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### Archives of Appalachia Newsletter (vol. 10, no. 2, 1989)

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# Archives of Appalachia NEWSLETTER

VOL. X, NO. 2



## ARCHIVES ACQUIRES JENNINGS ADDITION

The archives has acquired a valuable addition to the Joe Jennings Papers. The addition measures 87 linear feet and provides much more extensive information on Jennings' career with the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

Born on October 20, 1891 in Jacksboro, Tenn., Jennings acquired his elementary and secondary education at the public schools of LaFollette, Tenn. He received a bachelor's degree in 1913 from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. During the course of World War I, in June, 1918, Jennings joined the United States Army with the rank of second lieutenant. Upon his discharge at the war's end in November, 1918, Jennings pursued a teaching career in the Campbell County, Tenn. school system. He gave up public school teaching in 1920 to pursue a master's degree in educational administration from Columbia University, New York City. After earning the M.A. in 1921, Jennings subsequently earned a doctorate in education in 1929 from George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn. In the years from 1921-29 Jennings held a variety of positions in Tennessee public school systems. In 1928 he accepted a teaching position at the State Teachers College, Livingston, Ala. He relinquished that position to accept one with the BIA in August, 1931. For the next 26 years Jennings' work with the BIA took him all over the United States. His most notable position was as superintendent of the Cherokee Indian Agency in North Carolina, where he play a pivotal role in starting the production "Unto These Hills," an outdoor drama about the history of the Cherokee from the 16th century through the period of removal west.

After leaving the BIA Jennings joined the faculty at East Tennessee State College in 1957 as an associate professor in the education department. In addition to his teaching duties, Jennings served as chairman of the East Tennessee State College/University Research Council (1957-64). The council's goal was to encourage and promote research of interest and value to individuals and agencies in the region. Jennings was instrumental in establishing the council's accelerated program for talented students. He retired from ETSU in 1964. After his retirement he continued to work on educational and community development interests. Jennings died in Johnson City on March 8, 1968.

The addition to the Jennings papers contains extensive documentation on native Americans, their cultures, and their relations with the United States government. Especially important is documentation on the federal government's attempts to educate native Americans at reservation schools. Also included are reports and publications on the federal government's tribal and reservation reorganization policies. Other information on native Americans focuses on self-government of tribes, employment and labor in native American communities, and the administration of reservations.



Numerous circulars, reports, pamphlets and brochures relating to native American issues or BIA affairs and policies are also contained in the collection, as are Jennings' research notes on various topics in native American and white history. Jennings also had an interest in higher education in Tennessee and in rural community development in East Tennessee. These papers provide ample documentation of these concerns.

The Jennings addition contains many valuable resource materials, especially in the areas of native American history, education, and rural community development. These materials should prove useful to researchers in many disciplines, among them history, sociology and education. Although the papers are yet unprocessed, we hope to process them in the next year.

#### **MATERIALS ON MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE IN APPALACHIA**

**To cure bladder and kidney ailments. One ounce of pipissewa root boiled in one pint of water. Take three times per day.**

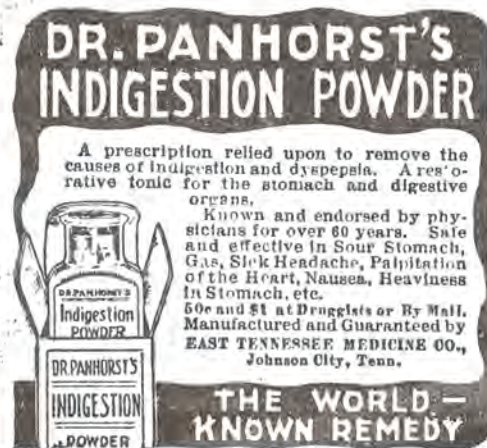
**For constipation and indigestion: Dr. Thatcher's Liver and Blood Syrup. Also promotes a good appetite and provides energy.**

**Do yourself a favor. Invest in your good health with JCMCH [Johnson City Medical Center Hospital] Community Health and Wellness Program.**

Today westerners, Americans in particular, by and large think of medicine as a science. Caring for the human body when it is ill or using measures to prevent illness belong, it is thought, to the realm of scientific medicine. Yet, for most of the history of the United States health care has fallen within the province of folk medicine and/or patent (proprietary) medicine. In the nineteenth century, even after the 1847 organization of the American Medical Association, most Americans mistrusted medical doctors and looked upon them as quacks. The average citizen thus relied not on science to cure them of their ills, but on folk remedies or patent medicines. This was true well into the twentieth century. In Appalachia, as in other geographically isolated regions, folk cures and proprietary medicines remained popular well into the twentieth century, especially since the distribution of scientific medical health care services has been limited until very recent years.

Research materials on all three types of medical approaches can be found in the Archives of Appalachia and the University Archives. Substantial information on folk cures and remedies, and herbs and herb gathering can be found on audio tape in the Burton-Manning Collection interviews, and on video tape in the Broadside Television and Charles Gunter collections. The Appalachian vertical files and the archives' special collections also contain information on folk medicine. Included in the vertical files are two booklets which detail folk remedies. Special collections holds four publications which focus on folk medicine. Included, for example, are the 1971 work by Russell S. Walters, Medicinal Plants of Appalachia and the popular 1833 Gunn's Domestic Medicine by John C. Gunn.

Patent medicine was the rage in the United States roughly from the Civil War until the passage in 1906 of the Pure Food and Drug Act. This act legislated certain labelling requirements for patent medicines. Among these requirements was the stipulation that the presence and amount of certain dangerous drugs--alcohol, opiates and chloral hydrate, to name a few--had to be stated on the package. Other restrictions prohibited misinforming or misleading the consumer through faulty labelling practices. Use of patent medicines declined significantly after 1906, until in 1938 the Pure Food and Cosmetic Act outlawed proprietary medicines.



The Archives of Appalachia holds the records of the East Tennessee Medicine Company, a proprietary company founded in 1890 in Jonesborough, Tennessee by M. H. P. Panhorst, a medical doctor. Panhorst's most famous products were "P.I.P."--Panhorst's Indigestion Powder, and Panhorst's Liver Pills. Panhorst lost control of East Tennessee Medicine in the 1890s, at which time the company moved to Johnson City, where it remained in business until 1924. The records of East Tennessee Medicine are contained within the Cass Family Business Records, and include financial records, correspondence, advertising materials, legal documents, and formulae for medicines. In addition to the East Tennessee Medicine materials, the archives also holds in its vertical files a few documents on the Chattanooga Medicine Company, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

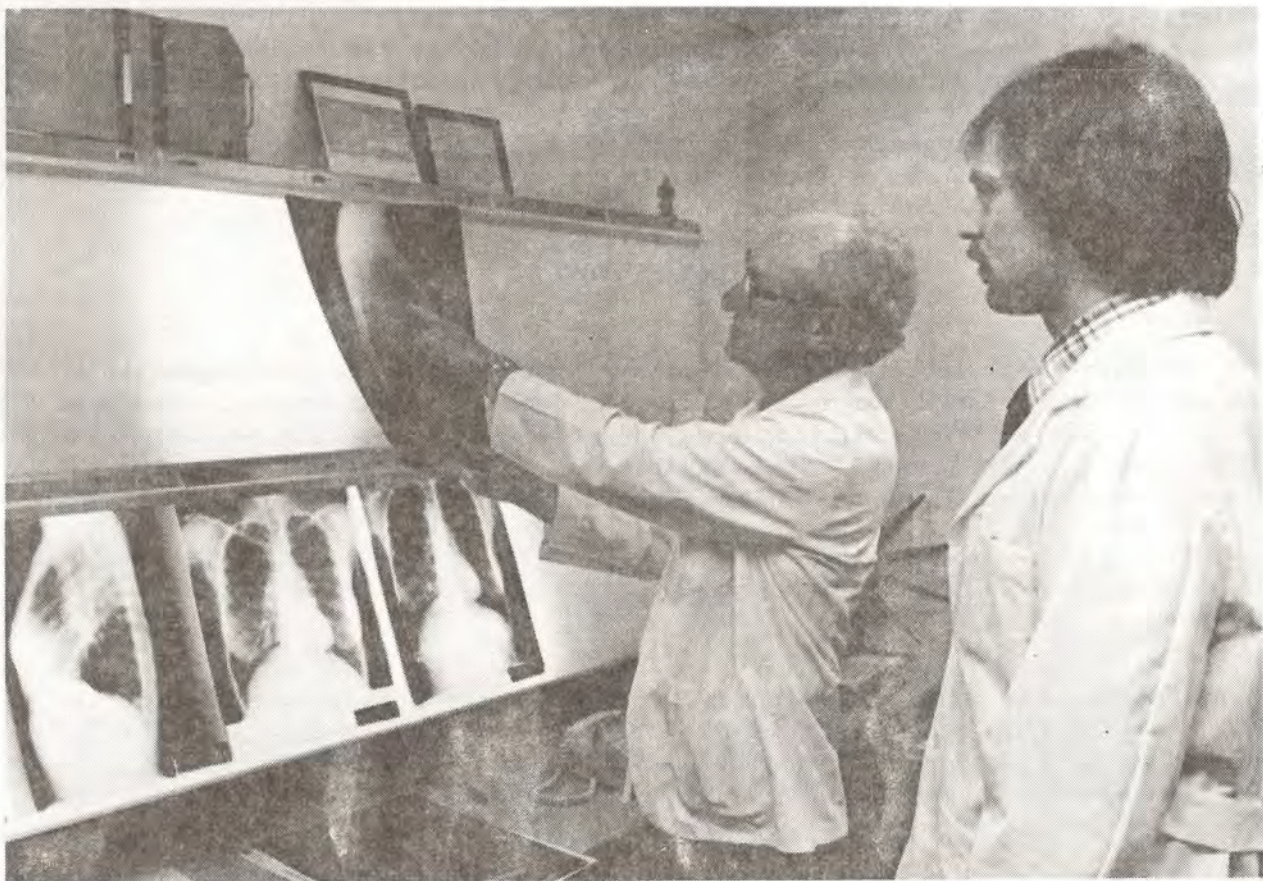
Scientific medicine also is well represented in the Archives of Appalachia, and to a lesser extent, in the University Archives. The Appalachian archives contain the following manuscript collections which focus entirely or in part on scientific health care and health care issues: Council on Appalachian Women; Tennessee Department of Public Health, Division of Solid Waste Management, Bumpass Cove Collection; Council of Nursing of Upper East Tennessee; and Congress for Appalachian Development. In addition, there are the Burton-Manning and Charles Gunter collections audio tapes, and the Broadside Television video tapes which focus on doctors, child care and midwifery in Appalachia.

The previously-mentioned collections deal with a number of health care issues. The records of the Council on Appalachian Women (1958-81), for example, include information on such health related topics as rural

maternal and infant health care, infant mortality, abortion, child development, and domestic violence. The Congress for Appalachian Development contains clippings from the 1960s on the general subject of health care in Appalachia, and on mine safety and health. The Council of Nursing, Upper East Tennessee (1972-77) centers on attempts to expand health education in the area, while the Tennessee Department of Public Health, Bumpass Cove Collection, concentrates on health issues relating to the dumping of toxic wastes in the Bumpass Cove landfill, Washington and Unicoi counties, Tennessee.

Relevant vertical file resources contain materials on the following: Frontier Nursing Service, founded in Leslie County, Kentucky in 1925; Appalachian Regional Commission reports which include health care statistics; selected Appalachian Regional Council for Health Advancement Health Systems Agency reports; and Bumpass Cove landfill and the medical/health problems caused by dumping of toxic wastes there.

Additional materials on medical and health care issues can be found in special collections and in the University Archives. The latter contains the D. P. Culp Papers which document the establishment of the medical school at ETSU during the presidential tenure of D. P. Culp (1968-77).



Radiographs, images produced through use of "X-rays," are crucial diagnostic tools for practitioners of scientific medicine.

All of the above-mentioned approaches to health care--folk medicine, patent medicine and scientific medicine--are crucial in analyzing the history and development of health care in Appalachia. Indeed, in recent years students of the history and sociology of medicine have come to realize that folk and proprietary medicine cannot be precluded from studies on health care in the United States. Because the Archives of Appalachia promotes understanding of Appalachian culture from many perspectives, it seeks and welcomes materials on folk, patent, and scientific medicine. For more information on donating materials to the archives, please contact us at Box 22450A, ETSU, or 615/929-4338.

#### RECENTLY PROCESSED

The archives staff has processed and made available for research the following collections: **City of Johnson City Records**, 1890-1973, 137 volumes and 3 phonodiscs; **Marat Moore Collection**, 1980-86, 57 audio cassette tapes and 46 transcripts of interviews with women coal miners; **Thomas Highley Morris Papers**, 1911-59, 4.5 linear feet of records relating to Morris's law practice and to his duties as an official of the Johnson City Housing Authority, 1937-38; **Julius Krug Papers**, six folders of correspondence, mainly, concerning Krug's activities as Secretary of the Interior, 1946-49; **Jonesborough, Tennessee Board of Mayor and Alderman Minute Book**, 1906-10; **Thomas Burton Photographs**, (105 prints of snake-handling services); **Robert Bell Collection**, (9 photographs of Gray Mansion, Gray Tennessee); and **G. O. Edwards Photographs**, (18 prints of W. M. Ritter Company lumbering operations).

#### LATEST EXHIBIT

The archives' latest exhibit, "Ethnic Diversity in Southern Appalachia," focuses on the history of selected ethnic groups in the region. Featured in the exhibit are contributions made by native Americans, blacks, Scot-Irish, Melungeons and Europeans. The exhibit is being displayed on the first floor of the Sherrod Library, January 4 through March 4, 1989.

#### STAFF NEWS

This semester the archives welcomes two new student workers who will assist in the processing of collections. The two are Julia Bergman, a freshman English major from Fort Defiance, Virginia, and Christa Sherrod, a sophomore business administration major from Knoxville, Tennessee.

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

### ARCHIVES OF APPALACHIA

**EAST TENNESSEE LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY RECORDS**, 1915-1939, 4 l.f. Addition. Contains correspondence, blue prints, maps, contracts, reports, and equipment inventories relating to generation and distribution of electricity in northeastern Tennessee prior to the introduction of the Tennessee Valley Authority to the area. Includes some materials of the Tennessee Public Service Company relating to its operation in the region. Transferred by Ronald Brewer, on behalf of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Chattanooga, Tenn.

**CORNWELL, CYNTHIA A. TAPES**, C. 1987, 8 AUDIOTAPES.

Eight 90 minute audio tapes of interviews with persons concerning the history of Milligan College. Six interviews were conducted by Cornwell and two interviews were conducted by Oris Hyder. Donated by Cynthia Cornwell, Milligan College, Tenn.

**B'NAI SHOLOM CONGREGATION RECORDS**, 1950-1982, 2.0 L.F. Addition.

Includes constitution and by-laws, Board of Directors' meetings minutes, correspondence, financial records and newsclippings relating to the organization and operation of the congregation and its 75th anniversary. Transferred to the archives by the B'nai Sholom Congregation, Blountville, Tenn.

**JENNINGS, JOE PAPERS**, c. 1925-1965, 87.0 l.f. Addition.

Contains correspondence, Department of Interior reports and pamphlets, newsletters and notes regarding Jennings' work as a Bureau of Indian Affairs agent (including his work as head of the Cherokee Agency in North Carolina), his activities in community development, educational administration and as a faculty member at East Tennessee State University. Also included are research notes and an unpublished manuscript reflecting his interests in education of Indians. Donated by Mrs. Jean J. O'Brien, Johnson City, Tenn.

**JOHNSON CITY (TENN.) SISTER CITIES PROGRAM RECORDS**, 1963-1984, 6.0 l.f.

Contains correspondence, organizational records, financial records, newsclippings, photographs and scrapbooks relating to Johnson City's participation in the Sister Cities Program. The majority of the items in the collection concern the city's association with Guaranda, Ecuador; but a few items relate to the relationship with Ronneby, Sweden. Donated by Robert Patton and Carl Bolton, Johnson City, Tenn.

**TRENT, WILLIAM S. COLLECTION**, 1988, 1 video tape.

Consists of one videotape of the Mars Hill Ballad Swap held in 1988. Features Appalachian ballads performed by Frank Proffit, Jr. and Sheila Adams Barnhill. Donated by William S. Trent, Morristown, Tenn.

## UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

### **ALPHA DELTA PI COLLECTION, 1964, 1 volume.**

One typed manuscript which includes a brief history of the organization at East Tennessee State University, lists of members, and some correspondence concerning activities of the group. The material covers the period from 1912 to 1964 and concerns the early years when the group was known as the Mary Moore Davis Literary Society. Donated by Mrs. Anny Bryant Gentry, Johnson City, Tenn.

### **OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, June 1984-June 1986, 1.0 l.f. Addition.**

Minutes of the Council on Academic Affairs were transferred to the University Archives. The minutes include information on grievance procedures, promotion and tenure policies. The records were transferred by Patsy Pickle on behalf of the Vice-President's Office.

### **SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN CHAPTER OF SIGMA XI RECORDS, 1985-1988, 0.5 l.f. Addition.**

Includes annual reports of activities, minutes of meetings, membership lists, notes, correspondence and newsletters regarding the activities of this scientific research society. The organization's participation in the science fair is also documented in these records. Transferred by Dr. J. K. Herd, Quillen-Dishner College of Medicine.

### **B. CARROLL REECE MUSEUM RECORDS, 1965-1977, 0.75 l.f. Addition.**

Contains correspondence, agreements and receipts relating to the museum's rental/sales program. Transferred to the University Archives by Helen Roseberry on behalf of the museum.

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The following books have been added to Special Collections:

Safford, James Merrill. Geological Reconnaissance of the State of Tennessee, 1856.

Bokum, Hermann. Testimony of a Refugee from East Tennessee, 1863.

Beaver, Patricia Duane. Rural Community in the Appalachian South, 1986.

Glen, John M. Highlander: No Ordinary School, 1932-1962, 1988.

## MISCELLANEOUS

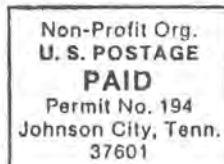
The archives thanks the following donors for a variety of items relating to Appalachian culture, local and university history:

Robert Patton  
Lynn Brown  
Cecil Rose  
Majid Ejlali

Richard M. Kesner  
Emma Simmons  
Patsy Pickle  
Cynthia A. Cornwell



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