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FACETS OF FANNIN

A HISTORY OF FANNIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

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*To all who read this
book, may you have many
hours of enjoyment.
Best wishes to you and yours.
Dale H. Dyer*

*For Clayton County
Genealogical Society, know
to know our past is to know
who we are and who we will
become.
Ethelene Dyer Jones*

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Family of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. (Bill) Prather: Garrett, Bill, Whitney and Layne.

The N.L. Prather family arrived in Blue Ridge, Georgia, December 28, 1945. N.L. was just out of World War II where he had served with the 96th Evacuation Hospital of the U.S. Army. He was in England with his unit several months before the invasion of France. His hospital unit was attached to the First Army and provided care in semi-mobile units until they arrived in Germany. The 96th Evacuation Hospital group received patients from the war zones on the beaches of France to Leipzig, Germany. N.L. was head pharmacist of the unit. Prior to going into the army, N.L. had received his education as a pharmacist at Mercer University's Southern School of Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia.

Jewell Hazel Garrett and N.L. Prather were married prior to World War II on August 6, 1942, in Marietta, Georgia. Jewell was the daughter of Jim and Sally Densmore Garrett of Pickens County, Georgia. Jewell spent several years in Indiana with her parents where her father worked as a stone cutter in the marble industry. Jewell was educated at Southern Business College, graduating in 1939. N.L.'s parents were Lee and Emma Perry Prather.

Upon arriving in Blue Ridge in December, 1945, N.L. went to work for the Blue Ridge Pharmacy which was owned and operated by Clarence and W.B. Ferguson. He worked with them for one and a half years. Then N.L. and W.A. Walden, Sr. became partners in the Blue Ridge Pharmacy. They were owners of the store until 1982 at which time they turned the business over to their sons, Bill Prather and Bill Walden, Jr. The sons, both pharmacists, are now owners and operators of the business.

William Lee Prather, son and only child of N.L. and Jewell Prather, was born August 16, 1947. He was educated in Fannin County Schools, and, like his father, he attended and was graduated from the Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy in Atlanta.

Bill entered the U.S. Army Pharmacy Corps after graduation and was stationed at the Madigan General Hospital in Tacoma, Washington. After completing two years in service during the Vietnam War, Bill re-

turned to Blue Ridge and went into the pharmacy business with his father.

W.L. (Bill) Prather married Layne Lanier in 1968. She was from Albany, Georgia. They met in Atlanta while both were in college. Layne and Bill have two children: Whitney Lee Prather, a daughter, born October 23, 1976, and Garrett Lanier Prather, a son, born May 3, 1985.

N.L. and Jewell Prather have been active in church and civic affairs in Blue Ridge. Both are members of First Baptist Church where Jewell has taught Sunday School and worked in Woman's Missionary Union, and served on various committees. N.L. worked as the church's financial secretary and served on committees.

In civic responsibilities, N.L. has been an active member of Blue Ridge Kiwanis Club for thirty-five years. He served on the Board of Directors of Fannin County Bank (now C & S) for over twenty years. He has been a member and chairman of the board of the Blue Ridge Child Development Center.

Jewell served on the Board of Fannin County's Head Start Program for two years. She has also been on the Mineral Springs Center Board of Directors. She is a member of the Blue Ridge Woman's Club.

For recreation, Jewell enjoys playing bridge and N.L. is an avid sports enthusiast and plays golf. Both are members of the Hidden Valley Squares and like to square dance here and in other states, especially Florida. Seeing places is one of their special interests. They have traveled in every state of the United States, to England and several European countries, the Caribbean and the Panama Canal area.

by N.L. Prather



PRINCE, DR. E. L.

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Dr. Ephriam La Fayette Prince was born in Polk County, Tennessee August 7, 1867. His parents were William A. Prince, who was born January 22, 1829 in Haywood County, North Carolina and died November 27, 1892 in Polk County, Tennessee; and Elizabeth Jane Hayes, born to James and Rebecca Hayes in Monroe County, Tennessee in 1832. She died at Parksville in Polk County, Tennessee on June 5, 1897.

His grandparents were Ephriam and Lucinda Stillwell Prince. His grandfather was born in South Carolina and died in Polk County, Tennessee, on November 16, 1867. Ephriam, the grandfather of Dr. E.L. Prince, came to Tennessee at an early date but moved to North Carolina, then back to Tennessee, and later to Polk County, Tennessee where he acquired a farm on the Ocoee River.

According to stories told by the late Mr. Sam Quintrell and his wife Amanda Quinn Quintrell, a pioneer family of Polk County, Ephriam Prince traded a pinto pony to the Cherokee Indians for this valuable piece of property. This was the same property on which the famous Half-Way house was built. It was also known as the Cloud property.

Dr. Prince's father, William A. Prince, served in Company A, Forty-Third Regiment, Tennessee Infantry, Confederate State Army. According to Army records, he enlisted at Hiawasse at the age of thirty-one and served until the fall of Vicksburgh. He was wounded while in an engagement with Guerrillas.

Dr. Ephriam L. Prince graduated from Vanderbilt School of Medicine. He practiced in the area of Parksville and Benton, Tennessee before moving to Ducktown, then to McCaysville, then to Morganton. Prior to leaving Benton, Dr. Prince had married Molly Ellen Aiken. Molly was born July 16, 1864. This union resulted in eleven children; Alvin, Stella, Allison, Lester, Ethel, Balus, John, Salon, Miriam, Clement and Paul Frank. Stella and Balus died while very young children.

When Dr. and Mrs. Prince and their family moved to the Copper Basin area, they were moved in wagons. This trip could not be made in one day; therefore, the family camped in the gorge for one night.

Dr. Prince had offices in Ducktown and McCaysville before moving to Morganton, where he had a lovely, large two story home built for his family.

The Prince family was very conscious of the need for an education. The children attended North Georgia Baptist College and most of them went even farther. Alvin became a doctor, receiving a degree in medicine from the Atlanta Medical College, which later became known as Emory School of Medicine. Allison became a lawyer. Lester, a school teacher, attended Locust Grove Academy and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Ethel received a degree in elementary education and music from Breneau College at Gainesville, and Miriam also attended Breneau.

When the North Georgia Baptist College was located at Morganton, the Princes boarded many of the professors and teachers as well as some students who came from throughout



Sons of Dr. and Mrs. E.L. Prince (left to right) seated: Alvin, Lester and Allison; standing: Clement, John, Solan and Paul Frank.

the county.

Dr. Prince participated in several business ventures other than the practice of medicine, which he served so diligently and faithfully for more than sixty years. One of these businesses was a concrete block machine that made the blocks used in the building of Morganton Baptist Church. Another business was a furniture shop which he built in Morganton operated by Mr. George Lee from Cleveland, Tennessee. Mr. Ulysses Collins worked in this shop and trained under Mr. Lee. Many beautiful pieces of furniture which were made at this shop are still owned and treasured by descendants of Dr. Prince.

On December 24, 1926, Molly Ellen died. A few years later, Dr. Prince married Mary Anderson from Gilmer County and from this union two sons were born, E.L. and William.

Dr. Prince practiced in Fannin County until 1941 when he saw a dire need for a physician at Benton, Tennessee. Since Dr. Prince had left that area as a young man, he felt the need to return home. Early in 1943 he moved his family and opened an office in Benton where he practiced until his death on August 26, 1949.

Dr. Prince and his family were members of Morganton Baptist church and for many years they loved and supported their church.

by Agnes P. Clemmer

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PRINCE, LESTER C.

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Lester C. Prince was born in Polk County,



Dr. and Mrs. E.L. Prince and family about 1916.

the Copper Basin area, then later to Morganton, Georgia.

Mr. Prince told many times of the move up the Old Copper Road with his family and how the wagon trip could not be made in one day and how they camped overnight.

Lester grew up in Morganton in the large family home overlooking beautiful Blue Ridge Lake. He told his children stories and pointed out to them where the road to Blue Ridge was located before the dam was built across the Toccoa River to form the beautiful lake. After being educated at the North Georgia Baptist College at Morganton, Locust Grove Academy at Locust Grove, Georgia, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, he became a school teacher.

Mr. Prince was teaching in Johnson City, Georgia when he met his wife, Nancy Leora Harrison, the daughter of James Lewis and Inez Wheeler Harrison, born November 5, 1895. He boarded with her family. When he came back to the mountains of North Georgia at the end of the school year, he realized that he had found, but left behind, a jewel. He wrote Nancy asking her to marry him and her father asking for her hand in marriage. They were married June 15, 1915. This union resulted in eight children; James Earl, E.L., Forrestine, Juanita, Agnes, Jean and twins, Martha and Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. Prince celebrated sixty years of marriage before her death December 30, 1975. Mr. Prince died January 17, 1977. They had suffered the loss of two children before their deaths. James Earl was serving with the Sixth United States Marines on Okinawa during World War II and was shot in the head by a Japanese sniper, dying on May 23, 1945. Juanita and her husband, Clyman Scarbrough, were killed in a car-train accident in October, 1977.

Lester and Nancy's children are James Earl, born June 27, 1916, married to Reba Tanner. They had one daughter, Joyce Prince. He passed away in May, 1945.

E.L. was born August 17, 1918, married to Jane Roach. They have three children: Richard Earl, Jan, and Thomas Lester Prince.

Sara Forrestine, born September 16, 1920, married to H. Bruce Brookshire. They have two sons, Bobby and Benny Brookshire.

Juanita Annette, born October 1, 1922, married to Clyman H. Scarbrough. They have three daughters, Patricia, Vicki, and Judith Ann Scarbrough.

Agnes Ethelene, born April 3, 1925, married to Edwin E. Parris. They have two sons, Leonard Earl and Prince Edwin Parris. Edwin passed away September 30, 1975. Agnes remarried August 8, 1982, to a retired Methodist minister, A.J. Clemmer, who passed away August 18, 1984.

Nannie Jean, born June 15, 1972, married to Scott G. Moore. They have three children, Nancy, Jo Ann and Steve Moore.

Martha Jane, born July 3, 1931, married to Hubert Gilreath. They have two sons, Charles and Gregory Gilreath.

Mary Ellen, born July 3, 1931, married to R. Harold Parker. They have one son, Dr. Barry M. Parker.

All of Lester and Nancy's children graduated from Fannin County High School at Morganton, Georgia. James Earl graduated



Mr. and Mrs. Lester C. Prince at their fiftieth wedding anniversary celebration June 15, 1965.

from Young Harris College and taught in Fannin County schools. He was working for the State in Atlanta when he joined the Marines. E.L. holds a masters degree from the University of Georgia and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army during World War II after graduating from North Georgia College. Forrestine has a place of business in Suches, Georgia. Juanita graduated from Crawford W. Long School of Nursing. Agnes graduated from Tennessee Wesleyan College at Athens, Tennessee, and obtained her masters at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Mary and Martha are both graduates of North Georgia College and obtained their masters at Brenau Col-

lege. Jean managed officers' clubs on Air Force bases where her husband was stationed.

Mr. and Mrs. Prince loved and supported their church, Morganton Baptist Church, and the family enjoyed attending and all became members of this church. The Prince home in Morganton is still in the family, now owned by a grandson.

by Agnes P. Clemmer



Descendants of Lester C. and Nancy Harrison Prince.

QUEEN, ADDIE PETTY

F445

Grandma's House

In my memory's treasure house,
Take me back to Grandma's house!
Red brick siding, long front porch,
Faced the road, with two front doors.
Though it's torn down and she's gone away,
Forever in my mind the pictures stay
Of children's laughter, catching lightning
bugs,

An old Coke bottle was our jug.
Sure as shootin' we'd let them go,
Through the amber green we'd watch them
glow.

Grandma Addie Queen rose before the
dawn,

Hair brushed neat, atop her head a bun.
She'd tie her apron and bonnet on,
A hot breakfast cook before the dawn.
She'd gather eggs from the hens,
Frothy white milk from the barn where
she'd been.

I remember the rhythmic pounce of the
dash in the churn,

For a taste of Grandma's butter I still
yearn.

The smell of wood burning in the stove
As she baked those big biscuits over the
coals.

The smell of fresh sidemeat as it cooked,
Hot coffee and gravy, and you were hooked.
Climb out of bed, you sleepy little heads;
Quilts piled so high you lay as if dead.
You would run as fast as little mice
As feet touched the floor as cold as ice.
Yes, I remember Grandma's house,
The rich legacy of sights, sounds and
smells.

Drawing water by creaking windlass on the
well;

Behind the house a garden filled with
morning glory vines,
Around tall stalks of corn they twined,
Of every color, shade and hue,
Sparkling fresh with morning dew.
June apples redder than a cherry,
Their insides pink, sweeter than a berry.
The sound of a June bug as he flew by,
We'd tie a string to his leg and let him fly.
Yes, I remember Grandma's faith in the
One above!

Yes, Grandma Queen, your legacy to me
was love!

("Grandma's House" by Granddaughter,
Shirley Lee Odum)

My Grandma, Addie Petty, was born
December 3, 1898. She married Elmer Queen
in the summer of 1919. She had twelve
children, four of whom have died and eight
who are still alive: Arthur (Bud), Pearl
(deceased), Oscar (deceased), Magalene (de-
ceased), Pauline (Polly) Green, Lorene Cear-
ley, James, G. Maxine Lee, Christine Thom-
as, T.J., J.T. (deceased) and Leon Queen.

by Shirley Lee Odum