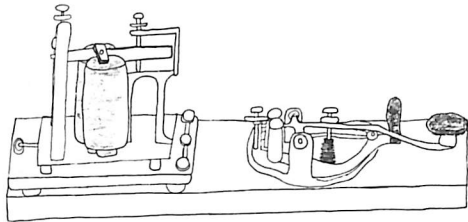


Ed Burns

My father was John C. Burns and my mother was Mrs. Fannie Burns. My mother and father were farmers and they lived where James Hough lives and I lived with them. I was born right there in 1892. My sister was Flora Burns and she was teaching here, but she developed heart trouble. At that time I was being treated at the Roper Hospital in Charleston because I had been gassed during the war. Mr. Heath telegraphed me to ask would I come and take her place.



I was qualified. I was not a college graduate but I had a certificate to teach. I was drafted out of college. So I came on down to teach.

It was 1919 when I started teaching in Lando. I was the second man teacher and Mr. Walton was the first. Mrs. Mattie Hicklin taught there until 1918. Miss Rose Hoke was the first teacher there and she taught school in the old Methodist church before there was ever a school in Lando. She was old Dr. Gaston's wife. Ethel Gaston, Dr. Gaston's sister was teaching when they went into the new building.

Whenever I was there we had four teachers, and I'm gonna tell you now, of all the schools I taught, Lando was the best. Everyone was cooperative and they had lots of entertainment and they were noted for their singing. I tell you who the trustees were – Mr. Gilbert Heath was and Mr. Willis and Clyde Murphy. The state paid us, we weren't paid by the mill



ED BURNS: "It was 1919 when I started teaching in Lando."
(Photo courtesy of Mrs. Ed Burns)

at all. All they did was provide the building. They always cooperated with us and anything we wanted, why we got it.

Miss Mildred Nunnery Cox she was our music teacher. She believed in drills – daisy drills – something like the maypole. They had a big auditorium up stairs.

We started school at 8:00, recess at 10 and dinner time at 12 and we taught till 3:30. The children went home for dinner, but I took my lunch with me.

I was principal, too, and I enjoyed it. All in all I taught 22 years. After I left Lando I went to Antioch, N. C. to teach. I stayed there 2 years and that's where I got my wife. Then I taught at Wellridge in Chester County for 5 years. Then I taught at Armenia and Leeds. I taught for 6 weeks in the summer in Dark Corners, a little place out from Greer.



In 1919 Lando was a small place but I'd say there was over a hundred children in school. I taught Homer Miller and Harry Heath, Douglas Bigham and Grady Bolton. We had up through the 6th grade at Lando, then they could go to Richburg and go through the 10th grade.

The parents that had children in day school worked at the mill, and I visited the mill once a month to talk with them and they were most cooperative.

I remember when they talked about putting that railroad in at Lando. They called it the dinky and Mr. Heath had it running from Lando to Edgemoor. They used that instead of trucks to make deliveries. I heard about it and took the children down there to see it in the afternoon after school was out.

When I was teaching down there I got \$100.00 a month, but at other places I taught I only got \$70.00 a month. Lando was the highest salary. When I taught night school it would pay \$5.00 a night and I taught 3 nights out of a week. During that time I was also farming up here where Jim Hough lives.

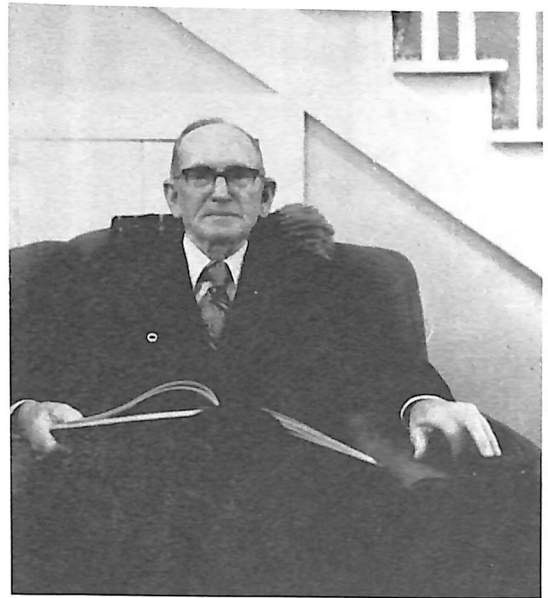
Now I remember Walter Haggerty. He was too old to go to day school when I was there, but when I had a night school, he went with me. That was in 1927. Night school was for the adults or older children who wanted to go to school. We had a good many men to attend that night school and a few ladies. You remember Miss Wil Lou Gray started night school. Well, they had it in Chester and then we got it.

Our son-in-law was principal of Lewisville School for three years and at the time all the schools around had consolidated. One day a group of the Hefners came over to the school to get all the Hefner children out of school. Harry Heath came by and saw them all going in the school and stopped to ask

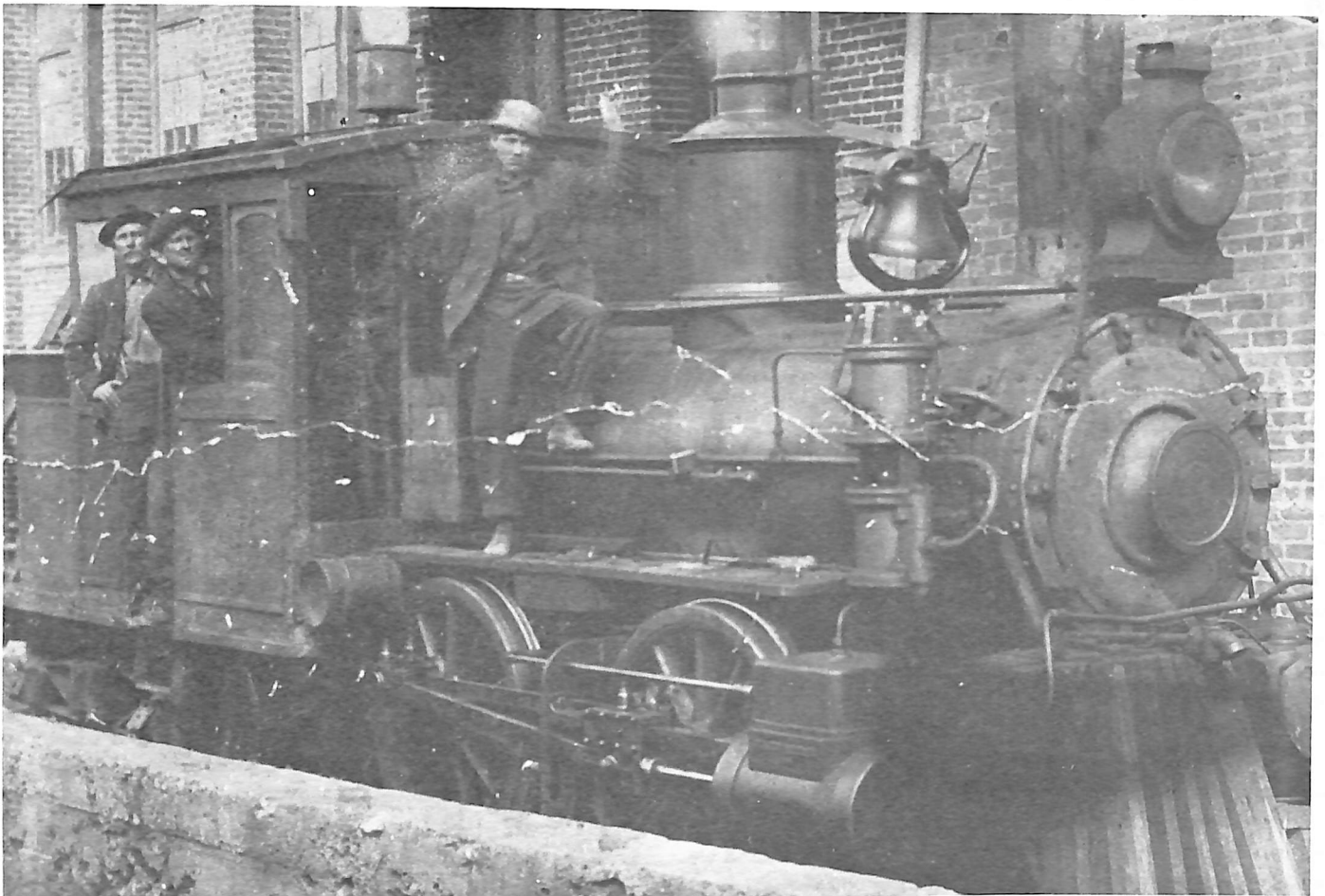
what had happened. One of them told him that they had to hurry and get the children, that Grandma Hefner was dying. And Harry said, "Well, she's not dead yet, cause I just came by the mill and it's still running." So you see, a lot of the people were Hefners and Harry was saying they couldn't run the mill without the Hefners.

Now Grandma Laney she had lots of daughters and one married Curtis Hefner and one married Will Hefner. And Grandma Laney helped Dr. Gaston bring more babies than anybody down there. That's Mrs. Dora Hefner's mother.

Lando was rough at one time and it didn't have conveniences at one time. They didn't have waterworks. It wasn't modern by any means. But they were very religious people. ■



ED BURNS: "Of all the schools I taught, Lando was the best. Everyone was cooperative . . ."



THE "DUMMY" – Locomotive No. 3 that ran 4.6 miles twice daily from Lando to Edgemoor arrived in 1902. The first recorded engineer was Munn Stephenson. He trained his son Jeff Stephenson and he took over in 1910. When Number 5 was retired, in 1976, Jeff Stephenson's son-in-law, Willie Starnes was engineer and Tom Buckson was fireman-brakeman.