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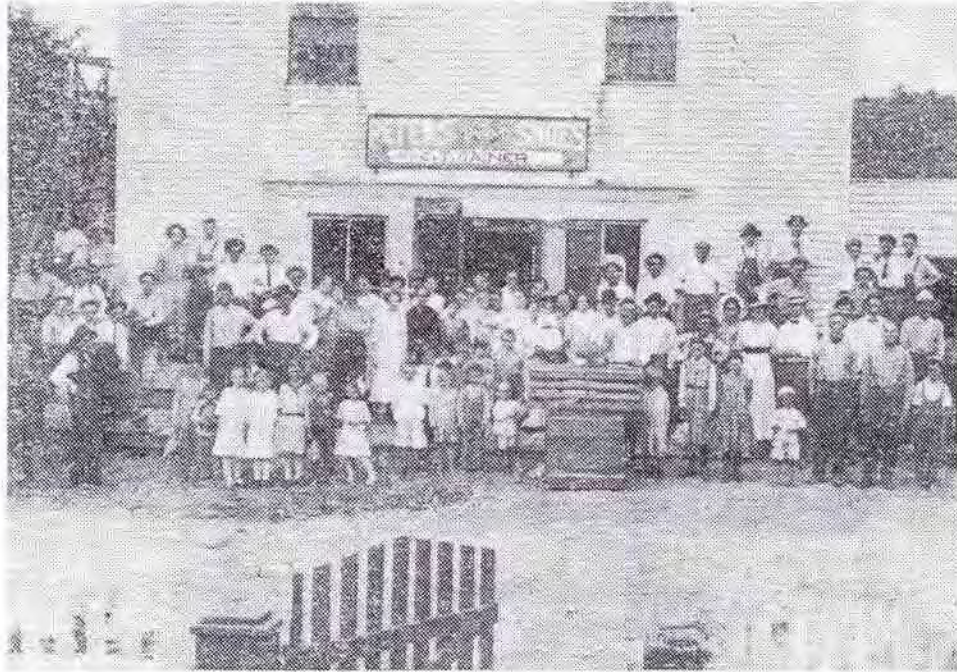
Lusby's Mill's Village Stores and Keepers

by

Mrs. Orville Jones

Originally published by the Lusby's Mills Homemakers
January, 1948

www.nkyviews.com



THE C. T. GAINES STORE AT LUSBY'S MILL

Village Stores And Keepers

(By Mrs. Orville Jones)

In the years 1885-95, perhaps even earlier than this, Bill Denny kept a drug store at Lusby, the old store standing where Denzil Works' home is now located.

For many years there have been one or more general stores at Lusby's Mill. In olden days folks walked or rode horseback for miles to exchange a pound of butter or a few dozen eggs for some staple groceries, such as sugar, coffee or flour.

In the year 1850 Mose Stewart established a store of this type at Lusby, it probably being the first one. In the year 1852 John Holbrook and his son, Jesse, built a new store building and established themselves as merchants; after a few months they also purchased Mr. Stewart's stock and moved it to their new building.

After the Holbrooks, came Hughey Stamper as Lusby's merchant, followed by Daniel Cobb and his son, William, in 1880-84. After this Willie Sidebottom and Jess Alexander were both engaged in village storekeeping.

About 1890 Ab Acree became Lusby's popular merchant, to be replaced several years later by his son-in-law, Charlie Gaines. Gaines was merchant at the time the accompanying picture was taken which shows a gathering of the community folk to see who had won a sack of flour presented by Mr. Gaines to the person coming closest in guessing the number of grains of corn devoured by a rooster in an allotted time. Walter Clifton was the winner. We see from the large number pictured that gatherings of this kind afforded popular amusement and perhaps the only amusement for some folk of the community during this period. Later on Mr. Gaines entered a broader field, leaving Lusby for Owenton where he operated the Ford Automobile Agency and became equally as popular in his garage business as he had been in merchandising.

Those above mentioned kept their stores in Lusby's Mill proper, but the writer also recalls a little store owned and operated by Joe Gross at the

top of the hill on property now owned by Goebel Ayres.

Lewis Mason and R. N. Greene took over the big store at Lusby after Mr. Gaines left for Owenton. They were later replaced by Elzie Cobb who was followed by Jim Hall.

Also, about this time Roy (Sonk) Kinmon became a well-known merchant at Lusby, keeping store in a smaller building which stands in the corner of the John Hughes' yard. "Sonk" ran a side-line business of cream testing which was an advantage to the folk living at The Mill. Mr. Kinmon's business grew, both at the store and cream station until he was forced to build himself a new and much more adequate store building. It has now been converted into a dwelling for his widow, the former Pearl Tolbert, and her nephew, Jimmy Ray Tolbert.

Among the merchants of later years are Allen and Denzil Works, John Thomas, Carl J. Wainscott and Hubert Kingcaid. For a few years recently the community could not boast of a store and it seemed as though Lusby's Mill was a forgotten village when it came to merchandising, but a few months ago, Mr. and Mrs. Rance Piunkett had a vision and made the transfer from operating a restaurant in Owenton to establishment of a general store near their Lusby's Mill home. They are now busily engaged at their place of business near the top of the hill, located on the highway. This may be called "New Lusby", the old Lusby being forsaken as far as businesses are concerned.
