

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Burns Celebrate 60th Anniversary

Joycously Received Many Friends For Hours

With their faces beaming and their eyes glittering over the realization that for the past sixty years they had lived as one, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Burns celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Monday. Many autos drove to their home and streams of people came to greet this respected couple and to wish them many continued blessings. The presence of so many friends was the most happy experience for them and their countenances radiated the effulgent smile of friend meeting friend. Among the visitors was the Governor of Texas Hon. Pat M. Neff who was happy to pay his respects to Mr. and Mrs. Burns as illustrious citizens of the highest ideals.

Edward Allen Burns and Miss Mary Jane Moss were married at the home of her father Capt. J. C. C. Moss near Falcon, Arkansas May 22, 1862. He was then at home from the army, having received a wound by a bullet piercing his body through one lung. Mr. Burns laughingly says that he took advantage of the young lady in that her father and brothers were in the army and he out-talked her mother in their absence and they were married. He soon reentered the service and remained there until he was honorably discharged at the close of the struggle (1865) when they moved to Texas and settled in Lexington, which was then in Burleson County. Lee County was organized in 1874 and he was elected tax-assessor in 1876, which office he continually held until he retired in 1904, an unbroken record of twenty-eight years in public office. During the early days, the sheriff was the tax collector and Mr. Burns besides being tax assessor collected taxes for Sheriffs McKeown, James and Bill Brown. When the office of tax collector was created, he collected taxes two years for C. F. Krueger and two years for V. B. Shearin. Meanwhile, he moved to Giddings, where he still resides.

To the union, there were born twelve children, all becoming grown. One, Fred, died in 1910, the others are: Robert of Giddings, Tom of Houston, Carrol of San Antonio, Emma-Mrs. Bacon of Shreveport, Morris of Austin, Mary-Mrs. Roensch of Houston, Edward of Belton, Nannie Fry-Mrs. J. W. Tate of Giddings, Jeremiah of Shreveport, Junius of Giddings and Lillian-Mrs. H. D. Cherry of Caldwell. Only three of this number were present Monday.

Mr. Burns is a gentleman of the highest type, was a most faithful and attentive officer and is highly respected. His devoted wife who shared the the pleasures and trials of his life was ever his helpmate and comfort as well as being an active worker in church and social affairs of the community. She is in her 77th year while he is in his 79th year. The couple were hale and hearty on their anniversary.

Their children presented them with a beautiful Brunswick phonograph accompanied by the following poem composed by a daughter Mrs. Tate. "Hallow the fiftieth year", so Moses said;
For they have half a century been lead
By God's good hand along life's upward slope

Reaching at length this golden crest of hope
Full well may pause and glance a moment back
Then, thankful, take again the upward track.
More hallowed be this sixtieth year, more precious than gold
That was heralded by bards and prophets of old.
Life's rosary of more than half hundred years
Told, one by one, with joys, prayers and tears
Meet now in this, which clasp the holy chain
And in this hour you live again!
"Hallow this sixtieth year,"
servants of God
Whose life's long road together thus have trod
Your children rise and honor you today
As this another milestone marks your way.
So long a path for two to walk as one!
And yet but yesterday these years begun.
Oh! Father and Mother, ours, God grant you still
Years with us yet to work His Holy will.
The countless centuries in the land of bliss
When God has given you all the joys of this:
There sixty years shall seem a moment's play,
For there a thousand years count but a day.
Oh! may you in your quiet hours enjoy
This music we so lovingly give your moments to employ;
Watch by your fireside you sit and dream
And all your children so far away seem
Let this music bring them back to you
For you are to them all that is loving and true.
How we love you, Our Father and Mother

Your Children.

Refreshment were served the guests by Mrs. Tate, assisted by Miss Mattie Hillsman, Mesdames Ramsey and Merchant.