

THE THEAD FAMILY

James D. ^{ENTON}Thead was born down in the southern part of Choctaw County, Alabama about 1867. He lived east of the little town of Silas, which was north of Bladon Springs. In the 1880s he left Alabama and came to Lauderdale County Mississippi. Somehow he ended up in Pine Springs where he worked about on various farms and sawmills as a laborer. It was while working in Pine Springs that he met little Miss Beulah Love, the daughter of John Love, who had a farm in Section 16. ^{B. Mar. 31 1867} ^{D. June 16, 1942} ^{Black Creek Cem. Choctaw Co. Born in Silas, Ala}

Jim Thead was a young man 23 years old, and Miss Beulah was only thirteen, but they fell in love and were married in the year 1890. She was a child-bride and she became a child-mother in 1891 when their oldest child, little Johnny Thead, was born. ^{married Oct 31, 1890}

It is not known where they lived the first five years of their marriage, but it is possible that Jim worked at the sawmill of William G. Weatherford. Weatherford lived in Pine Springs and operated a sawmill there, and when he sold out to move to Laurel in 1895, Jim Thead bought 80 acres of the Weatherford farm. The land that Jim bought was the north half of the Southeast quarter of Section 9, located just below the land where the schoolhouse had been built. The property fronted on the main Pine Springs road and Rogers Creek ran through the back (east) side where the fields were located.

Jim and Beulah lived in the old log house Weatherford home and their family grew to include six children. Beulah was so young that Jim treated her about as he would another of his children. Jim was a good worker and he was able to build a substantial farm home for his family. Beulah and the children kept everything immaculate in their new home, and although it nestled in a grove of Oaks, it was rare that a leaf was allowed to clutter up their swept front yard. They attended the Union Church which Rev. Sammy Bozeman built between their house and the school in 1905 and Jim was named fashioner of the trustees when Bozeman died in 1907. ^{Was Jim Thead also a school trustee?}

James D. Thead bought land from Spinks and Laura Jones that was up the road. He bought the North half of the Northeast quarter of Section 4 except for a 400ft by 750 foot bite out of the Southwest corner that Jones had already sold to the Whitakers a year earlier in 1909. Included in the sale to Thead that December in 1910 was seven acres in the Northeast corner of the Northwest quarter where the Jones' store was located. So now Thead owned the store but it is not known if he ever operated it or not. Kim's oldest son, Johnny Thead came to live in the old Spinks Jones house, but did he operate the store? (See Deed Book 102, pg. 497) ^{ND?}

When he was older Mr. Thead used to walk up to Ratcliff's store every afternoon and buy a Coca-Cola. He would sit and visit with whoever happened to be in the store at the time, and then he would walk home.

He died in 1942. ^{ask Ralph to tell about his funeral.} Ask Ralph to tell about his funeral. Ralph took his school bus down to his funeral in Silas, Alabama. He was buried at Black Creek Cemetery near Silas, way down in the boonies between Silas & Baldon Springs, Black Creek community.

Oct 18/1894

CHILDREN OF JAMES D. "JIM" THEAD

I. JOHN "JOHNNY" THEAD

1911
1896
1899
Albert 1902
9

NOV. 23
1892

Born: ~~1899~~, Pine Springs, Lauderdale Co. Died: 1968, NOV. 23, Bun. Fellowship Ch - No marker
Married: (1) Lizzie Boyles (b. 1896-1913?), 1911. Pine Springs, Lauderdale County.
She was dau. of J. W. (from Texas) and Annie Boyles, who lived in the Lane on the neighboring Lowe Farm. (2) Rosa Boyles (1897-1969), ca 1913. sister of Lizzie.

Johnny was born and raised in Pine Springs. He, as most of the country boys growing up then, liked to fish and hunt. One Christmas when he was a boy, his uncle, Lee Love, took Johnny rabbit hunting with him. They walked up through the woods hunting and over behind Harbour's sawmill they jumped a rabbit. The rabbit ran and they gave chase. The rabbit ran under the old house there where Will Skinner was living at the time. Johnny went around the house to scare it out. The rabbit ran from under the house and Lee shot just as Johnny stepped from behind the house. Lee hit the rabbit but he also hit Johnny. Johnny wasn't hurt badly and recovered, but it spoiled that Christmas for him.

When Johnny started thinking about getting married when he was about ¹⁸twenty. He had been noticing all the young girls in the neighborhood, but young Lizzie Boyles seemed to catch his eye the most. Her pa had come from Texas to seek work and had married her ma, a Mississippi girl, and had stayed. There wasn't much work available, and Boyles had moved his family onto the Lowe farm where he sharecropped. They had lived over on The Lane for several years and doubtless Johnny had first met Lizzie at the Pine Springs school. Johnny and Lizzie were married in 1911.

In 1913, Johnny and Lizzie were living in a little house out in the field to the south of his father's home on the Pine Springs road. They had one son, Jesse, born in 1912 and another baby was on the way, when a terrible thing happened.

Returning from hunting, Johnny was cleaning his gun when it went off. Lizzie was nearby in the small frame house, and was struck and killed. It was investigated and ruled an accidental homicide. Rosa, Lizzie's sister, took over the care of little Jesse and Johnny, needing a wife, married her.

Ugly rumors flew up and down Pine Springs road. Even some of Johnny's relatives had doubts about the 'accident' and the local gossips had a glorious time repeating what all they had heard. Suddenly folks remembered that Rosa had visited her sister Lizzie right often and maybe it wasn't just Lizzie that she had been going to see all that time. It took some time for all the whispering to die down.

Johnny and Rosa moved into the house on the place that Jim Thead had bought on the upper end of Pine Springs road back in 1910. The old store was across the road from the store and John's father owned it, too, but it is not known if John ever operated the store or not. Johnny became friends of neighbor Bud Byrd and they fished and hunted together.

They must have talked about how bad the times were and how hard it was to make a living. At some point they reached a conclusion and decided to start making moonshine whiskey to get some money.

Bud's wife, Annie, was against their interprise from the beginning. But Bud paid her no heed and their financial condition began to improve. Things were going better for Johnny Thead, as well. He bought a handsome horse that drew his new buggy along the road at a fast clip. He could be heard late at night traveling the road as he returned home (from a 'business' trip, no doubt) and

sometimes, becoming exuberant, he would pull out his pistol and shoot into the air a few times to urge his animal home the faster. The neighbors, long in bed to rest up from their day's work, would be wakened and grumble as they tried to go back to sleep.

Rosa, now with four children of her own (five, counting her sister's child), may have tried from time to time to get Johnny to stop making the illegale whiskey before he got caught. Johnny didn't put much stock in what Rosa said or thought. He was the master of the house and it was Rosa's place to stay home and mind the younguns while he went about his business.

but Annie Byrd had better luck with Bud. She finally made him see that it was but a matter of time until the prohibition officers caught up with him and it was best for him to get a job doing something else. They had moved to a nearby community and Bud used that as an excuse to his buddy to dissolve their partnership. Bud made plans to move Annie and the children to Meridian where he would stand a better chance of finding a job.

Bud Byrd had made a wise move in breaking off with Johnny Thead when he did. Someone turned up Johnny's name with the revenuers and they raided his operation. He had hurriedly moved his still and they didn't find it, but they found and emptied his barrels of mash.

Soon after, on September 6, 1923, Bud returned to Pine springs to see his father, Vas Byrd, about borrowing his mules and wagon to move his family to Meridian. As long as he was in the neighborhood, he stopped by to visit with his old buddy, John Thead. Bud stayed around talking with Johnny for several hours. Johnny told Bud that if he would stay untill after supper, he would take him on home in his buggy.

But it clouded up and looked like rain and Bud changed the plans. Bud was recuperating from Measles and he didn't relish the idea of getting wet and as it was time for Luther Gunn, the postman, to come by, he would just catch a ride on home with the mail. Gunn had a lightweight cart with a cover in which he carried the mail and Bud said he could just ride in there and then when the rain hit he would still be dry. The two men sat on the steps of the old store to await the mail cart.

The mail came, but instead of Luther Gunn driving, it was his two young nephews that day, acting as substitutes. Bud flagged them down. He turned to tell his friend good-bye.

Johnny then said, "You turned me up, didn't you, Bud?"

Surprised, Bud said, "Why, no, Johnny! You know I'd never do anything like that!"

Johnny said, "S__t!" and pulled his pistol from his belt.

Johnny shot Bud two times in the chest, standing there on the steps of the old store.

When the shooting started, the two young men that were carrying the mail left the mail cart and ran. Bud started staggering off down the road, and Johnny watched him go, waiting for him to fall. After a bit, Johnny got to thinking (as he later testified) that he should follow to finish the job, in case Bud wasn't dead. He followed the trail of blood down the road and saw where Bud had turned into the Joel New farm, and he must have hesitated. He had redeemed his honor by shooting the one that had betrayed him, but Mr. New was a good man and he harboured no grudge against him and didn't want to hurt anybody else. But it nagged at him that Bud might still be alive and he wouldn't be vindicated until Bud was dead. At last he went up and knocked on Mr. New's door. Mrs. Ellie New answered his knock and he politely (as he had

been taught) asked if he might come in to see Bud Byrd. Miss Ellie refused to let him in, and told him to wait out there in the yard, as the sheriff was on his way and would want to speak to him. Johnny squatted under the big Oak in the front yard to wait. He had tried. He had satisfied his code of honor.

As neighbors started to gather, Johnny must have felt uncomfortable. He got up and started to mosey off back toward home. Someone whispered that someone should go along with him, and two neighbors, Jake Smith and Lawrence White, walked back up the road with him. They sat on the old store steps and waited for the law to appear.

After a time Sheriff John M. Martin with his deputy, J. H. Wells and Constable E. E. Mosby showed up and began to question Johnny. Johnny freely admitted what he had done and began to tell the details about what had happened. The sheriff asked if anybody had thought to tell Mrs. Byrd what had happened. Nobody had. Sheriff asked Jake and Lawrence if they would go over there and break the news to Annie, as it was getting on toward midnight and they wanted to get Johnny to town and get him locked up. The two men walked over to Annie Byrds, a distance of two or three miles, and told her that Bud had been shot.

Bud died at the Matty Hersee Hospital sometime before morning, and Johnny was then charged with first degree homicide.

Johnny was tried and convicted of murder. ^{in Feb. 1924} He freely testified that he had shot Bud and after Bud did not die, he had followed him to try to shoot him again. He also testified that he had planned to give Bud a ride home after dark and to kill him somewhere along the way. He planned to dump the remains into a well at an old houseplace, where it would never be found. He had hoped that it would be believed that Bud had just run off somewhere. ^{sentenced to life in prison}

After the conviction of Johnny, and before the judge passed sentence, Annie Byrd pleaded with the judge to spare Johnny's life. She said that her man was gone, and it wouldn't serve any purpose to hang Johnny Thead. Her children would never have their father again, but with life imprisonment, Rosa's children would at least be able to talk to their father from time to time. Johnny was sent to the state penitentiary for life.

Pine Springs was a funny place back then. They were quick to condemn when somebody "done the wrong thing", but they were also quick to forgive. From long tradition since the frontier days they had learned to be good neighbors. Southerners had been through a lot together and when any of them were in trouble they all joined in to help.

Seeing that Rosa and the five Thead children were having a rough time after Johnny was sent to the pen, the neighbors did what they could to see that they had something to eat. Along with extra food and used clothing, Rosa also got advice. Someone told her that since she was having such a bad time raising all those younguns and they would most likely be grown time he ever got home, it would be best if she just up and gave them all away. So Rosa gave away her kids, farmed them out among the neighbors. Jake and Ebby Smith (Jake was Johnny's cousin), took Jesse and John Wallace, and someone else took Beulah Mae, James Henry and Willie Mack. Then after a year someone advised Rosa that she would have a better chance of getting Johnny paroled if she had all the younguns together, so she took them all back again. Jim Thead sold the farm where she was living to Simon Williams, who moved down from Neshoba County, and Rosa rented a little house in The Lane. Her oldest boys were getting a little bigger and she could get a little work from them by that time. From somewhere Rosa collected a little money and would make trips up to Parchman to visit Johnny as often as she could. They managed somehow to squeek by.

Nov. 29, 1933
Paroled
Nov. 22, 1935

After the children were all grown and gone, Johnny was paroled and came home. He was able to buy 80 acres in Pine Springs from his cousin, Press Love, and there he and Rosa lived there quietly the rest of their lives. Times had changed, World War II had come and gone while he had been in the pen. There were fewer farmers left in the community; everyone seemed to be busier and there wasn't the closeness between neighbors as it had been when he left. Johnny and Rosa stayed pretty close to home and folks left them alone. Johnny died in 1968 and Rosa died a year later in 1969. They were buried at Fellowship Baptist Church. *HE HAS NO HEADSTONE.*

Children: (The oldest child was Lizzie's, the rest were Rosa's.)

JAN 25, 1912 - Dec 20, 1956

1. JESSE LEE THEAD 1912-1956, m. (1) ~~_____~~ (in Calif.) (2) Mrs. Edna (Kinard) ~~Thead~~ Johnson, who had two daughters from her former marriage.

married
X1
(Edna)

Was in California during World War II, returned and married a Pine Springs girl, Edna. They lived on land in Pine Springs that had belonged to Edna's father, Sam Kinard. Jesse's health was bad, but he got a job at East Miss. State Hospital in Meridian, where he worked as long as he was able. He died in 1956. *bur Fellowship Ch*

Children: (First two were step-children.)

- A. RUTH JOHNSON 1932- , m. Jack T. Ethridge, 1953, both are teachers.
- B. LAURA ALICE JOHNSON 1935- , / George Marshall. 1964, lives in Fla.
- C. DAVID A. THEAD 1944- , m. Jeanette Pruitt, dau. of Raymond L. Pruitt and Martha Adams, lives in Catomment, Fla.

5. BEULAH MAE THEAD 1920- m. ^{Half-Brother} Robert Boyles, her mother's relative, moved to Cal. *div.*
Children: Unknown. *James James Fannell 1940 & Janis Gale*

2. WILLIE MACK THEAD 191?-*dec*, m. in California, lives on west coast. *San Diego*
Children: Unknown. *WORKED FOR PIPELINE CO - out of DALLAS*

3. JAMES HENRY THEAD 1916-1966, m. (1) Mrs. Edna (Kinard) Thead, *1937 Dec 18* Jesse's widow. *div.*

(3) TINY ^{Mr.} DORA LEE BROWN (2) m. in CALIF. - had 1 son (EVA?) *div.*
Left home when young, went 'out west' somewhere, returned when his brother died. Was briefly married to his brother's widow, then m.

Lived in the little four-room house that had been built by Joe Love several years earlier. It was on the Press Love place in SE quarter of Section 4 in Pine Springs that Johnny Thead had bought from Love after he was paroled. Johnny and Rosa lived up the hill from James Henry. *bur Fellowship*

Children:

- A. ANNIE Pearl BROWN
- B. Buddy BROWN *LIVE IN TEX* { E. JAMES *THEAD* *1974*
F. JANE F *Thead* *McKIE - PO BOX 115*
From 3rd marriage. *De Kalb*
39328
- C. QUIBA BROWN - *Ridinger*
- D. DORA JEAN (JEANIE) BROWN - m. Roy Riley
- 4. JOHN WALLACE THEAD 1918- , lives on west coast. *OREGON*
PORTLAND, has 1 dau.

3rd children

II. MATTIE ^{LEONA} THEAD

Born: 1893, Pine Springs *ACCA 1908*
Married: Rush Bradley, 1916. He was a son of James B. and Frances M. Bradley who lived a while in Pine Springs.
Jim Thead didn't want his daughter to marry Rush Bradley

Incomplete - See Audrey, then write -

Children:

- 1 CARBIN BRADLEY 1918-
- 2 WALLACE BRADLEY 1922- *- LIVES IN HOUSTON - 7137 FAUNA ST, Houston 77061*
- 3 WILMER LEE BRADLEY 1927-1980? *died in Houston*

Edison

III. CLARENCE EDWIN THEAD

Born: 1896, Pine Springs Died: 1956, Pine Springs
Married: Lottie Lovett, 1917, dau. of Pine Springs neighbor, John O. Lovett
and his second wife, Mattie Nelson (White) Lovett.

Children:

- 1. BEULAH LOUISE THEAD 1919-, m. George Lackey
- 2. MARTHA NELSON THEAD 1920-1921. Pneumonia.
- 3. MARY EDNA THEAD 1922-, m. Neal Ohlausen
- 737-2386 - 4. CLARENCE EDWIN THEAD 1926-, m. Robbie Hamon.
Graduated near top of his class in 1944 at Center Hill School, went to work
for Citizens National Bank, where he is now a Vice President. Their home
is on Hwy. 493, Bailey.
- 5. JIMMIE LEE THEAD 1929-1931; died following surgery for tumor.
- 6. WILLIAM DAVIS "BILLY" THEAD 1932-, m. Evelyn Mazingo of Alabama.

BELVA

IV. BELVA THEAD

Born: 1899, Pine Springs Died: JAN. 4 1990, Bus. MASEDONIA BAPT Chr.
GI Married: ~~Hunter~~ Allen, had farm on Allen Swamp Road leading West from Pine
Springs Road, just before (now) Highway 19N. They raised their children
there and they attended Suqualena School.

Children:

- 483-1625 - 1. ERLENE ALLEN 1921?, m. Hardy Johnson of Suqualena, Lived in Pascagoula
- 2. CECIL ALLEN 1921, m. Chris Florence of Meridian
- 3. LESSIE ALLEN 1921?, m. YONAS MIXON, Lived in Tucker, GA.

MAY 17

V. JAMES ROY THEAD

JUNE 14

Born: 1903, Pine Springs Died: 1966, Pine Springs, Bus Fellowship
Married: Nonie E. Brown (1906-1967), 19__, Lauderdale County. She was a dau.
of Mart Brown. & ANNE Haggleton - 1/2 grandson of Wm. B. "Buck" Brown, (son of David Montgomery)

Children:

- 737-2242 - 1. HALL THEAD MELVIN HALL - 1926 - m. several times, Now single
- 2. WILLARD THEAD JAMES WILLARD 1931 - m. 1. Martha Golden 2. PATSY Edwards
- 3. ~~WILLARD~~ THEAD
ROBERT EARL 1934 J. SHIRALON PETERS 21, MARY ANN DEW
"SUG"

VI. GEORGE LEE THEAD

Born: 1908, Pine Springs Died: 1970s, Pine Springs.
Married: Olean Calloway of Meridian.
Both WORKED @ EMSH.

Children: None.



*Citizens National Bank
cordially invites you to a*

Reception

*at our 23rd Avenue Branch
on December 30, 1991
from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.*

honoring

Edwin Thead

Vice President

*who will be retiring on
December 31st after
45 years of dedicated service*

 **Citizens National Bank**

We make it easy

MEMBER FDIC

MERIDIAN, MS / 693-1331

MISSISSIPPI FACTS
Value of farm lands in Mississippi
in 1909, amounted to \$641,482,384.

ESTABLISHED 1896 By More Than 60 Per Cent the Largest
Circulated Daily Paper in Mississippi

IN SPITE OF HORROR, JAP SPIRIT UNBROKEN

Estimate Total Will Reach 300,000—Tokio and Yokohama Virtually Heaps of Ashes—Property Damage Nearly \$5,000,000,000.

OVER 500 FOREIGNERS LOST LIVES

(By Star Local Wire)
Shanghai, China, Sept. 5.—The spirit of Japan is not broken. This is the consensus of opinion of refugees who continue to pour into Shanghai from the zone of horror, death and desolation which extends the scores and scores of miles to the northeast and southwest of snow-capped Fujiyama, the holy mountain of the Japanese people.
The Japanese nightmare that assailed the island empire since the titanic earthquake, fire, typhoon and tidal wave disaster of last Saturday may have temporarily spread an overwhelming pall of superstitious fear and terror over millions of horror-hemmed refugees from the disaster area, but Thursday the people of the rising Sun are slowly and surely regaining their stoic composure and with the fatalistic calm so characteristic of their race, they are now setting about to reconstruct from the ruins of the fairest portion of their land the foundation for a great nation and a greater civilization.

Low Toll Reported Untrue
In spite of reports emanating from Japan Wednesday that the death toll from the recent cataclysm has been greatly exaggerated, there is a persistent belief that this is not the case. Estimates from scores of sources indicate that at least 300,000 casualties have resulted from the violent earthquake, including 130,000 dead in and around Tokio, and 100,000 in Yokohama.

Details of the above fearful toll, thousands of other dead are reported from cities, towns and villages scattered up and down the coast with the city of Tokio as an origin.
Yokohama and Yokohama are virtual heaps of dust and ashes.
Half of the Yokohama pier sank and the other half was engulfed by

Records of the military intelligence service show that Major Crane left Tokio before the earthquake and an investigation is now being made to establish his whereabouts.
The ambassador also confirmed re-

THE MERIDIAN

3 MERIDIAN, MISS., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1923

\$2,500 IN PRIZE LIST IS

Estimated Cash Value of the Donations of Meridian to Its Thousands of Guests on Friday.

All guests are urged to clip the following list of prizes and bring the clipping with them in order to know when and where to go to qualify for prizes on Friday.

About \$2,500 is the estimated cash value of the prizes offered by the market value of the prizes offered by Meridian for its guests on Get-Together or Ford Day, Friday, Sept. 7. The prizes range from two automobiles and a phonograph to hats, brushes, flour and other articles too numerous to name.
In addition to the three major prizes—a Ford touring car given by the M. R. Adams company, a \$150 phonograph by the A. Gressett Music House and a Ford touring car by The Meridian Star—a long list of other prizes are offered by Meridian business houses. Among the prizes announced thus far are the following:
Others will be announced later:
Greenwald's—A quarry of motor oil free to each customer.
Thomas & Daniels—A free hair cut

BE OUR GUEST FRIDAY; YOU MAY DRIVE HOME A NEW TOURING CAR

Every white resident of Eastern Mississippi (outside of Meridian) and of Western Alabama, is cordially invited to try for a new Ford touring car which the Meridian Star offers free to some one of its guests on Meridian Get-together day, Friday September 7.

All you have to do is call at The Star office between 8:30 a. m. and 3:30 p. m. Nothing to pay. Nothing to do. You will receive a numbered tag. Keep it. Bring it to The Star office at 4:30 p. m., when and where the car will be awarded.

Someone will drive this car home. It may be you. Be sure to call at The Star office Friday. Senator-elect Hardin Brooks will have charge of awarding the car in front of The Star at about 4:30 p. m.

Remember, the car will be awarded only among those who have registered at The Star and WHO ARE IN THE CROWD in front of The Star when the award is made. If the chosen one is not in the crowd, then the car will go to the next choice and so on, until some one IN THE CROWD qualifies to drive home The Star's new Ford auto.
Any failing to GIVE CORRECT HOME address will be automati-

SHOOTING MAY PROVE FATAL

S. A. Byrd Thought Mortally Wounded by John W. Thead.
BOTH WELL KNOWN.

S. A. Byrd, aged 35, residing in the Eschley community about 14 miles north of Meridian, is in Matty Hersee Hospital probably fatally wounded from the effects of two pistol shots, the bullets entering near the heart, and John W. Thead, aged about 37, is in the county jail charged with the shooting. It was stated at the hospital Thursday that Byrd had small chance of recovery.

The shooting appears to have been the aftermath of a raid in search of a moonshine still conducted Tuesday afternoon by Deputy Sheriff J. H. Wells and Prohibition Agents D. S. Cleveland and C. S. Wilkins, according to reports. The raiders having found a quantity of mash but reported that where they had expected to find a still there was none, it having disappeared, indications about the place showing that it had been hurriedly moved away, the officers stated.

Claim Thead Accused Byrd.
According to the reports Thead went to Byrd Wednesday afternoon and accused him of being implicated in furnishing the officers with information that resulted in the raid. The accusation is alleged to have been denied by Byrd, whereupon Thead with the use of the short and ugly word, whipped out his revolver and fired twice, both bullets taking effect.

The wounded man was hurried to the Matty Hersee Hospital and Sheriff John M. Martin, Deputy Sheriff J. H. Wells and Constable E. E. Mosby went to the scene of the shooting, arrested Thead brought him to the city and placed him in the county jail Thursday morning shortly after midnight.

Both men are well known in that section of the county where they live and Byrd is a married man, having a wife and five children, the youngest a four-year-old child.

Records of the military intelligence service show that Major Crane left Tokio before the earthquake and an investigation is now being made to establish his whereabouts.
The ambassador also confirmed re-

ALL BUT TWO Other Americans Are Located In Japan.

(By Star Local Wire)
Washington, Sept. 6.—All members of the staff of the American Embassy in Tokio have been accounted for except Major and Mrs. William C. Crane, the former a language officer, said a dispatch to the State Department Thursday from Ambassador Woods.

(Records of the military intelligence service show that Major Crane left Tokio before the earthquake and an investigation is now being made to establish his whereabouts.)
The ambassador also confirmed re-

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 or immediate relief of
 the capital city.

**REFUGES
 AMERICAN SHIP**

(Star Leased Wire)
 Sept. 7.—Only 100 refu-
 ged the Steamer President
 uted from Yokohama to
 dispatch from Kobe.

**NG SHOWS
 E'S VALUE**

Says, However,
 t Conclusive

DICK WORK

(Star Leased Wire)
 Sept. 7.—Sinking of
 Virginia and New
 armen again demon-
 strating the value of
 aircraft in coast
 ons. General Pershing
 pointed out, however,
 s against the obsolete
 id not be considered as
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 sink modern types of
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of seven planes was
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 ersey withstood a pro-
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 and 2,000 pound bombs,
 d her severely by both
 water explosions, but
 her entirely unfit for
 inally succumbed to an
 000 pound bombs at an
 300 feet.

**S. FY AT
 HIGH SCHOOL
 RING WEEK**

ent was made Friday
 High school by M. E.
 al of the school to the
 ecul examinations would
 High school Monday

**BYRD SUCCEUMBS
 TO GUN WOUNDS**

Bullets Alleged to Have
 Been Fired by John
 Thead.

TAKE BODY HOME

S. A. Byrd, aged 35, died at about
 1 o'clock Friday morning at a local
 hospital from the effects of two pistol
 shot wounds in the left breast, al-
 leged to have been inflicted by John
 W. Thead, aged about 37, late Wed-
 nesday near Byrd's home in the Pine
 Springs community, 14 miles north-
 west of the city.
 The body was prepared for burial
 at the James Webb funeral parlors
 and is to be conveyed to his late home
 for the funeral service and burial.
 Deceased is survived by his widow
 and five children, one a very young
 baby.

Face Murder Charge.
 Thead, who was arrested shortly
 after the shooting, brought to Merid-
 ian and confined in the county jail by
 Sheriff John M. Martin, Deputy
 Sheriff J. H. Wells and Constable E.
 E. Mosby, will now have to face a
 charge, it is thought of first degree
 murder.

From particulars of the shooting
 as secured from the arresting officers,
 it appears that Byrd was shot by
 Thead for no other reason than that
 Byrd had denied an accusation that
 he had "turned up" Thead to the
 revenue officers or prohibition agents
 in connection with alleged moonshine
 operations.

Were Former Neighbors.
 According to the officers, the two
 men formerly lived as neighbors, but
 at the time of the shooting were re-
 siding several miles apart. On Wed-
 nesday following a raid that had been
 made several days before by Deputy
 Sheriff J. H. Wells and Prohibition
 Agents D. S. Cleveland and S. C.
 Wilkins, but which raid only resulted
 in the discovery of a barrel of mash
 and indications that a still had been
 moved from where it had only a short
 time before been in operation, Byrd
 was in the community where Thead
 lived and the latter, the officers
 say, approached and accused Byrd of
 "turning him (Thead) up" to the au-
 thorities.

Byrd, according to the officers, is
 said to have denied the accusation.
 The denial apparently not being be-
 lieved by Thead, the latter with an
 oath whipped out his gun and fired
 twice at Byrd, both bullets taking ef-
 fect in the left breast near the heart.
 Thead is a married man having a
 wife and five children. It is stated
 by the officers that he has twice been
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It was stated at the time, the au-
 thorities say, that Thead had been
 hunting and on returning home was
 in the act of cleaning his gun when
 the weapon was accidentally discharg-
 ed, Mrs. Thead, who was standing
 near, being killed.

was said, even though commercial and
 industrial Japan ultimately turn to
 native styles. The restoration, how-
 ever, may take ten years.

Restore Former Beauty.
 The flowery parks and picturesque
 Oriental shrines of the devastated
 capital—which have attracted millions
 of western visitors—will be restored
 to their former beauty. Combined
 with new modern homes for her gov-
 ernment officials, the rebuilt Tokio is
 expected to be even more attractive
 than the old. Reports that the Jap-
 anese capital might be moved from
 Tokio to Osaka, or Kyoto were denied
 today by the ambassador, Hanihara.

"I am certain the government will
 not be moved away from Tokio."
 "Kyoto, the former capital is
 too small and transportation there
 is inadequate. It is altogether un-
 suitable as a capital for modern Jap-
 an, although it was sufficient a cen-
 tury ago. Osaka is also impossible.
 It is purely a commercial city and un-
 suited for government purposes.

"Reports that the government has
 been moved temporarily to Osaka are
 surprising to me. If they are true, it
 is only a temporary movement and the
 capital seat will soon be returned to
 Tokio."

**ITALY LANDS
 MORE TROOPS**

Greece Starts Independ-
 ent Inquiry Into
 Killings.

CORFU IS QUIET

(By Star Leased Wire)
 Athens, Sept. 7.—One thousand ad-
 ditional troops have been landed at
 Corfu, and a despatch from that
 city Thursday. The town has been
 closed except for communication with
 the outside world under military cen-
 sorship.

Greece has started an independent
 inquiry into the assassination of
 General Tellini and four other Ital-
 ians, which was responsible for the
 Italian-Greek dispute. It is under-
 stood the investigators have learned
 the names of several Albanians who
 will be held directly responsible for
 the murders.

Reward is Offered
 A proclamation has been issued
 offering 1,000,000 brachmas for the
 murderers.

Corfu is quiet except for unimpor-
 tant incidents connected with the
 Italian search for arms.

Newspapers charge that Italians in
 various provincial towns are guilty
 of provoking misconduct and in-
 citing disorders.

The Greek foreign minister has
 complained to the Italian legation
 that the Italian newspapers are
 printing statements detrimental to
 Greece, thus causing ill-feeling.

State Resumes

This is expected to reduce the total
 of his bid from \$5,000,000 to between
 \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000.

Unaware of Obstacles.
 When he came to Washington at
 the invitation of the President Ford
 was not aware of the legal obsta-
 cles standing in the way of the ac-
 ceptance of his offer by the govern-
 ment, and it will require several days
 for his engineers and attorneys to go
 over the proposition before a new bid
 can be sent to Secretary of War
 Weeks.

**KNOW NOTHING
 HYLAND**

(By Star Leased Wire)
 Saratoga Springs,
 Mystery shrouds the
 Mayor J. F. Hyland
 City, who has been
 for more than a we
 At present he is r
 ferling from dry ple

**FEAR MERIDIANITES LOST
 REACHED YOKOHAMA TH
 BEFORE THE TERRIBLE**

Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Coit, Missionaries
 Children, Have Not Been Heard From
 Disaster—May Have Proceeded
 Korea, Their Location.

STEAMSHIPS UNABLE TO GIVE

Relatives and friends of Rev. and
 Mrs. R. T. Coit in this city who re-
 cently completed a six months vaca-
 tion and started back for their mis-
 sionary field in Korea, are very anx-
 ious and much concerned for the safety
 of the party who arrived in Yoko-
 hama the day before the terrible
 earthquake which caused the loss of
 half a million or more lives and did
 incalculable property damage in Japan.
 Six in Party.

The Coit party consisted of Rev. and
 Mrs. R. H. Coit and their four children
 Robert, Judith, Laura May and a baby
 girl, ranging in years from 5 to 10 and
 a sister of Rev. Coit, Miss Johnnie.
 They left here several weeks ago to
 take a steamer from the Pacific coast
 for Yokohama to travel thence to Ko-
 rea.

Immediately following the reports of
 the earthquake, relatives here who
 knew the approximate time of their
 arrival in Yokohama, began making
 inquiries, wiring the steamship offices
 for information of the ship's arrival

and learned through
 the vessel arrived t
 earthquake shocks,
 unable to learn any
 Mr. and Mrs. Coit c
 do not know wheth
 ceded at once toward
 er they stopped over
 are fearful that t
 in the terrible cata-

Have Relat-
 Mrs. Coit is a
 Woods and of Mrs.
 this city. She wi
 who is a North C
 the missionary field
 diately after their
 ago and have been
 work since. During
 here the Coits wer
 mand from Meridia
 churches in other
 dresses on Korean
 and upon the habi
 the Korean people,
 of great interest,
 were delivered in
 which added much

**BOTH CITIES
 BLACK WASTE**

Inferno Is Everywhere,
 People Trying to Leave
 Country.

FEAR AN EPIDEMIC

(By Star Leased Wire)
 Kobe, Japan, Sept. 4.—The beauti-
 ful cities of Tokio and Yokohama are
 Friday a blackened waste. Both
 cities resembles Belgium after the

**WAR TH
 NOW PA**

Inter-Allied
 Ambassador
 Settle

BOTH GI

(By Star Leased Wire)
 Paris, Sept. 7.—
 from an authori-
 day afternoon t
 allied council of
 succeeded in dis

JAMES BOYLES
16105 - 8th Victory
VAN Nuys, CALIF. 91404

Box #734



To: JAMES & MARY ELLEN WHITE

ROUTE #2, BOX 122

MERIDIAN, MISS. 39305

Nov. 20, 1989

Dear Jim & Mary Ellen,
Happy Thanksgiving to you all!
Thank you for being our friends
and showing us such Southern Hospitality
while we were there.

We will never forget you both
or your home. (Beautiful)

Sorry to take so long to get you
pictures for you but we don't go to
San Diego where my mother is with
the pictures we had to get for you.

We had a negative made from pictures
and then had pictures made for you.

My mom has very few pictures of
Johnny & Rosie together, but we try
to pick what would be the BEST
picture for your book!

Stay Healthy & Happy Please
Love You Both
and (Janell Boyles)
(Vivian Boyles)



John & Rosie Theod



QUEEN

SHOOTING MAY PROVE FATAL

S. A. Byrd Thought Mortally Wounded by John W. Thead.

BOTH WELL KNOWN.

S. A. Byrd, aged 35, residing in the Bailey community about 14 miles north of Meridian, is in Matty Hersee Hospital probably fatally wounded from the effects of two pistol shots, the bullets entering near the heart, and John W. Thead, aged about 37, is in the county jail about charged with the shooting. It was stated at the hospital Thursday that Byrd had small chance of recovery.

The shooting appears to have been the aftermath of a raid in search of a moonshine still conducted Tuesday afternoon by Deputy Sheriff J. H. Wells and Prohibition Agents D. S. Cleveland and C. S. Wilkins, according to reports, the raiders having found a quantity of mash but reported that where they had expected to find a still there was none, it having disappeared, indications about the place showing that it had been hurriedly moved away, the officers stated.

Claim Thead Accused Byrd.

According to the reports Thead went to Byrd Wednesday afternoon and accused him of being implicated in furnishing the officers with information that resulted in the raid. The accusation is alleged to have been denied by Byrd, whereupon Thead with the use of the short and ugly word, whipped out his revolver and fired twice, both bullets taking effect.

The wounded man was hurried to the Matty Hersee Hospital and Sheriff John M. Martin, Deputy Sheriff J. H. Wells and Constable E. E. Mosby went to the scene of the shooting, arrested Thead, brought him to the city and placed him in the county jail Thursday morning shortly after midnight.

Both men are well known in that section of the county where they live and Byrd is a married man, having a wife and five children, the youngest a four-months-old baby, it was learned.

FRIDAY, Sept. 7, 1923

BYRD SUCCUMBS TO GUN WOUNDS

Bullets Alleged to Have Been Fired by John Thead.

TAKE BODY HOME

S. A. Byrd, aged 35, died at about 1 o'clock Friday morning at a local hospital from the effects of two pistol shot wounds in the left breast, alleged to have been inflicted by John W. Thead, aged about 37, late Wednesday near Byrd's home in the Pine Springs community, 14 miles northwest of the city.

The body was prepared for burial at the James Webb funeral parlors and is to be conveyed to his late home for the funeral service and burial. Deceased is survived by his widow and five children, one a very young baby.

Face Murder Charge.

Thead, who was arrested shortly after the shooting, brought to Meridian and confined in the county jail by Sheriff John M. Martin, Deputy Sheriff J. H. Wells and Constable E. E. Mosby, will now have to face a charge, it is thought of first degree murder.

From particulars of the shooting as secured from the arresting officers, it appears that Byrd was shot by Thead for no other reason than that Byrd had denied an accusation that he had "turned up" Thead to the revenue officers or prohibition agents in connection with alleged moonshine operations.

Were Former Neighbors.

According to the officers, the two men formerly lived as neighbors, but at the time of the shooting were residing several miles apart. On Wednesday following a raid that had been made several days before by Deputy Sheriff J. H. Wells and Prohibition Agents D. S. Cleveland and C. S. Wilkins, but which raid only resulted in the discovery of a barrel of mash and indications that a still had been moved from where it had only a short time before been in operation, Byrd was in the community where Thead lived and the latter, the officers say, approached and accused Byrd of "turning him (Thead) up" to the authorities.

Byrd, according to the officers, is said to have denied the accusation. The denial apparently not being believed by Thead, the latter with an oath whipped out his gun and fired twice at Byrd, both bullets taking effect in the left breast near the heart. Thead is a married man having a wife and five children. It is stated by the officers that he has twice been married, his first wife having been accidentally killed by him something like six or seven years ago.

It was stated at the time, the authorities say, that Thead had been hunting and on returning home was in the act of cleaning his gun when the weapon was accidentally discharged, Mrs. Thead, who was standing near, being killed.

Vine Springs School
Bennie E. Smith (B. 1903)
Ray W. Alf (B. 1904)
James Head (B. 1903)
(L. to R.)

AMES BOYLES
105 - 8th VICTORY Bldg #734
IN N.Y., CALIF. 91400
TO: MARY ELLEN WHITE
#7 BOX 122

