

\*\*\*\*\*  
THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 276  
Brewton, Alabama 36426

Newsletter,  
July 9, 1974

Editor,  
Mrs. Carolyn Pugh McLendon

\*\*\*\*\*  
NOTICE OF MEETING - Our regular monthly meeting will be held on July 16, 1974, at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center of the Jefferson Davis Junior College. MRS. JACK (DORIS) BRUNER will delight us with tales of local historic ghosts, superstitions, and folklore. She promises not to scare us out of our wits--just "food for thought." Come, bring a friend! The public is always welcome. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month.

SHOW AND TELL - Many have requested that we have another Show and Tell meeting soon, since we had such overwhelming participation at our June Show and Tell. THERE WILL BE ANOTHER "SHOW AND TELL" IN THE FALL.

A BABY - Our Recording Secretary, Mrs. Jonathan R. (Harriett) Miller, has given birth to a son, Matthew Alexander Quarterman Miller, on Friday, June 28. The Millers also have another son who is 10 years old.

ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION, 7TH ANNUAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE, will be held this year August 11-12 at the State Capitol, beginning on Sunday afternoon, August 11, at 2:00, with Welcome by The Honorable Jere L. Beasley, Lt. Governor of Alabama; "Capitols and Cornerstones" by The Honorable Joe C. McCorquodale, State Representative for Choctaw, Clark and Washington Counties; Board of Advisors' Report by Marvin L. Harper, President, Pro tem; "Antiques and Foundation Furnishings" by Mrs. Grey Boone, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; "My County is Shelby" by Kenneth Penhale, President of Shelby County Historical Society; Executive Director's Report by W. Warner Floyd, Alabama Historical Commission; Distinguished Service Awards presented by Mrs. James B. Allen; and Reception at 6:00 (\$8.00 charge) at the 1898 "Historic Union Railway Station" with a Cocktail Supper, host--Cradle of Confederacy Railroad Museum. On Monday morning, August 12, at 10:00, the program will begin with "A Treasure Chest for American Heritage" by The Honorable Jerry L. Rogers, U. S. Department of Interior; "Preserving Alabama's Industrial Heritage" by The Honorable Robert T. Wilson, State Senator for Cullman and Welker Counties; "Mobile Tours, Inc." by Mrs. Sidney van Antwerp of Mobile, Ala.; "Uncovering the Aboriginal Alabama" by Professor David DeJarnette, Mound State Park; Distinguished Service Awards presentation by Mrs. Leroy Simms, Huntsville, Ala. On Monday afternoon beginning at 1:30 "Preservation Planning" by Chairman Milo B. Howard, Jr.; "Black Heritage in my City and my College" by Councilman Arthur Shores, Birmingham, Ala.; "Rustic Relics of North Alabama" by The Honorable Tom Drake, Representative for Cullman and Marshall Counties; "Legislation for Preservation" by State Senator (Elect) "Bo" Tolbert; "Alabama's Heritage and the American Bicentennial" by Governor George C. Wallace; and Distinguished Service Swards presentation by Mrs. George C. Wallace.

The Escambia County Historical Society has nominated THOMAS E. McMILLAN for Distinguished Service Award again this year for the preservation of our first Brewton courthouse and the Jay Villa

Plantation house in Conecuh County. We hope that our nomination will be favored this year.

We had nine people in attendance for the Preservation Conference last year and hope to be as well represented this year. The Society will have to pre-register those wishing to attend any or all of the three sessions. Contact Mrs. Carolyn McLendon at 867-4881 or 867-2382 if you plan to attend, so that the necessary arrangements can be made for pre-registering and transportation to Montgomery.

\*\*\*

COURSE IN ALABAMA HISTORY - Jefferson Davis State Junior College in Brewton will offer a course in Alabama History in the night class program this fall. The class will meet for twelve consecutive Thursday evenings (except Thanksgiving), beginning September 12 and continuing through December 5. The class will meet from 6 until 10 p.m., with a couple of brief refreshment breaks provided during the four hour period of instruction. The course is entitled History 231: Alabama History (5 hours credit), and covers the history of Alabama from earliest times to the present. The course will be taught by Charles C. Hays, Jr., a native South Alabamian and Minister of The First United Methodist Church, Brewton. Mr. Hays is an American History major with areas of specialization in Southern and Civil War History. A person may either audit the course or take the course for credit. If a person desires to audit the course there is no cost to the individual, and no requirement to take the exam. If a person desires credit for the course, the cost will be \$32.50 if registration is completed before September 10; otherwise a \$10 late charge will be applicable. It is necessary to register to be able to take the course. Registration begins July 16 and continues until the day classes are scheduled to begin. Registration may be completed any weekday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the college. Persons previously enrolled in a course at the college may enroll in Alabama History merely by calling the college at 867-4832 any time after July 16. Persons who have never taken work at Jefferson Davis will need to go by the college to register. A high school diploma (or equivalent) is necessary for a person to be enrolled at the college. Enrollment is limited. Enroll early by completing registration early.

\*\*\*

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Miss Rita Jane Boykin has given a copy of a thesis prepared by Miss Ethol Holmes, now deceased, in 1934, entitled "Escambia County, Alabama."

Miss Lula Pearl Neal has contributed her "Show and Tell" item: A receipt from J. M. Norman, Brewton, Ala. (Manufacturer of Tin and sheet iron work, and dealer in cooking and heating stoves and fixtures, and tinware of every description) dated August 1, 1893, for goods delivered to Miss Jessie Jent (Ghent)-- Oil stove \$1.25; 1 qt. oil 5¢; 1 hinge 10¢.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### DID YOU KNOW?

That Pollard, incorporated 3/21/1893 (Book "J", page 203, Probate Records), was named for Charles T. Pollard, an official of Alabama-Florida Railroad Company, and that the Railroad Company

-July 9, 1974

laid out the map of lots of Pollard now on record in the Judge of Probate's office, W. A. Finlay and C. L. Wiggins were among the first councilmen. The town limits were extended in 1907 by Local Acts of Legislature, Norvelle R. Leigh, Jr., State Representative at that time.

That WELKA (a railroad switch between Pollard and Flomaton) was erected in 1907 and named by Mrs. Tom Mizell, wife of Trainmaster, for Mr. Tom W. Welch, a resident of that community. The first train through Welka went into siding and overturned.

That ROYLAT (between Foshee and Flomaton) was TAYLOR spelled backwards. This was also a railroad stop.

That MILES between Flomaton and Atmore was named for some of Miles Horn's people.

--Foregoing information furnished by  
N. J. Finlay and C. L. Gordon Kelley

OTHER DID YOU KNOW NOTES -

That the 61st Alabama Infantry Regiment was organized at Pollard in 1863, and was sent to Virginia in 1864 (from Volume I, Memorial Records of Alabama, page 125, published 1893).

That the bell in the Methodist Church at Pollard was given to the people of Pollard by the owner of a steamboat that burned at Pollard Landing in appreciation for the hospitality shown by the people of Pollard to the people who were on the steamboat that burned.

That a manuscript entitled "I Will Not Turn Yankee" regarding the War Days at Pollard was written by Mr. William H. Davidson of West Point, Georgia, and Miss Nella Chambers (now deceased) of Fairfax, Ala. in the 1950's, but was never published.

That Mark Lyons had a store in Pollard in Block 4, corner of Richmond Avenue and Berkley Street.

That Hawkins and Leigh Store was in Block 5, corner of Richmond Avenue and Mesilla Street (on the corner where the old drug store and bank buildings are located).

CONECUH AND THE CIVIL WAR: -Conecuh was the only county in south Alabama to vote against secession from the Union. Though its people preferred to remain in the Union they answered their country's call with their resources and lives. These companies were raised in Conecuh: Company E, Conecuh Guards, 4th Regt., Company D, 16th Regt.; Company D, Cary Rifles, 23rd Regt.; Company I, 29th Regt.; Company E, Miller Guards, 38th Regt.; Company E, McCulloch Avengers, 42nd Regt.; Company F, Conecuh Reserves, 65th Regt.; Company F, 23rd Battalion of Sharpshooters. Many joined Florida Regiments. Conecuh suffered the ravages of war in 1865 when Col. John Spurling raided through the county on his way to the battle of Spanish Fort. On this raid silver and other personal possessions were taken as well as the contrabands of war. The Alabama and Florida Railroad was destroyed from Owassa south to Canoe Station.