

## People - Interesting and Unusual

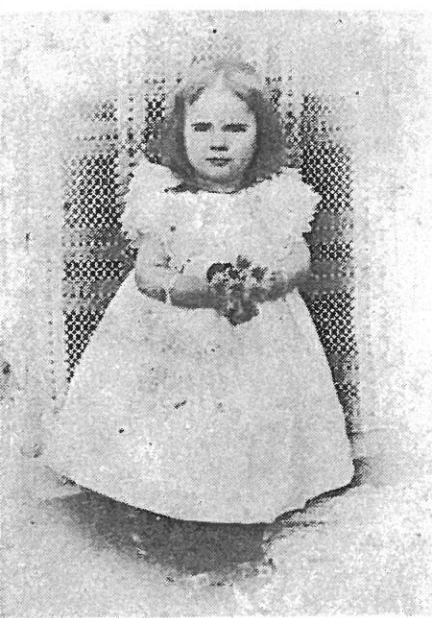
Obviously, without people there would not be a Bleckley County, so it is inevitable that we should include a section on individuals.

It would be impossible to say which person or persons have done the most for Bleckley County, so we have not attempted to single out anyone as the most important. We are all grateful that our ancestors, relatives or just plain folks got together and formed our county.

Ideally, every resident of Bleckley County should have his or her picture included, but since this is impossible we have sifted through numbers of photographs looking for those that

are interesting in some way, whether it be character, dress, profession or etc. Hopefully, there is a good cross-section of people included; from individuals who were the first settlers to the present generations of Bleckley County citizens.

Humor, imagination, love, dignity, ability and intelligence are only a few of the vast number of qualities which the people of this county have possessed to make it what it is. These are qualities we wish to depict in the pictures included in this section.



**Mrs. (Jessie) Andrew Brown Wynn** - This dainty little girl was to grow up, marry Andrew Wynn and move to Cochran. Their home was built on Second Street on land that was for years a lovely park. Mr. Wynn owned a chain of variety stores.



**Mr. James Mitchell Bohannon** came to Cochran from Hawkinsville. You would think from this picture that he planned to become a farmer. Instead he owns and operates Bohannon's Builders Supply.



**Mrs. (Louise) Phil Taylor** was a picture of loveliness in this beautiful handmade christening gown. The picture was taken about 1901.



**Mr. and Mrs. Rufus W. Coody, Sr.** on their honeymoon. Mrs. Coody was Beulah Simmons. Mr. Coody served as Bleckley Ordinary for many years.



**Mrs. (Lella) Lucian A. Whipple Sr.** -Mrs. Whipple of Atlanta is shown here on her wedding day in 1919. She was founder and first principal of a 43 pupil school which was later to become Druid Hill High School in Decatur. For years Mrs. Whipple taught speech to the young people in Cochran.



**Mr. Lucian A. Whipple Sr.** at about age 5 in 1883. Note the hat and boots. Col. Whipple says he was especially proud of the brass tips on the boots. He is today Cochran's oldest living resident.



**Mrs. (Delores) Andrew J. Kingery Sr.** The lowered waistline of the dress and large bow on the head were "the latest" fashion of the day.



**Mr. J. P. Peacock** - Born in Cochran in 1878, Mr. Peacock was a real lover of sports. He often raced at Peacock's track. He was connected with first the Cochran Banking Company and then the State Bank.



This lovely lady was **Mattie Lee Dunham**.



**Mrs. Ruth Bollinger Barlow** - This lovely young lady poses on high school graduation day in 1925. She later taught some 35 years in the Bleckley County Schools.



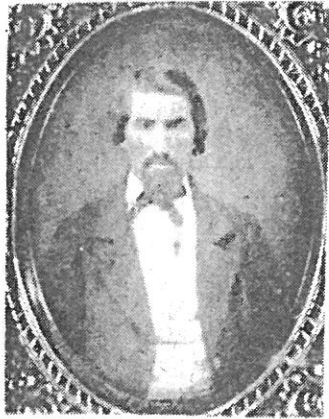
**Arrie Horton Fisher** was originally from McRae. This was made about 1932.



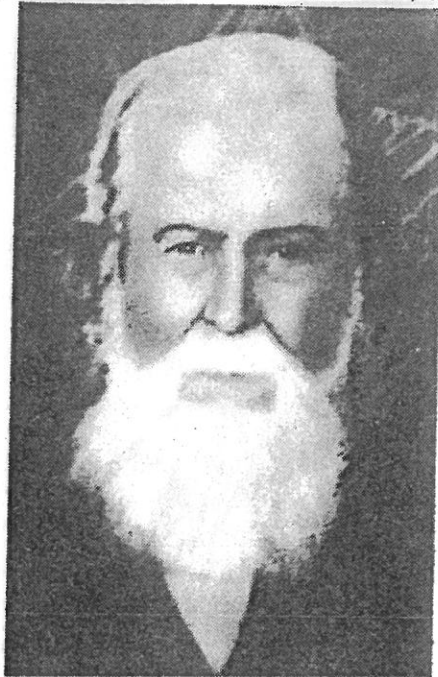
**Mrs. (Suzie) J. P. Dykes.** At age 16 "Miss Suzie" was one of the most beautiful girls in town. She married J. P., who was Bleckley County Commissioner for several years.



**Mr. and Mrs. U. R. Smith** - This picture was taken in 1914 at the Smith home in Goldsboro. Mr. Smith served as Bleckley County tax assessor for 23 years and farmed until he was 85 years old. He died at age 103 in 1975. He was Bleckley County's oldest resident at the time of his death.



**William E. Helms** -Mr. Helms was born in 1833 and came to Bleckley County from Monroe, North Carolina in 1855. He settled and begun farming in the Gum Swamp Creek area. Later he moved to the Centenary Community where he built his home. This house is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Parker. Mr. and Mrs. Helms had five children. Joseph S. was the oldest of the five. He later acquired some of the land owned by his father, plus a number of additional acres. His land is now owned by the Trunnells, Porters and Meadows.



**Prior Green Pusser.** Mr. Pusser was born in North Carolina in 1828 and came to Bleckley County as a young man. He farmed in the Davidson District of the county until he moved into town in the early 1900's. He built a home which stands today on Beech Street. In the early 1900's the spelling of the family name was changed to Purser. Many, many descendants still live in Bleckley County.



**Mrs. (Nettie) James Benjamin Elliott** - This picture was taken in 1908 when "Miss Nettie" was only 17. She made the dress she is wearing. Mrs. Elliott has made many contributions to Cochran, but is best known for the 16 years she devoted to the Cochran Community House and grounds as superintendent. The Cochran Woman's Club and Cochran Garden Club honored Mrs. Elliott for this work in 1972. She was also chairman of the committee to raise \$33,460 to furnish 32 rooms, lobby, nursery and nursing stations at the Bleckley County Hospital.



**Mr. James (Jim) Ernest Cook** -Jim was a banker, farmer, insurance agent and merchant in Cochran. He served as mayor for 12 years. Few men here contributed more to the county than Jim Cook.



**Mr. Tom L. Bailey Jr.** Mr. Bailey was editor of the Cochran Journal at one time. He was also the civil engineer responsible for building the Gum Swamp bridge and many other bridges in the county.



**Mrs. Barney W. Hendricks Sr.,** came to Cochran in 1920. She was born and reared in Haddock. In 1937, she became the first director of the Bleckley County Welfare Department where she served for 30 years.



**Mercenia (Marcie) Pusser Perry** was the wife of William W. Perry. Their three children were Queen P. Wynn, William J., Green Byrd Perry, Sr.



**Mattie Lee Mullis Baxley** - in early 1900's.



**Tobe Joseph Young** - Born June 9, 1862 - died August 15, 1934. Married to Ella Elizabeth Purser. They moved to Bleckley County from North Carolina and of their eleven children four are still living: Fred Young, Pansy Hall, Helen Bragg and Maggie Purser.



**Ella Elizabeth Purser Young** - Born November 30, 1870 - died August 19, 1946. On January 31, 1886 she married Tobe Joseph Young. To them were born eleven children. Her oldest living grandchild is Mrs. R. H. (Alice) Wright.



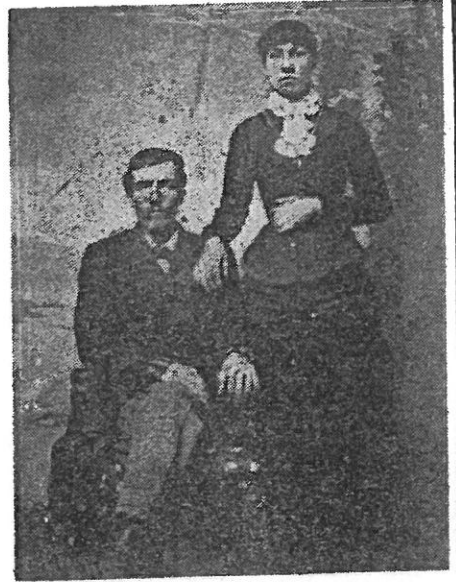
Mrs. (Lilah) Elijah Cook Jr. Mrs. Cook, mother of Madge Kimbrough, won the medal she wears here when she was a student at Ebenezer College. This picture was taken in her wedding dress.



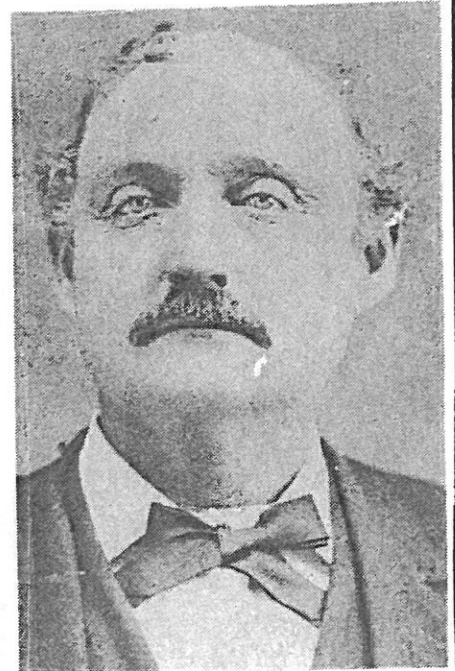
Mrs. (Virginia) Wallace L. Harris - Virginia Spear Harris was only 5 years old when this was taken. Her contributions to this community have been innumerable. Perhaps her most important work has been writing a completed history of Cochran and Bleckley County.



Jim Cook at age 11.



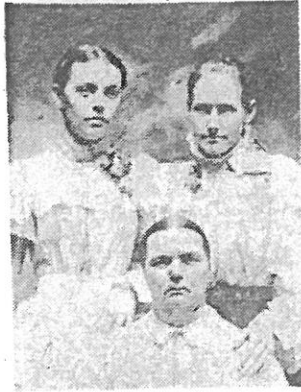
Mr. & Mrs. George Webster Legg - This is the wedding picture of this couple who were married in 1884. She was 23 and he was 25. These were Mrs. Nettie Elliott's and Travis Legg's mother and father. They came to Bleckley County from Pike County about 1881. He farmed in the Centenary Community across from the old Centenary Church. George Webster Legg lived from 1859 to 1937. His wife, Laura Smoot Legg, lived from 1861 to 1918.



Dr. Y. H. Morgan. Dr. Morgan came to Cochran in 1869 to practice medicine. He was owner of the first drug store in town, mayor for 5 terms and a legislator for 2 terms.



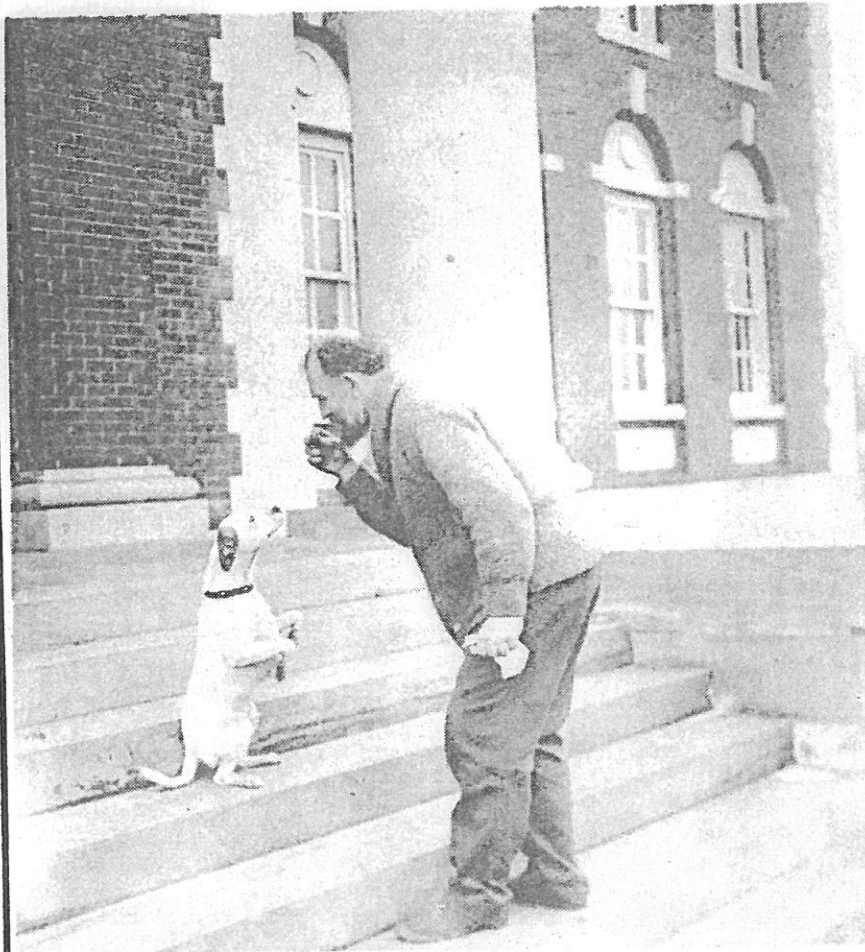
**Mr. Leland E. Barlow** started farming in the Ruth Community as a very young man. He married, raised his family and now continues to farm and live in that community.



**Myers Family** - One of the oldest families in the county were the Myers. Here we see, left, Fannie Myers Kinchens, middle, Mrs. (Martha Alice) George Myers, right, Mrs. Willie Ann Davis. Mrs. George Myers was Mrs. Bob Hendricks' grandmother. The Martha Alice gardens are named for her.



**Mr. Jordan Fisher** - The Fisher family came to Cochran from Kentucky in the late 1800's. Here Jordan Fisher appears in the dress of the day at age 3. Jordan has maintained the funeral business which his grandfather bought in 1907.



**Mr. Joel T. Deese** served as clerk of Superior Court for a number of years. He was instrumental in getting the Cochran Short Route built.



**Mrs. Travis (Pearl) Legg** was best known in Cochran for the work she did in the First Methodist Church, teaching Sunday School for 24 years and acting as president of the Woman's Christian Organization for many years. She was also very active in the Woman's Club and Garden Club. This picture was taken when Mrs. Legg was middle-aged, April 7, 1944, and still quite active in civic affairs. She was born in Pike County in 1891 and died in Cochran in 1974.

## Where People Live

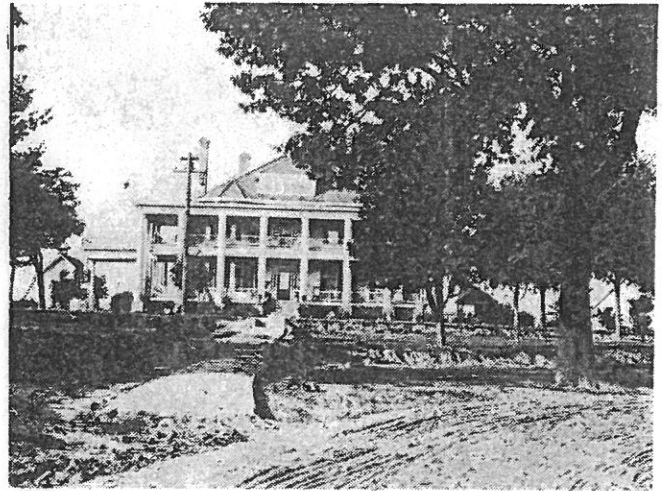
Bleckley County, like all the south, had beautiful homes from the beginning. Before there was a Cochran, lovely antebellum homes had sprung up along Long Street, a part of the Milledgeville Stage Road. As the town of Cochran grew, it too, could boast of its beautiful houses.



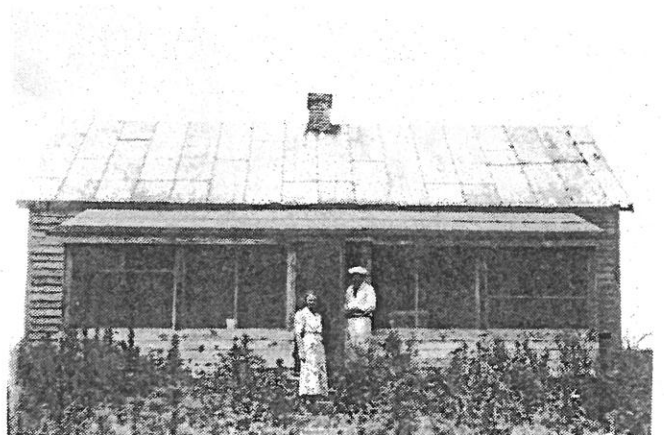
**S. B. Whipple Home** - Few homes in town were more spacious than this one. It stands today on the northeast corner of Sixth and East Dykes Street. When Mr. Whipple first built the house it had only one story. Later, the second floor was added. This picture was taken in 1909 and shows, left to right, Stephen Whipple, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Whipple and Dr. R. L. Whipple.



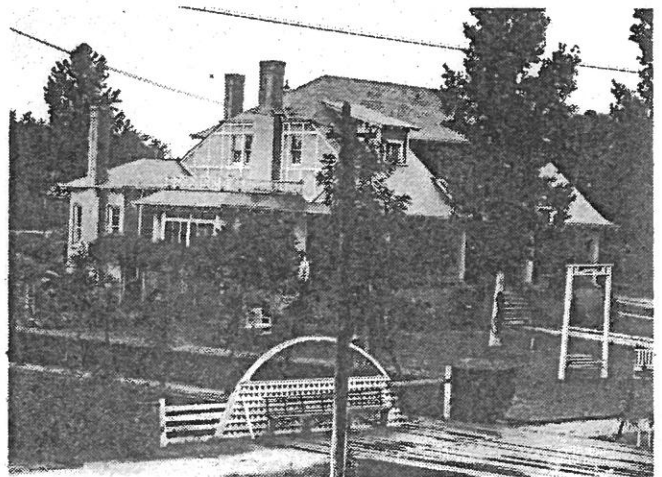
**Dr. Jake Morgan Home** - On the northwest side of Beech Street near Sixth, this splendid home stood. It was later drastically remodeled and a second story added. It forms the body of the home now occupied by the Charles Lenkerds.



**P. L. Peacock Home** - Perhaps one of the finest examples of the early homes still standing is this one built about 1906 by P. L. Peacock. Several families have occupied the house over the years and today Mr. and Mrs. James M. Cheshire are the owners.



**R. L. Hendricks Home** - In 1930, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hendricks built their first home on the Hawkinsville Road. It was located not far from their present house.

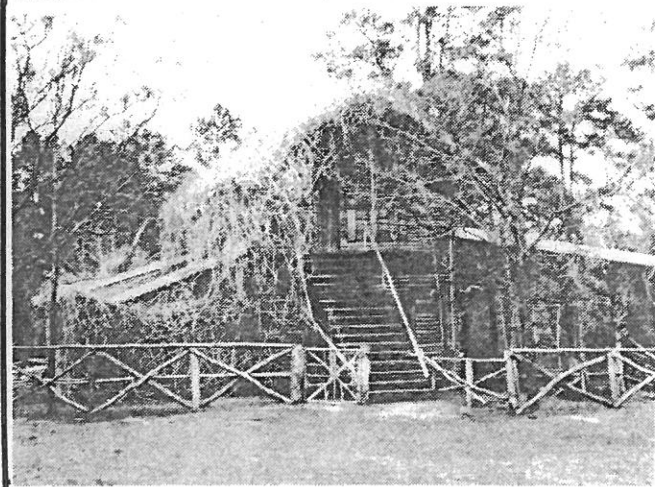


**H. F. Bullard Home** - On the corner of Beech and Third Streets this home still stands today. It has changed little in appearance except for the fact that it is now a multi-family dwelling.





**The Beaton Place** - The Charles Edward Taylor home on Long Street, built before the turn of the century, later known as the Beaton Place. It served as the home for Miss Pansy Deese and her father for a while.



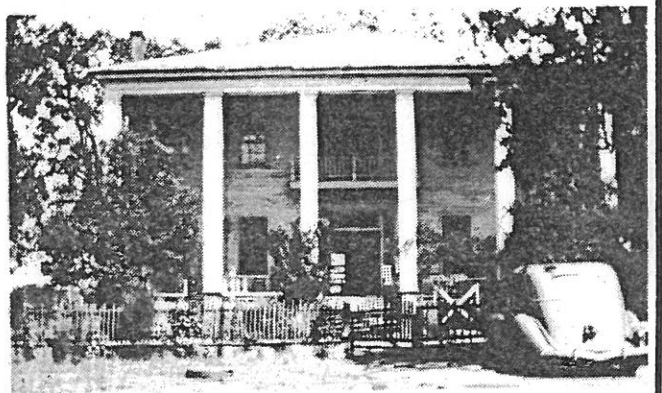
**"The Shack"** - Everyone did not live in fine mansions. Many chose more humble surroundings. For instance, the Deeses moved from "The Beaton Place" to "The Shack". Here they found the peace and quiet so many seek today.



**Early Air Conditioning** - The "Deeses Shack" was never really "finished" because it was their intention from the beginning to add to and improve it. They never seemed to find time. Here we see Miss Pansy in the living room with a gentle breeze blowing through the cracks.

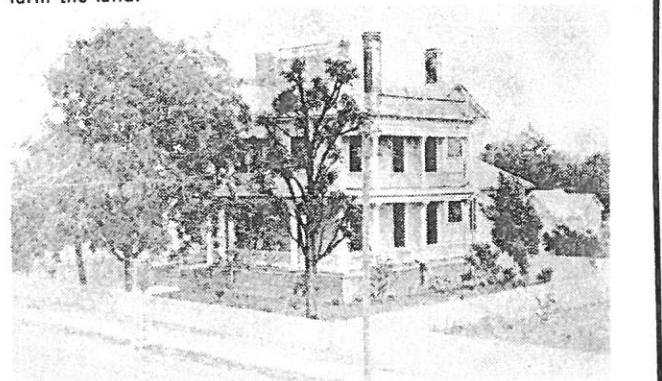


**Second A. P. Urquhart Home** - After Mr. Urquhart's first wife died, he moved into this lovely place in the 1890's. It is located on the corner of Jessup and First Streets.



**Paul English Home** - The house was built in the early 1840's for Alcanah R. Coley by a man from England named Sessions. He reportedly built a number of other houses in the area. Mr. Coley left an estate of 4,000 acres when he died in 1868. The house served as an inn for the travelers who rode the stage coach that stopped at Bissel, which was located in front of the house on the Uchee Indian trail.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. English bought the house and farm land in 1948 and restored it, leaving it as near to its original plan as possible. Their son, Paul F. English, and his family now own and live in the house and farm the land.



**W. O. Peacock Home** - Mr. Peacock built this lovely home in about 1916. It was built on the site formerly occupied by the home place of John J. Adams on the corner of Cherry and Fifth Streets. Mr. and Mrs. Green bought the home in 1951. Mrs. Green still lives there.

## Proud Parents And Their Children - "Families"



**C. W. M. Wynn Family**

Professor Wynn not only was Bleckley County's first teacher and thus directed the lives of hundreds of children; but he also had a large family of his own. They are, left to right, sitting, Mary, baby Mattie (mother of Willett Reeves), Fannie Wynn Taylor, Professor Wynn, standing, left to right, Charles, Lena Pool, and Jessie. Seated, front, B. J. (Beverly), father of Mrs. Hazel Wynn Cooper.

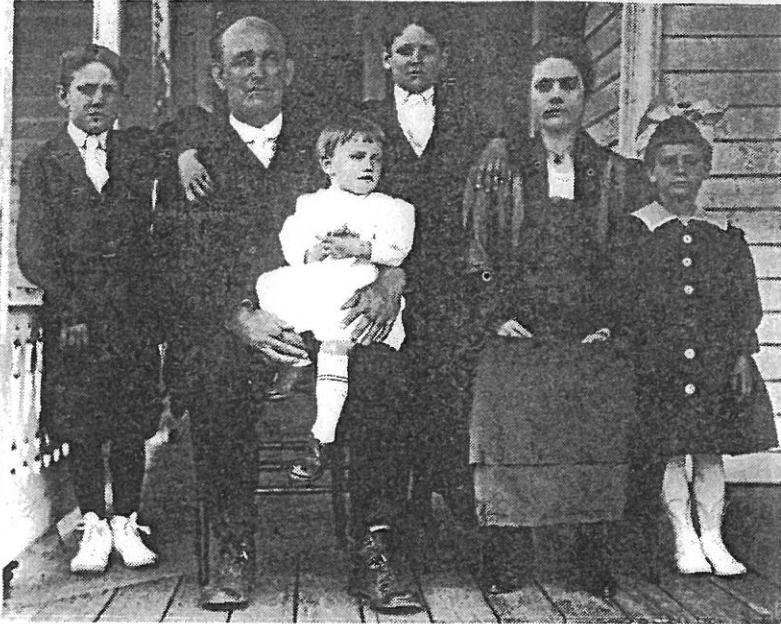
This Bicentennial book would not be complete without pictures of families. While gathering information and pictures we have constantly been amazed and delighted to find that people we never suspected are related and these family pictures have been the main source of these revelations. We hope you will see many familiar faces and also be pleasantly surprised to find that people you know or have known are members of the same family. You might even discover pictures of your own family which you have never seen. We hope so; for we would like to share the joy we felt from talking with members of all these families as we compiled pictures and learned so much about their pasts.

Many family histories have been written; especially during this year's celebration of our nation's birth. We have not attempted to write histories, instead we have included pictures in our "highlights", for they are made up of many individuals who have played important roles in the history or growth of our county.



**William Henry Barrs Family**

Mr. Barrs farmed 1215 acres in the "Barrs Town" area of the county. Children L to R - Alfred and Welton; 2nd row - Nancy Evans Barrs, Laura Jones Barrs, William Henry, Minnie Jones Barrs.



**William A. Redmond Family**

Mr. Redmond, former owner of Cochran Hardware had this picture of his family made about 1920. They are, left to right, James Webb, William A., Dwight William, Mrs. William A., Virginia Elizabeth, baby Charles Curry. Later Julia Killen was born.



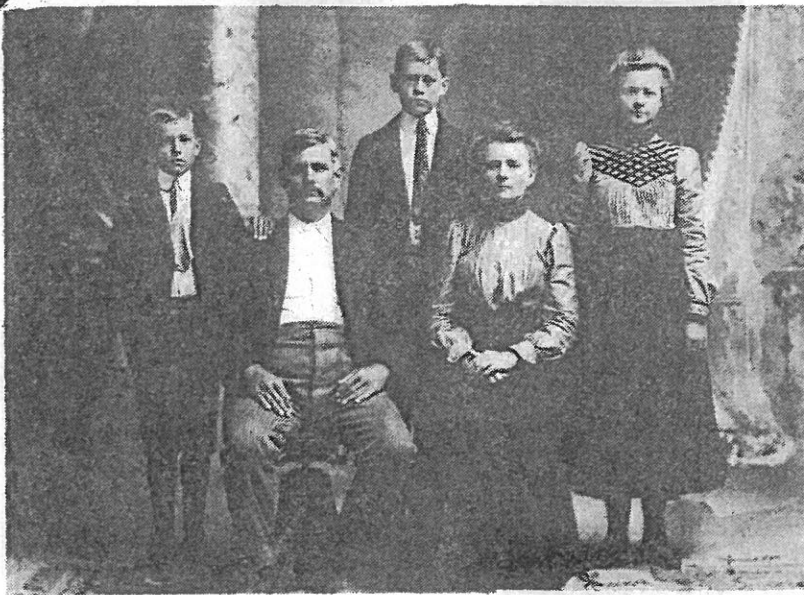
**Ira Gordon Smith Family**

This family grew up in the Salem Community, where Mr. Smith was a farmer. Front, left to right, Richard Gordon (R. G.) Smith, Sara Lee (J. C. Tripp), second row, left to right, Eva (C. M. Faulk), Alma, (S. B. Beck), Mamie (Roy Crutchfield). R. G. and his father farmed in the Rebie Community, where R. G. and his son, Russell, continue the operation.



**S. B. Whipple Family**

The Whipple family was large and its members have contributed much to this county over the years. L to R - children: Lewis, Allen Pugh, Jr., Ulysses, Jr.; seated: Cliff, Allen, Mrs. S. B. Whipple, Mr. S. B. Whipple, Ulysses and Steve; standing: Rob, Mrs. Allen (Zenie) Whipple, Lucian, Oliver, Mrs. Ulysses (Alice) Whipple and Willy.

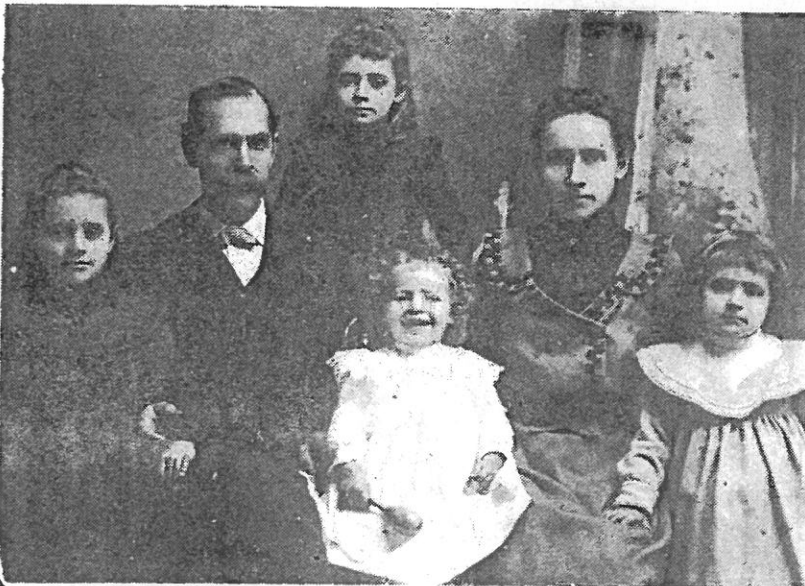
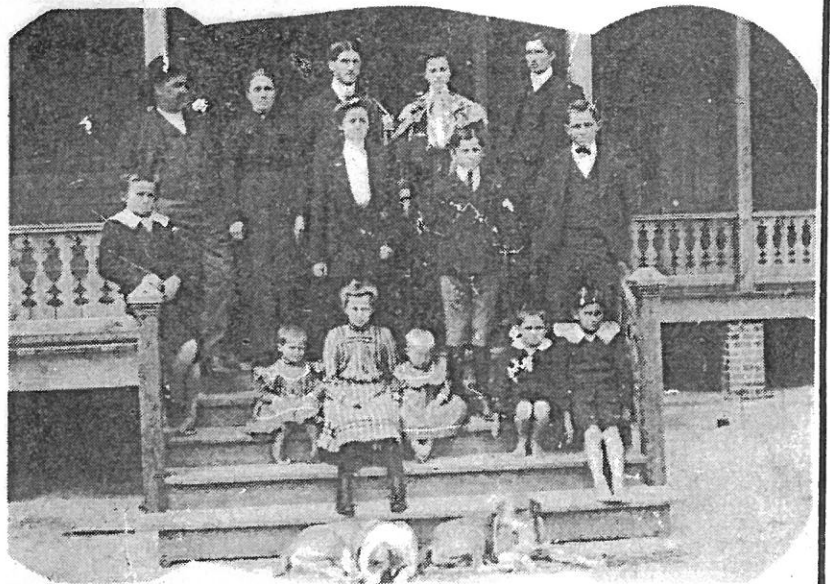


**Sherman Jones Family**

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. (Sherman) Jones raised their family on a large farm located south of highway 26 and Gum Swamp Creek. Sherman was the grandfather of Hall Jones and many other residents living in this same area of the county today. L to R - Walter, Sherman, Arthur, "Tink", and Gertrude.

**Francis Marion Dykes Family**

This picture was taken about 1901 outside the Dykes home which still stands on the Montrose Road. Children seated L to R - Senella, Fannie, Eugenia, Emmett, Willie; second row - Nathan, Minnie, Chatman, John W., Francis Marion, Aarandia Eugenia, Riley, Suzie Petty Dykes, J. P.



**John R. Taylor Family**

In the late 1800's this family portrait was made. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor had four beautiful daughters. L to R - Mrs. (Pearl) Taylor Vaughn, Mrs. (Ruby) F. L. McVay, Mrs. (Evelyn) Allen Whipple and Mrs. (Carrie Mae) Russell Fulton.



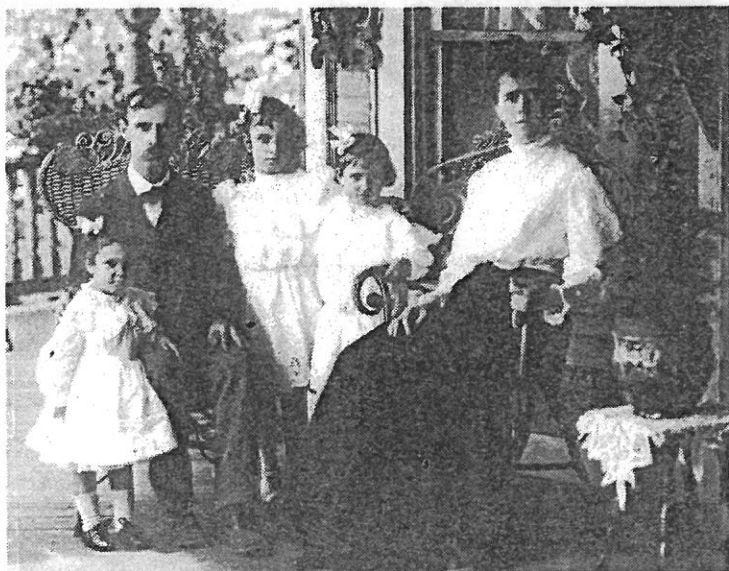
**Andrew Jackson Thompson, Sr., Family**

Andrew moved to Cochran in 1878. He had many business interests and built the Hotel Kemper in Hawkinsville. L. to R. William Graham, John Barkswell, Mr. A.J. Sr., K.A., Mrs. A.J. Srs., Ida (wife of Dr. C.E. Taylor), Morgan, Jack.



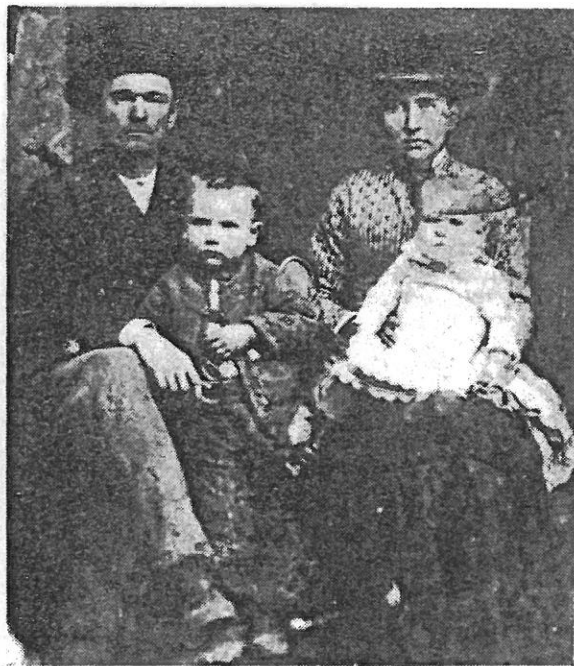
**George Travis Legg Family**

This Pike County man was a resident engineer for the Georgia State Highway Department. These are four of his nine children. L. to R.: Nell (Mrs. Victor Kaminsky), Hazel (Mrs. Pete Pettey), Sara Elizabeth (Mrs. Howard A. Nicholson) and in front, Marion Pearl (Mrs. Whitaker).



**E. Cook, Jr., Family**

Among other contributions to this county E. Cook, Jr. was manager of one of Cochran's newspapers, "The Telegram". He had this wonderful family. L to R - (Madge) Mrs. T. H. Kimbrough, E. Cook, Jr., Louise, Maree Cecil and Lilah (Mrs. E. Cook, Jr.).



**James Edward Armstrong Family**

The Armstrongs came to Bleckley County about 1869 and farmed near Mobley's Crossing. They moved to Longstreet-Evergreen Community several years later. One grandchild, Jane Victoria Armstrong, is the only grandchild still living in the county. Pictured children, left to right, Edward Hand, James Franklin and parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Armstrong.