

PO
Mrs. Harris

Dear Friends of 1902:

We graduated, as you know, in 1902. While Will was in Princeton Seminary I taught in Indian Territory one year, in Flag Pond, Tennessee two years. We were married in Kickapoo Indian Reservation (Kansas) in 1905. Had a pastorate one year in Pond Creek, Oklahoma. Prof. Ernest said we then jumped clear over the Pond and landed in San German, Porto Rico, where we lived for thirty-one years.

Will was head of a district with five helpers, one Bible reader, 19 preaching places, and 50 weekly services.

On March 12, 1912, Will founded the Polytechnic Institute. Soon many students came and the Polytechnic Institute became a real institution. Among the first teachers were Clarence, Torrence McCruer, Mr. & Mrs. Leker, Henry Thomas and Grace Beeney Thomas, Emma McBride.

Our five children may be catalogued as follows:

Helen, now a principal of school in San Antonio, Texas.
Has one son eighteen years old.

Donald, minister in Lamesa, Texas. Has wife and daughter.

Margaret, trained nurse, married Walter Stephenson, has four children, works eight hours daily in Dilley Clinic Hospital.

Robert, died in 1940 at the age of 23.

Gleland, Ph. D. in Spanish, teaches in Cornell University, has a wife and three sons.

Will and I retired in 1957, came to Texas, built a small house. Retired means hard work.

With love to all the class,

Eunice White Harris.

Here is a rambling sketch of the happenings and doings of two '02s beginning 50 years ago this month.

At the recommendation of Pres. Lowell McAfee † (Henry Thomas) had secured a contract to take up work as business Supt. of Newkirk Academy, Newkirk, Okla. to begin work in August. From commencement till then the time was my own, so Gracia Beeneey suggested I go with her to her home for a few days or so. This invitation I accepted gladly. Her parents were proud of their girl graduate and treated me royally.

The work at Newkirk kept me pleasantly occupied for three years. Ten months each year at the Academy and two summer terms as instructor at the County Normal High School. But meanwhile the State established a Prep. School in an adjoining county - tuition free - had news for the Academy.

Meanwhile, Gracia was teaching in a mission school at Pikeville, Ky. and I had offer to conduct the County Normal School at Asteo, New Mex. and to become Supt. of the public school at Farmington, New Mex. So in July 1905 Gracia and I were married and went west together. At Farmington Gracia taught the primary while I had the 8th grade and H. S. pupils. After two years, thro' a teachers Agency, I became Principal of the County High School at Sterling, Colo. Here we stayed three years during which we became proud parents of a boy, and spent a summer vacation at Gracia's parents' home.

Our next move was to Alamosa Colo. becoming Prin. of Alamosa High School. After several years at Alamosa, during which we spent summer vacations at Gracia's parents and a daughter was born.

Then one spring (about 1917) a surprise letter came from J. Will Harris, asking if we would come and work with him at the Polytechnic Institute at San German, Porto Rico. So "good bye" was said to Gracia's folks and we met Will H. at the port of Mayaguez. Our work in Porto Rico was a wonderful experience. I believe the 5 years we spent there was the peak of all our work in interest and useful activity. Such enthusiastic pupils we had met nowhere in the States. I think a big "Honorable Mention" is due Will and his brother Clarence for the work they did in organizing an institution that is now second to none Save the "University of Porto Rico". Will is a '02 to be proud of.

At the close of our interesting work in Porto Rico a plea came from Gracia's parents to come home and take over the farm so that they could hold it as their home in their last days. Since "Honor thy father and thy mother" seemed to be a challenge to us we said good bye to Will and Eunice and became farmers in Harrison Co., Mo. That was our home until old age caught up with us and farm chores became too burdensome. For that reason we sold the farm a year ago last November, bought a home in Cainsville, Mo. and now live in quiet retirement. There ends the story about -

Henry Thomas and
Gracia (Beeneey) Thomas.

The Story of my "doings" since 1902 is not very romantic. After finishing my Freshman year at Park- that year that was so full of debates for you and me-- and after I had won the Declamatory (Freshman-Sophomore) Contest, I landed over at Knox College, at Galesburg, Illinois and graduated with the 1902 class. Inasmuch as I had to work my way through college, nothing much happened to me, except that I came within half a point of winning the College Oratorical Contest and the right to represent the College in the Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest. When I graduated, I went into Young Men's Christian Association work, specializing in Business Management. I never was very good at leading Prayer Meetings, anyhow. I served as Assistant State Secretary of Illinois, Kansas and Kentucky. Then I went to Canada for three months of special work and stayed six years. I had quite considerable success in conducting Building and Debt Campaigns all over Canada. The Provincial Committee for Ontario and Quebec presented me with a very valuable watch as a token of appreciation of my work.

In 1914 I left Young Men's Christian Association work and entered the oil business and in 1915 I moved to Denver, Colorado, where I have lived ever since. I have had some successes and some losses, but am still eating. During the 38 years I have lived in Denver I have had a part in community life; I am Past President of the Denver Lions Club, which was the largest Lions Club in the world during my Administration.

I married Jessie G. Cline - a graduate of Knox College in 1903- and we have one daughter and two grandchildren, living in Fort Collins, Colorado. My chief purpose in life has been to help deserving young people through college and to get a start in life. Also people who have suffered some misfortune but who I believed could make good if given a little boost. Not much interested in regular charity because that is taken care of by organizations to which I contribute like most business men do. My hobby is raising roses and I have many beautiful ones. I am fond of flowers and children.

Nothing romantic about my life, but I thoroughly enjoy it. Just passed a 100% physical test and I think that is pretty good at the age of 75. Guess I am kind of tough.

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

E. M. Thomasson

This biographical sketch may be like Mark Twain's Diary. He said he kept a diary for a week and each day was as follows:

Monday - Got up, washed and went to bed

Tuesday - Got up, washed and went to bed,

and so on through the week. He said since it was all the same for each, he would discontinue it.

We will try to sketch briefly a few events of our life thus far, as you may not know as much as I do about it. We left Park in 1902 with the rest of you and took a position under the Bureau of Education, Department of the Interior, for school service in Alaska. We spent eight years in this service in South-eastern and Southwestern Alaska at four or five different points, teaching during the winter months and for several of those years supervising the erection of school houses and teaching combined in a number of places. In some of these places we would remain during the school term and conduct the first school in that locality.

We left this work in 1910 and located in Northwestern Arkansas, where we have remained since that time. We had not planned on any further teaching, but some one had found out that I had taught and asked me to take charge of a consolidated school just being built. This was the beginning of twenty-nine years of teaching here in Benton County, Arkansas. We left this work in 1936 and returned to our fruit farm, which work I had been engaged in from the beginning as a side line to teaching and continued in this until a few years ago when we confined ourselves to a small acreage where we now reside, six miles west of Bentonville on Highway 71.

We married in 1911 to an Arkansas girl and we are still living together. We have raised and educated a family of four - three boys and one girl. All are married and in homes of their own, one in Bentonville, the others scattered about in Tulsa, Okla., Kansas City, Mo. and Little Rock, Ark. We have seven grandchildren of which we are quite proud, as grandparents usually are. We did not get any of our children back to Park, as we are nearer to the State University at Fayetteville and they preferred going there. Our health is still and has always been good, but we are slowing up some I guess as the years pass, but are still active enough to attend to a garden and small acreage. We attended the Golden Anniversary of our class this year but it seemed to have turned out that two was a company and three a crowd, though it did not seem so at the time as we had a fine time together, or maybe I was the promoter of the match that was made.

Our best regards to all the members of our class of 1902, and I am sure you would have been repaid if you had attended. It was a far better event than I had ever anticipated. We hope to see all of you some time and would welcome you for a visit with us.

Your friend and classmate

Arch R. Law

HAROLD H. WILSON.

In the fall of 1902 spent semester at University of Kansas, Civil Eng.
Spring of 1903 as chairman K. G. to St. Joe Street Car Line.
Summer of 1903 at home in Seneca, Kansas.
Fall of 1903, cut and laid stone in the Andrew Carnegie Library Bldg.
in Lawrence, Kansas. (Home of the State University.)
Spring of 1904, with Tuttle & Pike, Engineers of Kansas City, Mo.
June 1904 to June 1907, with Corps of Engineers of U. S. Army, most of
the time was company clerk. Our Battalion saw service in Cuba in
the Army of Cuban Pacification, October 1906 to June 1907. The Engr.
Corps made a map of the Island on horseback. I was out on the Island
at three places. We used a prismatic Compass for bearings and horse
paces for distances. Two men in a party and three parties to a camp.
Married Amelia Marschalk in 1907.

June 1907 to April 1908, with U. S. Engr. Dept in charge of crew of
willow mat-work and stone bank revetments on the Mississippi River,
with offices and my home in Memphis, Tennessee.

March 1908 to August 1912, with self in concrete block work in Memphis.

August 1912 to about August 1916, with U. S. Engr. Dept. inst. man
on U. S. Levees on the Mississippi River.

Aug. 1916 to Jan. 1918, mostly on Topographic work for drainage,
Some railroad work and Featherstone Tile systems.

Jan. 1918 to April 1922, mostly in charge of large land surveys in
the States of Missouri and Arkansas.

April 1922 to April 1924, Railroad preliminary work and Canal and
levee construction in Miss. valley in Arkansas.

April 1924 to date, mostly survey work for self at Cocoa, Florida
with side trips as follows:

August 1, 1929 to Jan. 1, 1930, chief of party in the Everglades
with the United States Sugar Company; Primary job was 4 miles of canal
enlargement and levee enlargement at Canal Point. Many other engr. jobs.

Summer of 1930 about four months with Texas Road Dept. in assistant job
on 4 miles of concrete road. Field work, plans and estimates.

About the summer of 1938, with contractor in charge of runways for
U. S. Air Base at Sanford, Florida, four months, laid out and cared
for all runways and other works on the base.

About the summer of 1942, had charge of laying out canals and roads
in the improvement of Much Lands on the north side of Lake Apopke, near
Zellwood, Florida, about four months, consisted of about 8,000 acres.

1948 and 1949, laid out Barge Canal from the Indian River to our
Canaveral Harbor, near Cocoa. Laid out all land and property lines for
Condemnation suits, and also laid out Canaveral Harbor.

Most of my work here at Cocoa, is property lines and subdivisions.

We have had three children born to us.

Myrtle, born June 1908, is married, has been working for the U. S.
Government since 1930, when she spent 2 years with the Census board,
since with the Dept. of Interior in the income tax Bureau. Home is in
Bountiful, just north of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Allen, lost him in 1932, 23 years old.

Bernice, Oct. 1912, with the U. S. G. & G. Survey. Cartographer
Baltimore, Md. about 8 years now.

I hardly know what to write you about myself, but perhaps the following will be adequate.

From 1902 to 1905 I taught Latin at Henry Kendall College, Muskogee, Indian Territory. I then became principal of Wasatch Academy, Mt. Pleasant, Utah, for the period 1905 to 1908. From 1908 to 1909 I was Dean and Professor at Washington College, Tennessee. The next year I was a graduate student at the University of Chicago. In 1910 I came to the University of Pennsylvania as Instructor of Finance. In 1915 I became associate Professor of Economics and in 1919 Professor of Economics and Chairman of the Department. In June 1950 I was retired for age.

Special extra activities from 1910 to 1950 included economic work for various corporations including appearances as a witness in some cases before the Public Service Commission. I arbitrated a number of labor disputes and took several trips to Europe to report back on conditions there. In 1929 I was avisting Professor at the Graduate School of International Studies at Geneva, Switzerland and in 1931 I lectured (in French) before the academy of International Law at The Hague. I have served on a number of Boards of Directors including those of the National Bank of Nicaragua and the American Yearbook as well as the Kreutoll Realization Company. I became a Vice-President in the American Academy of Social Science in 1924 and was chosen President in 1930, a position which I still hold. I am the author of half a dozen books, the latest being "An Introduction to World Economics" published in 1947. I have written a hundred or more articles which have appeared in various magazines.

Since 1932 I have been a member of the American Philosophical Society serving as one of the secretaries from 1943 to 1948; was Vice-President of the American Economic Association in 1936. I belong to the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America and the Institut International d'histoire Politique et Constitutionelle. My honorary fraternities include Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Gamma Mu, and Beta Gamma Sigma.

I have received the following degrees: Park College, A.B. 1902, A.M. 1904, LL.D. 1936; University of Pennsylvania, Ph.D 1912 and LL.D . 1950; Occidental College, LL.D. 1946.

I married Elsie Davis Reynolds in 1906 and we have one daughter, Grace Frances.

Very cordially yours,

Ernest Minor Patterson.

Greetings Classmates:

It was a matter of real regret that I could not attend our fiftieth anniversary. This idea of writing out the visit we could not have since so few of us could attend is a sound one and possibly only through Herb Course's generous offer of his time to collect and distribute the resulting letters. But I wonder if others of you like me, have felt a little silly and embarrassed in putting into black and white what we would freely have told face to face? Though of course none of the stories even if we recalled in full would make "True Confessions" or "Astounding Tales." Oh, well, here goes for a report of a very ordinary and undistinguished fifty years.

In the fall of '02 I went to Iberia Academy, Iberia, Mo. and for four years taught Latin, English, German; played the organ in the little church and did many other jobs that seemed to be expected of me. Mother went with me and made a home for me and two other young teachers fresh from college. With one of these girls (of my class in Central H. S. in Kansas City and a college classmate of my husband at Drury College) was deepened a close friendship we have enjoyed through the years until her death last year. In 1906 we went to Drury, mother to be housemother at McCullough Cottage, girls' dormitory, I to teach Latin, German and American Literature and whatever job lots of classes were left over after regular assignments. In 1908 I went to Park to teach beginning Latin and Caesar only, a very pleasant change for when you must spread over such a variety of subjects, you must of necessity be spread pretty thin in places. Mother stayed on at Drury a year longer when she returned to Pennsylvania to care for her mother. In 1910 I left Park to marry Dr. Francis B. Laney of the U. S. Geological Survey. Our home was in Washington, D. C. where we spent the winters, but summers my husband was in the field doing areal geology in Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee where these three states corner together. I accompanied him the field and we had many interesting experiences back in the mountains among "our contemporary ancestors" who were living much as our Revolutionary forefathers did. We were often forty or more miles from a railroad either staying in the cabins of the mountain people or camped miles and miles from any one. Mother died in our home in Washington February 1913. The summer of 1913 my husband, lent to the U. S. Bureau of Mines, was transferred to Denver. I made one field trip with him there to the mines of Leadville. In March 1914 our son was born, so no more field trips. In 1915 my husband was sent to San Francisco to have charge of the Bureau of Mines exhibit at the Pan Pacific Exposition. There was then talk of stationing him at San Francisco, but before were packed in Denver the plan was changed for Salt Lake City. So we shipped our goods to storage in Salt Lake and went back to San Francisco until the Exposition was closed. The work in Salt Lake City was between the U. S. Bureau of Mines and the State of Utah and so his laboratory was on the campus of the University of Utah and we had pleasant university connections. World War I came on and my husband was sent to the Army Ordnance Dept. and sent to a laboratory at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, Pa. Because of poor living conditions there the small son and I stayed on in our home in Salt Lake City where I kept busy with my home, Red Cross and the flu epidemic. Things weren't all good in Salt Lake City since the training camps at Ft. Douglas attracted into the city an influx of undesirables not connected with the camp in addition to the great numbers of people legitimately connected with them. When my husband returned from Pittsburgh he was sent to Idaho to do some

work between the State of Idaho and the federal government before we moved back to Washington. While doing this work he was offered the chair of geology in the University of Idaho. We had been reluctant to return east, liking the west so well, and were tired of being bounced from place to place so gladly came to Moscow in 1920.

The first years in Moscow, ill health kept me rather closely at home and so I missed the contacts with old friends we had enjoyed when we lived in cities on the main routes of transcontinental travel. But as my health improved and we put down roots, I found life in a small college community very satisfying. I served nine years on the Moscow School board and have served on juries and election boards, city, school and general. (still do). For years I was a member of Moscow Music Club; D.A.R., filling various offices including regent in the local chapter and finally State Regent; Colonial Dames of the XVII Century; A.A.U.W., was president of both latter and held state offices in A.A.U.W. In 1938 I was first Vice President of Idaho A.A.U.W. and Idaho Vice Commander Women's Field Army for Cancer Control responsible for organizing for cancer education in North Idaho, when my husband's sudden death caused me to drop all outside activities. But in 1939 when foreign war relief so greatly increased the work of the American Red Cross, I became Production Chairman Latah Co. Chapter A.R.C. and so continued for seven years until because of health I resigned. At this time the Moscow Chamber of Commerce gave me a luncheon and citation for war work.

Of course church work has been a continuing activity. For a number of years I was Secretary of Social Education and Action in the Women's Association of the First Presbyterian Church of Moscow and also a group leader for a number of years. I was active in the Moscow Council of Church Women from the beginning, going to Seabeck Conference as a delegate for the district one year. I have written regularly for the "Council Voice."

It was a great privilege to go to an A.A.U.W. to the regional conference of U N E S C O at San Francisco in 1948.

All my life I have enjoyed books, music and birdwatching and find them a greater delight as my other activities decrease. I spent the winters of '48, '49 and '50 in So. California in my son's home. (In '48 I had the pleasure of attending the winter dinner of So. Cal. Alumni Chapter where I renewed many old friendships.) The past winter, much against my son's wish, I spent here in my own home which has been home since 1920. He brings ever stronger pressure for me to come permanently to So. California. But as long as I can manage I hope to live here in this wonderful Inland Empire with my aged little dog, Mr. Butch. Since a severe illness in the fall of 1949, my activities are greatly curtailed, but I still find life zestful and worth while, though I am disturbed about the sort of world my grandchildren are growing up in. Still, every generation of Americans has seemed to be able to meet the conditions of its times and I don't doubt that with God's help they will continue to.

Well, that's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Cordially,

Minnie Towner Laney Park '02

1902-1952 "Golden Gleanings" Herb Course

Summer of 1902. Laid ground work for organizing Thayer, Nebr. Pres. Church.
School Year 1902-03 Auburn Seminary
Summer 1903 Preached Presbyterian Church, of Gresham, Nebr.
School year 1903-5 Omaha Theological Seminary and preached 1 1/2 years at
Papillion, Nebr. Married Miss Ethelreda Van Allen, Park Academy May 1904.
She died May 1905, as did infant Catherine.

June 13, 1906, was ordained in Spokane, Washington and pioneered under
Presbyterian Board of National Missions for 45 years, all in the Synod of
Washington, as follows:

1906-8 Wilson Creek, Quincy, Krupp, Winchester, Stratford, Moses Lake,
Adrian, Soap Lake, etc. Organized Quincy Church and 5 Sunday Schools.

1908-11 Totally new work in N. Okanogan County and British Columbia.
Acquired the name "Jack Rabbit Missionary" which still sticks. Organized
churches at Oroville and Kipling and a dozen Sunday Schools. Married
Miss Mary Hart of Indiana, a sincere, capable and beloved helper in all
kinds of church and home activities for 38 1/2 years.

1911-13 Waterville, Douglas and rural churches. Endora born there.

1913-15 "Pastor Evangelist" for 9 Northwest Washington counties.
Constant travel. Family lived in Wenatchee, where Donald was born.

1915-18 Moses Lake, Wheeler, Warden, Gloyd, etc. Margery born in
unfinished manse I built.

1918-19 Anchorage and Metanuska Valley, Alaska.

1919-21 Gray's Harbor parish, ten preaching stations along ocean
beach. Westport only organized church.

1921-25 Everson, Clearbrook and stations

1925-29 Muckilteo, Index and Skykomish. Sawmill towns and logging
camp work. Also work with Japanese and Filipinices.

1929-35 Lived in Tacoma for High School and College privileges for
children, but served 25-50 up Mt. Ranier Hi-way; at Mineral, Alder,
La Grande, Kapowsin and Electron - Logging Camp, Saw Mill and Power Plant
workers and stump ranchers. Also "Thank You" chaplain in two CCC Camps.
Was given two months' leave of absence, August-October 1934, to build
Northwestern church in the state for the Makah Indians, Neah Bay, Wash.

1935-40 "Upper Columbia Parish" - Marcus, Kettle Falls, Garden Valley,
Hunters and Enterprise. Left when backwater from Grand Coulee Dam, 125
miles below, inundated two main towns. Was also CCC Camp chaplain in
Colville Forest Reserve.

1940-45 Returned to Wilson Creek and Marlin churches.

1945 to 50 Coulee City. More pioneering among construction workers.

In all, I've organized eight churches, some forty Sunday Schools,
25 Christian Endeavor Societies and six Boy Scout Troups, of which I
was Scout Master.

Helped organize Wenatchee Presbytery. Was Stated Clerk 25 years in
Wenatchee and Bellingham Presbyteries, and Permanent Clerk in Synod of
Washington 20 years. Have eaten in more than 5000 homes in that Synod.
Represented my Presbytery in General Assemblies at Kansas City 1908;
Atlantic City 1911; Columbus 1918; San Francisco 1927; Chicago 1944; and
Cincinnati 1950.

After wife's death May 1950, I lived with three children (and seven
grandchildren) in Washington, Maryland and Texas; and traveled, by bus,
in 34 states, till October 1951, when I became "Mr. Fixit" in Westminster
House, Presbyterian Student Center, University of California, Berkeley,
Cal., for the second half of my youth.

P. S. Started second "Golden Age" by "Gleaning" Miss Louise Herndon
on June 29, 1952. "Till death us do part."

My first adventure after graduation from Park in 1902 was a position at Nuyaka Mission, a school for the Creek and Cherokee Indians near Okmulgee, Okla. (Indian Territory at that time.) My folks lived in Parkville then, so when I started out my brother went with me as far as Kansas City, bought my ticket and put me on the train - and walked away with my railroad ticket in his pocket. He remembered it some time later and came back and put it in my hands just a few minutes before the train pulled out.

I spent parts of two years in Indian Territory and then decided to enter the business world, so went to business college. In the summer of 1918 I went to Washington and did war work in the Signal Corps and Quartermaster Corps. Was in Washington when the Armistice was signed. Returned home to Kansas City the following spring and soon found a position which I liked in a woodworking plant. I remained with this concern for twenty-four years.

During the above period I made a trip to Saltillo, Mexico, where my sister Kate (Park 1894) and her husband were missionaries. Went to San Francisco to a World's Fair. Attended the First Baptist Church of Kansas City, where I helped in the Beginners' Department of the Sunday School for many years. Later joined the Largest Women's Bible Class where the average attendance is 360 and is often more than 400. Bought a house at 5206 East 7th St., in Kansas City, which I still own.

Shortly after the end of this somewhat uneventful and uninteresting half century of my life, I made the front page of the Kansas City Star and many other newspapers over the country by simply walking down the church aisle with my old friend and classmate, Herbert M. Course, and saying to the preacher "I do."

Louise Herndon Course