

The Daughertys

W.A. Daugherty

"These are the men Daugherty Streets were named after"

Published September 17, 1993

William Armstrong Daugherty was born August 19, 1829 in McMinn County, Tennessee. In 1847, he married **Nancy (Nina) Riggs**, who was born in 1827 in McMinn County, Tennessee. W.A. was a farmer and cattleman. Trying to take care of his wife and seven children convinced W.A. to move to greener pastures. They moved to Washington County, Missouri in 1864 when W.A. was 35 years old. They then moved on to Austin, Texas in 1867 where Nancy passed away in July of that year. With the hardship of raising a family alone, W.A. moved to Jasper County in October of 1867. He resumed his profession of farming and stock operations.

In 1870, W.A. purchased 260 acres of land just west of what would later become Webb City. He soon purchased 320 acres east of Webb City. His farm and mines began to pay off and he eventually owned 4000 acres of mining and agricultural land in Jasper County. The property east of Webb City became the city of **Carterville** (of which W.A. is one of the founders along with his son, James).

Life had been a difficult struggle for W.A. as he tried to raise his family. Even though he possessed some land there was not always necessary funds to take care of the needs of the family. But perseverance paid off, and he began to reap the rewards of his years of hard labor.

The oldest of his children was a son named **James Alexander Daugherty**, born August 30, 1847, in McMinn County, Tennessee. James was a levelheaded young man with ideas and knowledge that helped his father to achieve the rewards he so greatly deserved.

In 1874, **William A. Daugherty** wandered over to his neighbor's farm, **John C. Webb's**, and observed the mining endeavors of Webb and a partner, **Murrell**. Seeing Murrell's frustration over the mine filling with water continuously, Daugherty offered to buy Murrell out for the hefty sum of \$25. Murrell jumped at the opportunity. Webb leased the land to Daugherty and Grant Ashcraft, which was the beginning of the **Center Creek Mining Company**.

W.A. Daugherty and his son James formed a partnership with **C.C. Allen**, **W.M. McMillin**, and **T.N. Davey** to form the company known as **Carterville Mining and Smelting Company**. This company opened the **North and South Carterville Mines**, which proved to be the richest in the Webb City and Carterville districts.

James A. Daugherty

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James A. Daugherty was assisting his father in cultivating the farmland east of Webb City, when they discovered the farmland was loaded with ores and minerals.

James married **Susanna Freeman** of Ashley, Illinois on December 30, 1867. They had eight children. 1. **Nancy Elizabeth Daugherty**, who married **W.A. Corl** with the **W.C. Merchantile Company**, 2. **William Alva Daugherty**, a mining superintendent, 3. **Charles Whitworth Daugherty** with the First National Bank of Webb City, 4. **Dora May Daugherty**, 5. **Lee A. Daugherty**, 6. **J. Arthur Daugherty**, 7. **Myrtle Daugherty** who married **C.R. Chinn, Jr.**,

8. **Lula Alice Daugherty**. Their mother, Susanna died December 29, 1908 and James married **Mrs. M.E. (Boone) Parker** on April 20, 1910.

James was a gentleman of great ability. He could operate a business of great magnitude with such ease. He became quite well known for his work with mining companies. The mines belonged to his father, but James was the reason the mines were successful. He followed in his father's footsteps to become the president of the **National Bank of Carterville** and vice-president of the **Interurban Ice Company of Carterville**.

Being an advocate of education, James was generous in his donations to the institution of learning, especially the **Webb City College**. William A. Daugherty was a man of eminent ability and he passed this great attribute on to his son James. Under his instruction, James learned the mining industry, but James went one step further and soaked in all he could learn about the mining business from anyone willing to teach him. James became a universally respected and admired citizen. He was known for his honesty, great business ability and high character.

They were two great forefathers to be proud of and each one can be remembered each as we see their name on the street signs in Webb City and Carterville. They deserve to be recognized for their many contributions of time and energy to the growth and development of our area.

Additional information about James A. Daugherty: He served as an associate judge of the western district of Jasper County for two terms, as a member of the legislature one term, and as school director of his school district for a period of twenty years or longer. In November 1910, he was elected to the national **House of Representatives** from the Fifteenth congressional district.

Louise J. Daugherty

"Growing up in the town your dad founded"

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One of the early pioneers to our area was **Edward M. Burch**. He came here

from Virginia and was proud to say he heralded from stanch English stock. Being active in mining, it's no wonder that Edward should come in contact with one of the most eligible young ladies in the district, Miss **Louise J. Daugherty**, daughter of **W.A. Daugherty**. Daugherty was the smart businessman who went into partnership with **John C. Webb** when the first chunk of lead was unearthed on Webb's land. Then they added **Grant Ashcraft** to that great venture in mining.

Edward and Louise settled in Carterville, the town that Louise's father had founded. Edward continued his interest in mining and showed an expertise in farming. To this union, four children were born, but I only have information on three: **W.C. Burch**, **Earl A. Burch** and **Annie L. Burch Gass**.

Annie L. Burch married **Frank L. Gass** and they lived a very comfortable life. Frank came to this area from Indiana in 1900 at the age of 28, but he was only here for a short stay. He left to continue his education, receiving his law degree at the University of Indiana. He must have liked what he saw while visiting here, because he returned in 1910 and set up his law office in Carterville. He became Cartervilles city attorney from 1916 - 1924 and became probate judge in 1922 and continued in that capacity until his death 12 years later in 1934 at the age of 61.

Frank and Annie lived at 329 East Main in Carterville. Annie continued to live there after Frank's death and later her brother Earl came to live with her.

Earl A. Burch was born in 1873. He was a mine operator as his father had been and he also married into a strong mining family. In 1898, at the age of 25, Earl married **Bernice Ashcraft**, daughter of **Grant Ashcraft**. Earl dealt in insurance and real estate but his heart was in mining. Along with his father-in-law, he was an associate with Ashcraft and Burch in association with **Standard Lead & Zinc in Prosperity**.

Earl's wife, Bernice, seems to have been a very strong willed lady. She was a bookkeeper at the **First National Bank of Carterville** and known as a lady of knowledge and quite a social leader.

I don't know if the marriage was a success or not because Earl moved in with his sister Annie and passed away at Annie's house in 1931 at the age of 51.

Now the oldest son of **Edward Burch** was **William C. Burch**. He seems to have been the child with the head on his shoulders. Born in 1872, in Carterville, William was only nine years old when his father passed away. Leaning on his grandfather for support, William became a bookkeeper in the mining industry for about 2 years, when he decided to work for his grandfather's bank instead. Starting out as a clerk in the **First National Bank** of Carterville, William worked his way up to assistant cashier and eventually moved on to become vice president of the **Webb City Bank** and on up to be President. That's quite a climb up the ladder. He also started a real estate and insurance office

located at 124 N. Webb.

William married in 1907 at the age of 35 to Miss **Jessie Ethel Litteral**. Jessie's father was **Jacob Litteral**, a farmer and miner. He made sure that his daughter was well educated. She had attended Central College in Lexington, Kentucky and Forest Park University in St. Louis.

William and Jessie settled in a beautiful house in Cartersville located at 410 East Main (The home is still standing and has been well preserved. It was recently the home of **Steve Gannaway**, but they sold it last month). The Burches did a lot of entertaining in their home and it was the location of their daughter's wedding. **Halycon Anne Burch** was married in 1932 to **Henry Hook Harris** and the newspaper account of the wedding suggests this was the wedding of the century. With four bridesmaids, four groomsmen, and the works. The yard and home were overflowing with the 150 guests who attended.

Jessie and William also had two other children, **Mary Louise Burch** who married **William Wilson Waggoner** and **W.C. Burch, Jr.** who married **Mary Margaret Davis**.

In the *History of Jasper County*, it states that "William C. Burch was one of the best known and enterprising citizens of Cartersville. Mr. Burch's individuality and energy have left a permanent impression for welfare and upbuilding of the town."

Some may say that having a well known grandfather like W.A. Daugherty, the founder of the town you grew up in might have influenced the progress one makes in life, but I think William succeeded on his own, because personality makes a major impact in life also. Just because you are related to someone rich or famous doesn't mean people have to like you, but the people of Cartersville respected William. And William did the Burch name proud.