















(Left to right) College Physician, Dr. Wilena Peck, Mrs. Theda Nordan, Ralph Sears (future mayor of Montevallo), Mrs. Jane Wyatt, Mrs. Minnie Lou Warnke, Dr. Walter Trumbauer – at the opening reception for the new Faculty Club house at the College Lake in 1949.

Minnie Lou Warnke



Mrs. Minnie Lou Warnke at her cashier's window in Palmer Hall.

The present appearance and condition of the house at 750 Vine Street in Montevallo was achieved by Mrs. Minnie Lou Warnke, the owner prior to Mr. and Mrs. John Kirby. Mrs. Warnke grew up in Montevallo and lived most of her adult life with her mother and raised her only son as a single mom in the old Mulkey house which was at the corner of Middle and Island streets.

Mrs. Warnke was the cashier in the business office of Alabama College and helped students who came to her office to make tu-

ition and fee payments. Toward the end of her working career, she bought the old McConaughy house on the corner of Vine and Valley streets and proceeded to invest in restoration and extensive improvements that upgraded the house to one of the most handsome older houses in the community.



The Mulkey house where Minnie Lou and her son Charlie lived in the 1950's & '60's.

ARNKE, MINNIE LOU (MAMA LOU), 88, a lifelong resident of Montevallo, AL, passed away in Montgomery, AL, on Saturday, December 6, 2008. Services will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. in The Chapel of The First United Methodist Church of Montevallo, AL. Visitation will be from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. in The Chapel. Mrs. Warnke retired in 1982 from The University of Montevallo, having worked in the Business Office for over 30 years. Mrs. Warnke was preceded in death by her mother, Lillie Mulkey Blanchard and father, Charles Blanchard. She is survived by her sister, Dorothy Smith of Land O'Lakes, FL; her only son, Charles Francis Warnke of Montgomery, AL; and her two grandchildren, Whitney LuAnn (Jason) Groff of Marietta, GA, and Zachary Blanchard Warnke of Atlanta, GA. A special thanks to her family at ElmCroft of Montgomery, AL, and VistaCare of Montgomery, AL, for their generosity, love and support. Donations can

be made to the choir of The First United Methodist Church of Montevallo at 861 Middle St., Montevallo, AL 35115 and/or to VistaCare (Hospice) at 2430 Fairlane Drive, Suite C-7, Montgomery, AL 36116. Mother, we love you and will miss you very much. Rockco Funeral Home of Montevallo directing.



Minnie Lou Warnke is buried in the Montevallo Cemetery.





Minnie Lou Warnke's son, Charlie (right photo), graduated from Montevallo High School in 1962. He was a star halfback on that year's Shelby County and Mid-South Conference championship team. He's shown on the right side of the group photo above standing next to his future wife, Langley Tolbert, daughter of Alabama College music professor Bruce Tolbert.



Original owner unknown. In 1950's owned by R.E. Whaley and served as rental property for many years.





Home of the Lewis family. Mr. Lewis was the long-time Coca Cola distributor for Montevallo and Shelby County. Became rental property owned by sisters, Mrs. Gene Lewis Hubbard and Mrs. Sassy Lewis Givhan. in 1950's was home of family of R.E. Ballantine, superintendent of new Westinghouse plant between Montevallo and Calera. Then became home for local physician, Dr. Lewis Kirkland and family in 1960's prior to the construction of their new house on Kirkwood street.





Westminster house (also known as the Forbes house), student fellowship center for the Montevallo Presbyterian Church. The house was donated to the church by E.E. Forbes, owner of Forbes Piano Co. in Birmingham in 1947.

The McConaughys of Montevallo

The McConaughys, at one time one of Montevallo's most prominent families, had been residents in the area since the 1840's. A number of family members are buried in the Montevallo City Cemetery and one of the oldest laid to rest there was William McConaughy who was born in 1806 and died in 1883. Harriet McConaughy lies beside William and was born in 1827 and died in 1919.

William's son, James L. McConaughy, joined William F. Aldrich when he took sole ownership in 1880 of the coal mines at Aldrich, two miles west of Montevallo, and became Secretary/Treasurer of Aldrich's newly formed Montevallo Coal and Transportation Company which they operated for the next 25 years.

750 Vine street is remembered by old timers in town as the home of Mr. and Mrs. W.P. McConaughy and their two sons and two daughters. We are fortunate that the small cottage, or "servant's quarters" behind the house has been saved and preserved over the years to remind us of the life-style of well-to-do families around the turn of the 20th century.

Since most of the imposing Victorian houses located on Main Street or streets close by were constructed around 1900, we are probably safe to conclude that the house at 750 Vine Street was built between 1900 and 1920. The two story house known to be the home of J.L. McConaughy that once stood on the lot where the U.S. Post Office is today, was one of these impressive Victorians that dotted the old neighborhoods of Montevallo.

By the 1930's, the imposing old J. L. McConaughy house had been sold to the Cox family and they ran a Tea Room out of the first level.

When the U.S. Government selected the site for Montevallo's new post office in 1936, W. P. McConaughy bought the Cox house and had it moved next door onto a vacant lot he owned next to his own house.

Once the house was moved, he had it retrofitted for four apartments (two upstairs and two downstairs) and rented them out to faculty and staff members from Alabama College. The house then became known around town as the McConaughy Apartments. It was torn down in the late 1970's to make room for a parking lot that continues to be used daily by the Post Office.

As a respected local citizen and successful businessman, W.P. McConaughy became a director of Montevallo's Merchants & Planters bank. When his oldest son, William, became an adult and needed a job, his father arranged for him to go to work for the bank as a clerk. William had an unusual speech and hearing im-



Former home of J.L. McConaughy.

pediment that limited his ability to interact with others, so his banking career did not last. He later opened a pool hall next door to the old St. George Hotel and was know around town for arranging and conducting illicit cock fights.

Conversely, Walter McConaughy, William's older brother had a sterling career in the Foreign Service of the U.S. State Department and could very well be considered the most personally successful native son Montevallo has yet produced. (See various articles included about Walter's life and career).



The McConaughy Apartments as it looked in the 1950's.

Miss Dorothy Davis and Mr. Walter McConaughy Married Last Monday in Birmingham

THEIR WEDDING TRIP WILL BE MADE TO HOME IN JAPAN

On Monday evening, June 28, at 8:30 o'clock, Miss Mary Dorothy Davis and Walter Patrick McConaughy, Ir., were married at North Highlands Methodist Church in Birmingham. The Rev. V. H. Hawkins, formerly pastor of the Montevallo Methodist Church, officiated

Birmingham. The Rev. V. H. Hawkins, formerly pastor of the Montevallo Methodist Church, officiated.

Preceding the ceremony, Mrs. Stuart played soft organ music: 'Y Love You Truly,' by Carrie Jacobs-Bond; "Traumeri" by Schumann, and "To a Wild Rose" by MacDowell. Following the organ music the two sisters of the groom played "Adoration" by Borowski, Mrs. Joe E. Jenkins, of Montgomery, on the violin, accompanied by Mrs. McClellan Ratchford, of LaFayette.

The chancel of the church was decorated with ferns and graceful groupings of gladioli in pastel shades. The altar was flanked by seven-branched candelabra.

The bride and groom proceeded unattended to the altar. The bride was lovely in a costume of Kelly green crepe with English formitting coat of black crepe embroidered in small green polka dots, with which she wore green accessories. Her corsage was of lilies of the valley and Joanna Hill roses.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Allen Davis, of Andalusia. She was graduated from Alabama College in May of this year. As a student Miss Davis was the most outstanding girl in her class, being elected both Miss Alabama College and May Queen. In addition, she was president of the Student Senate and one of the school beauties.

Mr. McConaughy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. McConaughy, of Montevallo. He was graduated from Birmingham-Southern in the class of 1928. In 1931 he was appointed to the United States diplomatic service as vice-consul at Tampico, Mexico, Since February, 1933, he has been stationed at Kobe, Japan. In April of this year



MRS. WALTER McCONAUGHY

Mrs. Walter Patrick McConaughy, Jr., who was before her marriage to Mr. McConaughy Monday, Miss Dorothy Davis, of Andalusia. She was graduated from Alabama College in May of this year. As a student Miss Davis was the most outstanding girl in her class, being elected both Miss Alabama College and May Queen. She was president of the Student Senate and one of the College Beauties. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Allen Davis. Mrs. Walter Patrick McCon-

he was elevated to the rank of conhe was elevated to the rank of con-sul by presidential appointment.

Mr. and Mrs. McConaughy left immediately after the ceremony for San Francisco where they are to sail on the S. S. President Har-rison for Japan. They will spend two days in Honolulu en route to Kobe.





Montevallo Young Man Is Named To American Consulate In Mexico

Youth With Excellent Record In High School, College **Gets Appointment**

BY FLORA B. SURLES

MONTEVALLO, Ala., Jan. 12 Walter Patrick McConaughy, Jr., 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. McConaughy, of Montevallo, has been no-



"Home Means More Than Ever," Says Walter McConaughy After Jap Internment

"Home has never meant so much to me before as it has on this visit," is the statement of Walter P. McConaughy, as he and his wife concluded a week's visit Wednesday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. McConaughy, in Montevallo.

Walter, as we folks at home are privileged to call him, was serving as second secretary at the American Embassy in Peking, China, when the war with Japan broke with all its fury last December. He was interned by the Japanese occupation of China, and has consumed all the long days since December 7 in getting back to his home country as a member of the large group of officials recently exchanged between the governments of the United States and Japan. Mrs. McComaughy is the former Dorothy Davis, of Andalusia.

"The old home town looks mighty fine," continued Mr. McConaughy, "and I am delighted to see everybody so whole-heartedly supporting our country in its gigantic war effort."

Mr. McConaughy made reference to the capture and imprisonment of Marine Jimmy Stewart by the Japanese at Shanghai about the same time he and the government officials were interned at Peking. Young Stewart is a cousin of Mr. Clement L. Martin, who worked at McCulley's until recently removing to Birmingham. According to prediction of Mr. McConaughy, it is likely that Marine Stewart is locked up as a prisoner of war where he will remain for the duration.

Mr. and Mrs. McConaughy left Wednesday for Birmingham where they will spend a while with relatives. "I expect to be back home again in a short time," he said, "and I hope to give The Times a longer and more detailed interview."

Walter McConaughy Goes To Peking, China

Mr. Walter P. McConaughy, who for five years was United States consul at Kobe, Japan, and for three years was consul at Osaka, has received the assignment of second secretary of the U.S. embassy in Peking, China.

Mr. McConaughy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. McConaughy and is a graduate of Birmingham-Southern College. He is one of the youngest men in this line of service, being only 24 years old when he entered. Mr. McConaughy is now in Washington, D. C., where he is working on a report for the U. S. Department of Agriculture on cotton marketing conditions before leaving March 15 to take over his new duties.

It is unfortunate that his wife, the former Dorothy Davis, a graduate of Alabama College, will be unable to accompany him to China because of emigration restrictions on private citizens and wives of government officials on duty in the Far East.

THE MONTEVALLO TIMES, Montevallo, Ala.

McConaughy Family Leaves for Lebanon, Tension Area of the Mediterranean

An Alabama couple, trained in the trouble spots of the Far East, is bound for Lebanon, a keytension area of the Mediterranean zone.

Lebanon, rich in oil, is recognized by the United Nations.

Taking his wife and 3½ year old daughter with him, Walter Mc-Conaughy will serve as first secretary and consul in the American Legation in Lebanon.

To McConaughy. a native of Montevallo, an assignment in a critical area is nothing new. During the 1930's he served in the diplomatic corps both in Japan and China. More recently he has been assigned to Brazil and to little known Bolivia.

The new assignment appeals to Dorothy Davis McConaughy, who met the young career diplomat at the time of her graduation from Alabama College. Following a whirlwind courtship and marriage, the couple sailed for Kobe, Japan for a three year stay. Mrs. McConaughy has been with her husband through his diplomatic career except for a period of two years. During eighteen months of that time McConaughy was a diplomatic prisoner of Japan.

Three year old Patricia, born in this country just prior to the Bolivia assignment, knows more Spanish than English—is perhaps fonder of Spanish. Mrs. McConaughy has just completed visits with Mr. and Mrs. William P. McConaughy, of Montevallo, and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Davis, of Andalusia, while her



MRS WALTER McCONAUGHY

husband was in Washington.

Favorite city of Dorothy Mc-Conaughy so far has been LaPas, Bolivia, where a population of 300,000 Indians live on a 12,500 foot plateau in the Andes, where peaks rise to 23,000 feet in full view of the city. Mrs. McConaughy believes the Mardi Gras Festival rivals those of Rio de Janerio and New Orleans.

It may be that her furniture has something to do with her regard for Bolivia. It was unpacked there, after having been boxed up through many months of travel in Japan, China, all the way back to Alabama, and finally to Bolivia.

W. P. McConaughy Retires After Thirty-Six Years As Salesman

"I began 'way back in the horse and buggy days," says Mr. W. P. McConaughy, referring to his thirty-six years of salesmanship for meat packing companies which ended with his retirement this month. During his entire years of traveling he lost only one week's time.

In 1905 when livery stables and kerosene lamps were important parts of the American scene, Mr. McConaughy took his first orders for the Hammond Packing Company, later consolidated with the National Packing Company. When this firm was declared a trust and dissolved by the government, he took a position with a packing concern later bought by Wilson and Company in 1917. He has been with Wilson for twenty-four years. "Business has improved since I started out." Mr. McConaughy says, "but competition is much stiffer than it used to be. I remember when merchants would buy from you just because they liked you. Now if your company's prices are a fraction of a cent higher than another

company's, you may not get the business."

Mr. McConaughy recalls his first automobile ride "way back when they called them autobuggies." "They could go as fast as twenty miles an hour. We thought we were flying." Although he has ridden in automobiles ever since they "came out," he has never driven or owned one. Once driving home in a buggy through a downpour of rain he had to swim his horses across a swollen creek. When water began pouring in the buggy he put the top back and stood on the seat. "I had about decided I was going to have to swim myself, but the horses were strong and they made it to the bank."

Mr. McConaughy made his headquarters in Birmingham and traveled the territory within an eightymile radius of that city. "I've had some amusing experiences with my foreign customers," he says. "I remember a German storekeeper in a mining town who was having a lot of trouble with his English. I was there one day when his daughter was in the store. When she left he called to her, 'Oh, Annie, when you go out yoost toss over da fence da cow some hay.'"

Although Mr. McConaughy has often carried large sums of money on his person, he has never been robbed. He thinks his closest call came once when he was alone in Wilson's Birmingham plant late one Saturday night counting the week's collections. As he counted the money a Negro watched him through the window. "When a policeman coming by on his beat saw the man and told me about him I took him up on his offer to see me to my hotel, since I still had several hundred dollars with me."

Well, "Mr. Pat" has retired so you'll see him in town more than you used to. "I've enjoyed my work," he declares, "but I'm going to enjoy my retirement, too."

"It's certainly going to be fine having him home every day instead of once a week," says his wife.







Montevallo native Walter P. McConaughy, Ambassador to Pakistan, chats with president John F. Kennedy in an oval office meeting at the White House sometime between 1961 and 1963.

Funeral Held For Mr. McConaughy

Services for Walter Pat Mc-Conaughy 89, retired salesman and a director of the Merchant's and Planters Bank of Montevallo. were held Saturday at the Montevallo Methodist Church.

The Rev James Chesnutt, the Rev. P. D. Wilson of Ensley and the Rev. Minor Triplett of Florence officiated Burial was in the Montevallo Cemetery.

Pallbarers included McClellan Ratchford Jr., Walter Ratchford, Frank Morgan, Dr. Paul Bailey, C H Chism, and J. A. Brown.

Honorary pallbearers were the members of the official board of the Methodist Church and the directors of the Merchants and Planters Bank

Mr. McConaughy died Thursday of last week at his home here.

He was a retired salesman for Wilson & Co., where he was employed for more than 40 years. He was a native of Montevallo.

At the time of his death, Mr. McConaughy was a member of the official board of the Montevallo Methodist Church.

He was the father of Walter P. McConaughy, American Ambassador to Burma.

In addition to Walter, the immediate family survivors are his wife, Mrs. Claude Pattillo Mc-Conaughy; a son, William D. Mc-Conaughy. Montevallo; two daughters, Mrs. McClellan Ratchford of Atlanta and Mrs. Joe E. Jenkins of Montgomery; two nephews, Frank Morgan, Montevallo and Sam Morgan, St. Joseph Mo.; three nieces, Mrs. M. N. Burgess, Bloomfield, N. J.; Mrs. Hans Angelkorte, Scotch Plains, N.J.; and Mrs. Frank Spangler, Montgomery; eight grandchildren.



W. P. McConaughy

Walter P. McConaughy, a lifelong resident of Montevallo, died at his home in that city Thursday, May 21. He was 89 years old

Funeral services were held Saturday from the Methodist church with Rev. James Chesnutt, pastor, and Rev. Minor Triplett, a former pastor, conducting the services. Burial was in the Montevallo cem-

Mr. McConaughy was a retired salesman for Wilson and Company where he worked for more than 40 years. He was a director of the Merchants and Planters Bank and a life long member of the Methodist church. For many years he had served as a member of the official Board of his church.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Claud Pattillo McConaughy; two daughters, Mrs. McClellan Ratchford, Atlanta, and Mrs. J. E. Jenkins, Montgomery; two sons, Walter P. McConaughy, Jr , U. S. Ambassador to Burma, and William D. McConaughy, Montevallo.

Father of ambassador to Burma—

W. P. McConaughy, bank director, dies in Montevallo

MONTEVALLO, Ala., May 23-W. P. McConaughy, father of the American ambassador to Burma. was buried in services at the Methodist Church here Saturday.

Mr. McConaughy, 89, was a retired salesman and director of the Merchants and Planters Bank of Montevallo, He was an active member of the Methodist Church official board at the time of his death Thursday.

Survivors include two sons, W. P. McConaughy Jr., the ambassador, and William D. McConaughy of Montevallo, and two daughters. Mrs. McClellan Ratchford of Atlanta and Mrs. Joe E. Jenkins of Montgomery.





Walter McConaughy, 92, Envoy in Asia, Dies

November 14, 2000

Walter Patrick McConaughy, a specialist on the Far East for the State Department whose high-profile postings included ambassadorships in Burma, Pakistan and Taiwan, died on Friday at a hospital in Atlanta. He was 92 and had moved to Atlanta after retiring in 1974 as ambassador to the Nationalist Chinese government on Taiwan.

Mr. McConaughy was one of the department's dwindling cadre of 'old China hands." Starting in 1941, he spent a large part of his career there, as well as in Washington, where he worked on assignments related to China in Washington.

He represented the United States in Pakistan in one of its many confrontations with India and flirtations with China. And he headed the embassy in 1960 in Seoul when South Korea shook off the grip of its authoritarian founder, Syngman Rhee, in a surge of riots.

Mr. Conaughy was born in Montevallo, Ala. He graduated from Birmingham-Southern College in 1928. In 1930, he was doing postgraduate work at Duke University and teaching high school in Brundidge, Ala., when he passed the Foreign Service examination and received an appointment.

Initially, he was sent to Tampico, Mexico, as a vice consul. In 1933, he was transferred to Japan and worked for seven years in Kobe and Osaka, with brief spells in Taiwan and Nagasaki.

Early in 1941, he arrived in occupied Beijing. The Japanese interned him after they attacked Pearl Harbor and the United States declared war. Released in an exchange of diplomats, he wound up in the embassy at La Paz, Bolivia, for two years as commercial attache.

He had a posting in Rio de Janeiro and a year's study at the National War College before returning to China in 1948 as a consul and later consul general in Shanghai. By then, Mao's Communist army was closing in, the consulate was in a battle zone, and Shanghai fell in May 1949.

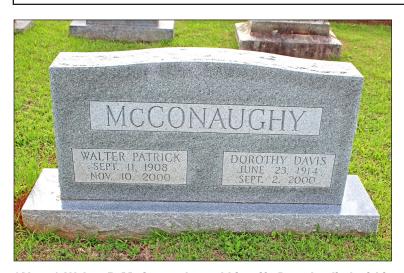
Mr. McConaughy stayed on for a year and closed the consulate in

May 1950 as the last American Foreign Service outpost in China. The State Department gave him its Commendable Service Award for having protected American interests and rewarded him with a two-year assignment as consul general in Hong Kong.

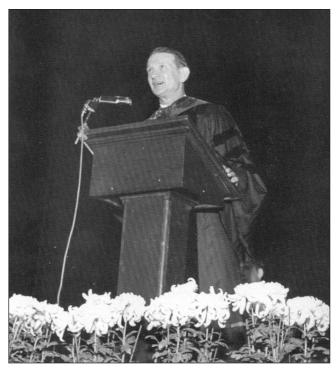
He directed the Office of Chinese Affairs in Washington for five years before President Dwight D. Eisenhower appointed him ambassador to Burma, now Myanmar, in 1957, and ambassador to South Korea two years later.

He was back in Washington as assistant secretary of state for Far Eastern Affairs in 1961, when President John F. Kennedy named him ambassador to Pakistan. His next and final position, as envoy to Taiwan, lasted an unusual eight years, from 1966 to 1974.

Surviving are two daughters, Patricia Myers of Roswell, Ga., and Dru, of Atlanta; two sisters, Mary Ratchford of Atlanta and Kate Jenkins of Auburn, Ala.; and two grand-children. His wife of 63 years, Dorothy Davis McConaughy, died on Sept. 2.



(Above) Walter P. McConaughy and his wife Dorothy died within two months of each other in 2000. They are buried together and share this marker in the family plot in the Montevallo City Cemetery. (Right) Montevallo native Walter P. McConaughy, then-serving United States ambassador to the Republic of China, speaking at the annual Founders Day convocation at Alabama College in the fall of 1968.



43 Years in Service to His Country 1931 - 1974

Vice Consul - Tampico, Mexico 1931 - 1933

HOOVER ADMINISTRATION

Consul - Kobe & Osaka, Japan 1933 - 1941

ROOSEVELT ADMINISTRATION

Second Secretary U.S. Embassy Beijing, (Occupied) China – 1941

(Interned by Japanese for 18 months)

ROOSEVELT ADMINISTRATION

Commercial Attaché Bolivia & Brazil 1943 – 1948

ROOSEVELT/TRUMAN ADMINISTRATION

Consul – Shanghai, China 1948 – 1950

TRUMAN ADMINISTRATION

Consul General – Hong Kong, China 1950 – 1952

TRUMAN ADMINISTRATION

Director, Office of Chinese Affairs Washington, D.C. 1952 – 1957

EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION

U.S. Ambassador to Burma 1957 – 1959

EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION

U.S. Ambassador to South Korea 1959 - 1961

EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION

U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan 1962 – 1966

KENNEDY/JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION

U.S. Ambassador to Republic of China (Taiwan) 1966 – 1974

JOHNSON/NIXON ADMINISTRATION