

Keeney Update

VOL. VIII, Number 2

Roscoe Keeney, Jr.
P. O. Box 5519
Charleston, WV 25361-5519

May 1991

Kendall H. Keeney, Retired Lawyer And Ex-Judge Here, Dies



Friends here have been saddened by the word of the death of Attorney Kendall H. Keeney, about 78.

The well known lawyer and former City Police Judge passed away on Sunday, June 6, in East Wenatchee, Washington.

He was originally from Ravenswood, WV, but spent the active years of his legal career in Clarksburg.

Kendall H. Keeney received his A.B. and LL.B degrees from West Virginia University in 1929 and immediately came to Clarksburg to begin his long law practice.

Attorney Keeney spent his entire professional life at the Harrison County Bar. Commencing in the Spring of 1929 and ending in 1973, at which time he and his wife moved to

Washington State to be near their two children and grandchildren.

Kendall Keeney was well liked at the Bar. He was considered one of the leading lawyers in land titles and in business law.

He served as Clarksburg City Police Judge for a few years. Also, he served as president of the Harrison County Bar Association in 1961. He had many friends in Clarksburg and the vicinity.

The Harrison County Bar Association President, C. David McMunn, has indicated that an appropriate resolution will be prepared and represented to the Bar Association for adoption.

Attorney Keeney is survived by his wife, Beatrice Keeney; a son, Jack Keeney of Seattle, Wash.; a daughter, Mrs. Thomas J. (Joan) Raese of East Wenatchee, Wash., three granddaughters and four grandsons.

DOCTOR C. E. KEENEY IS CLAIMED BY DEATH

prominent Ravenswood dentist succumbs at Cammock home to heart disease

Doctor Claude Everett Keeney, of Ravenswood, long prominent in the profession of dentistry, died last night at the home of his aunt, Mrs. C. W. Cammock on 13th Ave. of heart failure.

Doctor Keeney had come here from Ravenswood about 2 months ago for rest and treatment. and was thought to have been making consistent progress toward recovery until his death occurred suddenly shortly after 2 o'clock this morning. Members of his family were at his bedside when the end came.

Funeral at Ravenswood

funeral services will be conducted Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Ravenswood at the Presbyterian Church, of which Doctor Keeney was a member. The services will be conducted by Reverend C. C. Newsome, pastor of the M. E. Church, south of Man, West Virginia., A close personal friend of Doctor Keeney. Interment will be at Ravenswood. Friends and relatives will accompany the body to Ravenswood tomorrow afternoon.

Members of the family requested the flowers be omitted. There will be no funeral service in Huntington.

Doctor Keeney spent nearly all of his life in Ravenswood. Throughout Jackson and nearby counties he was held in the highest esteem.

Once Practiced Here

he was born at Ravenswood September 14, 1871, the son of Alonzo T. Keeney and Elma J. (Haworth), Keeney. He attended Ohio Wesleyan College, Delaware, Ohio, and Colgate University, Hamilton, and. N. Y. His degree in dentistry was won at Ohio dental College, Cincinnati. For a short time after graduation he engaged in the practice of dentistry in Huntington, associated with Doctor E. C. VanVleck for several months, but established himself permanently in Ravenswood.

He married Miss Evelyn Fisher, of Covington, Kentucky, June 5, 1900.

He is survived by his father and mother, who live at Ravenswood, his widow, one son, Kendall Haworth Keeney, an attorney, of Clarksburg, and 2 grandchildren, Jack and Joan Keeney.

Death Claims Mrs. Keeney

Mrs. Evelyn Fisher Keeney, 91, of Shadow Hills, died in a local nursing home at 9:25 AM Wednesday after an extended illness. She was born February 28, 1875, in Covington, Kentucky, a daughter of the late James M. And Elizabeth Craig Fisher. She was preceded in death by her husband, Doctor Claude E. Keeney in 1934.

Surviving are one son, Attorney Kendall H. Keeney, former city police Judge, Shea would Hillsm: one granddaughter, Mrs. J. Thomas (Joan) Reese of Bogalusa Louisiana; and 6 grandchildren. One brother and 3 sisters are deceased.

This Keeney was a former music teacher, a member of the Presbyterian Church at Ravenswood, the DAR chapter of Ravenswood, and the Woman's Club there.

MRS. EVELYN FISHER KEENEY, 91, of Shadow Hills, a former teacher of music, died at 9:25 AM January 11, 1967 in a local nursing home following an extended illness. She was born February 28, 1875, in Covington, Kentucky, daughter of the late James M. and Elizabeth Craig Fisher. Her husband, Dr. Claude E. Keeney, passed away in 1934. Surviving are one son, Atty. Kendall H. Keeney, Shadow Hills, former police Judge; one grandson, Jackson H. Keeney, Seattle, Washington; one granddaughter, Mrs. J. Thomas (Joan) Raese, Bogalusa, Louisiana; and 6 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother and three sisters. Mrs. Keeney was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Ravenswood, West Virginia, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Woman's Club at Ravenswood. Friends may call at the Davis Funeral Home, 443 West Pike St., Thursday from 2 to 4:00 and 7 to 9:00 PM where funeral services will be held Friday, January 13, at 3:30 PM. The Rev. Samuel E. Glass, pastor of the First United Presbyterian Church, will officiate. Committal at 12:00 noon Saturday in Ravenswood Cemetery, Ravenswood, West Virginia. The family requested flowers be omitted. Davis Funeral Home.

1934 ALONZO T. KEENEY CLAIMED BY DEATH

HUNTINGTON Aged Jackson County Resident Passes Soon After Death of Son Here

Alonzo T. Keeney, one of Jackson County's oldest residents, died at his home in Ravenswood last night after a brief illness. Funeral services will be held at his old home Thursday afternoon at 2:30. The rights will be in charge of Rev. C. E. Gettys, minister of the Ravenswood Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Keeney was a lifelong member.

Huntington relatives include his nephew, C. A. Staff, and his nieces, Mrs. J.F. Holswade and Miss Ora Staats, the latter treasurer of Marshall College.

His widow, who survives him, was formally Miss Alma Haworth, a sister of Mrs. C. W. Cammock, of Huntington, and of the late Dr. C. E. Haworth. In November of last year Mr. Mrs. Keeney observed the 63rd anniversary of their marriage.

Mr. Keeney was stricken with a paralytic attack soon after his son, Dr. C. E. Keeney, died at the home relatives here. Until that time he had been vigorous and active throughout his life, all of which was spent in Ravenswood. He was 85 years old on September 13.

Throughout his long life he was widely known and highly respected in Jackson County. Although he had retired from active business a number of years ago, he continued to maintain a keen interest in the affairs of his community to the end of his life. He occasionally visited relatives in Huntington, and had a number of friends and acquaintances here.

JANUARY 28, 1942

MRS. A. T. KEENEY DIES AT RAVENSWOOD

Mrs. Alonzo T. Keeney, one of the early residents of Ravenswood, West Virginia, died there early this morning after a long illness. Her sister, Mrs. C. W. Cammack of Huntington, was with her at the time of her death, and other members of the family will go to Ravenswood tomorrow for funeral services after the residence at 2 PM.

Mrs. Keeney had a large number of friends and acquaintances in Huntington. She was the former Miss Alma Haworth, daughter of Dr. Samuel M. Haworth, a pioneer physician of Jackson County, and was a sister of the late Dr. C. E. Haworth at the Marshall College faculty.

Other surviving relatives include her grandson, Kendall Keeney of Clarksburg, West Virginia. Her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Claude Keeney, lives in Ravenswood.

Mrs. Keeney was born in Ohio opposite Ravenswood, but had lived in Ravenswood almost all of her life. She was a member of the Christian Science Church.

KENDALL HAWORTH KEENEY AND FAMILY

Kendall "Ken" Haworth Keeney was born November 13, 1903 in Ravenswood, WV. He grew up there and spent his early education in public schools. The only story about any childhood mischief he ever told on himself was the story of how he was "cured" of his appetite for watermelon. He and a friend of his of been hired by farmer to help unload watermelon from the wagon. The farmer told the two boys they could eat any watermelon that might be accidentally split open. Needless to say, there were lots of accidents. He was so sick that evening that he never wanted another taste of watermelon again, and decades later, he still wouldn't touch it.

He attended West Virginia University, was a member of a fraternity, and graduated with a B. A. in political science and an L. L. D. Degree in 1929. It was during his student days in Morgantown that he met his future wife, Beatrice "Bea" Helen Senna of Castle Shannon, PA. They eloped and were married in secret June 1, 1929 in Pittsburgh. Years later, at their 50th wedding anniversary, Bea Keeney explained why they had eloped. At the time, she had a bookkeeping job at a large supply company in Pittsburgh and had worked there several years. Her boss had a policy that only unmarried women would be employed by him. Married women were expected to be supported by their husbands and to stay home to keep house. She knew of several women

who were fired after their marriage was discovered. Also, at the time, her husband was just out of college was not yet established in law firm, so they still needed the income. Three months later, she quit the job, announced the wedding, and moved to Clarksburg, West Virginia where her husband had successfully begun his law practice.

Beatrice Helen (Senna) Keeney was born December 9, 1905 in Castle Shannon, PA. She was the only child of Louis Henry Senna and Marie Margret (Metz) Senna. Beatrice became active in a variety of clubs and organizations in Clarksburg. Among her favorites for the Garden Club and the Bridge clubs she belonged to. Kendall and Beatrice Keeney remained active members of the Presbyterian Church. Their 2 children were Joan Marie (Keeney) Raese and Jackson Haworth Keeney.

Attorney Keeney began his practice in a Clarksburg law firm. He was only marginally interested in politics. He did serve on several local and county committees, and was involved in the local Republican politics, but had no grand political ambitions for himself. The only time he ran for state office was sometime in the 1930s when made a single unsuccessful bid for the West Virginia House of Delegates. He was president of the Harrison County Bar Association and served as a Harrison County police court Judge for many years. For more information on Judge Keeney's legal career, see the attached articles.

Judge Keeney was diagnosed as having Parkinson's disease sometime in the mid-1960s. Declining health forced him to retire from the bench early. In 1973 they moved from Clarksburg, West Virginia to Washington state where, by then, both their adult children and seven grandchildren were living. On June 6, 1982 he died in East Wenatchee, Washington and is buried in Clarksburg, West Virginia. Beatrice Keeney still resides in West Wenatchee, spry as ever at the age of 85.

MEXICAN WAR

Muster Role

Company muster role of Lieut. W. G. MacAdoo's company in the 2nd Regiment of Tennessee volunteers commanded by Col. W. T. Haskell, called in-service by the President under the act of Congress approved May 13, 1846, from October 31, 1846, one last muster to April 30, 1847.

W. G. McAdoo, 1st Lt. Comg. Company

A. J. Ellis, 2nd Lt. Comg. Company

William S. Coward, 2nd a. Lieut.

T. R. Bradley, 1st Sgt.

B. C. Hunt, 2nd Sgt.

Wesley R. Moore, 3rd Sgt.

E. H. McAdoo, 4th Sgt.

B. H. Hackney, 1st Cpl.

Wm. Reynolds, 2nd Cpl.

J. D. Swan, 3rd Cpl.

Chas. Lamar, 4th Cpl.

Died in Service:

John L. Kirkpatrick, Capt. died

March 10, 1847

Churchill Hutchinson, private

William England, private

William H. Leinart, private

Geo. W. Keeney, private

Jonathan Landrum, private

Privates:

Charles Altum

Wiley Bailey

John Bennett

Rowland Chiles

H. M. Dobbins

Felix Gilbert

William Grinstead

Joseph Haridan

William S. Herrington

Warren Harrell

Mitcheal Hostler

Lewis L. Jones

Elisha Kernel

Henry Kesterson

William M. Levi

James McDonald

James Morgan

Joseph Romines

William Baxter

William Bennett

James H. Black

Samuel Davis

Aaron Farmer

Isaac Graham

John Jackson

Lewis Jones

John Keeney

William King

Jacob Levi

Vincent A. Moore

Isam Nance

Armstead A. Wallace

Discharged:

John S. Shaver

James W. Hackney

Jamuel D. Leinart

Hamilton Hays

Elijah Jennings

A. J. Oliver

Jacob Harnes

Reuben M. Ashlock

Geo. W. Jennings

Daniel Vann

William Hackney

Daniel Henderson

W. R. Harrell

Lindley Hill

Family Tree

The old man was telling about his family. "The first one is a doctor... the second one stays out all night too... the third one is a lawyer, and the fourth one won't tell the truth either. The fifth one is a schoolteacher... and the sixth one is always broke too... The seventh one is a preacher... and the eighth one... well, he won't work either."

PATRONS

Thanks to those who have made donations on the printing and mailing of this issue:

FLORIDA: Lester E. Keeney \$10, Juliana C. Cole \$5, Jerry F. Keeney \$25

TENNESEE: Irene Panzer \$5

MICHIGAN: Phyllis Smith \$15

NORTH CAROLINA: Mary Ann Keeney \$20

CALIFORNIA: Aulene Samples \$50; Trish Couture \$30

WASHINGTON: David Raese \$25, Diane K. House \$10

CONN.: Phyllis Tumulty \$15

Money is helpful, but news and pictures are also needed. Use the Box 5519, Charlston, WV 25361 address.



Joseph B. Keeney -- Seated on outside left
Stage Owner & Driver - Walla Walla, Wash.
1870

JOSEPH B. KEENEY (b. June, 1830-d. 1905) no record of parentage Joseph D. Keeney was born in Crawfordsville, Indiana in June 1830. In 1852, he went by steamer through the Isthmus of Panama in route to California. Mr. Keeney soon became identified with the big companies who are engaged in the Star Route Contracting. For a number of years he was a stockholder in one of the companies that had its headquarters in San Francisco. He came to Oregon in 1869, and took charge of Wells Fargo and

Company, as Business Agent, and followed this business until the Union Pacific Railroad was completed.

"Joe" Keeney was connected with the, now, historical Overland Stage Route that extended from the Dalles 800 miles eastward to the western terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad. During this period he had a residence in the Dalles, Oregon, Wasco County, and in 1870 drove stage from the Dalles through Shaniko and on to into the John Day Valley to terminate at the Snake River opposite Old Fort Boise, where my great uncle Jonathan Keeney was then operating his Riverside Inn and Ferry. This route was then called the Dalles Military Road.

Later in life, Joseph Keeney was elected twice to the office of County Clerk for Umatilla County, Oregon. After retiring, he moved to Walla Walla, Washington.

He married Francis M. White in 1854 in California, and they had 4 children; Edward, who lived in Monument, Oregon; Joseph, at La Grande, Oregon; Mrs. E. W. Farrel of Barnegat Park, New Jersey; and Mrs. Ben Morgan, of Pendleton, Oregon in this year of 1905. Francis (White) Keeney passed away and is buried in a park at Pendleton, Oregon.

Joseph was married a second time in 1891 to Elizabeth Bourn, and had one little girl, Esther.

Joseph B. Keeney passed away at his home in Walla Walla, Washington in 1905 at the age of 75.

The following is from the pages of HISTORY OF GRANT COUNTY, page 681*

EDWARD C. KEENEY:

He was born May 6, 1868 in Salt Lake, Utah, the son of Joseph B. Keeney and Frances M. White. From Salt Lake, they moved to Kelton, Utah; to Boise, Idaho; to Walla Walla, Washington; to Weston, Oregon; to Pendleton, Oregon. In 1889, he operated the stage lines from out of Hepner to Monument. They moved to Long Creek where he operated a hotel; then to Drewsy. Edward C. Keeney married Mary May Violet January 1, 1893, at the home of her sister, Mrs. J. S. Woolery, in Ione, Oregon.

*Heppner Gazette-January 3, 1893 the Bancroft Library:

"married-at Ione, at the residence of the bride's brother-in-law, (J. A. Woolery, Esq.) Mr. Edward C. Keeney and Miss Mary May Violet, Edwin Palmer officiating. It was a very quiet wedding, a few being present. It was however, none the less enjoyable. The contracting parties were two of the most estimable and popular young people of Morrow County. We congratulate them on their passage from single blessedness to double bliss and trust others will emulate their wise example."

*Heppner Gazette-25 October 1889, page 3 of the Bancroft Library: "J. B. Keeney, superintendent of Idaho Stage Company, passed through Long Creek on way to Canyon City."

KEENEY UPDATE

WASHINGTON

Diane K. House, Tacoma, Washington is searching for her relatives in the John Keeney/Mary Bucklalter line. Her KEENEY line: Arnold M. Burke (B. 1918, ID), father; Lula Alma Landingham (B. 1899, OR), grandmother; George Madison Landingham (B. 1849, MO), great-grandfather; William LANDINGHAM (1810-1850) married REBECCA KEENEY, B. 4 July 1812, great-great grandparents.

CALIFORNIA

Aulene F. Samples, 15 Leaves Court E., Danville, CA 94526-4310 has started an attractive newsletter for her SAMPLES/KEENEY kin. She is the great-granddaughter of HARRISON COLUMBUS KEENEY, whose family includes the Clay County teachers covered in this issue.

VIRGINIA

John D. KEENEY, formerly of Keokuk, Iowa, is now plant manager for Kingston-Warren in Wytheville, Virginia church records for the past century at the 1st Baptist Church, St. Albans, West Virginia include Keeney names: BETSY KEENEY PETERS GRAHAM, BAP. 4-1-1917; EVERETT A. KEENEY, ltr. 12-6-1931, died 10-4-1956; MRS. EVERETT KEENEY, ltr. 12-6-1931, D. 1-21-1938; GEORGIA MARY KEENEY, ltr. 6-28-53; MARY FRANCES KEENEY, m. George M. Mellott, ltr. 12-6-1931; PAULA SUE KEENEY m. Kenneth Coleman Shahan, BAP. 4-23-1967; MRS. RUSSELL R KEENEY, LTR. 3-1-1964.

PENNSYLVANIA

MICHAEL LEROY KEENEY, Claremont, CA wants help on tracing his ancestry. His father, RICHARD SAMUEL (1914-1989) died recently. His grandparents-SINCLAIR LEROY & FANNY E. BENTZEL KEENEY, York County, PA

Family roots go deep in Montgomery

by Susan Williams
STAFF WRITER



Lawrence Carson's family helped to form the landscape of his hometown, Montgomery.

through his marriage, covered most of what is now the town.

During the 1840s and 1850s, boats on the Kanawha River made frequent stops at Montgomery, which then became commonly known as Montgomery's Landing.

Much of the town's early character was determined by two of

Montgomery's sons, Carson said. James W., From Montgomery's first marriage, started the first water company. Seth, his half-brother, founded the town's first telephone company.

The brothers also were in a group that founded the Montgomery National Bank, which Carson

MONTGOMERY-the farm that James C. Montgomery plowed more than 100 years ago has yielded churches, a college and a town.

One of Montgomery's descendants, Lawrence Carson, shared family history as residence in the town that bears the Montgomery family name prepare to celebrate its centennial May 17.

James C. Montgomery was born in 1811. Like many of his heirs he was active in politics, serving in the Virginia legislature before the Civil War.

He married twice and fathered 14 children. He first married Amanda Brannon, granddaughter of William Morris came from Virginia to Cedar Grove. Morris founded the first permanent settlement in the Valley in 1774.

Montgomery's farm, a land acquired believes is also the site of his grandfather's home.

The two built a steel toll bridge in the early 1900s. According to Carson, the bridge was anchored in the area of what is now Lee Street. Carson said the lanes were based on the side of the vehicles of the day. In time, buses began to have

difficulty passing each other on the bridge.

Carson said the family donated land for the original sites for all the early churches in town. Like his grandfather, Carson is trustee of Calvary Episcopal.

The Montgomery heirs donated two acres of land for the college that became West Virginia Institute of Technology. Old Main, at the center of the school, sits on part of the original two acre tract.

In 1926, Carson's mother and father built the home where Carson and his wife Geraldine live today. The site was once home to J. W. Montgomery's sawmill.

Carson's mother, Alice Montgomery Carson, lived there most of her life and died at age 98.

MONTGOMERY'S centennial celebration will be May 17 and will include a parade, film about settlers and a live broadcast of "Mountain Stage."

The huge brick house has an almost identical twin next door. That house was built by Helen Montgomery Vickers and her husband. Helen and Alice were sisters.

Both sisters have politician sons. Lawrence Carson's brother Howard

was president of the state Senate. Howard, now 80, lives in Charlottesville, Virginia. Their late brother Bill was mayor of Montgomery.

All of Helen Montgomery Vickers' sons who lived to adulthood became lawyers.

Carl Vickers, now deceased, was Fayette County's prosecutor. His son Charles is the present prosecutor. Charles's sister Vicki Douglas is a member of the House of delegates from Berkeley County. The late Vickers was also president of the Senate.

Earl Vickers has legislative services, and his brother George is Montgomery city attorney.

Lawrence Carson said he was never interested in politics. Now 72, he retired after 43 years with Union Carbide in New York.

His family history and other interesting stories from the town's history will be part of the centennial celebration publication.

Helen Lodge, a former Montgomery resident, is compiling the history to be sold at town hall and other places during the celebration. Proceeds will go to the Centennial Committee which is planning the festivities.

By reading old newspaper clippings, Lodge learned that Montgomery's first football team was formed in 1901. The members of the Montgomery Preparatory School team had an average weight of 135 pounds but insisted on playing much larger opponents. They gave rise to a saying about the team, "they never won a game and never lost a fight." Apparently, the players carried their football battles off the field.

Centennial celebration activities begin at 6 PM May 17 when town, state and American flags are raised along US 60.

A parade is scheduled at 11 AM the following day. That night, at Conley Hall Little Theater at West Virginia Tech, there will be a showing of "Goodbye, Miss Fourth of July."

Melba Carter, head of the Centennial Committee, said the films author, Christopher Janus, will also be there. Janus wrote the film about Italian immigrants settled in Smithers and Montgomery to work in the mines.

From 3 to 5 PM May 19, "Mountain Stage" will have a live broadcast of its show in Conley Hall.

LAWRENCE CARSON's great-great-grandparents were Henry Montgomery & NANCY KEENEY MONTGOMERY, 2nd daughter of Michael and Catherine Lewis KEENEY, whose offsprings gathered into Kentucky and Ohio, then to Iowa and westward. Many of the Montgomery clan stayed in West Virginia.

INDIANA

MARRIAGES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Elizabeth KEENEY to Alanson Harrison 13 Sept 1829
Jane KEENEY to Jacob Reminger 19 April 1836
Joseph KENNY to Lucinda Stover 16 Nov 1836
Mary H. Keeney to Abraham Harrison 9 Sep 1840
Samuel T. KEENEY to Elizabeth Kessler 1 February 1848
Michael KINNY to Eliza Jones 29 June 1849
Hiram KEENEY (B. KY) to Bridget Ryan (b. Ire) 2 Feb 50
Stephen D. KEENEY to Hannah Noffsinger 6 June 1852
William KEENEY to Mary Penrod 27 Sept 1852
Thomas KEENEY to Elizabeth Bell 23 Dec 1853
John KEENEY to Lucinda Montgomery 17 Nov 1854
William B. KEENEY to Harriet G. Corson 6 Nov 1855

Thomas KEENEY to Letitia Campbell 14 Nov 1855
William H. KEENEY to Catherine E. Anthony 1 Sep 1862
John H. KEENEY to Catherine M. Willey 28 Sep 1865
James KEENEY to Nancy A. Dickey 21 March 1866
Youell P. KEENEY to Eva E. Anthony 6 May 1871
William H. KEENEY to Mary S. Stoddard 12 Jan 1877
James B. KEENEY to Martha L. Couster 11 Feb 1880
Albert KEENEY to Annie Ellis 24 Dec 1883
William KEENEY to Susan Bey 15 Nov 1887
Henry KEENEY to Amelia S. Nicholson 15 March 1890
William H. KEENEY to Eva P. Thomas 16 June 1894
Clyde KEENEY Pearl Jackson 1 Dec 1900

Pulaski County, Kentucky

Deed for Rocklick Baptist Church

Moses Keeney and Robert McAllister, trustees of the Baptist Church at Rocklick in the county up last guy constituted and agreed to an act of the General assembly and the rules (?) Of the said church, etc.-that the said Jesse Richardson conveyed to the said trustees, a certain tract of land laying in the county on which the meetinghouse now stands, known by the name of Rocklick meetinghouse containing 4 acres, for the use of the Baptist Church, provided however, that if the said church ever be dissolved and be no more-than the tractor ground shall revert to the children of Polly Woods dated December 14, 1822

[Deed Book 5, page 199 or 189. This is an excerpt from the deed.]

DEATHS

THE YORK DISPATCH, MONDAY,
JULY 10, 1989

Richard S. Keeney

York

Richard S Keeney of York died at 9:45 PM Friday at his home after lengthy illness. He was 74.

Mister Keeney retired in 1978 as relay technician for Metropolitan Edison where he had been employed for 45 years. He was a member of Met- Ed's 25 Year Club and its Retirees group. He was a former vice president of the York Local of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The US Army Veteran of World War II, he was a member of the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, the American Association of Retired Persons, the York Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American veterans and the Victory Athletic Association.

Born in York, son of the late Leroy and Fanny Bentzel Keeney, he leaves his wife, Sara N. Weber Keeney; 2 sons, Michael L. Keeney, Claremont, California and Mark E. Keeney, Perth, Australia; 2 daughters, Gretchen K. Zimmerman, Spring Grove, and Jane E. Beaufills, reading; 3 grandchildren; a brother, Kenneth L. Keeney, York; and a sister, Virginia Bender, York.

There will be no viewing. The service will be held at 2 PM tomorrow at the John W. Keffer Funeral Home Inc., 902 Mount Rose Ave., with burial in Mount Rose Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Visiting Nurse Association Hospice Services, 218E. Market St., York 17403

Hubert B. Fout

Hubert B. "Jim" Fout, 63, of 130 West Reynolds Ave., Belle, died March 13, 1991, at home after a short illness.

He was retired from Union Carbide. He was a veteran of World War II. He was a Mason, and a Shriner. He was a member of Belle Fire Department. He was a former scoutmaster.

Surviving: wife, Helen Gross Fout; sons, James Bolling and Richard Lee, both of Belle; daughter, Joyce Hoffman of Sugar Grove; sisters, Anna Frances Milam of Victoria, Texas, Mary Elizabeth Skeens of Parkersburg; five grandchildren. Service will be 11 AM Friday at Fidler-Frame Funeral Home, Belle, with the Reverend John Torrence and the Reverend Leroy Keeney officiating. Burial with Masonic rites will be in Montgomery Memorial Park, London. Friends may call after 7 PM today at the funeral home.

Harold E. Keeney

SAINT PETERSBURG, Florida-Harold E. Keeney, 89, of St. Petersburg, Florida, formerly of Vinton Ohio, died Wednesday, March 13, 1991, in Dade Pines Veterans Hospital, St. Petersburg, after a long illness.

He was a World War I Navy veteran, a lineman for the Appalachian Power Company and retired Vinton dairy farmer. He attended the Gallipolis (Ohio) Church of God.

Surviving-wife, Nelle Hamilton Keeney; brother, Raymond of Richland, Washington; sister, Mildred Goodman of Mount Hope, WV, three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

Graveside service will be 10 AM Monday in Sunset Memorial Park, South Charleston, with the Reverend Betty Murdoch officiating.

Mrs. Bessie Lee Meadows

Mrs. Bessie Lee Meadows, 61, of 4102 Salines Drive, Malden, died March 18, 1991, in Memorial Division, CAM C, after a long illness.

She was a native and lifelong resident of Malden and a member of Malden United Methodist Church. She was retired clerk typist for DuPont, Belle, with 32 years' service.

Surviving: husband, William C. Meadows; daughter, Brenda Joseph of Houston; mother, Violet Keeney of Belle; brother, Benjamin "Buddy" Keeney of Belle; two grandchildren.

Clarence Edward Keeney

BECKLEY-Clarence Edward Keeney, 74 of Beckley, died Tuesday, April 23, 1991, in Beckley Hospital after a short illness.

He was retired supervisor at West Moreland Coal Company. He was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II. Surviving: wife, Lillian Scargg Keeney; daughter, Jane Lynn Keeney of Beckley. Graveside service will be 11 AM Friday at Blue Ridge Memorial Gardens, Prosperity, with Reverend Ernest Barley officiating.

Walter H. Keeney Jr.

Walter Henson Keeney Junior, 78, of Belle, died April 26, 1991, in General Division, CAM C, after a short illness.

He was retired from DuPont and was lifelong resident of Kanawha County. He was a member of Mount Juliet Methodist Church, Belle; Selena Lodge 27 AF & AM; Scottish Rite Bodies and Benny-Kedem Shrine Temple.

Surviving: daughter, Adrienne Adams of Elk Grove, Illinois, Joanne Daun of

Naples Florida, Kay Jones of Sarasota, Florida, Annette Kelly of Williamsville, New York; brothers, David W. Of Mason, Ohio, W. Paul of Belle; sister, Grace Price of Melbourne, Florida; 12 grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren.

Service will be held 10 AM Monday at Fidler-Frame Funeral Home, Belle, with the Reverend Warren Faulkner officiating. Burial with Masonic graveside rights will be in Montgomery Memorial Park. Friends may call after 6 PM today at the funeral home.

Mrs. Edith Shabdue Keeney

CHARLTON HEIGHTS-Mrs. Edith Shabdue Keeney, 74, of Charlton Heights, died May 7, 1991, in Memorial Division, CMAC, after a short illness.

The she was a homemaker and a member of Charlton Heights United Methodist Church.

Surviving: daughters, Patricia Kawa of Oak Forest, Illinois, Beverly Oliver of Clarksburg; son, F. James of Boardman, Ohio; sisters, Bertha Johnson of

Powellton, Ruby Buckhannon of Gallipolis, Ohio; brother, Hubert K. Shabue of South Charleston; six grandchildren.

Service will be 11 AM Friday at B. C. Hooper Funeral Home, Montgomery, with the Reverend Virginia Showalter and the Reverend Frank Bounds officiating. Burial will be in Montgomery Memorial Park, London. Friends may call from 7 to 9 PM today at the funeral home.

DEATHS: the sons of RICHARD S. KEENEY want to check out their Keeney genealogy; relatives of the York, PA Keeney's are asked to send information to KEENEY UPDATE; HUBERT B. FOUT and WALTER H. KEENEY, Jr. were grandsons of John S. & Hannah C. Keeney, great-grandsons of Stires & Mildred Gatewood Keeney; HAROLD E. KEENEY's father was John Wilson Keeney, son of McDonald & Catherine Wilson Keeney (pp 86-87, KEENEY RELATIVES); BESSIE KEENEY MEADOWS was a daughter of B. P. (Bud) & Violet Short Keeney and a granddaughter of Utica & Margaret Smithers Keeney; CLARENCE EDWARD KEENEY, son of William (Mote) & Grace O'Dell Keeney, was the grandson of John Gatewood & Amanda Stanley Keeney; EDITH S. KEENEY was the wife of Frank James Keeney (1905-1983), who was the son of Daniel & Francis Brinkley Keney and the grandson of John Patrick Keeney, of Boone County, WV.

KEENEY REUNIONS

MICHIGAN-Saturday, July 6 KEENEY homestead in Erie, present home of Lynette & Pat Frost, 10347S. Dixie Highway
Info: 313-848-4377

313-848-4644

WEST VIRGINIA-Saturday, August 3, 2000 Orchard Ave., Belle (Riverside, US Route 60)

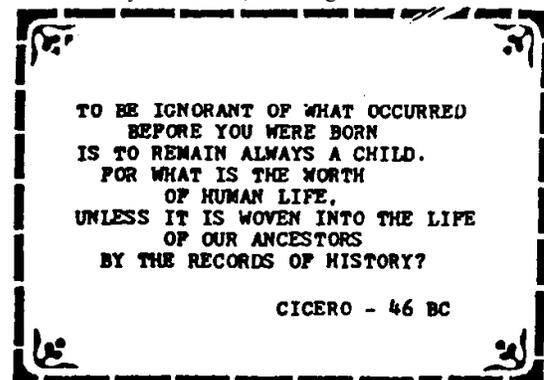
Pres.: George Kent Keeney

Info: 304-949-4579

1839 DEED

(in 1839 deed of STIRES KEENEY, on file in Kanawha County court records, confirms and expands information on the MOSES KEENEY family, which moved from Greenbrier to Kanawha circa 1820. Milton Snyder was the nephew, oldest son of Stires Keeney's niece, Catherine Brawley Snyder)

This indenture made this 14th day of September 1839 between Stires J. Keeney of the County of Kanawha on one part and Milton Snyder of the said County of Kanawha on the other part. Witnesseth that the said Stiers J. Keeney for and in consideration of the sum of six hundred dollars of lawful money to him in hand paid by the said Milton Snyder at or before the ensembling and delivery of these presents, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged hath bargained and sold, and by these presents doth bargain and sell unto the said Milton Snyder, his heirs and assigns. All his undivided interest in the estate of his father MOSES KEENEY deceased both real and personal which interest is one eleventh thereof, also his undivided interest being a life estate in the real estate of Ransome Gatewood deceased, in the right of his wife Milly, who was Milly Gatewood, the daughter of the said Ransome Gatewood deceased which interest is the life estate of one sixth part thereof all of which are situated in the county of Kanawha together with the following personal property: one brown horse with the blaze face, saddle and bridle into yoke of oxen, two milk cows with calves, one two year old heifer three beds bedstead and covers one table, one cupboard seven Windsor chairs, plates, cups and saucers, knives and forks, cooking utensils all of his the said Stiers J. Keeney, interest being one third, in a wagon all of his interest being one half in a set of blacksmith tools likewise all the interest, rights and privileges of the said Stiers J. Keeney in the unexpired term of the lease from MOSES KEENEY to Michael R. Keeney, Stiers J. Keeney and Foster H. Keeney, terminating on the first day of March eighteen hundred and forty-one, and which appears more fully from a DEED of lease in the possession of the said Keeney bearing date on the 10th day of September 1836.



Keeney Teachers From Clay County

Cora Keeney Samples

In the fall of 1899, it was decided that Cora, the oldest Keeney daughter, was to attend school at Pleasant Retreat since named Bomont. The strange thing about that was that Cora was already 18 years of age, and her instruction in public schools have been limited. Some help in learning the 3Rs however, had been given at home.

It was necessary that she enrolled this term so that she could pass the examination next summer to get her own teacher's certificate. Once she secured that she could help Maggie, Vesta, Nettie, Mattie, Nona, and Carl to get an education. But until then they could not attend regularly because there were not enough shoes, dresses, and coats to go around.

Harrison Columbus Keeney, the father, was an unskilled farm laborer. Money was always hard to find, and the entire family worked in the fields to make a living.

Lum with nearly 60 years old when Cora was starting this term of school. Jeanetta, the mother, was ill most of the time. This made it necessary for one of the girls to remain at the house to help her and care for the baby.

As Cora went to school that fall, she found very crude physical conditions. The schoolhouse was made of hewn logs, and so were the seats. Slates and slate pencils were substitutes for blackboards and chalk. There were very few books and perhaps no two alike.

Within the next seven years she taught nine terms of school. None exceeded three or four months. Methods of discipline differed little from those used in her home and community. She taught in the Lizemore-Adonijah area of Clay County. During that time she lived in the homes of the Morton's, Prices, Pritts, and Bakers. Boys in the area who did not attend school always made trouble for the teachers. More than once a gang meant to "run the teacher off," but she always said that she didn't go there in a run and therefore would not run away. She used these experiences in her later years to encourage her own children to have stamina. She always insisted that no occasion was worthy of a quitter. She admitted in later years, however, that without the support of the parents she could not have remained sometimes.

Cora often told interesting stories of inter-community contests. The schools were the community centers and Friday afternoons were lively times. Spelling bees and Arithmetic contests were frequent affairs. One time a humorous incident happened to her. She would always declare that she would not spell **beans** and to prove that would say "b-double e-n-s." One time another teacher planned to "spell her down" so he pronounced **beans** to her. Habits have become so forceful that she involuntarily started it wrong. After she said "b-double-" a pupil shook his head at her, and she was able to rescue herself from embarrassment. But not before there was much laughter.

In September 1907, Cora married Ray Samples and quit teaching school. To this union were born five girls and four boys. It took more than a little management, but their belief in the values of an education for their children were so strong that each child an opportunity to attend high school. Seven of the children are graduates of Clay County High School. Three received Bachelor of Science Degrees from Morris Harvey College, and one is doing graduate work at Marshall University in the summertime. This will lead to a Master's Degree with a Principal's certificate. A little more education than even mother had to have to teach school! Three of the girls are teachers. One is a principal in Clay County Schools, one teaches in Kanawha County, and one teaches in Michigan. A daughter-in-law also teaches in Kanawha County. The one in Michigan doubles as a minister's wife. One is a practical nurse in Ohio, and one is the supervisor for telephone company in Arizona. These careers have been pursued even though each girl is a housewife with children of her own. They are grateful for a mother whose ambitions knew no bounds. The boys are likewise successful businessmen. Three served in the armed forces during the war and the other one held a strategic job.

Grandchildren have been influenced by her exemplary life. Nearly everyone who is old enough has attended colleges and/or universities. One grandson is a dentist. One plans to become a teacher. One granddaughter is a minister's wife. Secretaries, sales ladies, youth and choir leaders are these young people with a purpose. Now one has run afoul of the law. Through her descendents, her noble Christian life lives on, even though she departed this life February 21, 1956. These are great tributes to a pioneer teacher who succeeded in spite of poverty and unbelievable hardships. Wealth was never hers, but no price tag can be placed on the high ideals that she held.

This was written by a daughter, Grace S. Hart, in April 1962

Nettie Keeney White

At the turn-of-the-century living was somewhat different. It has often been referred to as the good old days. I'll let you be the judge.

We were a family of nine: Mama, Dad and seven children. Four of us became teachers: Cora, Maggie, Vesta and I.

My first teaching position was at Maysel. The year was 1907. I was 16 and never having been away from home for any length of time made my first winter one to remember. Each day I became more homesick despite the fact that we were busy. Though we were no more than twenty miles from home, it could've been two thousand. The amount of traveling one did was controlled by his walking endurance, unless he was fortunate enough to have a horse. Few young teachers could afford such luxuries.

My first school had two rooms and a path. There is no central heat, but we had a big stove around which we huddled to keep warm. The building was well ventilated through the cracks and crevices which had not been sealed. Mr. Fast, also a young teacher, was the principal. Our students range in age from six to twenty-one. Discipline was administered with a hickory switch, and when the young men became too much for me, I promptly referred them to Mr. Fast.

Our coal fires and general janitorial duties were maintained by one of the older boys in school. We had no transportation and each child had to walk to school through all the elements. It sometimes took the stove all day to thaw us out and dry our clothes for the homeward trek. When the weather permitted, we had our recess outdoors, and it would not have been unusual to come upon the dignified Mrs. Keeney indulging in a snowball fight or building snowmen.

My salary was sixty dollars a month. In order to qualify for teaching, it was necessary to take exams each summer. A teaching certificate was issued for one year. The term began the last of September and lasted until April to enable the children to help out during the farming season.

My teaching career ended when I married DeLos V. White of Marne, West Virginia. Within a few years we moved to Michigan where he found employment with the Ford Motor Company. We have five children but none is a teacher.

I'm the only surviving member of my family. My five sisters all died of cancer.

Written 1962. Nettie was born in 1893, died 1980.

Vesta Keeney Young

Vesta Keeney was born September 6, 1886, at Odessa on Porters Creek. Her father was Harrison Columbus Keeney and her mother was Jeanetta Estep Keeney.

When Vesta finished grade school, she took the State Normal Teachers' Examination in order to get a teaching certificate. Her first teaching certificate is dated July 2, 1902 and is owned by a daughter, Mrs. Mabel Mullins.

Vestas first year teaching was at Little Sycamore in a one-room school. Her future husband was one of her pupils. They were both sixteen. She also taught at Odessa, Valley View, White Pilgrim, and Camp Creek, a total of twelve years, 1902 to 1914. Vesta had three sisters who are teachers: Mrs. Cora Samples, Mrs. Nettie White, and Mrs. Maggie Rogers.

Vesta married Preston B. Young in 1914. They had six children: Mabel Anna Young Mullins; Lela Young, Harold Preston Young, Herbert M. Young, Lois Young Lane, and Howard W. Young.

Vestas husband, Preston B. Young, died in 1935, and she died in 1953.

Information given by daughter Mabel Young Mullins 1980

