

The County **NEWSTELLER**

A Monthly Magazine Dedicated to the County and School Officials
of West Virginia

HARRISON COUNTY COURT HOUSE Dedicated Nov. 28, 1932, Clarksburg, W. Va.



(No. 2 in a series of 55 front covers being used to present the Court Houses of West Virginia)
See Page 3

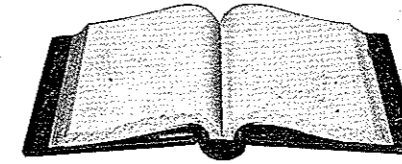
Volume I

FEBRUARY, 1939

Number 5

The County
NEWSTELLER

A news magazine devoted to those public officials to whom the county's vital records and business management are entrusted and securely safeguarded.



Published monthly by Casto & Harris, Inc., Spencer, W. Va., specialists in county and school record books, election supplies, printing, office supplies and equipment.

Record Books of Everlasting Service

Volume I

FEBRUARY, 1939

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NEW SIGNATURE LAW IN EFFECT

Michigan Makes Signers
"Identify" Their
Signatures

Illegible signatures affixed to instruments to be recorded will no longer puzzle recording officials in the State of Michigan, thanks to a new law now in effect.

The law requires that immediately below all signatures, including those of witnesses and notaries public, the name of the signer "shall be legibly printed, typewritten or stamped."

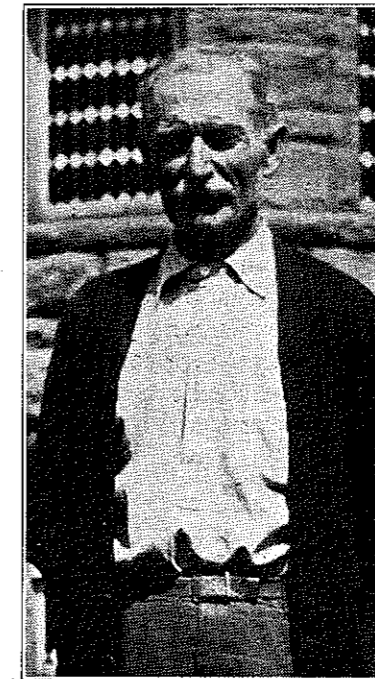
This takes the "burden of proof" off the county official whose duty it is to record the instrument.

In West Virginia, for example, where the typewritten method of recording is employed, it is up to the clerk or his deputies to make out the signatures and this often requires considerable time and some guess-work. In turn, the name is typed on the record, and the abstractor has no other course but to accept what might be termed an interpretation of the signature. Therefore, the responsibility of making out the signature rests entirely with the clerk.

In the several West Virginia counties using the photo-copy method of recording, however, the

(Please turn to Page 2)

Janitor Dies



P. F. "Pat" Martin

A pall of gloom hangs over the Randolph county Court House at Elkins because "Pat" Martin, faithful and dependable janitor for the past 31 years, passed on to his reward Jan. 22.

A good-natured Irishman who was always on the job, he left many friends behind, because "to know him was to love him."

(If there are other janitors in West Virginia Court Houses who have served as long as 31 years, The NewsTeller would like to have their names and photographs—ed)

CLERK'S MEETING SET FOR JUNE 8-9

Morgantown To Be Scene of
Annual Summer Get-
Together

West Virginia's County & Circuit Clerks' Association will hold its annual convention at Morgantown Thursday and Friday, June 8 and 9, it was announced Feb. 10 by M. H. Hix, President.

These days were selected after a poll of the members indicated that they were almost unanimously in favor of these dates. After receiving answers from four-fifths of the clerks, Mr. Hix made formal announcement.

A. R. Martin, clerk of the Monongalia county court, and Mrs. Evelyn Yorke, clerk of the circuit court, have been named as the general committee on arrangements. In due time hotel reservation cards will be mailed out from Morgantown.

It is generally understood that association officials plan to make this the most successful and best-attended convention in history. Many clerks plan to have members of the county courts accompany them to Morgantown and this will swell the attendance.

NewsTeller publishers are willing and anxious to do their part in making the entertainment features the best ever.

As plans are completed for this "Main Event," details of progress will be recorded in this magazine. Meanwhile set aside June 8 and 9 as "must-be-there" dates on your calendars.

ODD SURNAMEN FOUND IN LEWIS

Deputy Clerk Gets \$3 Prize For Winning Contribution This Month

(Prize-Winning Contribution)

M. D. Cure was a physician in Lewis county many years ago, according to Sue S. Boram, deputy county clerk there, who has dug up many interesting surnames from old records in the office of J. O. Bleigh, Lewis county clerk.

She also finds that one J. B. Plate was a dentist, N. L. Life a veterinarian, Dr. Law a physician, Rose High a former and only woman County Clerk of Lewis county, J. W. Ferry a taxi operator, and Gay Feather a minister.

Picking out some interesting surnames in Lewis county, Miss Boram joins them together to form the following original narrative:

"Put on your old GRAY BONNETT or HOOD, with the GAY, BROWN FEATHER on it, and away we'll GOE, CROSS the LAKE on the FERRY for a small PRICE, then climb the HIGH HILL to SEE MOORE; for the BEST view, look LOWE to the WEST, then LINGER awhile near the RIFFLE of the BROOKE, take your PENN and WRIGHT about the BIRD in the BUSH and the BEE on the ROSE. A DAY in the BRIGHT sun will make you feel YOUNG, HALE and STOUT, and enjoy a LONG LIFE."

In conclusion, Miss Boram asks:

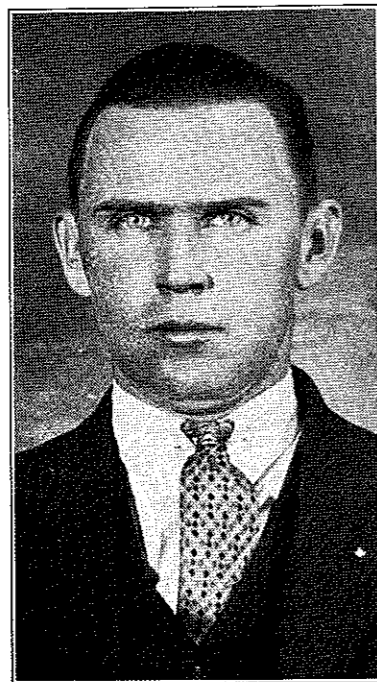
"If the SHOEMAKER HITT the nail with the HAMMER, what WOOD the WEAVER, TAYLOR and PORTER do?"

ONLY A FEW LEFT

Only a very few copies of The NewsTeller, which appeared first in October, 1938, remain on hand and they will be sent free to all who request them, until the supply is exhausted.

If you are going to keep these copies on file, and any back numbers are missing, write at once for whatever issues you desire.

Circuit Clerk



Edgar G. Shanholtzer

Probably one of the youngest Circuit Clerks in West Virginia is Mr. Shanholtzer, who presides at Romney, Hampshire county. Despite his youth, he is beginning his second term at this important post.

NEW SIGNATURE

(Continued from Page 1)

actual signature is photographed, leaving the task of translation up to the abstractor.

Many observers feel that the Michigan law should be universally adopted. Where the typewritten method of recording is used this law relieves the clerk of an unfair responsibility and where the photo-copy method is employed it relieves the abstractor of the guess-work involved.

(Note: The NewsTeller has a copy of the Michigan law and will be glad to turn same over to the Clerks' association Legislative Committee upon request.)

8 COURT HOUSE PICTURES READY

Preston County's Structure Is Scheduled for March Issue Front Cover

Suitable photographs of County Court Houses have been received from eight counties, it was announced this week by News-Teller publishers.

They will appear on the front cover of The NewsTeller in the order they are received. The first one, that of Ritchie county, appeared last month and this month's portrays Harrison county's fine structure. The schedule from now through August is as follows:

March issue	Preston
April issue	Tucker
May issue	Hampshire
June issue	Lewis
July issue	Fayette
August issue	Logan

The following counties HAVE NOT sent in pictures of their Court Houses: Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Braxton, Brooke*, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier, Hancock, Hardy, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lincoln, McDowell, Marion, Marshall, Mason, Mercer, Mineral, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Summers, Taylor, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Webster, Wetzell, Wirt, Wood, Wyoming.

*(A colored postcard picture has been received, but this type picture does not make up into a good engraving.)

Since this will be the first time that all county Court Houses have been shown in any one magazine, the various officials are urged to get the pictures in plenty of time. If no good photographs are available, it is quite likely that a local commercial photographer will be glad to furnish one gratis, in return for having his name carried in a credit line on the front cover of a magazine with such wide circulation.

WERE "GOOD OLD DAYS" SO GOOD?

Mercer Deputy Asks Question And Shows Why

Without intending to start a controversy or argument, Mrs. Orita O. Booker, deputy for Landon T. Reynolds, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Mercer County, asks "whether the modern conveniences and unthought-of luxuries of the present high-speed age adequately compensate us for the present day high prices," and for the purposes of comparison goes back to the horse-and-buggy days of a century ago, and takes from a record in her office certain prices fixed by an order of the county court entered on the 11th day of February, 1839, governing the rates to be charged by taverns and houses of private entertainment, as follows:

Each Diet	25c
Lodging	12½c
Oats per gallon	12½c
Fodder or hay & stablage	
1 horse	25c
Pasturing horse or cattle	
per day	06¼c
French Brandy, per ½ Pint	.25c
New England Rum, per	
½ Pint	12½c
Jamaica Rum per ½ Pint.....	25c
Peach Brand per ½ Pint.....	18¾c
Apple Brandy & Whiskey ..	12½c

And from the record of the Circuit Court made the 17th day of February, 1840, one Mr. _____

was arrested and confessed judgment for a debt of \$52.49½ and in default of payment was placed in the jail for common debtor.

From this Mrs. Booker concludes that the modern age is not so bad after all, since the legislature now is inclined to make more lenient laws to deal with those of us who unintentionally over-indulge beyond our means to pay.

PERSONALS

E. R. Lester, clerk of the Roane county court, and Mrs. Lester are vacationing in Florida.

Earl Wolfe, Jr., clerk of the Wood county court, Mrs. Wolfe and daughter, are spending a few weeks at Daytona Beach, Fla.

FRONT COVER

With dedicatory exercises appropriate for such a beautiful and modern public building, Harrison county's new Court House was opened to the public Nov. 28, 1932. Built by The Hutter Construction Co., with Walker & Weeks as architects, it is considered one of the finest Court Houses in the United States.

Harrison county was created in 1784 from Monongalia county, (see page 7) and was named for Benjamin Harrison, distinguished Virginian, who was the father of William Henry Harrison, ninth President of the United States, and the great grandfather of Benjamin Harrison, twenty-third President. Its area is 417.85 square miles and the 1930 census puts its population at 78,567.

IS DOG EXPERT

Cabell Deputy Qualifies as Expert Coon Dog Witness

R. Lee Taylor, deputy Circuit Clerk of Cabell county, last week qualified as a "coon dog expert" in a trial held at Huntington before Common Pleas Judge H. Clay Warth.

The case involved the shooting of a dog. Bert Bledsoe of Ona charged Walter Ramsey, a neighbor, killed his pet, and sought restitution.

W. H. Daniel, attorney for Bledsoe, called Taylor to the stand, explaining to the court that the clerk was an experienced raccoon hunter and dog fancier.

Judge Warth head him testify that a "No. 1 dog was easily worth \$75," and took up cross-examination: "Did you ever own such a dog?" "Yes, several," replied Taylor. "Where did you, a court clerk, ever get money enough to spend for a 'coon dog?" the judge countered, grinning. "I borrowed it from my father," Taylor retorted.

Bledsoe was awarded a judgment of \$45.

Tucker Sheriff



Stark L. Coberly

The above photograph of the sheriff of Tucker county was sent in by Ernest Moon, clerk of the Tucker county court. We hope that its publication will be a pleasant surprise for Sheriff Coberly.

WHAT! NO WOMEN?

This February issue of The NewsTeller is a flop in at least one respect—there are no pictures of the fair sex to brighten up its pages.

Why? Because none was sent in. Despite frequent pleas, the ladies held out on the publishers and they went to press reluctantly with photographs of seven men, no ladies.

Now it must be admitted that all photographs are interesting, but it is also generally conceded that photographs of the fair sex have more appeal.

Surely among the hundreds of woman deputies in county and school offices several will help us out next month by sending in photographs. Or maybe their friends can "swipe" one of their pictures and send it to us. Then it'll be a pleasant surprise for all concerned! What say?

Another Six Years



Simon A. Dingess

Mr. Dingess started on another six-year term as Circuit clerk of Logan county on Jan. 1. He is a real booster for The NewsTeller.

CLERK HAS FUN WRITING LETTER

Earl Davis Thinks Up Unusual Spelling in Writing NewsTeller

Earl L. Davis, Circuit Clerk of Doddridge county, had a lot of fun in writing The NewsTeller a letter last month. Taking his cue from several "mis-spelled words" articles appearing in this magazine, he scratched his head in an effort to make as many errors as possible, with the following result:

"Just received your 'County NewsTeller' and looked it over I honestly believe, that each one gets better; I have been wondering just how good it will be at the expiration of my term on December 31, 1944, and whether I will be able to read it at that time without laughing until my sides burst.

"Okey I am verry sorrow but I have gotten my Number 2 paper

lost, and I desire very much to place on file each and every one of these numbers, in order that in the years to come I can relate the many incidents which may have happened in former years, and by showing these copies to my grandchildren, Greatgrandchildren & parbably down another generation, I will be able to convince them that I am telling the truth.

"Now I have purchased myself a loose leaf binder, for the sole and only purpose to keep my copies of 'The County NewsTeller' in for the sold purpose as above mentioned; and I would be very grateful to you if you would just as a mere accommodation furnish me with the Number 2, November 1938, Volume. AND I THANK YOU.

"Okey, Don't Youse spose that ater the County & Circuits Clerks Convention this are year youse can be able to make the following copy of is aer County NewsTeller, purty interesting? what says youse.

"Ise want to thank yous agin for that aer copy what you spose to mail me, and in the event youse forgit it, ise thanks youse any way.

"Wishing you a happy prosperous New Year.

"5-1-18-12—12—4-1-22-9-19
"West Union, W. Va."

(NOTE: The signature can be translated into Earl L. Davis by using the first 26 numerals as the 26 letters of the alphabet.)

NICHOLAS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE GOOD

School attendance in Nicholas county is the best it has been in four years, according to information received from L. O. Bobbitt, county superintendent. The average daily attendance in the grades is 94% and in high school it is 98%.

Mr. Bobbitt also reports that the NYA school project at Craigs ville, costing \$6,700, is nearly complete and the PWA project, an 8-room grade school building at Summersville, is progressing nicely. The latter project will cost \$46,000.

Teacher zone meetings are being held regularly, he reports, and real interest is indicated.

MINGO CIRCUIT CLERK PROUD OF DEPUTIES

Believes He Has Finest Assistants Available Anywhere

No county official in West Virginia is more proud of his office staff than W. A. Curry, clerk of the Mingo county Circuit Court. He introduces them to NewsTeller readers as follows:

DEWEY LITTON, of Chatteroy, described as "my deputy and chief helper": Mr. Litton's appointment has met with almost unanimous approval of the citizenry of the county. He is a son of one of the pioneer citizens of Mingo county, having been born and reared on a farm nearby. A teacher by profession, he is highly respected by his associates. A young man, he should go far in his county as a public servant;

MRS. VIOLA PREECE, of Williamson, secretary to Mr. Curry: The wife of W. H. D. Preece, one of the city's prominent attorneys, she has had previous experience in the circuit clerk's office and is a great help to Mr. Curry and Mr. Litton. An experienced stenographer, she also has a personality that makes and keeps friends.

MR. CURRY, the new clerk, was born and reared on Pigeon Creek near Delbarton, Mingo county. He attended the public schools of his county and for several years taught school. Later he was postmaster at Omar. Then he went into business for himself and was so engaged at the time of his election. Mr. Curry ran on a platform promising voters a clean, honest administration and his many friends agree that he will make good on that promise.

Knitting, says a woman journalist, does for women what smoking does for men. Except that dropped stitches don't show on the carpet.—Punch, London.

"Father, what's a counter-irritant?"

"A counter-irritant, Son, must be a person who shops all day and doesn't buy anything."

ROBERT MORRIS WILL REVIEWED

Famed Revolutionary Hero's Will Probated in Lewis County

The somewhat pathetic last will and testament of Robert Morris, of Revolutionary War fame, is on record at the Lewis County Clerk's office, according to information received from J. O. Bleigh, clerk.

The will leaves his remaining few belongings to members of his immediate family, and expresses the regret that he had no more to leave. It will be remembered that Mr. Morris, who signed the Declaration of Independence, was a wealthy man but he gave his entire fortune to the Continental Army.

The will, in full, is reproduced as follows:

"In the name of God Amen I Robert Morris of the City of Philadelphia formerly a merchant. Do now make and declare this present writing to contain and to be my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all Wills by me made and declared of present date.

"Impoimis; I give my old gold watch to my son Robert. It was my father's and left to me at his death and hath been carefully kept and valued by me ever since.

"Item. I give my gold headed cane to my son Thomas, the Head was given to me by the late John Hancock Esq., when President of Congress, and the cane was the gift of James Wilson, Esq. whilst a member of Congress

"Item I give to my son Henry my Copying Press and the paper which ever sent to me a present Sir Robert Harris of London

"Item I give to my daughter Hetty, (now Mrs. Marshall) my silver vase or punch cup which I imported from London many years ago and have since purchased again

"Item I give to my daughter Marie (now Mrs. Nixon) my silver Boiler which I also imported from London on many years ago;

For Fainting Spells!

A well-known brand of mouth antiseptic is kept on hand in the Wayne County Clerk's office to revive young swains who cannot stand the strain of securing a marriage license, according to Mae Booth, deputy clerk.

She relates that about three years ago a couple came into the Wayne clerk's office to secure a license. Deciding to have the ceremony performed in the office, they sent out for a minister and the couple stood up and were married. As the ceremony was finished the young groom fainted.

The only thing on hand was a bottle of Listerine, and County Clerk J. G. Lambert applied an abundance of this liquid to the young man's face, nose and mouth. In a few minutes he was all right, although noticeably chagrined and the young bride seemingly displeased.

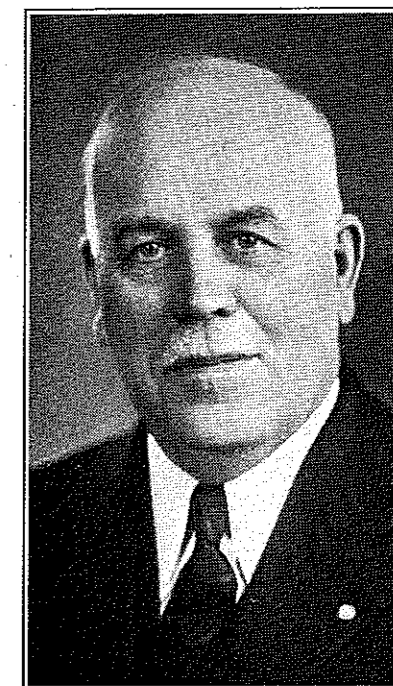
Now, says Miss Boothe, a bottle of Listerine is always kept on hand—just in case!

and which I have lately repurchased

"Item I give to my friend Gouveneur Morris Esq. my telescope spying glass, being the same that I bought of a French Refugee from baps Franusce, then at Trenton, and which I have since purchased again of Mr. Hall officer of the bankrupt office

"Item I give and bequeath all the other property which I now possess or may hereafter acquire whither Real or personal or all that shall or may belong to me at the time of my death to my dearly beloved wife Mary Morris for her use and comfort during her life and to be disposed of as she pleases at or before her decease, when no doubt she will make such distribution of the same amongst our children as she may then think most proper. Here I have to express my regret at having lost a very large fortune acquired by honest industry which I had long hoped and expected to

Reelected



G. W. Jamison

Mr. Jamison was reelected member of the Monongalia County Court last November and starts on his second six-year term. He was president of that body from 1936 to 1939.

A native of Monongalia county, he is well known over the state as a dealer in fine cattle.

enjoy with my family during my own life and then to distribute it amongst those of them that should out live me. Fate has determined otherwise and we must submit to the decree which I have done with patience and fortitude.

"Lastly, I do hereby nominate and appoint my said dearly beloved wife Mary Morris the sole Executrix of this my last will and testament made and declared as such on this thirteenth day of June, 1804.

"Robert Morris (SEAL)
"Declared and acknowledged by Robert Morris as his last will and testament to and in our presence this sixteenth day of June, A. D. 1804.

"H. Hensson
"Garrett Cottringer"

WELL SATISFIED WITH MARRIAGE

Even Though It Was Illegally Solemnized by Justice of Peace

Some of the rural sections of the State of West Virginia, even in the present age, are so isolated from the rest of the world that such neighborhoods may remain in total ignorance of recent happenings or laws that have been enacted in the past decade, is the observation of Harold E. Price, clerk of the Summers County Court, who sends us the following true story:

A colored boy and girl, residents of an isolated section of Monroe county, having been struck by cupid's arrow, were told that to live together as man and wife they should go through a legal process of marriage. Following the channel of New River, this couple finally arrived at Hinton, county seat of Summers county, and bashfully stated their wants.

The license was issued and two weeks later returned by a Justice of the Peace, officiating at or near the home of the colored folk.

It being no longer permissible for justices to perform the ceremony of marriage in West Virginia, the clerk promptly issued a new license, mailed it to the justice, together with a letter advising such officer that justices had been stricken from the list of knot-tiers.

In reply, the "J. P." expressed his thanks for the information and advised that his code was written in the 90's; that he had contacted the husband in the case and that the husband was well satisfied with the first ceremony and did not desire to be re-married.

Former Clerk's Wife Dies

Mrs. C. Earl Knapp, wife of the former clerk of the Marshall county court, died at a Glendale hospital Jan. 28 after a brief illness of pneumonia. Funeral services were held Jan. 30.

Her husband's term as Marshall county clerk ended Dec. 31, and

"Hells of History"



Ernest L. Moon

When The NewsTeller wrote Mr. Moon asking for items for publication, Mr. Moon wrote back that if we'd come to Parsons he'd dig up "Hells of History" about Tucker county.

Last week Salesman Gordon Depew called on Mr. Moon, but he was too busy at the time to make good his threat. But we got this picture, anyhow, of the Old Boy at his desk.

VALUABLE BOOKLET

Acknowledgement is made to William S. O'Brien, Secretary of State, for receipt of a booklet titled "Official Returns of the General Election Held Nov. 9, 1938."

Besides giving all election returns, it gives a complete up-to-the-minute list of all elective officials in the State.

Especially valuable to county officials, this booklet can be obtained by writing to Mr. O'Brien's office.

at the time of her death he was serving as secretary to the State Senate judiciary committee.

SOMEWHAT CONFUSED!

The Mergenthaler Linotype News reports that someone sent a newspaper editor a bottle of hard liquor and that shortly after its arrival he received for publication a wedding announcement and a notice of an auction sale, which later appeared in type as follows:

"William Smith and Miss Lucy Anderson are to be disposed of at public auction at my farm one mile east of a beautiful cluster of roses on her breast and two white calves, before a background of farm implements too numerous to mention in the presence of about seventy guests, including two milch cows, six mules and one bobsled. Rev. Jackson tied the nuptial knot with 200 feet of hay wire and the bridal left on one good John Deere gang plow for an extended trip with terms to suit purchaser. They will be at home to their friends with one good baby buggy and a few kitchen utensils after date of sale to responsible parties and some fifty chickens."

MORE SCHOOL NEWS WANTED

Only a few items concerning the schools and boards of education appear in this February issue of The NewsTeller for the simple reason that only a few school officials sent in any news.

The publishers are anxious to make this magazine of special interest and value to the schools and they will appreciate any items of interest that are contributed by school superintendents, members of school boards, assistants, teachers, etc.

We don't want to slight the schools and as this magazine goes into every county superintendent's office in the state, we hope that they will respond with bigger and better news items for the March issue.

Photographs are requested especially, as only a few school men and women have had their pictures published.

MORGAN COUNTY PLANS TO BUILD

New High School to Be One of Most Modern in State

When Berkeley Springs' new high school is completed this year it will be one of the most modern units in West Virginia, according to a news item received from W. B. Simmons, Morgan county superintendent of schools.

Arranged as a PWA project, the plans call for a separate gymnasium and auditorium in the building, both of which face the athletic field immediately beyond the street in front of the building. Thus the streets and athletic field will afford an excellent and desirable place in which to park automobiles while patrons are attending gymnasium and auditorium programs.

The classroom department of the new building calls for 16 rooms, and ample space is provided for a motion picture machine booth, library, showers, lockers, etc.

The building is now completed up to the first floor, some of the sub-floors are complete and most of the steel is erected.

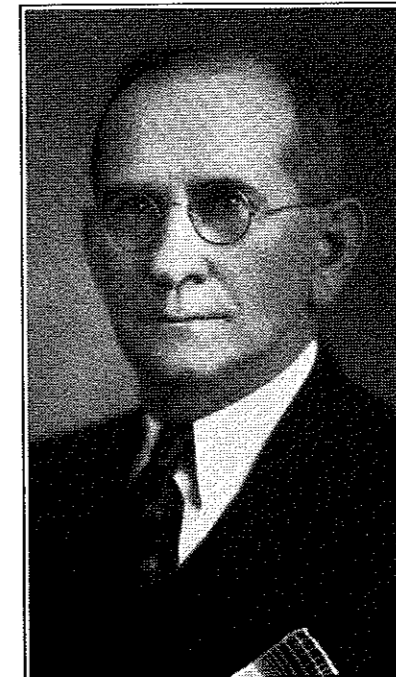
READERS COMMENT

"The NewsTeller is one paper that I look forward to. I enjoy reading it very much. We file all the copies for future reference, which makes a connection between County Officials that cannot be had otherwise.

"I hope all County Clerks in this State will read Senate Bill No. 10 on 'Permanent Registration' and go against it if they feel as I do."—A. M. Brown, clerk of the Putnam County Court, Winfield, W. Va.

"If I could have a copy of each number 1-2-3 of The NewsTeller, I would appreciate it very much. I want to congratulate you on its appearance in general."... C. E. Gustkey, assessor Preston county.

Ends Term



F. D. Boner

Mr. Boner's term as member of the Doddridge county court ended Dec. 31, 1938. He had served six years at this post and previous to that time served two as president of the Board of Education.

A native of Taylor county, he moved with his parents to Harrison county in 1883 and after his marriage in 1898, to Miss Stata I. Ward, he bought a farm in Doddridge county and settled there.

Another \$3 Prize

Another \$3 check is offered to the county or school official, deputy or assistant who sends in the most interesting news item for the March issue of The County NewsTeller.

This month's check goes to Sue S. Boram, deputy clerk of Lewis county, whose interesting article on surnames is reproduced in this issue.

To be eligible for the March contest, contributions must be postmarked before March 15.

It's easy to win. Try your luck!

17 COUNTIES WERE CARVED FROM MONONGALIA

Few People Realize Original Size of Monongalia County

By A. R. MARTIN,
Monongalia Co. Clerk

Very few residents of West Virginia realize how much territory Monongalia County once covered. The records were destroyed by fire in 1796, which made a gap in history, but since that date a rare accumulation of records have been stored in the vaults of Monongalia County Court House.

Monongalia County was formed in 1776 from the District of West Augusta, Va., and named for the Monongahela river. Seventeen counties, or parts thereof, in West Virginia and parts of three counties in Pennsylvania have been carved out of the original county of Monongalia, as follows:

Harrison 1784, Randolph 1787, Wood 1798, Lewis 1816, Preston 1818, Pocahontas 1821, Marion 1842, Jackson 1831, Braxton 1836, Ritchie 1843, Taylor 1844, Doddridge 1845, Gilmer 1845, Pleasant 1851, Upshur 1851, Tucker 1856, Webster 1860, and parts of Fayette, Greene and Washington counties in Pennsylvania. The first Court House in Monongalia county stood in what is now Fayette county, Pa. Some of these counties, naturally, were formed from other counties after the parent county had withdrawn from Monongalia.

The fact that Monongalia county holds the original records makes it necessary for citizens of the other counties to visit Morgantown for complete information.

"What are you reading, Daughter?"

"A novel, Father, entitled 'The Lovelorn Lovers'."

"Umph! The usual modern rubbish, I suppose?"

"It's a book you presented to Mother years ago."

Nicholas County Citizens Held Meeting To Oppose Jackson

When General Andrew Jackson took office as President of the United States in 1829 he owed no debt of gratitude to the people of Nicholas county, according to an old paper unearthed in the office of Ira Hill, clerk of the County Court there.

A year before he was elected the citizens of Nicholas county held what was termed "The Adams Meeting" to condemn his candidacy and to put in a plug for the reelection of John Quincy Adams.

The minutes of this meeting is reproduced in full, as follows:

"At a meeting of the citizens of the County of Nicholas, hostile to the election of General Andrew Jackson, to the Presidency of the United States; held, pursuant to notice, at the court house of said county, on the second Tuesday in November 1827,

"Col. Edward Rion was called to the chair and Robert Hamilton, Esq., was appointed Secretary.

"A committee, consisting of T. A. McLaughlen, Thomas B. Hamilton, John T. Walker, James McMillion, John H. Robinson, Thomas E. McCleary were appointed, to prepare and report, suitable resolutions for the consideration of the meeting; The committee having retired, and maturely deliberating, on the Presidential controversy, returned, and submitted the following preamble and resolution.

"We, the citizens of Nicholas County, viewing with fear and regret, the great exertions, that have been made, to elevate General Andrew Jackson to the chief magistracy of our Country, a man, destitute of all the prequisites, for the proper discharge of the duties of that high and distinguished office; and who alone is distinguished in the History of his Country as a military chieftan, disregarding the Laws of Nature, infringing on the rights of

man, and violating the sancity of the Federal Constitution by illiberal and latitudinous constructions.

"They declare that they are opposed to the elevation of Gen. Andrew Jackson as the President of the United States, because we are satisfied, that he has not the experience, education, talent or information, and that his imitable nature, and arbitrary disposition have rendered him totally unfit, to fill the high and responsible office.

"We regard him as a patriot, and a lover of Liberty, and readily give to him all the rewards, that patriotism could justly claim, and a noble, and generous Country safely grant; his military services and unexampled perseverance in the defense of his invaded country, shall be cherished as long as Life shall last.

"We consider the elevation of General Andrew Jackson to the Presidency of this union, as ominous of anarchy and intestine feuds, and a certain presage of the subversion of our happy Republic.

"With candor, we disclaim all partizan attachments to John Quincy Adams, and are free to say that he is not unexceptionable in their eyes, and if desirous of his re-election, it is only on this ground, that they believe he is pure and upright in intention (although mistaken in the construction of some of the items of the Federal Constitution) patient and studious in the discharge of his official duties, and inepproachable in private life; a man of great political experience, the most able of our diplomatic corps, and stood high in the estimation of all our ex-presidents. Although disagreeing with Mr. Adams as to the policy of some of his measures; and also differing with him in some of his political opinions, yet when left to choose between Mr. Adams and General

Jackson, we hesitate not, to give Mr. Adams the preference.

"1. Resolved therefore, that we will exert ourselves in a free and honorable manner to promote the election of John Quincy Adams, the President of the United States.

"2. Resolved that we disapprove the manner heretofore pursued by the Legislature of Virginia, in forming an electoral ticket, and that we are decidedly in favor of the contemplated convention, which is to be held in the City of Richmond in January next, to frame an Anti-Jackson electoral ticket.

"3. Resolved, that we will forthwith elect 3 Delegates to represent this County, to attend, the proposed Anti-Jackson convention in the City of Richmond on the second Tuesday in January, and whose duty it shall be, to confer with other delegates from the several Counties of this Commonwealth, for the purpose of forming an Anti-Jackson electoral ticket.

"4. Resolved, that a committee of Vigilance consisting of Twelve, be appointed, and empowered to supply any vacancy, if any such occur.

"The meeting then proceeded to the election of three delegates when James C. Warren, Sr., Robery Kelly and James McMillion were unanimously chosen.

"Under the fourth resolution a committee of Vigilance, was appointed by the meeting, consisting of the following gentlemen: Felix Sutton, James C. Warren, Sr., David McCoy, James Robinson, David McCoy, Sr., William D. Cottle, John Rader, John W. Hamilton, Noah Davis, John Craig, William Price, David R. Hamilton.

"5. Resolved, that the foregoing proceedings be signed by the chairman and Secretary, and published in the Paladium of Virginia, and Richmond Whig, and that all other Editors in the state be envited, to publish the same.

"Edward Rion, chairman.

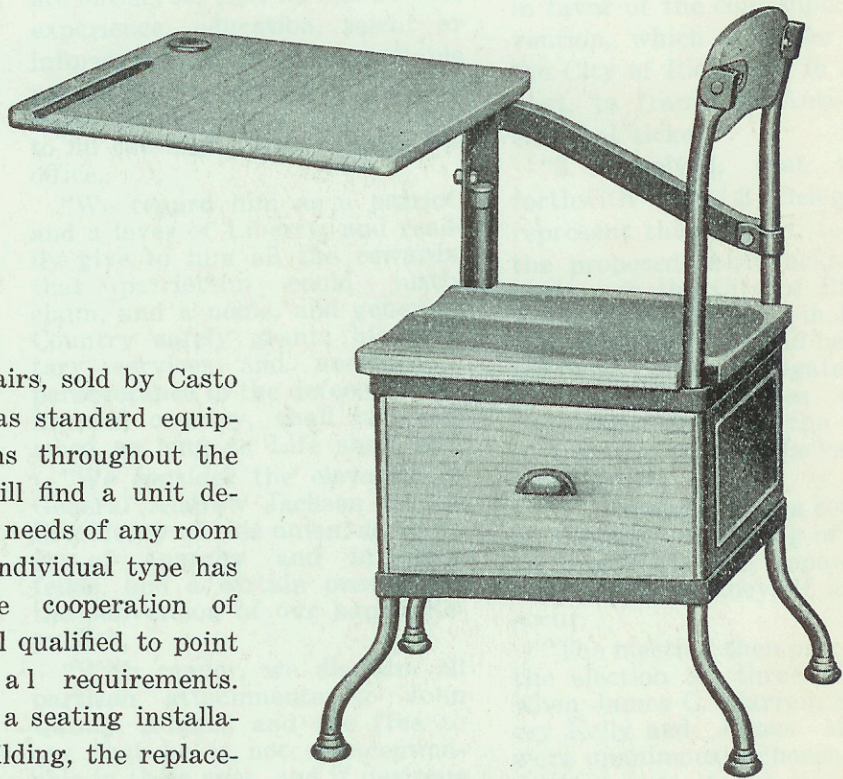
"R. Hamilton, Secretary."

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