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\* ESCAMBIA ECHOES - July 14, 1980 \*

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\* The Escambia County Historical Society  
\* P O.Box 276  
\* Brewton, Alabama 36427

\* Carolyn L. Emerich, Editor

\* Rev J W.Caldwell, President

\* Mrs.John David Finlay, Sr.,Memorial Chairman

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\* NOTICE OF MEETING : Tuesday, July 22, 1980, 7:00 p.m.

at Thomas E.McMillan Museum on campus of  
Jefferson Davis State Junior College

Program Flomaton: Its History, Heroes and  
Progressive People

Speaker: Carolyn L. Emerich, Brewton, Al.

Your editor, Mrs.Carolyn Pugh Emerich, has chosen to give a program on Flomaton: Its History, Heroes and Progressive People. The Flomaton area has not been highlighted by a program since a paper was given by Mrs. Korrie G.Brown of Flomaton in 1973 and published in the September, 1973 Escambia County Historical Quarterly. Mrs. Emerich plans to only touch lightly on the information given by Mrs. Brown and will highlight the people who have helped in the growth of the town, the heroes who have made it famous--Whitby, Manning, McCurdy, the people who made it progressive--Abernethy, Drury, Wilkerson, Justice, Meriwether, Weaver, and the outlaws who made it infamous- Burrows, Hardin, Hardy, Bowen, Slater. None of the outlaws lived in or near Flomaton but these outlaws used the railroads for transportation and thereby some of their escapades and criminal acts occurred in Flomaton and were recorded among their murderous and plunderous deeds. Flomaton was first known as Reutervill so named by Major Reuter who drove the last spike connecting the railroads, then Pensacola Junction, then Whiting for an early settler and now Flomaton--a word derivitative from the first 3 letters of FLORida, the last 2 of ALabaMA and TON meaning town. The public is always welcome. Come and bring a friend or a prospective member. Attendance at our meetings continues to be good.

NEW MEMBERS:

Ms.Fran Kyser Johnson,P.O.Box 203, Merritt Island,Fla.32952  
Mrs. H.F.Tate, 1224 Bush Circle, Birmingham, Al.35208  
Mr.Marcus E.Jordan,Route 4,Box 13,Brewton,Al. 36426  
Mr.Otto P.Hammonds,P.O.Box 17173,Montgomery,Al.36117  
Ms.Mary E.Ward, 1413 Belbville Avenue,Brewton, Al.36426

HELP OFFERED FOR ESCAMBIA COUNTY GENEALOGISTS with ancestors from Decatur County, Georgia: Ms.Anne G.Foshee, Genealogy and Local History Librarian,Southwest Georgia Regional Library, Corner Shotwell and Monroe Streets, Bainbridge, Ga.31717 states: I have noticed that several articles in the quarterly mentioned Escambia Co.people who were former settlers of Decatur Co.,Fa. Our library here has a thriving genealogy and local history department and we are interested in obtaining information on any former residents. Therefore, if any

members with Decatur Co. ancestry would like to send me an ancestor chart or family group sheet showing their local families, I will be happy to check our local collection for any additional information on these people. -- We appreciate this friendly offer from one of our newest members!

YOUR FAMILY INFORMATION NEEDED NOW! Roger Anderson and Mrs. Annie C. Waters need your family information for use in the early pioneers section of the Escambia County History. Only brief information is needed for this volume, but there is a possibility that a volume of genealogy will be published after the history is completed. Don't wait to be called, please contact Roger at 867-9861 or Mrs. Waters at 867-3911.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS PAID SINCE JUNE 13, 1980: Membership cards are no longer being sent as a receipt for dues payments to save postage and the expense of the cards.

Mrs. F.N. Hale  
Roger Anderson  
Janel Redditt  
Bank of Brewton  
Joyce R. Blalock  
Robert C. McMillan  
Juanita Durr Smith

Robert A. Gordon, Jr.  
Mrs. Betty R. McGowin  
Mrs. Thomas A. Swanson  
Ms. Elaine Thompson  
Edward L. Brewton

Membership runs from January to January.

ANNUAL ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION PRESERVATION CONFERENCE set for July 25 and 26, Montgomery, Al. The theme for the conference is downtown revitalization and its importance in the community. Gov. Fob James will be the keynote and welcoming speaker on Friday. Your Board of Advisors representative, Mrs. Carolyn Emerich, will attend the Saturday session and the Board of Advisors meeting at 4:00 p.m. Anyone interested in going or further information can contact Mrs. Emerich at 867-4881 (day) or 867-2382 (after 5:00 p.m.).

GROWING! MUSEUM HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REFERENCE CENTER--  
GROWING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS! Two people have called this month about acquiring books for the museum as a memorial to a deceased person. A list of books that are old and possibly out of print that are needed in the reference center will be listed in next month's newsletter in case some of you have on your bookshelves copies you'd like to contribute. Names of the deceased person memorialized by the gift book will be placed on the Memorial Plaque. We are recommending that any of the following books which are needed in the reference center and which are available at the prices quoted be purchased as memorials: (Call your selection to Mrs. Finlay (867-3893) or Mrs. Emerich (867-4881).)

History of Butler County, Ala. - \$14.00

Rube Burrows - \$6.25

The Folks from Pearidge - \$16.00

William Barret Travis - \$12.00

Alabama Census Returns 1820, & Abstract of 1830 Alabama Census - \$12.

Early Settlers of Alabama by James E. Saunders - \$20.00

Revolutionary Soldiers in Alabama by Thos. M. Owen - \$10.00

Wills, Alabama, Index to 1808-1870 - \$15.00

Alabama Notes, Flora D. England, Vols. 1 & 2 combined - \$12.50

Vols. 3 & 4 combined - \$15.00

Books recommended as purchases for Memorials continued:

Frontier Claims in the Lower South, R.S.Lackey - \$12.50  
Alabama Marriages compiled by Betty Wood Thomas - \$11.75 (9 counties)  
1830 Census of Henry County, Ala. - \$1.00  
The Alabama Genealogical Register - 11 volumes - \$82.50  
Henry County, Alabama Cemetery Records - \$7.50  
Dallas County, Al. Estate Settlements 1818-1866 - \$7.75  
Pickens County, Ala. Genealogical Records - \$10.00  
Jefferson County and Birmingham, Al. by John Witherspoon DuBose - \$30.00  
Henry's Heritage by Dr. Hoyt Warren - \$20.00 softback  
Historic Preservation in Small Towns - \$8.95  
Southern Homespun by Ruth Tommie Teaford - \$7.95

MUSEUM FUND - Balance in Account \$949.70 - This account is earmarked for purchases for the museum and reference center. The use of these funds will be considered by the Executive Board and presented at the meeting for approval by the Society. Memorials should be sent to Mrs. John David Finlay, Sr., Alco Drive, Brewton, Al. 36426 or to the Society, P.O. Box 276. Information regarding the person memorialized will be appreciated.

MEMORIALS: IN MEMORY OF J. VERNON BRANTLEY

Jac. Vernon Brantley was born in Burnt Corn, Al., Conecuh Co., August 28, 1911 and died June 17, 1980 in Evergreen, Al. He was the son of A.O. and Mamie Salter Brantley and had deep roots in Conecuh County. He was the great-great grandson of James Salter, the Revolutionary soldier buried at Burnt Corn, and of James Grace, the first white settler in upper Conecuh in 1816, and of Green Grantley, Sr. who came to Conecuh in 1827. Vernon graduated from Newton Institute; attended Washington-Lee University and graduated from Howard College. He entered the service and was assigned to the Labor Department as an accountant. He worked at the capitol in Washington, D.C. until his retirement a few years ago. He loved Conecuh and research work and returned to this area to do research work after retirement. He did the reprint of Riley's "History of Conecuh County" and compiled the Brantley Family History and had done extensive work on The James Salter Record. He was a member of several historical societies and was quite active in the Escambia County Historical Society where he will be sorely missed. He is survived by his widow, Ruth Griffin Brantley and nieces and nephews.

By: Mary E. Brantley  
Imogene Brantley  
Carolyn L. Emerich  
Rev. and Mrs. M.G. Waters

IN MEMORY OF ALBERT E. KELLY (a tribute was published in the May newsletter)

By: Mr. and Mrs. Woodfin Patterson

MEMORIALS (continued):

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT FREDERICK WEAVER - Born February 9, 1898, died May, 1980. He was a lifelong resident of Brewton and neighboring communities. His great grandfather was the John Weaver who moved from Lexington District, S.C. in 1818, and who contributed much to the growth of this vicinity. Robert Frederick (Fred) Weaver was an exemplary Christian gentleman whose kindness and concern for others will long be remembered. He was a Bible scholar and teacher in the Brewton Church of Christ.

By: Hazel Brewton Wood

IN MEMORY OF DAVID BRENT MILLER - Husband of Louise Hauss Miller and son of the late Mr. and Mrs. T.R. Miller, died December 7, 1969. He had one daughter, Mrs. Lyman W. Phillips, Jr. and two grandchildren, Susan Phillips and Allen Carlow Phillips. He graduated from Brewton Elementary School, Gulf Coast Military Academy, and attended the University of Alabama. He was always keenly interested in education, showing his interest by many benevolent gifts to local libraries. In 1952, he contributed a 130-volume set of "The War of the Rebellion" to the T.R. Miller High School Library, a rare set including all the official records of the Union and Confederate armies which was supplemented by 3 large Atlases. In 1967, Mr. Miller personally funded the construction of an addition to the Brewton Public Library, consisting of two rooms. The North Wing, now called the David Brent Miller Gallery houses a collection of Audubon Prints, Books and Porcelains. The East Wing was built for a Children's Department. Mr. Miller was First Vice President of T.R. Miller Mill Co., having been associated with the company since 1926. In 1927 he built the Treating Plant which he actively managed until 1941. He was President of Alger-Sullivan Lumber Co. at the time of its liquidation in 1957, having served that company in various official capacities over the years. He was director of Neal Lumber and Manufacturing Co., of Blountstown, Fla., and Vice Chairman of the Citizens-Farmers and Merchants Bank (now First National Bank). He was a lifelong member of the Brewton Universalist Church and served on the Board of Trustees for many years. He was a 32nd Degree Mason, Knights Templar and Shriner. Civically, he served his community at one time as President of Brewton Rotary Club and Brewton Country Club. During World War II, he served his country as Captain of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Because of Mr. Miller's interest in education, Mrs. Miller felt that the collection of books (64 volumes) listed in this newsletter would be a memorial to him in keeping with his endeavors during his lifetime.

By: Mrs. David B. Miller

#### GIFTS FOR THE MUSEUM:

Dr. Michael Dasinger has donated a complete dental unit with drill and light which will be used in preservation and archaeological projects. Mr. Robert E. Davis, 404 Walker St., Prattville, Al. has offered to send for the Reference Center his recent publication "A Family History of Stanton, Simmons, Godwin, Hale and Williamson of Monroe, Conecuh and Escambia Counties. He is also going to contribute some family documents for the museum records.

Roger Anderson is in the process of microfilming the Ed Leigh McMillan history file for the museum. The Society had purchased the camer and microfilm a year ago. There is no charges on developing the film that was purchased with the camera. This will be a fine addition to the reference center.

Thomas E. McMillan, Jr. has purchased for the Reference Center a very rare first edition of "Historical Memoir of the War in West Florida and Louisiana in 1814-15", by A. Lacarriere Latour, published by John Conrad & Co. in Philadelphia 1816, considered to be one of the most valuable sources regarding the New Orleans, Fort Boyer and Pensacola campaigns against the British. The appendix contains documents, correspondence, maps, etc. and it has a separate atlas of hand-colored lithograph maps of the campaigns.

Mrs. David B. Miller in memory of her late husband, Mr. David Brent Miller, has contributed the following list of books, 64 volumes, for the Reference Center--a monumental collection and invaluable to those doing historical and genealogical research. Several boxes have arrived at the museum and the order should be completed soon:

#### ALABAMA BOOKS:

Hand-Book of Alabama by Berney  
History of Eufaula, by Besson  
Memorial Record of Alabama, Vol. 1 & 2  
Alabama: Her History, Resource, War Record and Public Men from 1540 to 1872 by Brewer  
Notable Men of Alabama: Personal and Genealogical with Portraits, Vol. 1 & 2, by DuBose  
Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama by Fleming  
Reminiscences of Public Men in Alabama by Garrett  
Selma: Her Institutions, and Her Men by Hardy  
The Cradle of the Confederacy; or, the Times of Troup, Quitman and Yancey by Hodgson  
Sectionalism and Party Politics in Alabama 1819-1842 by Jack  
Constitutional Development in Alabama, 1798-1901 by McMillan  
Romantic Passages in Southwestern History by Meek  
History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography, Volumes 1, 2, 3 & 4 by Owen  
History of Alabama and Incidentally of Georgia and Miss. by Pickett  
Northern Alabama by Smith & DeLand  
The History and Debates of the Convention of the People of Alabama by Smith

#### MISSISSIPPI BOOKS:

Mississippi as a Province, Territory and State by Claiborne  
Life and Times of Gen. Sam Dale, the Mississippi Partisan by Claiborne  
Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi, Vol. 1 & 2 by Goodspeed  
A Brief History of the Mississippi Territory by Hall  
The History of Virgil A. Stewart and His Adventure by Howard



Mississippi Books (continued)

History of Rosedale, Mississippi 1876-1976 by Lamar  
My Cave Life in Vicksburg, With Letters of Trial and Travel  
by Loughborough  
A History of Mississippi by Lowry and McCardle  
Military Annals of Mississippi by Rietti  
School History of Mississippi for use in Public and Private  
Schools by Riley  
History of Mississippi, The Heart of the South, Vol.1,2,3 & 4  
by Rowland  
Military History of Mississippi, 1803-1898 by Rowland  
Mississippi, Comprising Sketches of Counties, Events, etc.  
arranged in Cyclopedic Form, Vol.1,2,3, & 4, by Rowland  
History of Colivar County, Mississippi by Sillers

GEORGIA BOOKS:

History of Lumpkin County for the First Hundred Years by Cain  
Our Todays and Yesterdays by Cate  
History of Irwin County by Clements  
History of Dodge County by Cobb  
Official History of Fulton County by Cooper  
History of Lowndes County, Georgia by D.A.R.  
History and Reminiscences of Dougherty County, Ga. by D.A.R.  
History of Wilkinson County by Davidson  
Footprints along the Hoopee, a History of Emanuel County by  
Dorsey  
History of Macon County, Georgia by Hays  
The History of Brooks County, Georgia by Huxford  
History of Charlton County by McQueen  
History of Telfair County from 1812 to 1949 by Mann  
History of Turner County by Pate  
History of Greene County, Ga. 1786-1886 by Rice  
History of Midway Congregational Church by Stacy  
History of Pickens County by Tate  
History of Jefferson County by Thomas  
History of Coffee County by Ward.

ALL OF THESE GIFTS AND MEMORIALS ARE GRATEFULLY APPRECIATED BY THE  
ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LUTTRELL HARDWARE COMPANY RECORDS in the  
Museum A recent article in the Mobile Press Register 7/13/80 will  
help us to understand better the significance of what we have and  
the importance of continuing to preserve our Luttrell Hardware  
records until a qualified person can organize and catalogue them.  
Much of our area's history is hidden away although recorded in these  
files awaiting discovery. Luttrell sold building materials for  
many of the early businesses and homes of this area as well as  
caskets for burial. It is not impractical to continue to preserve  
them until they can be properly assembled. The article is copied  
here in its entirety:

MOBILE PRESS REGISTER, July 13, 1980: RAILROAD PAPERS FOUND

The golden age of the iron horse in Mobile is being preserved at  
the University of South Alabama. Aaron Michelson, director of  
the USA library, has acquired a number of dated documents which  
are owned by the former Gulf, Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and is in

the process of sifting through them for organizational purposes.

"I've had this material for about five years," he said. "Melton McLaurin, a retired history professor, called and asked if I wanted some old documents from an abandoned railroad warehouse. I did, and placed them in the library until recently when they were shipped to our Brookley complex."

The documents, which go back as far as 1860, consist mostly of business correspondence and financial records, which include ledgers, payroll accounts, deed and so forth.

"The material is predominantly business records," Michelson said, "but it is interesting to note how industry and sales were conducted in that era. For example, we have one document which states the railroad bought land north of Mobile for a few cents an acre."

"A single letter from the War Department gives permission to the railroad to dredge an approach from the United States ship channel to the site of the company's wharves in Mobile River," he continued. "If anyone wanted to do the same thing now, it would take volumes of paperwork for permission to be granted by the government."

What does the university plan to do with the material?

"We presently do not have anyone sorting or cataloging the material on a full-time basis," he said. "I am doing my best to organize the documents and see exactly what we have in our collection."

Several months ago, a vice president of Illinois Central Gulf, the railroad that merged with the old Gulf, Mobile and Ohio company came to the campus to examine the material. According to Michelson, the company is very interested in preserving several of the older pieces in the collection.

"The records allow us to step back in time and note how our community existed up to 100 years ago," Michelson said, "and for that reason alone I feel they are worth saving."

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The Luttrell Hardware records were given to the Escambia County Historical Society several years ago and were placed in the museum during Roger Anderson's tenure as Curator for the Museum. We hope that some volunteers from the Society will endeavor to go through these papers and books for us, so that they will take up less space in the museum and significant items can be preserved.

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I DO NOT CHOOSE TO BE A COMMON MAN.

It is my right to be uncommon... if I can. I seek opportunity...not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the state look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build, to fail and to succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for a dole. I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence; the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopia. I will not trade freedom for beneficence nor my dignity for a handout. I will never cower before any master nor bend to any threat. It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself; enjoy the benefits of my creations and to face the world boldly and say, this I have done. All this is what it means to be an AMERICAN.

-Anonymous