

The Crawford Countian



Spring 2020

Welcome to the Spring edition of The Crawford Countian. I hope everyone is staying safe during the COVID19 pandemic. This is definitely history in the making that will change our country going forward. For this issue, I wanted to include some information on how Crawford County dealt with the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918/1919, however, I really couldn't find much on it. The newspapers would list deaths but no story on the sickness that was occurring over much of the world. Now granted, "The Great War" (WWI) was taking place and that was the major story but it is interesting to compare how our current situation is being played out versus the 1918/19 pandemic.



With all the current stay at home orders, our planned indoor yard sale at the VFW, slated for May 16, is up in the air. We are hoping to still hold it, but it's not looking good. This was to be our first major fundraising event of the year which is sorely needed. Revenue has been way down this year and this pandemic isn't helping. Those wishing to help contribute to the CCHGS, we do have plenty of books for sale. Membership renewals are also due in a few months so don't forget to do that. Any ideas for potential fundraiser projects are always welcomed!

Thanks for being a member of the CCHGS and stay safe!!

-Bill Piper, President of the CCHGS
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Cover photo: United Methodist church in Milltown, which closed last year.

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HOOSIER PARADISE

This is a transcribed copy of the article that appeared in the Sept 14, 1893 issue of the Crawford County Democrat. I kept the majority of it intact, making some slight grammatical & spelling corrections if they were obvious. -bP

Such was Crawford County to the Early Settlers.

Attractive Qualities Not in the Least Diminished.

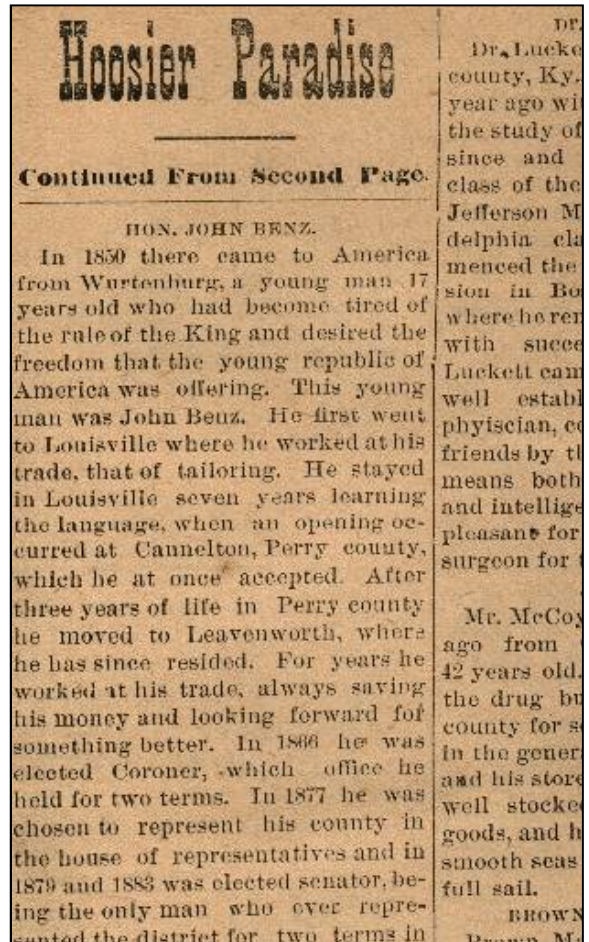
History of a Well Known Section of Indiana.

Leavenworth, English and Marengo Reviewed –
A Cultured People – The Famous Cave.

After a few day's visit, a representative of John G Shanklin's paper, The Evansville Courier, speaks of Crawford County and some of her leading citizens in the following highly and justly complimentary way: The territory now known as Crawford County, Ind., was taken from Harrison County, being organized as a separate county in 1819. The county seat being located at Mt. Sterling, thought to be near the center of the county.

The settlers of the new county were made up of brave and honest farmers, mostly from Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky. Men with big hearts, whose religion was to do the square thing before God and man. Such are their descendants to this day. To such men the county was inviting. Hill and dale and running stream such as delight to the eyes and please the senses. To those men it was a paradise. They were not money lovers, nor money getters, they were seeking the freedom this country offered, with no 'ongings for riches or honors.

Court was first held at a private house at the site selected for a county seat and was called Mt. Sterling. Wm. Samuels clerk, the Circuit Judge presiding. About a year after, Allen D. Thorn from Virginia, settled at Fredonia, purchased a large body of land and laying out a town. He offered the Commissioners to build a Court House and jail and make a good wagon road to the river if the Commissioners would move the county seat to the new town.



His proposition was accepted and the county seat was moved accordingly. It remained there until 1843, when it was removed to Leavenworth, the town agreeing to build a Court House and jail at their own expense, where it now is. The county is a amber county, is healthy, well watered and well adapted to fruit growing, small grain and grazing being profitable to farmers.

The Schools

Have improved rapidly, like other counties since the enactment of Indiana's most excellent school law. Crawford does not boast of being the greatest county in the state, but it may boast of the education and intelligence of her citizens. The attendance at the county institute is eighty-six. This certainly speaks well for a county of the size and population of Crawford.

Topography

The county is made up, as before said, of hill and dale and running streams. The boundary is traversed by the Big Blue River on the east, the best mill stream in the state. Little Blue river running through the county from the north to the Ohio on the south affords water power for many mills. All the water courses are pure, healthy mineral streams, with no stagnant lakes or marshes in the county.

The best of building stone is found in almost every part of the county. Abundance of clay for making vitrified brick, with all the component parts necessary lie in sight of Leavenworth. Although perhaps not the best county in the State, it will be seen by a close examination that she possesses many of the advantages and qualities that go to make up a virtuous, contented and happy people.

Under the present division of judicial circuits Crawford County is connected with Harrison county. Judge Zenor or Lenor (?) presiding at the courts of both and Mr. C. W. Cook being the prosecuting attorney. The close association of the two counties from the earliest settlement, which the entire territory of both was included in Harrison County, has made the general tone of the population of Crawford identical with that of Harrison county. The customs and the habits of the people are the same and whatever sentiment effects one is certain to affect the other. For this reason Crawford County has been included in the charges of Whitecap-ism that have been so freely made against Harrison county and with equal injustice. The newspaper correspondents have not spared the other and it is difficult to say which of the two communities has suffered the most from the disparagements of those who have seemed to be actuated by hostile feeling toward both communities.

The brief account here given gives us some idea of the character of the country as well as of the people and should be a valid defense against the imputations that have been cast upon the people. They are descended from patriotic and not lawless tock. Their ancestors for the most part came to the new state of Indiana from Virginia and South Carolina and in their veins flowed the blood of the revolution. That people so descended Inculcate organized disobedience to the laws of the land and of society, and encourage

whitecap-ism as a principle of their social and political life, is too preposterous an idea for anyone of ordinary fairness and intelligence to believe. There is no more warm hearted, intelligent law abiding people to be found in any state than the sturdy sons and daughters of Crawford County.

The teachers of Crawford County speak well for its educational line is, as marked and rapid as in any other county in the state, for like Northern Scotland, the very hills and valleys, the whisperings of the tall oak and sturdy popular speak in everlasting tones of a free and independent population that knows no aristocracy, but are all interested in an equal education. Of those who have received their education in Crawford County may be found some of the leading men of the nation today. The weather department and many other important places at Washington City feel the effects of an education among these prehistoric bills, while our noble S. M. Stocklager presides with dignity and credit to a nation as land commissioner.

Crawford County employs eighty four district school teachers besides those in the incorporated towns, all of whom are under the supervision of J. R. Duffin, the youngest County Superintendent in the State of Indiana. It is surprising to see how easily and efficiently Mr. Duffin transacts the educational business of the county. Always at his post of duty, active and energetic, he is perfectly at home with his teachers and all who consult him on the business of the county.

White The Courier reporter was at Leavenworth Mr. Duffin was conducting the twenty eighth annual institute of Crawford County, and the interest manifested showed it to be the best institute ever held in the county. The attendance was much larger than any other. By personal interviews with the teachers of that county I found them equal in many cases in advance of the more pretentious. The teaching craft is noted for their sobriety, hospitality and high educational ideas. The stranger will find himself pleasantly at home with them.

Leavenworth

Being the principal town of the county seat is worthy of special mention. It was laid out in 1819 by two brothers, Seth M. and Zebulon Leavenworth, of the state of New York. Being a commanding position on the river it soon drew a large trade. It has tow twenty two mercantile houses some of them as large as any in Southern Indiana, excepting Evansville and New Albany, two millinery stores, two blacksmith shops, two wagon shops, three shoe shops, two butcher shops, four (honest) lawyers and two most excellent doctors. And last, but not least, one newspaper, the Crawford County Democrat, established in 1879 by W. M. Ellsworth & H. A. Ellsworth, the present publishers. Several papers have been started in competition in town and county, but soon becoming bred of hard work and poor pay, they abandoned the field. It was a conspicuous example of the survival of the fittest. The Democrat is now established on a firm basis and has the respect and patronage of the people of both parties, and is the organ of the county and the people generally it has obtained a high standing among the

best weekly papers of the state.

Among the gentlemen who have been chose to control the affairs of the county, your correspondent has the pleasure of meeting the following

F P Waltz

the present treasurer of the county is a young man and a native of Crawford County. He was appointed to the office in December, 1891, and received the nomination over great opposition in 1892 and was elected. He was born and reared on a farm and taught school for fifteen years, beginning when a mere lad. During his term as a pedagog he served as principal of the Birds Eye schools two years and held the same position at Marengo for three years. The latter piece he resigned to accept the appointment of treasurer.

J. P. Fleming

Auditor Fleming was elected in 1890. He is a native of the county, was educated in her common schools. He was born and reared in Patoka Township and can in every respect be looked upon as a representative of the people in his community. He was a delegate to the Democratic State Convention of '92. Mr. Fleming is a sterling Democrat and is well known and respected by the people of his county. Although young he can give some of the older ones pointers when it comes to hustling the votes.

O. A. Adams

The county clerk is a native of Switzerland County, but was reared and educated in Crawford. He has been since his majority engaged in the saw mill business and has also conducted successfully a large farm. Mr. Adams was elected in 1890 and during his incumbency of the office has won the respect and admiration of all the people, irrespective of party of affiliation. With such men at the helm the affairs of the county cannot go wrong.

J. R. Duffin

A visit to Crawford County will impress one with the fact that the young men are "fairly in it". Not an officer in the county has passed the meridian of life, and some of them are away this side of it. Mr. Duffin, the county Superintendent of Schools, is the youngest officer in the State, being only twenty two years old. He is a native of Crawford, and is a graduate of the Danville Central Normal. Mr. Duffin has 112 teachers on his roll and the conduct of the schools of the county has never been better than it is under the present young and efficient Superintendent.

Hon. John Benz

In 1850 there came to America from Wurtenburg, a young man 17 years old who had become tired of the rule of the King and desired the freedom that the young republic of America was offering. This young man was John Benz. He first went to Louisville where he worked at his trade, that of tailoring. He stayed in Louisville seven years learning the language, when an opening occurred at Cannelton, Perry County, which he at once accepted. After three years of life in Perry County, he moved to Leavenworth, where he has since resided. For years he worked at his trade, always saving his money

and looking forward for something better. In 1866 he was elected Coroner, which office he held for two terms. In 1877 he was chosen to represent his county in the House of Representatives and in 1879, and 1883 was elected senator, being the only man who ever represented the district for two terms in the upper house. In 1886 he was elected school trustee, which office he still holds. While Senator, Governor Gray appointed him director of the Southern prison, but rather than put the people of his district to the expense of holding a special election he refused the office. About three years ago when Leavenworth burned he helped the suffers with his purse and influence to rebuild, in short he is now and has been for many years the chief factor of the town. His large store is known all over the county. He carries a general stock and does a good business.

R. H. Willett

The only banking institution of the town is the Citizens Bank at the head of which J. H. Weathers President and R. H. Willett cashier. Mr. Willett was born in Crawford County, but his youth was spent in Kentucky. He is a young man of rare business ability and a Democrat of the right sort. He was a delegate to the last Democratic State Convention. The bank over which he presides does a general banking business and is considered by the people as perfectly solvent.

W. L. Temple

Druggist and general merchant, was born in Crawford County in 1820. Mr. Temple is one of the oldest residents. He has been identified with the county all his life and has been in business in Leavenworth since 1856. He was treasurer of the county from 1867 to 1871 and county clerk from 1872 to 1876. Mr. Temple is a stalwart old Democrat and has fought early and late for the maintenance of the principles of the party of Jefferson and Jackson. Honest, industrious, hospital to a fault, he has won for himself a firm hold on the people of his county.

H. B. Gilmore

One of the live young men of Crawford County is H. B. Gilmore. His stock consists of boots, shoes, hats, caps and dry goods and is large and well selected. Mr. Gilmore has been in business about eleven years, but the establishment over which he presides has a history dating back over a quarter of a century. He is a Republican in politics and was a delegate to the Republican State Convention of 1888. He is a member of the school board and secretary of the Republican County Committee.

J. A. Hugues

The sheriff of the county, was born near English, in Crawford County, and was reared on a farm where he has spent all of his life except five years that he was in business at English. He is a conscientious officer, and does his whole duty in the performance of which he has the hearty co-operation of the people of the county.

S. E. M'Fall

Postmaster, is a native of the county and has been engaged in the lumber business. He also owns a large furniture store. He has been in business here about fourteen years, and has built up a widespread reputation for square dealing, Mr. McFall was appointed

postmaster last May, and since he took the office its conduct has been giving entire satisfaction.

Chester Elliott

“Chet” Elliott, as he is commonly known, is the proprietor of the livery stable of the town. He is a hustler in the true sense and is well known throughout the county. He is a native of the county and an all-round good fellow. He has been in the livery business about two years, has eight head of horses and enjoys a good patronage.

Mrs. Rove Cole

The charming hostess of the Merchants Hotel is Mrs. Cole. The house is first class in all its appointments and Mrs. Cole knows exactly how to make you feel at home. “The Merchants,” is all right and enjoys the run of the Knights of the Grip.

English

One of the thriving villages of the northern part of Crawford County is named in honor of the Hon, William H English. The town is situated on the Louisville, Evansville & St. Louis Railroad, about half way between Louisville and Evansville. It has two churches, a good school, and an excellent flouring mill, saw mill and stove factory, several business houses, and an air of general prosperity. None of the gentlemen whom your correspondent met while in English wore long hair, nor did he see any revolvers or bowie knives, such as described by the phenomenal liar of the Indianapolis Journal. Instead of this he was met on every hand with courteous treatment and that hospitality which Indianans, and especially southern Indianans, know how to extend. The leading business and professional men are:

Dr. C. D. Lockett

Dr. Lockett was born in Henry County, KY., and came here twenty years ago with his father. He began the study of medicine twelve years since and is a graduate of the 1881 class of the Louisville University, Jefferson Medical college of Philadelphia class of 1883. He commenced the practice of his profession in Boston, Crawford County, where he remained six years meeting with success. Four years ago Dr. Lockett came to English and is now well established and successful physician, counting his patients and friends by the score, for to be one means both. He is young, bright and intelligent, and the future looks pleasant for him. He is assistant surgeon for the “Air Line.”

J. P. M’Coy

Mr. McCoy came here nine years ago from Orange County, and is 42 years old. He was engaged in the drug business in Washington county for sometime. He is now in the general merchandise business and his store room is 40 x 80 feet, is well stocked with all seasonable goods, and his business is sailing on smooth seas and, no need tell, under full sail.

Brown, Mathers & Co.

Brown, Mathers & Co., are H. J. Brown, A. S. Mathers and B. T. Mathers, a trio hard to beat. They are proprietors of the Daisy Roller Mills, established in 1859 and incorporated and rolls in 1890. There are four stands of rolls of Nordyke and Morman make, Indianapolis. The capacity being 150 barrels per day. All the gentlemen of the firm were born and brought up here, educated in the common schools, and knew all about farm life before embarking on the sea of business and are, so to speak, "to the manneborn." They are earnest, intelligent energetic business men and thorough gentlemen.

W. T. Carr

Mr. Carr has been here twenty four years and came from Kentucky. He is proprietor of the saw mill and stave factory, which cuts nearly 1,000,000 feet of lumber annually. He employs twenty men regularly and his business is a success. He is a gentleman "without fear and without reproach." Needless to say he is a Democrat.

Dr. J. M. Hammond

Dr. Hammond was born in Orange County, near Paoli. He graduated from the University of Louisville in 1886, and commenced the practice of medicine in Orange County in 1871, coming here in 1884. Dr. Hammond is an educated gentleman, a Democrat, and assistant surgeon of the "Air Line" road.

S. C. Patten

Mr. Patten is a native of Crawford County and in 1887 started a drug store in his native county, then was a merchant in Orange County for seven years. He was raised on a farm and educated in the common schools. He is a bright and intelligent gentleman, and at present time engaged in the general merchandise business, of which, with his usual vim, he is making a success.

W. E. Moore

Mr. Moore has a fine livery stable with good vehicles and fourteen head of nice horses and has at the present time a good cash account. Four years ago he commenced business with two old plugs and \$800 in debt. This shows you can't keep a good man down. He is a native of Crawford County, born and raised here and has been a Democrat all his life and is an enthusiastic silver man.

Joseph Finch

Mr. Finch is engaged in the saloon business and came here eleven years ago from West Virginia, of which State he is a native. He conducts a quiet, orderly place, into which a gentleman can step for refreshment without any fear of meeting with rowdies. His "wet" goods are of the best.

C. M. Rosenberger

The leading baker and grocer of the town is Mr. Rosenberger. He is honest, industrious and intelligent. He was born in Harrison County during the period of the railroad building. Mr. Rosenberger does a good business and is liked by all his fellow

townsmen.

The Commercial Hotel

Mr. David Lockett is proprietor of this excellent hostelry. The house has been newly furnished and is first-class in every respect. Mr. Lockett has provided good sample rooms for the traveling public and never tires in his efforts to please. Stop at the Commercial and you will hit the nail on the head.

Sam Benz

By all odds the largest general merchandise store in English is conducted by Mr. Benz. The store was established ten years ago by his father John Benz and his brother. Mr. Sam Benz took the store six years ago. He is a native of Crawford County and is a young wide-awake, aggressive man. Coming as he does, from good old German stock, he knows no such word as fail but pushes on to success. Mr. Benz feels very much incensed about the manner in which his native county has been traduced by a lot of penny-a-liners.

Marengo

In the northern part of Crawford County, about eighty-five miles east of Evansville, on the Louisville Evansville and St. Louis Railroad in the year 1812, was built a block house by some of the early settlers of that neighborhood to protect themselves from the ravage of the savage tribes of Indians which invested the hills of that broken country. In 1829 this block house became the nucleus around which was built the town of Tuckersville afterwards changed to Proctorsville, which name it held until 1885 when it was changed to Marengo.

The first house that was built on the original town site by Henry Hollowel of North Carolina, David Stewart, a Georgian and one of the original settlers, had a number of town lots laid off which he sold.

Four years ago the town was incorporated, and to day it has a large population of souls. Lime and building stone are the chief items of export. There is a good flouring mill and several good saw mills located near the town. Here, also, we find the celebrated Marengo cave that has drawn visitors from all over the country. The people are cultured and the town has an air of refinement about it that is very attractive. It is a good business point and promises to become a town of no little importance in the near future.

G. S. Balthis

Mr. Balthis was born in Milltown, Crawford County, in 1845, and was raised in Leavenworth. From the latter place he came here and commenced business in 1865. His stock is composed of general merchandise and is complete in every respect. The store room is double and 46 x 60 feet, and trade is brisk and full. Mr. Balthis also buys ties and crushes stones. He is treasurer of James Watts Stone Company which owns quarries and furnishes stone for both the Ellwood and Kokomo glass works. He is a self made, shrewd business man, and has been a democrat ever since he was old enough to make a choice between right and wrong.

J. B. Pankey

Mr. Pankey was born and reared in Crawford County, on a farm within four miles of Marengo. In 1872 he was elected sheriff and moved to Leavenworth. He served two terms as sheriff and was elected treasurer in 1882, which office he held for two terms. He has been in the livery business for eight years, and four ago he came here and opened a stable, which he managed with the greatest success until last June, when he was appointed postmaster. Mr. Pankey is undoubtedly the right man for the place. He was born in 1832 and has been a life long Democrat. He is well known over the county, and is a genial gentleman.

W. H. Byrum

Mr. Byrum was born near Shakertown, Ky., in 1840. His father and family moved to this county in 1846, and followed farming. His father died while he was quite young, and W. H. educated himself, and began the study of law and a few years was admitted to the bar. He is at present deputy prosecuting attorney and it may truthfully be said of him he is a self-made man. He has been a democrat all of his life and is acquainted with nearly every voter in this county, and is held in universal esteem. He has never been before the people as a candidate for office but is spoken of as a candidate for the office of Prosecutor at the next election. He is a strong man in his county and is well liked. He owns considerable town property and has the interest of the town at heart.

Cook & Crandall

These gentlemen are proprietors of the Marengo mills which they established four years ago, putting in a complete roller system. They manufacture two brands of flour, "Best of All" and "People's Choice", which finds a ready market. Messrs Cook & Crandall both were born in Floyd County, and before coming here, run a mill at Georgetown. They have been engaged in milling for twenty years and are entirely a master of the trade.

W. E. Gregory

Mr. Gregory was born in Crawford County, near English. He came to Marengo from Taswell, where he was in the dry goods business and kept the hotel. He has been here two years and has a drug store and grocery and is proprietor of the Commercial Hotel. He carries a large stock of pure drugs and his groceries are fresh and inviting, while as "mine host" he is without a doubt in his element.

Dr. S. Byrn

Dr. Byrn is a graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago. He commenced the practice of medicine over thirty years ago at Alton, Crawford County, and has been in Marengo ten years. He was born in Harrison County, but has spent his life within a short distance of Marengo. Dr. Byrn is a member of the board of pension examiners of the county, and was delegate to the state convention in 1886. He is well known and highly esteemed throughout the county.

J. D. Hendrick

Mr. Hendrick was born and raised in Floyd County, and came to Crawford County in '65 locating on a fine farm near Marengo. Three years ago he entered business in Marengo by opening a fine store. The stock includes hardware, stoves, saddlery and groceries and is complete in each department. Mr. Hendrick is a good business man and his trade is constantly increasing.

J. D. Gilliland

Mr. Gilliland was born in Crawford County and up to five years ago was engaged in the lumber business. Since then he opened a saloon and has a quiet, orderly place where everything is first class. Mr. Gilliland is well and favorably known all over the county.

From the County Historian....

Reminiscing.....

Who would have thought a few weeks ago that we would all be in the Corona Virus Pandemic. Like they say; one never knows what tomorrow will bring.

I have been thinking about how things were when I was growing up in the 40's and 50's.

The people that lived on small farms were self sufficient pretty much. Cows for milk, butter and cheese; chickens for eggs and meat; hogs for meat and lard and there was lots of wild game.

People didn't go to the store every day or every week and then it was mostly to get staples like flour, sugar, oats, salt, cocoa and spices etc. The flour came in pretty print or off white cloth bags. The print ones were used to make dresses, shirts and blouses, etc. The plain ones were for dish towels, etc.

I think our country needs to become less dependent on other countries and become more self sufficient, especially when it comes to medications.

The schools seemed to be more about education back then and not so much emphasis on sports. They used to have county spelling bees at the old courthouse on the hill. I got to be a contestant on two occasions. I didn't win, but it was a real

treat. It seems that spelling, cursive writing and history are losing out in schools nowadays.

I didn't get to attend school when I was 6 as we lived in Jonesboro, IN and I would have had to walk a mile each way to and from school and my mother wouldn't let me go. By the next year we had moved to Upland, IN, near Taylor University. My first grade teacher was Miss Bunner, I really liked her but she hurt my feelings badly. Each day after lunch we had to lay our head down on the desk for 15 or 30 minutes. I don't remember for sure the time frame. This little boy across the aisle from me kept trying to whisper to me. I raised my head must a bit to tell him to be quiet and she saw me. I tried to explain but she had no intention of hearing my explanation. She had a big piece of silver duct tape that she slapped across my mouth. He never got any punishment. Well, let me tell you, she didn't sit so high on my totem pole after that.

I got my smallpox shot there in the first grade. Mine didn't leave a very bad scar but some of the kids scars were pretty big..

Be second grade we had moved to Crawford County and Miss Marie Goodwin was my second grade teacher. I also had Hester Megenity and Gordon Dicus. I liked all my grade school teachers. I remember Mr. Megenity having to use his board to whack a couple of the boys. In high school I only had one teacher I didn't like and she will remain anonymous. I wasn't alone in my feelings for her.

Seldon Brown and Lavern Hughes were my bus drivers. I remember Lavern telling the older boys to settle down. If they didn't he would stop and tell them to get off and that they were walking home.

I don't ever remember having a snow day. If the snow got so deep then the bus didn't come down to the turn around to get us, we had to walk about a ¼ mile to highway 37 and get on there. The put chains on the busses back then.

Every year at Christmas the bus driver would always fix each of us a brown bag with peanuts, an apple or an orange and either a candy bar or some chocolate drops. I always looked forward to that.

After I got in high school the lunches were a quarter a day and I helped in the kitchen to pay for my lunch. They needed help in the kitchen, with table cleaning, washing dishes, silverware, pots and pans, bowl, etc. The only thing I hated about washing dishes was that the water had to be so hot. Pearl Cummins and Ruby Teaford were the cooks and very good ones at that. I always loved sloppy joe day and chili day.

My mother lived through the Depression and didn't throw away anything. She kept margarine wrappers to grease cake and bread pans. She kept all bags, paper or plastic

and put them to some use later. She kept string, and yarn and rolled it into a ball. She cut buttons off of dresses and shirts that were going into the rag bad. She used them on other clothes she made as well as the zippers also.

When I think about these times and how wasteful the world is today, it saddens me. We used to have returnable pop bottles, milk and bleach bottles etc. Now most everything is thrown in the trash or a ditch or along the roadside. Almost everything can be recycled and I think it should be.

Two of the essentials for life are clean air and clean water. We have very little of that now. All this convenience is destroying what we need to survive.

When I was growing up, most everyone used to use cloths towels, and napkins. No paper plates and plastic ware unless maybe for a picnic.

There was no running water in our home when I was growing up, nor a bathroom. I did my imaginary shopping in the Sears Roebuck, Aldens or National Bellas Hess catalogs in the outhouse. I didn't do much shopping in the wintertime. We never had a telephone and no TV until I was 14. The screen was about the size of a regular sheet of paper or maybe a little smaller. With school and gardening and milking cows and all our other chores we didn't get to watch much TV as we had to get up really early for milking again. I used to watch the Lone Ranger, Sky King, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Lassie, Dinah Shore, Lawrence Welk, Red Skelton, The Three Stooges, Groucho Marx and The Little Rascals when I got a chance.

We must have had a really good Sheriff back then as we had 25 really pretty white laying hens and someone stole them. We were sitting on the front porch one Sunday about two weeks later when here they came down through woods, in a line one after the other. That was a happy site. Hard times make people appreciate.

I could go on forever about the old days, but I will stop now.

I hope everyone stays safe and well and we all get through this together.

Bill Piper and I are always looking for stories and articles to put in the newsletter. We welcome you to contribute. Most of you probably have some interesting storied about Crawford Co. or about growing up etc. to share with us.

Roberta Toby

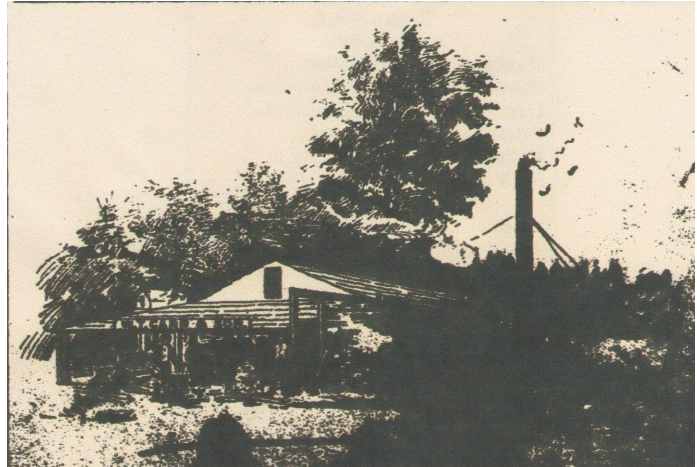
County Historian, Crawford Co. IN.

Queries

No queries for this issue. If you have one, send to billgpiper@hotmail.com

ENGLISH SAW ----- And Planing Mills

One of the most important industries of English and one which has been largely instrumental in facilitating building in this section during the year it has been in operation, is the English Saw and Planing Mills. "New English," or English since it became



the county seat, has had a phenomenal growth, and it was at these mills that the major part of the lumber used in the construction of her many handsome residences and store-building was manufactured. Located on the north side of the Air Line railroad track, inside the town limits, with every shipping facility and advantage, possessed of a plant and machinery full up-to-date in point of efficiency and capacity, managed and operated by industrious practical men, thoroughly familiar with the various branches of the lumber business, this industry has before it a future who contained growth and development may be counted upon as a matter of certainty, and as the town of English continues to expand and grow, so will the usefulness of this plant continue to increase. The origin of the business dates back to 1882. Two years later it passed into the hands of its present owners and operators, Wm. T. Carr and his son Elwin. Up to 1896 the firm had manufactured slack barrels and heading, which adjunct to the business was discontinued and the planing mill created. The plant has been successful from an industrial and pecuniary standpoint, the output having met with a steady demand, not only in the town of English, but in other towns of this immediate section and the country surrounding. The building covers a ground space of 50x120 feet, while an acre of ground is taken up in the plant's operations. Including the men engaged in getting out timber the services of from fifteen to twenty men required to operate this industry. The management of the plant is assumed by the son, Elwin Carr. Mr. Carr, senior, has been a resident of Crawford County for some twenty-seven years. He owns valuable farm lands in the county and realty in English. Elwin Carr as well, owns property here and is a young man of rare business qualifications to whose intelligent management much of the firm's success is due. He is exceedingly popular with all classes and takes an active interest in matters pertaining to his town's up-building. Mr. Wm. Carr has served as a member of the town board and as school trustee. Mr. Elwin Carr also served on the town board. Both gentlemen are members of the Masonic fraternity and ranks among our best citizens.

reprinted from the Crawford County Democrat, Sept 16, 1897

Previous meeting minutes

(Last issue I mentioned printing the November minutes, Carol is still out of the county and I was unable to get those minutes, thus they will be reprinted)

January - no meeting

Feb 11, 2020 Minutes

Program: 6:30 meeting started. Bill Piper passed around photos that were donated by Karen Verble. These pictures were from her grandmother from her early school days in the Marengo area circa 1910s. Bill also passed around a photo of the Proctor House that Valerie Sue Parks donated, a picture that we did not have in our collection. Valerie also had the Dean family history professionally printed out and donated to the CCHGS to display at the Proctor House. Roscoe Hooten passed around 1895 geography school books that his sister found at an auction. One listed Wyandotte caves. David Wilkins spoke of a book he is working on about Magnolia. Also spoke of errors on Find-A-Grave's website and what we can do to fix these errors. He also mentioned that recently stones were put up for veterans of the War of 1812. Also spoke of the articles he is contributing to the Clarion (not weekly but sporadically). Angela Thompson donated canned jars (from 1947) of blackberries to donate to the Proctor House.

President's report: Not much to report (slow time for us), though the recent newsletter was put out.

Vice President's report: Spoke about being fascinated yet aggravated by I69 from Indianapolis to Evansville. Also spoke of SR37 and it's impact on the area (topics inspired by recent Hoosier corridor talks in the surrounding areas). Roscoe also mentioned Seth Denbo's insight on the roads in the area and thinks a biography should be written about him.

Financial / Membership report: Sharon was not present. Carol sent an email presenting the members with a dilemma of diminishing funds in our accounts (lack of donations/sales over the winter months) and the fact the bank charges if our accounts are under a certain amount, of which the Proctor House account was. It was suggested to combine both accounts to avoid the fee. Roscoe Hooten made the motion to combine the accounts and Roberta Toby seconded it. The motion passed.

County Historian / Archives / Veterans Memorial report: Roberta deposited \$45 for book/donation/cookie sales. The Veteran's Memorial may have a program on Memorial Day, but nothing concrete. Roberta also mentioned that the CFCC was wanting to assemble a county website and attempting to get a grant to do this.

Proctor House Committee Report: With the house being closed over the winter months, nothing was reported. However, the opening was featured in the winter issue of Southern Indiana Living magazine.

Fundraising: It was mentioned that fundraising ideas are needed to help replenish diminishing funds in our account.

Donations & Acquisitions: Items listed in the program notes (photos, books & jars). Also Louie Mitchell had brought over items prior to the meeting that is to be included at the Proctor House.

Other Business: Jeremy Flanigan sent in an email requesting the status of the "First Families" project. Roberta spoke of what she had and during discussion, it was decided to go ahead and put together a book of what we had. If more information gets sent in later, a volume 2 might be an option. Roberta is waiting on information from one last person before assembling everything. We are hoping to have the book finished by the summer time.

Meeting was adjourned.

Those attending: William Piper, Ruth Terry, Roberta Toby, Roscoe Hooten, Judy Faith, Alvin K. Balmer, David Wilkins, Jason Froman, Angela Thompson, Jim Kaiser, Lois Austin, Elain Stephenson

March 10, 2020 Minutes

Meeting started 6:30pm, no program scheduled.

Reading of the minutes, Roscoe made a motion to accept, Louie seconded. Motion passed.

President's report: Nothing to report

Vice President's report: Spoke of Mike Benam, Bill Jenner and Dave Wilkens. He would like to see a "Hall of Fame" for people who made a difference and accomplishments in the area.

Financial / Membership report: Sharon not present but did pass along that our general fund is at \$5,428.61

County Historian / Archives / Veterans Memorial report: Nothing to report but did mention she was re-elected as County Historian for the next three years.

Proctor House Committee Report: Bill P. said he will be doing some spring cleaning at the house.

Donations & Acquisitions: Nothing

Fundraising: Discussions on an indoor yard sale at the VFW for May 16 (Saturday). Roberta will be contacting Clayton at the VFW to reserve this date.

Meeting ended at 7:10pm

Those attending: William Piper, Louie Mitchell, Diane Mitchell, Jim Kaiser, Ruth Terry, Roberta Toby, Roscoe Hooten and Angela Thompson.

Crawford County Veteran Spotlight:

Elby Ray Long

Elby Ray served 21 years in the U.S. Army, he also fought in the Korean War and Vietnam War.



Family Trees

We have hundreds and hundreds of family files, some only have one page of info and others have a lot. We also have the trees listed below. Some are books about the family and others are three ring binders. We keep adding to our collection all the time. This is a list of what we have so far.

Agan	Faulkenburg	Newkirk (Several)
Allen	Fields	Pace
Algood	Froman-Funk-Hite-	Payton, Ethel C.
Apple (several)	Keysacker-Myler-Nash	Pipes/Harriman
Apple/Byrd	Froman	Pope
Apple/Prewitt	Funkhauser	Prater/Prather
Ballard/Dillman	Garrett/Keith	Prewitt (Several)
Bartelt	Gettelfinger/Fessel	Ratliff-Smith
Belcher	Gibson-Jenkins-Bradley	Ray (Several)
Blackford/Bobbitt	Gregory (Several)	Rhoades x 2
Brown, Jehu	Grimes (Several)	Rothrock
Byrd/House	Hall	Scott
Bird/Byrd	Harper, Rachel (Book about her life)	Sloan
Chanley	Hays	Schanberger-Helmburg
Claycomb	Huffman	Schrimshes
Condra Vol. 1 & 2	Jones	Scott (Several)
Carroll, John H.	Kepley	Shirley
Caesar	Key	Smith
Croner/Lynch	King	Stiff
Cummins/Cummings	Lanning	Speedy
Cuzzort	Leavenworth	Stevenson
Denbo	Lincoln (Washington Co. KY)	Stone
Dick	Leistner (Several)	Taylor
Dicus/Denbo	Longest (Several)	Tower
Dillard, Fred	Mason, Martin	Traugher
Dillman	Mathers	Trusty
Dillman/Jones	Mayfield	Walls (Several)
Dixon/McCallister	McDonald	Weathers
Dye/Eden/Luttrell	Mills, Henry	Wiseman/Goldman
Eaton-Hedden-Powell-	Mitchell (Several)	Wood/Fullenwider
Ells	Newton	Wright
Elliott	Norman	Yates, John
Fairchild	O'Bannon	Yates, Ruth Collier

There are family histories that have these names listed on Cover.

1. Sloan, Guy, Green, Wasson, Hunt, Reader, Moore, Burroughs, Thorpe, Way, Howell, Jessup, Hawter, Croker, Pearson, Skynner, Eyre.
2. Hourich, Schleiger, Sliger, Ingle, Humphrey, Haskins.
3. Brown, Austin, Grimes, Gregory, Scott, Guy, Longest, Mitchell.
4. McDonald, Prewitt. Shipley, Lane, Loman, Parks.
5. Austin, Guire, Nelson, Osborn, Hollis.
6. Bullock, Colby, Faulkenburg, Rhodes.

- Roberta Toby

ABRAHAM PECKINGPAUGH HOUSE

In c.1870 Abraham Peckinpough, part owner of local lumber mill Peckinpough, Harrison & Co. Mills, built his elaborate Queen-Anne-style house in what was then the outskirts of Alton. Born in 1839 near Alton, Peckinpough grew up on a farm and initially was a farmer himself before venturing into the lumber business in the mid-1860s. He and his partner Harrison located their mill near the mouth of the Little Blue River and specialize in furniture, mantels, and “other novelties.” The mill flourished and by the next decade Peckinpough accumulated enough wealth to build a fine residence, complete with a large carriage house.



Membership Dues

Dues for the Crawford County Genealogical and Historical Society are \$15 per year for single memberships, \$20 for family or \$25 for corporation/businesses. The fee is due each June as the new year starts in July. A renewal form is available on the website, www.cchgs.org.

Send your check to:
Sharon Morris
CCHGS Treasurer
P.O. Box 162
Leavenworth, IN 47137

Meetings

The Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm, at the CCHGS Headquarters (310 Oak Circle, English IN). You can call 812-338-2579 to confirm.

Website:

www.cchgs.org

Social Media:

Search for "Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society" on FACEBOOK!



Find us on
facebook

Books for sale

Our book list has been REVISED!! Some out of print titles have now returned and we are also offering DIGITAL versions of most of our books. The digital versions will be sold on CD-R in PDF format. Check our website, <http://www.cchgs.org> for more information!

The Crawford Countian is the official newsletter of the CCHGS.



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CRAWFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL &
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM
2020-2021



Dues for annual membership are \$15 for a single member, one vote; \$20 for a family, two votes; \$25 for an organization, two votes. Voting members' names must be included. Please include the name of the organization if applicable. All dues payable by July 1st. Membership includes a subscription to the CCHGS Newsletter published quarterly. Please choose which method for newsletter delivery, if left blank, no newsletter will be sent.

Mail this form with dues to:
CCHGS
Sharon Morris, Treasurer
P.O. Box 162
Leavenworth, IN. 47137

New Member Renewal

First Name(s) _____ MI _____ Last Name _____
_____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Name of Organization _____

Choose how you want your quarterly newsletter:

E-mail _____

Local pick up (@ monthly meetings)

Thanks for your interest in joining the CCHGS.