabam Point. The State of Alabama is now constructing a bridge from Alabam Point to Florida Point across this very channel.

George Randolph Suarez the youngest child of Joseph ~~as Joseph~~ and Jane Ann Suarez was born in Warrington Florida on April the 3rd 1858 is the forefather of most of the Suarez clan now residing in Baldwin County. He was left an orphan at the tender age of ten years; his childhood and early manhood was spent during the reconstruction period following the civil war and of necessity were fraught with privation and hardship. At the age of twelve Mr. Suarez went to live with a married sister, Jennie whose husband, Putnam Dolive operated a turpentine still at Bromley on Mobile Bay. Here he ran the commissary and did the household chores from early until late at night. By the time he was seventeen he had

*Perdido in Spanish n. means
lost. Hence Perdido Bay means
lost Bay.*

George Randolph and Mildre Suarez had seven children; Gasque Suarez who was born on Sept. 25th 1879 and named after Judge of Probate Gasque from Daphne. He married Mamie Strong from Shell Banks in 1904.. He passed away in June 1936.

Williamine Suarez born July 24th 1861 married Fred J. Ketterer in 1909 Her husband passed away in December 1936 and she followed him in December 1958.

William Aubrey Suarez was born Feb. 15th 1884 and married Bessie Mc Connaghy of Monticello Kentucky in 1912. They have a daughter and three sons living, one son and daughter died in infancy. The three sons followed their father in the construction business.

Norman Suarez, born March 20th 1886 married Edna Pedro of Loxley in 1909. Prior to her marriage Miss Pedro taught the first school in Foley and subsequently the first school in Perdido Beach. A daughter and three sons were born of this marriage. Norman is now retired from civil service and he and his wife recently celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Thurman Suarez, born July 8th 1888 married Willie Mae Irwin in 1919. she was a sister of Carthus Irwin former Sheriff of Baldwin County. His first wife passed away in 1941 and in 1943 he remarried. His second wife was Mr Mrs. Molly Adkinson (Nee Beasley). They had no children and reside in Perdido Beach. He is also retired from Civil Service.

Elma Lois Suarez, born Nov. 16th 1893 married Ray S. Mc Pherson of Josephine in 1921. A daughter and two sons were born of this union. Ray Mc Pherson died in 1958. The writer was well acquainted with Ray Mc Pherson's father who had taken a prominent part in the invention of the telephone and retired to Josephine where he had purchased the property now known as Pirates Cove. This property now belongs to Max Laurenz the hardware merchant of Foley.

Willis Randolph Saurez, born Mar. 16th 1900 married Mary Louise Lay of Mifflin Ala. in 1929. They have one son a ministerial student, who presently matriculated at Pensacola Junior College. They reside in Myrtle Grove Florida with a part time residence at Perdido Beach Ala. He too is a retired civil service man.

William A Saurez and Norman Suarez have the distinction of having built the first and only saloon Foley had, for Reuben Ard in 1906. This saloon had a short life, as the State of Alabama went dry soon after it was built.

*Mr. Ketterer was post
master of Perdido Beach in
1877. My son went to Foley
high school and now is employed in
U.S. Patent Office in Washington DC*

Frank Kuhn Family

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kuhn moved to Foley in 1905 from South Bend Indiana, and purchased a forty acre farm adjoining the Foley city limits on the north. To-day this entire farm is within the city limits and has been sub divided .

They had three children when they arrived namely Edith and Edna who were twins and one son Elmer . Marie Kuhn another daughter was born in Foley in 1907. The three older children were among the first pupils of Foleys first school house.

Mrs. Frank Kuhn and Mrs. Morris Drietzler claim the distinction of having been the first white women settlers to arrive in Foley on the Pine Knot L.&.N. train .

Frank Kuhn became a successful farmer and later turned his farm into a private park and nursery. Part of this park now makes a picturesque entrance to the new and recently built hospital .

Elmer Kuhn became a successful farmer in his own right, and did a lot of experimenting with new crops. He sent to Japan for his first soy bean seed, and predicted over twenty five years ago, that soy beans would become a major crop of Baldwin County.

Elmer Kuhn made a specialty of raising crops that were worthy of exhibiting at State and County Fairs; and won many Blue Ribbons for his efforts in Foley, Mobile , and Montgomery. Elmer Kuhn died in 1934 from the effects of Infantile Paralysis, which he contracted in his early youth, and had affected his locomotion. But in spite of his affliction he became a qualified scientific farmer, through trial and error methods practiced on his own farm.

Edna Kuhn married Frank Heurlin an architect from Sweden who died in 1943. She now operates and owns the Rattan Art and Interior decorating shop located on the old homestead in Foley on highway fifty nine. As a widow she has been quite successful as an interior decorating consultant, and her services have been sought by prominent people in Mobile and Pensacola as well as in Foley. Edith Kuhn married Henry Carson who has a printing business and stationery supply store in Foley. Henry is prominent in business circles, and at the present time is a member of the Foley City Council. He is active in Chamber of Commerce work and a Rotarian. His wife Edith runs the Edith Beauty Salon which is located in the same building as the Rattan Art Shop. Marie Kuhn who is not married lives in the old homestead . Frank Kuhn was a member of Foley's first school Board, and all of his children were educated in Foley. He died in 1942 and Mrs. Kuhn died in 1958 . Both were buried in Foley's Catholic Cemetery.

W.H.Montieth Family.

A native of Keokuk County ,Iowa move^d to Magnolia Springs with his family when he was a young man, bringing the family possessions down in a five team caravan. His family lived in Magnolia Springs for many years being among the first settlers there.

In 1904 when the L.& N. Spur was built to Foley, Mr. Montieth moved to Foley and became it's first citizen; the only other inhabitants were a few negro woodsmen. He applied for the job of Postmaster of the new town and was so appointed.

He at first lived in a tent, then built a small shack where he handled a few groceries and housed Foley's first post office. Mrs. Montieth and their daughter Laura assisted in the operation of the store and postoffice . . . Laura Montieth married W.A.Richards and they were the first couple to be ^{MARRIED} in Foley. Their daughter Alice Richards was the second baby to have been born in Foley, Janice Fesler daughter of the owner of the Onlooker having been the first Foley baby.

When Alice Richard grew up she married Cecil Gebhardt and they still reside in Foley. Mr. Montieth established the first Babtist Church in Foley. In 1915 Mr. Montieth tired of Foley and moved to California, but left his daughter to continue as post Mistress .

Mrs Laura Richards divorced her husband and remarried to J.H.Wlabrink a widower. Mr. Montieth later moved back to Foley and lived to be ninty years of age.

Mrs J.H.Walbrink is still a resident of Foley ,but her husband passed away some years ago.

J.M.Rogers Family

Mr. and Mrs. J.M.Rogers came to Foley in 1908 from South Bend Indiana, where he had a Paint and Interior Decorating store. He bought a forty acre farm just south of the Foley city limits.

The Rogers family lived in two tents until they had their home built. They had two children Robert and Blanche who lived with them. Mr. Rogers went into the paint contracting business and his first big job was to paint the Magnolia Hotel built by J.B.Foley. His son Bob assisted him in his work and was interested in hunting and fishing on his days off. He especially liked to catch alligators and caught quite a few.

Picture of Alligato Hunt

Bob Rogers enlisted in the army in world war one, saw over sea duty and was shell shocked. When he came home he married Mrs Doll Rockstall nee "Doll Willis, owner of the Modern Hotel. He died in 1934 from a nervous sickness caused by his war experiences. Blanche Rogers married Harold Templin from Detroit. J.M.Rogers built a good many homes on his land and sold them as soon as they were ready for occupancy. Mr. Rogers passed away in 1956. His wife is still living in their home and is now ninety five years of age and still does her own house work. Blanche Templin is now employed in the office of Steigerwald's Laundry.

Charles A Armentrout. Family

Mr. & Mrs. Chas. Armentrout and their daughters, Mabel, Maud, Helen, and Mildred left their home in South Bend Indiana, and came to Foley Ala. in October of 1908 to make their home on a sixty acre farm nothwest of town.

Mr Armentrout had spent the previous winter and had helped to build the Magnolia Hotel. Grace their youngest daughter was born here April 4th, 1911. Mabel taught school at Seminole, Elberta and Rosedale. Maud worked in the Onlooker office four years and taught school in Rosedale and Mifflin. Helen taught school at Stapleton and later worked in the post office in Atmore Ala.

Mr. Armentrout farmed for a number of years, and later moved to town and opened a second had furniture store. Mr. Armentrout died on Jan. 16th, 1933 and Mrs Armentrout passed away in Foley December 31, st. 1958. They were both laid to rest in Plymouth Ind. Mabel and Maude still reside in Foley. Helen lives in Wickenburg Arizona; Mildred in South Bend Indiana, and Grace lives in Davemport Iowa.

Reuben Ard Family

Patrick Cooney Family.

Pat Cooney was a native of the Emerald Isles . He was born in Tipperary where he recieved his education at Rockwell College. In 1883 at the age of nineteen years,he migrated to the United States landing in Philadelphia. From here he went to New York expecting to get a job on the Police Force. He failed to land this job,but found other work,and stayed in New York until 1886,when he came direct to Baldwin County Ala.

For years thereafter he worked for Nellie K.Baldwin operating her general merchandise store at Marlowe on Fish river . He married Rickie Mannich a daughter of Julius Mannich who had migrated to Baldwin County from Germany.

They raised a family of four boys, and two girls,namely; Tom,John,Patrick,William,Anne and Mary Cooney. On account of being County Commissioner of Baldwin,Pat. Cooney had to keep his residence at Marlowe in order to hold his office. However he sent his wife and children to live in Mobile,so they could be educated in the Mobile Schools.

When the Town of Foley was founded,Pat moved his office to Foley where he engaged in the RealEstate and Insurance business. He also became local representative for the Magnolia Springs Land Co. He was respected and loved by thousands and was always active in the civic affairs of Foley and the entire County at large.

The writer remembers well when he was courting his present wife,Pat Cooney was acting as cupid, and offered to buy our marriage license if we would get married. When the date of our wedding was set,Pat went to Bay Minette and purchased our license , and presented the license to us as a Wedding Gift .

When Foley was incorporated in 1915 Pat.was elected on the Town Council and served for four years. He was Foley's first city clerk during this period . Pat Cooney Passed away in his office from a heart attack in 1928. He left a void in all of our hearts,and a broken spoke in the wheel of progress,of the Town of Foley . He was laid to rest in the Catholic Cemetery in Mobile . His son William took over his office in Foley,and carried on until his sudden death when the office was closed for good.

*W.A. Boller graduated from the Crane
Technical High School in Chicago. He married
Bertha Ethel Barber of Chicago in 1920*

Charles A. Boller

Charles and Rose Boller moved to Foley from Chicago in August 1908. They purchased the H.J. Coanen grocery store at McKenzie and Alston street, as well as a forty acre farm about two miles west of Foley. They had two children Arthur and Dorothy who were both educated in the Foley Grade and High School.

Arthur who is now called W.A. Boller is in business in Foley as owner of the Texaco Filling Station and also wholesale distributor for all Texaco products in South Baldwin. Their daughter Dorothy went to the University of Alabama after graduating from Foley High School. Here she met Leslie Paine an Alabama foot ball star of Rose Bowl fame and got married.

The Leslie Paines now live in New Orleans, where he is employed as divisional manager for the Texaco Co. Chas. and Rose Boller were a bulwark of strength in keeping the social and commercial progress of Foley on an even keel. While C.A. Boller had his own business to run, he knew that in order for his business to be a success, the farmers of the area around Foley had to get a fair price for their crops. It is well known that the first farmers were robbed by the commission merchants when they shipped their crops on consignment.

It was not unusual for a farmer who had shipped on consignment to get a letter saying that the produce arrived in bad shape and they had to destroy it, and would send the farmer a bill for the freight.

To C.A. Boller must go the credit of establishing a cash market for all produce right here on the tracks, by properly grading and packing such produce under Federal inspection. He took over the management of the South Baldwin Producers Corporation and all buyers had to pay the farmers cash on this end. C.A. Boller also served as Foley's second Mayor after the town was incorporated. He also took an active part in the development of our school system, bringing it from a one room grade school to our present Consolidated Grammar and High School available for all students in south Baldwin County.

Mr. Boller also took part in politics and was appointed democratic committee from Baldwin County. He later sold out his grocery business and was appointed Post Master of Foley. He held this position until he was retired. Chas. Boller is still with us, and has reached his eighty ninth birthday. He has the distinction of being the oldest pioneer business still living in Foley.

John Peter Hein Family

20

John Peter Hein was born in Alsace Lorain France in 1849. He migrated to Burlington Iowa when he was nineteen years old. His wife, nee Ottelia Schwaller came from Switzerland with her parents when she was one year old, and her folks also came to Burlington Iowa in 1870.

They had four children, namely Joseph, John, Ottelia, and Ida Hein. Ottelia Hein however was drowned in the Mississippi River while on a church picnic, when a boat in which two couples were rowing capsized and three of them drowned. Ottelia was nineteen when this happened. Joseph Hein was a conductor of a freight train for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, when he purchased a forty acre farm just north of Foley as an investment.

In 1907 he had an accident when he fell off a moving train and had suffered a concussion and was in the hospital about a year. His hearing was impaired and the doctors advised him to quit the Railroad and come down to his Farm in Foley, only it was not a farm but just forty acres of raw land covered by stumps and pine trees.

As he was not able to travel alone his brother John and sister Ida came with him, to help turn this raw land into a real farm. As both men were single, Ida came along to do the cooking and keep house. Here is a picture of the Hein Bros. digging stumps on their land



The Hein Bros. were among the first farmers to go into raising irish potatoes. Here is a picture of their first harvest and showing the first horse drawn potato digger in the Foley district.



Hein Bros. first Potato Crop.

John Hein later married Anne Williamson who lived on the Michigan road, and built a home and in Foley and became Foley's first Undertaker.

They had one daughter who is now a Catholic Nun and teaches music at a Catholic School in California.

Ida Hein married James T. Dumas the Foley druggist in 1910, being the second couple to get married in Foley. They had three children, Helen, Joseph, and James who all graduated from the Foley High School. Joseph and James both went to Auburn where Joe studied Electrical Engineering and James graduated the in pharmacy, but made up his mind to go on and study Medicine. So, he took two years of medicine at Alabama University and had to go to Tulane for the next two years to get his M.D. Degree, as Alabama only had two years of Medicine available at that time. He married Margaret Ruple a school teacher from Bay Minette and now practices Medicine in Mobile.

Joseph Dumas went to work for Westinghouse and became a professional electrical Engineer. Helen Dumas went to Montevallo but married before she graduated, and is now living in

N.C.J.HOLK FAMILY

21A

Mr. and Mrs. N.C.J.Holk were both natives of Denmark . He came to America in 1885 and she in 1887 ,eventually meeting in Chicago Ill. where they were married in 1888. They engaged in the milk business until they moved to Baldwin County Alabama in 1905. They settled on a farm near Magnolia Springs where they raised crops and a very interesting family of eleven children. The Holks were very industrious and frugal , this trait was inherited by the entire family ,most of whom took a vital part in the early life of Foley and they and their offspring are carrying on in the business and social life of Foley and Magnolia Springs at the present time. The eleven children were ; Arthur , George, Anna, Marie, Niels Andrew, Charles, Jens, Harold, Margaret , and Roy.

The elder Holks moved off their farm to Foley in 1921 and opened the first school ^{supply} store across the street from the present high school. Mr. Holk passed away on June 21, 1924 . His widow then operated the store until 1944 when she sold out her interest to Herman L. and Margaret Tau, and retired.

Arthur Holk received his early education in Chicago School, arriving here with his parents at the age of sixteen. He began working at the carpenter trade in 1907. He then entered the contracting business for himself and through the years built many residential and commercial buildings in Foley and Magnolia Springs. In 1945 he organized the firm of Arthur Holk and Son Building and Contracting Co, together with his son Fred Arthur, and operated from Magnolia Springs.

Arthur Holk married Emma Frischkorn daughter of Adam & Katheri Frischkorn on June 4th 1914 . They have one son, ~~Arthur~~ Fred Arthur, born Nov. 25th 1915 who attended school in Foley before enrolling at the Hemphill Engineering School at Chicago. He went in business with his father in 1945 as a junior partner, but had to take full charge when his father passed away suddenly in
Fred Arthur Holk married Willine Reynolds of Fairhope and they have four children, Linda Bea, Fred Arthur Jr. and a pair of twins,

Margaret Holk married Walter Henry Krueger March 16, 1935 who owns the Foley Butane Company. She was born August 15th 1907 in Magnolia Springs . The Kreugers have three children , Robert William, Louise Margaret, and Irene Elizabeth. Their residence and business office are in one building on the main highway coming into Foley, and was built to be a show place for their products, as well as to show the confidence they have in the future growth of Foley.

John Hadley moved to Baldwin County before the civil war from Escambia County Alabama. He bought a whole section of land north east of Foley, and brought his slaves with him. He went into the business of raising range cattle, which were branded and allowed to roam at will.

When he died his three sons inherited the Homestead and continued to raise cattle which ranged through lower Baldwin County.

When Mr. J.B. Foley started the town of Foley, the Hadley brothers sold all of their land excepting One hundred acres to Mr. Foley. Tom Hadley remained on the old homestead, While Joe W. Hadley moved on a small farm north of Summerdale. Cruett Hadley moved to Foley where he opened a livery stable. In those days before the advent of automobiles, you had to rent a horse and buggy or a saddle horse to get to Magnolia Springs, Bon Secour, or Elberta.

In 1924 Joe W. Hadley ran for Sheriff of Baldwin County but was defeated. In 1927 he ran for the same office again and was elected. But he did not get to serve out term of office as he died three months after being elected, on April 8th 1927.

Joseph W. Hadley was born in 1881 and married Pauline Elizabeth Simmons and they had five children, three of them are still living namely ;

John B. Hadley , Joseph Howe Hadley, William Moore Hadley.

John B. Hadley is at the present time County Commissioner from the Bay Minette district. He is also owner of the Hadley Motor Co. in Bayminette selling Dodge Cars, and is also owner of two filling stations, one located in Gulf Shores and one located at the Spanish Fort near the Mobile Bridge head.

In 1938 he married Hazel Irwin of Bay Minette who was a prominent school teacher in Baldwin County, and served as attendant supervisor of the board of education for nine years. Mrs. J.B. Hadley was one of the Baldwin County Sesquicentennial officers in charge of tickets for the nighty pagent held recently at Bay Minette. Joseph Howe Hadley was educated in Baldwin County schools, and attended the University of Alabama and was awarded his doctorate at Columbia University in 1946. He became principle of the Foley High School in 1942 and while a resident of Foley was appointed on the City Council.

He now has his P.H.D. degree and is associated with the Alabama State Department of education at Montgomery. ~~William Moore Hadley~~ His wife is the former Anna Phillips and they were married at Bay Minette in 1929. William Moore Hadley also graduated from the University of Alabama and married Wilmer Funchess . He is teaching at the Raphael Semmes School in Mobile.

Tom Hadley Passed away in 19 and his son John Hadley is now employed by the City of Foley as Supervisor of all street employees. When President Abe Lincoln signed a proclamation, freeing all the slaves after the Civil War ended, it was assumed that the Federal Government would reimburse the slave owners for actual money they had invested in slaves.

To that end grandfather John Hadley had an affidavit sworn to at the

Dr. Sibley Holmes Family .

21C

of Tensaw

Dr. Sibley Holmes was born on March 5th-1873, in Tensaw Baldwin County Ala. His grandfather Thomas Colfin Holmes, was born in 1777 in North Carolina came to Alabama in 1798 and settled at Fort Mims, near what is now Tensaw, and practice surgery for many years. At the time of the indian massacre of August 13th 1813 he was attached to the fort, and only he and few others escaped. Dr. Oreigen Sibley Holmes, father of Dr. Sibley Holmes, was born Oct. 11th 1839 in Tensaw and died March 3rd 1892 in Mobile, although he was a resident at that time. He was reared in Tensaw and was graduated from the Medical College of Alabama in Mobile, as a Doctor of Medicine, and a member of the first graduating class. During the war between the States he was a surgeon in the confederate service, and was wounded in the battle of Shiloh. He practiced Medicine in Tensaw for thirty years. A Democrat, he represented Baldwin County in the Alabama State Assembly in 1872 and 1873. He married Nannie Boyles born June 24th 1846 at Tensaw. They became the parents of the following children, Bessie, of Monroe County Ala. wife of Thomas W. Swanson, 2 Sibley of further mention, and 3 Willie, wife of Dr. Malachi Coghlan who also practiced Medicine in Tensaw, and a graduate of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Mrs. Coghlan died at Tensaw aged 38 years. Dr. Sibley Holmes attended Baldwin County schools, had a private tutor for three years, then entered the Medical College of Alabama in Mobile, where he was graduated in 1895, as a Doctor of Medicine. He practiced Medicine at Tensaw until 1899, then moved to Finchburg Monroe County until 1916 when he came to Baldwin County settling in Foley. Dr. Sibley Holmes (first) married Jan. 26th 1896 in Monroe County to Irene Williams, daughter of John B. and Kittie Williams. Mr. Williams was a prominent planter, owning fifty three hundred acres of land in Monroe County. Dr. and Mrs. Holmes became the parents of the following children. (1) Origen Sibley, (2) Amalie, (3) Williams Coghlan. Origen graduated from the Cincinnati College of Embalming in 1923 and he volunteered for service in World War one, he was gassed in the course of duty in 1918 and was honorably discharged on May 10th 1919 with rank of Corporal, and still resides in Foley. Amalie a trained nurse engaged in the Marine Hospital Service for three years prior to her marriage Dec. 9th 1924, to Dr. John Joseph Malee Jr. Williams Coghlan Holmes graduated from Daphne Normal School in 1918 and received his B.S. degree at the University of Alabama in 1922. And his degree of Doctor of Medicine from Tulane University in New Orleans La. in 1924. Dr. W.C. Holmes as he is most affectionately called by the people of Foley and his many patients, married September 5th 1925 in Alexander La. to Philomena Boogaerts, daughter of Felix Desire and Ella Boogaerts. She is a graduate nurse and is now superintendent of the Sibley Holmes Hospital in Foley.

Dr. Sibley Holmes lost his first wife while the children were small and later married his wife's sister Maiben Williams, who made a wonderful mother for his children, and had their love and affection. They all lived in...

TRIBUTE TO DR. SIBLEY HOLMES
BY
THE REV. WILLIAM A. THOMPSON TH.B.

21B

Nearly three score years ago, a man was born into this world, probably without a thought on the part of his parents as to the untold amount of good he would do during his span of life on this earth.

Now he has gone into the presence of ALMIGHTY GOD, and not as a stranger. To-day we are gathered here to pay our last respect to the memory of the man who was brave and courageous, kindly and honest, and to pray God, that his soul will find joy in his presence of the Angels.

This man will long be remembered by many for his sacrifices and his services to this community and this State, for his untiring efforts in promoting sound learning and a community loyalty, for his willingness to serve the physical needs of the poor without thought of silver or gold, and by many families who knew that he said a word of prayer over a patient, when having done all that he could and medicine failed. Whether we loved him, ~~as~~ most of us did, or whether we disliked him, as so few did, the inevitable death cannot be escaped, and the inevitable judgments shall be reached and those of us who were good shall sing alleluias with the Angels, and with him to the good of God who loves us all. AMEN.

Departed this life March 9th.1933.

Dr. Sibley Holmes

Dr. Sibley Holmes was a stockholder in the Foley State Bank, and owned several farms in Baldwin and Monroe County. He served on the Town Council of Foley, both as a councilman and Mayor. A Democrat and leader in party affairs he represented Baldwin County in the State Senate from 1919 to 1923, during the administration of Governor Kilby. He served as chairman of the game fish and forestry committee; He also was a member of the committee on education, public health and others. Dr. Sibley Holmes interest in education, was responsible for the prestige he built with the various State Administrations. He never missed a bet in getting Foley all the help he could to improve our school system. He planned and supervised the building of our present school Gymnasium, and took a great deal of interest in seeing that our teachers as a whole were were of the highest standards. As long as he lived he kept up his personal contacts with the various Governors, by hunting and fishing with them. He was instrumental in getting Governor Sparks to pave the road to Orange Beach, and Governor Graves to build the Dixie Graves highway to Fort Morgan. As a tribute to Dr. Holmes, Governor Graves named the road from Bay Minette to the Gulf, the Sibley Holmes Trail. Since Dr. Sibley Holmes passed away, his son, Dr. W.C. Holmes stepped into his shoes and continued to carry on his Medical practice, and his political know how. Dr. W.C. Holmes also became a member of the Alabama State Senate in which he represented the twenty first Senatorial District, as did his father before him. Dr. W.C. Holmes was instrumental in bringing financiers together with the Foley Town Council, which made possible the purchasing of the Electric Light System owned by the Riviera Utility Corporation. Dr. Sibley Holmes departed this life on March 9th 1933; and I know all of us will concur in the following tribute paid him by the Rev. W.A. Thompson who officiated at his funeral.

J.M.Stapleton was born in Bristol Virginia in 1886. He moved to Arkansas at an early age, then moved to Alabama in 1908. Finished his education at Highland Home College in Montgomery and Alabama University at Tuscaloosa Ala. He at first taught school at Frisco City and married Miss Bessie White . They had three children John, Earl, and Mildred Stapleton. John Stapleton lost his life in the Cocomut Grove fire in Boston in 1942. Earl Stapleton graduated at Alabama University in 1951 and is now teaching school at Brunswick Georgia . Mildred Stapleton took training to become a nurse at the Mobile Infirmary , then went into Government Service as a second Lt. in the Army Nurses Chore, and was mustered out as a Captain. She married in the Canal Zone and now lives at Fort Benning Georgia, as the wife of Master Sergeant W.H.Mathis.

Mrs. J.M.Stapleton died in 1926. and

J.M.Stapleton remarried in 1927 to Mrs.Ethel Harris who too passed away in 1940. J.M.Stapleton was Principle of the Foley School from 1918 to 1922 at which time Foley had an enrollment of one hundred and twenty . In 1922 Mr. Stapleton was appointed Post Master of the Foley Post Office and he held this position until 1934. . In 1944 Mr. Stapleton remarried to Mrs. Edith Mays a school teacher from Mobile.

In 1948 he became City Clerk of the City of Foley and has continually held this position until the present time.

23

L.A.Hagenbrink Family.

L.A.Hagenbrink and wife were born in Germany and came to America around 1886 and settled in Chicago. In 1906 they moved to Roscoe Ala. which at that time was the name of the post office on Portage Creek south of Foley. They bought their land from Chan Mershaun a homesteader .

Their furniture was the first to be shipped into Foley on the new railroad. They brought with them their two children. H.L.Hagenbrink and Melanie Hagenbrink both of whom they were educated in Chicago .

Their daughter Melanie married A.F.Moseley who was teaching school at Roscoe in 1910. Mr. Moseley has been teaching school for the past thirty nine years in various schools in Baldwin County. He is now retired and living in Elsanor Community near Robertsdale.

The Moseley's have five children four boys and one girl; Namely Stephen, Howard, Mildred, Arvle and Lawrence. The first three all recieved college degrees and are school teachers. Arvle is a mail carrier at Robertsdale and Lawrence is a farmer near Robertsdale. Henry Hagenbrink went back to Chicago where he went into the five and ten cent store business and made quite a success.

He is now retired and lives in Magnolia Springs. He has become a world traveler; and his hobby is taking colored pictures, and showing the colored slides on a screen to his many friends in Baldwin County.

As he takes a trip to a different part of the world each years, the lectures he gives with the showing of his pictures are very interesting and educational. His Chicago store is still being operated by his son Vernon .

Mr. and Mrs. John Ebert moved to Foley from Chicago in 1904.

Mr. Ebert had been employed as a car inspector in Chicago for the Pullman Co.

He purchased a farm on the Magnolia Springs Road just two and a half miles west of Foley. They at first lived in a tent until they could build a barn out of timber cut from their own land. Later they purchased lumber to build ~~their~~ their home. Mrs. Ebert had two sons by a former marriage, namely Chester and Arthur Blitz, who moved here with them. Charles Ebert also was born in Chicago and John Ebert their youngest son was born in Foley. Chester Blitz was a member of Foley's first base ball team, and married Margaret Cox a daughter of a Dentist. They moved to California in 1919.

Chas. Ebert to-day lives in Magnolia Springs, with his Real Estate and Insurance office being in Foley. He commutes daily to his business in Foley and also is a director in the Farmers and Merchants bank. Chas. Ebert married Evelyn Thomas a Foley school teacher. The fact of this matter is that they eloped and came back as man and wife. They have one son Chas. Ebert Jr. who now is in business with his father.

Chas. Junior married Wylene Provost, nee Wylene Scott, they have five children and have a beautiful home in Foley.

John Ebert Sr. was a charter member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Magnolia Springs. The writer too was a member of this Lodge and has fond memories of meetings he attended with Mr. Ebert. Mrs. Ebert Sr. was taken ill with Typhoid Fever in 1910 and after a long spell recovered. In those days the doctors, did not have all the serums and antibiotics they have to-day. In those days their treatment was calomel and turpentine emulsion with a few drops of carbolic acid in it. Mrs. Eberts neighbor Jim Woodard had the fever at the same time, but did not survive.

John Ebert passed away in the year 1932. Mrs. Ebert survived him and lived in Foley until she too passed away at the age of 83 years. 1963

Wm T. Manning was the Village Blacksmith in Foley as early as 1907 and right across the street from my first Drug Store. As I watched him daily forging a piece of iron to replace some broken part of a farm machine, or shoeing a horse, or putting a new iron rim on a wagon wheel, I was carried back to my school days when I had to memorize and recite ~~For the~~ Longfellow's Poem the Village Blacksmith, which I will distort to fit W. T. Manning.

Under the tall and leafy Pine tree
The village smithy stands;
The smith a mighty man was he
With large and sinewy hands;
And the muscles of his brawny arms
Are strong as iron bands.

His hair and beard were white and long,
His face was ruddy and tan;
His brow is wet with honest sweat,
He earns whate'er he can,
And looks the whole world in the face,
For he owes not any man.

How could I improve on the Character and description of W. T. Manning when the above two verses describe him perfectly ~~###~~. He was born in South Carolina in 1838 and came to Baldwin County when he was seventeen years old. He worked as a blacksmith at various logging camps and when the town of Foley was started he opened the first blacksmith shop and cotton gin. He had married Mary Givens a Baldwin County girl and they had a family of thirteen children, four boys and nine girls.

In his younger days during the civil war he acted as guide to the Union Army when they were trying to find the Spanish trail leading to Fort Morgan. His family were mostly married and he had a lot of grand children who became Foleys first crop of teen agers.

His son John Manning who was a carpenter by trade, became a substantial citizen of Foley. He married Lula Steelesister of Thomas Steele from Bon Secour. They moved to Foley in 1906 and had a family of five children who all went to Foley's first school. His family consisted of two boys and three girls. Namely Bill Manning who has been running a barber shop for years in Foley and married Emily Schultz a sister of Gus Schultz Vice President of the Farmers and Merchants Bank. Percy Manning a carpenter and cabinet maker, married Angeline Jarkiewicz from Summerdale and they now live in California. Safrona Manning married Frank Dumphrey and moved to Crowley Louisiana to live, at this writing she is a widow as

Mal Manning married Rose Merchant and followed his fathers trade as a blacksmith. Charles Manning also became a Blacksmith and married *Jody* Steele . Will Manning married Ella Wells and followed the carpenter trade for a livelihood. Of the nine daughters the writer only has the names of six; namely *Mandy*, Martha, Roxie, Tamie, Agnes, and Riffer . Only Martha and Mandy are still alive.

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FOLEY GROWS UP

SECOND SECTION

1915 FOLEY GROWS UP.

The town of Foley was lawfully incorporated under the general Munciple Laws of the State of Alabama.

At an election held by order of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, in the said Town of Foley, on the fourth day of January 1915, the following officers recieved the highest number of votes. G.I Weatherly was elected Mayor, C.A. Boller was elected Mayor Pro Tem, John C. Lehr, Henry Brockman, Wm. Stelk and P.J. Cooney were elected as Councilmen. The Council elected J.C. Lehr who was also Cashier of the Foley State Bank as city Treasurer, and P.J. Cooney as City Clerk. Pat Cooney was also County Commissioner from the Foley district. To G.I. Weatherly who was manager of the Peoples Fertilizer Co. in Foley goes the honor of being Foleys first Mayor.

At a subsequent meeting the city Council appointed J.L. Crouch as the first city marshall, with a salary of thirty five dollars a month, and an additional compensation of one dollar for each conviction in the Mayors Court. The next meetings were given to the establishment of privilege taxes or license ordinances. These were duly hashed over and adopted, bringing into being the first revenue acts of the Town of Foley.

There being no city Hall all of the Council meetings were held in the Baldwin Producers Corporation's office, which was managed by C.A. Boller Mayor Pro Tem.

Subsequent meetings were devoted to all the trials and tribulations of a new born town; Such as the building of side walks by assessing the owners of property along the route. Drainage of streets with property culverts at all intersections. As the town still had out door privies, the problem of Health and Sanitation was next on the agenda. To this end Dr. S.A. Armistead was appointed City Health Officer. An ordinance was passed that all privies had to be kept neat and clean. They had to be emptied once a month by the town scavenger and properly disinfected and made fly proof.

At a Council meeting held on Oct. 15th 1915 G.I. Weatherly the Mayor tendered his resignation, for the reason that he was moving away from Foley and wanted to be replaced immediately.

The Council accepted his resignation with regret, and voted that C.A. Boller Mayor Pro Tem should serve out the balance of his term as Mayor.

One of Mayor Bollers first acts was to pass a hog law. As will be remembered by all the old timers, hogs were running wild on the streets of Foley. There was a hog wallow under most every store in town. Fleas were rampant, and it was nothing unusual to see a woman, sneak behind a store counter to get rid of a flea.

According to the city records, a communication from J.S. Lambert County School Superintendent, showed that only \$1280.00 was available for the Foley school. How they could hire three teachers on this amount was beyond comprehension. But it was done by calling on the school patrons for the balance. I well remember that Mayor Chas. A. Boller one year contributed fifty dollars a month out of his own pocket toward the teachers salaries.

This was overcome in later years when a committee was appointed to get up a school budget, and at a round table discussion each school patron was assessed according to his ability to pay, from five to twenty dollars, a year.

The writer headed this committee for a number of years and raised around five thousand dollars a year. Where a family had many children we may be only assessed them five dollars for the whole year, and married couples who had no children at all we would assess as high as twenty dollars.

I called on one farmer who had a lot of children, and he said he could not afford to pay even five dollars. I told him he could give us a note and pay it later. He replied, well my notes out to be good, everybody's got them.

J.C. Lehr
In October 1916 Mayor Boller was re-elected with Frank Fesler, V.F. Gaar Wm. Stelk and P.J. Cooney as Councilman. Wm. Stelk was appointed Mayor Pro Tem. J.C. Lehr as Town Treasurer and P.J. Cooney as Town Clerk.

At the Sept. 25th meeting of the Town Council in 1916, Mayor Boller was authorized to purchase Foley's first fire engine, and that the same be paid for, out of the general fund of the Town. This was a double tank, Deluge Chemical Fire Engine, and a suitable iron shed was built to house it.

About this time the Swanstrom Bros, who had built a saw mill, and ice plant had installed a generator to furnish their own electric lights. This generator was capable of furnishing more current than they needed, so they made the town Council a proposition. They would furnish four street lights on the main street of Foley for an installation fee of fifteen dollars and one dollar per lamp each month for current.

This of course is a far cry from what we have to-day in the Riviera Utilities five million light system serving all of lower Baldwin County. But it shows the present generation how big oaks from little acorns grow. Later Swanstrom Bros, came back with a proposition of installing twelve street lights at the various down town corners as designated by the town council, for the sum of sixty dollars and a monthly current fee of fifteen dollars.

This offer was accepted
by the city council.

It being necessary to get the voters approval, to O.K. a three thousand dollar bond issue, an election was held for this purpose on the twenty first day of December 1917.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the bond issue, and Mayor Boller and J.C. Lehr Town Treasurer were given the power to issue the necessary bonds by a vote of the city council.

The bonds were bought by the Foley State Bank at par, bearing five per cent interest. Less a thirty dollar lawyer's and incidental fee.

As Mr. Foley had deeded the Park along the L.&N. tracks to the City of Foley, it was decided to build a building to house the new electric light plant in the park. Location of this building was on the spot now used as our Public Library.

The light plant consisted of two Delco D.C. Current ^{Generators} ~~engines~~, and had number of storage batteries, to store extra electricity for the peak load.

At a meeting of the town council, held on Sept. 2nd. 1918, Mayor Boller brought their attention to the fact that the Delco System was proving in adequate. The Plant was not giving the required amount of current, and that the cost of operation was more than ~~than~~ the income recieved from the sale of current. In other words they needed a larger plant so that they could serve more customers and make the necessary profit, to retire the bonds.

A communication was read from E.W. Strong of Palmetto Beach offering a Fairbanks Morse Engine and Dynamo, which would be of sufficient capacity to light all of the Town, for eight hundred dollars.

This communication was placed on file, it being the time for the election of a new Mayor and Council, and this headache would be passed on to them. The new election was set for the third Monday in Sept. 1918.

On Sept. 19th 1918 Mayor Boller called the Council together to canvas the votes of the town election. Dr. W.H. Ludewig was elected Mayor, James T. Dumas, Henry Brockman, J.C. Lehr, A.A. Rich and Carl Schlich were elected as council men.

The first meeting of the new council was held on Oct. 7th. 1918 and presided over by Mayor W.H. Ludewig. A.A. Rich was appointed Mayor Pro Tem; J.H. Lehr was reappointed Town Treasurer and Carl Schlich was appointed Town Clerk. It was further voted that all further Town meetings be held in the Foley Progressive Club House. It was also voted that a committee be appointed, to investigate the advisability of employing a man to serve in the dual capacity of Town Marshall and

On Oct. 9th 1918 the Council was called in special session to consider a proclamation issued by Governor Henderson of the State of Alabama.

PROCLAMATION.

Where as it has been made known to me, through the State Board of Health that Spanish Influenza is prevalent in the ~~the~~ many section of the State. This being a dangerous, infectious and ~~communicable~~ communicable disease;— I as Governor, at the suggestion of the State Board of Health, call upon all County and Munciple Authorities, through out the State; that as soon as it becomes known that this disease exists in their respective communities, they take such precautionary measures as may be necessary to prevent it's spread. Such as closing Schools, Churches, Theaters, Picture shows and other places of amusements. And to further prevent the holding of Circuses, Fairs and other public gatherings that would in any ^{way} tend to spread the disease.

Signed;

Witness; Chas. Henderson Governor.
John Purifoy Secretary of State.

It being reported by our Health Officer, Dr. S.A. Armistead that the disease did exist in Foley, the Town Council took immediate action and passed an ordinance closing all schools and churches and prohibiting all public gathering until further notice. The Writer was stricken with this disease, and spend thirty days in bed. And it was only due to the diligent care given him by Dr. Sibley Holmes that he was able to survive. This ordinance was rescinded at a special meeting of the Town Council on December 23 rd 1918.

From here on the present Council proceeded with routine business until June the 2nd. when an ordinance was passed prohibiting animals with bells on them from running at large in the city limits.

At a meeting held on July 21 st. 1919 an ordinance was introduced by A.A. Rich to regulate privies with in the corporate limits of Foley. This was a must, to help protect the health of it's citizens from the Typhoid Germ. All privies were to be fly proofed and constructed with a non leakable box, not less than fourteen inches wide, and ten inches deep and of suitable length. The openings through which the boxes could be removed had to be fitted with tight doors properly hinged and provided with fasteners. All seats had to have tight covers and all construction had to be approved by the Health Officer. An assessment of four dollars a year was included in the ordinance against all property owners for scavenger.

At a meeting of the Town Council on Nov. 3rd 1919 a motion was made by James T. Dumas that an election be called authorizing a bond issue of \$ 1800.00 for the purpose of improving the Electric Light System. This motion was seconded by A.A. Rich and carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

The following resolution was then introduced by James T. Dumas.

Section I.

Whereas; the Mayor and Town Councilman of the Town of Foley, deem it necessary, that an election be held, in the Town of Foley Alabama for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of such municipality a proposition to issue bonds of said Town, for the purpose of improving the Lighting System supplying light to the municipality and the inhabitants there of; Now therefore be it ordained by the town council of the Town of Foley Ala., that an election be held, and the same is hereby ordered, and will be held in the Town of Foley Ala. on the 16th day of December 1919; for the purpose of the qualified electors of said Town of Foley, deciding whether or not the Bonds of the Town of Foley Ala. shall be issued for the purpose of improving the Lighting System, in order to supply light to the Municipality and it's inhabitants. That the voting place at which the ballots shall be cast be at the Progressive Hall in Foley Ala. which shall be the only place at which said ballots shall be cast; That all qualified electors residing in the corporate limits of Foley Ala. shall be legal voters.

Section 2. 3. and 4 of this resolution had to do with further legal aspects, and setting the Bond Issue at eighteen hundred dollars. Each bond being worth one hundred dollars payable in ten years at five per cent interest, payable yearly.

After proper legal advertising the election was held and carried infavor of the bond issue without a dissenting vote. On March 23rd 1920 a special Council meeting was called by Mayor W.H. Ludewig for the purpose of entering into a contract with the Fairbanks Morse Company for a Y Type Engine and dynamo, for our light plant. The deal was consumated, and Engine and D.C. Generator was purchased for three thousand and seven dollars and fifty cents. With a cash payment of \$1800.00 and balance to be paid in twenty four monthly installments at six per cent per annum.

At a regular meeting held on Aug. 2nd 1920, Carl Schlich tendered his resignation as City Clerk, and A.A. Rich was appointed to take over C.L. Schlich's unexpired term.

On Sept. 20th 1920 a city election was held with the following results. James T. Dumas was elected Mayor and C.A. Boller, H. Brockman, F.W. Walker, A.A. Rich, and Walter Huff were elected as Councilmen.

On Oct. 4th 1920 at a regular meeting of the new Council A.A. Rich was elected Mayor Pro-Tem. F.W. Walker was elected City Clerk and C.A. Boller was elected City Treasurer. Mayor Dumas then appointed the following committees to look after the Town's business.

Electric Lights.

C.A. Boller, chairman, Frank Walker and Henry Brockman.

Street Committee.

Frank W. Walker, chairman. Henry Brockman and Walter Huff

Fire Department.

Walter Huff, chairman, and Henry Brockman and C.A. Boller.

Finance Committee

A.A. Rich, chairman. and C.A. Boller and F.W. Walker.

Judiciary Committee.

F.W. Walker, chairman. and A.A. Rich and C.A. Boller.

The Mayor then read his message and defined the duties of the various committees. The State Bank of Foley was designated as the official depository of the Town's funds.

In the next few months mostly routine business was taken care of. The main trouble was proper surface drainage, and the building of side walks and ditches. It became necessary to pass an ordinance establishing a Town Datum in and for the Town of Foley. It was therefore ordained, that the town datum shall be a level plane, at the same height above sea level, as a point one hundred feet below the top of the concrete block on the south east corner of the platform at the L. & N. Depot in the Town of Foley Ala. That hereafter all grades established for any purpose what ever within the Corporate limits of Foley, shall be given in feet and decimal parts there of, above or below the town datum here in established. And hereafter when ever the words town datum appear in any ordinance passed by the Town Council, they shall mean the plane on a level with the point referred to in this Ordinance. This Ordinance was approved by the Town Council on November 1st. 1920.

On June 24th 1921 an ordinance was passed to build concrete walks on both sides of Mc Kenzie street between Laurel and Orange Avenue, and the cost thereof be assessed against the abutting property. On being legally advertised, there were no objections raised by the property owners.

Section 2 page 17

The next ordinance passed by the Town Council was to prohibit goats from running at large in the city limits. This Ordinance was adopted on Feb. 20th 1922. But on March 20th 1922 this ordinance was amended to read goats, cows, cattle, horses, mules, or jack asses. So came into being the first stock law for any part of Baldwin County. This law became very unpopular with the stock men. The writer of this book, being Mayor at the time, went through some trying times when it became his duty to see that this ordinance was enforced. Having been raised in a dairy state, I knew that the salvation of Baldwin County was for our farmers to bring in pure bred cattle and with a good market on both sides, namely Mobile and Pensacola this county could become a natural dairyland and add greatly to wealth of our farmers. The ordinance call for a stock pen and the impounding of all stray cattle in the city limits.

All of the piney woods cattle would come into town at night and clutter up our streets. It would almost be impossible to drive a car or horse and buggy through our streets after dark.

The owners had to pay a ^{fee} ~~fee~~ to get their cattle released from the pound. So one night some one or more men came in at night and broke down our pen and let all the cattle out. So we rebuilt our pen and put on a night watchman.

So one day about forty cattle men marched into town, and went from one business man to another threatening to boycott his business if they did not have the stock law rescinded. They came to the writers drug store and ^{knocked} ~~knocked~~ him outside. The Spokesman asked me what I was going to do about rescinding the stock law. I answered that I was going to do nothing about it. That it was a city ordinance and as long as I was Mayor I would inforce it. The leader turned around to the group of men and said; Well boys you know where to buy your medicines from now on.

I then told the group that if I had to sacrifice my rights as an American Citizen to gain their patronage, I did not want it. I turned and walked into my store and you know over half of the group started to laugh, and followed me into my store and ordered ice cream sodas.

^{to the stock law's} So that was the end of our opposition, and the cattlemen hired Sam Willis at seventy five dollars a month to ride herd on the cattle and keep them out of Town.

About this time the electric light plant was causing the city council deep concern. The cost of operating the plant was more than our income, and we had no money for further expansion.

So a move was on to sell the plant to some concern or individual who had the money to expand, and could increase the revenue to where it would pay.

The city now had six thousand dollars invested in the light plant and our bonded indebtedness had reached the limit allowed by the statutes, being only eight per cent of our assessed valuation. An election was held asking the voters if they would be willing to sell. The voters approved the sale and it was now up to the city council to find a buyer.

About this time J.B. Foley came down on a visit and I discussed the possibility of a few of us business men organizing a company and buying the Foley Light Plant. Mr. Foley asked me how much money it would take, and I said at least ten thousand dollars. That we had to pay Foley \$6000.00 for the plant and needed at least \$4000.00 for expansion.

Mr. Foley told me to go ahead and he would take \$2000.00 worth of stock in the new company. I went home that night pondering where I would raise the other \$8000.00. The next morning before I was out of bed Mr. Foley was sitting on my front porch waiting for me to get up, so he could have another conference with me.

He told me after thinking about it all night, he decided that if the Town would give him a thirty year Franchise he would incorporate his own Company and take all of the stock himself. He would pay us six thousand dollars for our old plant, and junk it. He would invest forty thousand dollars in a new plant with Worthing Diesel Engines capable of taking care of our needs for the next ten years. This would put the Town of Foley out of debt, and we could devote our financial efforts toward building a Water Works and Sewerage System.

Mr. Foley then incorporated the Foley Light and Power Co. and sent electrical engineers down to make a survey of the present and future needs of Foley for electric current. On July 24th 1922 the City Council met at the progressive Club, with Mayor Dumas presiding and councilmen C. Boller, Walter Huff, S.D. Garr, A.A. Rich, and F.W. Walker being present.

Councilman Huff introduced the following ordinance. An Ordinance granting to the Foley Light and Power Co. Inc. its successors, and assigns, franchise rights and privileges, on, over, along, and across and under the streets and avenues and alleys, in the Town of Foley Ala. to place, lay, erect, maintain or operate poles, wires, lines, conduits or other equipment for the transmission of electrical energy for a period of thirty years. A

On Sept. 18th. 1922 an election was held to vote for a new Mayor and City Council. On Sept 25th the Council met to canvass the votes, with the following results. Mayor James T. Dumas was re-elected along with the following councilman. Adolph Hook, S. D. Gaar, James C. Barron, ~~and~~ George Holk, and George Randolph.

Mayor Dumas and the new council were sworn in on Oct. 2nd 1922. they then convened and elected George C. Randolph Mayor Pro-Tem. George Holk was elected City Treasurer. A motion was made by George C. Randolph and seconded by James Barron, that the Town employ a man to act as City Clerk. The motion carried and Arthur Hook was employed to as City Clerk. About this time Foley was experiencing growing pains; We needed a Water Works and a Sewerage System. A movement was on to build a causeway to Mobile, and the various towns in Baldwin County were asked to help bring pressure on the Highway Dept. to bring this about. The State Highway Department at this time consisted of twelve members and were in session at Mobile, to consider the feasibility of such a project.

A delegation headed by Mayor Dumas was sent to Mobile to invite the Highway Commission to a Banquet at the Foley Progressive Hall, where we voiced our approval of connecting Baldwin and Mobile County by a highway. Frank Barchard Sr. owner of the Onlooker was violently opposed to the building of this road, as he thought it would hurt the Baldwin County Merchants, never giving a thought that there were a hundred thousand people in Mobile, that were anxious to come across the Bay to live, and to commute to Mobile.

As time has proven, the Cause Way is responsible for the development of our Gulf Shores and entire Eastern Mobile Bay shore. On the day that the Highway Commissioner Visited us the Onlooker came out with a special edition, with big headlines stating that the Foley Business Men went on record as favoring the building up of Mobile in preference to Baldwin County. The Foley business men took this as a slap in the face, and thirteen of them withdrew their advertising from the Onlooker.

Mr. Barchard then got vituperative and started name calling in the Onlooker. So the business men got out a small paper of their own and called it the Foley Hustler. Each business man had his advertisement in the paper, and acted as associate editor, contributing of his talents toward editorials or a column of social or business news. They sent out fifteen hundred copies each week without charge.

This little paper finally got to take up too much of the business mens time, and the South Baldwin Tribune was organized with Tom Vail as Editor. This paper later was moved to Robertsedale. As time usually heals all things, Mr. Barchard was for-given and most of the business men went back to support the Onlooker.

Another incident of this time was the organization of the Klu Klux Klan, and their attempt to intimidate the people of Foley who did not join. As Mayor of Foley I refused to join, as I saw no need for an invisible Government in the United States. A Cross was burned in front of my home, which I did not notice until I saw the charred remains, when I went to work in the morning.

On a Saturday night they erected a big cross on the street at Bollers corner, set fire to it and disappeared. My attention was called to this, and as I stepped out side to investigate the Town Marshall, Jim Volene, nonchalantly strolled by. When I asked him what it was all about, he just shrugged his shoulders.

I immediately told him he was through as city Marshall and to go to the City clerk for his pay. He said, lay on; and walked away. ~~On Monday the 10th of June~~

On the Monday following our regular Council Meeting was held in the Progressive Hall, and about one hundred Klansmen attended our meeting in citizens clothes, and sat in a circle around our Council table which we had placed in the center of the dance floor.

I made my report to the Council, that I had fired the City Marshall for neglecting his duty, in letting a bunch of hoodlums erect a big firey cross on our main street, without any protection to people driving by in cars.

My action was upheld by the majority of the Councilmen, two of them refusing to vote. I then addressed the crowd, saying that I was elected by the people of Foley to act as Mayor. And as long as I held that office I would uphold law and dignity in the Town of Foley.

The next day a man came into my office telling me that there would be a big Klan parade in Foley that night. I told him he had been misinformed as we had an ordinance on the books saying that no one could hold a parade on the streets of Foley without getting a permit from the Mayor. And I did not remember anyone having been granted that permission. This man left my office immediately and in about two hours a committee of three Klansmen appeared at my office requesting a permit to hold their Parade.

Now, I told them you fellows are acting like men. I am going to give you a permit to hold your Parade, and I am going to tell you something else; If burning a cross means anything to you fellows, I'll even give you a permit to do that, providing you put a circle of your Klansmen around the Cross to protect the Public, from injury. That ended our trouble with the Klan.

Our next order of business was to employ a City Engineer to draw up complete plans for a sewerage system for the Town of Foley. The Mayor was empowered to hire R.J.Greenwood who was a licensed Civil Engineer and resided in Foley, for this job.

R.J.Greenwood was also to act as Supervisor during the construction of the sewerage system, on a five per cent of cost fee. Or if the contract was not consummated, he would be paid at the rate of ten dollars a day for the work he had done up to that time.

An Ordinance was duly adopted by the City Council to build a sewerage system for the Town by assessing all of the property in the sewerage ~~system~~ district, and all lots in or without the City limits, benefited by this drainage system.

On August 16th 1924, Councilman George Holk introduced an ordinance, to fix and establish the grade of certain streets, avenues and alleys, and also to fix the grade of all curbs on the streets. Councilman James Barron then made a motion that unanimous consent of those present be given for the immediate consideration of this ordinance. This motion was seconded by Councilman S.D.Gaar and being voted on was unanimously adopted.

R.J.Greenwood then submitted to the Council a detailed drawing, plans, specifications, and surveys of the proposed Sanitary Sewerage System, and estimates of the cost there of. All of which had been authorized previously by the Town Council. On July 24th 1924.

All of the ordinances pertaining^{NG} to the Sewerage System were legally advertised, and proper hearings were held as to any objections from the property owners. In due time all ordinances were legally adopted and the Council was authorized to advertise for bids, and to issue bonds to cover the cost of construction.

On Sept. 15th 1924 the Council convened to canvas the election for a new Mayor and Councilmen. George Holk having received the most votes for Mayor was declared elected. Those having received the most votes for councilmen were, George C. Randolph, S.D.Gaar, Miles Morris, J.C.Barron and A.N.Hayseldon.

At the Council meeting held on Oct. 6th. 1924, Mayor James T. Dumas administered the oath of office to George Holk as the new Mayor and George C. Randolph, S.D.Gaar, Miles Morris, J.C.Barron and A.N.Hayseldon as Councilmen.

The new Council immediately convened and elected A.N.Hayseldon as Mayor Pro Tem; Miles Morris as City Clerk, and George Randolph as City Treasurer. It now became the duty of Mayor George Holk and his Council to advertise for bids for

An Ordinance was then introduced and passed, authorizing Mayor George Holk and George C. Randolph the City Treasurer to issue bonds for Public Improvement in the sum of twenty nine thousand and five hundred dollars, which was the estimated cost of such improvements.

These bonds were to bear seven per cent interest and be redeemable in ten years. When these bonds were received they were duly signed by Mayor George Holk and George C. Randolph the city treasurer, and sold to W.R. Taylor of Pensacola at par value.

About this time the Council ran into a snag, when the Loxley Construction Co. failed to make the necessary bond required ~~required~~ for the building of the sewerage system. An ordinance awarding the Loxley Construction Co. the contract was rescinded; and a new ordinance was introduced empowering Mayor George Holk, to appoint three Councilmen to assist the City Engineer R.J. Greenwood in supervising the construction of said Sewerage System.

This ordinance was duly adopted and a committee consisting of George Randolph as Chairman and A.N. Hayseldon and S.D. Gaar was appointed by Mayor Holk; to confer with the City Engineer as to the best plans and methods to pursue in the building of the Sanitary Sewerage System.

Each man so appointed excepted the responsibility and the Town Council was in business to build it's own sewerage system, with a large septic tank at it terminus on Wolf Creek.

The committee was empowered to purchase all materials and hire such labor it needed, and to contract for machinery necessary to dig the ditches for the sewer pipes.

The next project of the George Holk administration was to build the water works, which was necessary to operate the sewerage system, and supply the city with drinking water, and fire protection. It would also give the inhabitants the opportunity to install bath rooms and inside toilets in their homes.

So an ordinance was passed to authorize the sale of Water Works Bonds as approved by an election held on Nov. 23rd 1925, entitled Water Works Bond Ordinance.

This Ordinance was adopted on Dec. 21st 1925; to fix the date, place, terms, and condition of sale; to provide for the giving of notice of such sale, and to prescribe the form of such notice.

Notice of Sale of Bonds.

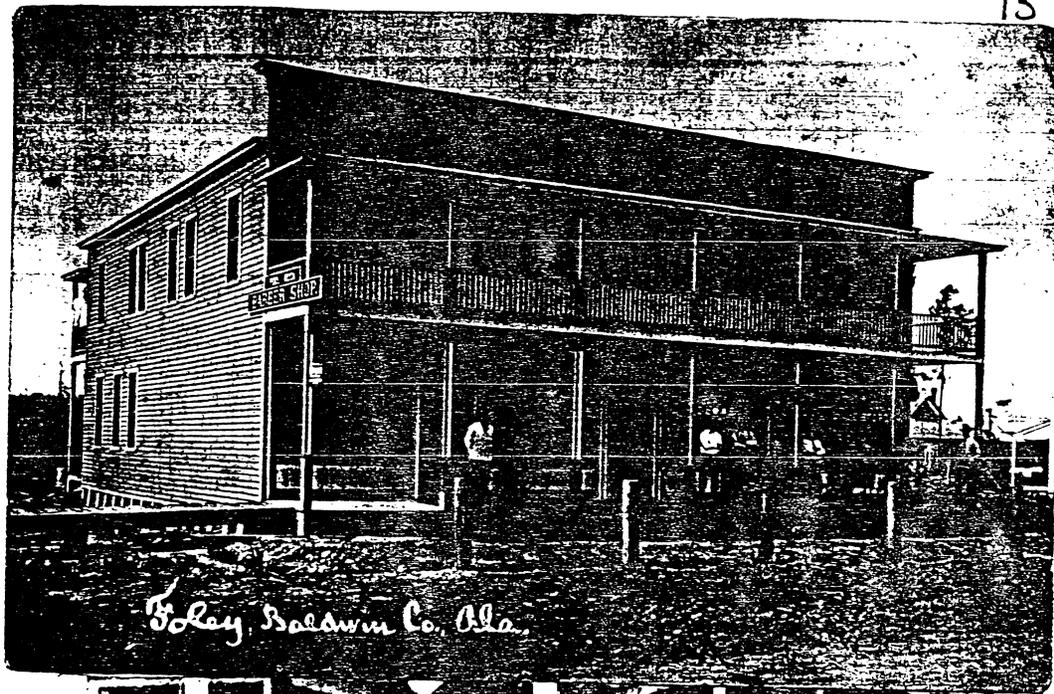
Notice is hereby given that the Town of Foley, Baldwin County Ala. a Municipality Corporation, will sell for cash on sealed bids; at eight P.M. March 17th 1926, at the Progressive Hall, in said Town, it's Municipality Bonds as authorized by special election of November 23rd 1926, and by "Waterworks Bond Ordinance" duly adopted Dec. 21st 1925.





15

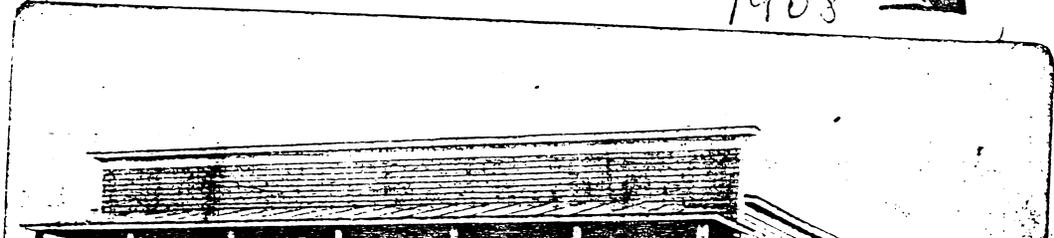
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Foley Baldwin Co. Ala.

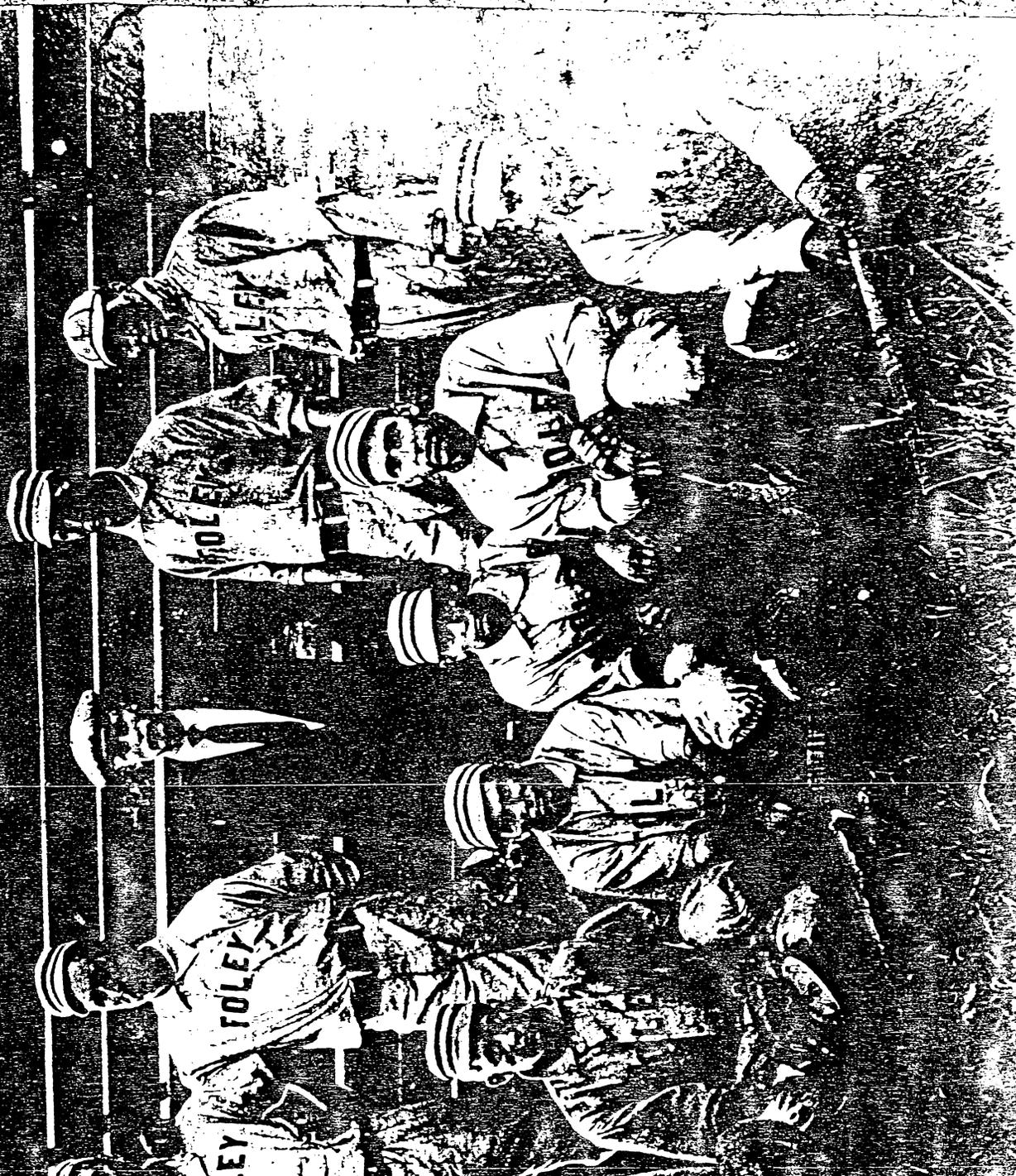


1908

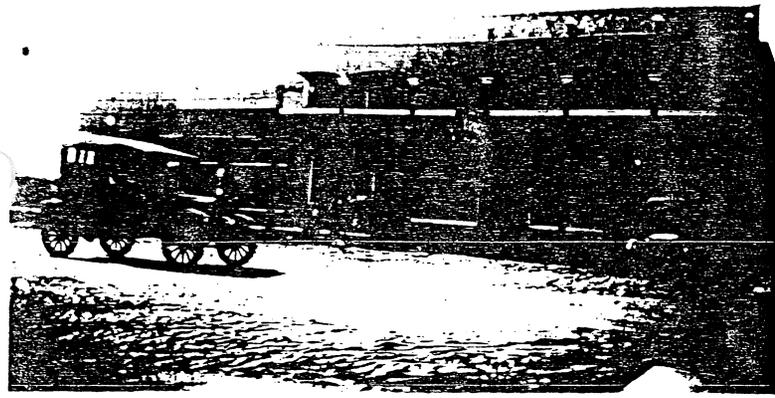


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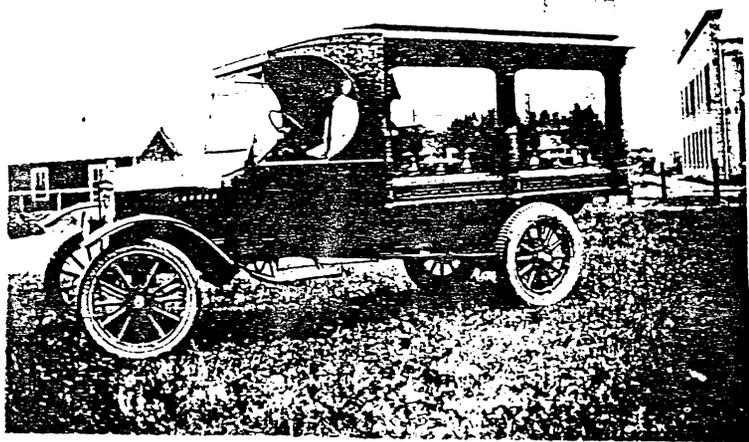




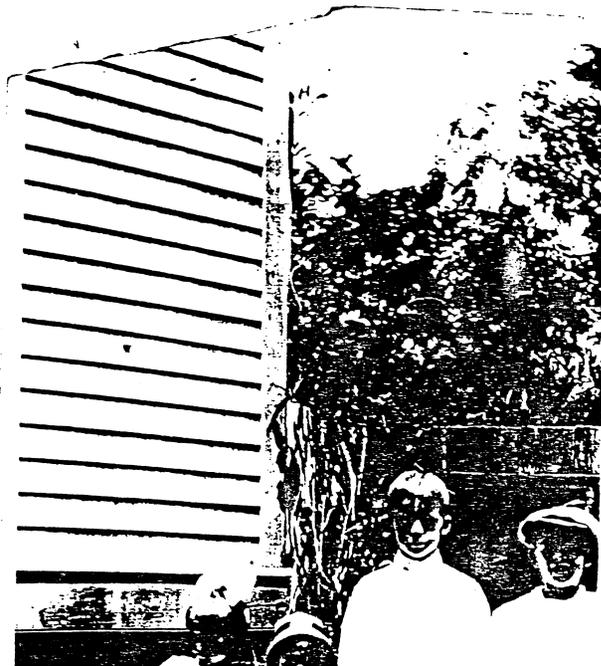
FOLEY'S FIRST BALL TEAM 1908



10

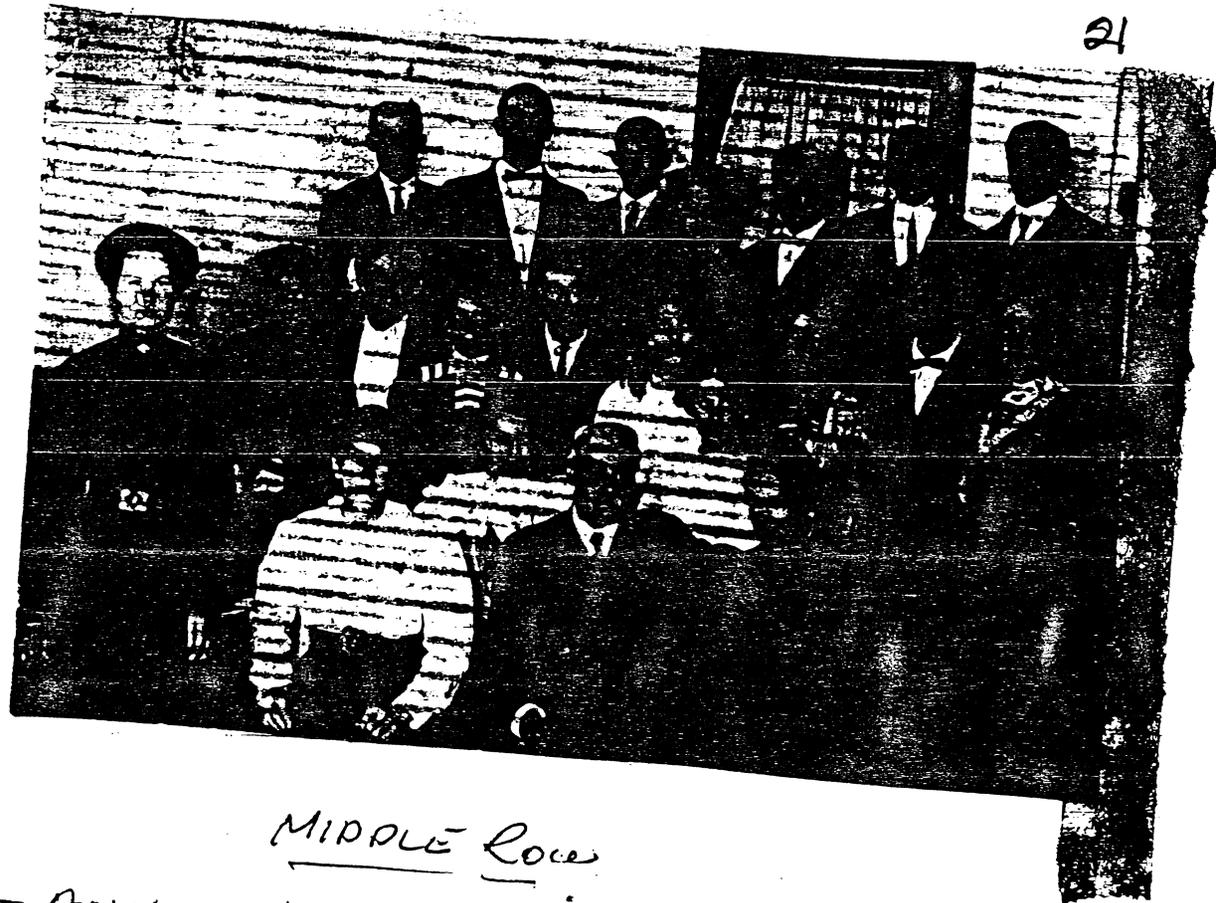


FIRST HEARST FOLEY KIRI HEINE









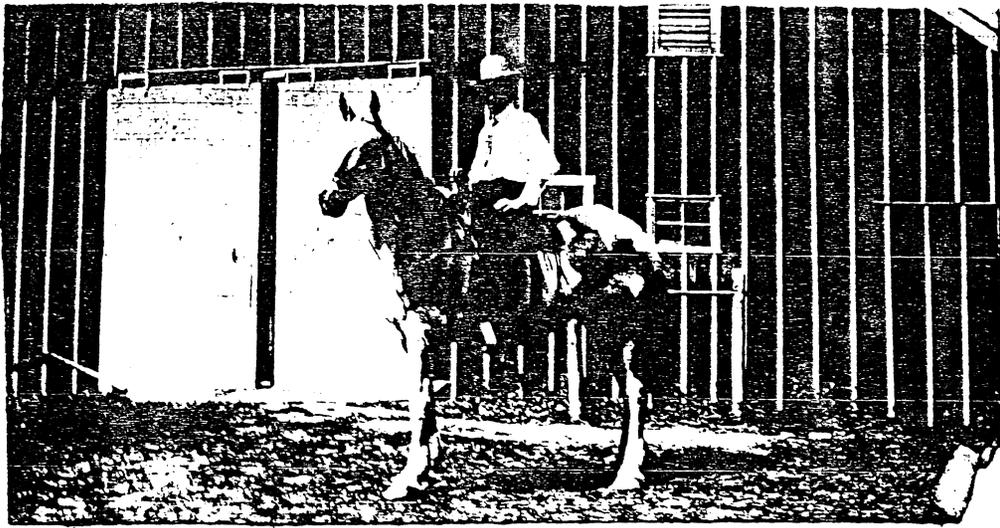
MIDDLE Row

- 1 - ANNIE HEIN
- 2 - MINNIE RAPP
- 3 - WILL RAPP
- 4 - JULIA WELSH
- 5 - JIM WELSH
- 6 - JOSEPHINE HUFF
- 7 - (?) KIEL
- 8 - EMMA CRIDER
- 9 - JOHN CRIDER
- 10 - (?) KIEL

TOP Row

- 1 - JOE HEIN
- 2 - GEORGE HUFF (X)
- 3 - JOHN HEIN
- 4 - IDA DUMAS
- 5 - JIM DUMAS
- 6 - HERMAN KIEL
- 7 - LOUIS KIEL

SEATED



PRESENT ANDERSON'S BARBER DEPT STORE SHOP THIS BUILDING MOVED TO NO. 11 ELIZABETH SHOP & JEAN'S

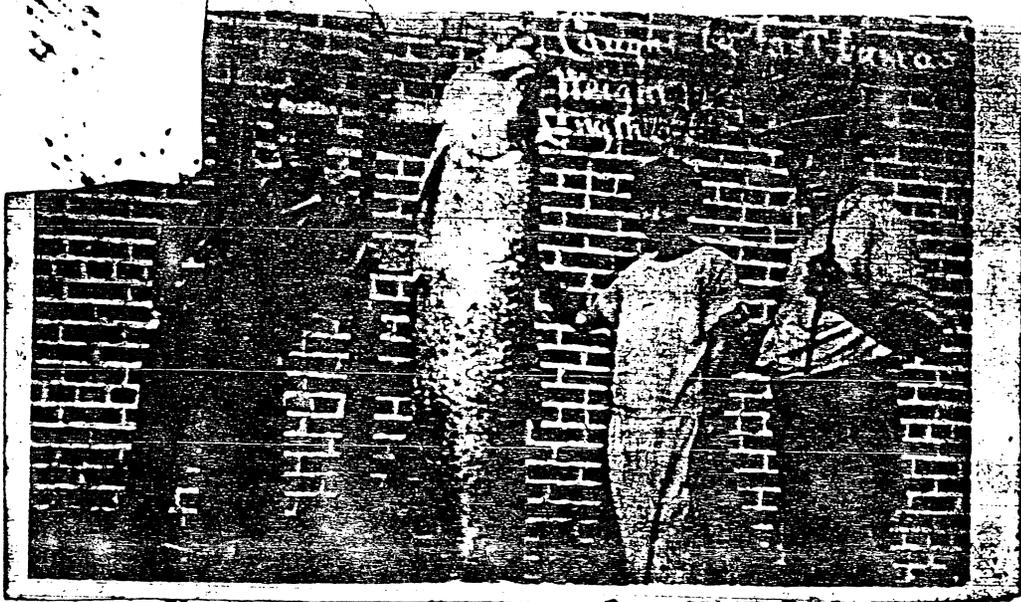


ABOUT 1917



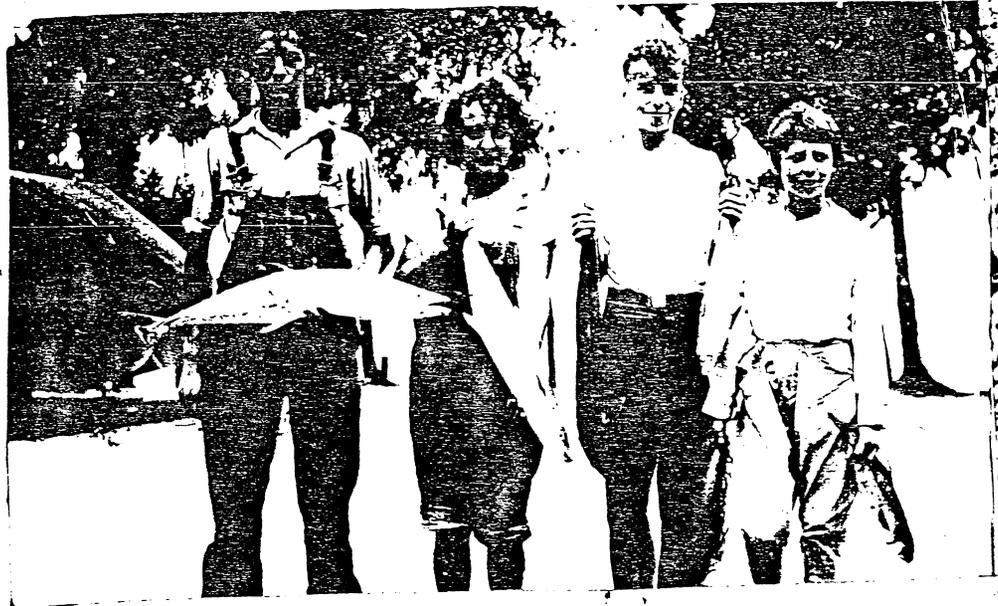
1911
PRESENT SITE
FOLEY HOTEL

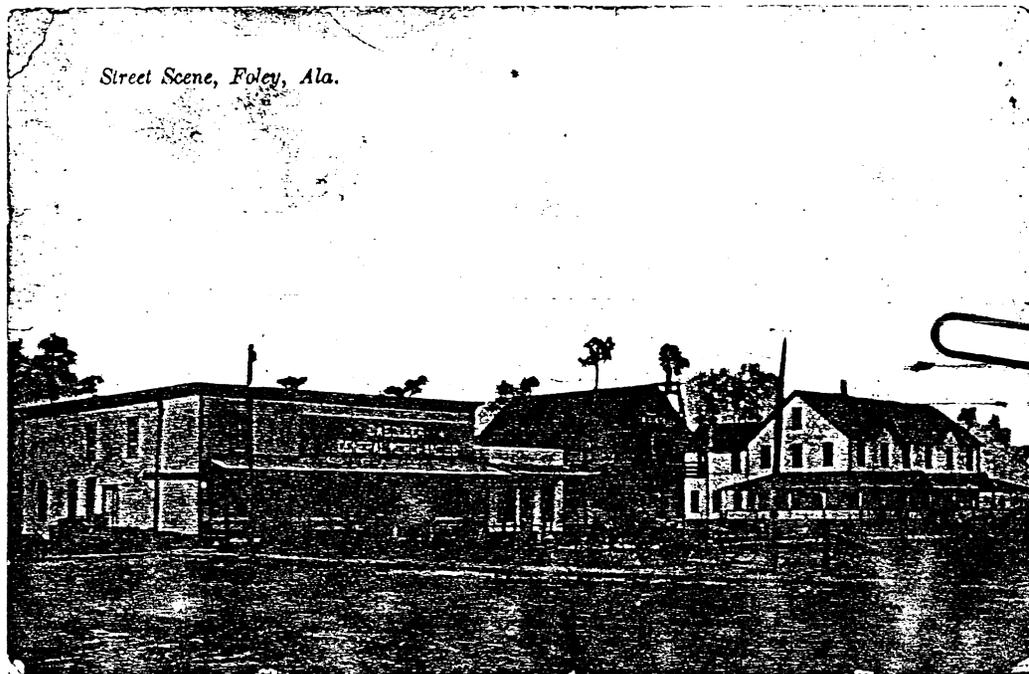
23



35
Don't forget to get
the ...

24

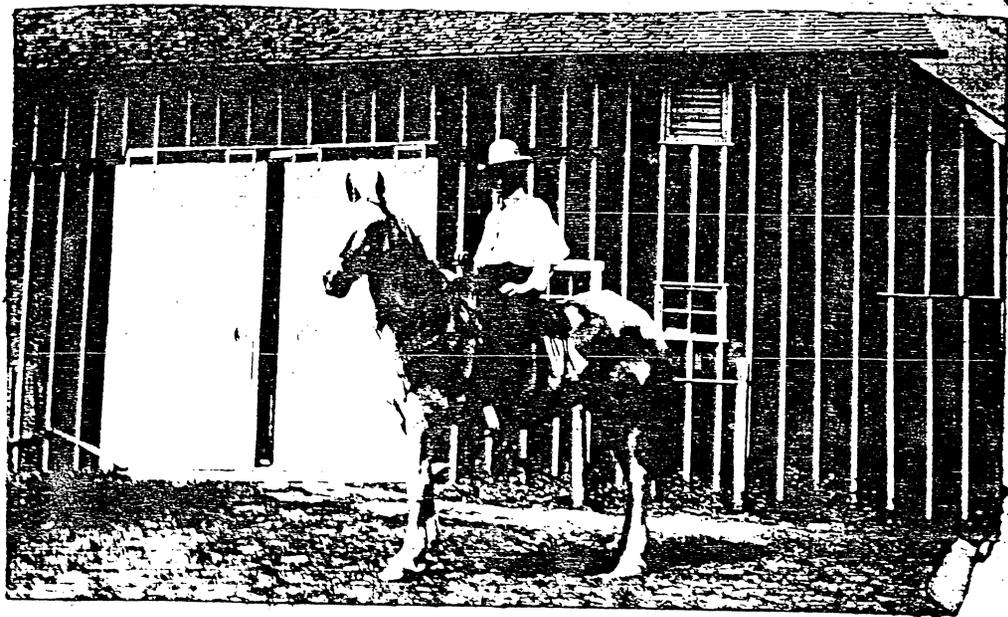




Street Scene Showing C.A. Bollers Store , James Clarke Real Estate Office, Foley ONLOOKER Office and Magnolia Hotel

26





27

PRESENT
ANDERSON'S BARBER
DEPT STORE SHOP

THIS BUILDING MOVED DEMOXX
ELIZABETH SHOP & JEAN'S



ABOUT 1917

1911
PRESENT SITE
FOLEY HOTEL

STORE.



LADIES AID SOCIETY
1914

Left to right back row—Mrs. E. A. Shoemaker, Mrs. J. Davis,
Mrs. Emelia Mueller, Mrs. Wm. Stelk, Mrs. Henry Brockman,
Rev. Henry Meyer, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Adolph Hook, Mrs. Holk,
Mrs. Ruben Ard, Mrs. F. Morley.
Front row—Miss Hilda Dorman, Mrs. Dumas, Margretta Holk,
Mrs. Katie Huff, Mrs. Doege.



"Thee will I love, my Hope, my Joy"

29



CLASS OF 1925



Baldwin County

5

They enjoyed eating watermelons. There was a hay ride one time but the children were older than Marie and she didn't get to go.

There was a small building close to the church where dances were held. The Sunday School had their Christmas program in this building. The children taking part in the program had to be carried to the Springs to practice. Old Honey and Tar had to pull the surrey to take them.

For Christmas they made stockings and there was candy popcorn and things like that for them. One year they didn't have stockings. They had boxes with handles on them to put their candy in.

"By this time the HOLKS were here living north of the farm. George HOLK took part in one of the cantatas we had, 'The Story of the Snowbirds'. Charlie EBERT'S mother, Mrs. Anna EBERT, was one of the main characters; she was a mother or something like that," Marie related.

After the school house was built on Illini Hill, a kind of high place near the Model Farm, the Sunday school was held there. Edith McCULLA was the first teacher at the one room school. She was a school teacher in Pennsylvania and when her family moved to Baldwin County she wanted to come and teach school. She had not had any Alabama history, so while she was qualified to teach she had to go to summer school and take Alabama history and pass in order to get the job.

The school house was really a chicken coop. Mr. FOLEY had some real nice chicken coops built on the farm. He was going to raise chickens. It was hard to find anyone with experience and a lot of people became discouraged and went back north.

Edith McCulla was not qualified to teach the seventh grade. Chester BLITZ and Marie were ready for the seventh grade but she could not teach them. They went awhile but they got into mischief. Chester had to stand in one corner of the room and Marie in another. Shortly after that they quit. Marie remembered, "It wasn't any use going as she couldn't teach us. She admitted that she was not gone far enough to teach the seventh grade."

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Goes Democratic



Upton Sinclair, famous author and socialist, announces he will change his California registration to that of Democrat so he may run for governor on an "epic plan" platform.

FAIRHOPE EDITOR TO MAKE OPENING ADDRESS AT MEET

Baldwin Historical Society To Hold Annual Session Next Tuesday

FAIRHOPE, Oct. 4.—E. B. Gaston, editor of the Fairhope Courier, will deliver the opening address at the annual meeting of Baldwin County Historical Society at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, October 10th. The session will be held in the Christian church.

Mr. Gaston, who has just visited the Century of Progress at Chicago, has more years of active service in Baldwin county to his credit than any other newspaper man. Editor of the Courier, a proponent of the single tax theory even before there was a town of Fairhope, the paper being moved

SCHOOL FRIENDS FILE INJUNCTION TO TEST RULING

Pro Rata Share of General Fund Sought; Hearing Date Not Set

MONTGOMERY, Oct. 4.—A permanent injunction, filed in the equity division of the circuit court of Montgomery county last week which seeks to enjoin State Comptroller J. H. Hard, Jr., and State Treasurer S. H. Elan from issuing warrants against the general fund of the state for payment of any governmental functions until a pro rata share of educational appropriations have been paid from that fund, now awaits setting of a date for hearing.

The petitioners in the injunction proceedings are Mrs. Elizabeth Baldwin Hill of Montgomery and W. A. Abramson of Florence. Mrs. Hill is president of the Alabama Congress of Parents and Teachers and Mr. Abramson is commander of the Alabama Department of the American Legion. The petition was filed by the legal firms of Hill, Hill, Whiting, Thomas and Rives, and Rushton, Crenshaw and Rushton, both of Montgomery.

The action is intended to test the legality of the ruling of the attorney-general to the effect that the operation of the schools of the state is secondary to other governmental functions. The petitioners set forth that none of the \$2,000,000 appropriation to education has been paid and accordingly on Oct. 1st lapsed and reverted to the state treasury. They further aver that other departments of the state government are receiving their appropriations from the general fund in full and that the payment of these appropriations to these other departments constitutes a discrimination against the schools of the state in that they violate certain provisions of the Finance Budget and Control Act, which were included in an amendment to the constitution adopted July 18.

Commander-in-Chief



Col. Russel C. Martin, of Los Angeles, is to serve another year as Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was re-elected at the 67th encampment at St. Paul.

DUMAS DRUG CO. SELLS INTEREST TO R. E. STACEY

Drug Firm To Be Operated Under Name of Stacey Drug Store

R. E. Stacey, prominent young druggist whose former home was at Bay Minette and a graduate of Auburn, has purchased the interest of the James T. Dumas Drug Company, taking over active charge of the store in the New Foley Hotel building. The drug firm will operate under the name of the Stacey Drug Store. Mr. Stacey, since graduating from the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, has been employed the past two years by the Liggett Drug company in Mobile. A brother of Mr. Stacey operates the Stacey Drug Store in Bay

HENDR GIVEN IN SA

Sentence Given C of S

Eugene H. Fla., convicted in connection with Sawyer store last October. F. W. Hare in the state.

Oswald B. are held in trial. Ches- dence, implic confederates.

The trio implicated in robberies of in Baldwin c

FEW P NEED

WASHINGTON States want could become so far as raved.

A letter t (R., W. Va.) van, presiden ation, New coffee, tea, t today the o which this e others. He f years of r make us ind as well.

Mr. Garva we had bee mercy of f potash, man; silk, iodine, rates, coffee. "Today," h

Foley Becomes A Town

On January 8, 1915, the growing town of Foley held an election to decide on a proposed incorporation.

The vote was 21-6 in favor and the returns were certified to Probate Judge so that a mayor and five councilmen could be elected.

The first election was held in February 1915. Mayor G. I. Weatherly received 25 votes, Frank Fesler, 1.

On March 3, 1915, G. I. Weatherly was sworn in as mayor by Probate Judge J. H. H. Smith, and The Onlooker reported, "As soon as he gathers a little more data relative to the duties of the council, he will call a meeting, swear in the councilmen and organize the city government."

Councilmen elected were Henry Brockman 25; Charles A. Boller 26; Patrick J. Cooney, 23; John C. Lehr, 27; and W. Stelk, 25.

On October 15, 1915, Mayor Weatherly resigned as mayor and A. Boller was appointed to serve until October 2, 1916. At that time he was elected for a four year term.

James T. Dumas was elected mayor in 1920 with H. Brockman, Walter Huff, A. A. Rich, Charles A. Boller and Frank Walker as councilmen. Population by 1920 was 243.

A Delco light system was installed which served until December 1920, when a new electric plant, a Fairbanks-Morse direct connected engine and generator, were purchased and run in connection with the old plant.

In the interim Godfrey and Carl Swanstrom, who had a generator used to run their sawmill, allowed the town the use of it to operate thirteen street lights from dark until 10 p.m. Matt Sute, Jr. was one of those who operated the generator at night.

The Onlooker reported that "street lights were again turned on after many months of darkness and a larger amount of citizens could now be served with lights."

The new equipment was said to be "at least four times as efficient."

A solution was worked out with J. B. Foley and Mayor Dumas to pay for the new plant. Foley paid the balance of the \$10,000

items in The Onlooker show throughout the growing years.

The Foley Carriage and Wagon Works had its unknown origin on January 9, 1913 when a cotton and grist mill which were in the possession of The Manning estate was the headquarters of a grist mill, etc., were worth about \$10,000. J. H. Garland, owner of the Foley Carriage and Wagon Works reported that he lost about \$800 worth of insurance.

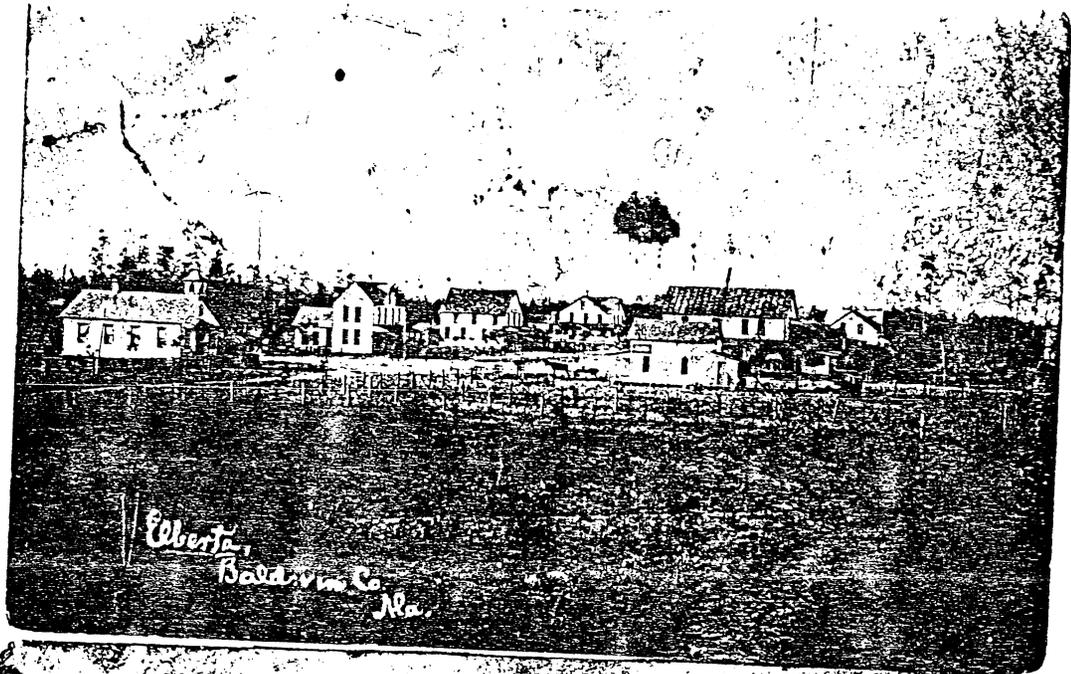
On December 29, 1919, Swanstrom's sawmill, partially destroyed by fire, the loss was estimated at thousands of feet of lumber went to waste. The machinery and one Ford truck. A gas ammonia tank exploded, the shock of which was the origin of the fire was unknown. The fire was extinguished by the gallant work of the fire department. Only one of the automobiles were saved. Both Carl and Godfrey Swanstrom lost their warehouses."



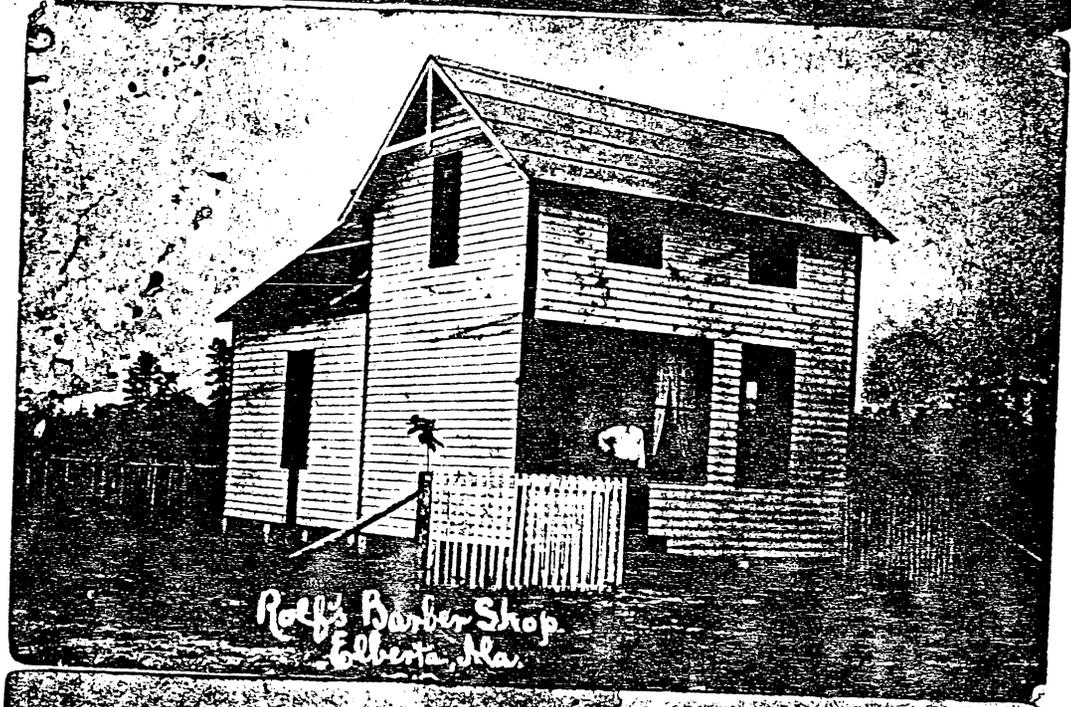


1st
methodist
church
(1908)

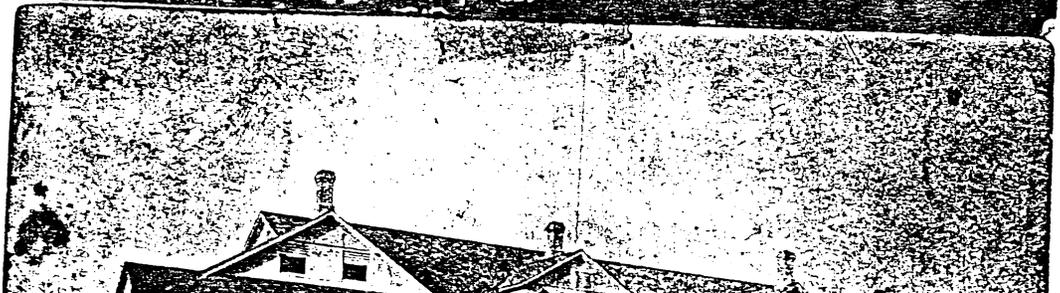
Liberta



Liberta
Baldwin Co
Ala.



Roofs Barber Shop
Liberta, Ala.



Liberta
Hotel

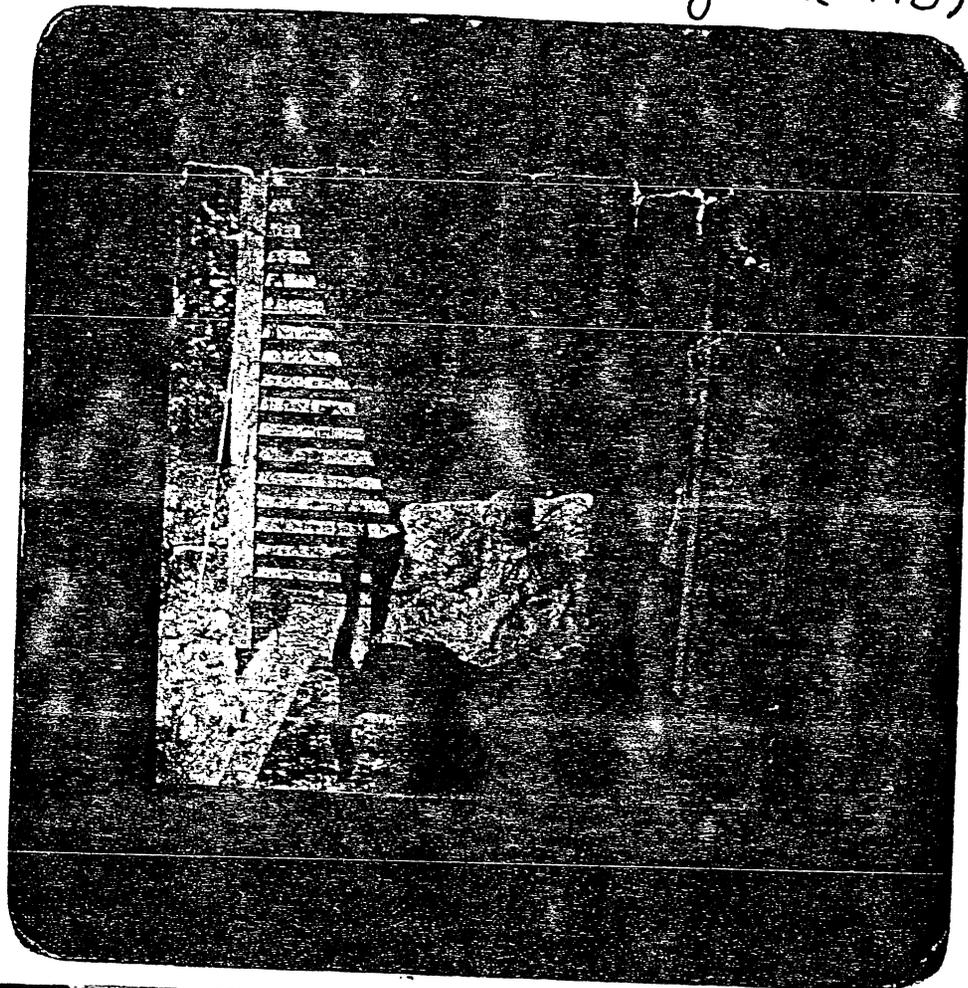
36





aunt carol kryder (1913)

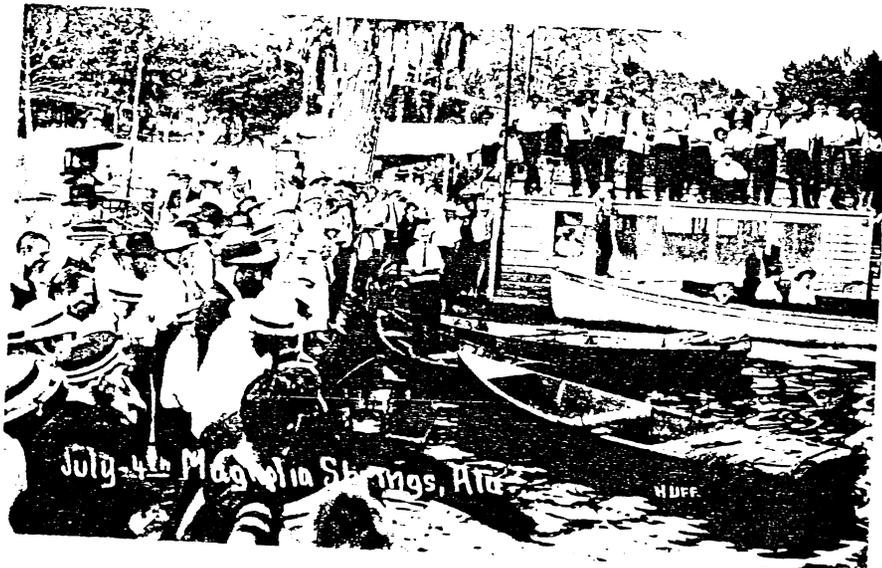
38



At one time members of the Foley baseball team were James Dumas, second base; Charles Ebert, pitcher; John Kryder, third base; John Wenzel, short stop; Allen Beck, left field; J. Froelich, catcher; Kenneth Rapp, first base; Victor Gaar, left field and Boy Willis, right field.

Golf arrived in 1920, when a course was mapped out by a Chicago architect, Tom Bendelow, on 40 acres between Foley and Magnolia Springs. The property was purchased by E. W. Cole, and Louis P. Sutter of Chicago was termed "the moving spirit in the matter."

Fourth of July celebrations with patriotic speeches and baseball games were big events each year, the events chronicled by The Onlooker.



July Fourth at Magnolia Springs

The July Fourth celebration in 1909, held in Foley included horse races, athletic stunts, fireworks and dancing. The Bay Minette and Fort Morgan train was held until 10 p.m. as had been requested, so that visitors from the north end of the county could stay later.

A celebration was also held at Marlow that year where there was musical entertainment, singing of patriotic songs and oratory in the Opera House.

Fourth of July in Magnolia Springs in 1912 featured an oration by "eloquent Bishop Beckwith". The Magnolia Springs Orchestra provided the music and Mrs. Abe Crouch directed the singing.

Athletic events included followed by a dance and

In 1917, about six Baldwin and a few from celebration at Foley of the Magnolia Springs in the parade were in town. A farmer's meeting several speeches were with Lillian and one with

The hurricane which Fourth of July celebration had already started a highlight of the activities

The Onlooker, after a storm which demolished by H. V. Re tableaux and drills by rope performance which was turned over

In 1917, the Foley barbecue and "most About 40 members of in all.



Stammon, Rich's pool

40



Head of the Bay
 as seen from John's P.O.
 Gulf Breeze, Fla.

Post Card sent from John Kryder
 to Emma Dumas Sept. 28, 1910

ANK STEWART, The Picture Man, FAIRHOPE, ALA.

POST CARD

CORRESPONDENCE

SEP
 28

NAME AND ADDRESS

1910

ALA.

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 POSTAGE

STAMP
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Just photo
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 way.

J. S. K.

Miss Emma Dumas

41

E. - Right
Carol Kryder
Nina Kryder
Joseph Kryder
(1915)



Joseph Kryder
(1912)



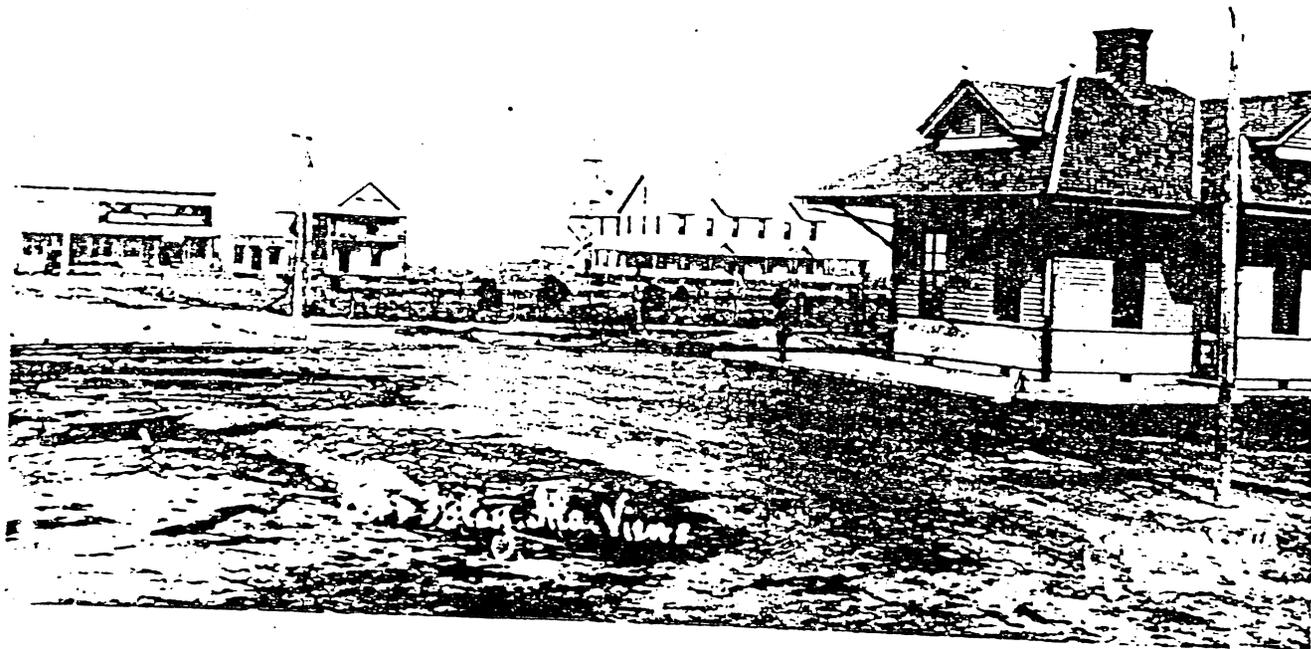
THE MAGNOLIA

In 1907, the Magnolia Hotel building property was purchased and hotel construction began in order to accommodate prospective colonists or resident farmers and merchants to the South Baldwin area. Mr. John Burton Foley, a manufacturer of patent medicines, (Foley's Pine Tar and Honey) had bought up many acres of cut-over land here in Baldwin County, and knowing its worth as a farming area, opened it for colonization. This movement was augmented by the L & N Railroad which was built into the area in 1904 and 1905. Mr. Foley secured the services of a Mr. Greenwood who commenced the work on the front part of the Hotel. It was completed and opened in 1908 and was comfortably but simply furnished. Mr. and Mrs. John Lear, son and daughter were the first innkeepers. The second innkeepers after two years of service by the Lears were Mr. and Mrs. Alston (for whom Alston Street is named). During these early years a young druggist, Mr. James Dumas, took up residence at the Magnolia. Following the Alston's as innkeepers, Dr. Dumas' mother and sister, Miss Marian, took over the operation of the establishment. In 1910 - 1912 the Dumas' built the back portion of the Hotel and added the wash house which is now gone. After many years of faithful service, Mr. Foley gave the Hotel to the Dumas family. For many years, in fact, until about the end of World War II, the Dumas family owned and operated the property. At Ms. Marian's passing, Dr. James Dumas and his wife, Ida, with the assistance of the ever faithful Minnie Harris, who for many years served Ms. Marian and the Dumas family. Mrs. Harris retired when the Dumas family sold the Hotel. At the conclusion of the war the property was transferred to the Woodall's and remained as an active hotel until Mrs. Rose Woodall remar-

time the south end of the porch was enclosed to serve as a Chamber of Commerce office. The large "Lion Head" Mirror in the front hall is one of Mrs. Rose Mill's Birmingham pieces. For sometime the Mills operated the Hotel, building the two small additions to the back porch. They then turned its management over to Mrs. Mable Rost who was long a resident of the community. Following the Rosts, the Hotel was operated by the Davis' who are also local residents of long standing. The Mills then transferred the property to the E & J Realty Company, who remodeled, upgraded and bettered the facilities in the building. The last operators and host keepers of the Hotel were the Sides. At the time of the purchase of the Hotel by John McClure Snook, who was living there at the time, the Sides' were offered the opportunity to continue running it as a hotel or lodging house. This offer was declined and the hotel was closed.

The Snook family had become acquainted with the Hotel in 1923 and 1924. During this period Mr. Ward Snook had been engaged by the Bellingraths to assist them in working out bottling and bottle capping problems concerning Coca Cola products. Members of the McClure family in Mobile who had been residents of the area for many years, dating from some of the earliest days of settlement, recommended Mr. Snook and his organization to the Bellingraths. Mr. Snook was also, at that time, working with the state of Florida to assist them in many engineering studies and to aid in the setting up of a Florida State Public Utility Commission. It was decided that Mrs. Grace McClure Snook and son John would meet Mr. Snook in Foley, Alabama after the New Year, where they would travel eastward over into Florida together with Mr. Snook so that he might attend to and keep his

Minette where they stayed all night. At noon they boarded the "Pine Knot Special", so called because its energy source was pine-knots and generally pine wood which was cut and corded in neat piles at regular intervals along the route south to Foley. The kindly station agent and friendly railroad crew ordered along with themselves a snack for Mother and Son, explaining that about mid-afternoon it would be most welcomed, thus the trip southward began. It seemed as if the train stopped at every platform, rural station, crossroad and homestead to deliver some item, or to pick up something further to deliver from the road. If it were not a stop for some benefit along the way, the train seemed to stop often to pick up wood and water. The day of recollection was one of those memorable, beautiful, warm deep south winter days which are almost incomparable in beauty and gentleness. As the southern end of the county was approached, more and more farm lands appeared, and in some cases, the kindly conductor or train crew stopped the train between stops and took items to some citizen farmer working his field, after blowing the train whistle so that the person receiving the goods could meet the conductor somewhere halfway across the field. At long last, after an early darkness lighted by southern winter woods fires, which along with the burning stumps, made one think of a great city, the train reached Foley. Mother and Son were turned over to the friendly, efficient station manager, the late Lamar (Puss) Irwin, Sr., who informed them that as soon as he got his accounts straight he would walk them to the Hotel. Thus, in a short time, Mother and Son were escorted to the Magnolia where they first met Ms. Marian, Minnie and the hospitality of this unique community.



In the foreground is a view of part of the 1910 Foley L & N Railroad Station. According to local history there were three phases of L & N stations in Foley. The first 1905 station burned down and was replaced by another. This station partially burned, and when it was rebuilt, it was enhanced and enlarged. In the middle late 50's, once again a disastrous fire broke out in the shipping sheds and the station was partially burned. The local fire department, under the command of the late Gene Heible, citizens of the community, including the then mayor, the Honorable Max W. Griffin, fought all night valiantly to save the station and remaining sheds as well as a nearby sawmill. One of

Foley's outstanding citizens and artists, Nelson K. Hamilton, in a fire suit, literally worked within the flames and building to blow out the fire with a high pressure hose. The station was later sold to Gulf Telephone Company for a dollar, and the L & N graciously gave an unlimited time in which to remove this structure and salvage it. It was moved to Magnolia Springs where presently it was reassembled. Gulf plans to eventually relocate it as a carriage house kitchen and artifact behind the Magnolia when this site can be prepared for it. Thus Foley's two oldest structures can become one historic unit and entity. Just beyond

the station across Foley Park is the Magnolia as it appeared in 1910. Note the windmill pump and up ground cistern or well back of the Magnolia. The trees in the Park have just been planted. Next to the left in the picture is the Onlooker office, a two story frame building with a two gallery porch. The next small building is a Real Estate office and for many years was the office of Mr. James Clark and Bill Cooney. The C. A. Boller Store building is the next and final building in the picture. One might also note the telephone poles in the picture whose lines run to the old telephone office located across McKenzie St. which passes in front of the Magnolia.

and March 5 and March 12 at the pre-Meyer Civic Center in Gull Shores. Coffee is at 9:15 a.m. and program at 10 a.m. Call Don Seelerlin at 948-6431 or Mary Ann Gould at 948-2894.

Senior snowbird potluck dinners are held Thursday at 12:30 p.m. at the Gull Shores Adult Activity Center. Anyone over the age of 50, including hotels and snowbirds, is invited to participate. There are no dues, but a 50-cent charge will be collected to help cover expenses. Attendance is optional, bringing their own table service and chairs.

Winter visitors have begun arriving, will be spending the coming winter in Palma. Send activities and program in Calendar, 15 Blackburn Ave., Bay Mills, include a daytime telephone number to

The search is on for winter visitors to tell. If you, your organization knows involved in unusual and and would like to share those tales at the Baldwin Register, 15 Blackburn Ave. 36507, or fax data to us at 937- phone numbers and as much detail

Mobil Classifieds 43

Old Magnolia Hotel draws interest of winter visitors

► Foley's oldest surviving building reflects region's connection with the Midwest

"As for the rest of it, it's nice and I certainly appreciate it, but it's those things from the family that are special."

The building is owned by Gull Telephone, a company Snook's father founded and

which Mrs. Snook is now president.

Gull Telephone frequently uses the hotel for company meetings, she said.

Please see HOTEL on 14)

By GUY BUSBY
Staff Reporter

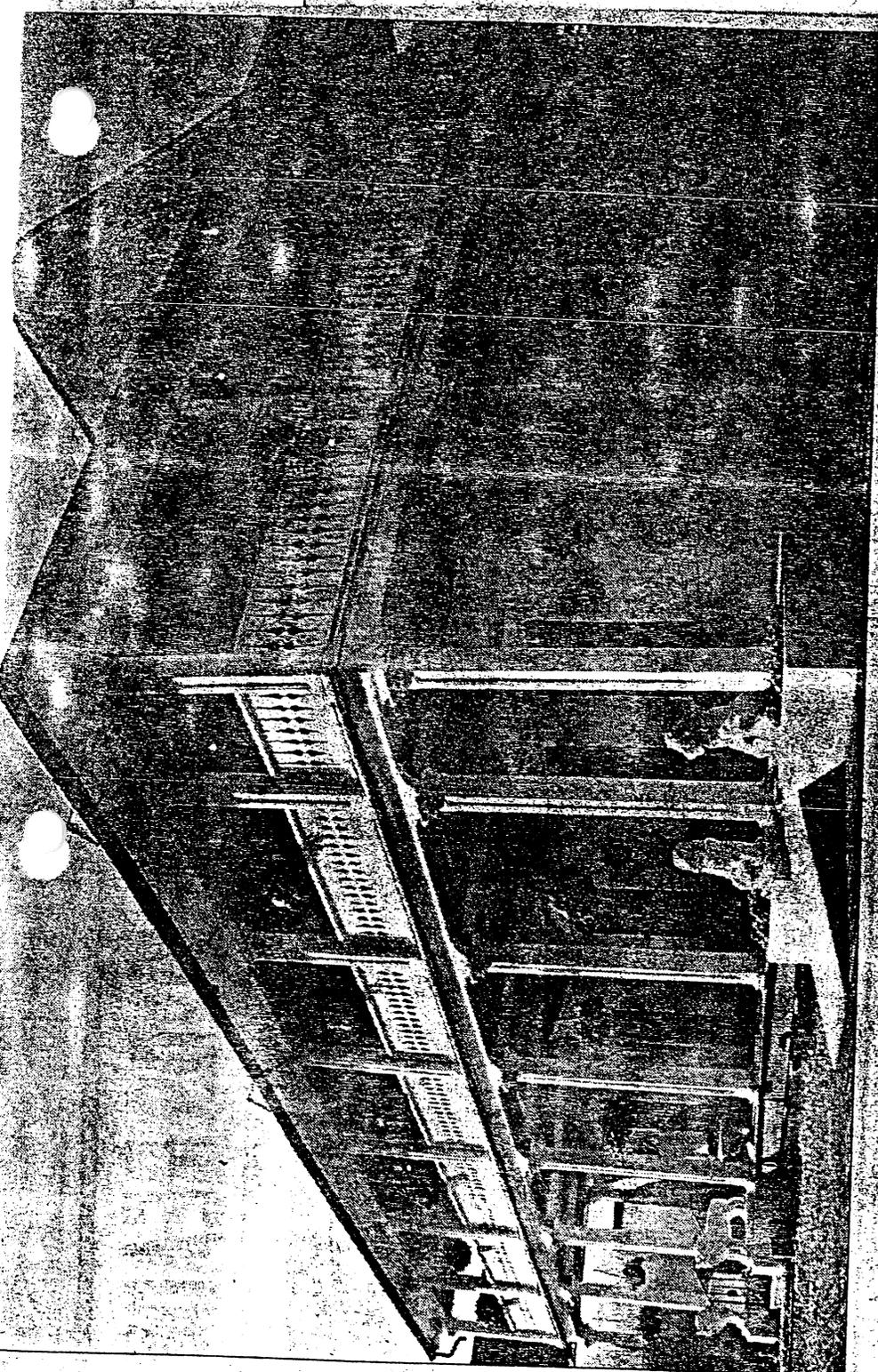
FOLEY — The wide porch, large covered balcony and graceful white columns give the Magnolia Hotel the traditional look of a Southern mansion, but downtown Foley's oldest building also has connections to the Midwest.

Built by the founder of the Chicago land company that established the community, many of its first residents were settlers from that region.

SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
STREET
Save Great Seafood & Steaks
Daily Lunch Buffet \$7.00
wy. 31 South • Bay Mills
937-4096 Or 937-2664



Daily Lunch Buffet
Seafood Buffet Friday & Sat From



For 90 years, the Magnolia Hotel in downtown Guyana has been a familiar site in south Baldwin County.

GUYANAN REGISTER

In addition to antiques, the hotel is filled with other items of interest as well. In the front hall is a large mirror, which was in the original hotel.

According to one account, the wooden lion's head carved in the frame may have been the inspiration for the election of the lion as the Coley High School mascot.

On two sides of the hotel, long McKenzie Street and Essamine Avenue, a wrought-iron fence stands at

the sidewalk.

The ironwork on the fence depicts corn, cucumbers, potatoes and watermelons.

Mrs. Snook said in an

earlier interview that her husband wanted the fence to represent the agriculture that was the basis for the start of communities throughout

Baldwin County.

The iron posts on the fence are in the shape of "cat-faced" pine trees —

Please see HOTEL on 16.

JARY 21, 1998

uesday from March 18 in Presbyterian visiting the about South and special breakfast membership S. Chum at

ered by the at 2:30 p.m. Convention

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Hotel

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marks during the extraction of rosin to make turpentine.

family antiques

The oldest antique in the Magnolia is a simple wooden table that was made on a plantation owned by another branch of Snook's family, the McClure family, in Virginia around 1745, according to Mrs. Snook.

Many of the antiques came from the McClure family. One room contains the wedding edroom, set of Snook's paternal grandparents, John and Mary Salome McClure. The glass-paned front door

once hung in the home of Judge Wilson Snook in Ohio. Through it walked five Republican presidents: Ulysses S. Grant, James

Garfield, William McKinley, William Howard Taft and Warren G. Harding who visited the judge in the 19th and early 20th centuries, according to Mrs. Snook.

Snook was fond of telling visitors about the time Taft visited. The judge warned him that the last two presidents who visited Garfield and McKinley, had been assassinated.

Taft, the country's heaviest president, is said to have laughed and responded that it would take a cannon to penetrate his bulk.

At the time of Taft's election, in 1908, the hotel had just opened.

Hotel construction

In 1907, John B. Foley of Chicago was trying to establish his south Baldwin community and bring colonists to the area from the North. While the railroad had been completed south from

Bay Minette in 1905, prospective settlers had no where to stay.

He contacted a Mobile contractor and arranged for the hotel to be built on the site. The new hotel opened in February 1908.

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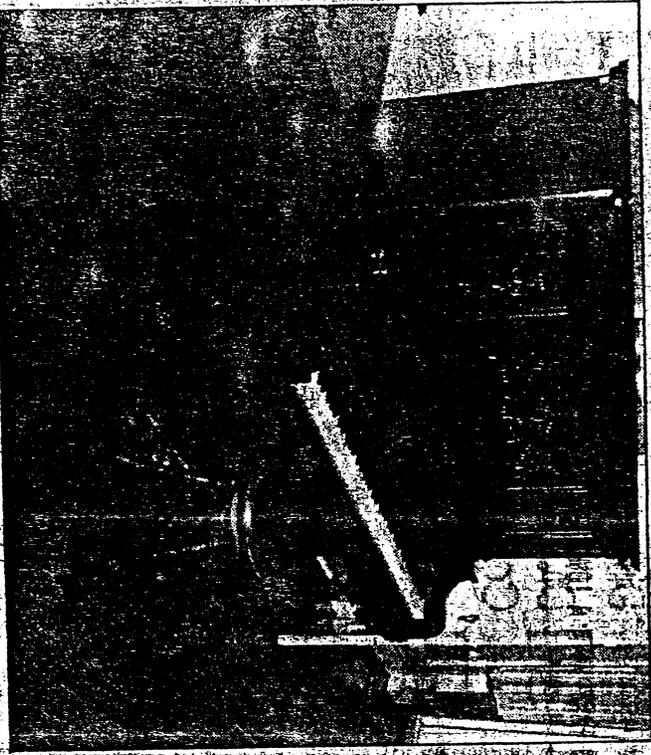
exp. Joint, Fiber, Gravel, Mason Sand, Mortar Mix, Poly Film, Rebar, Re...

and they have so many talents," said Mrs. Pellet...

Don't Miss The MA LIFESTYLES R

The 100-year-old upright piano, which had belonged to John Snook's grandparents, is one of several instruments in the music room at the Magnolia Hotel.

GUY BUSBY/Registrar



In 1912, the back portion of the hotel was built, adding a wash house, new kitchen and four more guest rooms. The first inkkepeels were Mr. and Mrs. John Lear of Chicago.

After it was owned by three local families, Snook bought the hotel. While it was no longer economical to operate, the old building was preserved. It was purchased by Mr. Baldwin Vignettes.

published in 1984, Snook wrote that when he and his family first came to Foley in the 1920s, they stayed in the hotel. Snook was an early builder.

In preserving historic buildings in Baldwin County, He also bought the second-story Foley depot, built in 1909, and moved it to Magnolia Springs in 1970 to save it from...

Hotel

Continued from 16

hotel and in 1910, Foley gave her family the building and property.

The Dumas family operated the hotel until 1946, when they sold the building.

After it was owned by three local families, Snook bought the hotel. While it was no longer economical to operate, the old building was preserved. It was purchased by Mr. Baldwin Vignettes.

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