



Homemakers annual meet held May 20

Mrs. George Dale, Billgrass Area president, and Mrs. Walter Kendall reported to the Homemakers concerning the 29th annual national homemaker meeting they attended last September in Florida. Mrs. Dale also gave a short report of the State meeting she attended earlier this month.—Dan-can photo



New officers installed

New officers were installed at the Nicholas County Homemakers 21st annual dinner meeting held Thursday, May 20, at the Elementary School. Pictured around the floral Liberty Bell are Miss Ernestine Eads, president; Mrs. Lavinia McFarland, outgoing secretary; Mrs. Kath Grimes, secretary; and Mrs. Otis Mastin, outgoing president. Mrs. Grimes Caywood, Mrs. Reynolds Allison and Mrs. George Dale designed the centerpiece, in keeping with the Bicentennial theme. —Duncan photo

Bicentennial Memorial Service in Millersburg

Mrs. Jane Hill Midkiff, Executive Director of the Lexington Deal Oral Project will be the featured speaker at the Bicentennial Memorial Service of the Millersburg Eighth Street Cemetery Association to be held at the cemetery starting at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 30, according to Rev. Marion M. McCaffey Jr., president of the Cemetery Association.

Jane Hill Midkiff was born in Richmond, Va., but has spent most of her life in Kentucky. She is the daughter of Dr. Samuel S. Hill, who was president of Georgetown College from 1941 to 1953, and Mrs. Hill. Jane was graduated from Georgetown in 1953 with honors. While there she was one of three Juniors women tapped for membership in the Senior Women's Honorary and subsequently became president of that organization.

After graduation Jane attended Florida State University and the University of Kentucky, attaining a graduate degree in the field of Speech and Hearing Therapy in 1956. She worked as a speech therapist for the Woodford County School System for eight years, and was employed in the same position briefly by the Fayette County Schools.

In 1967 Jane became Executive Director of the Lexington Deal Oral School which has realized a growth in enrollment plus the acquisition of a building and then the addition of a wing to that building. The school is now debt free.

Rev. McCaffey will give the invocation at the services followed by remarks and observations from Chontelle Layson, Millersburg Mayor and GSM Sgt. Mayor Michael Ferrand, 100th Army Div. The offering will be for maintenance of the historical cemetery.

Mrs. Midkiff will be introduced by Mrs. Edna Porter Byars, a trustee of the Cemetery Association.

A medley of patriotic music will be sung by the Rev. H. Dallas Suggs, minister of the First Baptist Church, Carlisle.

INSPECTION PERIOD FOR THE PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT ROLL

The Nicholas County property tax roll will be opened for inspection from June 7 through June 11, 1976. Under the supervision of the property valuation administrator or his deputy, any property owner may inspect the tax roll to check the assessment of his property and compare it with the assessment of comparable property to determine whether it is equitably assessed. The tax roll may not be inspected for any other purpose.

This is the January 1, 1976 assessment on which state, county, and school taxes for 1976 will be due on September 15, 1976.

The tax roll is in the office of the property valuation administrator in the county courthouse and may be inspected between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4 P.M.

Bobby G. Anderson

Property Valuation Administrator Nicholas County

5/27/76

'Memoirs' are colorful life recording of one of our most famous Kentuckians

by Joan W. Casley

The Squire's Memoirs by J. Winston Coleman Jr. Winburn Press, Lexington, Ky. 1975 125 pages, 7 illustrations. Cloth bound \$5.00 First printing—450 copies

This life story of J. Winston Coleman Jr., written by the distinguished Kentucky author and historian himself, depicts his long and successful life in the way only he could. There is never a dull moment as he relates details of his experiences almost as if he had taken notes each day throughout his 77 years.

As one reads his autobiography, the feeling emerges that he has enjoyed every minute of every day; and that each day brought new, exciting and different activities in which to participate.

Many famous persons have been entertained at his Winburn Farm in Lexington, although he and Mrs. Coleman now reside on Blairmore Road there.

Among the famous persons the Coleman entertained at Winburn were Dr. Clement Eaton, an authority on the Old South. While visiting the farm in 1940, Dr. Eaton was impressed with the "easy cultural" life of the Coleman family that he later dubbed Coleman "the Squire of Winburn Farm" in an article in Southern Literary Magazine. This is the origin of the affectionate name for Coleman of "Squire."

"To meet and to know J. Winston Coleman Jr., is an unusual experience. Those close to the Squire know that he is something different; a raconteur of note with a keen sense of humor and a charm not to be forgotten. These words were written about Coleman in 1973 by Messrs. Holman Hamilton and Ed Houshain in their delightful pamphlet Meet Squire Coleman—a 75th birthday present to the Squire.

How very true those words are! They perfectly described how the writer felt when she was given the opportunity of visiting the Squire in his home in November, 1975. Roy Shannon, of Lexington, arranged the introduction to the Introduction to the local history. He openly made suggestions and answered all my questions. I have not forgotten his hospitality, his charm, his interest, his cooperation, his humor.

Hopefully he will be able to attend the Historical Society's Bicentennial Reception celebrating the publication of our history at the library on July 1. If so, many of you will have the delightful opportunity of meeting him for yourselves.

Contrary to popular belief, he states in his Memoirs that he has enjoyed his work rewarding nevertheless. Coleman holds BS Mechanical Engineering and MS degrees from the University of Kentucky. He holds Doctor of Literature Honorary degrees from UK and from Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tenn. He also holds a honorary J.D. from Transylvania.

He is a 3rd Degree Mason—the highest honor attainable. He is author of numerous books, some of which are: Masonry in the Bluegrass, 1933; State-Capitol Days in the Bluegrass, 1935; Slavery Times in Kentucky, 1940; A Bibliography of Kentucky History, 1945; and Kentucky: A Pictorial History (Ed.), 1971.

In The Springs of Kentucky, 1965, and

In his Memoirs the Squire mentions Blue Licks in Nicholas county as a famous watering place. He also relates in his Memoirs that a good example of a tollgate house still stands on the Lexington-Mayview Road in Nicholas county. He has willed his 3000 books, pamphlets, maps, documents, pictures and manuscripts to Transylvania University. This largest and most outstanding collection, and probably the largest private collection, of Kentuckians will be placed in a room designated as "Coleman Kentuckiana Collection" at Transylvania. UK had first choice, but ignorantly discouraged the Squire's gift by desiring to break up the collection throughout the UK Library. This fact is certainly UK's loss and Transy's gain. He mentions that his collection does not include John Filson's The State of Kentucky, 1794—a rare book printed in an edition of 1000. Only 125 copies are known to still exist, and 30

years ago sold for \$6,000. His vivid imagination was exemplified as he relates a 1945 ride from Natchez to New Orleans on the paddle wheel boat Gordon C. Greene. He stated that enroute he rode quite a bit in the same experience that Mark Twain wrote about when he was on the river. After various trips with William H. Townsend to Chicago to address the Chicago Civil War Round, the Squire decided in 1958 to organize a Kentucky Civil War Round Table.

On the train enroute to the Windy City we rehearsed the talk and I advised Bill to leave out a part of it on account of some of the old families of Lexington. The famous meeting to discuss Kentucky's most colorful character, Cassius M. Clay, was held at the Sherman Hotel on Oct. 17, 1852. The speech was recorded and is now sought all over the United States. Ironically, Coleman says Townsend never received a penny for the records. Coleman said next to Townsend, he related, and Townsend referred to him twice during the address. The Squire is listed in many publications, the most prestigious being Who's Who in America. The little book, The Squire's Memoirs, was read in short order because it was too interesting to put down. It is a colorful, recording of the life of one of our most famous Kentuckians. Lay days are here... Shop the lazy way and get a bargain too in the classified ads!

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