

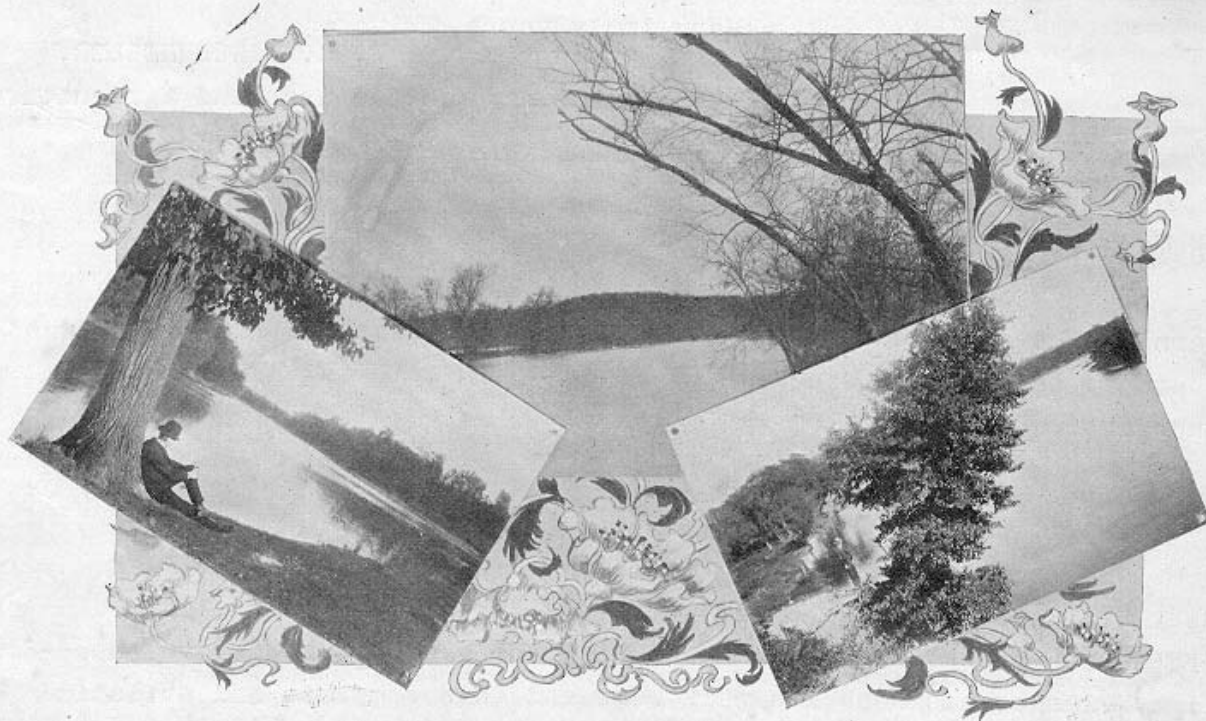
Headlight FLASHES.

Along the



(ST. LOUIS &
SAN FRANCISCO R. R.)

VAN BUREN, ARKANSAS



PRICE, 25' CENTS

2890

STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

DAN'L W. JONES, GOVERNOR
ARTHUR NEILL, PRIVATE SECRETARY

Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 11, 1898.

Chicago R. R. Publishing Co.,

H. L. Hauser, Manager

My Dear Sir:

From what I have examined of the matter contained in the Van Buren Edition of Headlight Flashes, I believe it to be a very complete and conservative statement of the resources of Van Buren and Northwestern Arkansas, and gladly commend it to those who are seeking information about that section of the State.

Very truly yours,

DAN'L W. JONES, Governor.

BUREAU OF
MINES, MANUFACTURES AND AGRICULTURE
W. G. VINCENHELLER, COMMISSIONER

Little Rock, Aug. 9, 1898.

Chicago R. R. Publishing Co.,

H. L. Hauser, Manager.

My Dear Sir:

From the examination I have made of the matter of the Van Buren Edition of Headlight Flashes, I consider it a fair and conservative statement of the resources of that section of the State. I confidently commend the work to our people as well as the people of other states.

Very truly yours,

W. G. VINCENHELLER,

Commissioner of Mines, Manufactures and Agriculture.

Fort Smith, Ark., Aug. 9, 1898.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have examined the statements made in the Headlight Flashes concerning the resources of Western Arkansas tributary to Van Buren, and they are in no sense exaggerated--indeed, in some instances they are underestimated.

Very Respectfully,

W. M. FISHBACK.

[Ex-Governor of Arkansas]

The committee consisting of Jesse Turner, R. E. Brown, F. G. Kerr, Buck Williams and H. C. Wood, which was appointed by the mayor to co-operate with the publishers in producing the Van Buren Edition of Headlight Flashes has done its work well and this complete and artistic book is due in a great measure to its efforts.

HEADLIGHT FLASHES

A periodical devoted to the interests of railroads and railroad centers.

CHICAGO RAILROAD PUBLISHING CO.

Publishers

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 { 809-811 Garrison Ave., Fort Smith, Ark.

AUGUST, 1898

THE Van Buren edition of HEADLIGHT FLASHES is the first of a series to be published in the southwest. The publishers in this edition have taken special pains to represent the

facts concerning the wonderful and varied resources of Northwestern Arkansas. Fortunately this section is not dependent on any one source of income for its prosperity. It has its great cotton interests, its vast coal fields and immense forests of hardwood timber, while along with its regular agricultural products it has its potato and fruit industry, any one of which would be of very great importance to any section of the United States. What Van Buren needs is factories to utilize the vast amount of raw material and fuel which lies at

its very door and to supply the great demands in the vast territory lying south and west. There are more arguments in favor of this point for a cotton factory than any other section of the south. The object of HEADLIGHT FLASHES is to give the outside world an idea of the many and varied resources of this section of the country. This edition is in connection with the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad, which has made it possible to issue such a handsome book without a line of paid matter in it.

Van Buren, Arkansas

Van Buren, the county seat of Crawford county, has a population of about 4000. It is situated on the Arkansas river, 159 miles west of Little Rock, the state capital, 410 miles southwest of St. Louis, Mo., and 175 miles north of Paris, Texas. Its transportation facilities are surpassed by few towns in the State, being the junction of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway, the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway and the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway, a branch road of the great Missouri Pacific Railroad system.

The tributary trade of Van Buren embraces not only four-fifths of the county of which it is the official seat, but extends far out into the Indian Territory. In order to give a general sketch of this city, therefore, we find it quite necessary to inter-weave the agricultural and horticultural resources and advantages of Crawford County, as the city largely derives its growth and prosperity from that source.

Crawford County is situated in the northwestern part of Arkansas—the most highly cultured and favored section of the state—bounded on the south by the Arkansas River and on the west by the Indian Territory. Almost every variety of soil is found here—river bottom, creek valley and mountain—and crops of all kinds yield abundantly with one-half the cultivation required in the north and northwest.

The climate of Van Buren and surrounding country is unsurpassed. One will find bright sunshine, pure and invigorating air; strength and

vigor in every breeze, and long life and happiness in a favored land which combines all the beauties of the tropics and all the virtues of the temperate zone.

The environments of Van Buren are different from any other city in this state. It lies at the base of a mountain which rises 300 feet or more above the business center, and occupies in part a plain area of the Arkansas river, and also in part the immediate foothills of the mountain. And in consequence not only is it on the one hand set hard by the broad flowing waters of the Arkansas where there is room for a city of a half million inhabitants, but it is also on the other hand a mountain city where, according to extent of surface, it is permitted the humblest as well as the wealthiest citizen to build his home at the elevation of 50 to 300 feet above the common level of its business houses, or at an elevation of 750 to 1000 feet above the Gulf of Mexico.

The county of Crawford is arranged on the same plan only on a larger scale than that of the city—on a series of terraces—the distance from the river plain to the summit of the Boston Mountains being twenty-two miles, the elevation between the two being 1500 feet.

This topographical terrace system is intersected by streams issuing from these mountains and fertile valleys formed by them, making another series of terraces crossing the others, the larger ones, at right angles. As a result of this remarkable natural formation topographically, this section is adapted to the raising of all fruits, berries and agricultural products

grown within the temperate zone of the western continent, and earlier than in other states naturally adapted to such products.

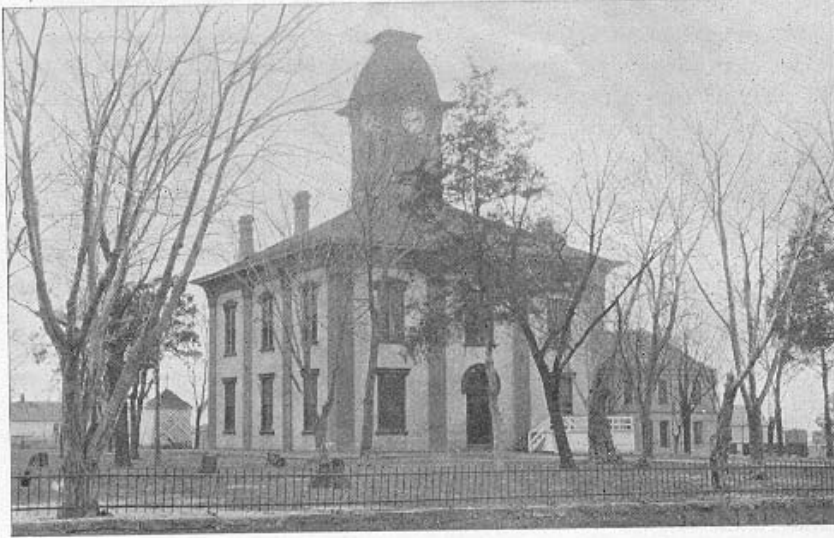
Is it any wonder that this section of the country is fast becoming known as the great fruit and berry belt, not only of the state, but of the world? Fruits here are ready for the market from two to four weeks earlier than the fruits of Missouri and southern Illinois, and about a week or ten days earlier than the counties immediately north, across the mountains. This is an advantage the value of which cannot be over estimated. Van Buren and Crawford county ship more strawberries and small fruits than any other section between the Mississippi river and the Rocky mountains.

While the main attention is being devoted to the growing of berries and fruits, potatoes have proven of importance next to strawberries, and the acreage is increasing each year.

Some conception of the wonderful productiveness of the soil can be received by the fact that two crops of potatoes can be raised on the same ground each year. The yield with a fair season is from 100 bushels on the uplands to 200 bushels or more on the bottom lands, the second crop usually bringing the best prices.

Peaches, apples, pears, plums, grapes, and all kinds of small fruits attain their greatest perfection here. Tomatoes, melons, peas, beans, cabbage, and other vegetables are grown and shipped in large quantities, and are a source of great profit to the producer. Lands adapted for fruit can be bought within two to five miles of shipping points for from \$10 to \$50 an acre, with good water and

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



CRAWFORD COUNTY COURT HOUSE

more or less improvement, according to price.

For the benefit of those who are seeking new locations desirous to go into the raising of berries and fruits, it might be of interest to give some information as to the characteristics of the soil, for only three factors are necessary to make such a venture successful—soil, climate and transportation facilities—all of which this section possesses.

Of the soil characteristics of the country commanded by Van Buren, it is to be said in strict justice to facts in the case that it is remarkable to a degree not discovered elsewhere in the south. As illustration of this, take the following example:

The soil, which in its mineral character, is derived from the millstone grit series, rests invariably upon decomposed ocherous shale, rich in iron and alumina. Or, in other words, it is imposed upon a subsoil which stores up considerable moisture against the encroachments of dry weather, and at the same time supplies in a soluble form the iron necessary to a perfect combustion of all kinds of plants. This applies in all instances where the elevation is more than 200 feet above the river plane or more than 700 feet above the Gulf of Mexico.

It is claimed that anyone properly managing a farm in this county can, by raising berries, in the first two seasons, with ordinary prices, pay for it. There are many instances to the writer's knowledge, where this has actually been done. Also where parties have made small fortunes the past few years from potatoes and fruits as well as berries.

While Crawford county is specially adapted to the growing of all kinds of fruits, vegetables, cotton and berries, strawberries take the precedence owing to the fact that the climate and soil here produces the best colored and flavored and the largest berry and yield anywhere known, which with its early growth makes it the most profitable industry.

The annual shipments of strawberries from Van Buren during the past three years has averaged 125 cars. There are 600 crates to the car and 24 quarts to the crate. This year, however, the shipments were 250 cars. The acreage is being constantly increased, and each successive season shows an increase of shipments. As large as the shipments are there has never yet

been a season that growers have been able to supply the demand.

Strawberries yield from 60 to 125 crates per acre, netting the grower from \$1.00 to \$1.25 a crate clear of all expenses.

Van Buren as a distributing centre for the rich country surrounding it, has kept pace with its development. While it has never experienced any boom or phenomenal growth at any one time, it has continued to prosper in a substantial manner, while other cities less favored, have retrograded.

With its rich tributary country, its excellent shipping facilities and advantageous location for manufacturing, it has the grandest of possibilities before it.

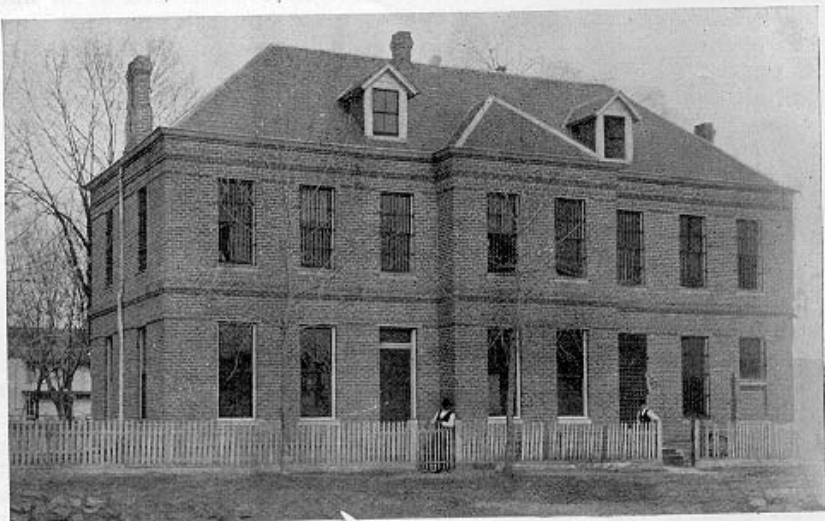
It is quite difficult to get a full conception of the magnitude of the strawberry industry of this county and what that product alone means to Van Buren, and when to this is added other berries, fruits, vegetables, cotton, etc., it becomes still harder.

The following statement of last season's volume of shipments, compiled to January 1st, 1898, giving net amounts, which can easily be verified upon investigation, will give the reader some idea of the importance of the Queen City as a commercial center:

Strawberries, 104 cars	\$ 96,500
Blackberries and raspberries	7,000
Peaches, 35 cars	17,000
Potatoes, 70 cars	20,000
Other fruits and vegetables	6,500
Cotton, 20,000 bales	540,000

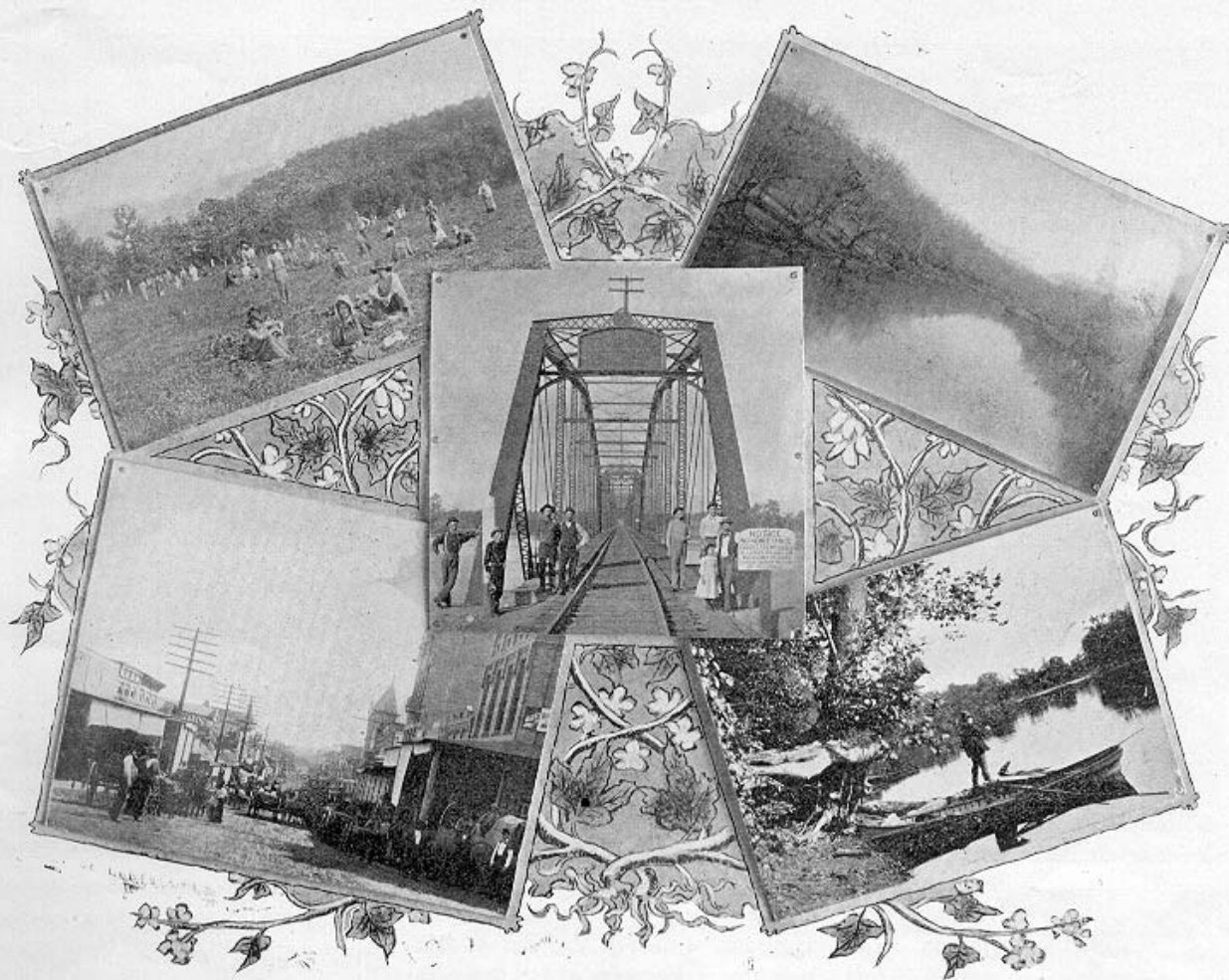
Making a net aggregate sum of \$687,000.

This year the shipments of strawberries was 250 cars.



CRAWFORD COUNTY JAIL

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



This statement does not include all of the cotton raised in the county tributary to this city, as enough has been shipped since to make it go up to 35,000 bales. It is impossible to give the exact amount of cotton raised in Crawford county last year, but it is estimated 35,000 acres are devoted to this crop, and that it yielded 26,000 bales.

Estimating this at the lowest price, 5 1-2 cents per pound, it makes (averaging 525 pounds to the bale) close to \$751,000; add with this receipts from berries, etc., \$147,000, and the pay roll of the Missouri Pacific of \$300,000, two-thirds of which remains here, with that received by manufacturers, wholesale houses and other sources, makes over \$1,000,000 annually paid into the city and county from outside. With these enormous receipts it is not strange that the business houses of the city are prosperous and growing in importance each year. During the berry season the town, in the business portions, looks like a veritable bee hive of bustle and activity from morn to

night, business streets thronged so by vehicles as to be impassable.

Van Buren has an excellent system of water and electric light, schools whose grades stand as high as any in the state, good religious advantages of all denominations, numerous beautiful and attractive homes, furnishes headquarters for a number of traveling men, representing Fort Smith and local jobbing houses.

The city is absolutely free of indebtedness. It offers not only a pleasant place for a home, but the best of advantages for manufacturing plants.

With cheap coal of the very best quality—used altogether by the Missouri Pacific road in preference to any other—at the very doors of the city, excellent transportation facilities and desirable locations, convenient to railroads, river and water, with cotton, fruits and raw materials of many kinds in abundance, and an ever-growing market within a radius of several hundred miles, it is a source of wonder to many why manufacturers and wholesale jobbers have not

more largely taken advantage of these splendid opportunities before. The very best point desired for a wholesale dry goods house is waiting some experienced and enterprising merchant here.

Among the plants already here are cotton compress, that compresses all the cotton of this and adjoining counties, and draws largely from the Indian Territory; an adamant factory, that manufactures the celebrated wall plaster known as "Adamant;" a foundry, where all kinds of iron and brass castings are made; an ice factory, a twenty-ton plant; a large cold storage building; an improved steam cotton gin; a grist and cotton seed mill, steam laundry, planing mill and a canning factory.

Unusual inducements are offered to cotton, planing, canning, oil, crate, basket and box factories at this point.

Any information desired about the city or county will be cheerfully furnished by the Board of Trade.



Shibley-Wood Grocery Company was incorporated



W. H. H. SHIBLEY

in 1889, and re-organized in 1894 with a capital stock of \$70,000. Its officers are W. H. H. Shibley, president; H. P. King, vice-pres.; Carl Shibley, sec'y and treas. The directory of this company is composed of Judge S. F. Stahl, who has always been prominent as a banker and merchant, and is now serving as U. S. Marshal of the Western District of Arkansas, located at Fort Smith; H. P. King, engaged in the general mercantile business for many years; R. J. Miller, a former retail merchant; Jesse Wood, who represents the Kelly-Goodfellow Shoe Company of St. Louis in Arkansas; Carl Shibley, formerly representative of this house in the Indian Territory, and who was recently elected to fill the office of secretary and treasurer made vacant by the retirement on account of ill health of H. C. Wood, who had been with this company since its organization; W.



S. F. STAHL

H. H. Shibley, the president and active manager, to whom the success of the business is largely due. Mr. Shibley is one of the most enterprising business men of Van Buren. He was for many years connected with the well-known firm of D. C. Williams, and later on engaged in a general mercantile business for himself on a large scale at this same place. He also has a large strawberry and fruit farm, called the Oakland Fruit Co., consisting of 135 acres, which is considered one of the finest farms of the kind in the state. Mr. Shibley is one of the prominent members of the Horticultural Association, and has done much to advance the interests of the strawberry and fruit industries of Crawford county.



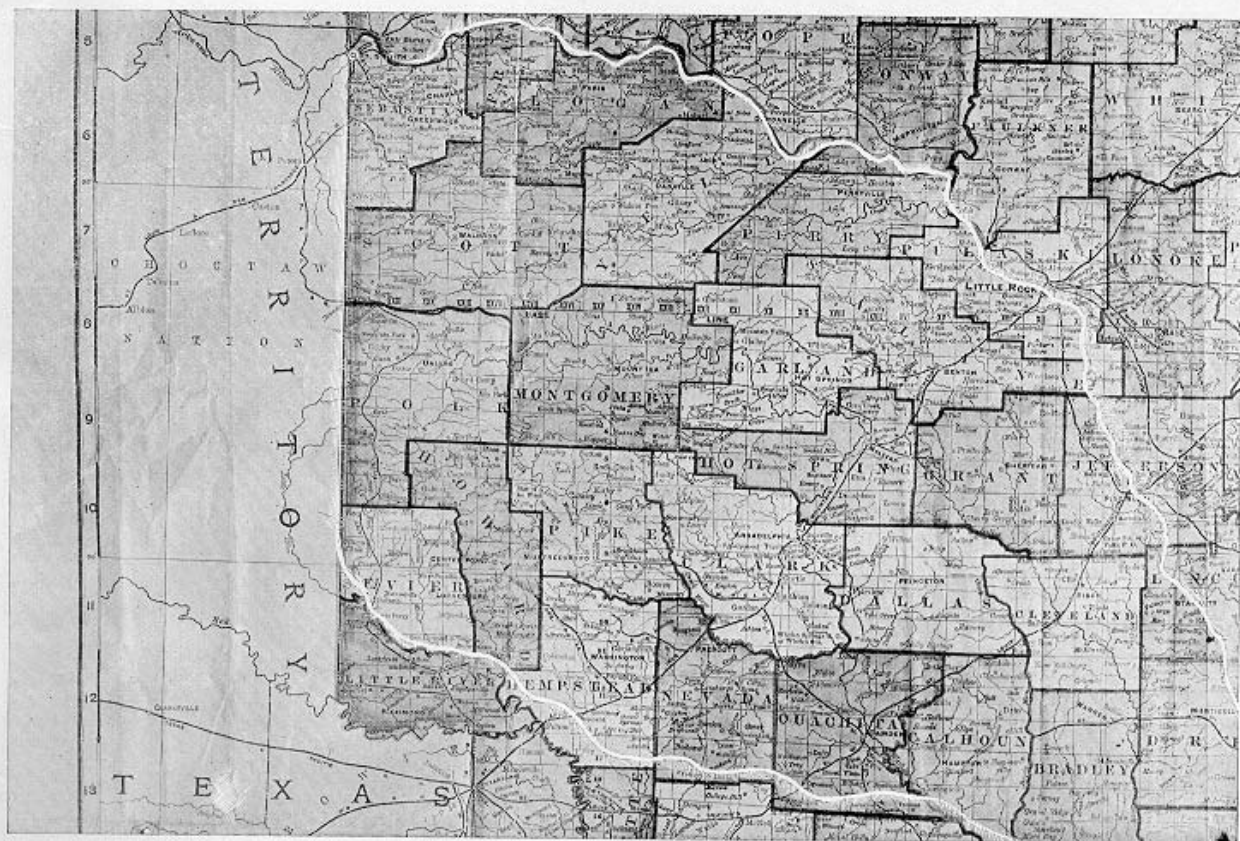
CARL SHIBLEY

This house has been a success from the start, its business showing a steady gain each year, the amount of business for the past year amounting to almost \$600,000. Five traveling representatives are kept on the road, covering a territory in every direction from 100 to 125 miles. One of the factors which has assisted the growth of this house is the excellent shipping

facilities possessed by it, which are even better than those of Fort Smith, the only place where it has any rivalry in its line in this section of the country, owing to the fact that Van Buren is a freight divisional point of the Missouri Pacific Railway, enabling the shipment of orders received from the Indian Territory and points east on the same day as received. This house has annually declared a handsome dividend and has in addition thereto accumulated a surplus of \$30,000. It carries a very large and complete stock and handles a choice brand of flour, baking powder, cheese, etc., under the name "Jersey," which has by its excellent quality won a large trade.

A firm of men whose reputation for honesty, uprightness and fair dealing is commented upon by everyone, must likewise have the confidence of their patrons, be they local or foreign. These characteristics have made for this firm an enviable name. They know but one business maxim: that of "honesty is the best policy," and have rigidly observed it, no matter how large or how small the amount was involved.

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



THE TERRITORY INSIDE THE WHITE LINES REPRESENTS THE HARD WOOD TIMBER DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS

The Timber Interests

Arkansas is rich in forests of standing timber, and the lumber industry is destined to be a source of great future wealth and prosperity to Van Buren. Its importance at the present time is scarcely realized by anyone. As an industry it is but yet in its infancy and but little attention comparatively speaking, has been given to developing and utilizing this very important factor either for manufacturing purposes or for lumber. The northern states are rapidly losing their timber and are already beginning to look to the south for their supply. With the growth of this state, the increase of wood-working manufactures, the advent of better railroad shipping facilities and the foreign demand for lumber of all kinds naturally has placed the timber resources very high, and furnished a rich source of wealth to Van Buren, growing in importance each year.

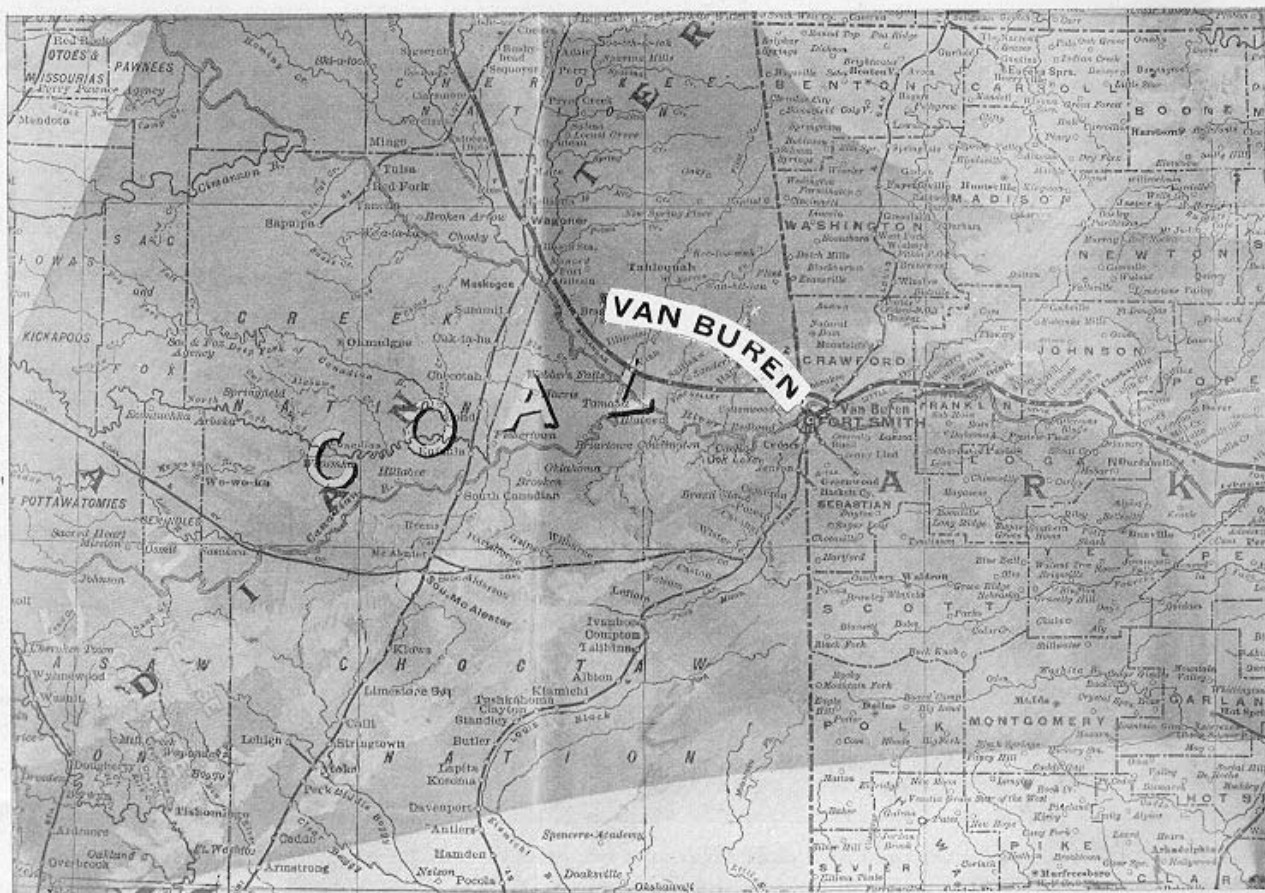
"King's Hand Book of the United States," on page 65, says: "There are about 30,000 square miles of timber lands in Arkansas, the most abundant being the yellow pine." There are 15,000 square miles of pine land. The cypress is found in the swamps of the east and south. Different species of oaks abound, the white oak

being the most valuable. Yellow poplar occurs in the east, and cedar is abundant in the northern mountains. Other valuable woods are walnut, cherry, sweetgum, hickory, maple, beech, elm and ash, persimmon, pecan, catalpa, sycamore, buckeye, dogwood and locust. "From these forests," continues this authority, "\$20,000,000 worth of lumber is cut yearly, large shipments being made to Europe." Again, on page 68, appears the following quotation from ex-Governor S. P. Hughes, and at present an associate justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court, viz.: "We know that Arkansas abounds in all the material elements of wealth and greatness; that she has over 2,000,000 acres of state lands to be donated to actual settlers, and that there are within her borders 5,000,000 acres of public lands of the United States subject to homestead entry, to be had in 160-acre tracts, at a cost of not over \$20 per tract. We are rich in timber, having 30,000 square miles of grand forests of the most valuable varieties; rich in minerals, having over 12,000 square miles in coal fields, an abundance of iron, manganese, zinc, copper, marble, granite, limestone, lithograph and soapstone."

Millions of feet of choice walnut and other commercial woods, are annually cut and shipped from the local mills to the northern and eastern states. All classes of building and fencing timber are abundant and cheap, and the local markets are supplied with firewood at a nominal cost. Some idea may be derived as to the vastness of Arkansas' timber forests from the fact that it is estimated by those who know, if cut and sold would purchase every acre of land in Kansas and Nebraska at their assessed values.

The great forests of timber lying at the very door of Van Buren offer the greatest inducements for the location of factories, subject to the least possible competition from outside points. Arkansas is better known throughout the world by reason of the large quantity, and great variety, of its hardwood lumber, than through any of its other natural resources. West of a line drawn north and south through Van Buren, and for hundreds of miles above and below the borders of the state, hardwood timber is a rarity. Wood-working factories at points outside, of the northern timber states to supply the territory tributary to Van Buren would be at a disadvantage.

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



THE DARK BACKGROUND REPRESENTS THE COAL DISTRICTS OF THIS SECTION

The Coal Interests

Coal, perhaps one of the greatest of civilizers, abounds at the very door of this city. The greater part of Crawford county, in which Van Buren is located, and Sebastian county, immediately south, is underlaid with coal, varying from thirty-two inches to seven feet in thickness. It is almost smokeless, and burns to an ash nearly as soft as wood ashes. It is in all respects equal to, and in some respects superior to, the best steam producing and domestic coal found in any other section of the country. The following is an average analysis of Crawford county coal:

Fixed carbon.....	79.853
Ash.....	5.999
Water.....	.915
Sulphur.....	1.680
Vol. hydro. carbon.....	11.553
Specific gravity, 1,327.	100.000

Mr. David Dale Owen, a well known geologist, says: "The coal of this section is thicker and more extensive than in any other part of Arkansas," and reports well defined strata of five feet six inches thickness, the quality of which he characterizes

in the following terms: "These analysis prove this coal to be semibituminous, and far richer in fixed carbon than most of the coals in the western states, and, therefore, twice as durable in fire with proper access of air. It contains just enough volatile combustible matter to keep it ignited without the artificial blast required for anthracite." "There are 5,000,000 acres of valuable coal fields tributary to Van Buren"

"In supplying fuel to the army, the standard test of allowance is the cord of standard oak wood." The coals tested by the war department during the year, with the number of pounds of each required to equal one cord of standard oak wood, were from thirty-six samples sent from mines in several states of this country and some localities in other parts of the world, and was as follows:

Wyoming.....	3,454
Indiana.....	2,698
Montana.....	2,722
Kansas.....	2,165
New Mexico.....	2,652
Illinois.....	2,660
Utah.....	2,639
Washington.....	3,267

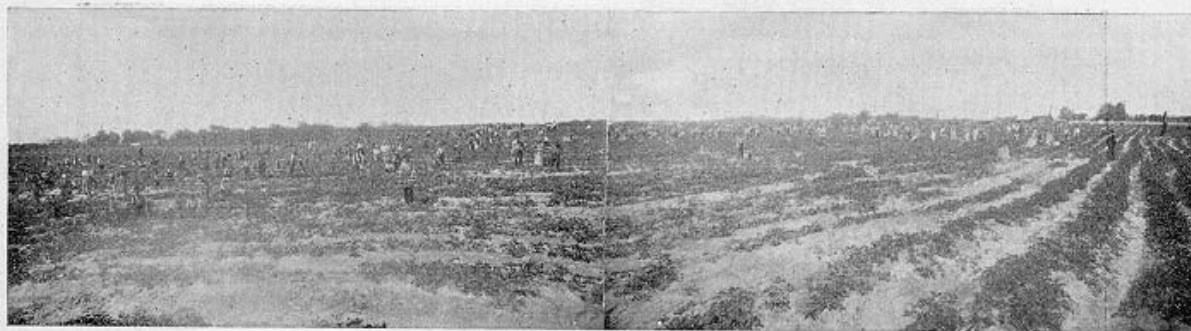
North Wales.....	3,487
Scotland.....	3,024
New South Wales.....	2,593
British Columbia.....	2,222
Colorado.....	2,229
Tennessee.....	2,219
Alabama.....	2,188
HUNTINGTON, ARK. (mine run)	1,765
HUNTINGTON, ARK. (lump).....	1,739

Under date of May 20, 1895, M. I. Ludington, colonel and assistant quartermaster general, U. S. A., and chief quartermaster Department of Missouri, headquarters at Chicago, Ill., wrote to Col. E. P. Seeley, superintendent of the Western Coal and Mining Company, that a test had been made of the coal mined at Jenny Lind, according to the standard prescribed by the war department, with the following result.

JENNY LIND.....	1,675
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Fuel being one of the main items of expense in manufacturing, the fact of there being such unlimited quantities at the very doors of the city, and that it can be obtained for 75 cents per ton in the slack and \$1.75 in the lump, gives the city a great advantage in the way of manufacturing.

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



OAKLAND FRUIT FARM—135 ACRES IN STRAWBERRIES

Strawberries

The strawberry industry takes precedence in the vicinity of Van Buren and now there is scarcely a farmer but that has from 10 to 135 acres devoted to this growth. The growing of strawberries in this locality has only assumed the proportions of an industry within the past few years. Ten years ago but few native farmers realized that the land was adapted to fruits and berries. The Horticultural association, which is one of the best in the state, has done much to foster and protect the strawberry interest. The topographical location, soil and climate in Crawford county, is especially adapted to the growing of strawberries, and as the last few years, by reason of the excellent shipping facilities, has proven this fruit to be the most profitable, the acreage has increased at the ratio of about 200 per cent. In '95, seventy-seven cars, containing 45,680 crates, were shipped from Van Buren, bringing \$99,827.83, with a net profit of \$56,860.80; in 1896, seventy-six cars, containing 43,108 crates, bringing \$99,691.17, the net profit \$68,437.37, while this year there were 250 cars shipped.

The berries raised here are noted for their fine coloring, size and

lucious flavor. Berries here ripen as early as those forty miles south, and one to two weeks earlier than the same latitude east or west, and five to six weeks earlier than the country adjoining on the north, which, of course, gives this point a great advantage. Berries in this locality ripen as early as the tenth of April, yielding from 50 to 150 crates to the acre, which bring an average of from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per crate, net profit. It is estimated that there is a strawberry acreage in the county of 4,000, and about 2,700 acreage in the vicinity of Van Buren. There is every indication that the increase of acreage in berries and fruits in Crawford county will continue in the same ratio as in the past.

Horticultural

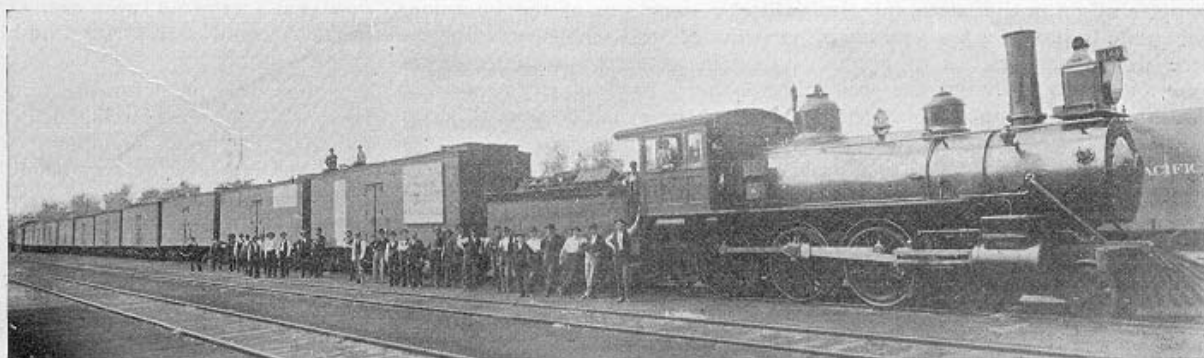
The Van Buren Horticultural Association as it now stands, is virtually a reorganization of the Crawford County Horticultural Association that came into existence in the year 1885. At the time of the organization of the old association, which only numbered six at the beginning, it was not considered necessary to have a legal incorporation, but during the years 1895-96 it was found that the old association had no legal existence and could not collect any

claims either from railroad companies or other parties with whom the association did business, by a legal process.

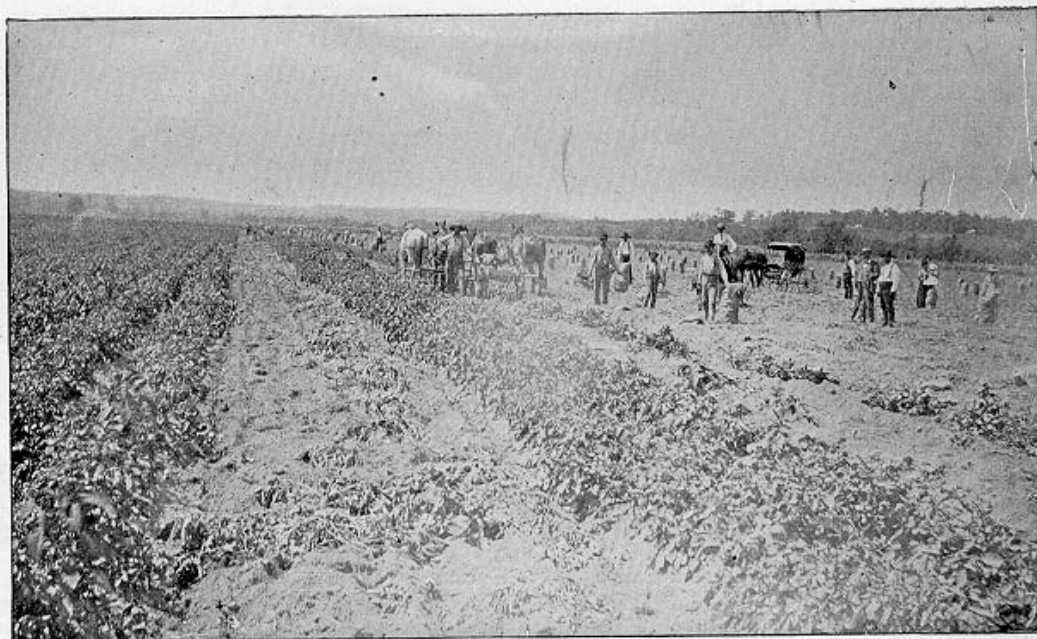
Shortly after this decision by the court, a number of the larger fruit growers met and formed the present association with a capital stock of \$5000, consisting of 200 shares of \$25 each, organized under the laws of the state.

One year's experience has demonstrated that the proper plan was adopted and the business of the association is constantly increasing. This season will show shipments through the association of 250 to 300 cars of strawberries, 75 to 100 cars of other fruits, and 100 to 150 cars potatoes and other vegetables, aggregating about three to four hundred thousand dollars. This association, which has been a most important one in behalf of the horticulturists of this county, ships for about 400 fruit growers. Its officers are: Geo. R. Wood, pres.; J. Neal, vice-pres.; J. L. Rea, sec., and W. H. H. Shibley, treas.

The fruit and berry industry of Crawford county is steadily growing in importance each year. By reason of its favorable location in the Ozark mountains, its soil, drainage and



COMPLETE TRAIN LOADED WITH STRAWBERRIES FOR NORTHERN MARKETS



POTATO DIGGING BY HORSE POWER NEAR VAN BUREN

watering, it is especially adapted to fruits. These advantages, with that of the protection afforded by the mountains, gives this locality a superior advantage over other localities, fruits ripening here as early as those 400 miles south, one to two weeks earlier than the same latitude east or west, and five to six weeks earlier than the country adjoining on the north. Van Buren has, fortunately for these industries, had a large number of enterprising business men who were quick to realize the benefits to be derived from horticultural pursuits, and to take advantage of them. In this way, intelligence, combined with capital, has done much to foster the growing of apples, peaches and pears in Crawford county. The Ben Davis apple is the leading variety for commercial purposes, and often produces from 300 to 600 bushels to the acre. To give some conception of the variety of apples raised in the state, at the Springdale fruit fair a few years ago there were 300 varieties of apples alone on exhibition, and the fruits raised in Crawford county are of such superior quality that they have always found a ready and profitable market, most of the crop being contracted for while on the tree.

Arkansas has for many years been known as a great fruit country, and today it stands almost without a peer. Its apples received the first prize at the World's Fair in New Orleans in 1885 for the best collection, Wilder medal for best seedling apple, first

prize at Riverside, Cal., first award World's Fair, Chicago, 1893. At the World's Exposition in New Orleans in 1885 it was awarded first prize for best display of apples, peaches and pears, and carried off thirteen premiums on individual specimens. Again, at San Francisco, in 1888, it carried off first honors even over California, the acknowledged fruit country of the world. Pears and peaches are equally as successfully grown as apples. The acreage in fruit trees in Crawford county is increasing every year at least fifty per cent, with an estimated acreage at the present time of 4000. Last year 40 cars of peaches, netting \$26,000, were shipped from this point, and one nursery house alone reported the sale of 150,000 apple, pear and peach trees, largely the latter, during the last year, which were planted in the vicinity of Van Buren, and reported 50,000 trees as being planted by other parties, which will give some idea of the enormous growth of this industry. In the mountain protected sections of the state there has not been absolute failure of the peach crop in 35 years.

Potato Culture.

A few years ago scarcely any native Arkansan believed that potatoes, berries or fruits could be raised from the soil here to any advantage, from a commercial standpoint. The experiments of a few intelligent men demonstrated, however, that Arkansas was one of the greatest states in the union for raising those products,

and to-day the growing of potatoes alone has become one of the great industries of the state. Each year vast fortunes are made, and the acreage has, for several years back, increased each year two-fold, and will continue to increase hereafter at the same ratio. The advent of new railroads opened up profitable markets to the potato grower, and the individual results in many cases almost incredible. Think of two crops raised each year from the same ground; the first crop yielding from one to two hundred bushels, and the second crop from fifty to one hundred bushels. Potatoes, so far, have sold at an average price of fifty cents per bushel for the first crop, and one dollar per bushel for the second; the latter being raised largely for seed. In many cases in the immediate vicinity persons using the best methods, and good intelligent management, have actually paid for their farms from the first year's crop of potatoes. One grower cleared over \$10,000 on both crops.

Nature does much for the farmers here, and where intelligence and judgment is used, combined with thrift and industry, he very soon becomes independent.

The protection afforded by the mountains enables the growers to ship fruits, berries, vegetables, etc., as early as localities four hundred miles further south, one to two weeks earlier than the same latitude east or west of, and five to six weeks earlier than the country joining on the north.

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



COMPRESS AT VAN BUREN, OWNED BY FORT SMITH COMPRESS COMPANY

Two things, at least, have been demonstrated in connection with the potato industry of this part of the state. Considered that two crops can be grown during the year, it will pay to grow potatoes for market, though each crop yields only one hundred bushels per acre. This is granted for the reason that it applies only to crops grown in the hill country of this territory. The same conditions favoring a hill crop will in the case of the river bottom and creek land, with fair cultivation, bring about a yield of two hundred bushels to the acre, exclusive of a second crop, which would round for the year four hundred bushels to the acre, which at an average of fifty cents to the bushel equals the value of seven bales of cotton.

Last year's second crop sold as high as one dollar and twenty-five cents per bushel.

The past year has proven the most successful yet in the history of potato growers in Western Arkansas, and the industry has received an impetus which will place it among the most important of the resources of Van Buren during the coming year.

The southern farmer is very slow to grasp new ideas, and strange to say there are many yet living in the vicinity of Van Buren who raise nothing else but cotton, which does not pay nearly as well as those products mentioned. Reasoning from the progress already made along the more profitable and intelligent lines of horticultural and agricultural products mentioned, it is hard to conceive what magnitude, developments of

even a decade will reach; but it is certainly safe to prophesy it will place Arkansas in the van of agricultural states.

The Cotton Industry.

While the farmers of Arkansas are learning the same old lesson that every agricultural state has had to experience sooner or later—that it is only by diversified crops that they can prosper as a whole, cotton has been "king" so long, their training with other products so limited, combined with ignorance in some cases, it is extremely difficult to get them to raise any other crop. It is patent to any intelligent person that to grow one great staple at the expense of all the other products of an agricultural region, is, in the end, an unprofitable and unsatisfactory calling. It may build up princely fortunes for the few, but it is always at the expense of the many.

Good average crops of this leading staple are grown in the uplands and larger crops in the valleys. Cotton has led all other crops, five to one, ever since the settlement of the country. It has fashioned and led commerce, and its production is measured by millions of dollars annually.

The State of Arkansas is splendidly adapted to the raising of cotton, and this crop, both long and short staple, carried off the premiums at the World's Fair over the whole world.

It is only within a few years that cotton was raised almost exclusively throughout the state, on the supposi-

tion that it formed the only commercial commodity that could be grown successfully; and while that belief is fast disappearing, cotton still retains its supremacy as the most important agricultural industry of the country tributary to Van Buren. While the general impression is that the cotton acreage, comparatively speaking, will not increase, owing to the fact of the greater profit and demand of such products as fruits, potatoes and berries, at the present time it takes the precedence over any other crop, and forms one of Van Buren's chief sources of prosperity. The past season has been one of the largest for many years.

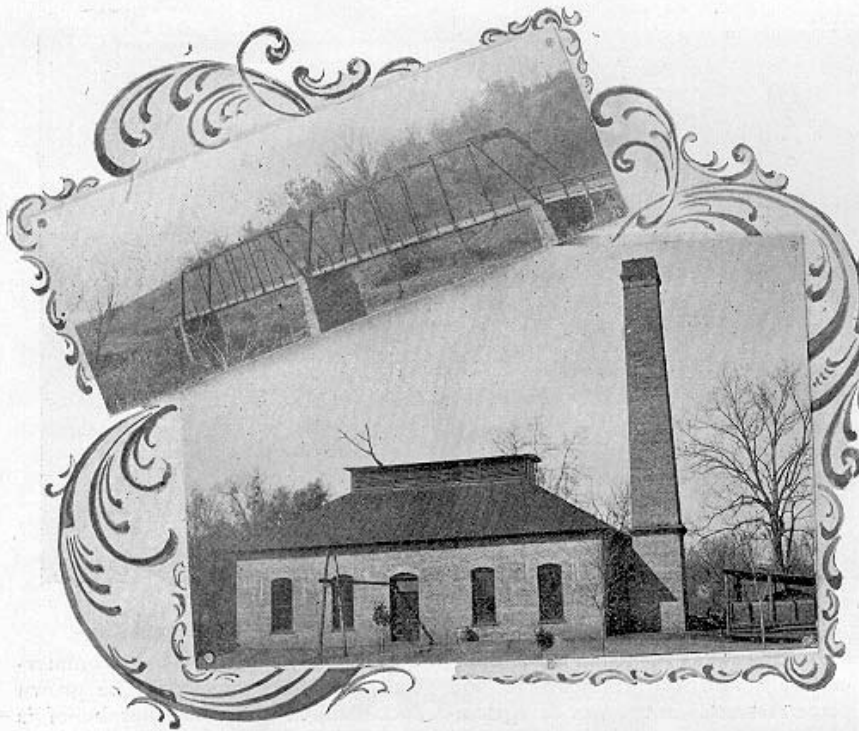
By comparison can be seen the enormous growth of the cotton industry in the vicinity of Van Buren. In 1896 only 13,000 bales were raised and in 1897 33,000 bales were raised. The receipts and shipments last year exceeds any former year.

The cotton raised in the country tributary to this city for shipment is handled through three principal cotton yards and the cotton compress, so that the best of markets are always available.

Besides the cotton received at the cotton yards and compress, a great deal is brought in and shipped direct.

Not since the season of 1891-2 has the cotton business of Van Buren been so heavy as during the year just closed.

It will readily be seen that the cotton industry alone is sufficient to make Van Buren an important agricultural center, not mentioning its potatoe, berry and fruit industries which are as yet in their infancy.



PUMPING STATION VAN BUREN WATER COMPANY

Fort Smith Compress Company

Has a plant which was established as the "Van Buren Compress Co." in 1892, and purchased by the above company in 1897. Its officers are: Geo. T. Sparks, pres; Julius Lessee, vice-pres; John Vaile, secretary and treasurer; John L. Edrington, superintendent, and J. A. Barret, manager. This plant covers three acres, has a capacity of compressing 900 bales cotton per day. Employs from five to fifty men, and during the past cotton season has received for compress about 35,000 bales of cotton from territory tributary to this point.

J. A. Barret, the manager of this plant, has occupied such position for four years. He was born at Gadsden, Ala., in 1866; was in the hardware business there for years; came here in 1893, and assumed his present responsible position.

C. J. Smets,

Commission merchant, makes a specialty of shipping green and dried fruits, also handles hides and furs, eggs, poultry and seeds. He does from \$50,000 to \$75,000 a year shipping to Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa and Illinois. Last year he shipped about 20,000 crates of strawberries and five car loads of peaches. He was born at Utica, New York, in 1842, farmed ten years and then went in his present business. He is interested in fruit farms, many acres being devoted to berries.

Van Buren Water Company

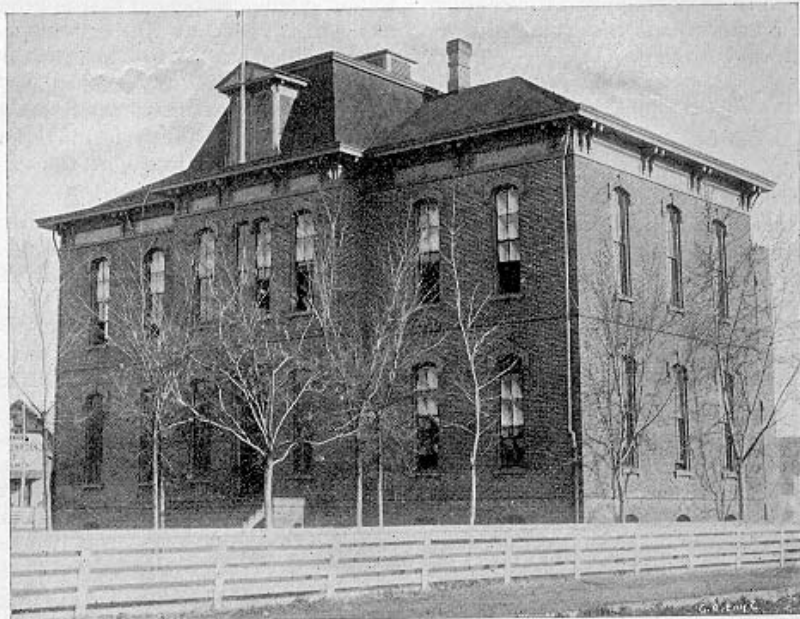
Has been established here since 1892, at a cost of some \$50,000, and furnishes one of the best water systems in the state. The water supply is drawn from Lee's Creek in the Ozark mountains, about four miles away. This stream is fed by innumerable sparkling springs forming a sufficient volume of water of the purest quality to supply the city for drinking and all other purposes, be-

ing the only water in the state perfectly adapted to bleaching, paper making and ochre paints, and the best for the latter in the United States, according to tests.

A finely equipped pumping plant is located at the spring, with Dean pumping engines, compound duplex—which allows one engine for an emergency—having a daily capacity of 750,000 gallons. From this station the water is forced to the summit of the mountain into a reservoir holding millions of gallons of water. This reservoir has an elevation of 240 feet above main street and affords a pressure of 105 pounds to the square inch, amply sufficient for all purposes, and is as clear when drawn as when it first gushes from nature's storehouse. There are seven miles of mains within the city, with four and eight-inch pipes, and 37 hydrants for fire protection.

The officers of this company are: Thos. Connors, Joplin, Mo., president; W. H. Phelps, St. Louis, Mo., vice-president; L. H. Southmayd, Van Buren, secretary, and W. S. Jones, superintendent and treasurer. Mr. Jones resides here, and upon him devolves the entire management of the plant. It could not have been left in more competent hands. He is thoroughly conversant with every detail, and is ever mindful of the interests of his patrons and on the alert to advance the prosperity of the city.

Water and light are two essential factors in the growth of a city, and Van Buren possesses the best of both, with equally as good management.



PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING

HEADLIGHT FLASHES

Prof. A. L. Peacher, city superintendent of schools, is serving his third term. He was born at Linneus, Mo., in 1867; took his preparatory college course at the Brookfield College, Brookfield, Mo., and at Westminster College, Fulton, Mo., entering the Junior class at the well-known Wooster University, Wooster, Ohio, where he took a seven year classical course, receiving the degree of M. A. in 1892. He came here from Charleston, Ark., where he was located two years in the same capacity as at present. Prof. Peacher is what might be called a thorough Southern gentleman and scholar in all that the name implies, possessing a love for his life work, with high ideals along moral, intellectual, sociological and educational lines, giving him a special fitness for the responsible position he occupies. He has the confidence of the School Board, and through his supervision the schools of this city have reached the highest standing possible with the facilities at his command.

W. B. Pape is serving his first term as sheriff of Crawford county. He was born and raised in Ft. Smith, Ark. For four years prior to his election to this responsible office, he served as assistant cashier of Crawford County Bank.

Mr. Pape is one of the best known men of the county and stands well in the community, both as a citizen and as an official. He is 38 years of age, and was elected on the Republican ticket in a strongly Democratic county.

J. A. Floyd, deputy sheriff of Crawford county, is now serving his first term, having been appointed by Sheriff Pape. He was born in Bradford county, Tenn., in 1848, and came to this county in 1881 and engaged in farming.

John M. Weaver, real estate, has been in business here for ten years, and by reason of his large acquaintance with the people and his knowledge of the country, is well qualified to furnish splendid bargains in city and farm property, making a specialty of the latter. He was born in Ohio in 1861. In addition to his other business he represents a large number of the best accident and fire insurance companies, and handles property for non-residents, making a specialty of paying taxes for such parties.

J. E. Jarvis, postmaster, is a native of West Virginia, born in 1855. Came here a number of years ago and went into the grocery business which he still owns. During the last campaign he took quite an active part; was a

Republican county committeeman and also treasurer of the county central committee. Was appointed postmaster by President McKinley, which action has given general satisfaction to the community. His store is well patronized and carries a full line of everything needed in the way of groceries and provisions.

Honoria Austin, M. D., has been in practice here two years. She has the distinction of being the only woman physician in the county. She is a native of Illinois, born in 1868, graduated at the Shelbyville High School at 18 years of age; taught several terms in that county and then received her medical education at the American Medical College, of St. Louis, taking a four years' course of study. Dr. Austin has a splendid practice here, and is state superintendent of the purity department of the W. C. T. U., and a member of the State Eclectic Medical association and is medical examiner for the "Woodmen Circle" at this city.

M. F. Winn, wholesale commission dealer, has been in business here for nine years, having been a resident for nineteen years. He was born in Tate County, Miss., in 1864, and came to Van Buren in 1868. He handles large quantities of fruits, berries and vegetables, shipping to northern markets. Last year he handled 5,000 cases of strawberries, fifteen cars of peaches and forty-three cars of potatoes. He owns a fine fruit farm out a few miles, of 120 acres, and is also one of the owners of the well known Highland Fruit Farm. He makes a specialty of strawberries, peaches and potatoes and has unlimited faith in the future destiny of the city and county. He is also a member of the Queen City Grocery Co.

L. W. Black, clerk of the circuit court, is serving his second term. He was born at Palestine, Texas, in 1867; came to this county in 1870, locating at Alma, where he was for many years engaged in mercantile pursuits. He was elected on the Democratic ticket and has made a very popular and efficient public official.

Rev. James B. Stevenson, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Van Buren, was born in Little River county, Arkansas, near Richmond, October 24, 1860; was reared in Tennessee and Alabama. He was licensed to preach in his twentieth year; was ordained Deacon on November 29, 1885, and Elder in 1887. His work as a minister has been largely in Arkansas. His present charge is in a most prosperous condition.

HEADLIGHT FLASHES

W. P. Sadler, deputy clerk of the circuit court, has a record to be proud of, having served continuously as deputy for seven years. Mr. Sadler was born in Logan county, Ark, in 1863. He attended the Industrial University;

served in the same office he now holds in his native county. He is an attorney by profession, having read under Judge Humphry of the 12th circuit; practiced law there three years and then located here, where he was appointed to his present position.

J. T. Clark, photographer, has been located here nine years, coming



J. T. CLARK



MRS. J. T. EDMONDS

from Indiana, his native state, where he was born, in 1859. He has been engaged in his present business for eighteen years; learned photography at Iola, Kans, then located at Eldorado Springs, Mo., and then came here. Mr. Clark is the only photographer in the county. His studio turns out all kinds of crayon, landscape work, and in fact everything in its line. By reason of Mr. Clark's long experience he is fully prepared to execute all orders in an artistic and finished manner. His assistant and retoucher is Mrs. J. T. Edmonds, who is an experienced artist.

It is sufficient endorsement of his work to say that he executed all of the pictures for the cuts in this book.

J. H. Branson, the present county treasurer of Crawford county, is serving his second term. He was born in 1856 and was raised in the country, following the occupation of a farmer. Mr. Branson was elected on the Republican ticket.



J. L. Rea, secretary of the Van Buren Horticultural Association, is one of the best known men in the county, and perhaps the best posted man to be found as to the natural, agricultural, and horticultural resources of Crawford county. He was born in



1851, and came here from Tennessee sixteen years ago. During his residence here he has served as mayor, alderman and city recorder, being appointed to fill unexpired terms in each case. He has always been engaged, more or less, in fruit farming, and is now interested in several fruit farms.

Through this association, which takes in as members all those doing business at this point and has a very large membership, Mr. Rea handles hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. He has the confidence of all and has done much to advance the interest of the members and farmers generally, and has always been one of the foremost in all public enterprises.

W. H. Peters, county assessor, was elected at the last election on the Republican ticket in a strong Democratic county. He was born in this county in 1856, followed farming until he was twenty-six years old, when he engaged in the liquor business. He served as constable for several years. He claims to know more people in the county than anyone else here.



Rev. P. Enright has been pastor of St. Michael's Catholic Church for two years. He received his theological education at the university at Emmetsburg, Md., having prior thereto taken a full course at the famous Mungret college of Limerick, Ireland, his native place, where he was born in 1867. He was ordained six years ago and went to Little Rock charge; from there to Fayetteville and then here.



H. C. Wood was born here in 1866, and has always resided in this city. He attended the University of Virginia, taking a course in the legal department. Upon the completion of studies he and his brother Jesse Wood, went into the grocery business under the firm name of Wood Bros.



Mr. L. H. Southmayd afterwards became associated with them in general merchandise, the firm name being changed to Wood Bros. & Southmayd. Later on Mr. Wood disposed of his interest in this firm and became the junior member of the well-known wholesale grocery house of Shibley & Wood, which is now doing business of over half a million dollars annually.

Mr. Wood, while a young man, has won an enviable reputation in the commercial world as an enterprising and progressive business man. The members of the Wholesale Grocery Association recently showed their appreciation of his ability by electing him president of that body.

He was a member of the city council last year.

S. A. Miller is a native of this city, having first seen the light of day forty years ago.



He attended the State University at Fayetteville, afterwards read law in the office of Judge Brown here and was admitted to practice, and has been engaged in his profession since 1882. Mr. Miller represented this district as state senator, session of '89-91, with credit.

H. Weems, M. D., is a graduate of the Chicago College of Pharmacy, class of 1873, and of the Vanderbilt University Medical Department, Nashville, Tenn., class of 1881. He is a member of the American Medical Association and the Crawford County Medical Society.

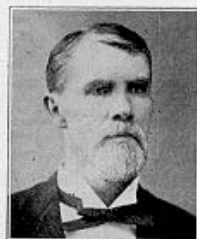


HEADLIGHT FLASHES

Rev. G. N. Wall, the regularly installed pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Van Buren, was born in McLean county, Kentucky, in 1846; received his theological education at the Cumberland University, of Lebanon, Tennessee, and was ordained to the whole work of the ministry in 1873. His first regular pastorate was at Newburg, Indiana, at which place he remained several years, going to Pennsylvania in 1884, and soon became the pastor of the West Finley congregation. During his pastorate at West Finley the congregation erected one of the handsomest church edifices the denomination has in the state. But on account of the rigid climate, and not possessing a robust constitution, Mr. Wall resigned his pastorate after five years and came west. His present charge is a united and pleasant one. In addition to his pastoral duties he is the associate editor of the "Arkansas Cumberland Presbyterian," a church paper published in Fort Smith, Ark.

James Cass, M. D., is a native of North Carolina, born in 1831. He has been in active practice continuously for over 30 years. Has been a resident of the state twenty-six years, of this city for nine years. He went from his native state to Indiana, residing there nine years, then to Missouri where he lived thirty years, and from there to this state. He is a homeopathist.

John S. Merrill is Chief of Police of this city, being appointed a year ago last April and elected last April. He was born in Texas thirty years ago, but has lived here since childhood, being associated with the well-established meat firm of Merrill Bros. The Chief is a modest official, but none the less efficient, and has many friends.



Mrs. Emily Wall, wife of Rev. G. N. Wall, pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, is a well-known teacher of music in this section of the country. She was born at Humboldt, Tennessee, and studied many years under the best instructors of music in Nashville and Memphis, finishing her musical education at the famous "Cincinnati Conservatory of Music," of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mrs. Wall has had an extensive experience in study and practice, and makes piano and voice culture her favorite work. Her musical abilities are fully recognized and she has many pupils.

H. C. Pernot, ex-alderman of the First ward, has always been foremost in promoting the growth and prosperity of the city. He is chief of the fire department and vice-president of the Arkansas State Firemen's Association. It is largely due to his efforts that the city has its present well equipped and disciplined fire department. He has a well stocked store of lamps, glassware and queensware, and carries everything in his line. He was born here in 1855, and has been in his present business for eight years, having formerly been a photographer. In addition, he carries a large line of picture moulding and does all kinds of picture framing.

J. M. Ruttan, painter and paper hanger, has been in business here for ten years. He was born here in 1859, and has always worked at this trade, having had a long experience, by reason of which he is prepared to do the best of work in his line. He has done the largest part of the work here during the past five years. He also furnishes paints and paper for all kinds of work.



John Kerwin, wholesale harness and saddle manufacturer and dealer, has been in business since 1886, and is one of the best known business men in the county. Mr. Kerwin was born in Fort Smith; has always been employed in the trade

and is well qualified to furnish the best of goods in his line. This fact is appreciated here, where he does nearly all the harness business. He is a very enterprising and public-spirited merchant, and in addition to wholesale manufacturing of saddlery and harness, does a large retail trade in those goods besides whips, blankets, etc., and handles all kinds of light vehicles, being agent for the well known Moon Bros., of St. Louis. Also sells the "Ideal," "Cleveland" and "Columbia" bicycles. Keeps several men employed, and does all kinds of harness repairing.

James Hays, city treasurer, was appointed last December by the last council to fill an unexpired term. He was born in Durant, Miss., in 1869; came here in 1890 and entered the employment of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern Railway as cashier of the freight and ticket office, which position he still occupies. Last spring he was elected treasurer.

R. T. Hunt is a native of Mississippi, born in 1869. Came here nine years ago and entered the Crawford County Bank as book-keeper. He afterwards engaged in the grocery business and later on changed to furniture trade, which venture he still follows. Has a nice stock of goods and has been successful in that line. He served as city recorder last year.



HEADLIGHT FLASHES

H. C. Johnson, drugs, has been in business here for fifteen years. He is a native of Illinois, born in 1848, was formerly engaged in the practice of medicine, but has retired from active practice. He carries a full line of medicines, drugs, etc., and has commodious quarters. Makes a specialty of filling prescriptions. The doctor is a practical optician as well, and carries in connection a full line of optical goods. Has the best of apparatus for the purpose and can fit and furnish any kind of spectacles required.



Giles Lucas, M. D., is a graduate of the well known college of physicians and surgeons of Baltimore, Md., class of 1887. He also received an ad eundem diploma in 1894 from the Missouri Medical College of St. Louis. He practiced several years in North Carolina and has been here for five years; is a member of the State Medical Association and of the Crawford County Medical Society, and a member of the city Board of Health. He is a native of North Carolina, born in 1860. He also took a post-graduate course in the Polyclinical Hospital of St. Louis.



W. C. Bostick, county and probate clerk of Crawford county, is serving his second term. He is one of the old residents of Van Buren, having been born here fifty-three years ago, and has always resided here. He was formerly engaged in the fruit growing industry. Through his long residence here he has a very extensive acquaintance and many friends in the county. He was elected on the Democratic ticket.



D. H. Miller was born in Georgia in 1859; came here in 1881 and became interested in the Southmayd-Miller Dry Goods Co., of which he is vice-president. He also owns a large interest in the Van Buren Fruit Co. This company owns 200 acres, 175 of which are devoted to berries. Mr. Miller has been engaged in the dry goods business since 1879. He served as alderman last year.



E. L. Matlock was born and raised in Crawford county, his parents having settled here in the early '40's. He served as city recorder for two terms, several years ago and two terms in the city council. Mr. Matlock is a lawyer by profession and has practiced in this city for eight years, having received his legal education in the office of Berkeley Neal of Van Buren.



W. H. Hayman is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, born in 1852. He is a machinist and marine engineer by trade, and commenced engineering on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers at the age of 19, following that pursuit for many years, finally obtaining the highest grade engineer's license issued.



Mr. Hayman settled here when young, and for five years past has been engaged as superintendent of the Van Buren Ice & Coal Co. He was a member of the city council last year.

J. M. Walsh, train-master of the Missouri Pacific Railway, located at Van Buren, has been in such capacity for the past five years. He has been constantly engaged in the railway service since 1879, and before assuming his present position he was employed in the same capacity for the Newport News and Mississippi Valley Railway. He is a native of Des Moines, Iowa, born in 1862, and by reason of his long experience in his vocation makes a very efficient official, and has made his road a very popular one at this point.



Rev. G. W. Flowers, pastor of the Trinity Episcopal Church, has been in charge here for five years. He was born at Louisville, Ky., in 1854. He graduated from the Louisville University and then took his theological education at the Alexandria Seminary of Virginia, receiving the degree of M. A. from the Columbus College, of Columbus, Ky. He was ordained as deacon in 1876 and priest in 1877, going to the Hickman, Kentucky pastorate, then to Cedar Rapids, Nebraska, and from there to this city.



T. B. Coppage, chief train dispatcher of the Missouri Pacific Railway, located at Van Buren, has been in the railroad service nineteen years, fourteen of which as chief dispatcher. He was formerly in the employ of Chicago & Alton road at Slayton, Mo., as train dispatcher. He was born in Kentucky in 1864, and has occupied his present position for four years. Is now serving his first term as alderman.



HEADLIGHT FLASHES



OFFICE OF THE MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILROAD

The Frisco Line

Van Buren has as good transportation facilities as that possessed by any of the cities of the south, outside of the largest metropolitan centers, which fact has been of material advantage to it in developing its wonderful natural resources tributary thereto. After viewing the wonderful richness of the soil and climate, its marvelous beds of coal and metals and numerous other equally valuable resources, one is not surprised at its marvelous growth of recent years, and the fact that it is becoming known as the "new south." Nature has been wonderfully lavish to the south, and all it needs is men and money—both of which it is fast obtaining.

The St. Louis & San Francisco Railway Company, better known as the "Frisco Line," furnishes additional shipping advantages to Van Buren. This road is owned largely by southern capital and men who are interested more or less in the growth of this country, outside of their connection with the road. The headquarters of this road is at St. Louis, where it has connection with all the other great railroads centering there.

This road has one thousand, four hundred and thirty miles of right of way and its termini are St. Louis, Kansas City, Paris, Texas, Oklahoma City and Wichita, Kan., so that it may be strictly called a southern institution, and wholly devoted to the development of the south. It has connection at Paris with the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway, the Texas Midland Railroad and the Texas and Pacific Railway, which covers the richest portions, and all the important cities of Texas. Freight is shipped from any point south without change of cars to any eastern center. This road is now constructing a line from Bolivar to Kansas City, to

be completed soon, and in operation about Sept. 1st, which will furnish the most direct route to the latter city.

This line covers the richest and most important cities and distributing centers of the states of Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas and Indian Territory, and is doing much to open up and develop these rich states, as well as the country tributary to Van Buren, furnishing the shortest route to Texas, St. Louis and the east.

Its broad and progressive management realizes the importance of letting the outside world know of the vast resources of wealth, the salubrious climate, and other numerous advantages possessed by Arkansas above any other state. The publication of this issue of **HEADLIGHT FLASHES** is only made possible through the assistance of this great railroad system.

The Missouri Pacific Railroad.

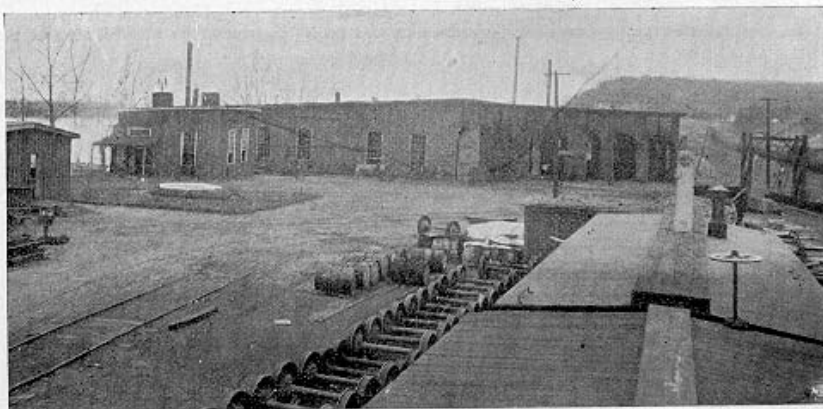
The St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern railway touches this city. The termini of this road is St. Louis, Mo., Cairo, Ill., Poplar Bluff, Mo., Memphis, Tenn., Little Rock, Ark., Texarkana, Alexandria, La., Fort Smith, Ark., this city, and Coffey-

ville, Kan., covering seven southern states. This road is a part of the great Missouri Pacific system, and connects with that system at St. Louis. This system comprises the Iron Mountain road, Texas & Pacific, International & Great Northern, and the central branch of the Union Pacific, having one head, President Geo. J. Gould; and covering altogether over thirteen thousand miles, and furnishing splendid facilities for shipments to eastern, western and northern commercial centers without change of cars.

The St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern has all of the advantages this great system gives it, and in addition has connections with all the railroads making the large commercial centers, at St. Louis and other points. It covers the cotton belt of the south, its rich coal fields,—there being thirty-one coal mines located on its line between Little Rock and Coffeyville,—and some of the south's most productive fruit, berry and potato lands. During shipping season as high as fifty freight trains pass through this city daily on this road.

This city is the divisional terminus of the Coffeyville and Fort Smith districts, and the road has located here a large round house and repair shops, which furnishes employment to a large number of people. The pay roll of this company on this division, for brakemen and conductors alone, averages \$15,000 per month.

It had shipped out from this city, up to within a short time ago, as last year's crop, fifty-three cars of strawberries, fifty-eight cars of potatoes, three cars of fruit, 25,267 bales of cotton and six hundred cars of miscellaneous merchandise, which gives some conception of the past season's shipments from this point. This does not include those shipped over the Frisco road.



ROUND HOUSE AND REPAIR SHOPS OF THE MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILROAD

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



ST. PHILOMENA'S ACADEMY

St. Philomena's Academy

Is conducted by the Sisters of Mercy of the St. Michael's Catholic Church of Van Buren. This school was opened last fall, and occupies the old Ogden Mansion and has very fine grounds attached. All denominations are received and the curriculum is non sectarian, all branches being taught, from the lowest to the highest, such as music, science, literature, painting and mathematics. This school already numbers over eighty pupils, and is making a good record.

McKinney-Rea Dry Goods Co.

Was originally established by the Carter-Rea Mercantile Co., and succeeded by the present firm in 1896, which is composed of J. W. McKinney and James G. Orme. This firm has continually grown in importance until it now occupies splendid, com-

modious quarters in the Temple building with one of the best stocks of dry goods, boots and shoes and men's clothing, in the city. It also has a fine millinery department under the charge of competent milliners.

The firm makes a specialty of men's fine clothing, this department being under the personal supervision of one of the firm.

The members of the firm are both progressive, wide-awake business men, always ready to identify themselves with everything that will advance the prosperity of the city and county.

Mr. McKinney is now a member of the city council, which office he has filled several times to the entire satisfaction of his constituents.

The Rose Hotel,

Mrs. Rosa Houck, proprietress, is fast gaining the reputation of being the best hotel in the city. It is a very nice, clean, home-like place to stop, and possesses a landlady who ever strives to give her guests the best cuisine and accommodations obtainable. Mrs. Houck formerly ran this house some five years ago, so successfully that it was constantly crowded to its utmost capacity. She retired from the business, however, soon after, and during her absence it failed to keep up to the high standard gained under her management. Now that she has obtained this house again it is fast gaining its former popularity among the traveling fraternity. Every guest receives the same courteous treatment, the determination of the landlady being to make this hostelry first-class in every respect. This hotel has accommodations for twenty-five guests, rates \$2.00 per day, cheaper rates by the week and month.

The Boston Store,

Max J. Mayer and Max A. Mayer, proprietors, was established thirteen

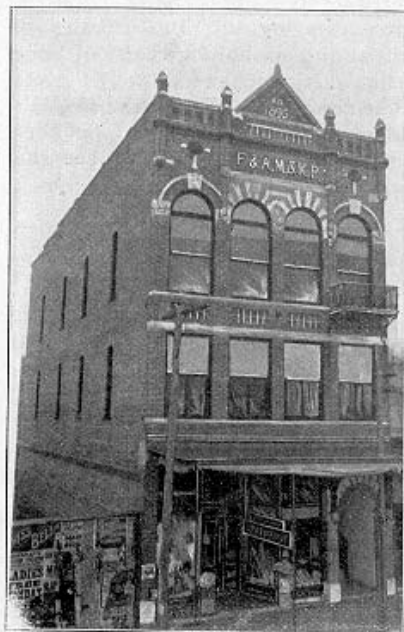


J. M. WALSH'S RESIDENCE

years ago by Baer Bros. & Fuller, and succeeded by the present firm in 1892.

The quarters occupied by this firm, consisting of two floors of a double store, was constructed expressly for it, and is one of the best arranged stores in the state, containing every modern facility for the quick and easy transaction of business.

This firm handles a general stock of dry goods, boots and shoes, clothing, and the finest line of carpeting in the state. Fifteen persons find employment in this house, which has a trade within a radius of sixty miles. This firm runs a large branch store at Bentonville, Ark., carrying \$20,000 stock; does considerable jobbing trade besides retail, and altogether its business reaches enormous proportions.



McKINNEY-REA DRY GOODS CO.



BOSTON STORE

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



SOUTHMAYD-MILLER DRY GOODS COMPANY



W. H. H. SHIBLEY'S RESIDENCE

Southmayd-Miller Dry Goods Co.

Was established as Shibley & Wood in 1878; in 1885 it was succeeded by Wood Bros. & Southmayd, and in 1889 by the present company, which is incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000, with the following as officers: L. H. Southmayd, president; D. H. Miller, vice-president; George R. Wood, secretary and treasurer.

Besides this company's large store at Van Buren it has an extensive one at Alma, nine miles from here, in charge of J. F. Arnold.

Some conception of the volume of the business done by this house may be gained from the fact that it employs fifteen clerks in both stores, annually selling over \$100,000 worth of goods.

The Van Buren store contains 9,000 feet of floor space, filled with a splendid stock of dry goods, boots and shoes, clothing, carpets, etc.

This house also does a large business in the handling of cotton, which has reached extensive proportions, reaching out even to adjoining states. The men who compose this company are the best known in the county, and each stands for what is best in

the interests of this section of the country.

Messrs. Southmayd and Wood have for many years been identified with every movement to advance the city's welfare or the development of Crawford county, each possessing the entire confidence of the community.

Van Buren Electric Light Plant,

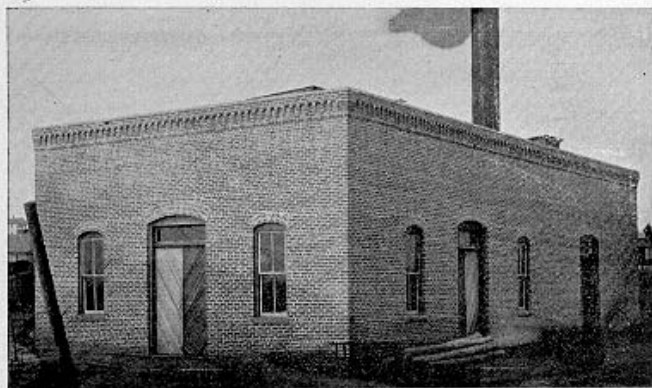
R. M. Johnston, proprietor, was established last September, and is one of the prettiest and best ever erected. The building occupied by this company was erected and designed especially for this purpose, and all of the machinery connected with it selected after a long and careful test and experience by the best experts, and as a result Van Buren has just cause to be proud, not only of the owner, Mr. Johnston, but of the splendid service furnished. The franchise was obtained and plant erected by R. M. Johnston, of St. Elmo, Ill. A franchise was given by the city for fifteen years. The plant was constructed by the well-known firm of Fuller & Tritle, of St. Louis, Mo.; it is 30x75 feet, built of brick and practically fireproof. The boiler-room is separate from the machinery and contains two boilers of 100-horse-power

each. The motive power is furnished by a Russell engine, 160 horse-power, which runs two incandescent dynamos and one arch dynamo, all of them having ample power to furnish several times the power now required, which is 1000 incandescent and thirteen arc lights.

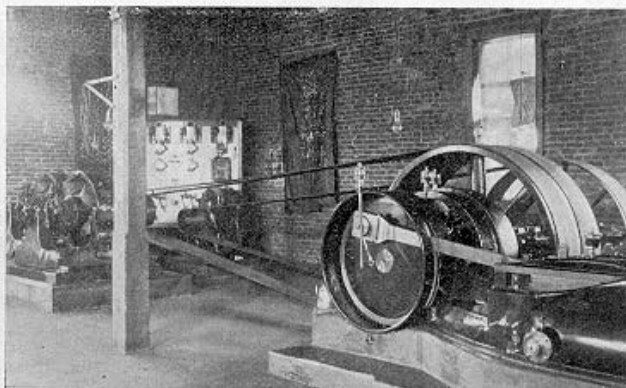
Mr. Johnston is, comparatively speaking, a young man, having been born at St. Elmo in 1874, and certainly may be excused for being proud of his plant, which might be said to be one of the most important industries of the city.

F. G. Kerr,

Drugs, is one of the best known men in the city, and has the confidence of all. He has been in the drug business here for eleven years; was born in Saline county, Mo., in 1857. He carries a full line of medicines, drugs, paints, oils, etc., and makes a specialty of compounding physicians' prescriptions. He served, a few years ago, on the State Board of Pharmacy for four years, acting as president for part of the time. He is one of the directors of the Citizens' Bank and part owner and agent for the Riverside addition to this city.



VAN BUREN ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT



INTERIOR VAN BUREN ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT

HEADLIGHT FLASHES

Van Buren Daily Argus.



Crutcher & Yoes, Attorneys.

This law firm is a recent acquisition to this city, having only been formed about eight months. It is composed of two young men, recent graduates of two of the best law schools in the country, and makes a specialty of commercial law.

Park Crutcher graduated from the law school at Lebanon, Tenn., class of 1896. He was born in Mississippi in 1867, attended high school at Fort Smith, read law in the office of Sam R. Chew of this city and is the present city attorney.

Gilliam C. Yoes was born in Arkansas in 1874, graduated from high school at Fort Smith in 1884 and from Ann Arbor Law School in 1896.

Arkansas Times,

J. R. Hammond and S. C. Hammond, proprietors and editors, was started three years ago and is the only Republican paper in this part of the state. Claims to have the largest circulation of any Republican newspaper in the state. Both editors come from Southern Kansas, where for a number of years they published the "Anthony Journal." Has a job office. J. R. Hammond is office deputy U. S. marshal.



Daily and Weekly Argus,

John A. Thayer and George C. Thayer proprietors and editors, has been established since 1875; the weekly was then launched, and the daily in 1897. These papers, under the able management of the proprietors, have always been pioneers in every movement made for the growth and prosperity of the city and state. Both are courteous gentlemen and very popular. They have a fine job office also.

The Syndicate Fruit Farm

Has done much to encourage the strawberry industry of Crawford county. A number of enterprising people of Van Buren, having great faith in the adaptability of the soil for such products, last year purchased a farm of 175 acres, 40 acres of which was cleared and in cultivation, the remainder of the tract being covered with timber of heavy growth.

Today there is 175 acres set to strawberries that are expected to yield 15,000 crates of luscious strawberries the first season, which, at last season's prices will return to the investors \$27,300. It has cost considerable to transpose the forest from its wilderness into a productive field of table delicacies, yet with a good first crop this will all be repaid and a handsome profit left for these enterprising men who are willing to invest their money in the enterprise.

It is claimed by experts that this is the finest farm of the kind in the state.

The gentlemen comprising this company are Geo. R. Wood, L. H. Southmayd, J. L. Rea, D. H. Miller, I. A. Campbell and E. A. Miller.

It was through the personal efforts of Mr. Rea, the secretary of the Crawford County Horticultural Association, that this industry was started.

Van Buren Press,

J. S. Dunham, proprietor and editor, has the distinction of being one of the oldest newspapers in the state and the oldest in this city, being established in 1859, and being published continuously since that time with the exception of two years during the war. The present publisher has always been its owner. He runs a job department also.

Van Buren Daily Venture.



Daily and Weekly Venture,

L. C. Higgs, proprietor, and J. W. Higgs, editor. These papers were both started some five years ago and have done much to develop the country tributary to this city. This paper is democratic in politics. These newspapers have a job office in connection, and enjoy a good circulation in the city and county.

Bon Ton Laundry,

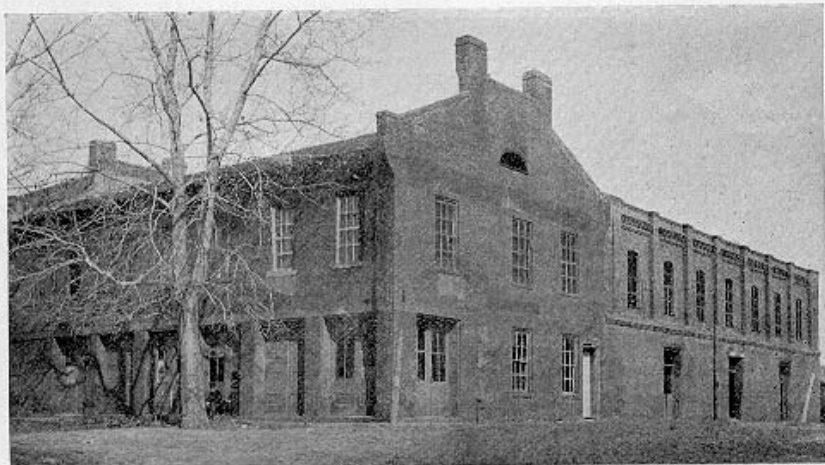
Thos. E. Morgan, proprietor, was established last year, and fills a much-needed want in this community. It was a success from the start. By reason of its excellent work the business has steadily grown, and Mr. Morgan recently found it necessary to move into larger quarters, add steam and new machinery.

The writer can personally vouch for the excellence of the work done by this laundry. A specialty is made of white shirts, collars and cuffs.

Mr. Morgan has had six years experience in this work. If the past is any guide we predict a very successful future for this new enterprise.



HEADLIGHT FLASHES



ADAMANT MANUFACTURING COMPANY'S PLANT

Adamant Manufacturing Company

Was incorporated in 1894 with a capital stock of \$50,000. Willshire Hynes is now the president and manager.

This company manufactures and sells in wholesale quantities adamant wall plaster that is strictly fire and waterproof. Its plant is 70x120; has a capacity of three tons per day and ships to the Indian Territory, this state, Texas and Oklahoma. It furnished all of the plaster used in the construction of the noted High School building of Fort Smith, which cost \$60,000, and many others of prominence. The company met with a serious loss a short time ago by fire, which has necessitated some repair work. When done the company will begin operations again, and this spring intend to push its product more than ever.

G. E. Pope & Co.,

Contractors and builders, have been doing business here only a few years, having been founded in 1895, but has already earned an enviable reputation for doing the best of work in their line both as to plans, convenience of construction, workmanship and terms, which fact is testified to by the many beautiful residences they have erected in this city. Among these are those of Dr. Dibrell, G. N. Callahan, S. N. Loudon, Dr. G. Lucas and Jas. Carr. This firm employs a number of workmen and is prepared to furnish plans and erect any kind of building or do any kind of carpenter repairs desired.

G. E. Pope has been here for seven years, coming from Paris, Tex. He has always worked at the carpenter trade since a boy and knows it thoroughly. He was born in Camden, Ark., in 1857.

J. W. Murphy is a practical draughtsman and does all the work of this kind for the firm. He is also a practical carpenter, was born in North Carolina and is 35 years old. Has been here six years.

Willshire Hynes,

Insurance agent, was born at Bentonville, Ark., in 1876. He has been in the city eighteen years, having formerly been associated with his father, the late Robt. S. Hynes, in business; for two years he has been alone. Mr. Hynes represents a large number of fire and tornado companies; is also the owner of the Adamant Manufacturing Co., a very important industry of this city.

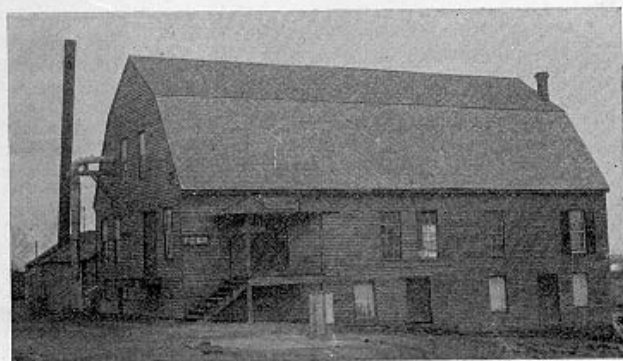
Joseph Casebeere,

Grocer, has been in business here five years. Came here with only 80 cents, and today is worth several thousand dollars. He was born in St. Louis, Mo., in 1857; was formerly engaged in the butcher business, having been in the city about ten years. He handles groceries and provisions, flour and feed, and carries a very nice little stock, and is one of the business men who has the welfare of the city at heart.

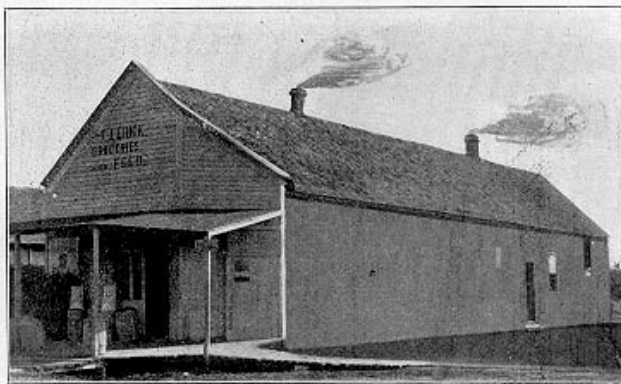
Linck's Milling and Grocery Co,

F. J. Linck, proprietor, has been in operation here for four years. The grist mill owned by Mr. Linck is the only one of the kind in the city. While it is not a large plant it is kept almost constantly busy in turning out meal, feed and ground cotton seed to supply the local demand, which includes the entire vicinity. It is propelled by steam, with quite a capacity for a mill its size, and has already proven a profitable venture to the owner.

Mr. Linck is a native of Wisconsin; came here from Cedarville, Ark., four years ago, establishing himself in the mill and grocery business. He carries on hand all kinds of feed, staple and fancy groceries, and makes a specialty of doing custom work in his grist mill.



VAN BUREN COTTON GIN



LINCK'S GRIST MILL

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



BUCK WILLIAMS' RESIDENCE

Buck Williams is an ex-member of the council from the Second ward,



is a native of Rockport, Indiana. Born in 1864, he came to Franklin county, Ark., when young, and to this city four years ago,

and engaged in the hardware business, handling also a full line of farm implements and vehicles of best makes. He has one of the finest equipped and largest stocks in the state, and by enterprise and courteous treatment has made a name known throughout the county for honesty and fair treatment. In fact, it would be difficult to find a single person in the county who does not have unlimited confidence in the integrity of Mr. Williams and who does not esteem it an honor to have his friendship. As a result Mr. Williams, although a young man, comparatively speaking, has, in his short stay here, built up a very lucrative business and wide circle of acquaintances.

George M. Mosteller,

Livery stable, has been open for business for four years. It is the largest and best equipped stable in the city, possessing any kind of a turnout desired, from a single rig to a hack or cab.

Mr. Mosteller carries a large stock of mules and horses for sale and does a boarding and feed business. His treatment is courteous and his rates reasonable and his rigs the best obtainable.

A. W. Sower, Jewelry,

Is a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1860. He has spent his whole life in the watch trade; was employed for five years by the Elgin National Watch Co., at Elgin, Ills., as inspector of adjusted work; then spent ten years at the Springfield, Ills., watch factory, and besides this vast experience, has been employed in other large watch factories. He makes a specialty of high-grade watch repairing and is considered an expert in his line. He also carries a choice lot of watches, clocks and jewelry, and is a most courteous man to meet.



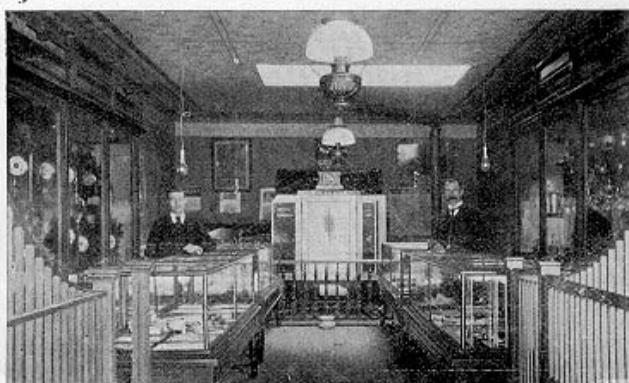
INTERIOR BUCK WILLIAMS' HARDWARE STORE

R. J. McIntyre

Recently became a resident of Van Buren. He is a native of Illinois, and in 1884 went to Mount Vernon, Mo., where he remained until he came here this last spring. He has been in the lumber business for fourteen years. He is prepared to furnish any kind of lumber desired in quantities at prices lower than at other points. Those who wish to build are urgently requested to give him an opportunity to quote prices. By his extensive experience in the lumber business he is prepared to buy at very low prices and is willing to share the benefits of this advantage with his customers. He deals in lumber, shingles, cement, lime, plaster paris, hair, etc., and is in a position to furnish them in large or small quantities. Mr. McIntyre makes it a special point to please his customers, and those dealing with him will find a congenial business man to do business with.



GEORGE MOSTELLER'S LIVERY BARN



INTERIOR A. W. SOWER'S JEWELRY STORE

HEADLIGHT FLASHES

The City Government

Of Van Buren consists of a mayor and six aldermen, all of whom take a deep interest in the city's welfare, and are men of broad views and good business judgment.

W. T. England, the mayor, has been prominent before the people in an official capacity, having served as county treasurer four years and as postmaster four years under Cleveland. He is a man of broad ideas, and watches the city's welfare with a great deal of interest.

P. D. Scott, alderman from the First Ward, is a representative citizen of the state. He owns one of the largest fruit farms in the county, is a director of the Horticultural Society, and is interested in the firm of Southmayd & Miller Dry Goods Co.

R. E. Brown, alderman from the First Ward, is one of the leading business men of this section of the state. He is cashier of the Citizens Bank and has always taken a deep interest in the welfare of Northwestern Arkansas and especially of Van Buren.

J. W. McKinney, alderman from the Third Ward, has served on the city council several times and is thoroughly familiar with all details of city government. He is the senior member of the McKinney-Rea Dry Goods Co., which is one of the leading dry goods firms of Van Buren. He is a native of Illinois.

T. B. Coppage, alderman from the Second Ward, has been with the Missouri Pacific railroad for four years and is the chief train dispatcher on this division. He formerly held the same position with the Chicago & Alton railroad. He was born in Kentucky in 1864, and while a comparatively young man, has exceptional ability, and the confidence of all with whom he comes in contact.

O. W. Williams, alderman from the Third Ward, has been a resident

of Van Buren for sixteen years, which time he has been in the lumber business. This is the first time he has held office and he makes a conscientious city official.

John O'Kane, alderman from the Second Ward, is a native of Tennessee and has been in the drug business for nine years. He is serving his first term in the city council. In addition to his drug business he represents several insurance companies.

Winslow on the Mountains' Crest a Great Health Resort.

The Frisco line from Van Buren to the point where it crosses the northern state line has been properly called the "Scenic Line" of Arkansas. It has threaded its way along narrow but fertile valleys until it reached that point of altitude where it found the crest of the Ozark range of mountains blocking its progress. Engineering was as naught when attempting to build over the crest, and as a result the same skill was employed in building the great tunnel that solved the problem of how to pass

over, or rather under the "Great Divide."

This popular resort, which is only 35 miles from Van Buren, is 2500 feet above sea level and is one of the most beautiful and picturesque places in Arkansas. The view from the different hotels which have been built on the summit of the mountain is magnificent—one can watch the trains climbing the mountain preparatory to entering the tunnel hundreds of feet below, and the landscape in every direction grand above description. On the hottest days there is always a breeze on the top of the mountain. Many residents from Van Buren and Fort Smith have summer cottages here. The Frisco line furnish excursion rates so that the trip is inexpensive.

Nakdimen Fall, one and three-fourths miles from the "summit" is one of the marvels of nature to be seen only in Arkansas, and it becomes all the more remarkable from the fact that the water, where it breaks over the precipice is 2500 feet above sea level, or as high a point as is to be found in the Ozark range of mountains.



JESSE TURNER'S RESIDENCE



DR. LUCAS' RESIDENCE



JESSE WOOD'S RESIDENCE



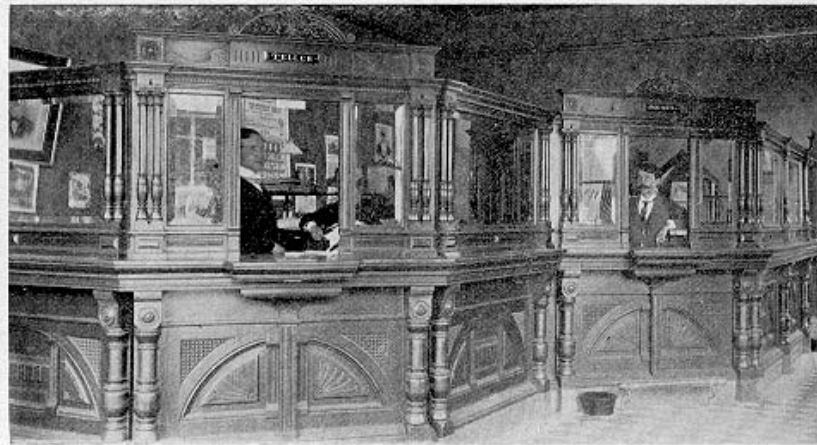
Crawford County Bank

Is an incorporated state bank, established in 1882. Has a capital of \$100,000, with deposits of more than that amount. Its officers are: Jesse Turner, president; D. W. Moore, vice-president; S. A. Pernot, cashier; D. W. Moore, Jr., teller; Will Steele, bookkeeper, and M. Lynch, Chas. A. Pape, S. G. Merrill, H. P. King, R. C. Oliver, D. J. Young, Sam Steward, John S. Chastain, together with the first three officers named, directors.

This bank has the distinction of being the first one to open its doors in Van Buren after the war. It has kept pace with the growth of the community, and having associated with it prominent business men of sterling worth and unquestioned integrity, has always possessed the confidence of the people.

In 1889 was erected its present quarters, a beautiful three-story brick building, one of the best in the state, being filled with the most modern improved vaults made. Besides all this the bank carries a large policy in the Fidelity and Casualty Co. for the further protection of its patrons. Mr. Pernot, the cashier of this bank, has been with this institution since 1884, and is known as one of the most proficient in the state.

This well known institution has only had but two different presidents during its entire existence. The late distinguished Judge Turner, father of its present head officer, served as the first president continuously until his death a few years ago. Jesse Turner, his son, then being elected to fill the place he had so honorably filled.



INTERIOR CRAWFORD COUNTY BANK

As one instance denoting the standing and resources of this bank, it might be stated that it furnished the funds, amounting to about \$1,000,000, for buying and moving almost the entire cotton crop tributary to Van Buren, for the year 1897.

Missouri Pacific Hotel,

R. J. Tallman, proprietor, has only been in existence since last fall, but has already become one of the favorite hosteleries of the city, and very popular among the railroad employees. Mr. Tallman is a native of New York, born in 1846. He has been engaged in the hotel business for twenty years; came here seven years ago from New Orleans and became identified with the fruit interests, purchasing a fruit farm of 160 acres, thirty of which are devoted to strawberries. He is very enthusiastic as to the fruit and berry industry and has great expectations from this source.

His hotel is conveniently located near the Missouri Pacific depot, possesses accommodations for fifty guests, is fitted with electric lights and other conveniences, and has in connection a splendid lunch room that is largely patronized.

The landlord of this hotel is a very genial host, sets a good table and has courteous attention and competent help in every department.

Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company

Has a branch plant here, which for the past six years has been in charge of W. P. Crabtree. Under his able management the interests of the firm have been well looked after.

Last year this company sold \$8,000 worth of its product to the local trade. Mr. Crabtree is a native of Maryland, born in 1856, and has been here for sixteen years. He is a very courteous gentleman.

John O'Kane, Druggist,

Has been here in this business for nine years. He is a native of Tennessee, born in 1857.

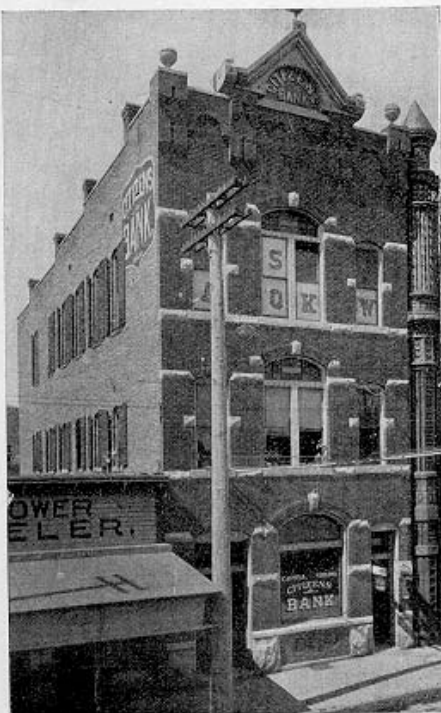
Mr. O'Kane was formerly in the employ of Shibley & Wood for nine years as bookkeeper.

He carries a full line of drugs and medicines, making a specialty of filling prescriptions. In addition to this business he also represents several fire and tornado insurance companies. Is now serving his first term as alderman.



MISSOURI PACIFIC HOTEL

HEADLIGHT FLASHES

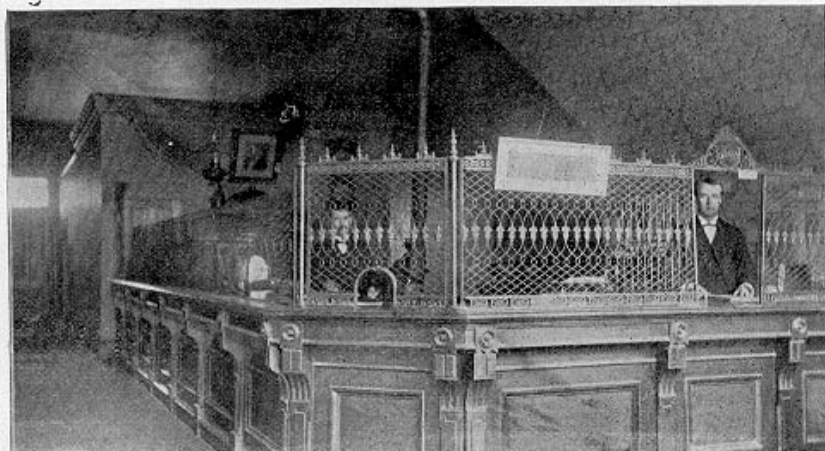


Citizens' Bank

The Citizens Bank is the oldest incorporated bank in Crawford county, and is recognized as one of the most solid financial institutions in Northwestern Arkansas. Since the organization of this bank in May, 1886, to meet the demands of the business interests of Van Buren for adequate banking capital, the success of the Citizens Bank has been most phenomenal, and during its existence of some twelve years it has increased its capital and surplus more than 50 per cent, and has never failed to pay to its stockholders a semi-annual dividend of five per cent.

Some idea of the volume of business done by this bank can be formed when it is known that it cashes annually about \$250,000.00 worth of time checks for the employees of the Kansas and Arkansas Division of the Missouri Pacific railway system, the shops and general offices of which division are located here; and that something over \$200,000.00 is paid out annually through this bank to the shippers of small fruits, which sum is insignificant as compared to its disbursements for cotton, potatoes and other products.

While the natural advantages afforded by Van Buren for Banking, as well as most every other character of business, are most auspicious, yet the wonderful growth and prosperity of the Citizens Bank is attributable largely to the liberal, yet conservative manner that has characterized its



INTERIOR CITIZENS BANK

management; to the efficiency of its executive officers, and the courtesy extended to the patrons of the bank.

The officers and directors are: B. J. Brown, pres.; L. H. Southmayd, vice pres.; R. E. Brown, cashier; H. F. Meyer, assistant cashier; W. H. H. Shibley, Geo. R. Wood, William Bowlin, F. G. Kerr, F. E. Cooper and J. H. Greig; all of whom are closely identified with the business interests of the city and among whom are to be found her most aggressive and public spirited citizens. The president, Judge B. J. Brown, is one of the wealthiest men of the state; a man of wide business experience, and closely allied with the banking business of Arkansas. He was one of the prime movers in the organization of the Arkansas Bankers Association, of which association he only recently retired from the presidency.

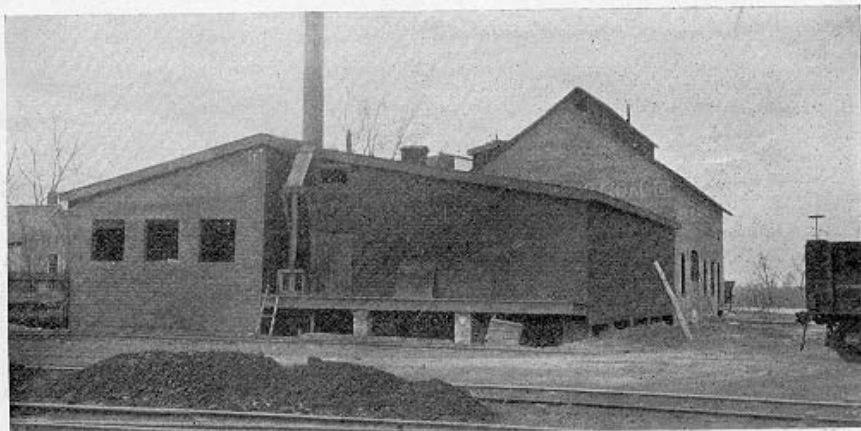
A fair idea of the character of men composing the stockholders of the Citizens Bank can be gathered, when it is considered that their combined wealth exceeds a million dollars.

O. M. Bourland, M. D.,

Is a graduate of the Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, and Bellevue Medical College, of New York, two of the best in the country, graduating from the former in 1881 and the latter in 1883. He was born in Franklin county, Ark., in 1859; came here when young, and has been engaged in active practice here since 1881. He is a member of the State Medical Society, vice-president of the Crawford County Medical Society and a member of the city board of health.

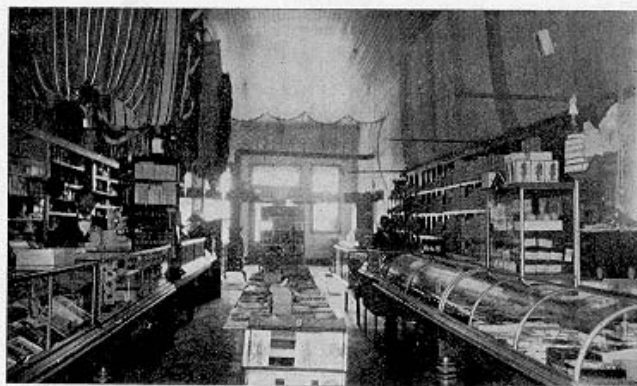
The Van Buren Ice & Coal Co.,

An incorporated institution, was established in 1887, largely by Van Buren people, who still retain their interest in it. This plant is well equipped with hydraulic elevator for icing and loading refrigerator cars, the product being only used for the fruit and berry crop. It has a capacity of twenty tons per day, turning out during the season 4,000 to 5,000 tons. W. H. Hayman of this city is superintendent of this concern.



VAN BUREN ICE AND COAL COMPANY

HEADLIGHT FLASHES



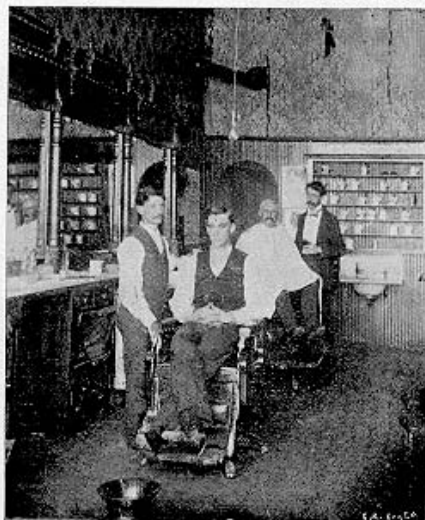
C. K. INGERBERG'S BOOK STORE

C. K. Ingeberg,

Book and stationery dealer, has been in business for three years; was born in Norway in 1866; came to this country a number of years ago and engaged in the hardware business at one time in Crookston, Minn. He came here from that state. Has a full stock of books and stationery, and owns the only store of that kind here. He also handles musical instruments of all kinds, and wall paper; is agent for the American Tobacco Co., handling their goods in wholesale quantities.

"Commercial Barber Shop,"

F. M. Kennedy, proprietor, has been in existence for seven years. Mr. Kennedy was born in this state; came here twelve years ago and became identified with farming; owns a 20-acre farm devoted to strawberries, which it is claimed last year netted the largest results of any farm of equal size in the county. He has been energetic and industrious and become quite well off, and besides his barber business loans considerable on personal property. His shop is finely fitted and contains bath facilities.



COMMERCIAL BARBER SHOP

Jas. Stevenson is one of the well-to-do farmers of the county. His family for several generations back resided here, his father being born where he now resides, three miles out from the city. He was born in 1849 and has devoted all his life to farming, now owning 300 acres, 240 of which is under cultivation, 20 acres devoted to strawberries and 40 acres in orchard. Last year he raised twenty-five bales of cotton, 600 bushels of peaches, and 400 bushels of apples. He has a fine residence, and is one of the many examples of what a man may do in farming in this section of the country by thrift and intelligence.

C. J. Murta who has been in business in this city since 1887 is one of the prominent business men of Van Buren and Fort Smith. He has an extensive hardware and furniture store in Van Buren and a very extensive furniture and house furnishing goods store at Fort Smith. Mr. Murta takes advantage of the markets and buys his furniture from the manufacturers. On account of his extensive purchases he is able to buy at low prices and is willing that his customers shall share this advantage.



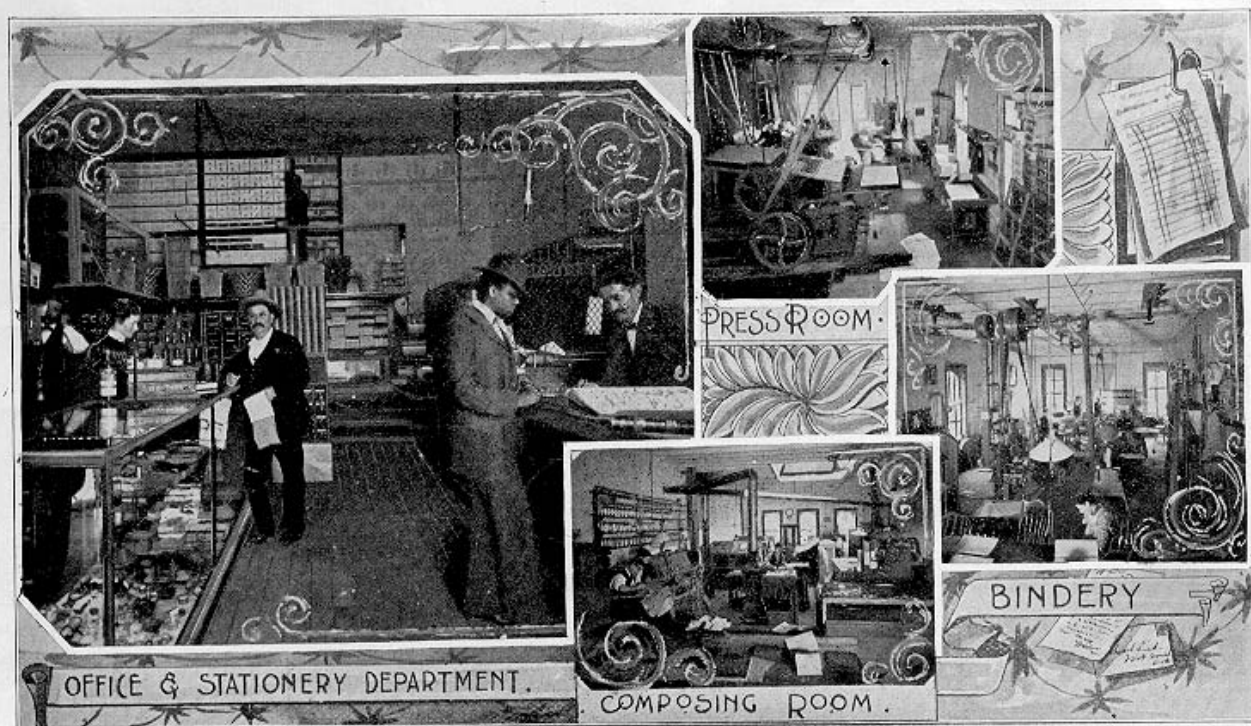
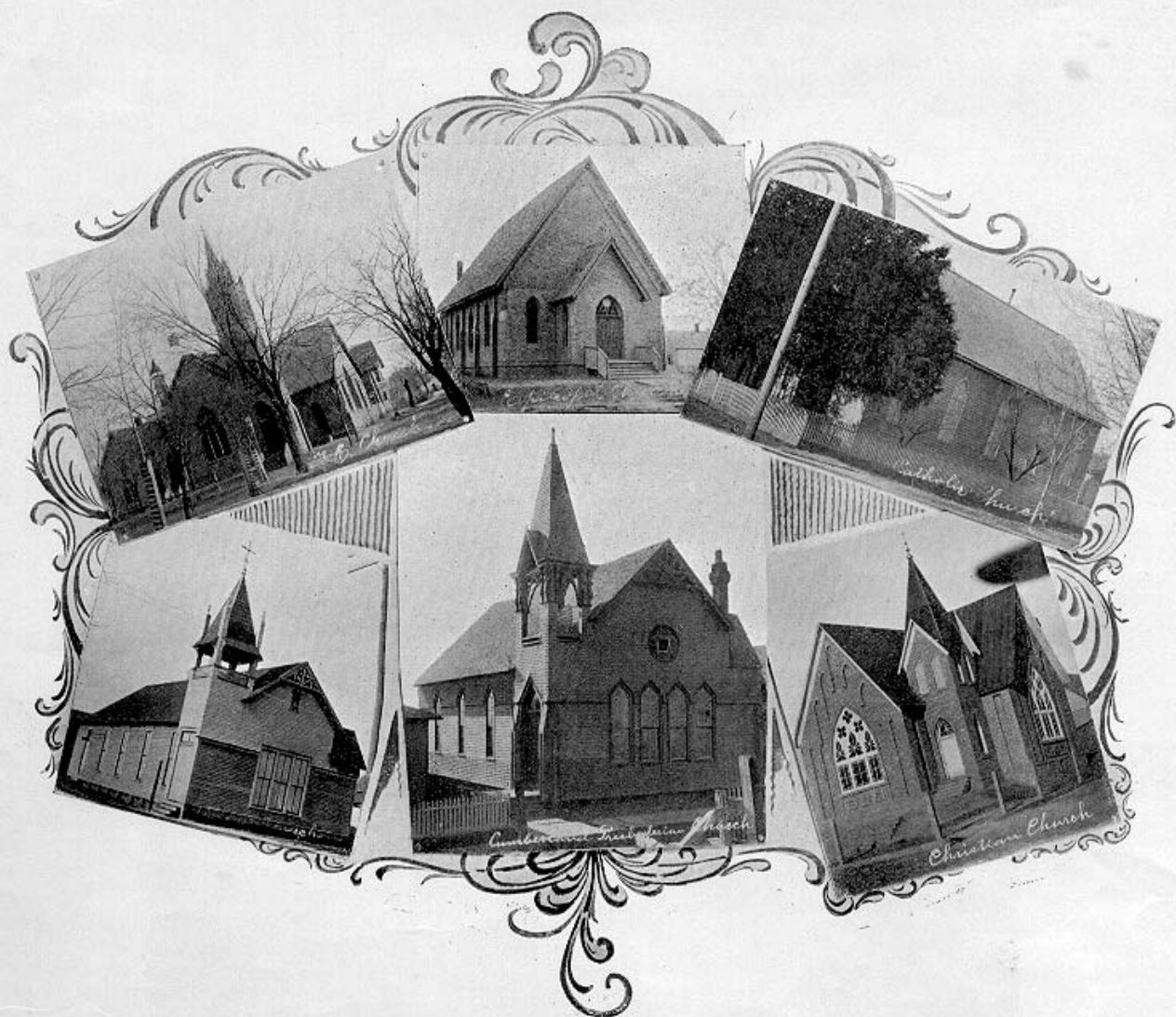
DR. M. S. DIBRELL'S RESIDENCE

Thrash-Lick Printing Co.

At 809-811 Garrison Avenue, Fort Smith, Ark., are among the many large institutions in which this section of the state takes an especial pride. In their new quarters they have a floor space of 10,000 square feet, and no room to spare, either. This firm makes a specialty of all kinds, shapes and sizes of commercial work, such as blank books, bank and county officers' supplies, coupon and pass books, catalogues, pamphlets, legal blanks, etc., and judging from appearances they have proven a success in this line. Another item worthy of mention is the fact that this firm successfully enters into competition with the great eastern houses and secures a very encouraging share of theatrical printing from all parts of the country. They employ a sufficient force to execute all orders promptly and put forth every effort to give their customers just what they want and right when they want it. The views shown on the opposite page were taken in their old building but will give some idea of the size of the plant. They carry a stock of office supplies and time-saving devices for busy office men.



VAN BUREN CANNING COMPANY



INTERIOR VIEWS THRASH-LICK PRINTING CO., FORT SMITH, ARK., WHERE "HEADLIGHT FLASHES" WAS PRINTED



VAN BUREN AND CRAWFORD COUNTY'S TREASURY