

Laclede, Missouri
January 26, 1968

Dear Miss Boling,

Thank you, Miss Boling, for your kind letter. I am glad to give you all the information I can; but this brings to my mind one of the chief regrets of my school-teaching days. That is, that I did not keep a complete record of each school-- especially the names of the pupils. I enjoyed the children very much and did not realize I would forget many names or not be able to identify their pictures. I taught Lentner in 1924-25 and 1925-26 and enjoyed my work there. I am sending you some pictures. Probably some one around Lentner can help you identify them. Use what you want of them. I tore some of them out of my album. Please return all of them as they are all I have.

Lentner was by no means my first teaching job. I went to Lentner with seventeen years of teaching experience. Just before going to Lentner I had taught six years at the Bishop School there in Shelby County. Since leaving Lentner I have taught seventeen years in Laclede. I resigned to retire in 1957, but I am satisfying my urge to teach by teaching an adult Sunday School class in the Methodist Church.

When in Lentner I boarded in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter O'Bryan. They had three children-- Clarice, Mildred, and Gerald Wood. It was a pleasant and convenient place to board. I think I paid twenty dollars per month board.

I do not remember clearly the names of the directors except Mr. O'Bryan and Mr. Frank Hall who was the secretary. As I remember, the salary must have been around sixty or sixty-five dollars per month.

Some of the games played were: ball, blackman, dare-base, fox-and-geese, drop the handkerchief, ring around a-rosy, three deep, needle's eye, London Bridge is falling down, go in and out the windows, statue, and tag. Often on Friday afternoon we had a ciphering match, a spelling bee, or a literary program.

At Christmas and at the close of school we had a program at which time the children proudly entertained their parents and friends. One night, in particular, I recall that we were having a closing ~~day~~ program which was to be followed by the Eighth Grade Commencement when a big black cloud came up. It

began to thunder and lighten and the rain fell. I looked from behind the curtain only to see that people were leaving. There was nothing then to do but dismiss the rest and go too. The next night, the storm being over, the crowd gathered again and the graduation exercises were held. All were happy.

I remember your folks but was not very well acquainted with them. I believe you are related to Eva and Jessie Boling White. I knew them well.

I wish I could help you more. It is too bad that so many records were destroyed.

Sincerely,

Florence M. Adams

Florence M. Adams

LENTNER SCHOOL
1924 - 1925



Florence Adams, teacher
1924 - 1925 and 1925 - 1926



Left to right:

Doris Davis (Wallace),
Martha Byrum (),
Virginia Wingate (Wheeler),
Geraldine Maupin (May),
Sam Gorby, Huse Quinley ?,
Gerald Wood O'Bryan

LENTNER SCHOOL
1924 - 1925
Florence Adams - teacher



The 17 boy students got warmed up by carrying the loaded coal hods, for the teacher, from this coal house. Carl Gerlich, an 8th grader is the middle boy in the coal house door. Gerald Wood O'Bryan is at right end on front row. Hope you know the others, we don't!

In the distance at extreme left is the second store building in Lentner built by George W O'Bryan (notice the slanting roof at top of first story). Next is the brick Exchange building with the Lentner Depot north of it. The low white building is the second Lentner Post Office building which was just north of the railroad tracks on the west side of the road. There was no east and west road there until Highway 36 was completed at Lentner in August, 1929. In preparation for Highway 36, the Post Office was moved across to the east side of the road and further north. It had been assumed for many years that Hansford Carroll built that Post Office building. But in 2008 we learned that it had been built and used for a doctor's office by Dr Adolphus G Wood. His son, Dr Adolphus M Wood, also used it on the Wood property. Later it was moved "uptown" and became the Post Office building. There are always new things to learn in writing history.

The 2 story home of John & Sarah Gorby can be seen to the left as well as their red barn to the right.

LENTNER SCHOOL
1924 - 1925



Those that can be identified are Doris Davis, later Mrs Glenn Wallace, third from the left standing on the bannister; Bonnie Gorby, later Mrs Weldon Tillitt, standing in front of door holding ball; and Ruby Gorby, in back row at extreme right.

Can you help us identify the others?



Those that we know are Gerald Wood O'Bryan standing on left bannister, Sam Gorby 2nd from left in first row, Marion (Buck) Maupin at extreme left in second row, Carl Gerlich, extreme right in back row.

After so many years, we can't pick out the others - can you?

Florence Adams sent the pictures in 1967.