MOONLIGHT CLASS

By HELEN PRICE STACY
FRANKFORT, Ky. — In talking with some of the older generation the thing they seem to regret most is a lack of formal education. Not every one who wished to attend school could do so and allowed this lack of schooling to color the remaining years. Some became self-educated; some remained illiterate...some, however, determined to attend grade school, high school and college.

Rowan Countians Thank Cora Stewart For Ingenious Method Of Education

Frankfort, Ky. — In talking with some of the older generation the thing they seem to regret most is a lack of formal education. Not every one who wished to attend school could do so and allowed this lack of schooling to color the remaining years. Some became self-educated; some remained illiterate...some, however, determined to attend grade school, high school and college.

Rowan, county seat of Rowan, is the home of Rowan State University, an institution that serves as a guiding light in Eastern Kentucky. But back in 1911, it was the far-sighted eyes of Mrs. Cora Wilson Stewart, then superintendent of Rowan County schools, that looked at the people there and saw the lack of confidence caused by illiteracy.

Rowan Countians Thank Cora Stewart For Ingenious Method Of Education

Mrs. Stewart suspected that 25 percent of the people in Rowan County could not read and write. She called together a group of interested persons and together planned what would become known as “moonlight schools.”

The task was too great for one woman, so Mrs. Stewart asked for volunteers to teach reading and writing to adults on those evenings when there was moonlight. Every teacher in the county responded, and soon teachers and volunteers from nearby counties approached the superintendent with offers to help.

In Lewis County where Lena Wells Lykins had volunteered to help, she was never afraid to go to her door to answer a knock at midnight or even later. She said invariably it would be an adult with “I want to learn how to read and write. Will you teach me?” She later rode into the mountains near Hyden, to instruct other volunteers in starting “moonlight schools.”

Sanders Is Namesake Of Aging Foundation

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The Harland Sanders Foundation, which was established three weeks ago in Louisville, is a research project on aging.

The occasion will be the 80th birthday of the colonel, who founded the Kentucky Fried Chicken Corporation at age 63. The firm will give $1,000 for each year of his life, a total of $80,000 to start the non-profit foundation.

Church Takes

The money now spent by the federal government to care about aging should be devolved to a study of the process of aging, we might already have discovered a way to halt, or at least slow down, the process,” he said.

The foundation is believed to be one of the first concerned primarily with aging.

Church Takes

Beginning in Rowan County in September 1911, the idea spread and Mrs. Stewart found herself and her teachers traveling to 10 Eastern Kentucky counties to set up the schools.

Today, on Morehead’s Main Street, a plaque placed by the Kentucky Historical Society of Highways honors Cora Wilson Stewart and her “Moonlight Schools.”