

THE SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

Jerry McKelvy, Editor

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I have heard it said that somewhere in the world there is another person who looks almost exactly like each of us. We see people all the time who remind us of someone we know. I always wondered what life would be like for identical twins. I can see where that could be somewhat confusing at times. In most cases there is no problem looking like someone else, but consider the case of Frank Benton, a farmer in Nevada County, Arkansas back in 1914.

MAN CLEARED OF HIS DOUBLE'S CRIME

From the Arkansas Gazette—printed in the 1-1-1914 issue of The Nevada News.

Camden, AR--One of the most remarkable cases of facial resemblance that has ever been brought to the attention of an Arkansas court was staged before County Judge E. B. McCall today when the prisoner succeeded in proving to the satisfaction of the judge that he is Frank Benton, a peaceful, law-abiding farmer of Nevada County who has never been in trouble and is not Van Williams of Smith County, Texas who tried to kill his wife and failed only by a hair's breadth.

Frank Benton said he was born in South Carolina and moved to Nevada County in 1898. The records show that on May 28, 1900 he was married to Miss Nancy Smith of Texarkana. He settled on a Nevada County farm with his wife and continued to peacefully till the soil, although he and his wife separated in 1909. Benton remained on the farm.

On the other hand, Van Williams was a resident of Smith County, Texas. Little is known of his history until he married in 1899. He and his wife spent much of their time traveling about the state of Texas. In February, 1905, while they were living in Smith Co., Williams made a brutal attack upon his wife. He shot her, beat her with his pistol and fled, leaving her for dead. For a month her life was despaired of, but she finally recovered. The Texas officers were never able to find Williams.

About a month ago, a suspicion arose that Benton was the missing Van Williams. A man who had known Williams was struck by the remarkable similarity of their appearances. The story went back to Texas that Williams was living in Nevada County under the name of Frank Benton and Governor Colquitt sent a requisition to Governor Hayes of Arkansas asking for the return of Van Williams, alias Frank Benton. Governor Hayes honored this request. Benton was lodged in jail here, but applied for a writ of habeas corpus. It was this writ that was argued before Judge McCall today.

Mrs. Williams who nearly met death at her husband's hands, was brought here from Texas to identify Benton as her husband if possible. The woman looked at the prisoner long and searchingly, then shook her head. "He closely resembles my husband, but I wouldn't swear that this man is he," she said.

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She had brought with her a photograph of her husband taken 10 years ago. Even Richard K. Mason, Benton's attorney admitted that the resemblance was remarkable. However, Attorney Mason used the same photograph as one of the strongest arguments in his client's favor.

"This photograph was taken 10 years ago," he argued. "Undoubtedly, Williams does not look much like the man in the photograph now. This photograph shows a man about 40 years of age, which is about Benton's age. Williams must be 50 now."

Attorney Mason has also summoned 40 witnesses from Nevada County, all of whom testified that Benton was living with his wife on their Nevada County farm at the time Williams shot his wife at their Texas home.

Benton also offered in evidence his mutilated hand. The ends of the fingers of one hand are missing. He said that he had lost them in an accident while he was a boy in South Carolina. Mrs. Williams admitted that her husband's hands were not mutilated when she saw him last.

At the conclusion of the testimony, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney L. B. Smead told the court that in view of the strong case made by Attorney Mason in behalf of Benton, he did not feel justified in asking that the prisoner be held any longer.

After he had formally been discharged by Judge McCall, Benton's Nevada County neighbors gathered around him and showered him with congratulations. He says he will return and till his Nevada County farm in peace as before.

NO POSTAGE STAMPS NEEDED (from The Prescott Daily News – 11-28-1908)

Mrs. Edward Martin of Nashville, Arkansas owns a cow which not only furnishes milk for the Martin family, but is also a messenger in exchanging notes between Mrs. Martin and her mother who lives five miles away.

The cow was given to Mrs. Martin by her mother, Mrs. George Humphreys. The cow still goes to the Humphrey's house each morning to spend the day in the pasture and each evening, it returns to her new home for the night.

A few days ago, Mrs. Martin noticed a small sack attached to the cow's neck with a string. She examined it and found inside a note from her mother which she promptly answered and sent back to her mother the next morning. Every day since mother and daughter have been exchanging notes with the bovine acting as messenger.

Bible Trivia: The word grandmother is only used one time in the Bible. Who was she?

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TABLE ETIQUETTE

University of Arkansas Home Economics Dept. – 1924

The meal hour should be one of pleasure and good cheer, rather than a time to settle disputes, punish children, or review unpleasant happenings of the past.

Books, magazines, and newspapers are out of place at the family dining table.

The proper place to train children in table manners and table conversation is at the table when they are alone with their parents. They should be taught that table articles are not playthings and that the dining room is not a playground. Older children should be taught to wait on the table.

Kimonos, boudoir caps, and cook aprons should never appear at the dining table. Neither should soiled shirt sleeves, collarless shirts, and dressing gowns. Personal tidiness is nowhere at a greater premium.

To criticize the food served at home is as ungracious as to criticize food served at the home of a friend.

All members of the family should respond promptly to the announcement of a meal and the habit of coming to the table one at a time not only tires the person preparing the food, but is conducive to careless table manners.

If one is to feel at ease in company, one must constantly practice good manners at home.

MY DOG

By George Burton--Nevada News—1926

He's my dog—
Four legs and a tail,
A restless vagabond out of jail
Just a dog—no pedigree,
All kinds of branches in his family tree.
Shoe-button eyes and nose too long,
Makes your head ache when he sings his song.
His legs are gangly, he has knock knees
Tears up slippers and harbors fleas.
Wild and woolly, likes to run away,
Knock you down when he wants to play.
Is fond of "rassling" with the gloves and hats,
Tears up the flower beds and chases cats.
Sleeps all day, eats like a hog,
Absolutely worthless—but,
He's my dog.

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Donie Moore Henry
daughter of
William Harve Moore
and
Sarah Salina Johnson Moore

Born – March 31, 1888
Died – February 3, 1918 (age 29)

First wife of Charles Clinton Henry

Buried in Bluff City Cemetery



Thanks to Mrs. Zettie Link for sharing these old photos.



Garland Hardwick
son of
John Mobley Hardwick
and
Georgia Johnson Hardwick

Born July 5, 1898
Died December 23, 1918

Enlisted in the U. S. Navy in World War I. He was on his way home just after the peace treaty had been signed and became ill with pneumonia. He died in a Navy hospital in Brooklyn, New York.

As far as we know, he is the only World War I veteran that died while in service buried at Ebenezer Cemetery.

He is shown here in an American Air Service uniform. Many World War I servicemen enlisted in the Allied aero squadrons in France. These daring aviators were considered heroes at that time.

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Ben Grove—Fredericksburg, Virginia	Lonnie Hall—Grand Junction, Colorado
	Earlene Lyle—Grand Bay, Alabama

WOULD YOU CARE FOR A CUP OF COFFEE? (From the 5-1-1924 issue of The Nevada News)

Hornwell, NY—Harold Whitford and Ephraim Fitch engaged in a coffee drinking marathon contest in an effort to learn whether the beverage is intoxicating. Fitch quit after drinking 24 eight ounce cups, but Whitford imbibed 36 cups within the three hour planned time period. He had to be carried home by friends, but said he felt no bad effects beyond stomach cramps. Both men remained quite sober.

AD IN THE MALVERN METEOR—1914

To the citizens of Malvern: There is a young lady living here that I am going with and there are people in Malvern meddling with my love affairs who keep trying to turn her against me. I hereby notify one and all to cut it out at once. You will do well to attend to your own business and let us run ours to suit ourselves. – Jas. Eaton Smith

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All these recipes come from the Watts family cook book. The Watts family settled in southeast Nevada County at Old Delta. Some of the Watts family later moved to Camden and founded a mercantile business and later Watts Bros. department store in downtown Camden.

JOSEPHINE MCGILL'S ORANGE DELIGHT

Mix together in mixer:

- 1 3 oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 1 11 oz. can mandarin oranges (drained)
- 3 oz. pkg. orange jello
- 3 Tbsp. crushed pineapple

Fold in 9 oz. Cool Whip. Save back 5 or 6 mandarin orange sections to use as a decoration on top.

KAY LADD'S BAKED BEANS

- 1 lb. size can pork and beans
- 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
- ¼ cup dry mustard
- ¼ cup catsup
- 2 pieces bacon

Combine above ingredients, except bacon. Put in casserole and cover with the two strips of bacon. Put lid on and bake in 350 degree oven for 20 minutes, then uncover and bake another 20 minutes.

PHYLLIS J. WHITE'S HOT TAMALES PIE

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1 lb. lean ground meat (round or chuck) | Mush: |
| 1 chopped onion | 1 cup cornmeal |
| ½ chopped green pepper (optional) | 1 quart water |
| 2 cloves garlic, chopped (or garlic powder) | 1 tsp. salt |
| 1 Tbsp. chili powder | |
| 1 tsp. salt and pepper | |
| 2 dashes Worcestershire sauce | |
| 1 16 oz. can tomatoes | |

Brown meat, add onion, chopped garlic (or garlic powder) and remaining ingredients. Cook until mixed well. Cook mush—use one cup of water to soften corn meal. Pour into remaining water that is boiling. Cook stirring to consistency you prefer—we like it thick.

In pyrex bowl (greased), layer half of cornmeal mush, then chili mixture, ending with remaining cornmeal mush. Sprinkle with paprika or chili powder. Cook 30 minutes in conventional oven at 350 degrees.

TERRY SMITH'S COCKEYED CAKE

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1 ½ cups sifted flour | 1 cup sugar | 1 Tbsp. vinegar |
| 3 Tbsp. Cocoa | ½ tsp. salt | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 1 tsp. soda | 5 Tbsp. cooking oil | 1 cup cold water |

Put flour in sifter and add cocoa, soda, sugar, and salt. Sift into greased 9 X 2 square pan. Make 3 holes in mixture—put oil in 1, put vinegar in 1, and vanilla in 1. Pour cold water over all. Beat with spoon until nearly smooth. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.