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## Falmouth's Phoenix Hotel

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### PHOENIX, ONE OF THE FINEST HOTELS IN KENTUCKY

Falmouth has one of the finest hotels in the State of Kentucky - the Phoenix - noted for its fine hospitality during the past 52 years. Now operated by the Misses Margaret and Emma Ross. The hotel was first opened by their late father, George E. Ross on September 19, 1903. The location was the same as today, Main and Shelby Streets. Actually the hotel did not open until the following Monday, which was fair week and the most important week of the year, at least considered so by many.

However, on that particular day, Saturday, Mr. Ross opened his doors to a special occasion, Governor Beckham Day in Falmouth, Democratic Day to be exact. There is but one living man today who was present at that special occasion, Dr. C.F. Crecelius, Falmouth dentist. Governor J.C.W. Beckham was rounding out something like four years as governor, having been sworn in after the assassination of William Gobel. He was seeking election to the office and politics in those days were running at a high fever. So he paid a visit to Falmouth to be with his friends and visits the New Phoenix Hotel. About seven years ago the Misses Ross found the first registry of the hotel and page one says that in addition to Governor Beckham being present that day, there were Hon. S. Rhea of Russellville; Graham Freeland, Louisville; D. Linn Gooch of Covington; J.S. Stone of Clinton, Ohio; D.W. Levingston of Paducah, and W.R. Goode of Lexington, all in the Governor's party. They were joined here locally by Dr. Crecelius, Abe Woolstein, who was a dry goods merchant here at the time, and the Hon. E.E. Barton, attorney and then former State Representative as was Dr. Crecelius at that time. The newly found hotel registry reveals many interesting things to funerals in the city of their relatives. State lodges meeting here would have their out-of-town officers put up there, they came from far and near for Falmouth Fair and the Fair dances and even when important jury trials were in session at the court house the juries would be quartered there overnight. The late Mr. Ross made a note in one of his 1907 entries that one gentleman, giving his address as Chicago, had left without paying his board bill and "stole a horse". The Phoenix Hotel has played a prominent part in Falmouth's past history and continues in this role today with the reputation as one of the finest in Kentucky. The Misses Ross are to be congratulated upon continuing with this high tradition of their father, the late George Ross.

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