

## CHAPTER XXI

### ORGANIZATIONS IN CRAWFORD COUNTY

1830—A Jockey Club was organized in Crawford county. It is not known where the club was organized, but the Arkansas Gazette speaks of a meeting held at Columbus, one mile, south of Van Buren, where some of the officers of the club resided. There was a race track there.

1840—The Masonic Lodge No. 6, Van Buren, was organized. The proceedings of the Grand Lodge for the year of 1842 show that a report was received from Van Buren No. 6, but no further information was reported.

The proceedings of the year of 1842 shows a report from Van Buren Lodge No. 6, and William Stirman, W. M.; Joseph Hawkins, S. W.; G. W. Garrett, J. W.; and 31 members not named, are shown in the report.

Albert Pike, the great masonic scholar, was a visitor to the Van Buren Lodge upon several occasions. Aug. 9, 1852, he visited the lodge and acted as Senior Warden. Aug. 11, 1852, it was noted that Albert Pike from Western Star, No. 2, was a visiting brother. On Aug. 16, 1852, he visited the lodge and acted as Senior Warden. The minutes for this meeting also has the following reference to Brother Pike, "The object of the lodge being explained the Worshipful Master called on Brother Albert Pike to address the members present, which he did in a very eloquent and appropriate discourse on the duties of masonry involving on us as Masons." On September 13, 1852, Albert Pike again visited Van Buren Lodge, and he acted as Senior Warden.

The above information was taken from a history of Van Buren Lodge No. 6, written by Edgar L. Matlock.

1847—The Crawford County Medical Society. The original medical society met in 1847. The Van Buren Board of Health was organized in April 1866. Dr. Henri Pernot, chairman.

1851—August 26. The Independent Order of Odd-

fellows Lodge of Van Buren was organized.

1859—Sept. 10. The Crawford County Agriculture Society was organized at Van Buren, Isaiah Vinsant was elected chairman. The War between the States closed this society.

1861—The Daughters of the South was organized for the purpose of sewing for the Confederate Soldiers. The meetings were held in the Circuit Court room at the courthouse. Here uniforms were cut out and made, and bandages were torn from strips of cloth and prepared for shipment. The Daughters of the South disbanded at the close of the War between the States.

1869—July 10. The Crawford County Agriculture and Mechanical Association was organized July 10, 1869 at Van Buren.

#### **Crawford County Medical Association**

1871—May 16. Pursuant to previous notice, the following physicians convened in Van Buren for the purpose of organizing a County Medical Association, viz James A. Dibrell, M. D.; C. F. Brown, M. D.; H. Pernot, M. D.; A. M. Bourland, M. D.; C. T. Powe, M. D.; W. L. Wynne, M. D.; George W. Smith, M. D.; when the following officers were duly elected for the following year:

J. A. Dibrell, M. D., President.

A. M. Bourland, M. D., Vice-President.

George W. Smith, M. D., Recording Secretary.

H. Pernot, M. D., Corresponding Secretary.

C. F. Brown, M. D., Treasurer.

The following committees were appointed by the president: On Constitution and By-Laws, Drs. Brown, Pernot and Smith. On Fee Bill, Drs. Bourland, Wynne and Powe.

On motion, the president was added to the committee on fee bill.

On motion, the corresponding secretary was requested to notify all physicians of good standing of the time of next meeting of this association.

On motion, the association adjourned to meet Saturday the 27th inst. at courthouse Van Buren, at which

time all regular physicians are requested to attend.

J. A. Dibrell, President

Geo. W. Smith, Rec. Sec'y.

—Van Buren Press, May 16, 1871.

### **Grange Organizations In Crawford County**

During the years of 1874-75-76 the Grange was a very active organization in Crawford county. Mr. Henry Shibley, the father of Mr. W. H. H. Shibley was one of the most prominent organizers. Feeling that the descendants would appreciate seeing the list it is here given for 1875.

#### **Crawford Grange**

James Sangster, Master; Iram Brod, Overseer; W. A. B. Davenport, Lecturer; Thomas S. Foster, Steward; S. C. Cottrell, Assistant Steward; Pearson Mayfield, Treasurer; P. B. Loid, Chaplain; R. C. Hataway, Secretary; A. J. Foster, Gate Keeper; Mrs. Julia Foster, Ceres; Mrs. Hiram Brodie, Pomona; Mrs. Susan Loid, Flora; Mrs. C. H. Holliman, Lady Assistant Steward.

#### **Mulberry Grange, No. 137**

Z. Hopper, Master; W. S. Bailey, Overseer; W. J. Remy, Lecturer; T. B. Remy, Steward; Joseph Scott, Chaplain; T. W. Marler, Treasurer; William Wilkerson, Secretary; Eli Morgan, Gatekeeper; Mrs. E. A. Quesenbury, Ceres; Mrs. Fredonia Scott, Pomona; Mrs. Mary Bennett, Flora; Miss Josie Wigley, Assistant Stewardess.

#### **Sarah Grove Grange, No. 61**

J. S. Daniel, Master; J. W. Matlock, Overseer; A. Gooding, Lecturer; J. C. Sagely, Steward; M. E. Henderson, Assistant Steward; W. P. Parsley, Chaplain; J. Whitehead, Treasurer; B. F. Massey, Secretary; W. A. Kelly, Gate Keeper; Mrs. C. M. Daniel, Ceres; Mrs. M. E. Gooding, Pomona; Mrs. M. Bowin, Flora; Mrs. M. Johnson, Assistant Steward.

#### **Alma Grange No. 29**

M. F. Locke, Master; A. J. Steward, Overseer; F. L.

Steward, Lecturer; J. E. Smith, Steward; W. R. Bolling, Assistant Steward; A. B. Dobbs, Chaplain; T. W. Bolling, Treasurer; A. B. Howell, Secretary; T. T. Byers, Gate Keeper; Mrs. N. A. Locke, Ceres; Mrs. B. F. Renfroe, Pomona; Mrs. M. A. Pride, Flora; Mrs. M. A. Smith, Stewardess.

#### **Prairie Grove Grange No. 178**

Chas. T. Perrine, Master; Wm. T. Morgan, Overseer; Samuel Ramsden, Lecturer; J. B. Smith, Steward; J. D. Parker, Assistant Steward; Sam'l R. Bourland, Chaplain; John B. Kibler, Treasurer; L. F. Bryan, Secretary; John Kibler, Gate Keeper; Mrs. A. J. Winters, Ceres; Mrs. D. C. Kibler, Flora; Mrs. Kate Shields, Pomona; Mrs. Emma Miers, Stewardess.

#### **Shamrock Grange No. 74**

S. R. Cox, Master; W. B. Shoemaker, Overseer; Leonidas Neal, Lecturer; Houston London, Steward; James L. Shoemaker, Assistant Steward; Eli Oliver, Chaplain; Manson W. Hill, Gate Keeper; Mrs. Rutha Hale, Ceres; Mrs. Eliza V. Shoemaker, Pomona; Mrs. Lulia London, Stewardess.

Meetings Saturday morning at 9 o'clock after the full moon of each month. Grangers in good standing are invited to meet with us.

#### **Van Buren Grange No. 38**

Daniel Michael, Master; M. C. Lemley, Overseer; P. H. Hoyle, Lecturer; M. T. West, Steward; Michael Furle, Assistant Steward; Samuel McCurdy, Chaplain; Alfred Tool, Treasurer; Henry Sibley, Secretary; William Hurst, Gate Keeper; Mrs. Belinda Tool, Ceres; Mrs. Phoebe Brunk, Pomona; Miss Mary A. Shoop, Flora; Mrs. S. A. Furie, Lady Assistant Steward.

#### **Lafayette Grange, No. 40**

Richard Hill, Master; Thomas N. Ingram, Overseer; Elisha Dean, Lecturer; James T. Jones, Steward; W. G. Meadows, Chaplain; Columbus C. Adams, Treasurer; W. T. Dean, Gate Keeper; William Arnold, Secretary; Mrs.

Mary E. Hill, Ceres; Mrs. Caroline Dean, Pomona; Mrs. Caroline Love, Flora; Mrs. E. V. Meadows, Stewardess.

Regular meetings every Saturday, before the first Sabbath in each month, at the residence of Elisha Dean, at 1 o'clock p. m., and we earnestly invite members in good standing of other Granges to meet with us.

#### **Arizona Grange No. 80**

T. J. Steward, Master; W. P. Yadon, Overseer; H. Snow, Lecturer; James Filbin, Secretary; A. Howell, Assistant Steward; J. B. Hill, Chaplain; John Spier, Treasurer; S. D. McClure, Secretary; William Asbell, Gate Keeper; Mrs. H. M. Steward, Ceres; Mrs. F. P. Bragg, Pomona; Miss E. E. Spier, Flora; Mrs. M. Bullock, Lady Assistant Steward.

Regular meeting first Saturday after full moon.

1874—The Patrons of Husbandry, grew to a goodly proportion in Crawford county, but soon died. This was in the year 1874.

1875—Aug. 14, Alma Lodge No. 43, Free and Accepted Masonry, was organized with 12 charter members. H. G. Raines was the first Worshipful Master; W. R. Bolling, Senior Warden; J. F. Bushmiaer, Junior Warden; J. W. Bolling, Treasurer and W. H. Byars, Secretary.

A Chapter of the Eastern Star was organized the same year at Alma, but later died out. A chapter, Number 392, was organized Nov. 21, 1916. The first officers were Mrs. Bertha Crigler, Worthy Matron and Rev. G. M. Hughes, Worthy Patron.

#### **Ladies Southern Memorial Association**

At a meeting of ladies and gentlemen of Van Buren at the residence of B. J. Brown, on Wednesday evening, June 2nd, 1875, the following proceedings were had, to wit:

On motion of G. Wilcox, Esq., Hon. Jesse Turner was called to the chair and W. H. H. Shibley requested to act as secretary.

The chair stated the object of the meeting to be to organize a Ladies Southern Memorial Association, for

the purpose of caring for the graves and perpetuating the memories of the Confederate soldiers buried in Van Buren Cemetery.

On motion, it was agreed to make a temporary organization subject to the approval of the members of the association at a future meeting.

The following ladies were then duly elected:

Miss Hazeltine Massey, President.

Miss Lily B. McGee, Vice President.

Miss Maud Clegg, Secretary.

Mrs. C. M. Thompson, Treasurer.

On motion, the president elect was instructed to appoint a committee of three ladies, to be styled an executive committee, who would have power to appoint its own secretary.

Notice was made that Maj. E. C. Boudinat would lecture Thursday evening at the courthouse for the benefit of the association. The chair appointed Messers. J. D. Hawkins, C. T. Ward and B. J. Brown as a committee of arrangements and reception, and Misses Pinkie Dibrell, Rose Williams, Fannie Dunham and Bessie Green to canvass the town for the sale of tickets.

On motion the association adjourned to meet again next Monday evening, the 7th inst., at the residence of B. J. Brown.

Jesse Turner, Chairman

W. H. H. Shibley, Secretary.

—Taken from the Van Buren Press, June 8, 1875

1875—Nov. 15: The Crawford County Medical Association was organized.

1877—May 3: Crawford County Immigration Society was organized May 3, 1877 at the court room in Van Buren by Hon. H. F. Thomason, a county vice-president of the State Immigration Society. J. C. Chaplin was chosen as secretary. The object of the organization was to facilitate immigration.

1884-85—A Chantantna Club was organized in Van Buren with the following members: Mrs. Jesse Turner, and Hon. Jesse Turner Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Pernot,

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bryan, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Quarles, Miss Margaret Wood, Jesse Wood, Mrs. Bess Quesenbury, and Miss Clara B. Eno. Later on there were other members. This club met every two weeks at the house of Mrs. Turner, and continued to function until sometime in early 1890.

1887—Jan.: The Crawford County Horticultural Society was organized with E. Arkebauer as president.

1889—July: The Knights of Pythias was organized at Alma.

1890—June 10: G. W. Duncan Lodge, No. 90, Order of Railway Trainmen of Missouri Pacific Lines was organized.

1891—Jan. 11: Order of Railway Conductors, Missouri Pacific Lines, was organized.

1893—The Woman's World Fair Organization of Crawford County was organized with the following officers elected: President, Mrs. Jesse Turner; 1st Vice President, Mrs. W. H. H. Shibley; 2nd Vice President, Mrs. D. W. Moore; Secretary, Miss Anna Edminston; Treasurer, Miss Mollie Brown.

The club was organized for the purpose of assisting with the soliciting and collecting of an exhibit to be sent the World's Fair, which was held in Chicago in that year.

### **History of the Charity Home and Hospital**

In the spring of 1896 a Chapter of the Daughters of the King was organized in Trinity Episcopal Church, among the unmarried women of the church. Among whom were Misses Lizzie Clegg, Sherwood, Gretchen Meyers, Kate Warren, Kate Martin, Clara B. Eno, Ella Nicodemus, Lulu Miller and one or two others, under the direction of the rector, Rev. George W. Flowers.

After the chapter was well organized Mr. Flowers suggested that the members take up some form of charity work that would benefit the town, after much thought and consideration it was decided to open a hospital for those unfortunate ones who had no one to care for them.

The town was canvassed for monthly contributions and the county was asked to assist, while some discour-

agement was met with, enough encouragement was received to open on a small scale so the old Brownrigg hotel was rented for ten dollars a month. This was on the corner of Broad and South Fourth streets.

The church people brought out their stowed away old furniture and sent us, so we could manage very well. The northeast front room was furnished with several beds, the room across the hall and opening on South Fourth street was converted into a reading room and library.

Mrs. Jimmie Collins, a widow whose children were mostly married was engaged as matron. After some time a young man was admitted as a patient. The writer has always felt he entered under an assumed name, he remained there several months; others came and went, some remaining a few days and others longer.

The physicians donated their time, each serving a month. The people of Van Buren were very generous, sending furniture, clothing, bedding, vegetables and fruit, along with reading matter for the reading room.

Not always knowing where to turn for money to carry on the work, the children of Broad street came to our rescue. They gave a performance in the barn at the old Dibrell home and charged a cent admission, they decided the next week to repeat it at the Woolum home on Broad street converting the side porch into a stage with the audience in the yard. No ten dollars was more gladly received. A little later another group of children had an entertainment and gave some money.

As several of the Daughters of the King had removed to other towns it was decided to admit any married lady who wished to become a member. At the election of officers for the chapter during the summer of 1897 Mrs. Virginia Flowers, wife of the rector, was elected to succeed Miss Eno as president.

In the fall of 1897 Mrs. Collins tendered her resignation as matron and Mrs. Dick Roberts succeeded her. During this fall the Charity Home and Hospital removed from the Brownrigg building to the John Wade home on College Hill.

In February 1898 a Miss Ferguson, a nurse, was employed as a matron, everything was moving smoothly and much interest was being shown by the town's people; patients were admitted from all over the county. Some paying, besides caring for the sick, many who had no home were cared for. Homes were also found for orphan children.

After a few months Miss Ferguson resigned and Miss Kate Dillon employed. A constant demand was being made on those in charge, which was a heavy drain on the funds in hand, at the same time we were caring for those that the county should.

In the spring of 1899 Rev. G. W. Flowers resigned the rectorship of Trinity Church and he and his family removed to another state. By this time only a few were left in the Daughters of the King Chapter, so two or three were left to carry the burden of the hospital work.

The physicians of Van Buren and Crawford County realizing what the work meant to the unfortunate of this vicinity came to the rescue and offered to take over the management and broaden the work, many of the citizens of the city uniting with them in this work.

Previous to this the physicians had fitted up a nice upper room having bought an operating table.

Under the new management a Board of Managers were elected consisting of John W. Cain, County Judge, Ex Officio member; J. Neal, Mayor, Ex Officio member; L. H. Southmayd, F. G. Kerr, W. H. H. Shibley, Mrs. O. M. Bourland, Mrs. T. B. Coppage, Mrs. John O'Kane and Miss Clara B. Eno. From this Board of Managers a Board of Directors was elected, consisting of Mr. L. H. Southmayd, President; Miss Clara B. Eno, Secretary and Mrs. T. B. Coppage, Treasurer.

The Board of Managers decided it was best to move the hospital to another location, one reason being the noise of the trains in passing. A house above the Fairview cemetery was rented and the patients and others were removed there, with Miss Dillon still in charge. The physicians remained in charge until June 1901. In the fall of 1900 Judge Gross did not approve the appropria-

tion made by the Quorum Court for the Charity Home and Hospital, which materially reduced the income.

In June the physicians, on account of funds and lack of interest in the work, recommended to the Board of Managers that the Home and Hospital be closed until such a time as the patients could be better cared for. Thus was closed a noble work for lack of interest among the people of Van Buren and Crawford county.

In talking with a physician a short time ago he remarked if the Judge had not refused to allow the appropriation for the Home and Hospital when it was in existence, that Van Buren at this day might possess a fine hospital as the work was well commenced.

1896—Mary Lee Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, organized with sixty-seven members.

1897—Nov. Mary Fuller Percival Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution organized with thirty-eight members.

1896—The Literary Club and still one of the active clubs of Van Buren was organized with the following officers: President, Mrs. Lewis Bryan; Vice President, Mrs. Jesse Wood; Secretary, Mrs. O. M. Bourland; and Treasurer, Mrs. McKinney.

“The Life of Chaucer” was discussed at the first study meeting of the club. This club was one, with other clubs of the state, that organized the State Federation of Women’s Clubs, in 1897 at Little Rock.

The club sponsored a library for Van Buren, which was opened in a book store operated by Mr. Ingilburgs. The library continued in the book store for a number of years. Members giving their time and effort to keep it open twice a week. Later Mr. Henry Meyer offered a room at the rear of the postoffice on Main and Fifth streets. The library operated there until the present building on Webster and Fifth streets was purchased.

Mrs. Lewis Bryan, and Miss Margaret Wood represented the Literary Club at a meeting in Little Rock in 1897, and assisted with the formation of the State Federation of Women’s Clubs.

1899—The Embroidery Club of Van Buren organized

as a social organization was one of the oldest social clubs of the city.

### Village Improvement Club

The idea of a Village Improvement Club originated with some of the members of the Woman's Literary Club during the presidency of Mrs. O. M. Bourland in the spring of 1901. At one of the club meetings Mrs. Bourland invited those members interested in the sanitary condition of Van Buren to remain after the adjournment of the club. The following ladies did so: Mesdames Bourland, Kerr, P. D. Scott, Chew and Creekmore.

Mrs. W. A. Bostick was the first president. Talks were made at the schools and the children invited to become members, which many of them did. An invitation was extended to the citizens of Van Buren to join with the club in making Van Buren a better place in which to live, some of them did for a while.

A committee was appointed to visit the mayor, asking that Fairview cemetery be turned from a jungle into a presentable place, but they met with no encouragement as he preferred for it to remain as it was.

Commencing with the fall of 1901 and for several years Arbor day was celebrated on the school grounds with exercises and planting of trees, some of which were still on the Broadway school grounds when it was demolished a few years ago.

In the spring of 1902 Miss Margaret Wood was elected president; Miss Clara B. Eno, Vice President; Mrs. Emily Creekmore, Secretary and Mrs. O. M. Bourland, Treasurer. A number of the school children retained their membership. During the summer Miss Margaret Wood removed to Saint Louis to reside, as vice president the mantle fell upon the shoulders of Miss Eno.

The ladies were still anxious to have work done at the cemetery, but nothing could be done until there was a change of mayor. When Mr. Woolum became mayor in the spring of 1902, he offered to assist the ladies in every way he could especially with the cemetery. The ladies immediately accepted his offer and men were soon at

work giving the cemetery a thorough cleaning under the supervision of Mr. John Ogden, after it was put in a presentable shape, a caretaker, Mr. Mack Powell, was employed. The club offered to care for the lots in the cemetery for 25 cents a lot, a month. A number of lot owners gladly accepted the offer and a wilderness became a place of beauty.

At first a boy was paid to do the collecting, then the members of the club, two at a time collected, one having collected the previous month.

Every spring for several years the club observed Civic Rally Day, March 10th, by keeping open house in the afternoon at the Board of Trade room, when the citizens called and left an offering which greatly assisted in the work.

Among the first works done by the club was to have Main street cleaned.

In the spring of 1906 Miss Margaret Wood suggested that the club work for a fountain to place on the courthouse lawn. The first money raised was from a recital given by Miss Anna Sadler at the Opera House, then Miss Wood assisted by Miss Anna Sadler, presented to a crowded house "Hiawatha," then followed a series of entertainments by Miss Wood and her pupils until they had raised the amount of five hundred dollars, other entertainments and solicitations by Miss Wood, the amount was raised to a thousand dollars.

After working for nearly three years the fountain became a reality, and the time set for the unveiling, the citizens were anxiously awaiting the event.

The fountain was made by the J. F. Mott Iron Works of New York, the statue of "Hebe" that graced the center of the fountain, is life size and a replica of Moretti's masterpiece "Hebe at the Fountain." The work of supervising the erection of the fountain was done by Mr. James Morrell of the Van Buren Foundry; the plumbing and all plumbing materials were contributed by the W. H. Hayman Plumbing Company; the Todd Brothers and R. H. Mitchell of the Fort Smith Light and Traction Company freely contributed their time and material for

lighting the grounds. The making of the forms as well as supplying the lumber required in shaping the basin was contributed by L. H. Johnson, contractor. The concrete basin, pedestal, and walks surrounding the fountain, as well as work necessary for restoration of the old sun dial was done by Hipple and Son of Fort Smith, paid for mostly by the Village Improvement Club. As the water required for this fountain was given without cost by the Van Buren Water Company, Supt. J. E. Powers' name is added to the list of those who made this work of art possible.

The unveiling of the fountain was July 23rd, 1908, when the following program was rendered:

Music, by merchant's band.

Invocation, Rev. F. M. Tolleson, pastor Methodist Church, South.

Unveiling of Fountain, Miss Margaret Wood.

Music, merchant's band.

Address, Mr. W. H. H. Shibley.

Music, merchant's band.

Dedication, Rev. J. W. Thompson, Trinity Episcopal.

Benediction, Rev. W. B. Miller, Presbyterian.

In 1905 the club identified itself with the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

One of our pleasures was entertaining a party of gentlemen from Saint Louis who were on a "Good Will Tour" during their short stay in Van Buren. At the Board of Trade rooms we served them with a delicious lunch of strawberries which were donated by the different growers of the city.

Feeling that the courthouse was not being kept in the sanitary condition it should and the yard not an honor to the county, the club went before the quorum court and asked for an appropriation for this work. The request was granted and a janitor engaged, the club keeping an oversight of the work. This work was continued for several years until some of the rural people, not realizing it was their property being cared for complained that Van Buren was receiving the benefit of the money, the appropriation was discontinued. During the

time the club had charge of the work the yard was beautified with flowers and shrubs.

Later the club asked the mayor to issue a proclamation for a Clean-up Week, which he gladly did. Beside the desire to have Van Buren kept in a sanitary condition, the president of the club was State Civic Chairman of the Arkansas Federation of Women's Clubs and she desired her home town to take the lead in this work, as she could not very well ask other towns to clean up if her home town did not.

The club volunteered to oversee the removal of the rubbish so the town was districted with two ladies and sometimes a gentleman assigned to a district. The property owners were asked to have their premises cleaned and rubbish placed where it could be conveniently removed, as the wagons went through the alleys. Many of the citizens will remember seeing the members of the Village Improvement Club following the wagons with rakes, sometimes it took two weeks to clean the town. One gentleman paid the club to fill two very low vacant lots, which it did. A clipping from the Press-Argus of 1908 had this to say about the work:

"Clean-up Week and the removal of the rubbish is a thing of the past. There were 9 loads at a cost of \$51.75. If the citizens will keep their premises and the alley adjoining it, it will not be necessary to do this hard work next spring." This work was carried on for several years until the citizens gradually became endued with the idea of having a clean town.

In 1916 and 1917 we observed National Baby Week, an invitation was extended to the mothers throughout the county to bring their babies in and have them examined which a great many did. The General Medical Association score cards were used and the physicians of Van Buren gladly donated their services. Other ladies in the town assisted the club with this work. As it was only a few years since the Vital Statistics law was passed, Dr. Garrison, state Health Officer, gave us permission to register births up to four years old. Many mothers took advantage of this.

As an interest was being taken in the appearance of the town by the mayor and citizens and feeling that others should bear that burden, the club turned its attention more to the care of the cemetery. This club never had a very large membership and as time passed on it gradually grew less until in 1934 it disbanded.

1907—The Woodmen of the World Lodge No. 587, was organized at Alma with 19 members.

1907—The Woodmen of the World organized at Van Buren with 18 members.

1908—The Modern Woodmen Lodge No. 13, 408 was organized at Alma with a charter membership of 15.

1910—Oct.: Thursday Club of Van Buren was organized with Mrs. Mary Bourland Ayers, first president.

1913—Sept. 15: The Woodmen Holly Grove Circle No. 297 was organized Sept. 15, 1913, by Mrs. W. H. Robinson, with 15 charter members.

1914—The Needlecraft Club, later called Forease Club, organized at the home of Mrs. G. W. Shirley. The original name was changed in 1925.

1916—Mother's Club with Mrs. Harry B. Shibley, president. The function of the club was to give aid to school work.

1918—Oct.: The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks Lodge No. 238 of Van Buren was organized.

1919—May 24: The Van Buren Rotary Club was organized. Lunch at Commercial Hotel. A. W. Meier was elected president; Carl Shibley, secretary.

1925—Paving District No. 3, in Van Buren was paved in 1925.

1926—Sept.: The Alma Tuesday Club was organized at the home of Mrs. J. C. Alexander. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. G. S. Boggan; Vice President, Mrs. J. R. Crigler.

1926—Jan. 21: Young Matron's Home Study Club of Van Buren, now the Book Review Club, was organized with the following officers elected: President, Mrs. T. J. Garner; Vice President, Mrs. T. O. Lobdill; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. David Partain.

### Clara B. Eno Chapter, C. of C.

During the time that Mrs. W. R. Willis was president of the Mary Lee Chapter U. D. C. she conceived the idea of organizing the children who were descendants of Confederate veterans into a chapter which she did sometime during the winter of 1924-25 and Miss Margaret Willis appointed as sponsor. The following met for organization. Adele Boatright, Evelyn Kagy, Martha Ann Moore, Elizabeth Creekmore, Billie Maxwell, Emilie Carter White, Margaret Smith, Mary Elizabeth Wallace, Suzannah and Betty Tindall, Margaret Conger. Martha Ann Moore was elected president; Evelyn Kagy, secretary. The minute book has been lost so do not know whether there were others or not. As this organization includes both boys and girls, several boys names were sent in.

For two or three years they met at the home of the members after school. The chapter was named in honor of Miss Clara B. Eno, an active U. D. C. worker. Their programs included Confederate and Southern subjects.

Later Miss Eno became chapter sponsor the meetings were changed to afternoons during the summer meeting every two weeks, since then chapter has met in the morning at the Parish room of Trinity Church.

Their programs were selected from those sent out by the Third Vice President General as she had charge of the children's work.

They have shown kindnesses to veterans. At the closing programs of each year they have entertained their mothers, the veterans and widows of veterans with an entertaining program; they also collected grandfather and grandmother stories. Once during the year they appear on the Mary Lee program. They went with their sponsor early in the morning on Decoration Day and placed Confederate battle flags on the graves of those Confederate soldiers buried in private lots in Fairview cemetery and a group of flags on the Confederate plot.

The chapter kept a scrap book in which all clippings, referring to the chapter are preserved. They also bought 35 pictures of Sidney Lanier and placed them, with

15 given by the Mary Lee Chapter in the rural schools.

Those who have served as presidents are: Martha Ann Moore, Billie Maxwell, Emilie Carter White, Elizabeth Creekmore, Mary Beth Swaffar, Susan Swaffar, Leora Wofford, Frances Wofford, Margaret Conger and Pauline Lobdill. Any child who had a Confederate ancestor was eligible to become a member.

1923—Van Buren Lions club was organized with Mr. Omer Whittington the first president.

### **Crawford County Council Of Women**

The Crawford County Council of Women was organized December 1st, 1927, following an invitation from the City Federation of Van Buren, issued through its president, Mrs. W. A. Bostick, to the clubs of the county, asking that they send two delegates to a luncheon at the Blue Dragon on December 1st, to discuss the advisability of forming a county organization. After lunch the ladies adjourned to the library where the discussion was continued, which resulted in the organization being formed.

It is to be regretted that a list of the names of the ladies present has not been kept, but the following clubs were represented: from Alma, Study Club, Parent and Teachers Association, Music Club, and Tuesday Club; from Woman's Literary Club, Village Improvement Club, and Young Matron's Study Club.

The meeting was in charge of Mrs. W. A. Bostick, president of City Federation, after the discussion to organize the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. G. S. Boggan of Alma; Vice President, Mrs. Mildred Dunklin of Mulberry; Recording Secretary, Mrs. W. A. Bostick and Treasurer, Mrs. Hugh Winfrey of Rudy.

A committee on constitution and by-laws was appointed to report at the next meeting. The object of the organization was to bring the urban and rural women in closer touch and to accomplish that in which both are interested for the betterment of Crawford county.

The club met in Van Buren the following week to complete the organization. The committee presented the Constitution and by-laws which were read, discussed

and adopted. At this meeting Mrs. C. C. Willis of Mulberry was elected Vice President to succeed Mrs. Dunklin who had removed from the state. Miss Eno was elected historian. The name Crawford County Council of Women was chosen for the name of the organization, it was decided to meet quarterly for an all day meeting, with a covered dish luncheon.

The next meeting was held in Alma on the fourth Thursday in March, 1928 at which time the following clubs were represented from Fort Smith, Van Buren, Fine Springs, Mulberry, Rena and Alma, the host club. A committee composed of Mesdames W. C. Petree, of Alma; B. J. Farmer, Mulberry; Albert Maxey of Van Buren were appointed to investigate the advisability of maintaining a county nurse. At this meeting Mrs. Bostick was introduced as the Mother of the Crawford County Council of Women on account of her part in the organization.

At the July meeting at Fine Springs the program and the talks covered the preservation of the trees, wild flowers and birds, many fine talks were made.

At the October meeting with the Rena ladies at the pump station the committee on the advisability of procuring a county nurse, reported favorably. It was also decided to offer prizes for the best kept yard along highways 71, 64, 45. It being the time for the election of officers, an election was held and all the present ones re-elected with the exception of the vice president who could not serve, and Mrs. G. G. Alexander was elected in her place.

The first anniversary meeting was held with the ladies of City Heights. The program arranged as an airplane one, significant of the progress made by the Crawford County Council of Women during the past year. Carrying out the idea three toy airplanes were bestowed upon Mrs. Harry B. Shibley, Sr., Mrs. W. A. Bostick, and Miss Eno for outstanding work. Plans for the yard contest were outlined.

At the Rudy meeting an interesting program was given on "Some Facts of Crawford County Citizens Should Know About His County." This discussion was very interesting, and showed that many of the questions

should be more thoroughly studied.

At the midsummer meeting vital questions in regard to the county was more thoroughly discussed.

We have now passed the initial stage in the life of the Crawford County Council of Women under the able leadership of Mrs. G. S. Boggan and it has been demonstrated that the work accomplished has been worthwhile. The federation met once more in Alma with the following clubs represented: Van Buren, the Woman's Literary Club, Young Woman's Study Club, Village Improvement Club, Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Parent and Teachers' Association; City Heights, Ladies Aid; Bond Special, Parent and Teachers Association; Alma, Tuesday Club, Cemetery Association, Parent and Teachers Association and Rena, by the Dorcas Society and the Bond Special club. At this time the prizes for the yards contest were awarded with Mrs. James Riddle receiving 1st prize of \$10 given by Miss Eno; Mrs. Tounzen, 2nd prize of \$5 given by County Council. Both of these were on Highway 45.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. G. G. Alexander, City Heights; Vice President, Mrs. George Weinand, Bond Special; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Hugh Winfrey of Rudy; Treasurer, Mrs. J. R. Crigler of Alma; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. H. B. Shibley, Sr. These officers to take their places in January.

At the January meeting plans for the year were made and it was decided to continue the yard contest, widening its scope by including yards throughout the county and in the small towns; to continue the medical clinics at which over three thousand children have been examined.

At a meeting in the summer, rural women expressed a desire for a Home Demonstrator, that their daughters may be taught methods of good housekeeping as well as their sons methods of good farming. Much interest was shown in this question and the county nurse project was side tracked for a while and the council members voted to do all they could in their power to obtain a Home Demonstrator, even towards assisting in obtaining the salary.

The meeting at which the prizes for the yard contest has rolled around one more. Mrs. W. B. Bryan of Rudy received 1st prize of ten dollars; Mrs. Clarence Brownlee of Bond Special 2nd prize and Mrs. Audrey Tounzen of City Heights was 3rd, this was two dollars and fifty cents in merchandise given by the A. W. Meier Drug Company.

This meeting at Van Buren was very interesting with well represented clubs. The same officers were re-elected for another year.

At the January, 1931 meeting it was decided to carry on the yard contests. Miss Gore, the home demonstration agent was to direct the work of beautifying Highway 71 through the county, Judge Smalley tendered his assistance in this work. During the year 33 clinics were held with a great number of children examined.

In June the council met to honor Mrs. Otis Wingo, Congresswoman from the fourth district.

In July a contest in dress making was held under the direction of Miss Gore, the prizes were donated by the merchants of Van Buren. The awards were as follows: The best house dress, Miss Fay Bryan of Rudy, 1st; Mrs. H. H. Bennett, Dyer, 2nd; Mrs. D. C. Cottrell of Dyer 3rd. Church and street dresses, Miss Edria Speer, Uniontown, 1st; Miss Ruth Wofford of Rudy, 2nd; Miss Bert Harrendorf, Bond Special, 3rd. Thrift dress, Miss Ora Lewis of Pleasant Hill,

Thirteen new clubs responded to roll call and the the following clubs were admitted to membership: Rudy Home Demonstration Club, Pleasant Hill Ideal Community Club and a club from Uniontown.

The fall meeting was held at Mountainburg, Mrs. Charles Bell of the Washburn community in Sebastian county being a visitor and gave a demonstration in rug making which was very interesting. The council sent a request to the Quorum court asking that they retain the Home Demonstration agent.

The winners in the yard contests were Mrs. Fred Dean, Fine Springs, 1st; Mrs. Mont Dean, Fine Springs, 2nd; Mrs. B. F. Briley, Figure Five, 3rd with Mrs. S. A.

Singleton and Mrs. C. C. Brownlee only a few points lower.

The results of the election: Mrs. Justin Wofford of Rudy, President; Mrs. Rector Musso, Vice President; Mrs. Clyde Osborne of Fine Springs, Secretary; Miss Fay Bryan, Rudy, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. G. S. Boggan, Alma, Treasurer and Miss Clara B. Eno, Historian

At the January, 1932 meeting ways and means were discussed for providing a fund that both county agents may be kept in the field, also sponsoring the Better Home movement.

The council continued its interest in the yard contest and the Figure Five meeting Mr. Shreve of Farmington, Arkansas was the major speaker. He spoke on our native shrubs and how they could be used to beautify the home grounds.

The style show at Rudy was a great success and showed much ingenuity. Miss Ruth Wofford was awarded 1st prize in classification of dresses and Mrs. Clyde Osborne 1st place in house dresses.

At the fall meeting at Hobbtown the same officers were re-elected for a second term except the vice president who had removed from the state, Mrs. Charles Kramer was elected to fill that office. In the yard contest Mrs. Briley of Figure Five won the ten dollars offered by Miss Eno; Mrs. W. R. Bryan, second place and the five dollars given by the council. Mrs. Drew Price of Mulberry was third and was given two dollars and a half in merchandise at Meier's Drug Store.

A report was made that the council had secured \$24.35 of the \$30 they had promised towards Miss Bates' salary, the home demonstration agent

When the council met at City Heights in January, 1933, Mrs. Morgan of Mount Vista Thrift Club made a proposition that the council sponsor a friendship quilt, the blocks being fan shaped in green and white, the different members were asked to pay ten cents to have their name embroidered on one of the squares, the money so made to be used to pay the remainder owed Miss Bates. The council voted to accept this proposition.

At the July meeting at Uniontown Mrs. Hamm, the county nurse, asked that the clubs in the council fill a certain number of cans with fruit and vegetables to send to the Crippled Children's Home and Hospital in Little Rock. It met with a hearty response and during the summer 700 quarts were canned and in the fall sent to the Home and Hospital.

At each meeting a historical sketch of the community or town was given by the historian, this had been done for two years, and had resulted in much history being preserved and the awakening of interest in that locality. The following officers were elected at the October meeting: Mrs. B. B. Bruce of Alma, president; Mrs. Charles Kramer, Maple Shade, vice president; Mrs. G. G. Alexander, City Heights; recording secretary; Mrs. George Weinand, Bond Special; treasurer; Mrs. W. C. Petree, Alma, corresponding secretary. This meeting was held in Van Buren.

At the meeting in Alma the following committees were appointed by Mrs. Bruce. Program Committee, Mrs. Charles Kramer, Miss Helen Stevens, Mrs. Ferrel Swearingen, Mrs. Borough; Publicity Chairman, Mrs. H. B. Shibley, Sr. Parliamentarian, Miss Effie Malone; Hospitality, Mrs. J. G. Wofford, Historian, Miss Clara B. Eno. Mrs. Kirby, County Nurse, said that the Government would supply two other nurses to assist in the examination of the 6,000 school children. Miss Bates told of the work accomplished in the Unemployed Bureau.

Eighty women were registered at the Dyer meeting, the largest number in attendance of the six years existence of the Crawford County Council of Women. Fine Springs had a Community House, Rudy was building a stone one and Maple Shade had one almost completed.

A committee consisting of Mrs. H. B. Shibley Sr., and Miss Clara B. Eno were appointed to see the proper authorities at the Court House and ask that the framed commandments be replaced in the Court room, these having been previously placed there by the Crawford Council of Women.

The Council historian kept a scrap book of all clip-

pings and pictures pertaining to the work of the council, it has been invaluable in writing this article, as the minutes of the first year were lost.

1928—The Crawford County Shipping Association was organized and was very active for about three years. Headquarters were in Van Buren.

1928, March 14—The Alma Lions Club was organized with J. D. McGehee, President; J. Fred Alexander, Vice President; A. M. Salyars, Secretary-Treasurer. There were twenty-four Charter Members, which included the three officers named above, and W. D. Patton, G. S. Boggan, T. W. Harned, J. M. Blevins, C. R. Starbird, Roy Bolling, W. C. Petree, T. J. Lax, W. E. Eichling, Roy Curtis, J. R. Roberts, Henry Weese, Drennon Byars, Jim Wells, W. J. Dragon, E. L. McGehee, W. E. Bradley, L. T. Byars, Harry Griffin, W. B. Owen, and Guy Gray.

1928, April 3—The Alma Cemetery Association was organized with 13 members. Mrs. G. S. Boggan was elected President and Mrs. L. T. Byars was made Chairman of Membership. The town donated \$100 toward the work and with the membership fees, the Alma Cemetery was made into one of the most attractive cemeteries in Crawford County.

Mrs. Boggan resigned, after having served a number of years as President, and Miss Margaret Adams was elected to take her place, and is serving in that capacity today.

1929, April 7—Mary Lewers Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy of Alma was organized with ten charter members.

1932, Oct. 25—Better Homes and Garden Club organized at Alma with 8 Charter members. According to records of the club, the officers for 1933 were: President, Mrs. Q. R. Galloway; Vice President, Mrs. O. T. Wendler; Secretary, Miss Lonnie James; Treasurer, Mrs. T. W. Harned.

1932, Oct. 25—The Van Buren Garden Club organized. The club is still one of the active clubs of the county.

1933, Nov.—The Alma Home Demonstration Club organized with 18 members. The following officers were

elected: President, Mrs. B. B. Bruce; Vice President, Mrs. W. E. Byars; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. W. C. Wood.

1935—Booster Club organized by the employees of the Missouri Pacific Railway with B. C. Murphy, first President. Organized at Van Buren.