

THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 276
Brewton, Alabama 36426

August 14, 1974
Newsletter

Editor,
Mrs. Carolyn Pugh McLendon

NOTICE OF MEETING - We are fortunate to have another of our members to bring the program for this month. MISS RITA JANE BOYKIN was born in Montgomery but moved to Brewton when she was 2 1/2 years of age. Her father, E. C. Boykin, was born in the Boykin Community (out Highway 29 from Brewton) in Escambia County, and owned the Boykin Drug Store from 1927 to 1945. Miss Boykin, who has taught first grade here for 35 years and plans to publish a book regarding the humorous situations that arise with first grade students, is well known and loved by all who know her. Miss Boykin will present a nostalgic program on reminiscences and contrasts, comparing yesteryear activities with today. We will meet as usual in the Student Center of Jefferson Davis Junior College at 7:30 p.m., TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1974.

NEW MEMBERS: W. L. Waller, Rev. Charles C. Hayes, Mrs. Mary E. Sowell, Mrs. Charlyn Brandt, all of Brewton; and Mrs. Jesse Baxley, Detroit, Michigan, making a total membership of 251.

ANOTHER BABY! Mrs. Hal (Paulla) Jay has given birth to her first child, a daughter, Tiffany Genise, born July 29. Mrs. Jay has been very active in our society. We congratulate these proud young parents.

NEW MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY - Mrs. Don (Gladys Huff) Byrd has accepted our appointment as membership secretary to replace Miss Helen Robertson. Helen served us well during a period when we were constantly taking in new members. We regret that she had to resign, but appreciate the time and efforts that she so unselfishly rendered. We welcome Mrs. Byrd to the staff and hope to keep her just as busy with new members. Most of you know Mrs. Byrd as Librarian for the Brewton Public Library.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -

N. J. Finlay has contributed for our files a newspaper article on the Poshee Community as written by R. L. Odom.

J. M. Northcutt, Postmaster of Brewton, has contributed a list of Escambia County Postmasters and Compensations for year 1901.

Brian C. Smith of Burbank, California, has contributed a copy of a magazine story, "The Hound Who Ran Down Burrows," from Railroads And The Old West, regarding Rube Burrows.

ALABAMA HISTORY: 231, Jefferson Davis Junior College. You must register before September 10 for this class or pay a late fee. Registration for credit for the five hour course is \$32.50, no charge if auditing the class. Classes begin September 12 at 6:00 p.m. with Rev. Charles C. Hayes, instructor. Rev. Hayes tells me that 20 persons have already registered for this class.

Quote: "A nation which does not remember what it was yesterday, does not know what it is today, nor what it is trying to do. We are trying to do a futile thing if we do not know where we came from or what we have been about." - Woodrow Wilson

BARBOUR, PUCKETT, MOORE, CARTER Families - Your Editor recently had the opportunity to read the Autobiography and Reminiscences of Calvin Caine Barbour, born November 23, 1863 in Butler, Choctaw County, Alabama, which is in the possession of Ralph Barbour, our Director of the Brewton Chamber of Commerce. It is most interesting and has a wealth of names and dates regarding these families and mention of many others. I am sure Ralph would not mind answering any inquiries concerning these families.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY POST OFFICES, 1901

Contributed by J. M. Northcutt

<u>Post Office</u>	<u>Postmaster</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Atmore	Wm. Wagner	\$ 787.01
Boykin	Martha McGowin	38.06
Bradley	W. G. Coxwell	92.35
Brewton	N. G. Schad	1500.00
Hammac	S. W. Hammac	315.59
Herrington	J. A. Jernigan	56.86
Mortimer	R. F. Cruitt	25.85
Niger	J. Beans (?)	.46
Nokomis	A. C. Kamp	84.67
Pollard	Wm. J. McLelland	429.51
Roberts	S. D. Murphy	68.04
Steadham	J. H. Parker	60.77
Teddy	J. H. Hoomes	19.03

ESCAMBIA COUNTY, ALABAMA - 200 YEARS AGO - BRITISH RULE

BRITISH WEST FLORIDA

1763 - 1780

By royal proclamation of October 7, 1763, the territory acquired from France and Spain was erected into the provinces of East and West Florida, separated from each by Apalachicola river, with the 31st degree of north latitude as the northern boundry, but in 1764 the boundry of West Florida was extended to 32 degrees and 30 minutes. Pensacola was the capitol and George Johnston was the first governor. Maj. Robert Farmer was the military governor at Mobile. The British enjoyed good relations with the Indians, and trade with them was profitable. Religious freedom was enjoyed by all. On May 8, 1779 Spain and Great Britain were at war. Governor Galvez appeared before Mobile on March 1, 1780. Elias Durnford, the British commander at Mobile, had a mixed force of 79 men and after a brisk bombardment surrendered the city to the Spanish.

SPANISH RULE, 1780 - 1795

On May 8, 1779, Spain declared war against Great Britain. A Spanish fleet under the command of Governor General Bernardo Galvez of Louisiana, who in 1778 had secretly furnished Col. James Willing, the Continental Agent in New Orleans, with arms and ammunition and \$70,000.00 in cash for the revolt of the American Colonies, forced the surrender of Mobile on March 14, 1780, and of Pensacola on May 9, 1781. Spain claimed by military conquest up to 32 degrees and 28 minutes of north latitude, as claimed by the British under

their proclamation of 1764. On October 7, 1795 the United States and Spain entered into the Treaty of San Lorenzo, by this treaty the Spanish Government agreed to the 31st degree of north latitude as the boundry between the United States and Spanish West Florida. Mobile fell below this line and remained in Spanish hands until captured by General James Wilkinson on April 13, 1812. The Treaty of Washington of February 22, 1819, between Spain and the United States settled once and for all the long dispute over this county.

THE UNITED STATES

By the Treaty of Paris of September 3, 1783, the British ceded to the United States all their lands lying north of the 31st degree of north latitude, and to Spain their lands lying south of this parallel. Conecuh, lying north of this line, was claimed by the United States under this treaty, by the State of Georgia under its Royal Charter, and by Spain by right of conquest to 32 degrees and 28 minutes. Though claimed by these three Conecuh was dominated by the Creek Indians.

Spain relinquished her claim to 32 degrees and 28 minutes by the Treaty of San Lorenzo of October 7, 1795. Georgia relinquished her claim to the United States in 1798 when the Mississippi Territory was formed.

Spain held dominion over Mobile and Pensacola. When the War of 1812 broke out Spain permitted the English to use these ports as bases against the United States.

President John Adams in April, 1799, designated Winthrope Sargent of Massachusetts, "Governor of the Mississippi Territory."

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Created June 4, 1800, by proclamation of Governor Winthrop Sargent, it is the oldest of the counties and embraced all the country between the Chattahoochie and Pearl Rivers, and the parallel 31st degree on the south and 32 degrees 28 minutes on the north.

--From manuscript by William Letford,
History of Conecuh County, Alabama,
State Department of Archives and
History

And when with grief you see your brother stray
Or in a night of error lose his way,
Direct his wandering and restore the day...
Leave to avenging Heaven his stubborn will,
For, O, remember, he's your brother still.

-Swift