

The Vintage Rabun Quarterly

Headlines from the Past

Throughout this issue: Ads from the past

ELLIOTT'S MARKET
 FRIDAY & SATURDAY SPECIALS
 Dec. 30th & 31st
MEATS

PURE LARD, (4 lb. carton) .....	.59
FAT BACK, lb. ....	.17
PORK SAUSAGE, lb. ....	.39
CHEESE, (Velveeta), 2 lb. box .....	.85
OLEO, (Plantation), lb. ....	.19
SARDINES, (Eatwell), tall can .....	.15
FISH, (Perch), lb. ....	.39
PREM OR SNACK, can .....	.39

GROCERIES

SUGAR, 10 lb. bag .....	.89
ORANGE JUICE, (Blue Bird), No. 2 can .....	.10
GRAPEFRUIT JUICE, 3 No. 2 cans .....	.25
TOMATO CATSUP, (Hunt's) .....	.18
CRISCO, (3 lb. can) .....	.89
GRITS, (Aunt Jemima), 2 boxes .....	.29
PEANUT BUTTER, (Peter Pan) .....	.35
MAYONNAISE, (Dukes), pt. ....	.35
TOMATO SOUP, (Campbells) .....	.10
PRINCE ALBERT, per can .....	.10

ELLIOTT S

December 29, 1949

1914
 In 1914, the State of Georgia undertook a survey to assess the conditions of rural schools. Rabun County was the first "brave little county" to carry out the survey. Results showed a county-wide population of 1,644 "white" and 80 "negro" students. White children were enrolled in 27 public schools and one public high school. African-American children attended one of two schools. The Rabun Gap Industrial School and the Bleckley Memorial Institute (a Baptist Mission School), had additional students. The school year began in July and ran for five months with two or three weeks off for "Foddering Time." There was no school in winter because of long walks in bad weather.



A first place prize of \$10 was awarded for the best display of apples at the spring, 1914 Rabun County Fair. The importance of the county's apple production at this time is best appreciated by considering other first place prizes: \$3 for "best cow," \$2 for best "display of honey," and \$1 for "most artistic ... quilt."

In April of 1914, Thomas E. Roane began dam construction on his farm on Stekoa Creek, resulting in the first

hydroelectric plant in Rabun County. By August, 1914 Mr. Roane had run power wires to Clayton and, by February of 1915, lights had been installed in more than 50 homes and offices. In 1928, Mr. Roane sold his company to the Georgia Power Company.

A. A. "Pop" Jameson established Camp Dixie for Boys in 1914, locating the camp in the Wiley community. In 1919, at the insistence of his boy campers and their parents, Mr. Jameson established Camp Dixie for Girls in the Germany community.

In early May of 1914, the No. 29 train, on its way from Clayton to Cornelia, came to an emergency stop to avoid hitting a

17-year old boy lying drunk and asleep on the track. As reported in the *Clayton Tribune*, "the passengers were most all thrown from their seats by the sudden stopping of the train, and the brakes were thrown on so heavily that the whole train slid for a distance of twenty feet and stopped in about twelve feet of the drunken boy."

- Please visit our museum and research library on Mondays and Fridays from 10:00 until 2:00 and on Wednesdays from 12:30 until 4:30.
- Group tours by appointment

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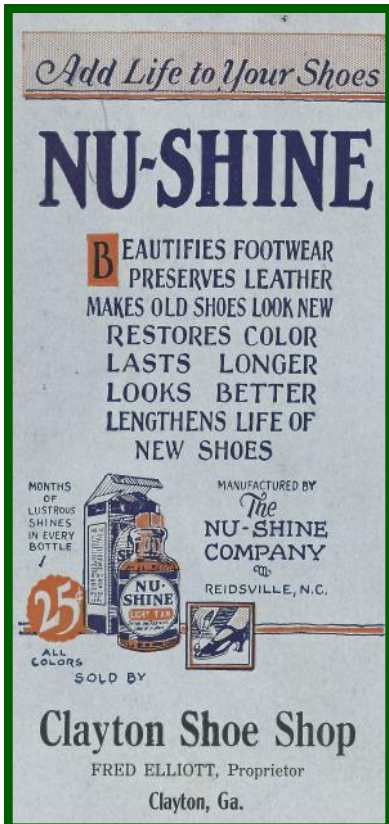
1924

In May the county received \$7,000 in pension checks from the State of Georgia for the county's 38 Confederate veterans and 32 Confederate widows.

Local citizens living in the year 1924 witnessed three natural disasters. Following a dry summer, in September a cloud-burst did considerable damage to the roads and bridges of Lakemont, as well as to the Tallulah Falls Railway and Camp Dixie for Boys. The following month, a water spout swelled local streams which, in one case, washed away the car of a rural mail carrier. In December, the U.S. Forest Service issued a call for men to help fight fires on Rainey Mountain (over 700 acres had already burned) and on Hog Back Mountain.



November 8, 1928



1934

1934

By the summer of 1934, the road to the top of Black Rock Mountain had been "... put in good condition by the county." However, citizens were warned that travel on the road would be difficult during rainy weather. The road was finally paved in 1953.

Later that summer, five men, in black face and wearing false beards, robbed the Bank of Clayton. Fleeing Clayton in a car, the men scattered tacks and roofing nails over the road behind them. One man sat in the back seat with a machine gun pointed out the back window. A protracted chase ensued into South and North Carolina. It is unclear as to whether or not the men were ever caught, but the loss of \$1,800 from the bank's cash drawer was covered by insurance.

70

1944

The year 1944 marked the publication of *Strange Fruit* which, according to one organization devoted to addressing racial injustice, made local author Lillian Smith the most "... outspoken of white mid-twentieth century Southern authors on issues of social, and especially racial, injustice." The novel dealt with an interracial romance, a controversial topic at the time. In fact, the book was banned for a short time in Boston and by the U.S. Postal Service. Despite the controversy which arose over *Strange Fruit*, it was a huge best-seller. It also became a Broadway play and was translated into 15 languages.

60

1954

Thanks to Fulton Lovell, Rabun native and, in 1954, State Director of the Georgia Fish and Game Commission, efforts by a group of individuals to establish a private club on the banks of the Chattooga River were stopped. Mr. Lovell's warning that the proposed club would "... be a hindrance to conservation measures ..." has stood the test of time.

In February residents of Rabun County expressed alarm over the cost of coffee which stood at an all-time high of \$1.10 per pound. Local cafés charged 10 cents a cup.

BRING ALL THE FAMILY—



"FAMILY NITE"
SPECIAL

ROAST YOUNG TURKEY, CRANBERRY SAUCE
Steamed Rice—Giblet Gravy
Buttered Green Peas
Cream Style Fresh Corn
Lettuce and Tomato Salad
Thousand Island Dressing
Graham Muffins—Hot Rolls
Fruit Jello — Whipped Cream
Ice Tea, Coffee or Milk

75c

6 UNTIL 8:30 P. M.
CHILDREN UNDER 11 YEARS—50c

CAGLE'S CAFE

June 8, 1950

All ads are from the Historical Society's Clayton Tribune archives.

In March the Clayburne Manufacturing Corporation began operations in its new building just north of Clayton, making it the first large-scale manufacturing plant in the county. Workers at the plant produced cotton shirts and later knit and woven sports jerseys.

In 1954, 11 African-American students attended a segregated school in Rabun County. These children were the topic of much debate that fall, relative to a state ballot measure which proposed abolishing the state's public schools in favor of a private school system as a response to the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. the Board of Education*. The Supreme Court's ruling took years to fully implement. Rabun's system was finally desegregated in 1965 when, under the threat of losing federal educational funding, eight elementary and three high school African-American students were enrolled.

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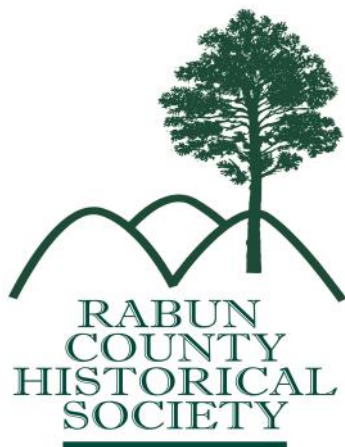


Historical Marker Project

Rufus H. Moss, wealthy Athens entrepreneur, began a large two-story summer home near the edge of Tallulah Gorge in 1879. Construction was completed in 1880, and the Moss family owned the home until 1981. R.H. Moss was instrumental in having the railroad extended to Tallulah Falls in 1882 and built the Cliff House Hotel, one of the resort town's largest. The Moss House was recently purchased by Dan A. Hayes, who plans to restore the residence to its 1880 grandeur. A bronze historical marker is planned.



We're on the web!
www.rabunhistory.org



Big News!!

Rabun County Historical Society is on Facebook!!
To connect with us, sign up for Facebook today or login if you are already a member.

