

Zebulon with 12 grades after World War II. Before consolidation, there were smaller schools in Concord, Meansville, Molena, Williamson, Zebulon, and possibly others. The Concord building has now been used as a horse barn for several years.

During this period (in the 1920's) we had chapel in the auditorium at school the first thing every morning (or maybe less often, I'm not sure now) with a prayer, announcements, and some songs, such as "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny", "When You and I Were Young, Maggie" and "Flow Gently, Sweet Afton", etc.

At that time hardly anybody had radios, and they were battery powered and required a long wire antenna - at least in our area. When Warren Harding was inaugurated as President in 1921, the Principal brought his radio to the auditorium and stretched a wire overhead diagonally across the auditorium so we could assemble there to hear the inauguration ceremony.

Another thing I remember about school in the 1920's is the Blake children riding several miles to school in a new Model T Ford which the boy, my age, 12 years old, drove each day. He handled the job very responsibly. A driver's license was not required then in Georgia. Of course the Fords then were touring cars, with oilcloth-like tops, and snap-on curtains for use when needed.

We had a teacher in Concord named Mrs. Hall who was an older lady (of course we thought she was really old, with her long dress, her sleeves around her wrists, and talking slowly). Some of the students called her "Grandma" to her back. On our first day in her room in

the 8th grade, a red-headed boy came walking into the classroom and said "Good morning, Grandma". She said "Now Hubert, I am a grandmother, but I'm not yours". That was the end of that story.

Grandpa Ballard (Mama's father), Aunt Mary Ballard (Mama's sister) and Aunt Addie Huckaby (the family called her "Arshie" but I never knew why) lived together as a family. As I have heard it, Mama and Aunt Mary's mother had died, and Aunt Addie (their mother's sister) had been living with them, but considered how it might appear to other people if she continued this arrangement. The conclusion she reached was "Willie (that was one name for him) is a gentleman and I am a lady" so they continued as a family.

When we were growing up we would take turns spending a few days with Grandpa, Arshie and Aunt Mary. I can still hear them grinding coffee by hand with a small coffee grinder and smell the freshly ground coffee they had for their breakfast. Grandpa had lost all his teeth but didn't have dentures, so Aunt Mary used a pie-pan sized pan to bake him some biscuits just barely done, so they would be easier to chew.

Usually where they lived, Aunt Mary ran a little neighborhood store, sometimes in a small building in the yard, or one room in the house. About once a week (I think) Grandpa would go in the buggy to Sullivan-Slade Co. store on the west side of the courthouse square in Zebulon and get the things Aunt Mary needed for the store, and if one of us was visiting we could go with him. When the rest of the family came to bring or to get the one visiting for a few days, we children had a chance to play and explore together, like eating mulberries