



**The July Newsletter:  
The July Meeting will be  
Tuesday, July 23, 2024, 3:00 pm  
in the Meeting Room of the McMillan Museum  
on the Brewton College Campus.**



**Dr. Murphree**

**The Program: Our Speaker, Dr. Millie Murphree, Will Present a Program on Escambia County's Extension Services.**

A native of southeast Alabama, Millie moved to Escambia County, Alabama from Tuscaloosa County in October 2022 to serve as the Escambia County Extension Coordinator.

She received her bachelor's degree in business and communications from Birmingham-Southern College and holds two master's degrees – one in Secondary Education Language Arts from the

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### Refreshments after the Meetings

Thank you to those who brought refreshments to the June Meeting. Plan on again bringing your favorite finger foods for refreshments after the program at the July Meeting. The Society will provide drinks.



**Recipients of Historical Society Scholarships for 2024**  
Pictured in the Elvira McMillan Room in the College Museum are left to right, **Shayne Dixon, Noah Smith, and Samuel Harris**



**Jessup Agricultural Wagon.  
First Vehicle Used in Tuskegee Institute's Movable School Program.**

**Volume 51 No. 7  
July 2024**

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## The Program

University of Alabama and the other in Ag and Extension Science also from Mississippi State University.

Millie is a mother of five and enjoys gardening, antiques, and raising all types of livestock in her backyard like rabbits and chickens.

## History of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Text in the following article is from the [Encyclopedia of Alabama](https://encyclopediaofalabama.org/) at <<https://encyclopediaofalabama.org/>>.

Pictures are from the [Encyclopedia of Alabama](https://en.wikipedia.org/) and Wikipedia at <<https://en.wikipedia.org/>>.

The Alabama Extension Service was formed in 1915 to teach practical and technical skills to farmers and to generally improve the lives of rural residents. Now known as the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES), the organization operates a network of offices in each county through Alabama's two historic land-grant institutions, Alabama A&M and Auburn University. Tuskegee University, which pioneered much of what is associated with extension programming, is a cooperative partner within this system.

### Early History

The concept of extension work traces its roots to the Morrill Act of 1862, which granted each state 30,000 acres of public land for each member of its congressional delegation. The lands were sold and the funds were used to endow colleges to teach agriculture and other practical arts. The act made possible the establishment of Auburn University (then known as the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama), which became the first headquarters of the statewide Alabama extension program.

The subsequent Morrill Act of 1890 secured continuing funding for land-grant schools and enabled the Huntsville Normal School, initially a teacher-training institution for African Americans, to be-



**William Hooper Council (center), lawyer, editor and founder of Huntsville Normal School (later Alabama A&M University), posing with some of his students.**



**African-American farm and home demonstration agents pose for a group photograph under the Booker T. Washington monument at Tuskegee Institute, July 15, 1925.**

come the state's second land-grant institution, Alabama A&M University, in 1891.

Tuskegee University (then Tuskegee Institute) had begun its own extension effort as far back as the 1890s. Tuskegee president Booker T. Washington was aware of the acute need for educational outreach on behalf of black farmers and organized the first Farmers Conference at Tuskegee in 1892. Though well attended, the absence of many of the most disadvantaged farmers sparked a search for more effective outreach methods.

Eventually, Washington and Tuskegee researcher George Washington Carver conceived and designed a "demonstration wagon" that was an early prototype of extension work and the initial incarnation of the Tuskegee Institute Movable School. The wagon later became known as the Jesup Wagon, named for Washington friend and benefactor Morris Jesup. The Movable School was one of first examples of how educators would teach new practices to farmers and homemakers through innovation

and improvisation.

In 1906, Tuskegee began to receive extension funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and, with Washington's recommendation, appointed Thomas M. Campbell as the first African American extension agent and placed him in charge of the Jesup Wagon. Thereafter, so-called "Negro extension work" expanded rapidly, encompassing some 40

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# History of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System

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different activities, including girls and boys clubs, mothers clubs, conferences, fairs, and various types of demonstration activities. The growth and diversification of black outreach work prompted Washington to organize in 1910 a formal Extension Department headed by Campbell to coordinate these efforts in Alabama and neighboring states.

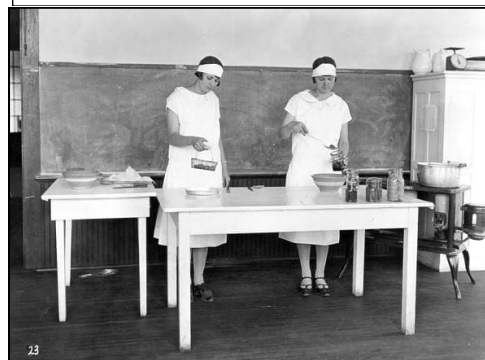
With his salary funded by several sources, Campbell is largely recognized as the prototype for the extension agent model that emerged following passage of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914. Although Tuskegee was at the forefront of extension work, the Extension Service would remain segregated until after the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Auburn professor and future Extension Department director Luther Duncan, like his Tuskegee counterparts, also improvised, organizing "corn clubs" in 1909. These clubs were early forerunners of the 4-H clubs later developed by the USDA to involve youth in farming. Their purpose was to instruct school-age boys in advanced scientific farming methods so that they would pass along these practices to their fathers. Likewise, "tomato clubs" were organized so that girls could pass along new canning and other food-preservation techniques to their mothers.

During this period, nearly 40 extension educators devoted to farm demonstration work were supported by USDA funds, typically in combination with county funds to work in about as many counties. By 1911, their outreach efforts were enhanced by the hiring of part-time home demonstration agents, who assisted with the tomato canning clubs that had been organized throughout the state.



**Tuskegee Institute Movable School**  
Tuskegee agricultural science pioneer George Washington Carver developed the "Movable School," a wagon and later a truck that brought new tools and crops to farmers who could not travel to Tuskegee for instruction. The staff of three included, from left, a home agent, a registered nurse, and a farm demonstration agent.



**ACES Canning Class**  
Auburn High School students in Auburn, Lee County, learn canning techniques in a class sponsored by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System in the 1925 photo.

## Extension Work Formalized

The extension model was formalized by the 1914 Smith-Lever Act, which provided federal matching funds to states to establish a network of county agent offices. The act also stipulated that all extension work associated with USDA would be carried out through land-grant schools. These early farm demonstration agents typically operated out of their homes and with little assistance or equipment.

Renowned agricultural researcher John Frederick Duggar, then director of the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station at Auburn, was appointed the first director of the Alabama Agricultural Extension Service (AAES) in 1914, filling that role until 1920. Although he was actively involved in setting up programming after the passage of Smith-Lever, his experiment station responsibilities prevented him from devoting his full attention to this emerging effort.

The destruction caused by the boll weevil during the 1910s prompted extension officials to focus on improving the poor economic prospects of farmers, many of whom raised cotton. Agents emphasized crop diversification and rotation, demonstrating to farmers the merits of complementing cotton with other crops, notably peanuts, and also engaging in hog and poultry production. The "Old Rota-

tion" cotton experiment field at Auburn University was an important part of this effort and is one of the oldest continuously operating agricultural experiments in the world.

Extension educators and land-grant university researchers together also developed measures to

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combat the boll weevil, which in turn spawned other developments, including the rise of entomological research, extension work throughout the South, and a host of important advances in agricultural science. In addition, their efforts culminated in the federal Boll Weevil Eradication Program. It effectively eliminated boll weevils as a significant cotton pest and also led to significantly lower insecticide use and important changes in the way cotton is affected by insects.

In the years immediately following passage of Smith-Lever, a common concern among extension agents was the lack of regular research-based information from Auburn University. This deficiency improved as the extension administration began hiring more state-level subject matter specialists and other programming staff. Over time, as funding permitted, the extension service assisted with more farm-related concerns, including dairying, livestock production, agronomy, horticulture, marketing, and plant and animal disease prevention and management.

The nation's involvement in **World War I** proved to be another significant milestone for AAES. Personnel in Alabama and throughout the United States were enlisted to help the federal government carry out several domestic objectives associated with the war, including assisting farmers and homemakers with food production and conservation efforts, promoting the war bonds effort, addressing farm labor shortages, and supporting other warinnovative "Uncle Sam's Saturday Service League," -related undertakings. Thomas Campbell and the Tuskegee-



**Old Main in Auburn, for nearly three decades, except for the Civil War interruption, the hub of student life at East Alabama Male College and, later, the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama, established by the Morrill Act of 1862. It is shown here as it appeared in 1883, four years before it burned and was replaced by a new main building, later named Samford Hall.**



**Franklin County Farm  
A 1927 Alabama Extension Service photograph of poultry demonstration agent Mrs. Ed Hurst explaining the practice of culling, which identifying and removing from the flock low-producing hens.**

based extension staff developed the which encouraged workers to increase American productivity by working on Saturday; the program garnered nationwide attention.

Luther Duncan's appointment as AAES director in 1920 marked a milestone in the development of the organization's programming, especially in guiding it toward greater control by Auburn University. Duncan was instrumental in developing a group of specialists with statewide responsibilities who were trained to provide field agents with relevant, up-to-date, research-based knowledge generated by Auburn, Alabama A&M, and Tuskegee researchers.

Duncan also oversaw efforts to use new forms of technology for outreach, notably purchasing a radio station to broadcast educational information to the state's farmers and homemakers. During his tenure, however, Duncan and the Extension Service would become the target of criticism by groups such as the Alabama Farmers Union (AFU) for working too closely with the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation (which Duncan helped organize in 1921) at the expense of the AFU. In addition, the Farm Bureau soon became an active political tool of agricultural interests, and Duncan was accused of using county extension agents, working in close coordination with the Farm Bureau and the Cattlemen's Association, to manipulate Alabama agricultural policy.

Duncan resigned as extension director in 1937 to serve as president of Auburn University and was succeeded by Posey Oliver "P. O." Davis, who had been an editor for AAES. He enhanced its print and

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# History of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System

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broadcast presence throughout the state, working closely with the editors of Alabama newspapers and with farm and home publications as extension educational broadcasts aired six days a week on radio stations throughout Alabama.

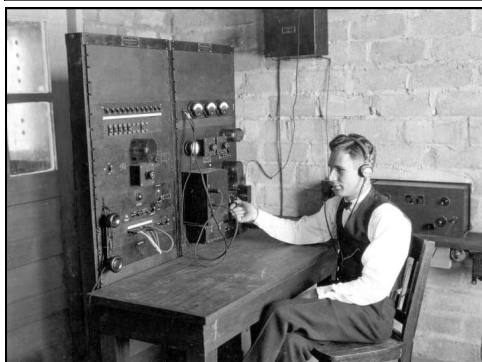
Following the outbreak of **World War II**, Alabama farm agents again assisted efforts to increase farm output to support the war effort and to help alleviate the acute manpower shortfalls created by mass enlistment and conscription. Additionally, home demonstration agents developed programs to address many of the domestic challenges commonly associated with wartime, such as food and other commodity shortages. For example, AAES produced many publications and programs aimed at mitigating the shortages that arose out of rationing associated with the war effort.

One AAES publication discussed techniques consumers could use to get more wear out of their shoes. Another urged Alabama consumers to aid the war effort by saving money while also ensuring that they would have funds available to purchase commodities after the war. Still another discussed the ways that homemakers could make home life more bearable while loved ones were away serving their country.

Davis emerged as a national advocate for farming and extension work in the 1940s and 1950s. Upon his retirement in 1959, Davis was succeeded by Auburn alumnus E. T. York, who subsequently served as administrator for the federal Cooperative Extension Service (now



**Luther Duncan, Senator Lister Hill, and Senator John H. Bankhead II**  
**U.S. senator Lister Hill, right, speaks with Alabama Polytechnic Institute (now Auburn University) president Luther N. Duncan (second from right), U.S. senator John Hollis Bankhead II, and an unidentified man, ca. 1940.**



**ACES Radio**  
**An Alabama Cooperative Extension service (now System) employee mans the microphone at the Radio WAPI broadcasting station in Auburn, Lee County, in February 1926.**

the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service) in Washington, D.C., the youngest individual to serve in that position.

## Modern Era

In 1995, Alabama's extension service became the nation's first unified effort by combining the programs of Alabama A&M and Auburn University. The merger of these two extension programs stemmed from the landmark federal court ruling, ***Knight v. Alabama***, filed in 1981 and settled in 1995, in which plaintiffs contended that segregation persisted in Alabama's university system and claimed that the Experiment Station and extension programs at Auburn enjoyed a disproportionate share of state funding compared with their counterparts at Alabama A&M.

Among the numerous measures aimed at resolving this issue, Judge Harold Murphy decreed that the extension programs at Alabama A&M and Auburn would be combined into a new entity called the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES), which would serve as the statewide outreach organization for both institutions. Tuskegee University would continue to operate its own, separate extension program, although it was encouraged to function as a cooperative partner with the system, coordinating its programs with ACES efforts.

In 2004, the system underwent its most thorough reorganization. ACES transformed itself from primarily a county-focused model to one in which regional agents specializing in one of 14 different areas deliver programs across regional and disciplinary lines. Despite

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the growing emphasis on regional agents, ACES, in keeping with its longstanding tradition of serving Alabamians at the grassroots level, continues to operate offices in all 67 counties. These are headed by coordinators who work with regional agents and other extension staff to deliver programs within their counties.

In 2010, ACES performed a periodic evaluation that consisted of a statewide survey of its grassroots stakeholders, such as representatives of partnering agencies, local citizens representing diverse socio-economic and cultural groups, potential new client groups, and community partners. Using this feedback, officials drafted a five-year plan and identified six program initiatives that reflect the changing conditions in the state: health and wellness, workforce development, a safe and secure food supply,



**Old Rotation Experiment Field Rows in the Old Rotation agricultural experiment at Auburn University are laid out according to variables that are manipulated in each row to determine their effect on cotton culture.**

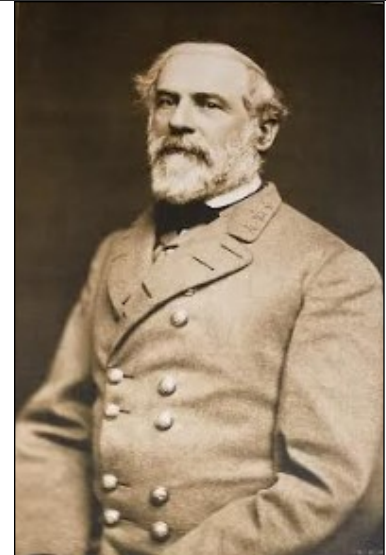
**Results from the experiment provided the first documented evidence of crop rotation as an effective means of maintaining soil fertility in cotton culture.**

financial literacy, sustainable agriculture and forestry systems, and environmental stewardship.

The organization has begun taking advantage of the Internet and social media to enable greater numbers of people to find information without the active involvement of extension educators and other intermediaries. Extension agents and specialists also are altering their outreach methods, employing various forms of social media to keep their clients updated and informed.

ACES employs approximately 900 full- and part-time staff in all 67 Alabama counties. It operated off a total budget of slightly more than \$52 million in Fiscal Year 2012. This amount in-

cludes appropriations from federal, state, and county governments, which account for more than 84 percent of funding, and additional income from contracts and grants and other sources.



**Some of the Portraits which ECHS Member Robert Smiley Has Loaned to the Society and are on Display in the Meeting Room of the Museum.**

# The ECHS *Journal* Section

## Why an Alabama Town Has a Monument Honoring the Most Destructive Pest in American History

*The following article by Lorraine Boissoneault is taken from Smithsonian Magazine for May 31, 2017 at <<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/agricultural-pest-honored-herald-prosperity-enterprise-alabama-180963506/>>.*

“I cannot think of another insect that’s displaced so many people, changed the economy of rural America, and was so environmentally injurious that everybody clearly rallied around and said we have to get rid of it,” says Dominic Reisig, a professor of entomology at North Carolina State University.

The havoc the boll weevil wrought on the Southern economy was so disruptive that some scholars argue it was one of the factors that spurred the Great Migration—the movement of 6 million African-Americans from the South to urban areas in the North. As the weevil destroyed cotton farms, many farmworkers moved elsewhere for employment, including urban centers.

So why would any town want to honor such a pest with an expensive statue, let alone call it a herald of prosperity? To understand that requires jumping back over 100 years in history, to when the insect first invaded American farmland.

The boll weevil, *Anthonomus grandis*, is native to Mexico and lives almost exclusively on cotton plants. In the early season, adults feed on cotton leaves and then puncture the cotton “square”—the pre-floral bud of the plant—to lay their eggs. When the eggs hatch, the grubs chew their way through everything inside, and by the time the plants open up, the cotton lint that should be present is largely gone. In a single season, one mating pair can produce 2 million offspring.

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**Boll Weevil Monument, Enterprise, Alabama, Carol M. Highsmith, Photographer, 1946.**

**The monument depicts a female figure in a flowing gown with arms stretched above her head. She raises high a trophy topped by an enlarged-scale boll weevil. The statue stands atop an ornately detailed base which supports two round street-lamps. The base stands in the center of a fountain, which is surrounded by a wrought-iron railing. The monument stands more than 13 feet (4.0 m) tall.**

**The original statue of the woman, excluding the fountain and boll weevil, was built in Italy for approximately \$1,800. When first erected in 1919 the figure of the woman held a small fountain. The boll weevil was not added until thirty years later, when artist Luther Baker thought the Boll Weevil Monument should have a boll weevil on it. He made the boll weevil and mounted it atop the statue.**

**The boll weevil, and sometimes even the entire monument, has been repeatedly stolen throughout the years. Each time it was found and repaired by the city of Enterprise until July 11, 1998. On that day vandals ripped the boll weevil out of the statue's hands and permanently damaged the statue. City leaders were going to repair the original statue and put it back, but it proved too difficult and costly. A polymer-resin replica was erected in its place in downtown Enterprise in 1998. The original was on display at Enterprise's Depot Museum, a few hundred feet away at 106 Railroad Street. In 2019, following the 100th anniversary of the monument, it was moved to the Pea River Historical and Genealogical Society's Gift Shop. A nearby security camera monitors the monument for further vandalism. In recent memory, dish soap has been poured into the monument fountain resulting in mounds of suds in and around the monument area.**

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The weevil was first spotted in the United States in Texas, though no one knows exactly how it came across the border. Although the bugs can only fly short distances, they spread rapidly and their path of destruction had immediate effects. “Within 5 years of contact, total cotton production declined by about 50 percent,” write economists Fabian Lange, Alan Olmsted and Paul W. Rhode. As local economies were devastated, land values plummeted. In 1903, the USDA chief in the Bureau of Plant Industry referred to the pest as a “wave of evil.”

By the 1920s, weevils blanketed the cotton-producing South. They survived from one year to the next by hibernating in nearby woods, Spanish moss and field trash. Farmers couldn’t afford to abandon cotton, especially as scarcity drove up prices further. So they simply grew more cotton and spent more and more trying to drive away the bugs. As cotton boomed, so did the weevil.

Farmers tried everything to get rid of the weevils: they planted early-maturing varieties of cotton in hopes that they could increase yields before the weevils got to them, experimented with arsenic sprays and powders, and burned their cotton stalks after

harvesting. Theodore Roosevelt suggested importing a predatory ant from Guatemala to feed on the weevil. At one point, one-third of all pesticides used in the entire U.S. were targeted at killing boll weevils, Reisig says.

But the boll weevil’s story was different in Enterprise. By 1909, the weevil had reached nearby Mobile County, Alabama. Like elsewhere, cotton was the main cash crop, and with the weevils now in their fields, farmers were getting smaller and smaller yields.

“The Enterprise cotton gin ginned only 5,000 bales [in 1915] compared to 15,000 the year before,” says Doug Bradley, president of the Pea River Historical and Genealogical Society. H.M. Sessions, a man who lived in town and acted as a seed broker to farmers in need, saw the devastation and knew he needed to act.

Farmers could switch to other crops that wouldn’t support the boll weevil, but cotton generated the highest profits and grew on marginal land—“sandy, well-drained land that not a lot of crops can tolerate,” Reisig explains. One of the few crops that could tolerate those conditions: peanuts. After visiting North Carolina and Virginia, where he saw peanuts being grown, Sessions came back with peanut seeds and

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**Historical Marker by the Monument, at the Intersection of Main and College in Enterprise.**

**After the boll weevil destroyed (1910-15) the area's cotton, locals began diversified farming. In gratitude for the resulting prosperity, the city erected a monument to the boll weevil in 1919.**

**On a plaque at the base of the monument and on the historical marker appears the following inscription: "In profound appreciation of the Boll Weevil and what it has done as the herald of prosperity this monument was erected by the citizens of Enterprise, Coffee County, Alabama."**



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## Why an Alabama Town Has a Monument Honoring the Most Destructive Pest in American History

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sold them to area farmer C. W. Baston.

“In 1916, Mr. Baston planted his entire crop in peanuts. That year, he earned \$8,000 from his new crop, and paid off his prior years of debt and still had money left over,” Bradley says. At the same time, Coffee County cotton production was down to only 1,500 bales.

Word of Baston’s success spread quickly.

Farmers who had once scorned the idea of growing anything other than cotton jumped on the peanut train, and by 1917 regional farmers produced over 1 million bushels of peanuts that sold for more than \$5 million,” Bradley says.

By 1919—right when the boll weevil scourge was reaching its peak elsewhere in the South—Coffee County was the largest producer of peanuts in the country, and shortly thereafter became the first in the region to produce peanut oil.

Bradley, who worked in the cotton fields as a young boy in the ’40s and ’50s, remembers seeing the weevils and witnessing the havoc they wreaked. But by that point, Enterprise had diversified its crops. In addition to peanuts and cotton, there were potatoes, sugar cane, sorghum and

tobacco. It was really thanks to the boll weevil that Coffee County diversified at all, which is why Enterprise erected a statue in its honor.

As for the rest of the South, efforts to combat the weevil continued throughout the 20th century. In 1958 the National Cotton Council of America agreed on farming legislation that would fund research into cotton growing and the boll weevil. Researchers with the USDA’s Agricultural Research Service tried the sterile insect technique (filling the environment with sterile mates), which was unsuccessful, and tested a number of pesticides. But neither tactic brought the weevil down—instead, their own pheromones came to be their undoing.

“Scientists realized pheromones were chemicals produced by the glands in insects and they changed insect behavior,” Reisig says. “A particular synthetic blend was developed specifically for the boll weevil.” The pheromones lured boll weevils into traps where they could be sprayed with pesticides. That combination drove a 99 percent success rate. Today, the weevil has been eradicated from 98 percent of U.S. cotton land across 15 Southern states and parts of northern Mexico.

For Reisig, it’s a story of beating enormous odds. “It was a really special time and place when everything lined up right. We had political unanimity.

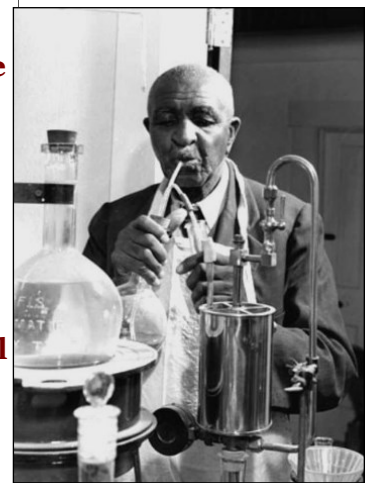
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**The boll weevil inflicted immense suffering on southern farmers after it entered the United States in 1892. Its steady onslaught on southern cotton fields sparked an interest in farm demonstrations as a way to show farmers how to deal with the pest most effectively. This, in turn, provided the foundations for formal Cooperative Extension work, which followed in 1914.**

**George Washington Carver at work in his laboratory at Tuskegee Institute. Much of the groundwork associated with Cooperative Extension work in Alabama and throughout the nation was laid by Carver and by Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee's founder.**

**Some think that the monument in Enterprise should be one honoring Carver as the real hero of the city's economic recovery. Not only did Carver urge ruined farmers to turn to peanuts and sweet potatoes, he worked tirelessly in his laboratory at Tuskegee Institute to create a market for the crops by coming up with more than 300 new uses.**



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The government was willing to give money on the federal and state level. The long-lasting legacy was cooperation among scientists and the development of things like pheromones, and investment in institutions like the USDA.”

For Bradley and the town of Enterprise, the lesson is a bit subtler. “So many people think, why did you build a statue to honor something that did so much destruction?” Bradley says. “It was more to recognize the fact that the boll weevil caused farmers to seek a better cash crop to replace cotton.”

## What Your Neighbors and Friends Are Doing

This column, "What Your neighbors and Friends Are Doing," is from the *Thursday, October 10, 1918 Issue of the Brewton Standard and the Pine Belt News (Consolidated January 1, 1918).*

Commissioner S. L. McGowin was a business visitor to Montgomery Tuesday. He reports there are a great many cases of “Flu” in the capital city.

And milk has taken another raise—likewise all cold drinks containing milk. We’ll have to drink “dope” in future and how about the infant crop?

Mister and Mrs. J. M. Holladay, who have suffering from a severe attack of “Flu” are reported as getting along nicely—Mr. Halladay being able to be about, while his wife is still confined to her room.

Miss Coralie Rankin and little Miss Emma McGowin are at home after a visit of several months spent with relatives in the mountains of North Carolina.

Joe Sudehi, who has been conducting a fruit stand next to the People’s Drug Store for some time past is packing up his goods and preparing to move to Mobile.

W. A. Lovelace fearing the Standard bunch were starving for a mess of sweet potatoes, brought one to this office Tuesday big enough to feed a regiment of Huns—you know how hungry they must be. We didn’t weigh that potato, was afraid Will would want it himself when he saw how large it really was, but it was a whooper.

A little eight-year old African American girl, Hester Gray, living about two miles west of Brewton, lost the thumb and two fingers of her left hand last Sunday by the explosion of a dynamite cap. The sight of one eye was also slightly affected by the mishap.

Just as soon as the data can be secured, the Standard

will begin the publication of the names of all those who purchase bonds of the Fourth Liberty Loan. See that your name is in the list published. There will be no opportunity for a slacker to slip through this time, as Chairman E. L. McMillan is determined that all shall buy bonds—and buy every dollar’s worth they can. It’s the only way to whip the Hun.

Miss Lorena Smith has accepted a position with the jewelry store of S. W. Martin.

We are glad to announce to the many friends throughout the country that Pct. Herman Crosby is alive and doing his bit. This is the second time the report has been circulated and this time, no doubt, started from the fact that he was quite sick in hospital in New York.

R. E. Adams, after having been in bed several days with influenza, is again on the job.

Mrs. L. L. Moorner of Evergreen visited relatives here last week.

On account of the prevalence of Spanish Influenza throughout the country, the moving of the draft men has been stopped for the present. A contingent of selectmen, who were to have left Tuesday have been notified of this decision.

Mrs. W. M. Williams, after a pleasant visit in Brewton, has returned to her home in Greenville.

Dr. Leon Scruggs was a weekend visitor to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gillis.

John R. and Adrian Downing and Mason Foshee were called home Sunday by the death of their grandfather, Mr. E. Downing.

Miss Ella Downing has returned from Mobile where she was a popular guest at the homes of numerous friends for several weeks past.

Mr. Grazzille, as prominent “Y” \* man from Camp

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# The ECHS *Journal* Section

## What Your Neighbors and Friends Are Doing

*(Continued from page 10)*

Gordan, is in the city, and spoke to an appreciative audience Sunday morning in the park. He is very much enthused over his work and believes firmly in the good it is doing for our boys, both at home and over there.

*\* Note: The YMCA played a key role supporting US armed forces and providing services to prisoners of war during the First World War.*

Dr. Moody, Presiding Elder\* of the Evergreen district, was in the city Monday.

*\* Note: The Presiding Elder of a District is a*

*minister, or elder, who oversees a geographic area of churches and their pastors.*

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Sawyer have returned to their home in Montgomery after several days in the city.

Mrs. S. S. Foshee and Miss Mary Dell Ard, were visitors to Mobile this week.

Mrs. Alex McGowin and daughter, Claire, have returned after a stay of several months in the East and North. Enroute home they stopped several days in Macon Ga. near which Lieut. Bethea as been stationed.

## Letters from One of Our Own Soldier Boys

Somewhere in France, Aug. 15, 1918.  
Editor Brewton Standard.

Dear Mr. Neel:

If I may have the pleasure, I would like to send a message of thanks to the good people of Escambia county and especially of Brewton, for the patriotism they have shown toward the boys who are fighting "over here" for freedom and right. As we boys from Brewton read the Standard it sure does us good to see what good work the people are doing and we are always looking for a Standard every time the mail comes, especially me.

I used to work in your office and I know what good work your paper does and I sincerely hope to see this in print before long as mother sends the paper as often as she gets it, and thanking you for same.

I am sincerely your friend.  
Louie A. Manning

To the Dear People of Brewton:

I wish to thank you personally on behalf of the Brewton boys for the good spirit you are showing in helping whip the Kaiser. If you could only see what we have seen, I know you would be even prouder of what you have done. I have been through four —was in the big fight that drove the Boche so far back and still driving them.

Pretty French towns torn all to pieces when the Boche on finding out that we meant to have the towns would blow them up, but there are a few that we didn't give them time to blow up. I am confident with the good help you are doing and with the help of Christ, our captain, and God, our commanding General, and our good officers, we will whip the Kaiser.

If there are any in dear old Brewton who have not done anything to help whip him, which I hope there are not, for how could any AMERICAN HOLD BACK when we are here to give even our lives if necessary, for the cause we know to be just.

If there's one there that's got any yellow on him, let him go down to one of the creeks close by and take a bath, and rub the yellow off his back and then do his part. For how can anybody face the world when this war is over knowing he or she did nothing? What is worth having that is not hard to get?

A Sincere Friend,  
Louie A. Manning

**ECHOES**  
 THE NEWSLETTER FOR  
 THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY  
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY

251-809-1528 or  
 escambiahistoricalociety@gmail.com

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**Books Available by Contribution**

	Regular	Mailed
History of Escambia County, Alabama	\$90.00	\$96.00
Headstones and Heritage	\$20.00	\$26.00
Escambia Historical Society Cookbook	\$10.00	\$15.00
Wildflowers of The Conecuh/Escambia River Basin CD	\$10.00	\$15.00
History of Brewton and E. Brewton (SC)	\$40.00	\$46.00
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**Clip the following form and send to ECHS  
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**Dues are to be paid at the beginning of the year  
 Many members give a membership as a gift!  
 Business members get a large scale  
 advertisement 11 months of the year.**

*ECHOES, The newsletter for the Escambia County Historical Society, a 501 (c) (3) corporation, is published monthly except November. Comments are welcome. You may email the Society at [escambiahistoricalociety@gmail.com](mailto:escambiahistoricalociety@gmail.com) or call 251-809-1528.*

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