distress signals of the John Mathews before it crashed and sank, it awoke and in a few short minutes the wharf and banks of the river were filled with anxious people. The fire alarm was turned on to call for help and whistles and bells made a din of noise. Men who were down town reached the landing and summoned more aid. A. B. Smith, 17 years old at the time, was working at the postoffice. He remembers of rushing to the wharf in excitement and of being the first to reach there. He was barefoot, either having forgotten his shoes or not having time to put them on when he was awakened from his sleep by John Hatfield, the city marshall who heard the boat's whistle of distress.

Only the boilers and the engine of the boat were saved by the owners of the John Mathews but years after the disaster remnants of the steamer could be seen about Van Buren, some of the residents salvaging for windows and some for lumber and others for this and that.

Captain Hattaway was a native of Van Buren and the Hattaway home stood near where the Missouri Pacific station is. The father of the family was on the river from the time he was 18 years old until he died in this city at the age of 55 years. He had operated the transfer boat across the river at this place before the railroad bridge was built to transfer the cars, and had been on numerous other boats, including the William Drew, Choctaw, George W. Mayo and G. W. Allen.

He would make the trip from Webber Falls to Pine Bluff in two days and would make the return in three days. His sons, Leon and Alex, who were on the John Mathews, are the only passengers, perhaps who are alive to tell the tale. Leon now resides in Fort Smith and Alex makes his home in Texas. Their sister, Lillie, makes her home in Raleigh, Tenn. Mrs. Hattaway died several years ago.

CHAPTER XX

TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES

1. Alma
2. Aday
3. Bond Special
4. Bidville
5. Concord
6. Cedarville
7. Cove City
8. Cross Lanes
9. Chastain
10. Cain
11. Chester
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17. Fine Springs
18. Georgia Ridge
19. Graphic
20. Gregory Chapel
21. Hobbstown
22. Haroldtown
23. Kenner Chapel
24. Kibler
25. Lone Elm
26. Lee's Creek
27. Lancaster
28. Locke
29. Leonardsville
30. Lillie Ford
31. Logtown
32. Meadors
33. Mountain View
34. Mountain Grove
35. Mulberry
36. Maple Shade
37. Mountainburg
38. Natural Dam
39. Newtown
40. Newbury Chapel
41. Oak Bower
42. Piney
43. Pennywitt Springs
44. Pope
45. Red Hill
46. Rudy
47. Shaberg
48. Sulphur Springs
49 Turner
50. Vine Prairie
51. Van Buren
52. Uniontown
53. Yoestown

ALMA

The land on which Alma now stands was bought from the government by Armstead Smoot some time between 1835 and 1840. In July 1840 he sold to Joshua Fisher who lived near Mulberry creek. Mr. Fisher later deeded the land to his sons, Thomas and King Fisher. During the War Between the States they sold the land to Mr.

Andy Austin of Van Buren, the amount received being in Confederate money, which after the close of the war was worthless. The Messrs. Fisher showed their honesty by not trying to reclaim the land, saying that the deal was made in good faith by Mr. Austin, that he was not accountable for the depreciation of the money. Later Mr. Austin sold to Col. Mathias F. Locke.

The latter part of the sixties work was again commenced on the Little Rock and Fort Smith railroad, as all kinds of work had stopped during the war. Will quote from a letter of Colonel Locke's in sections:

"The Fort Smith and Little Rock railroad was surveyed and cut out before the War Between the States to run one-half mile south of Alma and the writer was much concerned to have another line run that would come to us and give us a depot, and after many efforts and offers, and after furnishing us the necessary assurances that we would secure them the right of way and deeding them the sum of a tract and 50 feet on either side of the road, they consented to change the route and give a depot, but Uncle Peter Kuykendall owned 40-acre tract east of Alma and the company were anxious for me to give them 8 acres for depot purposes and as I was unwilling to do more than I had promised, they offered to Uncle Peter Kuykendall a depot and a town if he would give them every alternate lot, and when I found Uncle Peter willing to take their offer, being anxious to have the depot I consented and gave the 8 acres with the depot in the center with no other condition than that they should fence a fourth of the same and keep it fenced, provided the town would sow down and keep up a plot of the different grasses grown in Arkansas."

The first house was built for Mr. Locke in 1868-9 by Mr. W. H. Northcutt. The lumber was hauled from the Rudy mill on big Mulberry by Mr. E. D. Steward. It took ten days to haul it with ox teams. The next house was one for J. D. James.

The first house on Fayetteville avenue was Dr. Black's residence, built about 1874. The first business houses were J. T. Hollowell, B. P. Renfroe, J. D. James and T. L. Smith, all general merchandise.

"Previous to 1876 the business of Alma was all done on what is now Main street, those in business at this time were Renfroe & James, dry goods; Brodie & Locke, dry goods and groceries; Ed Stewart and S. A. Wright, saloon; Dr. G. W. Smith, drugs; George Bolling, drugs; Lett Bros., restaurant; George Hurst, butcher shop; Ed Steward, livery stable and Dick Douglass, colored blacksmith."

The physicians were Doctors Black, Hughes, Wynne and Cathey. The hotels were kept by Dr. King and Mr. William Bostick.

During the latter part of 1871 or the early part of 1872 a post office was established there in a small store on the south side of the street near the corner of Main and Fayetteville avenues and Mr. A. C. Griffin was the first postmaster. Col. Locke says: "Mr. Griffin and the writer were very much bothered about a name for the town and Alma was almost forced upon us in order to secure a certificate from the postmaster at Van Buren, Mr. Samuel W. Daugherty, who claimed the right to name the town if he gave us the certificate of recommendation. Afterwards we were well pleased with the name."

Another version of how Alma became so named, was given by Tobe Steward, a Confederate veteran, who said he was present when the town was named.

A meeting was called for the purpose of selecting a name for the post office. The meeting was called to order, the presiding officer asked each one present to write the name he wanted on a slip of paper and put it in a hat. Two names tied, and as a result three persons were asked to leave the room and select the name from the two suggested. Alma received two votes. The town taking the name of the post office later.

Alma, up to the time the post office had been established, was called "Gumtown", due to the large number of gum trees in the area.

In 1872 the public hall was erected and was used for school, church and other public purposes, the site being near where the present school house stands. Col. Locke donated a square acre of ground and gave three hundred dollars. The upper part of this hall was not completed for several years, then it was used by the Masons for their lodge room.

The first teacher was a Mr. Brown who was also the first mayor.

Among the early settlers in the vicinity of Alma and in the town were Messrs. J. D. James, Amasa Howell, Renfroe, Byers and Ed Steward.

The first white child born at Alma was Agnes James, a daughter of J. D. and Mollie Steward James.

In the early part of 1876 the Little Rock and Fort Smith railroad had the line completed to Alma.

* * *

Churches

The Alma Missionary Baptist Church was organized in August, 1873, with the following members: Rev. F. L. and Mrs. Mary Seward, their two daughters, Misses Laura and Fanny Seward; Dr. W. L. and Mrs. Jane Wynne; Col. M. F. and Mrs. N. A. Locke, Mrs. M. A. Broome, J. E. Broome, L. W. Broome, C. C. Adams, and Nancy Hill.

Rev. F. L. Seward was first pastor, and services were conducted in the public school building, located near where the present high school building now stands. The Baptist held their services in the school building until 1878, when Col. M. F. Locke gave a lot, where the present Baptist Parsonage now stands, and with the aid of Rev. F. L. Seward, Dr. W. L. Wynne, and others, work was begun on a wooden structure, which cost about $1,100 and which was dedicated in the year of 1878. A report made to Clear Creek Association in 1894 showed a membership of 35, and property valued at $1,100.

During the year of 1911, the church building was torn down, and a new frame building was erected where the present church building is located.

In 1919, during the ministry of Rev. McEwen, a parsonage was built on the lot next to the Church building, and is in use today as a parsonage.

In 1925, under the able leadership of Rev. M. C. Steward, the old church building was torn down, and a brick building was erected.

The pastors succeeding Rev. Seward who served in 1873-74, have been:

F. L. Kregel, 1874-78
F. L. Seward, 1878-79
F. L. Kregel, 1879-81
A. F. Copeland, 1881-84
O. M. Lucas, 1883-84
G. W. Reeves, 1884-85
S. I. Lee, 1885-87
J. E. Windes, 1887-88
F. E. Manning, 1889
J. H. Cason, 1889-90
F. W. Wright, 1891
Thomas Hudson, 1892
G. C. Taylor, 1894
Bro. Pickering, 1897
Bro. Bartles, 1901
Bro. Parmley, 1902
W. W. Robbins, 1907
M. F. Gashright, 1911-12
J. L. Taylor, 1914
J. W. Gardner, 1915-17
D. A. Sutton, 1917-18 (died while pastor)
W. R. McEwen, 1918-21
H. F. Merrill, 1921-22
M. C. Steward, 1922-27
P. B. Langley, 1928-29
E. H. Acuff, 1930-31
Sam Ed Bradley, 1932-33
W. F. Nickols, April 14, 1935-Sept. 13, 1938.
A. F. Munsey, November 1, 1938-1941
Paul Palmer, 1941-May 1943
D. O. Stuckey, 1943-1948
L. E. Cunningham, 1948

The church was organized with thirteen charter members, among which was a former Negro Slave Woman. The present membership is 326.

The valuation of the church property in 1946 was estimated to be $19,500, according to a report made at a meeting of Clear Creek Association. This was taken from the Church records.

* * *

Early History of Alma Presbyterian Church: Presbytery Of Washburn. Synod of Arkansas. Presbyterian Church in the United States

By request Rev. J. C. Kennedy, Pastor and Moderator of the Session of the Presbyterian Church at Van Buren, together with Dr. James A. Dibrell, a ruling Elder and Clerk of the Session of the Van Buren Church, met at Alma, Crawford County, on Sabbath, August 2nd, 1874, and organized a branch of the Van Buren Church with the following named persons all member of the Van Buren congregation: Robt. Alexander and S. C. Alexander his wife, Robert Rankin and H. D. Rankin, his wife; E. P. Douglass and Clem Douglass, his wife; Mrs. Margaret Rowe and J. K. P. Douglass. Divine Service were held by Rev. J. C. Kennedy and it was arranged that services were to be held at Alma on the first Sabbath in each month during the remainder of the year 1874 and on the years 1875 and 1876 as often as the pastoral arrangements of Rev. J. C. Kennedy would permit.

During the year 1876 the L. R. and Fort Smith Railroad was completed and the population of Alma increased so that it was deemed advisable by Rev. J. C. Kennedy and the session of the Van Buren Church on application of the members of the Alma branch to organize an independant congregation at Alma to be known as Alma Presbyterian Church, U. S., and to be attached to and become a part of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

On Sabbath February 4, 1877, the Session of Van Buren Church met at Alma. Rev. J. C. Kennedy, Pastor and Moderator in the Church and Elder James A. Dibrell Clerk. W. C. Bostick and wife, S. E. Bostick, from the Presbyterian Church at Charlotte, N. C., and David Brown and M. E. Brown, his wife, from Presbyterian Church at Memphis, Tennessee, were admitted to the communion of the Church on certificates from their respective churches. On motion the congregation proceeded to organize the church by electing J. K. P. Douglass, ruling elder and W. C. Bostick and David Brown, Deacons. They signifying their acceptance were regular ordained and installed by Rev. J. C. Kennedy and Elder James A. Dibrell and the Alma Church and congregation were declared duly organized. At a meeting of the session held at the home of James A. McNeely on April 1, 1877, James A. McNeely and wife, Jane McNeely, Mrs. Elizabeth McKoy and Caledonia McKoy appeared before the session and presented evidence of their membership in the Presbyterian Church at Lakeville, Mo., and on their statements were received into full fellowship of Alma Presbyterian Church. (See old Sessional Record. Page 13).

On Sabbath April 7, 1878, a congregational meeting was called for the purpose of electing an additional Ruling Elder and Jas. A. McNeely was elected and having been ordained was duly installed a Ruling Elder in the Church.

James K. P. Douglass was Clerk of Session being chosen such at the organization of Alma Presbyterian Church and served in that capacity until 1884 when he was succeeded by Eld. James A. McNeely, who served the church in that capacity until his death in 1895.

James A. McNeely was succeeded as Clerk by R. A. Rankin who served until Dec. 1899 when he was succeeded by L. S. Lewers who served until 1940. R. L. Liles became clerk at the death of Mr. Lewers and is serving at the present time.

The first house of worship was built and completed in 1885, through the efforts of Elders L. J. Wilson, J. D. Reinhardt, Hugh S. Lewers, Jas. A. McNeely and the members of the congregation. This building served the congregation until about 1921, when the present building was erected, furnished and dedicated free of debt.

During the years since her organization this church has been served by many outstanding ministers of our Southern Church. Among them were: Rev. R. S. Burwell; Rev. W. A. Sample; Rev. J. E. Wylie; Rev. M. N.

McKay; Rev. William A. Ross, now of our Mexican Mission, and many others, some of whom have been called to their reward.

About the year 1906 the old record of Session was misplaced and became lost and a new record was begun. Later the old record book was found and returned to the custody of the Clerk and with the consent of the Session is being deposited with the Presbyterian Historical Foundation at Montreat, North Carolina, for safe keeping. At this time (May, 1939) every charter member has been called to their reward and only one of present membership, Mrs. Ada Cason, nee Ada Rankin, is a direct descendant of a charter member.

(Written by Clerk of Session, May 1939, and attached to the Session Record Book now in use.)

During the year of 1877, Mr. James A. McNeely presented the Alma Church with a silver Communion set, which he brought from Lakeville, Missouri. He kept the set at his home when not in use at the Church, until his death. Then Mr. R. A. Rankin had charge of the Communion set.

Later Mr. L. S. Lewers was given charge of the Communion set, and today the first Communion set of the church is in possession of Mrs. L. S. Lewers, and will possibly be placed in a museum. Part of this set is still in use. The present individual Communion set was presented to the church by one of the Sunday School Classes of which Mrs. B. B. Bruce was teacher.

The above history of the Alma Presbyterian Church was copied from the Session Record Book of the church, which is now in the possession of one of the members.

* * *

The Methodist Episcopal Church South of Alma

This church was organized in 1875. The present building was erected in 1887, and dedicated in 1888. The building committee in charge of the construction consisted of John Baker, Will Baker, a Mr. Martindale, Mr. Wason, Mr. Hornberger, and Mrs. Sarah E. Howell. An addition has been added to the building, which contain several Sunday School class rooms and a kitchen.

* * *

Church Of Christ

A small group assembled and organized the Alma Church of Christ on October 13, 1877. George W. Owen was first pastor. The charter members were: A. J. Moody, elder; L. B. Byars and E. H. Hassett, deacons; James E. Smith, Mrs. Nannie Byars, Mrs. Margaret Renfroe, Mrs. Mary A. Smith, Mrs. Fannie E. Byars, Mrs. Nannie Reed, Mrs. Mary Thurston, Mrs. Lucy Wright.

They met in the old city hall, until in about 1890, a building was erected. The same building, which has had an addition added, is still in use.

The Rev. J. T. Jones, a Confederate Veteran, began preaching for this Congregation in April, 1883. For more than 30 years he preached at the Alma Church. Rev. Jones retired a number of years ago, but is still alive, and lives with a daughter in Tulsa. He is more than a hundred years old.

* * *

Postmasters

According to the records of the post office department for the period 1790-1930 now in the National Archives, a post office was established at Alma, Crawford County, on June 15, 1871, with Alexander W. Griffin as postmaster. Successive postmasters and the date of their appointments were:

George F. Bolling, April 17, 1872.
Post office discontinued March 12, 1873.
Post office re-established April 10, 1873.
George F. Bolling again serving April 10, 1873.
Bidkar P. Renfroe, March 8, 1875.
William A. Britton, August 1, 1881.
E. B. Hassett, June 6, 1882.
Noble Borloin, April 22, 1884.
Hugh S. Lewers, April 27, 1885.
William J. Meadows, June 21, 1889.

William B. Smith, March 2, 1892.
George J. McNeely, August 8, 1893.
Edward D. Cockrane, February 20, 1896.
William B. Smith, May 22, 1897.
James F. Sprinkle, December 26, 1901.
Thomas B. Murphy, May 9, 1907.
John W. Rogers, September 19, 1912.
William A. Bushmiaer, May 6, 1913.
William B. Owen, August 12, 1922.
Edgar Bradley, 1933 to 1942.
Walter Patton, November 15, 1942.

Mr. Patton is postmaster at Alma at the present time.

* * *

Mayors

Alma was incorporated in 1872 with W. P. Brown as mayor. Other mayors have been: G. W. Smith, 1975; J. D. James, 1875; J. C. Betton, 1876; J. M. Wright, 1877; William A. Bostick, 1878 and 1879; Col. James A. McNeely, 1880-1881; Daniel B. Locke, 1882 to 1883; John S. Renfroe, 1884 to 1885; B. Caraway, 1886; William H. Byars, 1887, James A. McNeely, 1888-1893; Henry S. Ramsden, 1894-1895; Joe R. Ford, 1896; John S. Renfroe, 1897-1898; Joe R. Ford, 1899; Jabez H. Bolling, 1900; Joe R. Ford, 1901; Bryant Caraway, 1902-1905; Lee S. Lewers, 1906; Bryant Caraway, 1907-1909; Robert L. Lile, 1909-1911; Charles Reves, 1912; E. T. Reed, 1913-1915; T. Orlean Cole, 1916-1917; John T. Richards, 1918-1919; Joshua Thomas Jones, 1920-1921; James Robert Roberts, 1922; Lee S. Lewers (served one month) 1923; Joshua Thomas Jones, 1923; J. J. Cravens, 1924-1925; Robert L. Williams, 1926-1928; J. T. Jones, part of 1928; L. S. Lewers, 1928-1930; J. W. Fry, 1930 to 1933; Reves L. Bolling, 1933-1934; O. B. Ragon, 1934 (few months); R. L. Williams, 1934-1939; Mack Bolding, 1939-1946 (died in office); L. A. Teague, 1946- April 1947; Homer Meek, 1947, is the present mayor.

* * *

Today, Alma boasts one of the largest canning plants in the world. However, this is not the first canner to be operated in Alma. The Alma Canning and Evaporation Company was incorporated in August, 1888, by about 30 stockholders and $25,000 in stock. The officers were: J. D. Rheinhardt, president; M. F. Locke, vice-president; W. Numally, secretary; and J. D. James, treasurer. Alma has a preserving plant, which has been operated for the past two years by the Bryant Brothers.

Alma was one of the first towns in Crawford county to be supplied with natural gas. The gas was piped from a single well, located on the Jim Pitcock place, one mile south of Alma. This was about the year of 1915. The town continued to receive its gas supply from this well for about five years.

According to the record of the town council meeting, E. H. Hale was granted a franchise on October 19, 1922 to supply the town with gas from its gas field, which was located near Kibler.

The franchise reads in part: "The right and privilege is hereby granted to E. H. Hale and his associates, successors, heirs and assigns, to construct, maintain and operate, a system of pipes, and conduits, within the corporate limits of the town of Alma, Arkansas, for the transportation and distribution of natural gas to be used for heat, light, power, and domestic and industrial purposes in said town, for a period of twenty (20) years, from date of the passage of this ordinance October 19, 1922."

An ordinance passed by town council, June 2, 1924: "Section 1. Twin City Pipe Line Company, its successors and assigns is hereby granted a franchise for a period of twenty-five (25) years from and after the date of the passage of this ordinance to lay, operate, and maintain a system of pipes and mains under and thru the streets, avenues, and alleys within the present and future, corporate limits of the town of Alma for the purpose of transporting natural gas through said town."

Judging from above ordinances; the E. H. Hale Company sold out to the Twin City Pipe Line Company. Later this company was acquired by the Fort Smith Gas Company, which is today furnishing the town with natural gas.

Alma was first supplied electricity by a local plant, owned and operated by J. J. Cravens, who was given a 25 years franchise, by the town in September 7, 1903. Mr. Cravens operated this plant until January 20, 1917, when he sold out for $4,750 to the Commonwealth and Public Service Company. Later in the same year a high line was built from Ozark through Mulberry to Alma. The Mississippi Valley Power Company had built a high line from Fort Smith to Alma earlier, and when the line from Ozark was completed to Alma, sold power to the Commonwealth and Public Service Company, which continued to service the town of Alma, Mulberry, and Ozark. About four years later, or about 1921, The Commonwealth and Power Company sold out to the Mississippi Valley Power company, which operated until 1930 when the Company was purchased by the Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company, which is operating today.

The above information was taken from records of the Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company of Fort Smith.

In 1936 The B. M. Construction Company laid the water mains in Alma when the town council contracted with the city of Fort Smith for water supply which was to be furnished by the city of Fort Smith from Lake Fort Smith near Mountainburg in Crawford county.

In 1937 G. C. McCachin Construction Company completed the construction work on the Alma Sewerage System. All the streets of Alma were black-topped in August, 1947, except Fayetteville Avenue, which had been paved in 1936.

* * *

DIED

BURROW—At Alma on the 23rd inst. of pneumonia, General Napoleon D. Burrow, aged 62 years.

Gen. Burrow was born in New Bedford, Tennessee. He was a graduate of Nashville University. After his graduation he applied himself to the study of law and was admitted to the bar at the age of 21. He settled at Huntington, Tennessee and practiced his profession until the breaking out of the Mexican War. He volunteered as a private and was afterwards promoted by General

Scott to the rank of Colonel. After the close of that war he moved to Arkansas, and engaged in farming at Moore's Rock, south of Alma. Just before the commencement of the late war and during the "No Nothing" excitement, Gen. Burrow, at that time canvassing the state against that party, made his first visit to our county. The speech he delivered here at that time was an able and effective one. During the war he was engaged in the military service on the Confederate side. After the close of the war he again engaged in farming and so continued up to the time of his death, only occasionally practicing his profession. He was, previous to the Civil War, elected several times to the legislature. He was a delegate to the famous Charleston Convention, and also canvassed this state several times as a presidential elector. As a popular speaker, Gen. Burrow held high rank and also stood well as a lawyer. He will be greatly missed by the people of our county.

To his bereaved family we tender sincere condolence.

—Taken from the Van Buren Argus, May 26, 1880

General Burrow is buried in the Alma Cemetery, and a marker has been placed at his grave by members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy of Alma.

Aday

Mr. Boze Aday deeded land for the school house, so the settlement became known by the same name. Aday is just west of Mountainburg.

Bond Special

James Graham Stevenson, the first of that name in Crawford county, came from Washington county, shortly before or after 1832. He was agent for the Gwinn Davis Land Company, who owned most of the land of what later became Bond Special Community. Mr. Stevenson bought large tracts of this land which he gave to his sons and daughters as they married and settled nearby.

Other early settlers were the Steeles, Ormes and Greens.

The Stevenson Cemetery in this community contains the grave of Federal soldiers. The Federal troops camped for a short time near the cemetery and when a Federal soldier died, he was the first person buried in the cemetery. There are other cemeteries in this community. One is called the Dobbs Cemetery. It is on what was once the Old Baker Farm. The Scott Cemetery is on the William Hinsley farm.

After the Meadows postoffice was discontinued at Lilly, William H. Floyd was appointed Postmaster and Cropil postoffice came into existence about the year 1900. And from a little cabinet of jagged holes on what is now the north side of the dining room of the George Weinand home, the mail was handed out to people from throughout this community. The incoming mail was thrown from the Frisco trains, while the outgoing mail was hooked off an iron crane attached to a post at the tract, some fifty yards south of the house which was known as Cropil postoffice. Shortly after this, about 1902, it is supposed a rural route started out of Van Buren, with a Mr. Pesterfield, having the distinction of being the first rural mail carrier to serve this community. Mr. Pesterfield used a mail cart, drawn by a horse. Today the mail carrier drives a car.

The first school taught in this community was a "subscription school," and was held in a little log building. It was known as the Liberty School. Other schools in this section were Forty, and the New Bethel. The New Bethel school was on the Green Brothers farm. The building was of logs, the logs were cut and hauled and the building practically erected by Mr. James Orme and family. The Orme family did much to maintain the school. The first teacher of New Bethel was a Mr. Dorndell.

In about the year of 1920, New Bethel and Forty schools consolidated and the new school was called Bond Special. Bond Special was so named in honor of Mr. J. L. Bond, who was at that time State Superintendent of Public Education. The first class graduated from the Bond Special High School in 1922. Later the school consolidated with Van Buren, and only lower grades were retained by Bond Special.

The members of the first Bond Special school board were Mart Stevenson, Ed Lynn, Ed Steele, Ed Hall, Sant Loyd and John Bushong.

The Antioch Christian church was built in 1890, with Rev. John Q West, pastor. An acre of land had been given by Rev. West on which to build the church. The Fair Haven Methodist Episcopal church, North, was erected in 1896. Mr. Jim Stevenson contributed liberally to the building of this church. The church building is now in use in the Bond Special community, located near the Bond Special schoolhouse a few years ago. The Bethel Methodist erected in 1938, Christian church in 1921, and the Zion Baptist in 1937.

Bidville

Bidville was first known as Shepherd Mountain, in the northern part of the county. John Rucks was first postmaster. The community was named for "Bid" Renfro, who was instrumental in securing a postoffice for the community.

Concord

Among the early settlers of the Concord community were Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Taylor, who moved to this community in the fall of 1867. They built a home in the winter of 1867-68. Sid Taylor, a son of theirs, lives on this farm today. It is located on Big Frog Bayou, or Big Clear Creek near what is known as Lily Ford. There were other settlers scattered over a large area around this section. They were: Peter Kuykendall, Alec Couch, Andy Winfrey, a widow, Mrs. Becky Lewis; A. Dobbs, and Jimmie Orme. Soon after this community was settled up, a meeting was called to arrange for a "meeting house." At this meeting, which was probably held at some settlers home, it was decided to build a place of worship, to also be used as a place for community gatherings, also a schoolhouse. All denominations were to use this log building.

At first this building was called the "meeting house." In the early 70's the county had filled up with new settlers, and large crowds attended services in this old log building. It was decided to abandon its old time tradition, and established only one church there, the Primitive Baptist predominating in this community, and to exclude all others from using this building, caused the original builders of this old building to object strenuously. The objectors of this movement withdrew, and erected a building just across the creek from Concord, and called their newly erected building, "Brinley." Up to this time the old log house had only been called "The Meeting House," after the withdrawal of the group, this old house was named Concord. The word meaning harmony, union, compact. Thus the Concord community got its name.

In the early 1880's the community organized the first free school. It was decided to build a new church and use as school also. A committee composed of five men were appointed to build the new building. The five men who composed the building committee were: Thornberry Bolling, J. D. Reinhardt, Younger Neal, Frank M. Taylor, and James Cunningham. James Cunningham, being a carpenter, supervised the work. When the new building was completed the old log church was abandoned, and the new church was called New Concord Baptist church. This building was erected in the summer of 1885. The old log church building was torn down and the new building known as Concord. Having dropped "new" from its name. Today the community is known as Concord.

The first school taught in the new building was taught by J. H. (Jake) Bolling, in 1885, and was a "subscription school."

The school has for several years been consolidated with the Alma district, but the Baptist church is still in existence there and all community gatherings are held there, and a fine community spirit still prevails in the Concord community.

Cedarville

Cedarville was settled about 1835 by Valentine Matlock, the Shannons, Palmer and Lee Neal, Charles Crowell, Archibald Hayes, James O'Bryan, Phillip Harwell, and W. E. Nipper, but it was not until 1879 that the village was surveyed by Davidson Dickson at that time the settlement contained a population of around 20 inhabitants and is located in section 2, township 10, range 32, and is situated on highways 45 and 59. The village was incorporated July 5, 1881.

On account of the great number of cedar trees, growing there, the name Cedarville was given the settlement by H. S. Anderson.

The first house was built about 1835 or 1836 by Valentine Matlock, and located on the east side of the street and just north of where the V. R. Maxey store is now standing.

The first store was erected by Charles Crowell about 1875 on the east side of the street just north of where the present postoffice is now located.

The first church building was erected by the Church of God. George Bell was the first minister, but the date is not known. The Methodist Protestant organization erected a church building in 1884, a short distance east of where the present postoffice is located. The first ministers were Leonard Neal and Younger Coleman.

The first schoolhouse was built about 1870 and was located about two blocks distance northeast of where the present postoffice is located. Mr. John Hughes was the first teacher. Cedarville now has a good high school.

The first postoffice was established in 1872 in a building just north of the present postoffice in what is now the V. R. Maxey yards. Henry C. Crowell served as the postmaster.

A daughter of John Sevier, Mrs. McClellan lived there in the early days. She was the mother-in-law of Judge R. S. C. Brown and George Pickett.

The Salem grave yard a mile and a half from Cedarville contains many old graves. Valentine Matlock, a soldier of 1812 is buried in the Sarah Grove cemetery. There may be others.

North of Cedarville is what tradition says was an old fort, there is quite a space covered by rocks but nothing definite is known, though some firmly believe that it is the location of an old fort. The writer believes that the only way to settle the question would be to excavate to see if there is a foundation there.

Cove City

The town, which is situated in Section 36, Township 12, Range 32, was laid out in 1880 by W. B. Shoemaker, and covered 3 acres, with 108 lots. The land upon which the town was located was entered by Clem Mosley, a Revolutionary Soldier, and the first store was established about 1854, twenty-six years before the town was laid out into lots. The first merchants were Oliver and Gilliam. Oliver also operated a grist and saw mill, and a cotton gin. Isaac Briscoe was also an early merchant.

The first postmaster was a Mr. Hill, a schoolhouse was erected in 1882, and D. P. Cox was employed as the teacher.

Among the other early settlers were J. R. Reed, F. W. White, H. G. Shoemaker, C. D. Gilliam, J. H. Beale, and Albert Rainwater. Two doctors, Dr. E. G. McCormick and Dr. P. B. Swearingen located at Cove City during the early days of the town.

Cotton and corn were the chief farm products of the surrounding farm area. Van Buren was the shipping point for these products.

Among the early organizations of the town were Cove City Lodge F & A M No. 268, and Cove City Eastern Star Chapter. A Cumberland Prebyterian Church, composed of only a few members, met in the school building during the early days.

Cross Lanes

Cross Lanes very likely received its name from the crossing of two principal lanes one east, and west, the other north and south, at the intersection of which a schoolhouse was erected in 1880.

The building was a frame one-roomed structure, sealed inside. It was equipped with seats, no blackboards. I do not know the number of the school district at that time, and since that time the school has been consolidated with the Kibler school.

Miss Clara B. Eno was the first teacher, and a four or five months school was conducted from the latter part of January, 1881, until May or June.

The directors of the school were: Mr. W. A. Britton, who owned most of the land on which Cross Lanes was located, Mr. W. T. England and a Mr. Waugh.

Chastain

Chastain was so named in honor of Mr. Shelton Chastain, who donated one acre of land for school and church purposes. He was one of the early settlers of that community. He was the father of the late E. D.Chastain of Van Buren.

Cain

Cain was named in honor of Mr. John W. Cain who gave the land and built a church and schoolhouse, also gave land for a cemetery which bears his name. Mrs. John W. Cain was the first person buried in this cemetery. This community is near Mountainburg.

Chester

Chester is located on Sections 27 and 34, Township 12, Range 30. The land was entered by Samuel Rush, December 9, 1850. Soloman Basham, January 12, 1852, and by Captain J. C. Wright in 1853. Mr. Rush and Mr. Wright were the first settlers. The first to make any real improvements was Abner Scrimpshire, who located at Captain Wright's Springs about 1839. Charles Howard formerly owned the land acquired by Captain Wright in 1853. Wright erected his home on the town site that year, and his was the only house there, until the year of 1884.

Other businesses established there after the completion of the Frisco railroad in 1884, was the Jacob Yoes Mercantile business, erected the year the railroad was completed. The store building, a frame structure was 20x50 feet.

In April, 1882, Captain Wright had erected a small building in which the postoffice was located. He also kept a few groceries in this building. We do not know the name of the first postoffice.

Chester was named by a Mr. Hepburn, an engineer on the Frisco railroad for his home town. We do not know his home state. The town was named when the place was made a Division Point on the railroad.

In July, 1887, the Frisco roundhouse, and a repair shop were completed, with coal engines and timber yard, giving employment to about 100 men. George W. Mooney built a general merchandise store in 1887. In 1887, Dement and McGinnis erected a drug store. Dr. T. J. Dement had bought land adjoining Capt. Wright's in 1884, and served as the chief physician in Howard's Fork Valley for many years. Mrs. Mary Hindrick built a boarding house in 1888, and J. W. Emerson started a saw mill in the fall of 1887 to supply the railway company. At one time an extensive lumber trade of the White River Lumber Company and the Arkansas Lumber Company was carried on in this section.

The Chester Lodge, Free and Accepted Masonry, No. 459, was organized April, 1887, by the following members and officers: J. D. Hoffman, W. M.; E. P. Stafford, S. W.; J. M. Rogers, J. W.; J. M. Carter, Secretary; Captain J. C. Wright, Treasurer; W. H. Ranken, J. D.; O. Ross, S. D.; John Furlow, Tyler; Samuel Eddy and Dr. L. J. Dement.

Chester schools trace their beginning to about 1844, when a log house was built at the mouth of Howard's Fork, by the citizens, for a summer school for children. John Crawford was the second teacher in this building. In 1882, the citizens of Chester petitioned for a new school district, and a Union school, and Masonic hall was erected on the North side of the Frisco railroad tracks.

According to tradition there are a number of hidden mines around Chester. The Rock House, one of its curiosities, has been made into a cold storage receptacle.

Dyer

Less than 75 years ago the spot where the little town of Dyer now stands was covered with tall timber and habited by wild animals.

About 1876 a family named Dyer (Steve and George) came to this wilderness and built a double log house. (On land where Mrs. Susie "Dyer" Tomlinson now lives.) The first Dyer home is being used as barn on this place.

Next Jimmie Heard moved to this place and built on land near the branch, where Floyds home is now. (The small stream is still known as the Heard branch).

Soon Persehevel Morse and his family came and built in the east part of town, which at present is Charley Morse's home. (Houses were one-room log), with a loft and a side room. Out in the yard was the cooking room.

J. H. Manuel and J. W. Moss were among the first to settle here.

There are still a few gray haired people in Dyer who can recall the building and development. The Saturday trip to mill, and 16 mile ride horseback to Lee's Creek near Van Buren, stands out vividly in their memory.

At first Dyerburg was considered as the name for this place, but finally Dyer was selected in honor of the two oldest settlers. The land where the town is located was purchased from the railroad company in 1880 by S. M. Dyer.

In 1875 the Little Rock and Fort Smith railway surveyed for a railroad which was built in 1876.

J. W. Moss, S. M. Dyer, and George E. Dyer donated material for the first depot which Floyd Loomis built in 1887. Cyrus and Charlie Dyer had charge of this depot and had the first grocery store in the depot in 1887. In the fall of 1887 J. W. Moss bought this stock of goods and put in the first general merchandise. Later J. W. Moss operated a grocery store near the same place.

The first cotton gin and grist mill were owned and operated by Steve Dyer in 1888. The old mill pond is still on the lot of Mrs. Renfro. W. C. Fox erected the first direct steam packing gin, which was formerly the old basket and tromping press. The first up to date gin was erected by the Dyer Gin Company in 1903. This gin burned in 1923 and J. D. Brannon erected an electric gin which later was owned by the late T. F. Alexander of Alma.

Steve Dyer had charge of the first postoffice.

The oldest house in Dyer is the M. F. Chitwood place, which is the elder Steven M. Dyer home. The first store building was built by Jack Sullivan. The first Mayor of the town, after it was incorporated in 1889, was Mr. Davis, a school teacher. The first Marshal was Jim Yates.

A hotel was built by Floyd Loomis for J. W. Moss. The place was later owned by Mrs. Thad Johnson.

On the night of June 30, 1909 the entire business section of Dyer, which consisted of about nine business houses, was burned and nothing was saved. The brick buildings that now are in Dyer were built on property where the frame buildings burned.

The first bank in Dyer, the Bank of Dyer, was organized in December 1909, the cashier was W. H. Burrough, R. L. Lester was president and T. J. James, vice-president. At present there is no bank at Dyer.

The first school was taught in a one room log house north of Dyer. It had a dirt floor and split log benches and a blue-black speller were the equipment in the school taught by Mr. Loomis.

This house was erected in 1885 for the first school in Dyer, built by Mr. Orear on the present Baptist church lot. Miss Hattie Rheinheart was the teacher. The land for the building was donated by Steve Dyer. Before 1894 another room was added.

The second school, near the present Baptist church, was erected in 1907. In 1917 the brick building of Dyer school, a junior high school, was built. The contractor was John Jones and the building was placed on property bought from S. M. Kelly.

A community church and Sunday school was held in the one room school building until 1885. George Dyer was the first Sunday school superintendent.

The First Baptist church was built in 1894 by Mr. Floyd Loomis. The first pastor was Rev. Thomas Hudson. (Or Hutson).

In 1894 the First Methodist church was built by Floyd Loomis. He also donated $25.00 in labor. Shelton Chastain donated the lot and Rev. D. M. Weaver was the first pastor. Charlie Moss was Sunday school superintendent. Thad Johnson, E. H. Floyd, and Lark Cowart have served in that capacity.

Dyer is ideally located, it sits at the foot of the Ozarks with nearby fields of rich Arkansas river land. Here is grown every kind of crop, with farmers shipping cotton, corn, cattle, hogs, early vegetables, fruits, melons, eggs, cream and strawberries.

U. S. highway No. 64 goes through the town and the Missouri Pacific railroad goes through Dyer. Because of its enviable location near Van Buren and Fort Smith, its highway and railroad, its rich soils and its industrious people, Dyer is an ideal community.

The city officers of Dyer in the year of 1908 were: Mayor, M. F. Rhodes; Recorder, J. H. Dyer; Treasurer, T. W. Moss; City Marshall, J. M. Hopper; Aldermen, J. W. Moss, D. C. Chastain, W. N. Baster, T. J. James and J. W. Smith.

Dripping Springs

Dripping Springs community derives its name from the constant dripping of water down a ledge of rocks, right at the head of the hollow. The Vestals and Batchelors lived near this spring.

Dora

Dora is located near the Oklahoma line, was named by the first postmaster Mr. Albert Hood for his sister, Miss Dora Hood in 1888. The land was owned by Mr. Stoneroad, her grandfather.

Dean Springs

Dean Springs was named for Elisher Preston Dean who came to Arkansas in an ox cart from Mississippi. He settled at Dean Springs in 1867. He died in 1875, and was buried in the Dean Springs cemetery.

The first church organized at Dean Springs was Baptist, and Rev. Horace Meadows served as first pastor.

A subscription school was opened at Dean Springs in 1867, the first teacher is not known.

Another early settler of this community was Simon Frances Cooper who settled there in 1867. The Cooper family consisted of five sons and ten daughters. The Fred

Dean family now live on the old Cooper farm. Mrs. Dean is a granddaughter of Simon Frances Cooper.

Figure Five

Figure Five is about five miles north of Van Buren on highway's 45 and 59. There are two versions as to how Figure Five was thus named. One says; that during the years 1832-1833, a road was surveyed from Fayetteville to Fort Smith, with the surveyors was a young man by the name of James Graham Stevenson who assisted in carrying the chain. While in the vicinity of Figure Five Stevenson thought he might locate at that particular place, so in a good sized black oak tree near the road he cut a large figure five and wrote to his family to join him there telling them when they arrived at a certain place, they would find a large five cut into a large black oak tree and nearby he could be located.

The other version of how Figure Five got the name was that the same James Graham Stevenson and a party of others from the vicinity of Van Buren were driving cattle, more than a hundred years ago, into the Indian Territory. At night fall they camped under a large oak tree a few miles north of Van Buren. Mr. Stevenson guessed the distance they had traveled during the day as five miles and for information to future travelers, cut the large five on the tree before going on his way the next morning.

It is now known however, that the Stevenson family did not settle at this place but settled near what is now Bond Special.

The first store was erected in 1904. Mr. Ross Sargeant was the first store keeper, afterwards selling to his father-in-law, Mr. N. J. Mitchell.

The first postoffice was established in 1904 or 1905. It was located in the store of Mr. A. M. Galloway who wished to have the office given another name, but the inhabitants protested vigorously to having the name changed thus preserving the name Figure Five.

The members of the Methodist church erected the present building in 1909, and a few years before that, in

1902, the present Baptist building had been erected.

The first school house was a log one. The first teacher in the log building was a Mr. Horn. The present school building was built in 1905. In 1906, Mr. Ben Webb taught the first school in the new building. Land for school purposes was deeded in 1882. Records show that Jesse Stuart entered land where the school building stands, in the year of 1844; John Wilson entered where G. W. Webb lives in 1840, John Howell entered where Mr. H. W. Toney now lives, in 1840.

Fine Springs

Fine Springs derived its name from the family of Fine who originally owned the land. For a time it was a popular resort.

A Mr. Fine built the first house at Fine Springs in 1859. William James built the second house.

The Baptist was the first denomination to build a church building. Later this building was used by all denominations. This building was made of hewed logs.

The first teacher in the Fine Springs Community was a Mr. Tannerhill. This was a subscription school.

Georgia Ridge

That section of eastern Crawford county known as Georgia Ridge, was settled soon after the War Between the States, by a group of people coming to this county from the state of Georgia. A boat coming from Georgia up the Mississippi and on up the Arkansas river to Van Buren, carrying families and their household goods were unloaded at Van Buren about the year of 1867. Those who came at this time or earlier were: Mr. and Mrs. John Miles and family; Mr. and Mrs. Dick Hill and family; Mr. and Mrs. Wyley Taylor and family; Mr. and Mrs. Columbus Adams and family; J. W. T. Jones and family; Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Hill and family; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Hill and family; Mr. and Mrs. Uriah Love and family; Clem McCord and family; Mrs. Charles Bennett Sr., and four children. These people were met at Van Buren by relatives who had come to this section earlier, and were taken in wagons, drawn by oxen, to what is now known as Georgia Ridge where they established homes.

Charlie Bennett Jr., who was only two months old at the time his mother came here with other Georgia emigrants, remembers some of Crawford county's early history. He says that Uriah Love erected a horse-powered cotton gin on what is now the Burl Peevy farm, near the present Mt. Grove Baptist Church about 1868. In describing a horse-powered gin, Mr. Bennett says eight horses were used; two hitched each quarter distance around a large wheel, and in this way operated the gin machinery. Mr. Bennett says the lint cotton was pressed by a horse-powered press. However, only one horse was used to the press, which was connected to a screw, and as the horse was driven around, the screw tightened the press down, and in this way compressed the lint cotton into a bale. He says it took about an hour to gin a bale of cotton with a horse powered press.

Mr. Bennett said the earlier settlers raised, beside cotton: corn, wheat, and that every farmer raised hogs for his family meat supply and that each family raised chickens. They had their wheat and corn ground at a mill on Mulberry Creek, near the present town of Mulberry. Sometimes it took several days for the trip for it had to be made in a wagon drawn by a team of oxen, even after reaching the mill, many times, farmers had to wait their turn at the mills, as others were ahead. The farmer always went prepared to camp a day or so, if he had to wait that long to have his wheat and corn ground. He said farmers always took enough wheat and corn to have ground that would supply his family for about six months.

Graphic

Graphic was named for the Van Buren Graphic, a Republican newspaper, owned and edited by Mr. J. J. Warren.

Gregory Chapel

Gregory Chapel was named in honor of W. M. (Big Bill) Gregory, a Tennesseean, who gave the land on which the church building stands. The Christian Denomination built the church. Mr. Gregory gave more towards its erection than any other person in the community.

Hobbstown

Among the early settlers of Hobbstown were Colemans, Neals, McCurdy, Craddocks, Teagues, and Wests. There was a school house known as the Talkington school. The building burned during the War Between the States, another school house was erected on Cedar Creek near where the Talkington school building was located. This building was used both as a school and church building. The church was the North Methodist Episcopal. During the year of 1913 the building was moved to Hobbstown, because it was more central, and convenient.

About two and one half miles northwest of this place was another school building, known as the Gum Springs School. This building was also used a a church. It is not known what church organization used this building.

In 1881 a church house was erected by the members of the Christian Church. This was known as Mount Hope, and was also used as a school building. In 1882 the 75 School District was formed, and the first free school was taught in the Mount Hope building. A Mr. Howard was the first teacher.

In 1891 a one-room school house was erected at Hobbstown, and Judge H. B. Hale taught the first free school in this building.

The first store at Hobbstown was operated by the Farmers Union in 1907. Mr. Robert Coleman was the proprietor. Up to this time Hobbstown had been called Bomtown, and Loafers' Glory. Soon after Mr. Coleman opened the Farmers Union store, he sold out to Mr. John H. Hobbs. Mr. Hobbs put in an application for a post office, and when he was appointed postmaster, the place was given the name of Hobbs. Mr. Hobbs, a great community leader, has done much to make this one of the best in Crawford county. Mr. Hobbs is a native of England.

When the men, wearing both the grey and blue, came back to their homes in and near Hobbstown, they found a desolate country side. They had a large task before them, but they went bravely to work, building houses, clearing the land, and building fences. The women carding, weaving, spinning, and helping in the field, when needed. It is said that there possibly was not a cook stove in the community until between 1870-1880.

The social activities, even in the early days were, church attending, Sunday School, Prayer meetings, and candy breakings. Hobbstown has always been known for its community spirit, which is friendly and uplifting.

The small village of Hobbstown is located 13 miles north of Van Buren and on the east range of Cedar Creek. It is also 4 miles north of Rudy, which is its shipping point. A rural route from Rudy serves this community today, and the school has been consolidated with the Alma School district.

Haroldton

The community of Haroldton was named for Harold Brown, whose father, B. J. Brown, owned the land on which the post office and the store was established.

Kenner Chapel

Kenner Chapel was named in honor of James and William Kenner, known locally as "Uncle Jimmie" and "Uncle Billie," by members of the Congregation. "Uncle Jimmie" gave the land on which to build a Freewill Baptist Church, and Uncle Billie gave most of the money to build the church. Uncle Billie was an ordained minister. Uncle Jimmie preached some but was not ordained. Both were from Tennessee.

Kenney

Kenney School District was named for Frank Kenney who built the first house there in 1889.

Kibler.

Kibler derived its name from the John Kibler family, the first pioneer settlers of the community. Mr. J. T. Cazort, who operated a store, mill, and gin suggested the name Kibler.

A school was established at Kibler in the early days and grew to an enrollment of over 250 pupils. There were two churches, the Methodist and the Baptist organized at Kibler, possibly in the early 1880's. The churches have erected a parsonage for their ministers. Several stores were operated. There were four stores at Kibler for a long time.

A large gas field was brought in near Kibler in 1914, and partly supplies the gas for Crawford and Sebastian counties today.

Lone Elm

The Lone Elm settlement is located near Mulberry in the eastern part of the county and was named thusly for a very large Elm tree, the only one in some distance around. The church and cemetery bears the same name.

Lee Creek

Lee Creek community is supposed to have been named for a Mr. Lee. This Mr. Lee was probably the one mentioned by Nuttall as his travelling companion near the Verdigris. Diligent inquiry has failed to learn anything more in regard to this Mr. Lee.

Lancaster

Lancaster has quite a history. When the Frisco railroad was built through Crawford county, the site of Lancaster was a booming lumber, farming, fruit and cattle section. A name was needed. Judge Jesse Turner a friend and advisor to the people, also he was deeply interested in the development of the railroad. The people wished to name the station "Turner" but he would not listen to it but did suggest Lancaster as it reminded him so much of Lancaster, Pennsylvania as described by his father who was born there. So in early childhood Judge Turner heard the name Lancaster often, so the persons of the locality decided on the name Lancaster for the station and settlement.

Locke

Locke was named in honor of Mr. M. F. Locke, who established a friut farm in the northern part of the county, which also became a business center which included White Rock Mountain. Locke vicinity was a prosperous section, raising fruits, berries, etc. Mr. Locke entered into buying and shipping farm products and when a postoffice was established there it was called Locke, honoring Col. Locke who lived at Alma.

Leonardsville

Leonardsville was named for Mr. Leonard Southmayd who owned the land on which the community of Leonardsville is situated.

Lily Ford

Lily Ford was named thusly for Mr. Parge Cates' daughter, Lily Cates. She was his eldest daughter and he was very fond of her. Living on the banks of Frog Bayou he felt the need of a ford so he dug out the banks to reach the ford, and called it Lily Ford for his daughter. This is about five miles northeast of Van Buren.

Lilly, near by, has no connection with the ford as it was named for the daughter of a railroad man. This is on the Frisco railroad. This station has been discontinued.

Log Town—Later City Heights

Log Town, formerly known as Collinsville or North Van Buren is an old settlement dating from the arrival of the widow Powell, who came to Lovely County in 1828. At this date it is hard to learn where she lived or what family she had.

Dr. Collins and his family were other early settlers. It is said that Dr. Collins built the first house in that settlement, and for sometime it was known as Collinsville. He was not a popular man and at his death the name of the settlement was changed to Logtown on account of there being a number of log houses there. Dr. Collins was the grandfather of Mr. Hugn Miller, a former county treasurer.

Among the early settlers were the O'Bryans, George W. Clark, who was one of the early editors of the Arkansas Intelligencer, in the early forties. The house which was built for him is still standing, later owned by Rev. Harrell, a Missionary to the Indians. It is now owned by

Dr. Burson's family. Another early settler was Mr. Henry Wilcox, a lawyer, who came to Van Buren in 1845 from Palmyra, Missouri and built a house in Logtown in 1846. The house is now owned by the Pegram family. During the time Mr. Wilcox was having his house built he occupied a brick house near the brow of the hill just off the road.

As there were not many families living in Logtown previous to the War between the States, the older children must have attended school in Van Buren. The younger children attending some private school, taught in the community. After the war Mrs. Granville Wilcox taught a few of the children at the home of her mother-in-law, Mrs. Wilcox. Miss Lucetta Harrell also taught a school for young girls at her home. Just at what time the school building was erected is not known. Mr. Lewis Bryan, from Salem, Illinois, taught there in 1876 and 1877. We learned from him that the building was a frame one 20x40 feet, and had been there for some time.

Among the other teachers was a Mr. Brown, either before or after Mr. Bryan, towards the latter part of the seventies. Miss Fannie Thompson, later Mrs. Lewis Bryan, also Miss Mamie Lacy, later Mrs. Sidney Pernot, and others.

North Van Buren Methodist Church was organized by Milton Z. Brown in 1886. There had been good society previous to 1856 but the political opinions of those days led to its abandonment. After its re-establishment in 1886, a neat pine structure was erected and had a membership of 35 persons. In 1889 Rev. O'Barr was their pastor. It was a member of the Arkansas Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1906, Mr. Segar, who had bought and rebuilt the old Wilcox home was ordering an automatic mail box and was wondering what to put on the stencil, furnished, in place of the picture Valley View Farm, when Mrs. Nelle O'Bryan next door neighbor said, "Put City Heights on it, I have always wanted to call this place City Heights." For several years the Segar family were the only ones to use the name City Heights on their mail sent out instead of Route 2. Mr. C. C. Dawley, who later wrote for the Argus, used the same name until persons living in that community adopted the same name. It is said others also suggested this name.

Meadors

Meadors is a settlement on Highway 71 and named in honor of John Meadors, the oldest of the Meadors family who had formed the settlement.

Mountain View

Mountain View was named by the Lark family, pioneers of the county, who built a Methodist church on top of a mountain from which there was a grand view. It was first known as Mount View, but gradually became Mountain View. The community was formerly known as Walker School, taking its name from the Walker family, early settlers.

Mountain Grove

Mountain Grove church was organized in 1885 and given the name of Mountain Grove, because it was located on a mountain in a grove of trees. The church was organized by Mr. C. C. Adams, J. P. Cole and J. W. T. Jones. The community took its name from the church.

Mulberry

In 1895, an act passed to change the boundary line between Crawford and Franklin counties, by which the town of Mulberry became a part of Crawford county.

Among the early settlers of Mulberry and vicinity were Beans, Quesenburys, Russells, Hendersons, Moores, Jesse Miller, Simpson, Beneaux, Snodgrass, Reeves, Williams, Mosses and many others.

Mulberry was born of a railway, and drew largely from Old Pleasant Hill. Dr. T. A. Carter bought land east of Main street from the Allen Miller heirs, and the west side was purchased by R. H. Hicks. Dr. Carter's house, erected about 1874, was the first dwelling, and this was followed by a store and residence built in 1876 by Quesenbury and Company. Quaile and Carter built the next store in 1877.

Mulberry was incorporated in 1880 and John Hudgens was elected first mayor; E. D. Pyle, recorder, and James Hatch, marshall. Other mayors of Mulberry were L. R. Hawkins, H. H. Pyle, Ed Pyle, J. T. Jeans, and R. H. Hicks. Mr. Hicks served in 1888 as mayor; J. W. Bailey, recorder and Clay Agent, treasurer.

In 1898 the city officers were: H. S. Ramsden, mayor; H. C. Bledsoe, recorder; W. F. Alexander, treasurer; G. W. Wagner, I. L. Hight, W. B. Dugan, H. A. Beneaux and W. H. Turner were aldermen.

J. T. Jeans served as mayor in about 1895, A. Quesenbury served in 1905. In 1906, Joe M. Scott was again elected Mayor, with aldermen G. W. Wagner, W. B. Dugan, John Turner and J. M. Chaddick. Other aldermen not known and Jerry Riddle was city marshall. It was during this administration that the site for the city cemetery was secured.

J. W. Storie was mayor in 1904. C. R. Counts was mayor in the year 1913 or 1914 and was the youngest mayor in the state.

The following officers served Mulberry in 1908: Ben Hawkins. mayor; Bob Johnson, recorder; Thomas House, treasurer; J. D. Holmes, J. M. Chaddick, George Shearer, C. C. Henderson, T. L. Jackson were aldermen.

In 1917, the following city officers were elected: Tom House, mayor; Carruth Alexander, recorder; W. B. Dugan, treasurer; Colquit Wilson, E. D. Chastain, Wallace Wagner, George Counts Jr., and Jess Forrest, aldermen.

In 1924 J. B. Hight was elected as mayor; R. S. Remy, appointed recorder, Roger Hill being elected but moved away, J. L. Selby, secretary-treasurer; Henry Hamm, marshall; R. L. Price, James Jackson, Hal Hawkins, C. Wilson and W. F. Wagner, aldermen.

M. C. Shelby was mayor in 1927 with John Hight, recorder.

A very interesting will, a copy of which Mrs. Delia Price of Mulberry has, which was written seven years before George Washington became president, and in the days of Maria Antoinette. This will is as follows:

"In the name of God, Amen: I, William Bean, being in perfect mind and memory and calling to mind the mortality of my own body and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die, do make and ordain this to be my last will and testimony, revoking all others by me made.

"First, principal and first of all I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God, relying on his mercy through Christ, and my body to the dust from whence it came. As touching the worldly wherewithal it has pleased God to bless me in this life I give and bequeath to my beloved wife, Lidy, one negro girl named Grace and all my horses and cattle and hogs and sheep and all my household goods, together with the mill and land whereon I now live, during her natural life and after her decease the land and mill to be given to my beloved son, Russell. The remainder that is given to my beloved wife at her decease to be equally divided among my children and all the residue and remainder of my estate, real and personal, and all my last debts being paid, to be equally divided among my surviving children. Also I leave my sons, Williams and Robert and George, executors of my last will.

"Signed: X.
"(Mark of William Bean.)

"Signed, sealed and declared in the presence of us this sixth day of January, 1782.

"Signed: Thomas Hardiman,
"John E. Callahan,
"Robert Stone."

The following names were those of citizens of Mulberry and surrounding country copied from an old account book found by Mr. Wirt Wagner in the walls of an old building owned by Mr. Quesenbury that he was tearing down. The book belonged to Mr. Jefferson M. Walker, Mulberry, Crawford county, Arkansas.

A list of hands sets apart for Mr. Bean: Jesse Miller, Wm. H. Johnson, Wm. Bean, Mark Bean, Wm. Galloway, Jesse Bean and Wilson Miller.

A list of hands set apart for Joshua Fisher: Isaac Snodgrass, Jerry Ancrom, Wm. C. Maxey, Benjamin Hussett, Thomas Moore, Joshua Fisher, Benjamine Eslice, R.

H. Bean, John B. Lyon, John Fisher, Johns S. Eslice, Jas. Hensley, D. D. Williams, Jas. M. Fale, A. L. Anderson, J. P.

A list of hands set apart to Wm. P. Moore to work on the road from Mulberry via Mills of Moore and Henderson, to the mouth thereof:

Wm. P. Moore, Wm. Stout, Wm. Riggs, Elisha Riggs, F. W. Wyatt, John H. Blackwell, Jas. Blackwell, John Ainsworth, Richardson.

The following are those who bought leather from Mr. Walker: W. C. Boren, Lewis Russell, Cyrus Maxon, John Elliott, 1834; D. S. Corley, John Oliver, 1834; Eddy Bose, 1834; William Duvall, Wm. Friels, 1838; James Marrs, W. S. Reeves, William Quesenbury, 1834; Ed W. Roach; Thomas Quesenbury, 1834; James Byrd, March 1834; William Mageehee, 1834; Abraham Waggoner, 1835-36; Elizabeth Mays, John Heard, 1837; William Howard, 1834; Armstead Smoto, 1834; Alfred Wallace, John Lassater, 1835; Thomas Graham, 1834; Russell Jesept, Paul Briant, Samuel Oric, Simon Hensley, Charles Read, John Wilson, John Quesenbury, George W. Martin, Arnold Briant, Jefferson Walker, Wm. C. Bouran, W. C. Wagoner.

John Dillard, Winchester, Tenn.; John Brooks, Hide book; John S. Scott, J. M. Walker, James Oric, Franklin county; Abel Barnhill, Ebenezer Bourland, Franklin county; Wilston Post Office, Ark.

Following is a list of postmasters who have served the city of Mulberry through the years; Harris, 1879 and 1877-1881; A. C. Heard, 1889 and 1881-1885; J. Bailey, 1888, and 1885-1889; John Franklin Turner, 1889-1893; Will Leavett, Jas. Will Alexander, Solon Jackson, 1914; Noble Nixon, 8 years from 1913 through 1921 and Ted Shambarger, 1925 to 1933; and R. S. Remy, the present postmaster.

Maple Shade

Maple Shade derived its name from two large Maple trees on the site of the old school house. A tabernacle was erected there for summer revivals. Later a church was built in a cedar grove on the hill. Some wanted to call it Cedar Grove but the old name was retained. Today by the ruin of the old school building stands one of the original maple trees. The Home Demonstration club of Maple Shade uses the old school building as a club house. The school consolidated with Alma. The club house has been sold.

Mountainburg

From what I can learn, Mountainburg was in existance prior to the building of the Frisco railroad. The present site of Mountainburg (1948) was bought from the government in 1846 by George Dyer. In 1854, George Peters entered land in that vicinity, followed by Alfred Wallace in 1858, and Thomas Simco in 1859. In 1883 Mr. James C. Wright bought land from George Dyer's heirs. In 1882 land was given for the Frisco railroad. With the completion of the railroad through there the town began to grow.

The strip of bottom land between the mountains must originally have been known as the "Narrow," in "Northwest Arkansas" it speaks of "Mountainburg" late the "Narrow." The name Mountainburg came from its location at the foothills of the Boston mountains. It is on Highway 71.

In 1879, Mr. Jacob Yoes erected a store building. When Captain Wright bought land there, which comprised most of the bottom land he built a home on the edge of the land and built a store.

Mr. Thomas Simco seems to have been the largest land owner.

Mr. George Peters who bought land there in 1854 must have been the soldier of the War of 1812. It is not known where he is buried, but is believed he is buried in a cemetery at Pleasant Hill, near Mulberry.

In the early days of the town, a Masonic hall and school house had been erected. It is not known whether it was one and the same building or two distinct buildings.

Mountainburg has grown since Lake Fort Smith was finished in the early part of the 1930's. Lake Fort Smith furnishes water for the towns of Fort Smith, Van Buren, Alma, Rudy and Mountainburg. A number of summer cottages have been erected on the mountains near Lake Fort Smith, and Mountainburg in recent years.

"Northwest Arkansas" gives the following postmasters: Wesley Gilstrap was appointed in September 1876. This postoffice was near the Washington county line. He was succeeded by the following: Henry Galings, March 1878; Albert Simco, January 1882; Anderson O. Gilstrap, June 1883; John B. Wright, January 1886; John L. Dement April 1886. A postoffice is a very moveable affair. If the postmaster was in business in that building, that would be the postoffice. I do not know which of the gentlemen was the first postmaster in the present town of Mountainburg.

George Washington Sims was the grandfather of Mrs. Al Simco. He died at the age of 114 years.

Jim Baker, a resident of Mountainburg lived to be 112, and is buried in Vaught cemetery. The town of Mountainburg was incorporated more than 60 years ago.

Earlier and Later Natural Dam

The earlier settlement of Natural Dam was located right around the dam which is one of the most wonderful of nature's creations in this part of the state. It is situated in section 9, township 4, and range 32 and dates to the early days of Arkansas, as Mr. Andrew Morton settled there in 1828, coming from Illinois to make his home in the far west. The road from Northwest Arkansas and Southern Missouri to the Arkansas River passed within a few yards of this settlement, later this road was known as the Line road, as it followed the boundary line between Arkansas and the Indian Territory, then the Wire road as the telegraph wires were stretched along it. After the War between the States it was known as the Military road, because the soldiers from the Battle of Prairie Grove passed over it.

Among the early settlers, besides Mr. Morton were Mr. Washington Duval, Mr. Larrimore, Mr. Pride, Mr. Greig and Mr. Fort. At this late date it is almost impossible to learn the names of early settlers in any community as the descendants are scattered.

Of course the early postmasters were among the early settlers, they were Washington Duval, 1839; Andrew Morton, 1845; Washington Duval, 1846; discontinued August

1846; re-established April 1847; James Farris, April, 1847-Sept. 1847; D. C. Price, Sept. 1847; Andrew Morton, 1850; Jesse W. Branson, 1866; Mrs. Mary E. Oliver, 1867; discontinued in 1868; re-established 1872; James P. Baird, Nimrod Price, Feb. 1875; discontinued Nov. 1875; re-established 1877; Henry King 1885. The names of later postmasters can be easily obtained from the postoffice department in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Howard Greig said when his grandfather, Mr. Andrew Morton was postmaster, the office was in his home, it may have been so with other early ones, where the other offices were has not been learned.

The homes of the early settlers were on the elevated portion of the land, near the dam.

There was a neighborhood store but no definite information as to where it was located or who was the proprietor.

Mr. Morton, Mr. Black and others selected the site for the graveyard, which is known as the Hall graveyard, also the site for the school which was located not far away—it must have been known as the Hall schoolhouse as there was one by that name.

A Mr. Cunningham was one of the early teachers. About this time there came into the settlement a highly educated and talented Englishman named Albert Edward Young, who said he had been one of Victoria's Guards. He followed Mr. Cunningham as the teacher of the school. He married one of the native girls.

After the War between the States a Captain Frizzell taught the school, whether it was there or at Independence is not known. He was a Captain in the Confederate Army.

There was a Camp Meeting ground near by with log cabins built all around. When the time arrived for the annual Camp Meeting many of those living in the settlements would move into one of the log cabins with enough staple food for two or more weeks and remain until the close of the meeting.

During the early days a Mr. Babb built a house with a large rock chimney on the outside, near the graveyard and a Mr. Barker built a one-room house between what is now the highway and the creek, which is still standing but another room has been added.

There was a Presbyterian church in the community during the early fifties, and continued there until the War between the States after which it was never re-organized.

The Natural Dam Methodist church was organized at the residence of John Rainwater about 1868 by Elisha Robinson, Caswell Miles and David McCaslin and belonged to the Van Buren circuit. John Rainwater was leader—they never had a building. But services have been held at various times since by Rev. Gilcoat, Conley, Manus, A. Hyde, O'Barr, Bryant, Hunt and others.

In David Dale Owen's Geological Survey of Arkansas Vol. 1, 1858 there is a picture of a mill on the stream near the dam, there is also one in "Pope's Early Days in Arkansas," dated 1854.

In August 1877 the writer in company with others stayed all night near the dam and remembers walking across, there being no water.

This dam is a rock formation, crossing Mountain Fork Creek a short distance from where it enters into Lee's Creek. A person viewing it for the first time would think it was made by the hand of man, but after examining it, would know that it was the handiwork of God.

What is now known as Natural Dam Settlement is a few miles south of the dam right on highway 59. Col. H. P. King, who had lived in the vicinity of the settlement since 1870 bought land several miles south of the road to Van Buren in 1876, and erected a store and dwelling house which soon became the nucleus of a settlement which before long outgrew the old settlement. The surrounding land in the Lee's Creek bottoms was very productive and brought good results for the money invested.

When Colonel King was made postmaster in 1885 the office was located in his store. Mr. and Mrs. King kept the stage stand as long as they lived there.

A Cumberland Presbyterian church was established there sometime during the '70's.

In 1880 a Mr. Boyd had a grist mill and gin between the old and new settlement on Lee's Creek.

Anyone now speaking of Natural Dam as a settlement refers to the one around the store which has been kept by Mr. Branson and later Mr. Graham.

The old settlement has passed away and the location at the dam is used for picnics and other pleasures.

Newtown

Newtown is in Richland township and was originally settled by the Asberrys, Harpers and Powells. John Asberry, one of the original settlers, sold out his holdings to William Powell and his wife, who came from Kansas. He immediately built a nice store, and as this place had no name, wrote to Washington D. C. asking for a suggested title, explaining that here in Crawford county was a new store, a new gin, and a new school, several new houses, and a new town.

The prompt reply was "We think we would just call it Newtown." And so it is today.

Newberry Chapel

Newberry Chapel situated between highway 71 and Rudy was named by the congregation in honor of James Albert Newberry, who gave the land for a Methodist church. He was a Tennessean, and was an early settler of Crawford county.

Oak Bower

Oak Bower derives its name from being surrounded by a beautiful grove of oak trees.

Piney

The first schoolhouse built in that community was built of pine logs which grew in abundance nearby. So that name was decided on for the village which is located in the eastern part of the county.

Pennywitt Springs

Whether these springs are same as Sulphur Springs is not known. Pennywitt Springs were named in honor of

Captain Phillip Pennywitt, a steamboat Captain. In the seventies it was a very popular camping ground with the citizens of Van Buren.

Pope

Some unkown person deeded land on which to build a schoolhouse. The community became known as Pope. There is also a cemetery known by the same name, both are located in the northern part of the county. This place was possibly named for some one by the name of Pope.

Red Hill

Red Hill is a small community near Mountainburg and derived its name when a group of people were standing talking, when one glanced up and said "look at that red hill!" The dirt being of red color, thus was named the settlement. Miss Caroline Rhodes is the woman who suggested the name "Red Hill."

Rudy

Rudy, formerly called Kenton, is located in the southwest quarter of section 23 and the southwest quarter of section 22, township 1 with range 31 west. The land was settled by a Mr. Green about 1830. A. Mr. Bell entered it in 1835. Major Hickley, chief engineer for the Frisco railroad surveyed the town. Robert Burgess, surveyor, laid out the town plat: 780 ft. by 2240 ft., more or less, into town lots, streets, and alleys. Instrument of plat was filed by George H. Rudy, Sept 4, 1882

If there were any stores in Kenton, no one can give this information. Residents of this place either went to Alma or Van Buren for mail. Among the early settlers were: Mr. and Mrs. John Maxey, John F. Winfrey and a Wingo family. They were living here as early as 1880, and according to biography of John F. Winfrey, Sr., great grandfather to Hugh Winfrey, he purchased a tract of land from the United States on April 4, 1880, at $1.25 per acre. Mr. John Maxey purchased land from Mr. J. P. Morrill and wife, Abigail, and L. C. Morrill and wife Antoinette, June 20, 1856, consideration, $2,000.

On September 16, 1882, George H. Rudy and wife, Alice, deeded to the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway Company, a strip of land for railroad right-of-way through all land owned by him for a consideration of $1.00, to make the deal legal. Mr. Rudy was glad to have a railroad come through Rudy in order that he would not be required to haul his farm products to either Alma or Van Buren. Cotton was one of the early money crops of the Rudy community, and a railway meant much to the people living there. The only means of transportation were by wagon drawn by mules, or oxen team. Cotton had to be hauled to gins either in Van Buren or Alma.

Before 1883, children of the Rudy vicinity attended school at old Newberry Chapel, walking about two miles to school. In 1883, Mr. George H. Rudy tore out the partition of a two-room rent house in order to make a one-room building, which from that date was used as a school and church building.

The building stood at the corner of Bell street, and Earl Avenue, at the same location the present rock church stands today. This is a Baptist church. At the time Mr. Rudy gave the remodeled house as a church and school, he announced that when a church was built, he would deed the lot to the church. The Methodist predominated at Rudy at that time, ministers of the Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, and Campbellites, as the Church of Christ was then called, preached there at various times. Among the Methodist ministers who preached there frequently were: Rev. A. H. Lark, Dr. Paine, the father of Joseph B. Paine, an early county school examiner; and a Rev. M. Arnold, the father of W. A. Arnold, who served as superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school for a number of years. It was not until 1891 that the Methodist had raised sufficient funds to build a church. The old church building was torn down and a new church was erected. Most all of the lumber in the old building was good, and was used in the construction of the new building. The seats for the new church were purchased from the First Methodist church of Van Buren. That church having decided to put in opera seats. The Methodists later sold this church building to the Baptists. This building was destroyed by a cyclone, and the present rock building was erected. The Baptist Church was organized there in October, 1887, with C. A. Gowin, pastor.

The first school teacher at Rudy in 1883, is not known. A Mr. Miller taught there in 1884, and in 1885, a Mr. Estes. All the schools at Rudy up to 1890 were "subscription" schools. There were many families during those days that could not pay their children's way to school. It cost from $1.00 to $1.50 per child per month. Families with several children many times did not keep their children in school. There were many families who sent their children to school supplied with only one book, and that a Webster's Blue Back Speller. In 1890, children of the Rudy community attended school at 22. Mr. R. B. Winfrey taught a school at Rudy in the early 90's.

The first depot built at Rudy by the San Francicsco & Saint Louis Railroad Company was destroyed by fire in 1905. This building was a large commodious two-story building, with two extra large, nicely furnished rooms on the second floor, fixed as an apartment for the railroad agent. Opposite the west side of the depot, along side of the switch was a loading platform of very heavy timbers, the height of the doorway of freight cars. This was arranged so as to expedite the loading of bales of cotton for soon after the depot was located at Rudy, a cotton mill and grist mill, and a saw mill was erected.

The first post office opened at Rudy in February, 1883, with George W. Rudy, according to "Northwest Arkansas," as postmaster. Mr. Rudy was succeeded by Douglas Allen in 1886, and he by William D. Ruttledge in 1887. Later, Judge Steinsick was made postmaster in March 25, 1895. It is supposed that the post office was established in a store building as was the custom in the early days.

Schaberg

The original town was first known as Porter and the post office, Frisco. As the Saint Louis and San Francisco railroad passed through it. The Government and railroad desired to have a uniform name as there was another Porter in the state, so it was named for a Mr. Schaberg, an early settler and Frisco Agent there. Mr. Schaberg was from Missouri and was of German descent.

Sulphur Springs

Sulphur Springs north of Van Buren is so called from the amount of sulphur contained in the water, and is located in Section 32, Township 11, Range 32.

Turner

Turner was named in honor of Judge Jesse Turner by some of the Turner advocates who removed from what is now Lancaster.

Vine Prairie

Vine Prairie was so named because the prairie was nearly all covered with wild vines so the settlement naturally adapted the name Vine Prairie.

VAN BUREN

List Of Van Buren Mayors

The following list has been obtained from many sources, to obtain them, research work has been done through copies of the Arkansas Intelligencer, The Press, Van Buren Argus, records at the secretary of state's office and any other source that could be obtained. Unfortunately after the work was begun and an inquiry was made at the city office for the record book from 1854 on was found to be lost. The writer saw it when H. Pernot was mayor.

There is no authentic record found of who was the first mayor of Van Buren, several names are mentioned in different articles.

The town was first incorporated in 1842, tradition says that the recorder, J. W. McMillan, became hilarious and threw the books into the river, be as it is, the town was re-incorporated January 4th, 1845, with John S. Roane speaker of the House of Representatives, John Williamson president of the senate and approved by

Thomas S. Drew as governor on the above date.

1845—March 19th. Alexander McLean, mayor and J. W. McMillan, recorder.

1846—Not found.

1847—John B. Ogden, mayor; D. Dickson, recorder. Alderman, Jesse Turner, P. H. White, A. J. Ward, R. Stevenson, J. A. Dibrell, J. D. McGee, C. B. Bishop.

1848—John B. Ogden, mayor, and D. Dickson, recorder. Alderman: Jno. Austin, A. J. Ward, R. Stevenson, Jesse Turner, J. A. Dibrell, H. W. Bell, Jos. Hawkins.

1849—A. J. Ward, mayor and Leonard Southmayd, recorder. Alderman Jesse Turner, J. A. Dibrell, John Austin, Joseph Hawkins, Ransom Stevenson, Ephraim B. Bishop, Wilson R. Simmons, Magistrate Nicholas A. Pryor, Constable, S. M. Larrimore.

1850—Ransom Stevenson: No list of alderman found. This name was found on an old cemetery deed as Mayor in 1850.

1850 also is given W. F. England, Mayor, George Newland, recorder. Alderman: Leonard Wilhalf, Davidson Dickson, John Wallace, A. K. Foster, M. Lynch, L. C. Southmayd, C. C. Heard, C. F. Brown.

1851—Missing.

1852—Missing.

1853—Missing.

1854—John Austin mayor, J. A. Eno, recorder. Alderman: George Austin, W. F. England, John Bostick, R. S. Roberts, Sutton F. Cottrell, David C. Williams, E. B. Bishop, David Dickson.

1855—A. J. Ward, mayor, J. A. Eno, recorder. Aldermen: John Bostick, S. Cottrell, P. H. White, William F. England, J. M. Clemm, A. McLean, S. D. Daughtery, Jesse Turner, W. O. Chilton.

1856—S. F. Cottrell, mayor, W. D. Wescott, recorder. Alderman: W. F. England, John B. Ogden, James Dibrell, John Bostick, J. M. Clemm, Jesse Turner, Wm. H. Powell, C. F. Brown.

1857—Missing.

1858—Missing.

1859—A. J. Ward, mayor, Geo. W. Newland, recorder. Names of alderman not found.

1860—Thomas Walden, mayor, Geo. Newland, recorder. Alderman: Samuel H. Hays, James A. Dibrell, H. Pernot, H. C. Hayman, George E. White, Michael Lynch, W. F. England, Davidson Dickson.

1861—John Austin, mayor, George W. Newland, recorder. Alderman: D. C. Williams, Samuel C. Hanley, H. Pernot, A. J. Ward, George Austin, Charles C. Heard, Jesse Turner, M. Lynch.

1862—W. F. England, mayor. No other record found.

1863—War period. Van Buren under Martial law.

1864 and 1865—The same.

1866—D. Dickson, mayor, George W. Newland, recorder. Aldermen's names not found.

1867—D. Dickson, mayor, George W. Newland, recorder. Alderman: Samuel C. Hanley, Richard S. Roberts, John W. Wallace, Henry Pernot, Hiram Brodie, W. F. England, Henry C. Hayman, William Bowlin, R. C. Hattaway, city justice, treasurer and recorder.

1868—D. Dickson, mayor. Names of no other members found.

1869—John T. Lytle, mayor, George E. White, recorder. Alderman: John Austin, George Austin, Chas. F. Harvey, Chas. Ribling, John Benjamine. E. L. Jones, city constable. Alvis Smith was on the council.

1869—John T. Lytle, mayor, Geo. E. White, recorder. Alderman: Hayman, Hanley, Dibrell, Brown, Bowlin, Marshall and Brown solicitor.

1871—James O. Churchill, mayor, and George White, recorder. Alderman: James Wood, C. F. Brown, A. Wallace Ward, H. Pernot, H. C. Hayman, James O. Churchill. Jas. Wood elected mayor, W. C. Bostick elected alderman in James Wood place.

1871-72—L. C. White, mayor and Frank McKibben, recorder. Alderman: Alvis Smith, Frank Steward, Oliver Maxey, A. H. Carson, J. P. Chaplin, Richard O. Bryan.

1872-73—J. M. Wood, liberal mayor and R. I. Pearson, recorder. Alderman: M. Lynch, R. S. Roberts, Wm. Whitfield, H. Pernot, H. C. Hayman—Van Buren Press, Nov. 12, 1872. Did J. M. Wood resign and P. R. Johnson elected?

1873-74—Peyton R. Johnson, mayor and L. H. Southmayd, recorder. Alderman: Bowlin, Hinckle, Shibley, Pernot and Ward. J. S. Houck, marshall.

1874-75—P. R. Johnson, mayor, he resigned May 20, J. M. Wood, mayor and Mr. Burrow resigned as mayor Dec. 8. Hiram Brodie, mayor, Dec. 15, and L. H. Southmayd, recorder. Jos. H. Houck, Alderman: Wm. Bowlin, H. C. Hayman, M. Lynch, H. Pernot, Chas. Miller.

1875-76—F. M. Neal, mayor and Jas. L. Whitfield, recorder.

1876-77—F. M. Neal, mayor, resigned July 5th. W. J. Alexander issued commission as mayor, July 11 to fill unexpired term. George Wood, recorder, Jos. H. Houck, Marshall. Alderman: Alvis Smith, John S. Brodie, F. Adams, R. S. Roberts, D. W. Moore, C. Ribling.

1877-78—John B. Ogden Sr., elected mayor but failed to qualify and resigned Nov. 7, L. H. Southmayd commissioned and qualified Nov. 9 .

1878—George W. Smith, mayor, resigned Nov. 7, J. M. Wright, commissioned to take his place Nov. 14.

1879—Edward A. Scott, mayor.

1880—Jesse Turner Jr., mayor.

1881 to 1885—Jesse Turner Jr., mayor. Have no record of alderman, during his terms of office. 1884-85 J. J. Clark was recorder.

1885-86—Chas. Taylor, mayor and J. J. Clark, recorder and Matt Wallace, marshall. Alderman: R. B. Creekmore, W. J. Kerr, J. A. Wade. Charles Taylor resigned as Mayor and Jesse Turner was mayor from Oct. 26 to April 19.

1886-87—James D. Hawkins Sr., mayor. Jesse Turner elected to fill unexpired term of J. D. Hawkins.

1887-88—F. M. Neal, mayor and Orrick, marshall and Cox, marshall. Alderman: Geo. Wood, T. M. McGee, M. W. Drewery, W. F. Stockton, J. A. Logan.

1888-89—Missing.

1889-90—Peirce, (which Ed D. or Ed B.?) Recorder, McKinney, City Marshall, Buel. Alderman: George R. Wood, Jess Turner Jr., A. Hays, John Fritz.

1890-01—H. C. Hayman, mayor and J. W. McKinney, recorder, W. G. Miller, city marshall. Alderman: A. Hays, E. R. Wood, J. L. Rea, John B. Ogden, Jessie Turner Jr.

1891-92—Nimrod Turman, mayor and E. L. Matlock, recorder, Felix Houck, city marshall. Alderman: C. C. Montague, L. H. Southmayd, John Kerwin, Sam McIlvaigh, S. G. Merrill.

1892-93—Nimrod Turman, mayor and E. L. Matlock, recorder. Treasurer, Jacques, Marshall, Houck. Alderman: Hawkins, Mace, Kerr, Ogden, Murta, Kistler, E. B. Pierce. City Attorney, W. P. Sadler.

1893-94—N. Turman, mayor, died Nov. 11, 1893. J. D. Hawkins Sr. elected to fill unexpired term on Dec. 11 of Nimrod Turman.

1894-95—J. D. Hawkins, Sr., mayor; Jas. Crockett, recorder; F. D. Houck, marshall. Aldermen: first ward, T. L. Beard, T. W. Edmondson; 2nd ward, W. H. H. Shibley, C. C. Montague; 3rd ward, W. T. Merrill and F. O. McCullough and Ben Decherd.

1895-96—Judge Ben Decherd, mayor; James Crockett, recorder; Richard Lloyd, treasurer; E. B. Pierce, attorney; aldermen: T. L. Beard, W. Edmondson, W. H. H. Shibley, C. C. Montague and E. L. Matlock.

1896-97—Alvis Smith, mayor; A. V. Hays, recorder; S. A. Miller, treasurer; J. S. Merrill, city attorney; T. L. Pyle, marshall. Aldermen: W. H. Hayman, H. C. Wood, Buckner Williams, D. H. Miller, E. L. Matlock and H. C. Pernot.

1898-99—W. T. England, mayor; J. D. Hawkins, recorder; James Hays, treasurer; J. S. Merrill, marshall; M. M. Housley, police; Aldermen: R. E. Brown, P. D. Scott, T. B. Coppage, John O'Kane, J. W. McKinney and O. W. Williams.

1899-1900—W. T. England, mayor; J. D. Hawkins, recorder; Park Crutcher, attorney; Aldermen: R. E. Brown, P. D. Scott, T. B. Coppage, G. R. Wood, J. W. McKinney and O. W. Williams.

1900-01—J. Neal, mayor.

1901-02—J. Neal, mayor; James D. Hawkins, recorder;

A. Hays, treasurer; E. L. Matlock, city attorney; Aldermen: Lewis Bryan, T. W. Edmondson, R. L. Bernard, Carl Shibley, H. P. King, and W. H. Hayman. Chief of police, W. H. Garrett; night police, Frank Hatley.

1902-03—W. P. Woolum, mayor; Othneil Miller, recorder.

1903-04—W. P. Woolum, mayor; Othneil Miller, recorder; E. L. Matlock, city attorney; W. H. Garrett, chief of police; W. G. Furry, treasurer. Aldermen: O. W. Williams, W. J. Jones, H. C. Pernot, J. D. Hawkins, A. J. Blackstock and D. H. Miller.

1904-05—H. C. Pernot, mayor; Othneil Miller, recorder; W. G. Furry, treasurer; D. L. Hammett, marshall. Aldermen: D. H. Miller, F. G. Kerr, A. J. Blackstock, Brown, Hawkins and Hayman.

1906-07—H. C. Pernot, mayor; E. M. Bacharach, recorder; W. T. England, treasurer; D. Hammett, marshall. Aldermen: F. G. Kerr, D. H. Miller, George R. Wood, J. D. Hawkins, H. P. King and W. H. Hayman.

1907-08—H. C. Pernot, mayor.

1908-09—Arthur Hays, mayor; E. M. Bacharach, recorder; W. T. England, treasurer; James Dick, chief of police. Aldermen: W. J. Martin, Joe Jones, Carl Brodie, M. S. Dibrell, J. A. Barrett and Othneil Miller.

1909-10—Arthur Hays, mayor.

1910-11—J. M. Weaver, mayor; Fred Fennessey, recorder; D. Hammett, marshall; Edgar Covey, treasurer; Aldermen: 1st ward, W. J. Martin and Alex Gooding; 2nd ward, P. L. Morris and Charles Norman; 3rd ward, Joseph Payne and W. H. Hayman.

1911-12—J. M. Weaver, mayor.

1912-13—J. D. Hawkins, mayor; Fred Fennessey, recorder; David Furry, treasurer; Hugh Miller, marshall. Aldermen: 1st ward, D. H. Miller and S. A. Pernot; 2nd ward, C. E. Norman and Carl Shibley; 3rd ward, John Kohne and Edgar Covey.

1913-14—J. D. Hawkins, mayor; F. H. Fennessey, recorder. Aldermen: W. J. Martin, L. H. Johnson, P. H. Morris, W. H. Hayman, Joe Jones. City attorney, L. H. Southmayd.

1914-15—Missing.

1915-16—J. E. Powers, mayor. Aldermen: D. H. Miller, R. T. Hunt, F. Jones, R. W. Quarles, A. W. Tate and Lewis Bryan.

1916-17—J. E. Powers, mayor; Fred Fennessey, recorder. Aldermen: D. H. Miller, Will Reynolds, R. W. Quarles, R. T. Hunt, S. A. Pernot and Frank Jones.

1917-18—W. J. Martin, mayor; F. Fennessey, recorder; W. T. England, treasurer. Aldermen: L. H. Johnson, D. H. Miller, P. H. Morris, W. R. Willis, F. O. McCullough and Will Reynolds.

1918-19—W. J. Martin, mayor; Fred Fennessey, recorder. Aldermen: L. H. Johnson, A. W. Meier, E. M. Bacharach, P. H. Morris, Will Reynolds and F. O. McCullough.

1919-20—J. B. Paine, mayor; F. Fennessey, recorder; C. H. Vyles, treasurer. Aldermen: Ben Lobdill, Dr. Lucas, A. G. Morrisson, E. T. Allen and G. W. Shirley.

1921-22—J. B. Paine, mayor; J. McKinney, recorder; C. H. Vyles, treasurer; city attorney, C. M. Wofford; L. H. Johnson, police judge. Aldermen: 1st ward, B. H. Lobdill and Giles Lucas; 2nd ward, E. T. Allen and R. H. Caskey; 3rd ward, G. W. Shirley and W. T. Reynolds.

1922-23—J. B. Paine, mayor; B. C. Burkert, recorder; C. H. Vyles, treasurer. Aldermen: Reichert, Lemley, Lobdill and Lucas.

1923-24—W. J. Martin, mayor; B. C. Burkert, recorder; C. H. Vyles, treasurer. Aldermen: Dr. Lucas, J. C. McKinney, B. J. Lemley, M. Hawkins, Reichert, and R. C. Steele.

1924-25—W. J. Martin, mayor; B. C. Burkert, recorder; C. H. Vyles, treasurer. Aldermen: Mitchell, Oliver, Tribble and three holdovers.

1925-26—W. B. Cunningham, mayor; B. C. Burkert, recorder; Dell Miller, treasurer. Aldermen: Oliver, M. Hawkins, R. C. Steele, Mitchell, J. C. McKinney, Tribble, and C. M. Wofford, city attorney.

1926-27—W. B. Cunningham, mayor; H. H. Conger, clerk; Dell Miller, treasurer. Aldermen: Same with the exception of Miller.

1927-28--W. B. Cunningham, mayor; H. H. Conger, clerk; Dell Miller, treasurer. Aldermen: B. J. Lemley, Mitchell, McKinney, C. C. Tribble, C. E. Riddle and Earl Ward was chief of police.

1928-29—W. B. Cunningham, mayor; H. H. Conger, clerk; Dell Miller, treasurer. Aldermen: C. E. Riddle, Mitchell, McKinney, Lemley, Tribble, and Miller. Earl Ward, police judge.

1929-30—J. C. McKinney, mayor; H. H. Conger, clerk; Dell Miller, treasurer. Aldermen: 1st ward, C. E. Riddle, and C. C. Tribble; 2nd ward, D. C. Buel and H. W. Mitchell; 3rd ward, B. J. Lemley and S. J. Miller. J. H. Mulhern, police judge and George Davis, chief of police.

Mayors Since 1929

From 1929-31—Joe C. Mckinney (one term).
1931-35--Warren G. Furry (two terms).
1935-43—Tom English (four terms).
1943-45—J. M. Scott (one term).
1945-47—Joe C. McKinney (one term)
1947-50—Burton Lankford.

Van Buren Postmasters

The first mail to arrive in Crawford county left Little Rock on the morning of the sixth of May, 1823, for the Crawford Court House. It was to leave Little Rock every other Wednesday morning, but no day for its arrival at Crawford Court House was given.

The Gazette states that John C. Summer was the first assistant postmaster at Crawford Court House.

An issue of the Gazette of April 30th, 1830 carries a news item stating James Wilson Esq. had been appointed postmaster of Crawford Court House.

The postoffice at Phillips Landing, called Van Buren, was established March 30th, 1831, and Thomas Phillips was appointed postmaster. The official birth of Van Buren was when the postoffice was established at Phillips Landing.

Following are the postmasters who have served the Van Buren office since it was established.

Thomas Phillips served until sometime in 1836.

From sometime in 1836 to September 30, 1843, John Drennen.

Sept. 30, 1843 to Sept. 30, 1846, Josiah W. Washbourne.

Dec. 31, 1846 to Sept. 30, 1847, Cornelius D. Pryor.

Sept. 30, 1847 to sometime in 1851, Cornelius D. Pryor.

From 1851 to 1852, Nicholas D. Pryor.

April 18, 1852 to July 22, 1852, Davidson Dickson.

July 22, 1852 to Dec. 7, 1855, Jonathan A. Eno.

Dec. 7, 1855 to Oct. 4, 1865, William B. Heard.

Oct. 4, 1865 to March 29, 1867, James H. Bushong.

March 29, 1867 to April, 1867, Samuel W. Daugherty.

April, 1867 to March 20, 1873, Samuel W. Daugherty.

March 20, 1873 to March 5, 1874, Julius A. Nobles.

March 5, 1874 to Oct. 13, 1879, Lizzie A. Lockhart.

Oct. 13, 1879 to Aug. 9, 1883, James A. Huckleberry.

Aug. 9, 1883 to May 12, 1885, Alvis Smith.

The above was copied from the postoffice department at Washington, D. C., by Prof. J. H. Shinn.

May 12, 1885 to June 17, 1889, James L. Stuart.

June 17, 1889 to April 1st, 1893, Alvis Smith.

April 1, 1893 to June 1st, 1897, William Totton England.

June 1, 1897 to Oct. 26, 1901, J. E. Jarvis.

Oct. 26, 1901 to March 2, 1903, Marian Orrick.

March 2, 1903 to July 8, 1903, Mrs. Marian Orrick, acting.

July 8, 1903 to Aug. 2, 1906, Jonathan Neal.

Aug. 2, 1906 to Nov. 6, 1906, John L. Smith, acting.

Nov. 6, 1906 to Feb. 8, 1914, John L. Smith.

Feb. 9, 1914 to Jan. 21, 1917, Harry C. Pernot.

From about Feb. 1917, Denver Yancy, acting.

Appointed acting about June 1919, served as acting and regular to Jan. 25, 1922, Albert Matlock.

Jan. 25, 1922 to May 18, 1922, acting appointed May 25, 1922, W. H. Taylor.

The above was obtained from the files of the Van Buren Press.

From May 25, 1922 to April, 1934, W. H. Taylor.

April 1934 to Nov. 1938, W. A. Bostick.

Nov. 5, 1938 to March 1, 1940, Edna Deering, acting.

From March 1, 1940, E. W. Deering, the present postmaster.

Considerable research has been done to learn the different locations of the postoffice. Ex-postmasters, and others have been interviewed, some mistakes may have been made as the information was from memory. When the postoffice was established here, March 1831, the site of the town was a wilderness. Thomas Phillips, the first postmaster, very likely operated a store in which general merchandise was sold, and pelts of wild animals were bought to be shipped to New Orleans and other points. In all probability the postoffice was in this building. At the time the postoffice was located here the mail was brought from Little Rock by horseback, taking five days to make the trip from Little Rock.

On receiving the mail, the person receiving a letter paid the postage which was marked on the outside of the letter. At that time there were no envelopes, the paper being folded and sealed with a red seal. This method was used until about 1850.

Mr. John Drennen succeeded Mr. Phillips as postmaster and as he had a store in the Drennen Reserve there must have been the location of the postoffice.

Only one definite place is known before the War between the States. Mr. Jonathan A. Eno had a drug store on the west side of Main street, the street through which the railroad runs. The postoffice was in this building while Mr. Eno was a postmaster. Have not learned the location of the postoffice during the terms of Mr. Heard and Mr. Bushong.

The next known location was in 1867 while Mr. Samuel D. Daugherty was postmaster, it being at Mr. Daugherty's Cabinet Store in a building near Second street in the lower brick building on the east side of Main street. Mr. Samuel Daugherty succeeded his father and later the postoffice was moved into a building on the west side of Main street, about midway of the block between third and fourth streets, occupied by Mr. Chas. F. Harvey.

When Mr. Nobles became postmaster he bought and removed the office fixtures from Mr. Harvey's store to his store, which is now occupied by the Automotive Store.

In 1874, the postoffice was removed to a small frame building about where the Crawford county bank now stands, and later to about the center of the block or was it vice versa? It is not known. The postoffice was later moved to a building on the west side of Main street between Fifth and Fourth streets.

The postoffice, in 1855, was located in one of the Dixon buildings on Main and 5th streets. A local in the Argus of January 8, 1891, speaks of a book store being occupied by the postoffice.

When Mr. Alvis Smith became postmaster the second time (in 1889-1893) one of his buildings between Fourth and Fifth streets on the west side of Main street was occupied. For a time Mr. England occupied the same building when he took office in April, 1893. A notice in the Van Buren Argus under date of Nov. 1, 1892, says: "The postoffice moved last Saturday night to the new Alvis Smith building opposite the Collins Hotel."

Later the postoffice was again removed to about where the Light and Traction building was located. The postoffice was again removed in July 1903 to its old location on the west side of Main street, where it remained until 1914, when Mr. Harry Pernot was named postmaster, and the postoffice was removed to Main and South 5th streets.

The present postoffice erected by the government was dedicated June 26th, 1937. W. A. Bostick, postmaster.

The following letter will be of interest regarding early postoffice of Van Buren:

P. O. Van Buren, Ark.
May 26, 1855

Mr. Hays
Dear Sir:

I learn that a change has been made in the schedule from Little Rock to Pittsburg, by which it becomes necessary that ours should be made from that place to this or Fort Smith, that the mails up may not lay at Pittsburg as long as they now do, being near two days, the schedule which I would propose, and is the same as proposed by the contractors on this route some six months ago, is as follows viz: That the mails leave Pittsburg every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at 6 or 8 o'clock P. M. so as to arrive here at 4 or 6 o'clock P. M. the next day and at Fort Smith two hours after, returning leaving leave Fort Smith every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at 5 o'clock A. M. and arrive at Pittsburg next day at 4 or 5 o'clock A. M. By this change we will get our mails earlier and the contractors will have the advantage of crossing the river and large streams in day light which would often prevent a failure in high water or when it is tolerable so, another advantage is, that the proposed schedule will do away with a great deal of night service, which is now performed on this route.

You may expect to hear from the contractors soon on this matter.

Very respectfully,
J. A. ENO, Postmaster

Note: This was copied by his daughter 94 years after being written.

List of Name of Streets in Original Van Buren and the Addition of the Town South of Broad Street

Copied by the Mary Fuller Percival Chapter D.A.R.
of Van Buren

South 2nd street, former name, Bois D' Arc Street.

South 3rd street, former name, Cottonwood Street, named for the tree.

South 4th street, former name, Linn street.

South 6th street, former name, Pike street, named for Albert Pike.

South 7th street, former name Green street, by Carline Scott.

South 8th, former name, St. John street.

South 9th street, former name, Brush street.

Streets going East and West:

Wood street.

Sycamore street, for the tree of the same name.

Vine street, named for abundance of vines.

Drennen street, named for Colonel John Drennen.

Broad street, for width of street.

North of Broad Street—between Broad Street and Main Street:

2nd street, former name, Columbus street.

3rd street, former name, Thompson street, David A. Thompson.

4th street, former name, Perry street, for Commodore Perry.

5th street, former name, Strokes street.

6th street, former name, St. Mary street.

7th street, former name, St. Joseph street.

8th street, former name, Franklin street, named for Ben Franklin.

10th street, former name, Short street, named for distance.

Streets going East and West:

Jefferson street, named for Thomas Jefferson.

Webster street, named for Daniel Webster.

Main street, main street of town.

North of Main Street:

Water street, named from the river.

Washington street, named for George Washington.

Lafayette street, named for General Lafayette.

Phillips street, named for Phillips famliy.

Drennen Reserve, for Colonel John Drennen.

Front street, bordering the river.

Drennen Addition:

Clay street, from kind of dirt.

William Penn street, for William Penn.

Pennywitt street, early steamboat captain and merchant.

View taken from Fairview Cemetery:

McKibben Avenue, for McKibben family.

Creekmore street, for the Creekmore family.

Hynes Avenue, for R. S. Hynes.

Rea Street, for Joe Rea.

Knox Addition:

Knox street, for Geoge Knox.

Franklin street, for Ben Franklin.

Taylor street, for Wm. L. Taylor.
Kerr street, for Dr. Kerr.
Scott street, for the Scott family.
Summit Avenue.
Grand Avenue.
Elm Avenue.
Vista Place Addition:
Prospect Street.
Sherwood Avenue.
Hynes Addition.
Morrell street.
Gresham street.
Dibrell street.
Brown Taylor street.
Laura street.
Steward street.
Cunningham street.
Mount Vista Addition.
Pavillion avenue.
Pernot avenue.
Hynes Addition, East and West.
Fayetteville street, main route to Fayetteville.
Washington street, for General Washington.
Lafayette street, for Lafayette the general.
Henry street.
Arkansas street.
Drennen addition, below the Fairview cemetery.
Ozark street, for the mountains.
Cane Hill street.
Above the Fairview Cemetery:
Shibley street.
Smith street.
Vista Place Addition—East and West:
Bella Vista avenue.
Buena Vista avenue, for the view.
Alta Vista avenue.
Highland avenue.

Streets running parallel with East Main on the North side:

Cherry street, for the Cherry tree.

Cedar street, for the Cedar tree.

Elm street, for the Elm tree, formerly Wilshire street.

Williams street.

Poplar street, for the Poplar tree.

Baldwin Addition:

Baldwin street for Mrs. Cecilia Baldwin, formerly Sixth street.

Murta, formerly Reserve street.

Decherd street, for Ben Decherd, formerly Seventh street.

Louis street.

Alma avenue, formerly Graff street, for Louis Graff.

Murta's Addition:

Hill street.

Addition I.

Lincoln street, for President Lincoln.

Dunlap street.

South of East Main:

Walnut street, Baltimore street, for the tree.

Chestnut street, Chicago street, for the tree.

Mulberry street, for the Mulberry tree.

Ozier street, named for the son of R. P. Allen.

Percy street.

Short street.

Mary Allen street, named for the daughter of R. P. Allen.

Lee street, for Robert E. Lee.

Virginia street.

Boatright addition.

Kibler Road.

East of Mitchell Place Addition:

Ninth street.

Tenth street.

Eleventh street.

East of Van Buren Boulevard (20th street):

First street, Emma street.

Second street.

Teddy street.

Harrison street, for President Harrison.

Longbell Addition.

Woodrow avenue.

Streets Running North of East Main and East of North Eleventh Streets:

Eleventh street.

Twelfth street, Moore, Chestnut, Dunlap street.

Thirteenth street, Pine, Helen Gould street, for the daughter of J. Gould.

Fourteenth street, Oliver, Byron avenue, Fifteenth street.

Fifteenth street, Vineyard street.

Sixteenth, Turner street.

Weaver street.

Pernot street.

Thurston street, 19th street.

Van Buren Boulevard, 20 street.

Moore addition.

Linzee street.

Stevenson addition and Paine addition.

Stevenson street.

Bell street.

Free Bridge addition.

Frisco street, Ozark street, for the Frisco railroad.

Painter street, Mulberry street.

Creekmore street, for the family of Creekmore.

Mary street.

Fort Smith, Boulevard, for the city of Fort Smith.

Scott Boulevard, for the family of C. G. Scott.

South of East Main and East of Eleventh Streets:

South 11th street, formerly McGee street for Dr. J. McGee.

South 12th street, Moore street, for Major Moore.

Helen Gould avenue, Mary street, South 13th street.

Theodore street, Neosho street, South 14th street.

Easy street, Bates, Kelton avenue, South 13th street.

Turner street, South 16th street.

Weaver Pernot street.

Pernot street.

Thurston street.

Roosevelt addition.

Washington avenue.

Taft avenue, for President Taft.
Boatright addition.
Knight street.
Overland street.
Lexington street.
South of the Missouri Pacific Railroad:
Riverside addition, named because it is near the river.
Miller street.
Adams street.
Madison street, for President Madison.
Kerr street, for Dr. F. G. Kerr.
Buckner street.
Tilmore street.
Running Southeast and Southwest:
Pike street.
Linn street.
Cottonwood street.
Bois D'Arc.

Crawford County Fair And Centennial

Throngs of people from every portion of the county and surrounding territory attended the opening of the Crawford County Fair and Centennial Wednesday. From early morning until the close of the celebration for the night, the circuit courtroom of the courthouse was filled to overflowing by the large crowd of spectators, who viewed with keen interest the unprecedented display of agricultural products, and handiwork, and other exhibits. All were enthusiastic in their praise of the exhibits, and members of the executive committee were kept busy receiving congratulations throughout Wednesday.

Although the committees in charge did not expect such a large crowd for the opening day, all incoming trains during the day were crowded. A special train has been scheduled for Thursday, which will run between Mulberry and Van Buren. The special has been arranged to accommodate the large crowd of school children, their instructors and others who plan to attend the celebration. Hundreds of school children will also come from the northern part of the county. A special program of extreme interest has been arranged for educational day.

Wednesday, the opening day, was Old Settler's Day, and hundreds of the older residents of the county enrolled at the Business Men's club headquarters, where the register was located. All residents of the county who have been here more than forty years were asked to register, and the list, which was in charge of W. A. Bostick, secretary of the club, contained hundreds of names.

The exhibits, which have been temporarily displayed in the circuit courtroom owing to the rain of Tuesday, which prohibited establishment of the proposed tents, are very comprehensive, and include every agricultural product grown in the county. The fruit, cotton, potatoes, apples, canned fruit, and other exhibits surpass anything of the kind ever shown in Crawford county.

The handiwork, which includes every kind of fancy and plain needlework, quilting, knitting, weaving add decided attractiveness to the whole.

The task of selecting the winner of the $50 prize, to the community offering the best exhibit, has developed to be a very strenuous one. The exhibits placed by Oak Grove, Rena, District 64, Hobbtown, Shibley, Dyer, and other places in the county are commendable, and a rare sight to the throng of appreciative visitors.

Attracting more than passing interest, the glass cases containing many historical relics, were visited by hundreds. Miss Clara B. Eno is in charge of the display. Old documents, papers, and dolls used by many prominent Crawford county women in their childhood, and other antiques, make up the display.

A copy of the Van Buren Press published shortly after its founding in 1862, and edited by James Starr Dunham, is the oldest copy of this paper to be displayed. It is the property of Mrs. Phillip Drennen Scott, Sr.

A copy of the Van Buren "Intelligencer" is also one of the very interesting displays. The paper contains an advertisement by L. Wilhalf, who was at that time proprietor of the Wilhalf Bakery, which reads: "Fresh bread, pilot bread, crackers for families, steamboat use, and for parties going to Pike's Peak, the California gold diggins, New Mexco or the Plains." A copy of the same paper carries an announcement that, under the direction of Captain Wilhalf, a company composed of Van Buren citizens, left to participate in the Mexican war. This issue appeared in 1849.

One doll, the property of Mrs. Minnie Matthews is more than seventy-five years old and despite this is in splendid condition.

The deed which passed between Andrew Phillips and John Drennen, when the latter purchased the site of 160 acres, is one of the interesting documents. The present city of Van Buren was founded upon the site. John Drennen was the grandfather of P. D. Scott, Sr. and was one of the most prominent residents in the county.

The Red Cross booth, which is in charge of Miss Margaret Wood, assisted by a committee of prominent Van Buren club women, is the headquarters for a very important phase of child work. Mrs. D. Carl Buell, trained nurse, is in charge of the work measuring and weighing the babies. More than six hundred babies were weighed and measured Wednesday and the number is expected to be decidedly larger throughout the remainder of the week. This is one of the most important branches of Red Cross work and every effort to stimulate interest in the movement is being made. There are no charges made for the service, and mothers are especially urged to bring their children to the department.

The feature of special interest to the men during the morning was the address of Thomas McRea of Little Rock, candidate for governor. The speaker was also heard by a large crowd of women. He spoke from the bandstand, adjacent to the courthouse and was heard by hundreds.

The Ozark band will arrive today to appear in concert on both the morning and afternoon programs.

Today will be Fort Smith day and a large delegation of business men of that city are expected to join in the parade from Garrison avenue, which leaves at 1:30 o'clock.

—From the Van Buren Press-Argus, year of 1920.

Uniontown

Uniontown is located on Section 31, Township 11, Range 32 and Section 6, Township 1, Range 32.

This land was entered in 1860 by I. Vinsant and the Howell families. Mr. Henry Howell emigrated to Crawford county in 1850 from Tennessee. He landed at Van Buren in a flat boat or house boat. He first settled on Lee's Creek near Van Buren, five years later he moved to what is now Uniontown. He is known as the founder of this place. At first it was known as Hickory Grove, on account of hickory trees there. The name was later changed to Unionville and then to Uniontown. It is said the place was named Uniontown by Mr. J. C. Woods, grandfather of Ira Comstock of Van Buren. Mr. Woods lived at Arkloe. The people being rough and not to his liking, he moved to another site, and opened a store. This site was then known as Hickory Grove.

Among the early settlers beside Mr. Howell, four sons, and Mr. Woods, were Messers Josiah Foster, William Remy, Alexander Thompson, and Mortons. The Couch family were later settlers.

Mr. William Remy came on a houseboat from Kentucky, landing at Van Buren.

The present town is located on land given by Mr. Thomas Howell who gave the land for a church and schoolhouse.

Sometime before the War between the States, Mr. Alexander Thompson built a log school house and church combined. This was located at the rear of the present church, this was burned in 1885. It is not known whether this was the first church and schoolhouse. Neither is the name of the first teacher known.

Mr. Robert Wood says his father went to school in the Hickory Grove settlement in 1852.

Among the early teachers after the War, were Judge J. B. Hale, and Mr. Edward Scott. After the log school and church were burned a frame one was erected.

The first store was erected by Mr. Alexander Thompson before 1861 and was located on the site of the home of Mr. J. M. Comstock. He also erected a mill and cotton gin.

From Mr. Wood, we also learned that about 1879, a Baptist and a Methodist church were organized, both using the same building. Mr. Hyde was the Baptist minister. The name of the first Methodist minister is not known. In 1886 Mr. John West organized a Christian church. A postoffice was established in 1881 with Mr. J. C. Wood as postmaster, as was the custom in those days it was very likely in his store, as he was a leading merchant at that time. The building was located where later Mr. Robert Howell operated a store.

Mr. Thomas Howell who gave the land for the old log school house and church, also gave land for the cemetery which is located near the school building.

Mr. William Remy built a mill on Webber Creek at Arkloe, remains of which is still standing. Do not know the date the mill was erected.

Between one and a half and two miles from Uniontown is what is known as Creek Town Bluff. Here the Creek Indians had their camping ground. The Bluff was the rendezvous of the noted outlaw, Floyd Johns.

Yoestown

The community of Yoestown received its name from Jacob Yoes, owner of large plantations on the Arkansas river.

Colonel Yoes, Sergeant in the United States Army at the close of the War in 1865, was the owner of large mercantile interests along the Frisco railroad at Mountainburg, Chester, Armada, Winslow and West Fork, and when he became United States Marshall for the western district of Arkansas in 1389 he began to convert his mercantile interests into lands. In February, 1892, he bought the Dillard James lands, 707 acres, and established headquarters at Moore's Rock. In 1901 he acquired two hundred acres of the Sidney Austin land to escape the inconvenience and danger of overflow of the Arkansas river. Col. Yoes moved his headquarters to this tract. On this tract he built a large cotton gin, with seed houses, cotton houses, warehouses, a blacksmith shop, saw mill, and grist mill and large store building all for the use of the public. He also built a large eight-room dwelling, and thus a wilderness became a prosperous business center, through the organizing genius of one man. Since his death in 1906, the citizens have honored his name by calling the place Yoestown.