

CHAPTER NINE – WILLIAM DEMPSEY MCGEE FAMILY

Generation No. 3

1. WILLIAM DEMPSEY³ MCGEE (*JOHN SIMPSON², JOHN¹*) was born May 12, 1858 in the state of Kentucky, and died February 06, 1927 in Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois. He married **(1) SARAH E. WALTON** abt. 1882 prob. in Hart County, Kentucky, daughter of JAMES WALTON and SARAH DALE. She was born April 26, 1858 in the state of Kentucky, and died September 1895 in the state of Kentucky. He married **(2) EMMA LAWSON** abt. 1905 prob. in Hart County, Kentucky, daughter of THOMAS LAWSON and MARY ?. She was born July 1867 in the state of Kentucky, and died January 07, 1952 in Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois.

Notes for WILLIAM DEMPSEY MCGEE:

William Dempsey McGee's first wife, Sarah Walton, died sometime between 1892 and 1900, and following her death William sent their three young children to his Walton in-laws to be raised by them. Virgie and Richard went to Barren County, Kentucky to live with their grandparents, James and Sarah Walton, and Ermine was taken in by her uncle, Dandridge Walton in Hart County, Kentucky. The exact date of Sarah McGee's death and her burial place are not known, but it is assumed that she died and was buried in Hart County.

(Note: There were two different individuals with the name Dandridge Walton, who resided in Hart County in 1880. There was Dandridge Walton, born in 1859, who was the son of James C. Walton and the brother of Sarah Walton. She married William D. McGee. There was also Dandridge Walton, born in 1851, the son of George S. Walton and the brother of Elizabeth Walton. She was the mother of Lena Hodges. Lena Hodges married James W. McGee, the younger brother of William D. McGee. Both individuals named Dandridge Walton were almost certainly related, probably cousins, but the exact nature of their kinship is not known.)

In a deed of conveyance, dated October 2, 1895, W. D. McGee sold a 76 acre tract of land in Hart County, Kentucky to his brother, James W. McGee and his mother, Ann R. McGee for the sum of \$1925.00. The terms of the sale called for a cash payment of \$182.74 with the remaining balance financed over the next three years. The tract of land was located on both sides of the L & N turnpike between the hamlets of Clear Point and Bear Wallow. (Deed Book 35, p. 357, Hart County, Kentucky Clerk's Office).

*The 1900 U.S. Census for Hart County, Kentucky, shows **William D. McGee** living as a boarder in the household of Henry Hardwick and his family. He was listed as age 42, a farmer, and a widower.*

About 1905, William D. McGee, age 46, married for a second time to Emma Lawson, age 37. She was from Hart County, and at the time of her marriage to William, she already had a fifteen year old daughter named Virginia from a previous relationship. By 1910, William and Emma had two children of their own, Thomas and Benjamin. Also, two of William's children from his first marriage, Virginia and Richard McGee, had moved back home and were living with their father

and step-mother. Richard had been living with his grandparents and Virgie, who had since married, was now a widow with two children of her own.

*The 1910 census for Hart County, Kentucky lists **William D. McGee**, age 51, a farmer and head of the household, his wife, Emma, age 42, a son, Richard M., age 17, a farm laborer, a son, Thomas B., age 3, and a son, Benjamin F., age 1 year, 1 month. The couple had been married for approximately 5 years, the first marriage for her and the second for him. Also living in the household was a daughter, Virgie Hughes, age 26, a widow, also a grandson, Walter M. Hughes, age 6, and a grandson, Ray M. Hughes, age 4.*

Not long after the 1910 census, William D. McGee decided to leave farming and take a job in a factory. He moved his family to Hoopeston, Illinois, where he went to work in a canning factory. At one time, Hoopeston was an important canning center in the mid-west and as many as four different canning companies operated there.

*The 1920 census for Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois lists **William D. McGee**, age 61, head of the household, employed as a foreman in a factory, his wife, Emma, age 52, a son, Thomas B., age 13, and a son, Benjamin F., age 10.*

William D. McGee died at his home in Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois on February 7, 1927, at the age of 68 years old and was buried at Floral Hill Cemetery located just north of town in adjoining Iroquois County. Emma McGee continued to live in their home located at 525 South Second Avenue in Hoopeston. When her son, Ben McGee, married a few years later, he and his wife lived with Emma at the same address.

*The 1930 census for Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois lists **Emma McGee**, age 62, a widow, head of the household, and her son, Benjamin F., age 21, employed as a bookkeeper at a metal car manufacturer.*

"My grandfather, William D. McGee was married before he married my grandmother, Emma. Emma had a daughter named Virginia but was never married. Emma had Thomas O. and Benjamin Franklin after she married Wm. McGee. She was past 40 years old when she had both of them. They said that my dad, Ben only weighed 3 lbs. with his clothes on. They fed him buttermilk with sugar so he would gain weight. The boys were born on a farm near Horse Cave, Ky. Wm. D. worked at Churchill Downs at one time." (from Donna (McGee) Fowler, granddaughter of William D. McGee).

OLD RESIDENT IS CALLED BY DEATH (the Hoopeston Chronicle, Hoopeston, Ill., Monday, February 7, 1927)

William Dempsey McGee, well known resident of this city, passed away at his home, 525 Second Avenue at 7:35 o'clock yesterday morning following an extended illness.

The deceased was born in San Antonio, Texas, on May 12, 1858, but had been a resident of this city for many years, having been employed by the Guard and Runway plant of the American Can Company until it moved from this city about six years ago.

He was a member of Star Lodge of Masons and the First Christian Church and was well known and liked about this city.

At the time of his death his entire family was at his bedside.

The surviving relatives are his wife, Emma, two daughters, Mrs. Virginia Hughes of Columbus, Ind., and Mrs. Ermine Meadows of Kokomo, Ind., three sons, Richard of South Bend, Ind., and Thomas and Benjamin of this city, as well as three brothers in Horse Cave, Kentucky, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home with Rev. E. S. DeMiller of the First Christian church in charge and interment will be in Floral Hill, members of Star Lodge of Masons having charge of the rites of the grave.

(Note: William D. McGee's obituary states that he was born in San Antonio, Texas, but it seems clear from other sources that his birthplace was probably the state of Kentucky. The 1900, 1910 and 1920 U.S. Census records all report his birthplace as Kentucky. Rev. John S. McGee's obituary also places the McGee family in Kentucky in 1858, the year when William was born. It wasn't until the following year in 1859, that Rev. McGee was assigned for the second time to Texas.)

More About WILLIAM DEMPSEY MCGEE:

Burial: Floral Hill Cemetery, Iroquois County, Illinois

Occupation 1: 1910, Farmer

Occupation 2: 1920, Foreman employed by the American Can Company, Hoopston, Illinois

Notes for EMMA LAWSON:

When William D. McGee married Emma Lawson about 1905, she already had a fifteen year old daughter, Virginia Lawson, born in August 1889.

The 1900 census for Hardyville, Kentucky, District 58, Hart County, lists Thomas Lawson, age 74, a farmer, b. in Ky.; his wife, Mary, age 65, b. in Ky.; a daughter, Emma Lawson, age 32, b. in Ky.; and a granddaughter, Virgie Lawson, age 10, b. in Ky., at school.

(Note: By 1910, Emma's daughter, Virgie Lawson had married and left home, and she does not appear with the McGee family in the 1910 census. In the 1920 census, she was listed with her husband, Newman Jeffries, living in Hoopston, Ill., where he was employed in a can factory. The couple lived on Second Avenue down the street from her mother and step-father. By 1930, they were living in Ross Township, Vermilion County and had an eight year old daughter named Helen Jeffries. When Emma died in 1952, Virgie Jeffries and her family were living in Hillsboro, Indiana.)

William D. McGee died many years before his granddaughter, Donna (McGee) Fowler was born, but Emma lived until 1952, and Donna remembers her grandmother with great fondness:

"My Grandmother McGee owned a big nine room house located on the corner of Second Avenue and Maple St. in Hoopston (525 S. Second Ave.). She lived downstairs and we lived upstairs. After Bill was born we needed more room so we moved downstairs and Grandma moved upstairs.

"When I was real little, Grandma had a garden with a strawberry patch at one end. How I loved those strawberries! We also had six cherry trees and purple and white grapes in the backyard. I would start eating those cherries as soon as they started turning color. Grandma would always say, "Don't eat those cherries, they're too green, you'll get a bellyache." I ate them anyway, and I never did get a bellyache.

"I stayed with Grandma if Mom and Daddy went out with friends or whatever. I loved to sleep with her in her feather bed. She would recite little poems to me or verses as she called them. I loved her Kentucky cooking, things like hoecakes and boiled cabbage."

FINAL RITES HELD THIS AFTERNOON FOR MRS. MCGEE (the Hoopston Chronicle, Hoopston, Ill., Wednesday, January 9, 1952)

Funeral services for Mrs. Emma McGee, who died Monday, were held at 2:30 p.m. today in the Hamilton Funeral Home. The Rev. H. W. C. Roberts officiated.

Mrs. Roberts, vocalist, was accompanied by Mrs. George Nietzey. Flower attendants were Mrs. Hazel Miller, Mrs. William Lloyd, Mrs. Addison Dalrymple, Mrs. Robert Garmon, Mrs. Howard Smith, and Miss Gertrude Blatch.

Pallbearers were Bill Lloyd, Ed Snively, Addison Dalrymple, Harold Miller, George Liggett, and Charles Donhorn.

Mrs. McGee is survived by three children: Mrs. Nreoman (sic) Jeffries, Hillsboro, Ind.; Thomas McGee, Cape Girardeau, Mo., and Ben McGee, Hoopston. Also surviving are three great grandchildren and one brother, Charles Lawson of Campbellsville, Ky.

More About EMMA LAWSON:

Burial: Floral Hill Cemetery, Iroquois County, Illinois

Children of WILLIAM MCGEE and SARAH WALTON are:

2. i. **VIRGINIA⁴ MCGEE**, b. September 1884, state of Kentucky; d. Aft. 1938, prob. state of Florida.
3. ii. **ERMINE MCGEE**, b. October 1886, state of Kentucky.
- iii. **RICHARD M. MCGEE**, b. June 1892, state of Kentucky; m. ORA CLEO ?; b. abt. 1896, state of Kentucky.

Notes for RICHARD M. MCGEE:

The 1900 census for District No. 4, Barren County, Kentucky lists James C. Walton, age 73, head of the household and a farmer, his wife, Sarah A., age 69, a granddaughter, Virgie McGee, age 15, and a grandson, Richard M. McGee, age 7.

Sometime after 1905, when William D. McGee remarried, Richard returned to Hart County to live in his father's household once again. The 1910 census for Hart County, Kentucky lists William D. McGee, age 51, a farmer and head of the household, his wife, Emma, age 42, a son, Richard M., age 17, a farm laborer, a son, Thomas B., age 3, and a son, Benjamin F., age 1 year, 1 month. Also living in the household was Richard's sister, Virgie Hughes, age 26, a widow, and her two sons, Walter Hughes, age 6, and Ray Hughes, age 4.

The 1920 census for Center Township, Marion County, Indiana lists Richard McGee, age 27, head of the household, employed as an acetylene welder in an automobile factory, and his wife, Ora Cleo, age 24. Also living in the household were Virginia Hughes, age 32, sister-in-law and a widow, Irene Cummins, age 23, a lodger, and Lillian Hicks, age 23, a lodger. (Note: Virginia Hughes was a sister of Richard McGee, not sister-in-law).

The Social Security Death Index reported a Richard McGee, born June 20, 1892, died October 1971, last residence was Sandusky, Erie County, Ohio.

Children of WILLIAM MCGEE and EMMA LAWSON are:

- iv. **THOMAS OSWALD⁴ MCGEE**, b. November 22, 1906, Hart County, Kentucky; d. August 26, 1965, Vermilion County, Illinois; m. MAURITA MAUDE MILLER, March 15, 1930, Rossville, Vermilion County, Illinois; b. October 11, 1907, Rossville, Vermilion County, Illinois; d. April 29, 1999, Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Notes for THOMAS OSWALD MCGEE:

"Tom and Maurita never had any children, but Uncle Tom loved kids. He was crazy about me and Bill. When I was little he always wanted to go to the cemetery when he came to visit. He would always take me with him, and we would go feed the goldfish in the fish pond.

"He and Maurita lived in Cape Girardeau, MO most of their lives. He owned and ran a laundry there. We went to visit them when Bill was about 18 months old, and Uncle Tom took us to see his laundry. He put Bill in one of the big carts they used to push the clothes around in. Bill laid down and went to sleep in the cart, and Uncle Tom pushed him around for all the employees to see. Uncle Tom got the biggest kick out of that." (from his niece, Donna McGee Fowler)

FORMER RESIDENT OF HOOPESTON DIES (the Hoopeston Chronicle, Hoopeston, Ill., August 27, 1965)

Rossville - Thomas O. McGee, 58, Rossville and a former Hoopeston resident, died at 11:30 p.m. Thursday en-route to Lakeview Memorial Hospital in Danville. He has been in ill health for the past two years.

Born Nov. 22, 1906 at Hoopeston, he was the son of William and Emma Lawson McGee. He married Maurita Miller on March 15, 1930, and she survives. Also surviving is a brother, Ben McGee, Hoopeston. Mr. McGee was a member of the Rossville Methodist Church. He retired in 1958 after disposing of his laundry and dry-cleaning business in Cape Girardo, Mo.

Services will be held at the Young Funeral Home, Rossville at 2 p.m. Sunday, the Rev. Edward Milhouse officiating with burial in the Rossville cemetery. Friends may call from 7-9 Saturday evening.

More About THOMAS OSWALD MCGEE:

Burial: Rossville Cemetery, Vermilion County, Illinois

Notes for MAURITA MAUDE MILLER:

Obituary of MAURITA M. MCGEE

Rossville - Maurita Maude McGee, 91, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., died at 2:55 p.m. Thursday, April 29, 1999 at the Lutheran Home, Cape Girardeau.

She was born Oct. 11, 1907 at Rossville, the daughter of Andrew Daniel and Mary Ann Prather Miller. She married Thomas McGee on March 15, 1930 at Rossville. He preceded her in death on Aug. 26, 1965.

Surviving are several cousins.

Mrs. McGee grew up in Rossville. She and her husband moved to Missouri after World War II. They owned and operated Rigdon Laundry Company. After their retirement they spent time in Cape Girardeau and Rossville. She was a member of the Centenary United Methodist Church, Cape Girardeau.

Graveside funeral services were 2:15 p.m. Monday at Rossville Cemetery. Visitation was 1-2 p.m. Monday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Rossville. Ford & Sons, Cape Girardeau, was in charge of arrangements.

More About MAURITA MAUDE MILLER:

Burial: Rossville Cemetery, Vermilion County, Illinois

4. v. **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MCGEE**, b. March 02, 1910, Horse Cave, Hart County, Kentucky; d. October 07, 1976, Vermilion County, Illinois.

Generation No. 4

2. VIRGINIA⁴ MCGEE (*WILLIAM DEMPSEY³, JOHN SIMPSON², JOHN¹*) was born September 1884 in the state of Kentucky, and died aft. 1938 prob. in the state of Florida. She married ? **HUGHES**. He died bef. 1910.

Notes for VIRGINIA MCGEE:

When their mother died, Virginia and her brother, Richard, went to live with their grandparents in Barren County, Kentucky.

The 1900 census for District No. 4, Barren County, Kentucky lists James C. Walton, age 73, head of the household and a farmer, his wife, Sarah A., age 69, a granddaughter, Virgie McGee, age 15, and a grandson, Richard M. McGee, age 7.

By 1910, Virginia McGee had married, given birth to two children and become a widow. She returned home to live with her father and stepmother.

The 1910 census for Hart County, Kentucky lists William D. McGee, age 51, head of the household and a farmer, his wife, Emma, age 42, a son, Richard M., age 17, a farm laborer, a son, Thomas B., age 3, and a son, Benjamin F., age 1 year, 1 month. Also living in the household was a daughter, Virgie Hughes, age 26, a grandson, Walter M. Hughes, age 6, and a grandson, Ray M. Hughes, age 4.

In 1920, Virginia was living with her brother, Richard M. McGee, who by then had married and taken a job in Marion County, Indiana.

The 1920 census for Center Township, Marion County, Indiana lists Richard McGee, age 27, employed as an acetylene welder in an auto factory; his wife, Ora Cleo, age 24; his sister-in-law, Virginia Hughes, age 32, a widow; a lodger, Irene Cummins, age 23; and a lodger, Lillian Hicks, age 23. (Note: Virginia was actually the sister of Richard, not sister-in-law. There was no mention of her two sons, Walter and Ray Hughes.)

In the 1930 census, Virginia Hughes, age 44, widow, b. in Kentucky, employed as a registered nurse, living as a lodger in the household of Gilbert Holloway, located in Columbus City, Bartholomew County, Indiana.

Sometime after 1930, Virgie (McGee) Hughes remarried (identity of spouse unknown), and it is believed that she and her husband settled in Winter Haven, Florida.

More About VIRGINIA MCGEE:

Occupation: Nurse

Children of VIRGINIA MCGEE and ? HUGHES are:

5. i. **WALTER M.⁵ HUGHES**, b. abt. 1904, state of Kentucky.
- ii. **RAY M. HUGHES**, b. abt. 1906, state of Kentucky.

3. ERMINE⁴ MCGEE (*WILLIAM DEMPSEY³, JOHN SIMPSON², JOHN¹*) was born October 1886 in the state of Kentucky. She married **BOYCE T. MEADOWS** abt. 1906 prob. in Hart County, Kentucky. He was born September 07, 1886 in the state of Kentucky, and died December 23, 1967 in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky.

Notes for ERMINE MCGEE:

After her mother's death, Ermine went to live with her uncle, Dandridge Walton, and his family in Hart County. *The 1900 census for Horse Cave, Hart County, Kentucky lists Dandridge Walton, age 40, head of the household and a farmer, his wife, Mary E., age 29, a daughter, Mamie, age 3, and a niece, Ermine McGee, age 13.*

Notes for BOYCE T. MEADOWS:

The 1910 census for Hardyville, Hart County, Kentucky lists Bayce Meadows, age 23, a farmer; his wife, Ermine, age 22; and a son Eugene W., age 7 months.

The 1920 census for Prairie Township, Tipton County, Indiana lists Boyce Meadows, age 32, a farmer; his wife, Ermine, age 32; a son, Watson, age 10; a son, Carl, age 9; and a daughter, Elizabeth, age 5. (All born in Kentucky)

The 1930 census for Millcreek Township, Fountain County, Indiana lists Bois T. Meadows, age 44, a farmer; his wife, Ermine, age 44; a son, Carl, age 19, a farm laborer; and a daughter, Elizabeth, age 15. (Everyone born in Kentucky)

More About BOYCE T. MEADOWS:

Occupation: Farmer

Children of ERMINE MCGEE and BOYCE MEADOWS are:

- i. **EUGENE WATSON⁵ MEADOWS**, b. October 10, 1909, state of Kentucky; d. February 16, 1988, Trumbull County, Ohio; m. HELEN ?, abt. 1930; b. abt. 1913, state of California.

Notes for EUGENE WATSON MEADOWS:

The 1930 census for Benicia, Solano County, California lists Eugene Meadows, age 23, employed in construction, b. in Ky., parents b. in Ky.; and his wife, Helen, age 17, b. in California.

- ii. **CARL MEADOWS**, b. abt. 1911, state of Kentucky.
- iii. **ELIZABETH MEADOWS**, b. abt. 1915, state of Kentucky.

4. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN⁴ MCGEE (*WILLIAM DEMPSEY³, JOHN SIMPSON², JOHN¹*) was born March 02, 1910 in Horse Cave, Hart County, Kentucky, and died October 07, 1976 in Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois. He married **(1) AGNES LORENA GREENWOOD** January 10, 1932 in Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois, daughter of JONAS GREENWOOD and EDITH BELL. She was born October 30, 1912 in Westover, Maryland, and died August 03, 1934 in Ottawa, La Salle County, Illinois. He married **(2) FRANCES M. RAY** September 04, 1937 in Covington, Fountain County, Indiana, daughter of WILLIAM RAY and BLANCHE ?. She was born July 26, 1918 in Danville, Vermilion County, Illinois, and died July 07, 1984 in Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois.

Notes for BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MCGEE:

“Daddy was very family oriented. He was very close to his mother. He was so upset when his dad died when he was only seventeen that he quit school. He went back though and graduated in 1929.

“He was very smart. He skipped one grade and only went one half year in another in grade school. I don’t remember what grade he was in, but I guess he was misbehaving in school and his teacher grabbed his sweater and stretched it. He was so mad because she had stretched his sweater that he grabbed her hand and broke her finger. I had that same teacher for 5th grade!

“Daddy was hired right out of high school to work in the office at American Can Company. They sat him in the corner and let him learn how to type and do his job. He did very well there. He became the purchasing agent and at one time ordered everything that came into the factory except the stationary products. He worked there for over forty years.

“He was elected to the school board before I started to school. He retired after I finished high school. Mom was a stay-at-home mother. She loved to cook and keep a clean house for her family. She attended all the PTA meetings and school functions. She was happiest when she was planning a big get together and meal for family or friends.

“I was very close to both my folks. I absolutely worshipped my dad. I lost them both much too soon. The family

was never the same after Daddy died. We all depended on him so much. I know he was the center of my universe.”
(from Ben’s daughter, Donna McGee Fowler)

The Social Security Death Index reported Benjamin McGee, born March 2, 1909, died October 1976, last known address was Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois.

Obituary (the Hoopeston Chronicle, Hoopeston, Ill., Thursday, October 7, 1976)

BENJAMIN F. (BEN) MCGEE

Benjamin F. (Ben) McGee, 66, of 525 S. Second Ave., died at 7:30 a.m. today at the Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital where he had been a patient for six days.

McGee retired from American Can Co. in 1972 after 44 years of service. He was a member of the school board for 16 years. McGee was also a member of the Hoopeston Planning Commission.

He was born March 2, 1910 at Horse Cave, Kentucky to William D. and Emma Lawson McGee. On Sept. 4, 1937, at Covington, Ind., he married Frances Ray, who survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Donna Fowler of Hoopeston; a son, William (Bill) of Hoopeston; and five grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, one daughter, one brother and one sister.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Floral Hill Cemetery with Rev. W. D. Huffman officiating. Visitation will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home.

More About BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MCGEE:

Burial: Floral Hill Cemetery, Iroquois County, Illinois

Notes for AGNES LORENA GREENWOOD:

FUNERAL OF MRS. M'GEE ON MONDAY (Hoopeston Chronicle, Hoopeston, Ill., Saturday, August 4, 1934)

Talented Local Girl Dies Friday At Ottawa

Mrs. Benjamin McGee, 21, of this city, died at 3:50 o'clock Friday afternoon at the Ottawa Sanitorium at Ottawa, Ill., where she has been since a week ago last Tuesday.

Death was due to pulmonary tuberculosis and followed an illness that extended over about a year's period. She has been bedfast for several months.

After she was removed to the sanatorium, relatives were notified that apparently she was getting along as well as could be expected. Her immediate death was not looked for, and her husband had planned to go to Ottawa today to spend the weekend.

Agnes Lorena Greenwood was born October 30, 1912 at Westover, Md., a daughter of Jonas and Elizabeth (Bell) Greenwood. The family has resided in this city since 1919, coming here after Mrs. Greenwood's death sixteen years ago.

The deceased attended the John Greer High School, graduating with the class of 1931. She was a member of the First M. E. Church and was a talented singer.

Her marriage to Mr. McGee was solemnized in Hoopeston three and a half years ago on January 10, 1932.

Surviving with the husband are: Her father, Jonas Greenwood; one brother, Simon, at home; three sisters, Josephine and Pauline, twins, and Naomi, also at home. Besides the mother, one sister, Inez, preceded her in death. She

passed away November 10, 1926.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 o'clock Monday afternoon at the First M. E. Church, with the pastor, Rev. H. F. Powell officiating. Burial will be in the Floral Hill Cemetery.

The body was brought from Ottawa to the Hamilton mortuary here last night.

More About AGNES LORENA GREENWOOD:

Burial: Floral Hill Cemetery, Iroquois County, Illinois

Cause of Death: Tuberculosis

Notes for FRANCES M. RAY:

Obituary (the Hoopeston Chronicle, Hoopeston, Ill., Monday, August 9, 1984)

FRANCES MCGEE

Frances M. McGee, 65, 321 S. Third Street, Hoopeston, died at 11:45 p.m. July 7 at the Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Mrs. McGee had been in ill health for some time.

Born July 26, 1918, in Danville, she was the daughter of William L. and Blanche Ray. She married Benjamin F. McGee September 4, 1937 in Covington, Ind. He preceded her in death on October 7, 1976.

Mrs. McGee is survived by her mother, Mrs. Blanche Ray, Hoopeston; one daughter, Mrs. George (Donna) Fowler, Hoopeston; one son, William McGee, Hoopeston, and five grandchildren.

Mrs. McGee was preceded in death by one daughter.

Funeral services will be at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday at the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home with the Rev. G. A. Parker officiating. Burial will be in the Floral Hill Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 7 to 9 today at the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the First Church of the Nazarene in Hoopeston.

Children of BENJAMIN MCGEE and FRANCES RAY are:

6. i. **DONNA JEAN⁵ MCGEE**, b. May 08, 1939, Danville, Vermilion County, Illinois.
- ii. **MARY FRANCES MCGEE**, b. October 1946, Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois; d. October 1946, Hoopeston, Vermilion County, Illinois.

More About MARY FRANCES MCGEE:

Burial: Floral Hill Cemetery, Iroquois County, Illinois

Cause of Death: Stillborn

7. iii. **WILLIAM LAWRENCE MCGEE**, b. April 14, 1948, Danville, Vermilion County, Illinois.

Generation No. 5

5. WALTER M.⁵ HUGHES (*VIRGINIA⁴ MCGEE*, *WILLIAM DEMPSEY³*, *JOHN SIMPSON²*, *JOHN¹*) was born abt. 1904 in the state of Kentucky. He married RUBY P. ? abt. 1925. She was born abt. 1907 in the state of Indiana.

Notes for WALTER M. HUGHES:

The 1920 census for Cicero Township, Tipton County, Indiana lists Walter L. Hughes, age, 15,

an orphan, b. in Kentucky, living in the household of William Ashpaugh, age 49, a farmer, and his family, all b. in Indiana. Walter's birth mother and father were also reported as b. in Kentucky on the census record.

(Note: Despite the incorrect middle initial, it is believed that this was the son of Virginia Hughes, who was reported in the 1920 census as living without her children in the household of her brother, Richard McGee, in Marion County, Indiana in 1920. Tipton County is located not far from Marion County. Virginia (McGee) Hughes was a widow at the time, and was probably having difficulty providing for her two sons, hence Walter was living with another family)

The 1930 census for Prairie Township, Tipton County, Indiana lists Walter M. Hughes, age 26, a farmer; his wife, Ruby P., age 23, b. in Indiana; and a daughter, Virginia P., age 3 yrs., 9 mos., b. in Indiana. According to the census record, Walter was b. in Tennessee, his father b. in Tennessee and his mother b. in Kentucky. The couple had been married for five years.

Child of WALTER HUGHES and RUBY P. is:

- i. **VIRGINIA P.⁶ HUGHES**, b. abt. 1926, Tipton County, Indiana.

6. DONNA JEAN⁵ MCGEE (*BENJAMIN FRANKLIN⁴, WILLIAM DEMPSEY³, JOHN SIMPSON², JOHN¹*) was born May 08, 1939 in Danville, Vermilion County, Illinois. She married **GEORGE HAROLD FOWLER** October 01, 1960, son of GEORGE FOWLER and LUCILE CONNER. He was born April 05, 1936 in Hoopston, Vermilion County, Illinois.

Children of DONNA MCGEE and GEORGE FOWLER are:

- i. **JOHN BENJAMIN⁶ FOWLER**, b. July 26, 1961.
8. ii. **JASON DANIEL FOWLER**, b. June 02, 1973.
- iii. **JUSTIN GEORGE FOWLER**, b. June 11, 1976.

7. WILLIAM LAWRENCE⁵ MCGEE (*BENJAMIN FRANKLIN⁴, WILLIAM DEMPSEY³, JOHN SIMPSON², JOHN¹*) was born April 14, 1948 in Danville, Vermilion County, Illinois. He married (1) **JANE TWEEDY** June 1967. She was born August 26, 1948 in Vermilion County, Illinois. He married (2) **SUSAN BOTTORFF** May 18, 1994. She was born April 01, 1954 in Iroquois County, Illinois.

Children of WILLIAM MCGEE and JANE TWEEDY are:

- i. **KELLY JANE⁶ MCGEE**, b. August 17, 1970, Danville, Vermilion County, Illinois; m. JOHN BAKER.
- ii. **CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM MCGEE**, b. March 11, 1973, Danville, Vermilion County, Illinois; m. JENNIFER MISKEC.

Generation No. 6

8. JASON DANIEL⁶ FOWLER (*DONNA JEAN⁵ MCGEE, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN⁴, WILLIAM DEMPSEY³, JOHN SIMPSON², JOHN¹*) was born June 02, 1973. He married **SYBIL MARIE GORTEOUS** July 27, 1996.

Child of JASON FOWLER and SYBIL GORTEOUS is:

- i. **ZOEY MARIE⁷ FOWLER**, b. April 26, 2004.



1. Believed to be a photograph of William Dempsey McGee (1858-1927)



2. Emma Lawson (1867-1952), second wife of William D. McGee



3. The graves of William and Emma McGee are in Floral Hill Cemetery, Iroquois County, Illinois. The cemetery is located a short distance north of Hoopeston.



4. Thomas O. McGee and Benjamin F. McGee, sons of William D. and Emma (Lawson) McGee. ca 1913



5. Ben (left) and Tom McGee with their mother, Emma.



6. Benjamin Franklin McGee (1910-1976)



7. Ben McGee Family (l to r) Donna Jean, Ben and his wife, Frances Ray. William is in front.



8. Thomas Oswald McGee (1906-1965) and his wife, Maurita Miller (1907-1999)



9. Ben and Tom McGee



10. Virginia McGee, daughter of William D. McGee and his first wife, Sarah Walton.



11. Tom McGee is buried in Rossville Cemetery, Vermilion County, Ill.