

# Early doctors and local medicines

In 1896, Marion and Crittenden County were fortunate to have several caring physicians. They were always interested in the best for their patients and constantly sought to learn new ways to stay informed of the latest remedies and cures.

From the archives of The Crittenden Press, April 1896, we learn of their plans for a medical society for Crittenden County.

The physicians of the city and county met in the courthouse Monday to organize a medical society.

The following physicians were present: John R. Clark, John O. Dixon, James W. Trisler, Audley Shanklin Hamilton Boyd, John H. Boyd, Joseph H. Clark, Thaddus F. Wilburn, Wiley F. Truitt, Emerson E. Newcomb, T. Atchican Frazier, Clarence E. Moreland, Isaac H. Clement, John Willis Crawford, Wm. S. Cain, and Andrew J. Donakey.



**Brenda Underdown**  
County Historian

## Forgotten Passages

Dr. John R. Clark was elected permanent president. In addition to his eminent qualifications, he had been the leading spirit in organizing the society and was honored as its chief officer. Dr. Clark was elected, and Dr. E. E. Newcomb was elected secretary. Dr. A. J. Donakey was elected vice president, and Dr. I. H. Clement, treasurer.

The following committees were appointed by the chair:

**Bylaws** – Drs. J. H. Clark, J. O. Dixon and A. J. Donakey.

**Censors** – Drs. A. S. H. Boyd, I. H. Clement, James W. Trisler and T. A. Frazier.

**Code of Ethics** – Drs. T. F. Wilburn, A. J. Donakey and I. H. Clement.

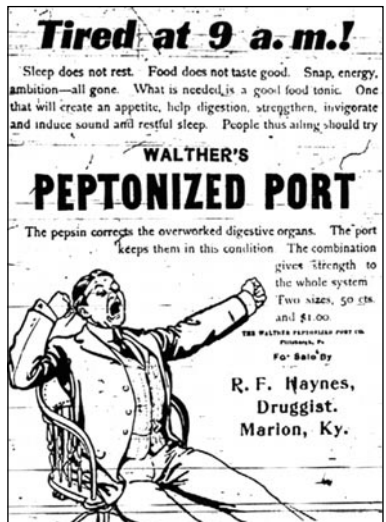
The program for the next meeting included discussions on the following topics: Puerpuri Hoemarragica and treatment – J. H. Clark; Typhoid fever and treatment – A. J. Donakey; Typho-malarial fever and treatment – I. H. Clement; and Diagnosis and treatment of Salpingitis – James W. Trisler.

## Cure-All Remedies Available

Besides having these caring and dedicated doctors to serve the citizens of Crittenden County, many other remedies were available for a variety of ailments. Ads in The Crittenden Press detail the many items sold in local stores.

Dr. Miles' Pain Pills were not just for one specific pain but were said to be effective for anything that hurt. Dr. Miles also produced Miles' Nervine, which was recommended for nerves, irritability, difficulty concentrating and even sleeplessness—particularly for the ladies.

For the gentlemen of the house, Walther's Pep-



**Two popular cure-alls guaranteed to fix whatever health problem you might have. There advertisements told all the problems they could cure.**

tonized Port might have been the answer to whatever problems they faced.

At J. H. Orme's drugstore, one could purchase apple brandy, peach brandy and Old Prentice Progress Club for medicinal purposes. Mr. Orme, a well-known pharmacist, could also prepare a tasty cough and cold syrup said to cure even the worst cough.

Newbro's Herpicide promised to kill dandruff and prevent hair loss.

For stiff joints, Sloan's Liniment was advertised to cure sprains, bruises and joint pain. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, a tonic and body builder, claimed to rejuvenate all organs and make users feel young again.

Marion also had several local entrepreneurs who developed their own medicinal products.

The Neurine Company was the earliest known local pharmaceutical business, selling home-developed remedies in the early 1870s. Robert Fulton Haynes Sr. and Warren Wagar, a pharmacist from Vermont, organized the company. They manufactured and distributed family medicines, securing patents for their formulas under the name The Warren Wagar Family Remedies.

**Marion Medicine Co.**  
In 1895, Dr. J. W. Skelton developed the Marion Medicine Co. Skelton's remedies were marketed for various ailments. His advertisement in The Crittenden Press in May 1895 read:

"In order that everybody may have an opportunity to try Skelton's remedies, we will sell one 50-cent bottle of Skelton's Tonic and Liver Regulator, one 50-cent

bottle of Skelton's Ready Relief, one 50-cent bottle of Skelton's External Liniment, one 25-cent bottle of Eye Water and one 25-cent box of Corn Salve—making a total value of \$2.00—for just \$1.00. Now is your time to try all our great products at this low price."

**Crow's Eureka Salve**  
Granville P. Crow made and sold Crow's Eureka Salve, advertised as the best corn cure on the market. The ad claimed it was the most pleasant to use and guaranteed to work, or money would be refunded.

The instructions were to bathe the feet and apply the salve for three consecutive nights, which would end the corn and relieve the pain. The price was 25 cents.

**Stone's Specific**  
D. W. Stone Medicine Co. advertised as early as 1915. Stone produced Stone's Healing Oil, a blood purifier and system builder, said to be effective for rheumatism, chills, malaria, torpid liver, indigestion, eczema and stomach issues. The company also sold a chocolate tablet for constipation, stomach, liver and kidney troubles, chills, malaria, la grippe, colds and general weakness. The tablet was said to be made from herbs "like your great-grandfather used," which supposedly contributed to longevity.

Stone's Specific was available in Marion at Haynes & Taylor; in Tolu at R. H. Lowry & Co.; in Salem at Farris Drug Co.; at the Deanwood store at J. N. Dean; and in Sheridan at A. J. Bebout & Son. The D. W. Stone Medicine Co. of Marion, Ky., also offered mail orders.

According to the late Miss Helen Moore, Daniel Webster Stone led this operation. He ordered the tablets in bulk, repackaged them in smaller packages labeled "Stone's



Special Tablets" and sold them in general merchandise and drugstores throughout the county. His business also had a successful mail-order component.

## Cross Salve

Created in the early 1930s by James Henry Jr., Cross Salve was marketed as a cure for sores, burns and piles. A 1933 ad claimed that for over a quarter of a century, this locally made salve had a remarkable track record in treating skin conditions, even those resistant to other remedies.

Testimonials included that of Mr. E. L. Guess of Marion, who had suffered an X-ray burn. Two-thirds of the back of one hand had become an open sore, exposing bones and tendons. He sought treatment at two hospitals and from several doctors, enduring extreme pain for over a year. One application of the salve reportedly gave him his first pain-free sleep in weeks, and within a month, his hand was healed.

W. H. Holloman of Crayne claimed to have suffered from piles for 16 years, sometimes being bedridden for a week at a time. Less than one jar of Cross Salve allegedly cured him permanently, allowing him to return to work.

In these stressful and hectic times, perhaps we could all use a bottle or two of these good-feeling tonics, syrups and pills to help us get through the day.

*(Brenda Underdown is chair of Crittenden County Historical Society and a member of Crittenden County Genealogical Society. Much more local history can be found at OurForgottenPassages.blogspot.com).*

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# Classifieds

The Press Online CrittendenPress.Blogspot.com

## agriculture

20 acre hay field for lease off View road. Call Mark at 352-235-0041(11-5-p)

5x6 hay bales for sale, starting at \$45 per roll. Additional hay stored inside, call for pricing. Delivery available. (270) 704-0886. (8t-9 p)

## wanted

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Small end table with Queen Anne legs. (270) 704-5047. (1t-5-c)ks

Yard sale jeans, 42x30. (270) 704-5047 (2t-6-c)ks

## auto

2014 Town & Country Van, red, stow-n-go seats, 25 mpg, \$7,500. (270) 619-5152. (1t-5-p)

2013 Dodge Ram 1500 in good shape; new tires, brakes, oil change, \$8,000. (270) 704-5047. (2t-6-c) ks

## for rent

1 bedroom (small) efficiency apartment, includes all utilities, \$400/month and \$400 deposit. Call (270) 704-3234. (4-tfc) je

## services

**CONCRETE WORK:** Parking lots, garages, steel buildings, walls, sidewalks, driveways, room additions, rock driveways, clean ditches. Call for quote (270) 724-

4672, Joe Mattingly Concrete Construction. (12t-4-p)

## legal notice

I, Melissa Guill, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, Ky. do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement:

Tricia Lynn Boyd of 207 Second St., Marion, Ky. 42064 executrix of Peggy M. Rozwalka, deceased, whose address was 109 Leland Ave., Marion, Ky. 42064.

The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on Feb. 26, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once.

Melissa Guill, Clerk  
Crittenden District Court  
(1t-5-c)

## bid notice

The Crittenden County Board of Education invites you to submit sealed bids for the 2025-2026 yearbook and school pictures. Please submit bids to: Crittenden County Board of Education, 601 West Elm Street, Marion, KY 42064. Bids will be accepted until Feb. 21, 2025 at 1 p.m., at which time they will be opened. Any interested party may attend; however, no immediate decision will be made. For bid specifications, please contact Bridgette Porter at (270) 965-3525 or email: [bridgette.porter@crittenden.kyschools.us](mailto:bridgette.porter@crittenden.kyschools.us). Crittenden County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids. (1t-5-c)

## NOTICE

Pennyrile Allied Community Services, Inc. (PACS), will hold a public meeting to discuss and determine the strengths and needs of the county. Residents with low income and community members are encouraged to attend and voice their concerns. The meeting will be held on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Crittenden Co. Senior Center, 210 E. Walker St., Marion.

*"This project is funded, in part, under a contract with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services with funds from the Community Service Block Grant Act of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services."*

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Provided by **Crittenden County Clerk's Office**

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Scan the QR code with your smartphone and enter the vehicle identification number (VIN) of your vehicle or visit the address below...