

MILLER: You always closed up when the Grand Jury was in session?

RODE: That's right. And then I got me an attorney over there to represent me, and it didn't come to trial, and they never did question me. The Grand Jury didn't call me in, and I didn't hear anything from it. And so, then, after a month or so, we opened up again for oh, two months, maybe, until the first of the year. Like I said, at the end of the year I always closed. I closed for four or five weeks and opened up again, and run for a while, and I didn't hear any more from this guy who had made this complaint. Then, a little later, I heard that he was trying to stir up some noise again. So, when the Grand Jury got ready to convene, why, I decided we had better close for a little bit, so we closed up another couple of weeks. I just got sick and tired of that closing and opening, and I said, "Well, I'm going to close this place up at the end of this year." So I went and opened me a store over here, known as Rode's Sports Center, and I said, "They can't close that!"

MILLER: Where was that located?

RODE: That was about 310 Washington Avenue, next door to Tennenbaum's, on the same side of the street.

MILLER: And you operated that all during World War II, didn't you?

RODE: Yes.

MILLER: And it was a very popular place.

NOTICE

This material may be
protected by copyright
law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

RODE: Right. So we sold the Casino in January, 1942, I believe. We had had a good operation that Fall, and then in November I began to look around, started to look around in October, looking for some people to sell it to. Now, I didn't own the land. I only had an option there to pay rent, but I had an option for nine more years by paying rent, then the building would revert to Mrs. Heathman. But I couldn't find anybody to buy it, and I said, "Well, I'm going to close December 15." And that was the last part of November around about Thanksgiving, and I said we would run until December 15th.

The next thing I knew, there came Pearl Harbor on December 7th, and I said, "I know we are going to close now!" And we did, in another week. I closed it up. And then about the 5th of January, two people, one named Jake Silverstein, and Mr. Folby, from Greenwood, came to see me and asked about buying it. And I sold them the whole shooting match, lock, stock and barrel, chairs, cash registers, slot machines, everything, for a very small sum just to get rid of it, because I didn't want any more of it.

Now, during all those years, it seems like, listening to me, I guess a long time, but it wasn't, but if you think back, it was a short time - just a little over four years, maybe five, yes, a little over five, about the same. We had lots of good bands, and, like I said, we had Herbert Holmes. We had him a number of times.

MILLER: He was a young Mississippian, from Yazoo City, wasn't he? I knew him.

NOTICE

This material may be
protected by copyright
law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

RODE: Right, from Yazoo City, and had just finished at Ole Miss, and most of his boys had just finished over there, and he had this band going while he was over there. So he came to Greenville and opened the Club for us and spent two weeks here, and then he got a connection with Music Corporation of America, and they sent him all over the country. First, when he left here, he went to Wichita Falls, Texas - or Oklahoma or something - but anyhow we had him, and one of them, I remember, was Lionel Hampton, Joe Venuti, Jimmy Dorsey, Jackie Cooper - he had a band - and Betty Grable was with him at the time, if I'm not mistaken, or was it Jackie Coogan was married to her - it was one of the two - and she was with him.

MILLER: Wasn't Ella Fitzgerald here?

RODE: Ella Fitzgerald was here. She was here. She was singing with a band called "Chick Webb's Band". Chick Webb was a little hunchback, and he wasn't five feet tall. He was a drummer, and the little fellow died about six months after he left here.

MILLER: Now, he was white?

RODE: No, he was black.

MILLER: I was a little mixed up on it.

RODE: He was black. It was a black band. We had him, and we had another good colored band. We had so many of those bands, and we had a picture of the leader of every one of them that came there, and had them all autographed, and, Dog Gone It, they got away from me some way or other. I hated that

so badly. Somebody got in there and got them. The Casino on South Theobald Street was there for many, many years after we closed. In fact, it was there until way up in the Fifties. Let me see, I built - after I started Terrace Gardens - so I guess the Casino was there until '57.

MILLER: Didn't you turn that into an office building?

RODE: Yes. I used it for my lumber yard. I had that lumber yard when I started building houses. I was building houses in 1948, I guess.

MILLER: I am going to cut this off a minute.

So, after you closed the Casino in Sunflower County, you opened your Sports Center.

RODE: Rode's Sports Center, at 310 Washington Avenue, and this was a nice store, and we had a soda fountain and lunch counter in there on one side, and on the other side we had sporting goods, and in the rear portion of the place we had eight pool tables. I guess it was the first time it ever happened in Mississippi or most states where you could find a Pool Room where a lady could walk in and get a Coca Cola or lunch or buy sporting goods, or, if she desired, she could even play pool, but if she didn't desire to play pool, she could watch men play pool.

MILLER: And then upstairs?

RODE: And then, later, I made a complete sporting goods store out of it, and moved the pool tables upstairs. Now, along in July of '42, Red (Thomas H.) Golding and I went to Little Rock and opened a Hog Ranch over there. The Hog Ranch was used in feeding

NOTICE

This material may be
protected by copyright
law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

the hogs garbage from Camp Robinson. We had a contract. We bought for a year and we fed a lot of hogs over there. In fact, at one time we had 4000 hogs on feed. And we supervised the care and the attention of those hogs personally every day, wading around in boots. That only lasted a year, and we weren't successful in getting the contract again, so Red and I both bought farms down in Chicot County. I bought an option to purchase from Mr. Malcolm James what was known as Florence and Seven Oaks Plantation, which comprised 2200 acres on each side of the levee, 4400 acres total.

MILLER: Mr. Malcolm James, now, he was formerly Sheriff of Washington County?

RODE: Yes, he was. And I tried to farm that place, and wanted to grow everything a farmer should grow, such as barley, wheat, oats, corn and cotton. I had it all, and, incidentally, alfalfa also. What gave me the idea was I wanted to continue on with feeding hogs, and so I put a bunch of hogs over across the levee and fed them daily so that they wouldn't go plumb wild. We grew a lot of pigs, but it wasn't a successful operation. I don't think it ever would have panned out. During that time, I had a lot of cattle also, about 300 head of cattle, and I operated the place for about two years, and there just wasn't any labor you could find that was suitable to farm, and it wasn't a successful operation, so I began to feed out those cattle. I used a lot of barley and oats and wheat - for which I got a formula from the University of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa - and

Red Golding and I went up there and got a formula from a Professor up there to feed out with the feed that I had on hand.

MILLER: Did you find that that was more successful, this formula?

RODE: Yes. Well, the reason that I wanted to feed them out with that feed was that I couldn't get a fair price for my barley, see? At that time, there just weren't any granaries around that would buy barley, and they didn't get but about fifty cents a bushel for oats. We operated in '42 and '43, and in '43 the crop wasn't so good, and I was just losing money hand over fist, so I decided, well, better go ahead and get out of this thing, so I had an auction sale and got rid of all my equipment, and kept the place for a couple of years until I found a sale for it, and then sold it. And I came back to Greenville, and Ralph Levy came home, oh, along about October or the last part of '45, and I ran into him and said, "Why don't you come down here, open up down here?" He said, "I will, if you'll go in with me." So we talked about it, and in a short time Ralph and I went in partners on a furniture store.

MILLER: Yes, and it was known as --

RODE: Levy and Rode Furniture Company.

MILLER: And where was it located?

RODE: Well, first we were located downtown in a little store next to the old Wells Drug Store down there, on the corner of Poplar and Washington. Then, next spring, I

built a building out here, which is now standing, the Rode Building, a two-story building on Highway 82 and Fairview, and we moved the furniture store out there. We had a very good operation, and in 1950 I decided I'd sell out, so I sold out to Ralph, the reason being I had given it a lot of time, and I couldn't stay there any more, and I wanted to get my interest out of it and put all my money into building; and in '48, I think it was, the last part of '48, I had quite a few lots that I purchased down in what was known as Magnolia Heights, I believe, on Fairview, between the Highway and the Park. And so I couldn't sell those lots, because people wanted houses. That was right after the War. So I went to Jackson and got me some stock plans and went to building houses.

MILLER: Now, the first houses, were they Rode Addition?

RODE: No, no. I built about ten or eleven the year before I went to Rode Addition. Rode Addition was '48 or '49 - more like '48 - yes, it must have been '48. And this was in '47. And T. P. Reynolds used to live in one of the houses I built.

MILLER: Oh, yes.

RODE: You know, right there. Well, then, around back there on Cannon Street, I had four on that corner, and some more of them on the next corner, and on John Street, I built a bunch of them around there, and John Young lived in one, Midge lived in one down on Wortham Drive, and I built a bunch on a circle around there. Roy Hanf and --

MILLER: Geneva.

NOTICE

This material may be
protected by copyright
law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

RODE: And Geneva. They lived in one. So that was the first ones we built. Then, in the next year, I bought that land from Mrs. Casevechia and built Rode's Addition.

MILLER: That's right. That had been the Casevechia Dairy Farm.

RODE: That's right.

MILLER: And now it is known as Rode's Addition?

RODE: Yes. And those houses are still standing there, and in good shape, and everybody has paid them off and they are all happy because they are paid off.

Well, we built that Addition, and the next year we moved to the next street, Marilyn Street there, and bought those lots from McClendon, and built 30 or 40 houses - McClendon Addition; then I built some on another street - I can't think of it - Mr. Wells used to live on it, it backs up to Reed Road, north of Reed Road. There's a few houses right in there, about half a dozen. Then I went on down to Ridge Avenue and Mill Road, and --

MILLER: That's over on the other side of the Highway?

RODE: That's right. That's down here south of the Cemetery there now. Oh, what's the-- Rosedale. I bought that land from Mr. Davis. Anyhow, it was about 100 houses in there.

MILLER: John Davis?

RODE: Yes. And we put the streets in, sewers, water line and everything. We had to put all the utilities in.

MILLER: Now, you had your own construction company

NOTICE

This material may be
protected by copyright
law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

and your own concrete-mixing company, didn't you?

RODE: That's right. Later, I sold the concrete plant to my brother.

MILLER: Charles has it now?

RODE: Yes, and I took the Lumber Yard. And I built that Addition, the Rode Addition, and I don't know what they call that on Marilyn Street, and then this one over here.

After building Ridge Acres, which I mentioned just now, Mill Road and Ridge Avenue, and so forth, we then went to what is known as Reed Meadows, and John McCorkle and I built the houses in there evenly. In other words, he had one street and I had one street. I built Genie Fairway and he built the other one. I've forgotten the name of it. Anyhow, I built that one, and then I had -- we had several lean years back in there. In other words, the FHA had run out of money for a while, and we had no mortgage money and couldn't guarantee anything. In other words, if they didn't guarantee it, the lending agencies wouldn't loan the money on the houses. So the Burns Addition was right back over behind Burns Dairy off Mill Road, and I got a few lots from them and built about eight or ten houses in there, along about '51. And that same year I acquired another piece of land over in Arkansas, and I put it together. It was in about seven different parcels, - 80 acres here, and 300 here, and 400 here, and 100 here, and so forth - and finally it was a section and a half, about 950 or 960 acres, and part of it, only about one-third of it, probably, was open land; and I had a crew

building houses, and I was trying to clean up that land over there, too, which I did. And in 1951, like I said, I built the Burns Addition, and in 1952 we built a few scattered houses. Again, money was tight. I was working that year more on the farm than I was on anything else, and I gave a lot of time and attention to it. I had a lot of cattle in there. And in 1952, they organized the Holiday Inn of America, and I went to Memphis to see my friend Kemmons Wilson, and he invited me to come in with him, and I said, "Well, I'll think about it." And I said, "How do you get the plans?" And he said, "I've got an architect over there, and you can just pay him." He said, "Come on in, Will. It's a good thing." I said, "Well, I'll let you know." And I just kept putting it off, and I think that was a big mistake not to have gone through with it. But, a short time after that, say '53, I leased out the farm to a rice farmer. And we were looking around for some mortgage money again. Things were awful tight. Then, the last part of '53, we found out about some houses being built in Clarksdale, and we went up there the next spring and found out where he was getting his money, and so FHA was insuring them and the mortgage money was coming out of Memphis. So we contacted them, and they agreed to finance some small houses, low-income, six and seven thousand dollar houses, which we built out here on a subdivision called Park Lawn. Park Lawn is located out there in the eastern part of town and comprises, I think, 99 houses, and 8 more on Beauchamp Street there.

We built those in part of '53 and '54, and when we were nearly through with those out there, Sam Cousley came to me one day with a piece of land that he wanted to sell for McClain Bowman, and I said, "I can't buy that. It's in lots." He said, "No, he will let you buy it in acreage." So, he said, "Make him a price. He wants to sell it." I said, "All right." And I made him a price, and it was agreeable, and I bought Terrace Gardens, the first fifty acres in '55, I believe it was - the first part was Terrace Gardens - and then I had an option on the other half, with five years to work it out. So I started on Terrace Gardens in 1955, and we built houses in Terrace Gardens in '55 on through the early '60's, and, I guess in about '61 or maybe '62, then we moved over to Terrace Gardens, East, and started putting in the utilities over there, and built a few houses in there in '63. And then I sold lots from then on. That same year I built Magnolia Arms, an apartment house here, and the main part, which is 28 units, was built in '63, and its Annex was built about five or six years later - it has 13 units - a total of 41 units in this project.

Incidentally, I mentioned a while ago that we still had the Rode Building out here on Highway 82 and Fairview. I did have some other land there adjoining it, a hundred feet on the Highway, I believe it is, and we put in four other stores there - McGee's Pharmacy is one of them, and the old Sherman store, which will soon be a Small Children's Shop, and Tubertini's

Realty Office and the House of Lights will be on the end, and we have a nice parking area in the rear. I think I was probably the first merchant in Greenville to start the alley parking, and paved the lot, because at one of the Rotary meetings I was introduced to a Mr. Wilzin who owned the store up town that was formerly Culley Drug Store. He owned those two or three stores in there on Washington. He went back and tried to get his tenants interested in alley parking, but they wouldn't get interested in it at that time.

MILLER: Which was a mistake?

RODE: I think it was. And so, Bert, since 1963, incidentally, I did in '59, I purchased - I got rid of that last farm over there and traded my equity in that last farm to Cox Brothers for an acreage which at present is Peach Cove. Peach Cove has been a nice little operation. I've got a beautiful little home over there and relax in the summer time, and spring, especially in spring, and really enjoy that beautiful lake, and, of course, now it is going to be much nicer, because they are going ahead with cleaning up the lake over there, Pollution Control, and it will be beautiful when they clean that water.

MILLER: How many peach trees do you have? How many acres?

RODE: Well, we had about twenty-seven acres at one time. We sold off six of the lots, which would be about 10 or 11 acres, approximately. We planted 525 trees this year, new

ones - and we had maybe a couple hundred left of the old trees - incidentally, those trees were seventeen years old, so you know they lasted a long time.

MILLER: I'll say!

RODE: But it is interesting work, especially if you could get somebody to work like you used to be able to get them to work - I mean, clean the grass out and all - because the land is very fertile, and is very rich land.

MILLER: And the peaches are fine. I go over there and buy peaches every spring.

RODE: They are. They're delicious.

MILLER: So now, what you are doing is taking care of your peach orchards and your apartment house and your buildings, your stores you own down on Highway 82?

RODE: That's correct.

MILLER: Well, William, you've certainly led an interesting life, and it has certainly been filled with variety, and I certainly have enjoyed this interview.

RODE: It's nice to reminisce. I enjoyed telling all of my life's work. I probably missed a few little things in there, but --

MILLER: Well, if we've missed anything important, we can add to it.

RODE: I don't think we've missed anything that would be of importance. Greenville has been good to me, and I've

NOTICE

This material may be
protected by copyright
law (Title 17 U.S. Code)

enjoyed living here.

MILLER: I think Greenville is an unusual place.

RODE: I think it is.

MILLER: But I think that the reason it is an unusual place is the people, and I think you are one of the unusual people.

RODE: Well, thank you, and I certainly appreciate the opportunity to express myself - my life's history.

MILLER: O. K. Later on, if we think of something, we'll come back and ask you.

RODE: O. K., thank you.

(End of Interview)

(Transcribed by Alice C. Nagel)

FINAL
12/3/77
Alice C. Nagel

INDEX
OF WILLIAM RODE
BY SHERILYN D. ALLEN

"Air Route", 3
Alexander, _____, 20
Arkansas, mentioned, 31
Arnold Avenue, mentioned, 3
Baldwin, Frank, 2
Bayou, the, 8
Beauchamp Street, mentioned, 32
Beer, legalization of, 12, 13
Benoit (Miss.), mentioned, 6, 7
Beulah (Miss.), mentioned, 6
Black Jack Room (in the Casino), 18
Board of Directors (Sunflower County Hospital), 21
Bowen, John A., 11
Bowman, McClain, 33
Burns Addition, 31, 32
Burns Dairy, 31
Caillouet, Herman, 10
California, mentioned, 13
Cannon Street, mentioned, 29
Carl, _____, retired Railroad man, 15
Casevechia, _____ (Mrs.), 30
Casevechia Dairy Farm, 30
Casino, the, 14, 16, 17, 22, 24, 26

Casting Plant, 10
 Catalina Islands, mentioned, 13
 Central School, 2
 Chicago (Illinois), mentioned, 13
 "Chick Webb's Band", 25
 Chicot County, mentioned, 27
 Christmas, mentioned, 10
 Clarksdale (Miss.), mentioned, 32
 Cleveland, Mississippi, mentioned, 1
 Collier, _____, 14
 Conner, Jim, ex-river man, 9
 Coogan, Jackie, 25
 Cooper, Jackson, musician, 3
 Cousley, Sam, 33
 Cox Brothers, 34
 Crews, _____, 7
 Crockett, Harry, 14
 Culley Drug Store, mentioned, 34
 Davidson, _____ (Mrs.), 10
 Davidson, Louis, sign painter, 10
 Davis, John, 30
 Deaton Street, mentioned, 10, 15
 Delesseps (Street), mentioned, 14
 "Depression of 1933" ("1933 Depression"), 12, 14
 Derby, the, mentioned, 19

Des Moines, Iowa, mentioned, 27
 Dice Room (in the Casino), 18
 Dorsey, Jimmy, musician, 25
 Duncan, _____ (Mrs.), 3
 Duncan home, the, mentioned, 3
 Dye, E. C., 9
 Electrolux, refrigerator, 11
 Emerson, Johnny, 8
 England, mentioned, 4
 F H A, 31, 32
 Fairview (Street), mentioned, 29, 33
 Ferry, 12
 Ferry Landing, 18
 Ferry Road, mentioned, 12
 Fitzgerald, Ella, 25
 555 Service Station, 7
 Flood of 1927, 5, 6
 Florence and Seven Oaks Plantation, 27
 Folby, _____, 24
 Fort Bragg, North Carolina, mentioned, 5
 Fowler, _____, Captain, National Guard, 5
 Frank's Cafe, 13
 Garber, Jan, 13
 Gas Company, 11
 Genie Fairway, mentioned, 31

Gildart, Ben, 7
 Glen Allan (Miss.), mentioned, 8
 Golding, (Thomas H.) Red, 26-28
 Gable, Betty, 25
 Grand Jury, 22, 23
 Gray, Ed, 6, 7
 Greenville High, 2
 Greenville Military Academy, 2, 3
 Greenwood (Miss.), mentioned, 3, 24
 Hampton, Lionel, musician, 25
 Hanf, Geneva, 29, 30
 Hanf, Roy, 29
 Harland's Pool Room, 14
 Harrington, "Pop", 3
 Heathman, _____ (Mrs.), 20, 24
 Henry, J. J., 4
 Highway Eighty-two, mentioned, 29, 33, 35
 Highway One, 8
 Hinds (Street), mentioned, 14
 Hog Ranch, 26
 Holiday Inn of America, organization of, 32
 Holly Knowe (Miss.), mentioned, 8
 Holmes, Herbert, 17-19, 24
 Holmes, Nancy Hudson, 17
 Horse Book, 19

Horton, Edith, mentioned, 10
House of Lights, mentioned, 34
Huppmobile Agency, 9
Illinois Central, 1
Indianola (Miss.), mentioned, 17, 20
Jackson (Miss.), mentioned, 4, 29
James, Malcolm, former Sheriff, Washington County, 27
John Street, mentioned, 29
Kellner, Ernest, 9
Kellner, Lester, 9
"La Petite Ecole", school, 3
Lake Vermillion, mentioned, 6
Lake Washington, mentioned, 14
Leland (Miss.), mentioned, 8, 12, 14
Leota (Miss.), mentioned, 10
Levee Camps, 6
Levy and Rode Furniture Company, 28
Levy, Ralph, 28, 29
Light Company, 11
Little Rock (Arkansas), mentioned, 26
Liverpool, mentioned, 4
Livery Stable, 7
Louisiana, mentioned, 12
Magnolia Arms Apartment House, 1, 33
Magnolia Heights, 29

Main Street, mentioned, 1
 Malaria, 5
 Manchester, mentioned, 4, 5
 Marilyn Street, mentioned, 30, 31
 McClendon, _____, 30
 McClendon Addition, 30
 McCorkle, John, 31
 McGee's Pharmacy, mentioned, 33
 McLaughlin, John, 4
 McMillan, George, Second Lieutenant, National Guard, 5, 6
 Memphis (Tenn.), mentioned, 1, 32
 Merry-Go-Round, 14
 Metcalfe (Miss.), mentioned, 14
 Military Academy. See Greenville Military Academy
 Mill Road, mentioned, 30, 31
 Morson, John, Texaco Agent, 11
 Mound's Landing, levee break, 6
 Music Corporation of America, 25
 National Guard Unit: organization of, 5; role, during
 the flood, 6; mentioned, 7
 New Orleans (Louisiana), mentioned, 2, 4, 5
 Norman, Van, 14
 O'Bannon, Fred, First Lieutenant, National Guard, 5; man-
 ager, 555 Service Station, 7
 Oklahoma, mentioned, 25

NOTICE

This material may be
 protected by copyright
 law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

Ole Miss, mentioned, 19, 25

"Paces Races", slot machine, 13

Park Lawn, 32

Paxton, Galla (Major), 5

Peach Cove, 34

Pearl Harbor, mentioned, 24

Pease, Warren, 10

Pig Stand, 10-13, 16. See also Rode's Pig Stand

Police Station, 7

Pollution Control, 34

Pool Room, 26

Poplar (Street), mentioned, 28

Quarter Boats, 9, 18

Reed Meadows, 31

Reed Road, mentioned, 30

Reilly, _____ (Captain), 2, 3

Reynolds, T. P., 29

Ridge Acres, 31

Ridge Avenue, mentioned, 30, 31

Roads, 8

Rode Building, the, 29, 33

Rode, Charles, brother, 31

Rode, William: born in Memphis (Tennessee), 1; schooling-
 Starling School, 2; Central School, 2; Greenville
 High, 2; Greenville Military Academy, 2; deck boy,

Rode, William: (continued)

USS Duquesne, 4; member, National Guard, 5, 6; malaria stricken, 5; work on the natural gas line, 7; work, 555 Service Station, 7, 8; work, Jim Connor's Service Station, 9; owner, operator, service station, 9; work, building levees (for the Government), 10; establishing and operations of Rode's Pig Stand, 10-13; trip to California, 13; slot machine business, 13, 14; establishing and operations of the Casino, 14-20; establishing and operations of second Casino (in Indianola, Miss.), 20-24; owner, operator, Rode Sports Center, 23, 24, 26; house building business, 26, 29-33; partnership in the Hog Ranch business, 26, 27; farming experiences, 27, 28, 32; partnership, Levy and Rode Furniture Company, 28, 29

Rode's Addition, 29-31

Rode's Pig Stand, 12

Rode 's Sports Center, 23, 26

Roosevelt, Franklin (President), 12

Rosedale (Miss.), mentioned, 8, 21, 30

Rotary, 34

Roulette Room (in the Casino), 18

S. H. Kress Company, 9

Schelben's Boiler Works, 2

Seamen's Employment Office, 4

Seard, Robert, mentioned, 14
 Senoj, mentioned, 9
 Sherman Store, mentioned, 33
 Silverstein, Jake, 24
 Skinner, Carrie Blevins, 15
 Slot machines, 14, 17, 18, 24
 Smith, Burris, 5
 Starling School, 2
 Stein, Jake, mentioned, 9
 Sunflower (County), 20, 26
 Sunflower County Hospital, 21
 Tail Tower, 10
 Tap Room (in the Casino), 18
 Tea Dance, 18, 19
 Tennenbaum's, 23
 Tennessee, mentioned, 12
 Terrace Gardens, 26, 33
 Texaco Agent, 11
 Thanksgiving, mentioned, 24
 Theobald Street, mentioned, 10, 15
 "The Pecan Grove", 22
 Tubertini's Realty, mentioned, 33-34
 U. S. Engineers, 9
 USS Duquesne, 4
 University of Iowa (Des Moines, Iowa), 27

Venuti, Joe, 25
Warfield Landing, 12
Washington Avenue, mentioned, 7, 9, 23, 26, 28, 34
Washington County, mentioned, 19, 20, 26, 27
Wasson, Ruth, 13
Webb, Chick, 25
Wells, _____, 30
Wells Drug Store, 28
Wichita Falls, Texas, mentioned, 25
Wilson, Kemmons, 32
Wilzin, _____, 34
Wineman, Otto, 7
Winterville (Miss.), mentioned, 8
Woods, Tobe, 19
World War II, mentioned, 23
Wortham, _____, 1
Wortham Drive, mentioned, 29
Y and MV, 1
Yazoo City (Miss.), mentioned, 24, 25