

# Hundred Years Of Life-96 Years In Fayette

JUDGE BELL TO BE HONORED AT  
BASEBALL'S CENTENNIAL FETE

Fayette, Ala., June 22, 1939  
--(Special)-- As it does for so few men and women on this planet, the century mile-stone will creep into sight for Judge Holland M. Bell Sunday. With a trembling old hand that once held a smoking musket, he will touch the marker and pass on into his second century - still in Fayette.

For here is where 96 years of Judge Bell's life have been spent. Here is where he held office for 50 years, where he married young Maggie Miles, six months after he was released from the Federal Military penitentiary on Johnson's Island in Lake Erie.

Judge Bell's parents brought him here to live when he was four years old. When he was 21 and a cadet at Lagrange Military College near Leighton, came the call to the Confederacy's colors and five years of heroic service for the South, with Gen. Braxton Bragg's army, in Bell's company.

## WHEN LINCOLN WAS SHOT

Bloody combat at Murfreesboro, at Chickamauga, at Missionary Ridge, then capture at Hatches Run and the journey to Lake Erie, to the Federal penitentiary.

On the way North young Holland Bell and his captors passed through Washington, D.C. Judge Bell still remembers the occasion. President Lincoln was shot that night. That was in March, 1865. In June he was released. He reached home the day after his 26th birthday. The next January he married Maggie Miles and together they lived to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary just before Maggie died 22 years ago.

Those intervening years were busy ones for Judge Bell. He was

becoming one of the county's indispensable citizens.

## SIX PUBLIC OFFICES

He became justice of the peace, deputy tax collector, Fayette County treasurer, clerk of the circuit court. Then for 26 years he was probate clerk, for 12 years probate judge. Then he retired from the bench at the age of 93 after half a century in public office.

Today Judge Bell is old Lagrange Military College's only living alumnus, Fayette County's only living Confederate veteran and its favorite citizen. The women of the U. D. C. here will give him a birthday dinner at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. W. Monroe, Sunday.

Also for his 100th birthday celebration he will be in Birmingham Wednesday, three days after the birthday, for another illustrious centennial observance - that of the beginning of baseball back in the year Holland M. Bell was born.

## TO SEE BALL GAME

Judge Bell will witness the centennial game Wednesday which will wind up Birmingham's part in the baseball centennial. Then he and baseball will be 100 years old and baseball will go on being played all over the country, and Judge Bell, still amazingly strong and fit, will go on tending his flower and vegetable gardens and living in the room he built and finished 74 years ago.

Among the several hundred letters, telegrams and cards received from all parts of the world was a letter from the President of the United States which reads as follows:

My Dear Judge:

It has come to my attention that you will attain the one-hundredth anniversary of your birth on June 25. It is a privilege not vouchsafed to many to round out a full century of life and I have great pleasure in extending to you my hearty congratulations and sincere wishes that your days may be filled with peace and happiness.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt.

A cablegram from Randolph Higgs, of Helsinki, Finland, a great nephew of Judge Bell, who is the youngest person in the consular service of the United States, and also letters or telegrams from the following: Hugo L. Black, Justice Supreme Court of U. S.; Senators John H. Bankhead and Lister Hill, Speaker, William B. Bankhead; Ex-Congressman, W. B. Oliver; Governor Frank M. Dixon; Dr. Richard Foster, veteran Judge of Tuscaloosa County; John R. Kennedy, commander Alabama Division U. C. V.; Dr. Harvey Ashcraft, of Baltimore; Mrs. Belle Allen Ross, of Montgomery; Dr. A. F. Harmon, President Alabama College, Montevallo and many others whom space will not allow to be mentioned.

Judge Bell possesses a clear, clean record, believing that, "Honor and shame from no condition rise, Act well your part, there all the honor lies."

As the shadows of evening merged into night, with the departure of the last guests, Judge Bell was left to the golden memories of a "Perfect Day".

(NOTE: Judge Bell died April 1942) 43



JUDGE HOLLAND M. BELL (above) will observe his one hundredth birthday anniversary at his home Sunday. Made June 25, 1939.

(NORTHWEST ALABAMIAN)

(FAYETTE PAPER)

## Notice of Sale

(1940)

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The charges of \$15.00 being due Fayette population is of-

C.S.A  
41st Alabama Infantry Company Muster Roll  
(Record of Events)

Company H

\*April 14 to June 30, 1862 (dated Sept. 12, 1862)  
Near Grahams

\*June 30 to July 31, 1862 (dated Dec. 4, 1862)  
Murfreesboro, Tenn.

\*Nov. and Dec. 1862 (dated Feb. 2, 1863)  
Tullahoma, Tenn.

\*Jan. and Feb. 1863  
Manchester, Tenn.

The company was engaged in the action before Murfreesboro, Tenn. Jan. 2, 1863. Marched from Murfreesboro, Tenn. to Altona, Tenn. Thence to Tullahoma, Tenn. Thence to Manchester, Tenn. at which latter place it is now camped.

\*March and April 1863  
Manchester, Tenn.

The company marched towards McMinnville from Manchester, Tenn. on the night of 21 April and returned 22 April a distance 16 miles.

\*May and June 1863 (dated Aug. 10, 1863)  
Camp Hurricane, Mississippi

\*July 1 to Oct. 31, 1863

Camp Hewitt Tyners Station, Tenn.

The company marched from Jackson, Miss. to Bolton Station and back Thence to Morton, Miss. in the month of July 1863. Changed station from Miss. to the Army of Tennessee by railroad Aug. 26 to 31. Marched from Tyners Station, Tenn. to Lafayette, Georgia by way of Chattanooga and back to Missionary Ridge near Chattanooga Sept. 7 to 23, 1863 Was in the battle of Chickamauga September 20, 1863.

\*Nov. and Dec. 1863

Morristown, East Tennessee

With the Brigade Company H was transferred from Lewis's Kentucky Brigade to Gracies Alabama Brigade and from Tyners Station to Missionary Ridge Nov. 5, 1863 remained until Nov. 20, 1863. Marched towards Stephenson Gap 15 miles and returned to Chickamauga Station on 21st. Took the cars for Knoxville on the 4th marched towards Bristol as far as Rodgersville a distance of 60 miles by the 9th. Was in the action at Beans Station 14th Dec. Sent to Morristown on the 19th December 1863.

\*July and August 1864

Near Petersburg

The company has been in the trenches before Petersburg, Va.

\*Jan. and Feb. 1865

In the trenches Petersburg, Va.

The company has been in the trenches before Petersburg, Va. every day since last muster. Nothing of importance transpired.