

WPA Alabama Writers Project
Short Stories by:
Allen C. Foster, Editor (Bham)

The Calhoun School.

Maintained for Negro life

This school for colored children at Calhoun Alabama, (Lowndes County) is non sectarian, boarding and day school. This institute prepares the colored student for college and for life. The school had its origin in the early 90's. Booker T Washington's activities known as "The Macedonia Call" inspired two white teachers Misses, Charlotte Thorn and Mabel W. Dillingham to leave Hampton Va. where they were teaching and come to Alabama. To these two women are given the credit as founders of the school.

A white citizen of Calhoun donated 10 acres of land for the school site, and through the efforts of Booker T Washington the negro citizens agreed to contribute \$700.00 toward this institution.

The school was opened Oct, 1st, 1892 under supervision of Misses Thorn and Dillingham, The latter who remained principal for many years, and is due much credit for the progress the school made. The opening enrollment was 300 students, six teachers, white and colored, and the school has retained a mixed faculty till the present date.

A Board of Trustees of influential men own and control the school. It receives it's support from contributions and bequests, no aid from the State. The institution offers today, Extension courses, Industrsl and Academic Depts. We also find the school has 2000 acres of land and 24 buildings, With an enrollment of 289 students listed for 1937.

Owens History. Vol-1.
Collection of Booklets on
Calhoun School. Bham Library.

"Freedman's Schools In Alabama"

*Material from
Negro life*

In the year 1867 there were 68 white teachers and 15 colored teachers teaching in the schools set up by the Freedmen's Bureau. The teachers were laborous, efficient, and made their instruction thorough and accurate as far as they could go.

The negro schools passed into the state system in 1869 (Summer)

The exact number of schools set up by this agency cannot be determined as the reports sent in by the official in charge are confusing and the name school applied to Sunday Schools, private schools, and classes taught by individuals, The name, day and night schools appear on the on the Bureau Reports sent in to Washington, and not the actual number of schools holding classes for a specified term. These reports cannot be considered correct.

This effort toward education does not look as though it was a total failure, for some of the Agencies who received aid from the Freedman's Bureau have continued to carry on in the Field of colored education in Alabama. And it might be stated that the success of those agencies was dependent on the Freed'man's Bureau at one time.

*In 1866 Negro Convention
held in Mobile & called upon
Congress to provide means
of making freedom secure.
Churches burned
depend on U.S. arms for
education of kids
violence + outrage*

Autobiography of Oliver Otis Ho
Howard. Vol 2.
Public School Education in Ala.
Weeks. U.S. Bureau of Education
Bulletin 1915- #12.

Black Reconstruction in America.
DuBois. P-493.

Civil War and Reconstruction in Ala
Fleming, P-461-2-3-.

"Juliet Ann Hopkins"

Hopkins- Juliet Ann (Opie). Confederate Heroine born May, 7th, 1818, at Woodburn, Jefferson County Va. Died March 9th 1890, at Washington D.C. Her parents were Lindsey and Margaret Opie, family traced back to many notable Englishmen.

Her early education was from private tutors at home. She later attended Miss Ritchie's School at Richmond Va. At the age of 16 owing to the death of her father she left school to manage his estate and slaves. In May 1837 she married Commander Alexander George Gordon U.S. Navy, at her home Woodburn. Her first husband died and she was married again to Hon. Judge Arthur Francis Hopkins a notable Alabama Statesman. This marriage was performed Nov. 4th, 1854 in New York City.

At the outbreak of the Civil War she was sent from her home in Mobile Alabama to Richmond Va. establishing a Alabama Hospital in that city. She worked with untiring efforts in the hospitals and on the battlefields for four years during the war. At the Battle of Seven Pines she was wounded twice and as a result of this was slightly lame in one leg the rest of her life. Selling most of her property in Alabama, Va. and N.Y. she gave nearly \$500,000. to the cause of the Confederate States. These deeds caused her to be known as the Florence Nightingale of the Confederacy.

On Feb, 22, 1873 she was honored by a Silver Service presented by the "Mobile Rifles". Her face appears on the \$50. and 25¢ issues of Alabama State money. At her death she was buried with military honors in Arlington Cemetary Washington D.C. attended by a deligation of Alabama Congress.

Owens Vol-1
Newspaper Clippings- B'Ham Library.

Whether first Confederate
currency was printed in
Mobile or N. Y.?

Gurral Normal School.

March 21st, 1932 Alabama was visited by the worst catastrophe in the History of the State according to the newspapers. The greatest toll taken by this tornado was at Northport Ala, Tuscaloosa County. This agent of destruction came out of the south swooped down at the north end of the Warrior River bridge which connects Tuscaloosa and Northport. The path of the tornado was a little east of the main business district, and extended down Bridge Street and out Watermelon Road for a distance of about four miles. In it's path of destruction it left 28 people dead and 200 injured besides destroying thousands of dollars worth of property, ~~and the land was~~

and the land was

In 1893 The Gurral Normal School was constructed at Florence Ala, being located on College Street three blocks from the City Hall. It occupies the crest of a low hill and enjoys a splendid view of the River. *From Birmingham News.*

March 22, 1932. p-1, p-5,

property at Selma, were used to carry this on. The plans and construction were drawn up and supervised by Joseph Fletcher, a graduate of Balladoge College. The building is a two story brick structure

Florence was selected as the site for the school on account of the interest and encouragement the committee from the American Missionary Association were greeted with while looking over Alabama for a site for the school. The Mayor and several prominent citizens purchased and donated the site for the school.

Burrell Normal School.

The Burrell Normal School was first opened at Selma Alabama, in 1866 with an enrollment of 200 students. This colored educational institute was made possible through a gift of \$10,000. by Jabez Burrell of Oberlin Ohio to the American Missionary Association and was built in the Selma district because the educational outlook for the negro in this district looked hopeless.

The school was turned over to the City of Selma in 1878, later to be taken over again by the American Missionary Association. A fire destroyed the school in 1886 and the land was sold to the City in 1898.

In 1893 The Burrell Normal School was constructed at Florence Ala, being located on College Street three blocks from the City Hall, it occupies the crest of a low hill and enjoys a splendid view of the river. Funds from the sale of the old school property at Selma, were used to carry this on. The plans and construction were drawn up and supervised by Joseph Fletcher, a graduate of Talladega College. The building is a two story brick structure

Florence was selected as the site for the school on account of the interest and encouragement the committee from the American Missionary Association were greeted with while looking over Alabama for a site for the school. The Mayor and several prominent citizens purchased and donated the site for the school.

system of Florence, in the fall of 1907, and is now a colored junior high school.

Highmaster,
 Missionary Society of Selma and a trust,
 Nov. 1897. Commissioned Joseph Fletcher, Missionary,
 Selma, Ala.

Burrell Normal School.

Benj.F. Cox was the school's first principal and he is given credit for giving the school its cultural slant he being a man of artistic temperments. The grounds were planted with shade trees and beautiful flower gardens, there was also an aquarium. It was one of the early show places of Florence and something the town was proud of.

The school offered primary, intermediate, and high school training, a normal dept; was also maintained. Music, Art, and industry training ~~was~~ were later added.

The school had Geo. White as its next principal who guided its destinies for the next 23 years with great advancement. One of his first ventures was to hold a Farmers Institute at the school yearly, being assisted in this by the other colleges over the south. Plays and musicales were given at the school. At one time when cultural opportunities were not as abundant as today the school became a center for both races who loved the beautiful.

One of the outstanding products of this institution today is Homer Smith, who with his quartet may be heard on Sundays at noon from Radio City. N.B.C. Network. (Southernaires)

The school was turned over to the public school system of Florence, in the fall of 1937. and is now a colored junior high school.

Bibliographer.
Missionary Herald at home and abroad.
Nov.1937. Commissioner for foreign Missions.
Boston Mass.

Mudd, William Swearigen.

Born - Birmingham Ala.
 B.S. Degree, U of Ala, 1906.
 L.L.B. U of Va. 1908.
 Admitted to Alabama Bar- 1908, Practiced law until 1913.
 Actively identified with Real Estate, Theatre, Newspaper and Hotel
 business since 1913.
 President- Tuscahoosa News, Gadsden Times, Rome (Ga) Tribune.
 Author-"The Old Boat Rocker".
 The Prodigal Has Returned- And How? . Short Story.
 The Old Boat Rocker- Cheered and was Cheered by Conservatives **From**
 Seattle to Key West.

Military Institute, Mobile, Ala., 1892-95; Degree in Electrical
 Engineering at Alabama Polytechnic Institute, 1897.

Following Inventions: Electric Who's Who in America. 1936-37.
 A.N. Marquis Co. P-1780.

Letter to (for boat personal) Birmingham Age Herald, 5-16-36

is the engineer advisor for Thomas A. Edison.

is was also chief engineer, 7th and 8th lighthouse districts,

during the Spanish American War.

See Owen's History of Alabama -- Vol. 3.

Who's Who in America, 1934-35-36-37 editions

A.N. Marquis Company.

Miller Reese Hutchison (Inventor and Engineer)

Born, August 6, 1876, at Montrose, (Baldwin County) Alabama.
Early education in Mobile schools. Attended Marion Military
Institute, 1889-91; Spring Hill College, 1891-92; University
Military Institute, Mobile, Ala., 1892-95; Degree in Electrical
Engineering at Alabama Polytechnic Institute, 1897.

Outstanding inventions: Electric Tachometer; Acousticon; Massacon;
(Latter two for deaf persons) Klaxton horn for autos.

He was engineer advisor for Thomas A. Edison.

He was also Chief Engineer, 7th and 8th lighthouse districts,
during the Spanish American War.

Ref: Owen's History of Alabama ----- Vol. 3.

Who's Who in America, 1934-35-36-37 editions

A.N. Marquis Company.

Huntingdon College.

This college began with the founding of The Tuskegee Female College, in 1854 at Tuskegee Alabama under the auspices of The Alabama Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Owing to the severe times and the embarrassment brought on by the Civil War the property was sold in 1862, but The Conference repurchased it and renewed the charter in 1872. In this instance the name of the college was changed to The Alabama Conference Female College, a name which it carried for the next 37 years. In 1909 through the consolidation of their educational activities The Alabama and North Alabama Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church South, aided by donations and grants made by the citizens of Montgomery Alabama removed the school to Montgomery. This time it was established under the name of Woman's College of Alabama. In 1935 on account of the confusion of the name with that of The State Woman's College at Montevallo Alabama it was changed to Huntingdon College honoring The Countess of Huntingdon who was among the first persons to side with the Wesleyan Movement. Huntingdon College had 469 students enrolled in 1937.

Owens History Vol, 2. p-1413
Huntingdon College Bulletin
March 1937. p-13.

Miss Miles:

It seems to me that we can build our tour wordage, and at the same time add an interesting section to the Alabama Guide by the addition of what could be designated as the "Wiregrass-Black Belt Tour." In checking over the State map for some other material I happened to notice State Highway 10 which crosses Alabama from Ft. Gaines, Ga., to Whynot, Miss. The distance is approximately 250 miles.

Larger towns on the route are: Abbeville, Brundidge, Troy, Luverne, and Greenville. West of Greenville the towns are all smaller, Camden, Dixon's Mills, and Butler being on the route.

Much of the interest in this tour would lie in the farm and timber lands of the section and the ways they are used.

Enough history could almost certainly be localized on and near State 10 to balance the present agrarian interest.

Road includes specimens of nearly all stages of improvement and lack of the same.

7-19-38

LC

The contemplated Coming-out-Party of Evalyn McLean, daughter of the famous socialite McLeans of Newport and Washington D.C. should be of interest to some of the older citizens of Birmingham.

Her grandmother Mrs Thomas Walsh (Carrie Bell Reed) was formerly a resident of Birmingham. Mrs Stephen Reed her great-grandmother owned a bakery on 2nd Avenue downtown Birmingham and Carrie Bell assisted her, selling pies and cakes. The Reed family was by no means wealthy. Later Carrie Bell Reed married a young contractor a Mr. Thomas Walsh here in this city. Mr. Walsh and his young bride did not fare so well in Birmingham so they left this city and went to Colorado where fortune favored them in the form of a gold strike, and the Walsh family became very wealthy.

Mrs Evalyn Walsh McLean the mother of Evalyn is the present owner of the world famous stone "The Hope Diamond" She is well known in International social circles for her lavish parties and entertainments and has also written a very interesting book "Father Struck It Rich" which is classed as an autobiography.

Birmingham Public Library.
Catalogue Dept.

Birmingham Post p-10.
July 14 1938.

Richards directory of B'ham
1886.

News Chronology.
1938.

A.C. Foster.

Jan. 1st, 1938.

University of Alabama Football Team defeated, ^{for first time in five Rose Bowl games} by University of California Football Team, Score 13--0. ~~This was the first defeat for the Alabama Team at The Rose Bowl Classic during the many times Alabama has been a participant in that event.~~

Jan. 20, 1938.

Alabama Supreme Court rules voting machines used during Alabama elections illegal. ^{for elections in ALABAMA}

Feb. 1st, 1938.

Alabama Unemployment Commission issues first unemployment benefit check.

~~Feb. 9, 1938.~~

~~The weather recording for this date showed the temperature to be 15 - degrees above normal in the Birmingham District.~~

March 1st, 1938.

The Electro-Metallurgical Company starts ^{initial} work on the Railroad right of way for its plant site in the vicinity of Sheffield Ala. ^{Plans}
~~This Company, a subsidiary of The Union Carbide Co., is to erect a \$5,000,000 plant near Sheffield.~~

~~March 14, 1938.~~

~~Up till this date \$717,759.00 has been issued in unemployment checks to the unemployed, by the Alabama Unemployment Commission.~~

April, 2, 1938.

Ground ~~is~~ broken ^{Bible} on ~~this date~~ by Gov. Graves for the ~~high~~ Tri-Cities bridge at Muscle Shoals. ^{to} This bridge will span the Tenn. River ^{at that point.}

April 9, 1938.

Swollen streams ^{and} heavy rains in Southern Alabama ^{leave} cause thousands of families to be homeless in that section of Alabama.

Christmas in Dalmatia

In the Southern Slav Country Dalmatia which has a population of 96% Serbo-Croats and of these 80% are of the Catholic religion, ^{so} the customs ~~of~~ Christmas are in many ways the same as those in many of the Provinces of Yugoslavia. ^P The people celebrate Christmas according to the date of the old Julian Calendar. In Dalmatia ^{Dalmatian} on the day before Christmas the ^{men} of ~~the~~ family rise before dawn and drive a team of oxen to the woods to get the Yule Log. This Baduyak (Yule Log) must be a young oak and is selected with care. The cutting of the tree is performed with a ceremonial, the sign of the cross is made before the axe touches the tree trunk and the tree must fall to the east, the boughs not contacting those of another tree or bad luck will follow the coming year. ^P When the men return to the village they are greeted with songs and pistol shots. That evening the logs is placed in the fireplace with one end extending toward the room, the small branches are used to sweep the chimney corners. ^P It is the custom for the head of ~~the~~ ^a family to empty a cup of wine and throw some grain on the Baduyak with a wish for plenty of wine and grain for the coming season. ~~The~~ mothers scatter straw about the floor in memory of the manger birth. At the supper on Christmas Eve ~~no~~ ^{not} meat is eaten, ^{the repast including} only ~~fish~~ fish, onions, beans and white bread. On this night it is considered bad luck to allow the ^{of} ~~Baduyak~~ ^{to} burn out and someone must keep watch all night. ^P On Christmas a fire is built in the yard and a whole suckling pig is roasted on a spit. ^M The neighbors greet one another with "Mir Boziyi! Hristos se rodi! - God's Peace!, Christ is born!" Everyone kisses every- one else three times and ^{is exchanged for} forgive all ~~the~~ quarrels and di- ^{of} ~~fferences~~ ^{for} the past year. An old Croatian belief is that angels pass over the springs touching them and making them

Bulgaria

pure. At dawn girls go to these springs and fountains with ve
pitchers to ~~obtain~~ ^{get} water, ^{but} before filling them they throw ~~in~~
basil and grain in the water, with a wish for cleanliness
and a plentiful harvest. The first water drawn is used in ~~the~~
making the Christmas Cake into which a coin is baked. At ~~the~~
the mid-day dinner the cake is divided and the one whose
cake contains the coin is ~~sure~~ ^{expected} to have good luck ~~that day.~~ ⁱⁿ
the center of the table surrounded by other festival foods. Prior
to the dinner there is the burning of incense and offering of prayer.
Then the father and mother raise a loaf of bread over their heads
saying "may our wheat grow as high as towers". Following this the heads
of the family each break a piece from the loaf. The one who gets the
larger piece is supposed to have good luck for the coming year.
Christmas Day in Bulgaria is begun with a long church service and
the children receive gifts from Kolda, the ancient Winter God.
~~On the~~ morning before breakfast wheat is put into a stocking
and sprinkled on the doorstep by the head of the family.
While doing this he says "Christ is born" the other members of
the family answer "he is born indeed. Then sparks are struck
from the yule log, ~~with~~ ^{as expressed with} a wish ~~to~~ each blow, "health to the farm
and a good crop". The ashes from the log are then gathered and a
coin hidden among them with a wish for an abundant harvest.
The Traditional Bulgarian Christmas includes roast pig and Kravitsa
or blood sausage for the dinner.

Handwritten note:
Kolda
Kravitsa

In Bulgaria

The first star appearing in the sky on Christmas Eve denotes the termination of a strict fast which has been observed ~~in all~~ ^{throughout} Bulgaria for two weeks preceding Christmas Eve. At the dinner that night the chief ceremonial food is Kravai, a round cake which the eldest daughter of the household decorates with a lighted candle and the figures of a bird, flower and a cross. This cake is placed in the center of the table surrounded by other festival foods. Prior to the dinner there is the burning of incense and offering of prayer. Then the father and mother raise a loaf of bread over their heads saying "may our wheat grow as high as this". Following this the heads of the family each break a piece from the loaf. The one who gets the larger piece is supposed to have good luck for the coming year. Christmas Day in Bulgaria is begun with a long church service and the children receive gifts from Koleda, the ancient Winter God. ~~On this morning, before breakfast, wheat is put into a stocking and sprinkled on the doorsteps by the head of the family.~~ ^{flowers, hazel or artificial, are used instead. Soon after} While doing this he says "Christ is born" the other members of the family answer "he is born indeed. Then sparks are struck from the yule log, ~~with~~ ^{as expressed with} a wish to each blow, "health to the farm, and a good crop". The ashes from the log are then gathered and a coin hidden among them with a wish for an abundant harvest. The Traditional Bulgarian Christmas includes roast pig and Kravaitza or blood sausage, for the dinner.

Christmas in Italy (Venice)

Burke

The Presepio is the principal feature of an Italian Christmas. It is a miniature representation of the birthplace of Christ, showing the Holy Family --- Joseph, Mary and the infant Jesus in the manger --- or, more frequently, the manger awaiting the infant. This is a doll that is brought in later, passed around that each person in the room may pray before it, and ~~it is~~ then solemnly deposited in the manger. There are angels, and other figures several inches high, carved in wood, ^{and} prettily colored ~~and introduced to please the owners taste. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~~~

The Presepio is made as expensive as its owner can afford, and sometimes much more so. Those who have a Presepio receive guests to pray before it, and strolling musicians to sing before it.

There are no evergreens used in either church or home trimmings, but flowers, natural or artificial, are used instead. Soon after nine o'clock the people, young and old, leave their homes for some church in which the Christmas Eve services begin by ten o'clock.

Presents are drawn from the Urn of Fate, a custom common to many countries. As the parcels are interspersed with blanks, the drawing from the Urn creates much excitement and no little ~~disappointment~~ among the children, who do not always understand that there will be a gift for each one notwithstanding the blanks.

Christmas Customs in other Countries.

In France there is no set national custom as to the celebration of Christmas. In the cities there is a feeling of solemnity, ^{and} services are held in all the churches. Along the main boulevards, the shops, ^{display} show toys and sweets. This display is in preparation for the celebration and giving ^{of} gifts on New Year's Day, which is a time of great hilarity ~~in France~~. In the Provinces ~~on Christmas~~ there is usually a family celebration, and where the German influence is felt one may find a Christmas tree. In some of the other provinces a yule log is the center of interest. ~~In these latter provinces~~ ^{this} log is believed to have strange powers, ^{and} children leave their shoes near ^{by} ~~the Yule log~~ with the hope that they will be filled with sweets. A saying in these sections is, "Do not sit on the Yule log, for if you do you will experience such pain that you will not be able to eat any dinner". ~~The~~ Children build the Creche, a representation of the Holy Manger, and gather stones to form a hillside which is covered with a substance to resemble snow. Overhead there is a star shining on tiny figures of shepherds and their flocks. Instead of the Merry Christmas greeting, ~~we hear~~ ^{is heard} Noel on every tongue.

In Germany the Christmas tree is the center of all festivities. Every family has at least one, some have more. There are special groups who furnish these trees to the poor. The tree is decorated very much like the ones in the United States. ^{Under} the tree usually are ^{replicas} ~~figures~~ of the Manger, ^{figures of the} Holy Family. Gifts are brought by Kris Kringle, who travels about on Christmas Eve inquiring about the conduct of the children for the past year. ~~When~~ ^{When} thought necessary, he leaves a switch for the coming year. Christmas Eve is the time for the ^{the} tree and distribution of gifts. On the following morning, services are held in the churches. These people closely connect the Christ

Child with their celebration, having ^{and} special thought for the poor, inviting them to their homes to partake of food and gifts.

In Spain, as in most other countries of Southern Europe, the celebrations are of a different nature, the mild climate enabling the people to hold most of their festivities in the open. Dancing is the keynote of the holiday season, and in this country, as early as December 1st, young people begin to practice so they will be at their best on Christmas Eve. On that night there is dancing everywhere, the streets are crowded with shoppers and people watching the dancers. The stores are well stocked with turkeys, fruits, dates and olives. At midnight all hurry home in order to go in family groups to Midnight Mass, the churches are beautifully decorated, and the priests wear robes that are worn only at this time. After Mass the people go once more into the streets, dancing and celebrating until dawn. There are no services on Christmas Day, but on Jan. 6th, gifts are exchanged. The Three Wise Men take the place of Santa Claus in Spain. Instead of a Christmas Tree every family has ^a representation of the Holy Manger.

In Scandinavian Countries (Norway and Sweden) it is a custom to feed the birds during the Yule Season. Everywhere, tied to the tree branches and tucked in odd fence corners, are bunches of oats and wheat that have been placed there by the children for the birds who have much trouble ^{finding food} during the severe cold months. ~~finding food.~~ In these countries the Christmas celebration starts on Christmas Eve, ^{when} a special supper is prepared ~~on this night.~~ At this supper age-old dishes are served, these ^{being} foods are full of traditions that have been handed down from one generation to the other. The prevailing

Sea food is ^{an} ~~the~~ outstanding dish for this occasion. The housewife spends many days baking, cleaning and scrubbing, so the entire house is bright and shining for Christmas. On the Christmas trees are gingerbread goats and pigs, ^{which have been} ~~these are~~ bought from the peasants. After the dinner on Christmas Eve the presents are distributed. Some of the presents are hidden ^{about} ~~over~~ the ^{house} ~~home~~ so the children may search for them. On Christmas Morning there is a church service attended by the older people, ^{and} this is a more serious occasion. The second Christmas on the following day is a time of revelry, everyone joins ⁱⁿ the dances and games which sometimes culminate in a large ball on Jan. 6th. It is thought the custom of kissing beneath the mistletoe originated in the Scandinavian Countries. It was in these that mistletoe was dedicated to the Love Goddess, Friga. There were to be as many kisses as berries on the mistletoe.

In Ireland Christmas is a time of great merrymaking and rejoicing. ~~The genial~~ Irish hospitality is doubled at this time. As fir trees are scarce in Ireland, there are very few Christmas Trees. The homes are attractively decorated with holiday greens. The goose is the center of dinner for Christmas, and in every home there is an abundant supply of various beverages. The Irish exchange gifts on Christmas Day, and many of the children carry out a unique ~~idea~~ idea before Christmas in going from home to home carrying a wren in a cage atop a long pole, singing songs and collecting gifts.

In Hungary, December 6th is the original Santa Claus day for the children. In many of the villages St. Nicholas, in his bishop's robes, goes about with an attendant (a devil) and distributes rewards to the children according to their

this country is the time for celebrations. On the evening gifts are exchanged and children go from door to door with New Year's greetings for the past year. Many children leave their boots or shoes on the window sills, and in these he leaves either small gifts or a birch rod, ^{according to each child's record of conduct} Christmas in Hungary lasts two days, each a legal holiday. During this period church bells ring continuously. The appearance of the first star on Christmas Eve denotes the dinner hour. At this dinner traditional dishes are served, mainly cabbage soup, fish, cakes and nuts, also small dumplings sprinkled with sugar, and poppy seed known as "Bobajka". All families who can afford ^{the cost} ~~it~~ have a tree, and preceding ~~this~~ meal they assemble around it, and after a short prayer, distribute the gifts. At midnight there is a mass at the church attended by the entire family group. During the Christmas season groups of gaily clad children go about the village streets singing carols and carry ^{with them} ~~with them on a tray~~ a miniature manger ^{on a tray} ~~or Bethlehem~~ with figures or marionettes which reenact the Christ Story. These figures represent the Holy Family, The shepherds, and The Three Kings. On Jan, 6th, the three kings follow the star through the Hungarian Countryside, carrying in their hands long sticks with bells strung on them, with which they beat time as they walk onward singing. The Star is carried along in front of the Three Kings on a long pole.

The Syrian Christmas Season begins on December 4th, which is St. Barbara's Day, and lasts until Jan. 6th. Christmas Eve in Syria is not a time for fun and celebration. It is a season of prayer and worship. Pilgrimages are made from Syria to Bethlehem to attend the church service there. Christmas Day and the day following are spent quietly at home. New Year's Day in

these parts is a holy-day, or special religious day.

this country is the time for celebrations. ~~On that day~~ Gifts are exchanged and children go from door to door with New Year's Greetings, ~~and receive~~ ^{ing} candles and money. The Syrian Child does not look to Santa Claus for gifts; the camel is his gift bearer, and before going to bed on New Year's Eve he sets out a bowl of water and a dish of wheat for the camel. According to legend, ~~the~~ ^{The} camel was the youngest of those bearing the wise men to the cradle of the Christ Child, and it fell down exhausted by the strenuous journey. The Christ Child blessed it and conferred immortality upon it. In the Lebanon district it is a magic mule instead of a camel.

The people of Scotland, who never observed Christmas in former years, celebrate it today very much ~~the same as~~ ^{like} the English. There are church services and dinners in Scotland on Christmas, but the main day of celebration ~~during this season~~ is New Year's. On this Eve every ~~member~~ ^{member} of the family ~~circle~~ tries to be present ~~at the home~~ ^{a gay} for ~~the~~ dinner which ~~is held on New Year's Eve~~. Presents are distributed ~~on this night~~ ^{are} and many parties held. Every household has the fullest stock of meat and all manner of cakes, confections, wines and whisky ^{ies}.

In Portugal, Jan. 6th is the day for Christmas Celebrations. Bands of carolers go about ~~over~~ ⁱⁿ the towns and villages singing greetings and begging gifts. Family groups visit from house to house. The carolers beg admittance to the homes to sing to the Christ Child. ~~After~~ ^{After} being admitted they sing special songs and are entertained with wines and food. On this day there are great festivals for the children, ~~gifts~~ ^{Gifts} are exchanged, and many of the mothers give parties ~~for the children~~. For these parties a bolo-Rei, or special Epiphany cake, is baked.

Within ^{the} ~~this~~ cake ^{are hidden,} ~~are hidden~~ various amulets or fortune telling trinkets and a single dried lima bean. The child who gets the piece of cake containing the bean promises to furnish the cake for the party the following year.

~~German Swiss Christmas.~~ On the night of December 24th, ^{the German Swiss} ~~in the provinces~~ where this type of Christmas is observed Christkindli, or the Christ Child, is said to make the village rounds in a sleigh drawn by reindeer and loaded with toys, gifts, and beautifully decorated Christmas trees for the children and family. On this night the family gather around the Christmas tree to sing carols and listen to the reading of the Nativity Story. ~~at this time~~ presents are distributed and all make merry ^{until} ~~till~~ time for the midnight mass at the church. Christmas Day marks the beginning of winter sports such as skiing, sledding, and tobogganing. In some vicinities superstitions exist regarding the miracles of Christmas Eve. It is thought that young people wishing to foretell the future should drink from nine different fountains while the midnight church bells are ringing. Dumb animals are thought to be blessed with human speech during the midnight hours, and the housewife clips the chicken's wings between eleven and twelve o'clock that night so her fowls may be saved from beasts of prey.

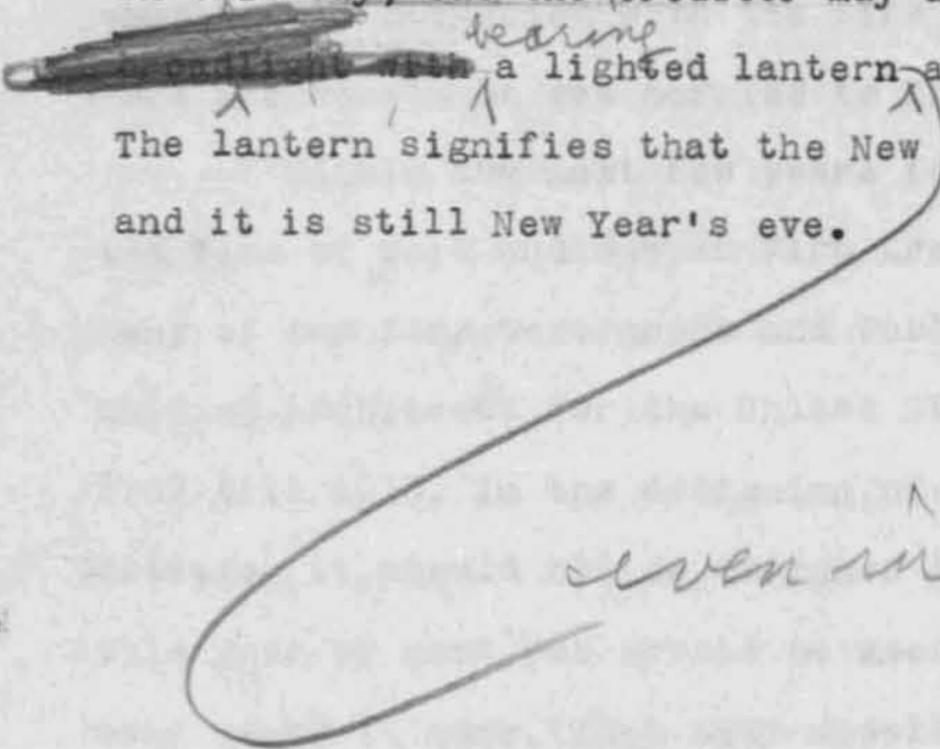
In Greece on the night of December 24th, groups of boys who carol of Christ's birth go from door to door in the towns and villages. They are rewarded with gifts and coins, and when a householder is not so generous with them they sing amusing verses regarding the stinginess he maintains. Christmas Day in Greece is a day when ~~there are~~ many family reunions and merrymakings ^{are held}. In some parts of the country the mothers make teganites, or fried cakes, while the children watch in-

wide-eyed wonder and shiver over tales of the Kallikanaroi. According to old folk belief these half-human and half monster beings wander about on the twelve days between Christmas Eve and Epiphany, attempting to work mischief among human beings.

In Holland the children put out their shoes on Christmas Eve in the hope they will be filled with gifts. On the next morning which is Christmas Day everyone attends church service, as a rule the rest of the day is spent quietly at home. Very few parties are ever held on this day in Holland. The regular Christmas Celebration takes place on December 26th at this time relatives visit and many parties and feasts are given. This festival season lasts from December 26th, ^{until} ~~Jan.~~ Jan. 13, ~~during~~ ^{when} ~~this period~~ breakfast is the ^{and elaborate} ~~gay~~ meal of the day. One may see at these breakfasts long tables decorated in the holiday spirit and spread with thirty or forty ~~different~~ kinds of hot and cold dishes. Strong drinks accompany these morning meals and aid to make the feasts gala occasions.

The Chinese celebrate on New Years ^{Day} instead of Christmas. This day like our Easter is regulated by the moon and it generally falls about the last of Feb. On this day they exchange gifts and greetings, have official gatherings and ~~have~~ great displays of fireworks. This day is considered the birthday of every Chinese person, ~~or child~~. In the past it was the custom to re-enthroned the emperor on ^{New Years} ~~this day~~. For the ^{Celebration} dinner ~~on this day~~ the Chinese ^{never} ~~seldom~~ eat meat for they think everything should be allowed to live happily on New Years. Their principal food for ~~this~~ dinner is a variety of dumplings, ^{that} ~~which~~ ^{are as important} ~~are~~ to them as the plum pudding is to the Englishman.

They also believe that all their debts should be paid before
 New Years ^{day} and several days before ^{hand} they erect stalls or stores
 along the streets offering ~~their~~ personal belongings for sale
 so they may settle their debts. Some of the men dress in garments
 of red cloth for the New Year ^{and} others go ^{about} wading knee deep
 in red paper, ~~the~~ ^{the costume presumably indicating that} ~~light of the latter is~~ the man has been fighting
 devils. In China it is not considered good form to dun a person
 on this day, but the creditor may approach ~~the one who owes~~ ^{him} ~~the debt~~ ^{money}
~~in daylight~~ ^{bearing} a lighted lantern and request ^{that} the debt be paid.
 The lantern signifies that the New Years dawn has not arrived,
 and it is still New Year's eve.



even in broad daylight

Philip Sawyer.

This famous architect was born in New London Conn. in 1868. Much of his time while a young man was devoted to the study of engineering. He was connected with the U.S. Geol. Survey, division of N.M. which was the beginning of his career as an engineer. He later took up the study of architecture at Columbia University, School of Beaux Arts and received his degree there. In 1895 at which time he was connected with the firm of McKim, Mead and White New York architects he was married to Miss Mildred Conway of that City.

Within the next few years following he became a member of the firm of York and Sawyer Firm Architects. This firm has designed many of our fine Government and Public Buildings. They were Consulting Architects for the United States Treasury Department from 1909 till 1913. In the designing of a public building Mr. Sawyer believes it should not be designed to create the maximum interest this year or next but should be useful and equally acceptable for many years to come. That they should certainly be practical in their planning and lighting and the space should be well adapted to its purpose. He also is a firm believer in the fact that no government employee should be allowed to feel that he could work under better conditions in rented quarters, than in those constructed and owned by the Government, City or County. Another point in the designing of public buildings brought out by Mr. Sawyer is that they should be designed so as not to offset the surrounding structures to a great extent.

Sept. 1901.
Mr. J.E. Lewis Bldg. Supt.
Federal Bldg. B'ham.
Architectural Forum July, 1902
p-97.

The Federal Building of Birmingham which is four stories high, its exterior built of limestone and the interior of Alabama Marble has graceful Ionic Columns running almost the entire length of the block on the Fifth Avenue side. This building is recognized as being one of the most beautiful specimens of public buildings architecture in the country. The firm of York and Sawyer acted as consulting architects when the plans were drawn for this structure about 1909.

In 1931 the Firm of York and Sawyer were consulting architects for the Department of Commerce and one of their most outstanding achievements was the Department of Commerce Building at Washington D.C. There was keen competition over the country as to who was to design this building but the plans of York and Sawyer were finally decided upon and in this fine building the ideas of York & Sawyer have been carried out according to their plan of what a public building should be architecturally.

Other achievements of this firm have been, Pershing Square Building, New York, New York Historical Society Building, Childrens Village, Dobbs Ferry; The Royal Bank of Canada Montreal, First National Bank Building Boston, the Federal Buildings Honolulu, and many of the buildings at University of Michigan, Vassar, Middlebury and Rutgers Colleges.

Who's Who in America. 1934-5,
p-2087.
The Architectural forum, p-257
Sept. 1931.
Mr. J.E. Lewis Bldg. Supt.
Federal Bldg. B'ham.
Architectural Forum July, 1932
p-97.

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~~Present~~ State Officials of Alabama.

- Frank M. Dixon ----- - Governor.
- Albert A. Carmichael-----Lieut. Governor.
- John Marvin Brandon-----Secretary of State.
- Judge Charles E. McCall-----State Treasurer.
- David Howell Turner-----State Auditor.
- Albert Hamilton Collins,----Superintendent of Education.
- Haygood Paterson-----Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries.
- T.S. Lawson ----- Attorney General.
- Hugh Hamilton White----- Pres. Board. Ala. Public Service Commission.
- Henry Fitzhugh Lee-----Associate Member. " " "
- W.C. Harrison----- " " " "
- John Crawford Anderson---- Chief Justice Alabama Supreme Court.
- Judge William H. Thomas--- Associate Justice " " "
- " Lucien D. Gardner-- " " " "
- " Arthur B. Foster--- " " " "
- " Joel B. Brown---- " " " "
- " Virgil Bouldin ---- " " " "

~~(Montgomery Advertiser 1-16-39)~~

Appointees as of January 16.

~~Governor Dixon announced the following appointments Jan. 16, 1939.~~

Edwin Julian McCrossin, State Mine Inspector. Chris J. Sherlock, President Alabama Highway Commission. Dr. Walter G. Jones, Commissioner Conservation Department. (Game & Fish). William P. Shirley, Recording Secretary. James B. Little, Supt. of Banks. Thomas Weller Smith, Chief of Alabama State Highway Patrol. Maj. Ben Smith, Adjutant General. A.R. Forsyth, Head of the Board of Administration, John C. Curry, Head of State Tax Commission. Col. William E. Persons, Head of Convict Dept.

The Governors Office Force was announced as, Miss Carolyn Morton, Confidential Secretary. to the governor. Mrs. Mabel Amos, Stenographer. Mrs. Kate Thomas Simmons, Stenographer. Roland G. Mushat, Executive Sec.

~~(Birmingham Age-Herald 1-17-39)~~

Alabama is represented in National Government Affairs by,-----

- John Hollis Bankhead. United States Senator.
- Lister Hill . " " "
- Luther Patrick. Representative.
- Joe Starnes. "
- William Brockman Bankhead. "
- P. B. Jarman. ""
- Frank Boykin. ""
- Henry Steagall. " "
- Samuel Hobbs. "
- John J. Sparkman. "

~~(Montgomery Advertiser 1-16-39)~~

Gessner T. McCorvey of Mobile is the present chairman of the Alabama State Democratic Executive Committee. Marion Rushton of Montgomery is the Democratic National Committeeman. ~~(Bham Age Herald, 1-17-39)~~

The Vine and Olive Colony in Alabama.

After Napoleons defeat at Waterloo and banishment to St. Helena a decree was issued in France July 26, 1815, charging many of his former army officers and supporters with treason. About 300 of these fled France and came to Philadelphia in 1816-17.

The United States Government on March, 3. 1817 gave these people a grant of 144 square miles of land at the confluence of the Tombigee and Black Warrior Rivers. Comprising a part of the present Marengo County. Agents of these Frenchmen selected this site thinking it suitable for the culture of olives and vineyards, since the climate and geography seemed similar to that of parts of France. According to the terms of the grant they were to cultivate the vine and olive, also at the end of 14 years were to pay the Federal Government \$2.00 per acre for the land.

Noted personages included in these Bonapartists were ; Col. Raoul who had accompanied Napoleon to and from Elba. L, Allemand brothers who later founded Camp d' Asile in Texas. Gen. Count Bertrand Clausel who had commanded at Bordeaux and Lefebvre Desnouettes former Aide de Camp to Napoleon. The latter became the leader of these colonists after their escape to the United States.

Social functions were carried on by these French in Marengo County similar to those of the old French Court during Napoleon's time. Many amusing tales have been told regarding these ladies and gentlemen of Nobility during their attempt at settlement in Alabama.

After many hardships experienced by these colonists in getting their homes built and lands cleared It was discovered that most of the lands they had improved were not in their survey. The climate also proved not to be satisfactory for the cultivation of olives and vineyards.

The final disheartening blow came when they heard of the death of Napoleon in 1821. During all their struggle to establish this colony in Alabama, they had in mind, to effect an escape for Napoleon and to bring him to their settlement in this country. Most of the settlers deserted the colony after Napoleons death some returning to France, others scattered to different parts of this country. Decendants of a few of these French settlers remain in the vicinity today. In a garden at Demopolis Alabama today there stands an olive tree one of the last reminders of the Vine and Olive Colony attempted by those Bonapartists.

Bonapartists in Alabama Canebrakes.
Hudson Stroude
P-18-21. P-55.

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April 1938.