

THE MORRIS AND CONNELL

FAMILY 1800 - 1972

\$2.00 + POSTAGE

A BIOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNTING
OF THREE BERRIEN CO. POINEERS.

LOVZINSKI MORRIS 1800-1860

SAMUEL CONNELL 1805-1869

WILLIAM EVANDER CONNELL 1829-1899, AND THEIR DESCENDENTS

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY

MACK BRIGGS MATHIS SR.

MAY 31, 1972

ABOUT THE COMPILER OF THIS BOOKLET

I am listing some of the reasons, why you the reader of this Booklet, should not expect to much, as my approach, my spelling, my hunt and peck type writing, my punctuations and technique, are poor to say the least about them. I quit school in the fourth grade, contrary to the wishes of my parents. As I saw it, my parents were in their mid thirties, much to young to know what was best for a fifteen year old boy. That was the major mistake of my life.

I am nearing my 72nd birthday. I have cataracts in both eyes and my vision is poor. Glasses are of no help at this stage. I have emphysema in advanced stage. I use a breathing therapy unit at least twice a day. Last, but not least, I am afflicted with arthritis in my arms, back and legs. I am not complaining, only calling to your attention the handicaps, I have labored under in compiling this booklet. I am truly thankful that I was able to complete this work. It has been inspiring and beneficial, health wise. I have met lots of people that I would never have known, had I not have compiled this booklet. I know that I have made errors, "for to err is human," and I find them every time that I read over my work. Please accept this effort by saying, "OH WELL," he did the best he could under the circumstances. THANK YOU.

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May 31, 1972

ABOUT THIS BOOKLET

SHE HAD A DREAM, in June 1971 Corene Grimsley, dreamed that she was at a Mathis reunion, she told her dream to members of the family, she wrote letters, called various ones by telephone, and I suspect that she did some talking, any way on August 8, 1971, her dream came true, at Long Bridge Church. Officers were elected, and a Mathis reunion became a reality. I was given the task of setting up the family tree. On Jan. 12, 1972 I sent my Biographical account of John Mathis and his decensents to my printer. It was not the work of an experienced writer, but I did my best.

By this time I had become involved, and was in need of something to take my mind off my worries and afflictions, in as much as I had a good bit of data, on my mother's family in my files, I contacted Myrtle Cobb, who had been asked to get a Connell family tree started, (but due to poor health) she was behind schedule, and she was glad for me to use the data that she had compiled, and get the show on the road, so with her help, and the help from many others including Col. Folks Huxford, who very gracefully permitted me to use sketches from his Wire Grass Ga., without which I could not have compiled the sketches, that are recorded of our fore fathers, let us go now to vol. 3 page 220, and Lovzinsky Morris 1800-1860. And then to vol. 1 page 50, and Samuel Connell, 1805-1869. Then to vol. 2 page 68, and William Evander Connell, 1829 - 1899.

It was here that I went to work, trying to bring the Morris and Connell families down two generations, which I have completed, with a few exceptions. I have reached the era of official records, of marriage, birth and death certificates, and a challenge for some more capable person, to take up where I have had to conclude my work, and complete a family record in which we could all be proud of.

LOVZINSKI MORRIS 1800-1860 BERRIEN

Lovzinski Morris was born in Anderson County, S.C. about 1800. His father's name has not been ascertained. His mother had previously been married to a Peeples and was Jane Darling before marriage. By her first marriage she had children, among them Henry Peeples, who was born in 1786 and Lewis, born 1789, both of whom became residents of Berrien County in the 1850's. By her Morris marriage, she had 5 sons. Among them was the subject.

Mr. Morris was married twice. His first wife was Frances Thorne and his second wife was Miss Burke. Neither of whom is anything known. Now, as to date and place of birth or parentage, Lovzinski Morris had the following known children but by which wife we have not learned, viz:

1. Hansell E., b. 1822, m. Nancy Elizabeth Peeples, dau. of Lewis
2. Malinda, b. 1827, m. Calloway Estes of Jones Co., Ga.
3. Jesse H., b. 1830, m. Elizabeth O'Neal, Feb. 4, 1858
4. Edmund D., b. 1832, m. Eliza Hancock, dau. of John D.
5. William E., b. 1834, m. Mary Jane Hancock, dau. of Burrell
6. Joseph S., b. 1833, m. Almeda Frances Mitchell, Clayton Co.
7. Mary A. J., b. 1836, m. Daniel J. Hancock, Nov. 6, 1858.
8. Sarah, b. 18---, m. (1) M. M. Griffin (2) Wm. E. Connell, Apr. 24, 64.

Mr. Morris moved from S.C. to Ga. around 1830. He lived several years in Pickens County. Then moved to Marietta when it was a village, in each place carrying on his occupation of millwright. He moved to Lowndes County about 1853 and settled down on a farm in late years owned by M. D. Warren five miles west of Nashville on the old LeConte public road. There his sons built the water-mill since known as the Crowley Mill. This was included in Berrien County when it was made in 1856 out of Lowndes. Mr. Morris died there around 1860. He was buried in the Peeples' Cemetery in Nashville. His grave was unmarked.

Copied from Wiregrass, Georgia, Vol. 1, page 50

SAMUEL CONNELL 1805-1869 BERRIEN

Samuel Connell was born in Darlington District, S.C. on Jan. 15, 1805. A son of James and Sarah Connell. He moved with his own family and that of his parents to Lowndes County, Ga., in 1833 and located on lands about 2 1/2 miles Southeast of Nashville, where he cleared up a farm and built his home. This property later became the property of his son, Wm. Evander Connell. It was there that Samuel died Jan. 24, 1869.

He was married before moving to Ga., to Miss Mary Steele, born in S.C. on March 15, 1801, died Nov. 4, 1870. She and her husband are buried in the Connell Graveyard, three miles south of Nashville. The graves are marked. Their children were:

1. James I.G., b. 1828, S.C.; m. Winnie Lindsey, dau. of John.
2. Wm. Evander, b. 1829, S.C.; m. 1st Martha Smith, dau. of David C., 2nd. Mrs. Sarah Morris Griffin, 1864.
3. Sarah Ann, b. 1831, S.C.; m. John R. Lindsey
4. Eliza J., b. 1832, S.C.; Samuel Carter, Jr.
5. Elizabeth C., b. 1835, Ga.; m. 1st Lemuel Kirkland, 2nd. John A. Money
6. Thomas N., b. 1836, Ga.; m. Martha Gaskins, dau. of Harmon
7. Enos James, b. 1838, Ga.; m. Rachel F. Strickland, day. of Stephen D.
8. Mary Martha, b. 1839, Ga.; m. 1st James O. Money, 2nd. Thomas Bradford
9. John E., b. 1846, Ga.; m. Eliza McCranie, Dec. 15, 1864, dau. of Daniel and Winnie McCranie

Samuel Connell was received by letter on Sept. 2, 1833 into Union Primitive Baptist Church from Moriah Baptist Church, Darlington District, S.C. He remained a member there until Jan. 7, 1837 when he with others were dismissed by letters to unite in constituting Pleasant Church nearer his home. He was a member of Pleasant Church until his death.

Mr. Connell served as a private in Capt. Hamolton Sharpe's, Volunteer Company of the Lowndes County militia, in the Indian War in 1836.

Census references: 1840-1850 Lowndes; 1860 Berrien.

Copied from Wiregrass, Georgia, vol. 2, page 68.

WILLIAM EVANDER CONNELL 1829-1899 BERRIEN

William Evander Connell was born in Darlington County, S.C. on Nov. 19, 1829, son of Samuel and Mary Connell. He moved with his parents to Lowndes now Berrien County around 1833. He was married twice. His first wife was Martha J. Smith, born Oct. 6, 1831, in Thomas County. Her parents were David Cooper and Mahala (Nash) Smith. She died about 1863, and soon after, on April 24, 1864, he married Mrs. Sarah Griffin, dau. of Lavinsky Morris and widow of Mitchell M. Griffin. She was born Jan. 12, 1838 and died April 11, 1918. By the first wife eight children were born, as follows:

1. Emily Margaret, b. 1853, m. Robert K. Turner, Nov. 26, 1868.
2. Jasper D., b. 1855, m. Fannie Irene Morris, dau. of Edmund D.
3. Ann E., b. 1857, m. J. Higgs Taylor, Dec. 24, 1871.
4. George F., b. 1859; m. 1st Willie Sheppard, 2nd Sarah Carter
5. William D., b. 1860, died young
6. Lillian, b. 1861, died young
7. Francis Bartow, b. 1862, died young
8. Georgia Ann, b. 1863; m. R. A. (Aaron) Futch

Born to Wm. Evander and Sarah Griffin Connell, the following,

1. John A., b. 1865; m. Eulala Agnas Lindsey, dau. of John S.
2. Mary, b. 1867; m. John D. Patterson Aug. 19, 1883
3. Reubin Roberts, b. 1869; m. Mae Edwards, of Pinetta, Fla.
4. Sarah E., b. 1870; m. James Lawton Parrish
5. Edmund Hansell, b. 1873; m. died age 7 years
6. Henry Snead, b. 1874, m. 1st Texas Parrish, 2nd Hattie Hall.
7. William Weed, b. 1876, m. Eula Lee Little, of Savannah
8. Newton Wiley, b. 1878; m. Allie Geneva Mathis, dau. of Hiram

W. E. Connell enlisted Aug. 22, 1862, in Co. "I", 50th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, C.S.A., known as the Berrien Light Infantry. "He was later promoted to sergeant, and was wounded and came home. He was discharged April 10, 1864, having been elected Ordinary while home recuperating. He served three terms, 1864-1868 and 1873-1881.

He bought the old home place of his father from the other heirs and lived there until 1888. He had a large farm and also a cotton gin. In 1888, he sold this property and moved to a farm four miles north of Valdosta, Lowndes County, where he engaged in truck farming a few years. Later, he bought a beautiful home in the northern part of Valdosta, and moved there and lived in retirement until his death Dec. 30, 1899. Mrs. Connell, his wife, survived him and died eighteen years later. He and both his wives are buried in the Connell Cemetery on the old Connell home-place in Berrien County.

Census Reference: 1860, 1870, Berrien.

EDMUND DARLING MORRIS 1832-1907 BERRIEN

E. D. Morris was born in Pickens County, Georgia, July 16, 1832, and was a son of Lovzinski and Jane Darling Peeples Morris. He married Elizabeth Hancock, who was a daughter of John D. and Irene Vanzant of Tattnall County, Ga. He was born April 1, 1811. John D. Hancock was born Jan. 20, 1809, died in 1870 in Berrien County. I have no record of the death of Irene or burial of either of them.

The records in the Clerk's office of Berrien County, Deed Book A, page 41, records a deed signed by John Lindsey, dated Feb. 7, 1852, to the father of E. D. Morris (L. B. Lovzinski Morris) for lots of land No.'s 183 & 184 in the 10th land district, and lot No. 185 in the 9th district, a total of 1470 acres, for \$500.00. It was on this tract of land that the Morris' sons built a huge earthen dam across Wolf creek. To appreciate what a mammoth under-taking with the primitive tools in use at that time this dam was, you will have to walk across it. At the West end of this dam some 300 yards, is a fenced burial plot, roughly guessing 12 X 25 feet or room for 4 graves. In the north end of the plot is a shelter for one grave. The top has collapsed but the post and plates are hewn square and put together with wooden pegs. No signs of decay were noted.

On Nov. 14, 1904, my father, C. D. Mathis, bought 40 acres of lot No. 183 from H. L. Taylor, deed book 29, page 60, Berrien Co. My father made only one crop on this farm. As a 4 year old, I remembered playing under a cedar tree, where there were two graves. I have talked about these graves all my life, but did not find any one that could shed any light on the subject. I had not been back there after 1905. In March of this year, my wife and I drove to where I thought the old house stood. There I told my story to Bobby Moore, who pointed to a cedar tree on the far side of his field and said your graves are under that tree. This tree is on the top of the hill on the west side of New River, in Cook Co..

I hope that my un-orthodox approach on page one will stir some younger and more qualified Compiler, to do a research on the graves that I wrote about.

The children of E. D. and Elizabeth Morris are as follows:

1. Fannie Irene b. 1/21/1858; d. 7/26/1936; buried at Long Bridge; m. Jasper D. Connell b. 1/14/1855 d. 1/26/1925, Long Bridge;
2. William Henry b. 2/2/1860; d. 10/27/1946, Nashville Cy. m. Jennie Clyatt; b. 2/27/1870; d. 3/28/1927, Nashville Cy.;
3. John H. Cader b. 12/23/1862 m. Molly Partin, b. 1/8/1855.
4. Jessie Daniel b. 10/30/1862; died young
6. Sarah Myrann Emily b. 5/6/1871; d. 6/21/1894; Connell Cy. m. Zachariah R. Connell, b. 11/29/1864; d. 7/1/1943; Nashville Cy. Zachariah m. Ollie Lenoir, b. 1876 d. 1954, Nashville Cy.;
5. Joseph E. b. 2/24/1868; d. 4/5/1941; Connell Cy. m. Nancy Alzadie Bennett, b. 6/18/1872; d. 4/4 1942; Connell Cy.;
7. Elmina b. 4/5/1873, d. 7/24/1937 m. 12/24/1904 buried Mt. Zion Church. m. Samuel Cheek b. 11/26/1855; d. 9/11/1949 Chula, Ga.
8. Joannah b. 9/19/1876; d. 11/3/1944; buried at Bartow, Fla. m. Herbert C. Phipps; m. 1927, d. 1945, Bartow, Fla.
9. Jannie b. 1879 d. 1958 buried at Bartow, Fla. m. Riley Mathis buried at Bartow, Fla.

On Aug. 12, 1868, Mr. Morris bought 60 acres of land of lot No. 227 in the 10th land district from J.

F. Goodman. This tract of land is between the Valdosta and Adel roads. It was here that he built his home in which he reared his family. He farmed and operated a blacksmith shop with a wood working shop in one end, where he made furniture. This home is now in Nashville. He died here June 20, 1907. His wife survived and died Oct. 24, 1924. They both are buried in the Nashville Cy. Graves are marked. Grandmother's head stone is broken. This home was a good home and was a gathering place for four generations of their off-spring.

JASPER D. CONNELL 1855-1925 BERRIEN

Jasper D. Connel, a son of Wm. Evander and Martha J. Smith Connell, was born Jan. 14, 1855 in Lowndes now Berrien County, Ga. In 1872, he married Fannie Irene Morris, the dau. of Edmund D. and Eliza L. Hancock Morris. There were thirteen children born by this union.

1. Martha L. (Mattie) b. 1873. m. George N. O'Quinn, died Dec. 19, 1928.
2. Mary Margaret b. 1875. m. Asa D. Cobb, died Aug. 24, 1947.
3. Julia S., b. 8/27/77. m. Luther L. Hallman, died 2/23/1934.
4. Sarah Elizabeth, b. 8/9/79. m. Charlie D. Mathis, died 11/6/1944.
5. William E., b. 7/26/81. m. Leila Tyson, died 5/5/1967 his 2nd wife Matilda Carver survives.
6. Ella J., b. 9/15/1883 died 8/12/1884.
7. Ada U., b. 7/16/85 m. Jim S. Outlaw, died 3/4/1963.
8. Infant Son, b. Nov. 11, 1889, died three days later.
9. Ava D., b. 11/27/90 m. Sylvester Nesmith d. 12/12/17.
10. Etna R. b. 12/10/92 m. 1st Arthur Chambers, 2nd Barney Thornton, died 7/15/1967.
11. John C. Edgar, b. 1/9/94 m. Clyde Walker, died July 25, 1965.
12. Sims R., b. 9/19/96 m. Alice McLendon, died Oct. 8, 1948.
13. Lacy C., b. Sept. 2, 1899 m. Thelma Cannon.

Martha L. (Mattie) was born July 26, 1873, Mary M. Aug. 4, 1875. Grand Ma. Fannie was born Jan. 21, 1857, in Berrien County. She was married in 1872 at the age of 15 years. Grand Pa was two years older. They set up housekeeping near their parents in a one room cabin with a clay floor. The cooking was done in the fire place and the only store bought items in the home were pots and pans and table ware. Most likely a glass bottle filled with kerosine and a rag for a wick was their lamp. The furniture was homemade and their mattress was of straw. They soon built a better home south and near Nashville. They were prosperous and the family outgrew the house. They bought a large tract of land East of the sawmill town of Masee in now Cook County, on the Nashville public road and on the west of New River.

Here they cleared a large farm and built a large house, and did what was necessary to make their home a paradise for their big bunch of grandchildren, who were regular (at least once a month) guests and what a time we did have. I bragged about the fruits at Grandpa Mathis's home, Grandpa Connell went grandpa Mathis one better, as he had a big apricot tree, figs, pecans, and in the woods plenty of wild grapes. black or blue, sassafras roots for tea, and a much used swimming hole in the river near by. There was also one in the creek, but the water there was to cool for me.

Since we are talking about the things we grand children enjoyed, let us go back to the big house. In this big house was a big parlor and in this big parlor was a stereoscope with enough pictures to keep four or five children quiet for a couple of hours. Then the dominoes which would take an hour or so and the Edison phonograph with Casey Jones being the favorite record. I'm sure you remember the big horn with the dog listening to his master's voice. There was the telephone on the wall, which was off limits for the children. Now to the kitchen porch, where we find a cedar water bucket, about one inch of run tar in the bottom, and filled with water. The dipper hung on a nail in the post. We were told that was to keep us healthy. There was another bucket for the ones that did not like the tar taste. Now the safe, against the wall between the dining room and kitchen doors, was an ordinary safe with screen doors and a pull out drawer in the bottom, which I have pulled many times. I do not remember ever pulling out that drawer that I did not find tea cakes or ginger bread. At the end of the porch was the delco light plant with, I believe, 20 glass batteries.

Grandpa Connell was a great quail hunter, he tried to go quail hunting at least once each hunting season at each of his children's home. He and grandma would come to our house the evening before the hunt, spend the night with us, so as to get an early start the day of the hunt. I was allowed to go with him, until he had killed at least fifteen birds. At that point I cut out for the house with the birds and helped dress them, after which things start cooking. The bird breast are fried, the other parts cooked in a pie, usually in a dish pan. I go back to grandpa to call him to dinner which defies any attempt to tell how good that dinner was, after a dinner and a rest spell, the birds are divided, that he killed after I left him earlier in the day. The mule is hitched to the buggy and grandpa and grandma head for home.

Grandpa Connell was a diversified farmer. He grew the staple crops as did his neighbors. He also grew big fields of watermelons, cantaloupes, peanuts and grew lots of cane, from which he cooked his syrup and brown sugar. He also grew plenty of sweet potatoes for home use, for sale and to fatten hogs. His farm was up to date in all respects. The house and barn was kept painted, his livestock was well cared for, his farm equipment was well kept, every hoe, rake, plow or grain drill had a place fixed for its storage, and everything was kept in its place. He was faithful to his church and tried to make this world a better place in which to live and rear children. He suffered a stroke in the early twenties, which ended his social activities and left him a semi-invalid until his death, Jan. 21, 1925. Grandma survived her husband 11 1/2 years.

She died July —, 1936, and was buried by his side, in Long Bridge Cemetery. I consider myself very fortunate to have been the grandson of such outstanding men as were Jasper D. Connell and Ancil Mathis.

Will you go back with me to the flying jenny days? I'm sure most of you recall how we would cut down a tree leaving the stump about three feet high, getting a twenty foot pole, five or six inches at the little end, boring a 3/4 inch hole in the pole at the point where the pole would balance and driving an iron pin into the stump, through the hole in the pole, applying axle grease, and with boys, and sometimes girls on each end, and some one in the middle to push we would go around and around. Oh Boy.

After the big mill at Masee closed down we were able to get some of the dry kiln equipment, viz 12" steel wheels, flanged, and 4 or 5 hundred feet of (I think 2") steel rails, which was used to build a track, on a hill with a 20 foot incline, then a frame was built on the four wheels. It was floored and all aboard for a ride down hill. As I recall we would get to the end of the line without a wreck, about one out of four tries, but we had fun and plenty of exercise. It is a miracle that no one was killed. It makes me shudder to think of it now.

At one time there was a temporary convict camp on the hill below the big barn. It was fascinating to us boys, to lie on the grass and observe the activities of the prisoners, wearing their prison striped clothes and the ever alert guards, with their shinney shot guns, also to watch the blood hounds, chained outside the prison grounds.

I have spent two days compiling this biography of our grandparents and have enjoyed every minute of it. I hope that each of you as you read it, will get a kick out of something contained herein.

GEORGE NEWBERN O'QUINN 1867-1939 BERRIEN

George N. O'Quinn was born in Clinch County, Nov. 30, 1867, the son of Hancel (Hansford) Duncan and Maltilda Newbern Joyce, the widow of Martin Joyce, a Confederate Army casualty. She was born Oct. 15, 1847, and died July 12, 1892. Hanselor (Hansford) was the son of Silas O'Quinn. He was born July 24, 1788 in N.C. and was the son of Alexander and Nancy Crummey, born 1788 in S.C., daughter of Stephen Crummey R.S., her mother Rebecca Crummey was a sister of Isaac Carter.

Hansel Duncan O'Quinn was born in Barnwell District, S.C. Dec. 3, 1815, he married Martha Branch, she was born in 1827, a daughter of Elias Branch, she died April 15, 1861, born to her were the following children.

1. Silas, b. Jan. 15, 1844, m. 1st Margaret J. Robinson; 2nd Tranqua C. Roland
2. Lucy Ann, b. Apr. 26, 1846, m. Daniel I. Blitch
3. Louisa Emily, b. Aug. 12, 1848, m. John Douglas
4. David B., b. Apr. 20, 1850, m. Sallie Edge of Fla.
5. Nancy C., b. Mar. 6, 1852, died 1854
6. H. D. Jr., b. Nov. 8, 1853, died in infancy
7. Elias, b. Nov. 11, 1854, m. Charity Herrin, dau. of Levi
8. Martha Ann, b. Dec. 28, 1856, m. Redden Bennett, son of Felix
9. Susan Dicy, b. Nov. 27, 1858, m. John Bennett, son of Felix
10. Virginia V., b. Apr. 22, 1860 died age two years

Mr. O'Quinn was married in 1862 to Nancy Dame of Clinch County, a daughter of George Dame, and died soon after her only child was born.

11. Florida E., b. Feb. 10, 1863, m. John H. Cornelious

Mr. O'Quinn then married Matilda Joyce, a daughter of the Rev. George Newbern, she was born Oct. 15, 1847 and died July 12, 1892. Four children were born by her.

12. Harley D., b., Oct. 15, 1866, m. 1st Sarah C. Spradley, Oct. 26, 1897; 2nd Maggie Mathis, daughter of Samuel.
13. George Newbern, b. Nov. 30, 1867, m. Mattie Connell, Jan. 18, 1890
14. Carl, b. —, 1869, m. Texas Knight
15. Robert, b. Nov. 6, 1870 m. Eliza Lee, dau. of P. M. 9,20,91

Mr. O'Quinn's fourth wife was a sister of his third wife. Vicy Newbern was born Jan. 7, 1855, m. 1st A. E. Smith Jr., 2nd E. J. Benton, Jr. 3rd H. D. O'Quinn. She and H. D. were married Apr. 9, 1894. Mr. O'Quinn died Oct. 29, 1900, and was buried in the Nashville Cemetery, his wife survived, she died in 1911 and was buried by her first husband in the Homerville Cemetery.

George N. O'Quinn married Mattie Connell, dau. of Jasper D. and Fannie I. Morris Connell, Jan. 18, 1890, she was born Berrien Co. July 26, 1873, and died Dec. 12, 1928, she was buried at Long Bridge. Uncle George died Nov. 29, 1939 and was buried beside his wife. Born to this union were nine children, as follows:

1. May, b. 12, 2, 1890, m. Mark Griffin, he d. 11,9,1936
2. Bruce, b. 11,24,1892, m. Mary Wilkes; Bruce D. Mar. 5, 1959
3. Mallie, b. 1,16,1894; m. May Blanton
4. Lillian, b. 2,14,1896, m. D. A. Thomas; D. A. died 11-14-1948
5. Leila, b. 12,30,1898, m. C. F. Laster; C.F. died 9-6-1946
6. Briggs, b. 9-24-1901, m. Erma Ruth Cannon, died June 18, 1970
7. Florrie, b. 10,9,1904, m. Jerome Thomas; he died June 21, 1971
8. Lucile, b. 1,28,1906, m. Joel Jenkins; he died 6-28-1971
9. Georgia, b. 11,9,1908, m. Thomas Miller

I think that there was an infant, died in 1902 or 1903, no records.

Soon after his marriage, Uncle George bought the farm one mile North of Long Bridge Church, (where

B. F. Cornelious now lives) he cleared more land and built his home, about 1905 he had a narrow escape with a bout with typhoid fever, that left him unable to operate his farm. therefore he rented out his farm, and with the help of an uncle, secured a R.R. section foreman's job with the A.C.L.R.R., and moved across the Alapaha river, and lived in Coffee County two years. Having regained his health, he moved back to his farm.

Uncle George was a man of action, and virtue, he never met a stranger, he loved his church work, he loved to hunt and fish, he was very active in his W.O.W. camp, he was a master at the barbecue pit, and was called on to cook meat for various occasions.

In the fall of the year, he and my father with others, would cover their wagons, and head for the coast in West Fla. 8 or 10 days, they would return home with barrells of salt mullet and yellow fish roe, for family consumption. He liked to hunt opossums at night. He would put the opossums in a pen and fatten them, and at Thanksgiving dinner, he had a feast of possum and taters.

About 1910, he headed the organization of a chapter of The Farmers Union, which went broke, when the boll weevil made his appearance in South Ga. He suffered a financial loss in the venture. He then sold his farm and moved to Westville, Fla. it was here that aunt Mattie died. He returned to Ga. where he died 11 years later.

At the old home place was a place of entertainment for the young folks, like cutting dog fennel logs for Mallie to saw on his saw mill. It was here that Briggs taught me to catch red fin pike in the branch at the foot of the hill, here we had the fun of the tram car that we rode down the steep hill and huffed and puffed to get it back to the top of the hill for the next ride. Here too was the flying jennys, the swings, the sand hill, where the water over the years had washed the road bed some five feet deep leaving an ideal sand bank in which to dig fox holes, tunnels and what have you.

The house was surrounded by big oaks, which are still there to provide plenty of shade, in the house were the checker boards, the dominoes, and the telephone on the wall, and in the dining room was a long, long dining table, with a snow white table cloth, until I turned over a quart jar of pickled beets, and I want to tell you that beet juice covered a spot on that table cloth as big as a 200 lb. guano sack, of all my boyhood blunders, the beets ranked No. 1.

P.S. In 1894 Hansford Duncan O'Quinn, was demitted from Cassia Lodge 224 at Homerville, and affiliated with Duncan Lodge No. 234, Nashville. The Lodge at that time was dragging along, holding together, hoping for something to happen, and it did happen, when Uncle George and his father came in to the Lodge. The Lodge took on new life, and was among the most active Lodge in Wiregrass, Ga. Duncan O'Quinn was honored after his death by having the Lodge named for him. Hence Duncan Lodge No. 234, Nashville, Ga.

P.S. No. 2. Myrtle Cobb says that for me to complete this sketch, that I should mention the one and only, OLD BUNCH. He was a big brindle, bob-tailed, possum-hunting bull dog that always welcomed all visitors to the O'Quinn home. Everyone had a pat on the head for BUNCH.

P.S. No. 3. Uncle George following family tradition, was a devout Missionary Baptist, he was a deacon at Brushy Creek Church. In 1922, he with twenty other members asked for and were granted their church letters, they in turn organized Masee Baptist Church, which has grown to one of the big churches in their association. They at Masee Baptist Church have one of the most beautiful church buildings of any country church that I know of.

ASA DUMPS COBB 1878-1953 COOK

Asa D. Cobb, son of Oliver U. and Nancy Malloy Cobb, was born Nov. 18, 1878, in Berrien County, Ga. and was married Nov. 16, 1899, to Mary Margaret Ann (Maggie) Connell, a daughter of Jasper and Fannie Irene Morris Connell, of Berrien (now Cook) County. The following nine children were born to this union.

1. Still birth, b. 9-1900
2. Chessie Leila, b. 9-23-1901, died 9-23-1902
3. Myrtle Mae, b. 6-5-1903, not married YET
4. Troy Benton, b. 5-18-1905, m. Bannye Flowers, she died 6-18-1948, 2nd Onnie G. Flowers, sister of Bannye
5. Lory Alton, b. 10-5-1906, m. Ola M. Dickerson
6. Ruth Estelle, b. 8-17-1908, m. Windell M. Bradford, he died 8-23-1963
7. Mary Louelle, b. 9-24-1910, m. John B. Gross
8. Fannie Lou, b. 9-7-1913, m. Henry Paul (Micky) McGuire
9. Robbie Nell, b. 11-11-1915, m. James G. Dickerson, he died 4-9-1965

After his marriage Uncle Asa moved to a farm near Bulah Church. In 1903 bought a tract of land 4 miles West of Adel where he cleared land, built a small house. Then in 1910, he moved the 1st house from its site and built his dream house, with a deep well on the back porch. Later he installed a carbide tank, in which was placed a specified amount of calcium carbide compound, the tank was then filled with water, which formed a gas, which was piped into the house, where it was used for lights, and to heat the smoothing iron, as well as to run the two burner stove.

Uncle Asa built a large two story mule barn, it was so designed that the top floor had as much room as the ground level. I called it the round top barn. I do not recall having seen another barn of this type South of Cordele, Ga. Out of this barn came some fine horses and mules, He kept a bunch of brood mares, along with a stud and jack. Anyone who wished stud service in Cook or surrounding, he would load the stud or jack and go to their place if they so desired. I have spent many hours watching the young colts learning to stand up and later run and play on their long gauky legs. This barn is still in use after 50 years. He also built the first brick tobacco curing barn that I know of.

Uncle Asa was another example of a man of action, with many virtues. He was dedicated to his Missionary Baptist Church, a faithful member of the W.O.W., as was every member of his family. He helped organize the Farmers Union Chapter in 1910 and served as their secretary. In 1913 he went into the cotton ginning business, the Adel Gin Co. where he became gin manager and operator, a position he held for thirty years, as new fields opened up and the company expanded, the company changed its name to Adel Trading Co. which proved very profitable for the company and the farmers, as they opened a much needed market for farm produce, and where the farmer could buy feed, seed, fertilizer, farm tools, machinery and equipment. He retired in 1933, and returned to his farming and livestock raising, not only horses and mules, for he had a large herd of improved hogs and cows, which were rated among the best in South Ga.

At Uncle Asa's house, as in several other of my sketches, was the telephone, record player and various other items to be enjoyed by the youngsters. In 1914, he bought his first automobile, which replaced the two horse surrey. He was one of the first to set a budded pecan orchard, and which most, if not all the trees are still producing.

Now on the lighter side, lets go back before the advent of the beauty shoppe (as we know today). It was a bright sun-shiny afternoon, just the kind of day that one would pick to wash and dry a head of long hair, and Myrtle did just that, well at least she washed her hair, and was strolling around in the sunshine, so her hair could dry. While strolling she noticed that the eggs had not been picked up. She thought that she should pick them up. She first filled her sweater pockets, after which she filled both hands and headed for the house over the big cane pummy pile, nothing unusual about that, had reached the summit, and as she started down hill, she tripped over the top strand of a wire fence that had been covered and she fell, the eggs were a total loss, and the hair had to be washed again and then dried.

In my livestock report I forgot to mention that Uncle Asa had some goats, and among the goats was a big billy, which Troy broke to pull a wagon. Then the day that Troy's head was going down, and the goat's horn was coming up, and the sharp horn point stuck through his jaw. I believe it was the same year he stuck a pitch fork prong through his leg.

Aung Maggie died Aug. 24, 1947. Uncle Asa died Aug. 3, 1953, they are buried side by side at Long Bridge.

P.S. I joined the U.S. Navy in 1917, was discharged in Nov. 1919, went to public work, therefore was unaware of what Uncle Asa was doing. I am using a letter from on the scene reporter, Miss Myrtle, viz;

Asa D. Cobb joined Brushy Creek Baptist Church about 1924, the night following his baptism, he was elected deacon and served until his death.

He had about the first herd of registered Hereford cattle in the county, and was a member of the Ga. Hereford Association, and the American Polled Hereford Assoc. for many years (he didn't like horned cattle). About 1917 he realized the damage being done to the cattle by ticks, and built his own dipping vat, and dipped his hogs and cows at regular intervals. Many people did not like the idea of dipping cows, but in 1918 the Ga. NO TICK law was enacted, and all cattle were dipped or "ELSE". So vats were built around the state, his vat was approved and was used by the neighborhood, the dipping was done on a certain day every two weeks. There was lots of cussing, fussing and some fighting, but the dipping was successfully completed, and the U.S.A. was a better place to live in. He was successful with a new venture. He would loan a family a cow and calf to milk, feed and raise the calf one half for the other. In the 1930's he lost some of his prize cattle, by exhibiting them in a building where there were some sick cows. His cows were stricken with shipping fever, as a result he lost Prince and Princess. The big barn mentioned above was built in 1921 and hosted a tacky party on the second floor.

He was a leader in the organization and building Adel's first freezer locker. He then turned his attention to the passage of the NO FENCE law, he found that he was faced with strong opposition, (as I found in my county) but we both were rewarded with victory. He was a leader in organizing the Cook County Farm Bureau in 1941, served as its first president, and helped it grow by carrying a membership book in his pocket, and signed new members right and left.

Let's go back to 1917 when he became interested in the movement to create Cook County. He worked hard and made several trips to Atlanta, and as we know Cook County was created in 1918. So after reading the Asa Cobb sketch we come to the conclusion that there could not possibly have been many dull moments in his life.

CHARLIE D. MATHIS

1878-1938

BERRIEN COUNTY

Was the son of Ancil and Francis Bass Mathis, and was born August 27, 1878 in Berrien County and was married in 1898 to Sarah Elizabeth Connell, daughter of Jasper D. and Fannie Irene Morris Connell, in what is now Cook County, Charlie was married at age 20 and according to tradition expected to work for his father until he was 21 years of age, which he did. After he became of age he share cropped for his father for 4 or 5 years. He then moved to Masee where he was employed by Masee-Felton Lumber Company as a woods hand.

About 1905 he moved back to one of his father's farms, and again became a share cropper. In slack

times on the farm, he did carpenter work, and worked some at Cheek Lumber Company as a mill hand. On Oct. 17, 1910 Grandpa Connell made my mother a deed to 50 acres of land being a part of land lot number 94 in the 9th land district, Berrien County, Georgia, located 1 mile South of the George P. Griffin farm on the Adel-Alapaha public road. My father cleared a 1 horse farm, built a house and outbuildings where we lived for 3 years. On June 21, 1913 mother sold the farm to J. T. Rowan. Mr. Rowan then sold mother on the above date 201 acres of land, lot number 247 in the 10th land district of Berrien County. This farm was on the west side of the Alapaha River and was known as the old Stephens Place which was settled in the early 1800's. The original dwelling house is still in use as an out utility house. This house and mule stables was built without nails.

My father cleared more farm land, stumped the fields, cut a half mile of ditches, built 2 cotton houses and a 200 foot cow barn. But it all happened in 1917, first the war, we young men went to the aid of our country, second the most disastrous event ever to hit the farmers of Wire Grass Georgia, the boll weevil knocked king cotton off his throne, and left the farmer without any means of meeting his obligations. There was no market for livestock, or any other products of the farm, therefore, but very few farmers that had a mortgage on their farms were able to hold their land, as an example, father turned to sugar cane, and he planted 2 acres. Then on May 31, 1919 he was shot from ambush, the shot left him blind. I came home November 30th and my first job was to get syrup barrels. I drove a 2 horse wagon 22 miles to get said barrels, then I filled 12, 30 gallon barrels with syrup, (360) gallons and the next step was to sell the syrup and pay the taxes. There was no market but I finally found a man who wanted to buy my syrup, but he offered me less money for a 30 gallon barrel of syrup that I had paid for the empty. I sold a load of sweet potatoes for 30¢ per bushel and made a down payment on enough furniture to set up house-keeping, married and moved to public work. My folks managed to hold the farm until January 1, 1924. At which time it was sold at the sheriff's sale, thanks to the boll weevil and a sagging economy.

In 1918 a few farmers planted a small acreage in flue cured tobacco and their success led to a rapid increase in acreage. Warehouses were built, and by 1923 tobacco was destined to replace cotton as a major crop in Wire Grass Georgia.

CHARLIE D. MATHIS married SARAH ELIZABETH CONNELL in 1898

the following children were born

James Alvin B. Aug. 13, 1899 Died July 8, 1900

Mack Briggs B. Nov. 9, 1900 M. Essie L. Kent Jan. 18, 1920

June C. B. May 7, 1903 Died Aug. 7, 1905

Jewell C. B. June 7, 1904 M. 1st Gorman Smith, 2nd Owen Griffin, 3rd Walter Lewis, all deceased

George W. (G. W.) B. March 2, 1906 M. Dessie Connell Died Mar. 29, 1961

Ancil D. (A.D.) B. April 5, 1907 M. 1st Lucille Rowan, 2nd Melba Whitney, 3rd Jewell Boykin, 4th Maggie Sutton

Pearl L. B. Jan. 4, 1909 M. 1st Jay Hall, 2nd Oscar Parker, 3rd Allen Cannington, 4th Luther Noles.

Infant B. Aug. 8, 1910 Died Aug. 8, 1910

Cauly F. B. Aug. 5, 1911 M. Ethel Griffin, daughter of Owen

Fannie Corene B. Oct. 31, 1913 M. 1st J. D. Hancock, 2nd Leroy King, 3rd Felton Wheeler, 4th Alex Taylor, 5th Clarence Grimsley

Coy F. B. Mar. 27, 1915 M. Jewell Tyson

Charles Laster B. 1916, died within 1 week

Sarah Myrtise B. Feb. 13, 1918 died Nov. 23, 1919

Madeline B. Dec. 20, 1920 M. 1st Manning Downing, 2nd Cortis Pafford, 3rd Harold Wallace

W. C. Lankford B. Sept. 4, 1923 M. According to what I have been told by his brothers and sisters, Lankford some told me has been married six times, while some think he has married seven times, he first married in Mississippi, picked up at least one in Georgia, then moved to Miami, Fla. and greener pastures. Lankford is rarely seen or heard from by any of his family. Therefore I am unable to list the names of the women that he has married.

Charlie D. Mathis died at his home in Ray City, June 25, ¹⁹³⁸~~1923~~, of prostrate gland poisoning, and was buried at Long Bridge Cemetery. Sarah E. (Lizzy) Connell Mathis was born Aug. 9, 1879, died at her home in rural Cook County, Nov. 6, 1944, of a cardiac arrest, and was buried in the family plot at Long Bridge Cemetery.

WILLIAM EVANDER (BILLY) CONNELL

1881-1967

BERRIEN COUNTY

W. E. (Billy) Connell, a son of Jasper D. and Fannie I. Morris Connell, was born in Berrien County July 26, 1881, he married Lelia Tyson, she was born in Berrien (now Cook) County, she was the daughter of Jasper C. Tyson and Martha Goodman Tyson, May 17, 1883, the children born to Billy and Lelia are

as follows:

1. Evie L. b. Mar. 27, 1901. m. Joe Brown Wheelles, he died 8/24, 1956;
2. Maude E. b. July 8, 1902. m. Remmer Bridges in April, 1920;
3. Gurtrude E. b. Oct. 1, 1904, mar. Ollie Graham, d. Jan. 16, 1955. she d. Oct. 17, 1969;
4. Letha b. Jan. 15, 1906. m. Clem Taylor, Oct. 4, 1925;
5. Pauline b. Aug. 24, 1908. m. Homer Corneilous, Apr. 27 ———;
6. Wm. Guy b. April 7, 1910. m. Evie Tyson, June 26, 1928;
7. Toy C. b. Aug. 12, 1912. m. 1st Red Crow, 2nd Mel Booth;
8. James G. b. Dec. 14, 1914. m. Myrtle Grimsley, April, 1932;
9. W. E. b. June 17, 1919. m. Letha Chaney May 1939;

I have a record of 5 deceased children to-wit:

10. Mellie Pearl b. July — 1907, died the first day;
11. Mattie Lou b. June 19, 1917, died by accident Mar. 16, 1921;
- 12, 13 & 14 died unnamed, no record of birth dates;

Several years after Aunt Lelia's death, Uncle Billy met and married Matilda (Tillie) Carver from Coffee County, two children were born to this union as follows:

15. Libby b. July 25, 1933, m. Billy Swanson.
16. Wayne b. Aug. 26, 1936. m. three times, names of wives not known.

Uncle Billy settled, adjacent to Uncle Jim and Aunt Ada, on the North cleared land built his home, on the West of New River in Berrien (now Cook) County. He grew cotton, corn, peanuts, sugar cane, potatoes and sometimes watermelons for market. As a kid I was always happy when I learned that we were going to visit Uncle Billy in the fall of the year, as I knew that in his cotton patch there was plenty of ripe luscious MAY POPS, just waiting for me. To me, not to have smelled or tasted a ripe may pop. Oh well they tell me that if you didn't know, that it doesn't hurt.

Uncle Billy was a devout Christian, he was a member of Beulah Holiness Baptist Church and served as church clerk for some 30 years. As the old members died out, and the younger generation came to power (so to speak) they brought in new ideas as to how the church should be run, so they modified the old church rules and rituals, to the extent that Uncle Billy did not feel at home in the new environments, therefore withdrew his letter, and I have no record of him having joined any other church.

Uncle Billy was appointed Justice of Peace for his G.M. District, in his early manhood, and held that post until his removal from that District. At the outbreak of World War Two and the beginning of the various war agencies, he was appointed to the O.P.A. He soon discovered that a compassionate man, like himself, was not fitted for this rationing job. The general public beat a path to his door, asking (and some begging) for more gas, sugar, tires and other rationed items. It worried him immensely, that in a majority of the cases he was unable to help them. He resigned from the board.

He joined the Ford Agency, as car salesman, but soon after he suffered a stroke, which left him a semi-invalid. He died May 5, 1967, and was buried by Aunt Lelia, at Long Bridge. Aunt Lelia d. Jan. 3, 1931

JAMES S. OUTLAW

1881-1963

BERRIEN COUNTY

Jim Outlaw was born in Berrien County May 18, 1881, and married Ada U. Connell, a daughter of Jasper D. and Fannie Irene Morris Connell Feb. 4, 1907, there was only one child born to this union, that being Comer, he was born in Berrien (now Cook) County Aug. 8 1908, married 1st. Bessie Lee Luke, 2nd Annie Bell McLain.

Uncle Jim had a 4 year old daughter, by his former marriage, she being Ellie, born Oct. 7, 1903, married first Muriel Connell, he was born Feb. 15, 1898, died Nov. 23, 1959, Ellie then married Joe Wyler, he was born April 15, 1906. Ellie was a very lovely, very neat, and a well mannered child, and was accepted by Aunt Ada, and the whole Connell family with open arms, as one of the family.

Uncle Jim was a farmer, their farm was located in what is now Cook County, their's was the last farm between the river and the creek, as the creek merged with the river a short distance down stream from their farm. Their farm was well kept, and he made good crops of cotton, corn, peanuts, watermelons and potatoes.

Aunt Ada was bed ridden for near half her married life, I was told that her sickness was probably caused by a ground rattler snake bite in her early childhood, this may or may not be true, but this I do know, she took her sickness as one of the things, that was supposed to be, and she lived her life with a smile on her face. Uncle Jim died May 15, 1963, 2 months and 11 days after Aunt Ada's death Mar. 4, 1963, they are buried in Long Bridge Cemetery, Aunt Ada was born July 16, 1885.

Uncle Bitts was born June 1, 1885, in Berrien County, and married 1st Ruby Taylor, 2nd Ava D. Connell, a daughter of Jasper D. and Fannie Irene Morris Connell. Seven children were born to this union, the last two were twins born Nov. 22, 1917, Aunt Ava died of blood poisoning caused by complications following birth of the twins. Her death created a problem of great concern, what would happen to the seven children? The problem was resolved by members of family, taking the children into their homes, or should I have said giving the children a home. Aunt Ava's sisters and the grandparents on both sides, gave the children homes as follows:

Randall W. born Oct. 23, 1908, married 1st Lucille Castle, 2nd Mary ———. Randall lived with his grandparents, W. D. and Alice Nesmith;

Lee Roy, born Nov. 5, 1909, married Johnnie Mae ———. He died Aug. 23, 1968. Roy lived with Grandpa Connell.

Judge Buie born May 4, 1911. Married 1st Velma Mobley, 2nd Sara Brown. Buie lived with Aunt Mattie O'Quinn.

Herman, born Oct. 23, 1912. Married Frances Griner. He lived with Grandpa Connell. Herman died Feb. 4, 1939.

Marilyn Louise, born Oct. 3, 1915. Married Jeff Emrich. Louise lived with Aunt Etna Chambers, this being Aunt Ava's wish.

Emory Daniel, born Nov. 22, 1917, married Madge Barrett. Emory lived with Aunt Maggie Cobb;

Elmer, born Nov. 22, 1917. Died Apr. 5, 1918. Lived with Aunt Maggie.

Uncle Bitts was a saw mill man, he with his father and brothers, operated (what was known as pepper box) saw mills, here, there and elsewhere, Uncle Bitts loved his machines and engines whether it was a steam engine or a gasoline motor.

Anytime I hear his name, I recall a fishing trip that he and my father and I made. It was in the early fall, my father went to Nashville, and Uncle Bitts came home with him. After supper the three of us hitched old Mary to the wagon, loaded the fish seine, some guano sacks and K.O. lantern, and we were on our way to Avery's pond some 12 miles away, a bright moon was overhead. We arrived at the pond and all was quiet, and we went to work, and with in an hour we had filled the wagon body almost level full with fish, of which most were hump back suckers. Uncle Bitts strung himself a few trout, and headed for Nashville afoot. My father and I headed home, and arrived at day break. I drove all over the community trying to sell, and later to give those fish away, about sundown I threw the fish to the hogs, washed the wagon, washed up and had supper, but the fish were not good to me. I finally forgot that experience, to the extent that 15 years later I started eating fish again.

Uncle Bitts died Feb. 28, 1958, in Quincy, Fla. and was buried in the old Nashville Cemetery. Aunt Ava died at her home, Dec. 12, 1917, was buried at Long Bridge.

Etna Ruth Connell was born Dec. 10, 1892, in Berrien County, a daughter of Jasper D. and Fannie Irene Morris Connell. She first married Arthur Chambers, from Berlin, Ga. He was born Sept. 7, 1876, died June 16, 1944. Later she married Barney Thornton, he was born April 7, 1895, he died April 15, 1959. Aunt Etna died April 15, 1967, she and both husbands are buried side by side in the Adel Cemetery on the East side of the lime sink lake.

Uncle Arthur was a blacksmith by trade. A member of the Methodist Church, was a very reserved person, seldom joining in any discussion. He tended to his business and let the other people do the same. I was not privileged to meet her last husband, so I am not in a position to tell anything about him, either good or bad.

There is not very much that I can write about Aunt Etna, I can say that she was a member of the Missionary Baptist Church, and that she was the baby girl of the family. I joined the U. S. Navy soon after her marriage, when I returned she was at Berlin. I was married and went to public work. was constantly on the move from one job to another, therefore I very rarely saw her, and when I did see her it was hello and goodbye. There was no issue by either of her marriages.

After Aunt Ava's death, and by Aunt Ava's request, she gave Ava's only girl, Marilyn Louise, a home. Louise was born Oct. 3, 1915, married Jeff Emrich, and they live in Adel, Ga.

Edgar Connell, a son of Jasper D. (Bud) and Fannie Irene Morris Connell, was born in Berrien County, Ga. Jan. 9, 1894, after College he was employed by Adel Gin Co. for awhile. On Dec. 24, 1918, he was married to Clyde Walker, she being a daughter of Will and Nancy Hiers Walker, they were married at the Marie Hotel, Quitman, Ga. by the pastor of Lee St. Baptist Church of Valdosta, Rev. Elec Bealer. There were three children born to this union, as follows:

Maxine b. Oct. 8, 1920, m. Robert Steinberger July 29, 1937 at her home.

Infant son b. Jan. 19, 1922, d. Jan. 1922 at Broxton (Coffee Co., Ga.)

Mamie Clyde b. July 10, 1925, at Broxton Coffee Co. M. Forest Breckenridge, they were married at Lee St. Baptist Church, Mar. 13, 1943;

After their marriage, they set up housekeeping in Valdosta, where Uncle Edgar went to work with J.N. Bray Lumber Co. as bookkeeper, in 1921. Mr. Bray asked him to go to his branch office at Broxton where he lived for some five years. I, as a young man, visited in his home, and met Aunt Clyde for the first time, I was very much impressed by their Christian life, and I told my wife that I had met a man of God and I have never doubted my judgment of him.

The Co. called him back to the home office in Valdosta, as head bookkeeper, a position he held for forty years, until his retirement. He always found time to attend his church activities, he served as church treasurer and deacon, for many years, he was also treasurer of The Valdosta Baptist Association, and always working for the betterment of Sunday Schools, and all youth activities. He died in faith July 25, 1965, and was buried in Sun Set hill Cemetery, Valdosta, Ga.

SIMS R. CONNELL 1896-1948 COOK

Sims R. Connell was born in Berrien, now Cook County Sept. 19, 1896, a son of Jasper D. and Fannie Irene Morris Connell, he graduated from South Georgia Business College, while in Valdosta he united with Lee St. Missionary Baptist Church, he was a dedicated member, and was a very active member, not only in Valdosta but through his life, as he moved from place to place, he was a choir leader, Sunday School and Baptist Training Union teacher. On April 17, 1914 he enlisted in the U. S. Navy, served his country for the duration of World War I, being discharged in early 1919, as Yeoman 1st Class.

Uncle SIMS served on the U.S.S. Constitution, and the U.S.S. Maui which was a new Liberty Transport built during the war to transport troops, the U.S.S. Maui had the honor of returning the first load of Dough Boys from the war, she docked in New York Dec. 25, 1918. I had the good luck of finding that his ship was in port, when my ship the U.S.S. Von Stuben docked at Hoboken N.J.. I went aboard his ship for a short visit. After his discharge from the Navy with a U. S. Navy diploma as a certified accountant, he came home to Cook Co. and worked in Adel for a few years, before moving to South Fla. He was a pioneer at Clewiston, he opened Clewiston's first gas filling station, he later opened an Oakland-Pontiac sales agency. being civic minded, he worked hard promoting and boosting the growing of sugar cane, and in assisting in the building of a dike around Lake Okechoobee, and many other ways to upgrade and build a progressive community.

On June 12, 1929 he was married to Alice McLendon, she was born July 2, 1907, she was the daughter of George B. and Mary Emma Handcock McLendon, of Berrien County, they were married by The Rev. Albert Giddens at his home.

Three children were born to this union as follows,

1. Jimmy b. 9/13/1930 m. Coleyne Bessinger, Nov. 8, 1959;
2. Betty b. 9/30/1931 m. Walter Gray Jr. Dec. 29, 1949;
3. Jeanee b. 3/26/1936 m. Robert J. McDonald June 5, 1960;

Uncle Sims sold his agency and moved his family back to Georgia in 1937, in 1942 he moved to Perry Ga. where he worked at Robins A.F.B. for awhile. He bought a farm near Perry, which he operated in conjunction with his insurance agency, until his death Oct. 8, 1948, he is buried in the Long Bridge Cemetery, in Berrien County Ga.

LACEY C. CONNELL 1899-COOK

Lacy C. Connell was born Sept. 2, 1899 in Berrien County (now Cook) County Ga., the youngest son and the only survivor of Jasper D. and Fannie Irene Morris Connell. He married Thelma Cannon a daughter of Maxwell and Jannie Harrell Cannon. She was born July 16, 1905, died Oct. 7, 1967, and was buried in Sun Set Hill Cemetery, in Valdosta, Ga. She was a devout Missionary Baptist, she was the mother of three children as follows,

1. Lacy C. Jr. b. May 3, 1925, m. Lynett Folsome;
2. Evelyn b. Apr. 25, 1927 m. Charlie Davis;
3. Jannell J. b. Jan. 26, 1934, m. William Thompson;

I am foregoing the usual writeup for my Uncle Lacy, and in lieu of the writeup, am copying his letter viz.

Sunday, Feb. 20, 1972

Dear Mack;

I apologize for waiting so long to write, I do stay quite busy, I get up 5:00 some mornings, 4:00 some mornings to go to Tampa Farmers market, for tomatoes and other vegetables, for my road side stand in the p.m. I go to work at the P.O. at 6:30, six days a week till 10:00 a.m., home for dinner and house hold chores, and to my stand about 2:00 p.m. When I get home at sundown, walk the little blind dog, maybe refrigerate some of my produce, fix supper, I have almost made a day, watch T.V. if there is a program that I like, and get to bed at 9:00 to get ready for a similar day again at 4:00 or 5:00.

I sometimes drive to Clearwater 5 miles away, after supper. In oyster season I drive 12 to 15 miles to gather oysters, which have to be hulled which takes considerable time. I do a good bit of baking, cakes and pies and give away more than I eat, to friends and the P.O. employees.

I have a small green house for roses and quite a few potted plants to spend some time with, so I manage to make a pretty full day six days a week. I go to Evelyn's at Lakeland (55) miles every two or three weeks, and to Valdosta every 4 to 6 weeks.

It is 20 miles to Tampa Market which opens at 5:00 a.m. Scarce items are some times gone in 15 minutes, also I have to be back to P.O. at 6:30. I enjoyed the Biography and wish you luck in the work as to filling you in on my life's work, Pa's first store was in 1917, and I had to take over the farm from 1918 to 1927. I bought the store at Masee Dec. 1st 1925, hired Briggs one year to run that, with me in between, and Thelma's brother Kinlow to farm the next year. The depression finished that venture in 1932. Then I bought a store in Adel, ran it 33 to 35. I bought a small farm near Masee, and traded the house at Masee to Jim and Ada, for their interest in a farm we had bought in 1935 near Vickers Church, in the Danforth community. I sold it to Lossie Rowan 44, and moved to Valdosta, where I bought the J. N. Bray Commisary, I closed it out in 1957.

I bought a filling station in 59, and operated it until Thelma's stroke in 60, I worked at Food Fair 6 months, and started a fruit stand at Castle Park for 2 seasons, and then a season on Patterson St. until my traffic accident in June of 63, we moved to Safety Harbor later that year.

Would like to mention one or two things that were important in our boyhood days, that you may have forgotten, how about the big swings we would have under the big oak trees, made from a poplar pole some 15 foot long, split at the bottom and opened up for a board seat, fastened at the top by way of a chain through a hole in the end, and around a big limb. Remember that this big oak furnished part of the shade for the big barbecue in July, George O'Quin and some times your dad, would barbecue beef, kid and pork 1 or 2 wash pots of Brunswick stew, and then to the mulberry trees with our sling shots. (and may add have Mal-lie OUT SHOOT the bunch.)

Pa bought our first car, a buick in 16. He would never try to learn to drive it, and always rode in the back seat. While the saw mill was in operation, at least once a month on pay day weekends, we would have 1 or 2 Jew peddlers, some with 2 wheel push carts, and mostly with a horse and wagon, spend Fri. Sat and Sun. nights as boarders, while they worked the mill quarters Fri. P.M. and Sat.

The deep well electric pump, and water tank were on the porch, and the power unit and those 16 glass jar batteries were in a house built for them in the yard, the generator was push button starting, with automatic stopping, water was furnished to the house wash shelter, (which was also the Sugar shelter) and horse lot.

Do you remember the big Magnolia tree on the hillside near the Picnic spring, that a plow line would scarcely reach around that we would climb by way of a low hanging limb, and see who could cut the date or his initials the highest up in the top. (SHORE DO), and the fun we would have on the cane pumy pile in the cow lot, (of course the extent of our fun was sometimes marred by the cows having been in the pile ahead of us). And the 2 wheel cart with long shafts and a flat body, that we would run down that long steep hill to the swamp. (SHORE DO). Clyde Hallman might help you with some things he can remember.

LC. will be moving to Tallahassee in July, so that may put an end to my birthday dinners, write when you find time, and take care.

LACY

I just happen to recall a big cotton house, and in this cotton house, in the fall would have several bales of lint cotton, this cotton house had a center plate, and ceiling joist, which was ideal to jump from and flip a sumersalt and land on the cotton below. And those millions of black ants that never stopped running across our bare feet while engaged in a marble game in the front yard. I yield the floor.

Mack

LUTHER L. HALLMAN

1875-

CHATHAM

Luther L. Hallman was born Jan. 22, 1875 in Coweta Co. Ga. the son of Joel and Caroline Yeager Hallman. Uncle Luther has been married three times, first to Unice Wilson in 1894, she died in 1899. No record of issue; 2nd Julia S. Connell, a daughter of Jasper D. and Fannie Irene Morris Connell, Aunt Julia was born in Berrien Co. Aug. 27, 1877, there were 5 children by this union, Aunt Julia died in Savannah Ga. Feb. 23, 1934, and was buried in the Connell plot at Long Bridge cemetery; 3rd Emily Boxx Nov. 1934 in Chatham Co. she died in May of 1964, no issue. Children born to Luther and Julia as follows,

1. Clyde E. b. Dec. 10, 1900 m. Mary Sue Johnson, May 28, 1919;
2. Claude H. b. Apr. 16, 1904 m. 1st Alberta Chanch 1923, D. Oct. 1, 1959; 2nd Nell Dukes 1933;
3. Beecher D. b. Dec. 30, 1907 m. Yulee Richardson Mar. 12, 1927;
4. Leonard J. b. Nov. 3, 1911 m. Lucile Stewart Oct. 13, 1931;
5. Nelson M. b. May 17, 1914 never married, buried at Long Bridge, died Jan 4, 1933, Savannah;

I have noticed, that in writing about my subjects in the past; as a general rule, that after marriage the male subjects go to work. Uncle Luther was no exception, as I have record of him being employed by Masee-Felton Lumber Co. for a few years, after which he became a tenant farmer with Grand Pa Connell. Then on Oct. 17, 1910, Grandpa made her a deed to 50 acres of land of land lot no. 94 in the 9th land district of Berrien County, Aunt Julia's East land line was my mother's West land line. They lived at this place about 5 years.

Aunt Julia sold the farm, but there is no record of the transaction, that I can find at Nashville, they farmed maybe three years about 5 miles west of Adel, on the Adel & Nashville road, near the Goose pond. In 1919 the family (except Clyde) moved to Savannah Ga. where Uncle Luther was employed for ten years by Merchants & Miners transportation Co. (a steamship Line) as a plant protection special officer, 1930-1931 he was again a farmer, in 1932 he was employed by the City of Savannah, as gardener, and soon became forman, a position he held until his retirement in 1958, at age 83.

Uncle Luther is a Spanish-American war veteran. He saw service in Cuba, he was a member of the Third Georgia Volunteer Regiment, and he was discharged as a (Private Expert Rifleman) April 21, 1899, with Honorable Discharge, with (character Very Good) noted on it.

I would like for some of our anti-smoke groups, the A.M.A. and some doctors that I have known to read the next few lines viz. Uncle Luther started smoking at the tender age of thirteen years, has smoked continuously since that time, he is now smoking 1 1/2 packs of cigarettes per day, and boasts of his 84 years as a heavy smoker, which is without doubt near a record.

Don't get me wrong. I am not advocating smoking. I know from my own experience that it is a filthy and health robbing habit, but I am hooked without any hope of ever kicking the habit. I wish that I may in some way or some how, do or say something that will keep others from ever taking up the habit. LISTEN TO ME FOLKS THE SMOKING HABIT IS HELL: To quote St. Luke 16:24 - For I am tormented in this flame.



This picture is most of the Ancil and Francis Mathis family, made at the home place in the spring of 1914, after the death of ~~Grand Pa Ancil and Uncle Will in Jan. Grand Ma and Aunt Alice were obliterated due to a break in the picture.~~ I told you that Grandpa had a fish pond, and here is the evidence. This picture should have been in the Mathis edition, but I did not know that one of them was saved from the fire that destroyed the old Mathis home. My Pa told me (better late than never).



I also told you that uncle Asa Cobb, raised horses, here Uncle Asa, aunt Maggie and Fannie Lou went to town, this colt lived to be 27 years old, and this is the way it was in the fall of 1913.



Edmund Darling Morris and wife Elizabeth Handcock (Eliza) With Martha Irene McMillan, the daughter of Zachariah and Sarah Mryann (Emily) Connell.



From L. to R. May Griffin, Randall Griffin, Mattie O'Quinn, Elizabeth Morris, Fannie Connell, a fifth generation picture.



Grand Pa and Grand Ma Connell and family at their home, as it was on Christmas day 1900.



Front row: L to R, Jasper D. Connell, his wife Fannie Irene, Ada Outlaw, 2nd row, Etna Chambers, Maggie Cobb, Mattie O'Quin, Julia Hallman, Ava Nesmith, Lizzie Mathis, 3rd row Lacy C. Edgar (J.E.C.) Sims R. Billie (W.E.) As it was in August 1917.



I told you that my Grandpa Connell did grow watermelons, and this is the way it was July 19, 1912.



William Evander Connell and first wife Martha J. Smith. Vol. 2.