

30 Years Ago
From The Selma Times This
Date / 1910

After waiting nearly two years since the question was agitated, Selma is soon to have a splendid drinking fountain, secured entirely thru the efforts of the Dallas County Humane Society. This fountain is a memorial to Herman Lee Ensign, founder of the National Humane Alliance, and will indeed be a thing of beauty and joy forever.

William Scattergood of Ang-

Selma, AL 1940-04-26 lookback

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Sun, Mar 29, 2020

THE FOUNTAIN.

This is not Ponce de Leon's fountain of youth that we are talking about, it is simply the public drinking fountain that will soon be placed in Selma for the advantage of visitors, stock and the public at large. The receipt of this fountain by the city of Selma is largely due to the unceasing work of one man and the local Humane Society back of him. The liberality of the National Humane Alliance is heartily appreciated by the city of Selma. When the tired horses drink of the waters, and the lap dogs of the streets quench their thirst there, they can thank Mr. Seaver and the National Humane Alliance for it. It is a thing that has long been needed and worked for in Selma and The Journal congratulates the city on co operating with the proper persons to get it.

Selma editorial 1911-04-17

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Tue, Jan 14, 2020

**WILL UNVEIL FOUNTAIN
IN SELMA THIS EVENING**

Hon. John Craft Will Deliver
Principal Address.

MAGAZINES BY FREIGHT

Postmaster Scott Is Notified That Af-
ter September First Bulky Periodicals
Will Not Go in the Regular Mail
Cars—No Council Monday.

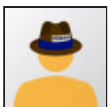
SELMA, ALA., Aug. 25.—The exer-
cises attendant to the unveiling of the
Ensign Memorial Fountain at the in-
tersection of Alabama and Washing-
ton Streets tomorrow afternoon at 5
o'clock will be attended by a large
number of the residents of Selma.

The exercises will be opened with
prayer by Rev. E. W. Gamble, rec-
tor of the St. Paul's Episcopal church.
Rev. Thomas Mangum will follow with
a short address upon humane work
and after which Hon. John Craft, of
Mobile, will deliver the principle ad-
dress of the exercises.

A meeting of the members of the
local humane society was held at the
Carnegie Library a few evenings ago.
At this meeting all of the plans at-
tendant to the unveiling of the foun-
tain was arranged. Six little boys
and girls will officiate at the actual
unveiling of the fountain.

Selma dedication 1911-08-29

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Wed, Nov 13, 2019

was unexplained.

WASHINGTON STREET

With the brisk trading of spring-time Saturday Washington street for two blocks was practically closed by the great number of wagons and cars, and during every hour of the morning there were at least four wagons standing at the Humane Alliance watering fountain in the center of Washington street and Alabama avenue.

Chief of Police Doherty said that he apprehends danger at this corner every Saturday and every other busy day, on account of the blocking of the street. Fire truck drivers try to avoid this corner on busy days on account of the danger in getting by traffic.

The fountain was given to the city in 1911 by the National Humane Alliance. At that time traffic at this corner was not great enough to threaten a blockade of the street.

The crowding of Washington avenue is due, it is said, to the lack of an adequate wagon yard.

Selma, AL - 0920-05-03 problems with fountain

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Sun, Mar 29, 2020

**SELMA'S FOUNTAIN MUST
BE ACESIBLE**

The visit of Senator John Craft of Mobile, to Selma, brings to mind the activities of this doughty champion of the people in securing to this city the handsome drinking fountain for horses and smaller animals, which stands at the intersection of Alabama and Washington streets, where of late years it has furnished a real hazard for the passage of fire engines.

Senator Craft, assisted by Mrs. W. T. Atkins of this city and a committee had the fountain, one of two for Alabama, placed on ground deeded by the city of Selma. When asked what steps would be necessary in order to move the fountain, he declared that a similar suitable place, easy of access from all four sides, and near a horofare, could be secured, and the fountain placed upon it.

In an interview with Mrs. W. T. Atkins, the point was brought out that the now defunct Humane Society has had great trouble in getting the city authorities to keep the fountain in condition. Mrs. Atkins is not averse to seeing the fountain moved from its present location, if one similar is found, where horses and mules and smaller animals may conveniently gather around it to quench their thirst.

It is interesting to remember that the fountain was donated to Selma under the terms of the will of a young man Henry Lee Ensign, who in his life time cared deeply for animals, and sought to help them by leaving a great part of his fortune for the purpose of building drinking fountains. Alabama secured two of these fountains, one going to Mobile and one to Selma through Senator Craft's efforts. They are handsome and ornamental and the one in Selma should be more highly appreciated.

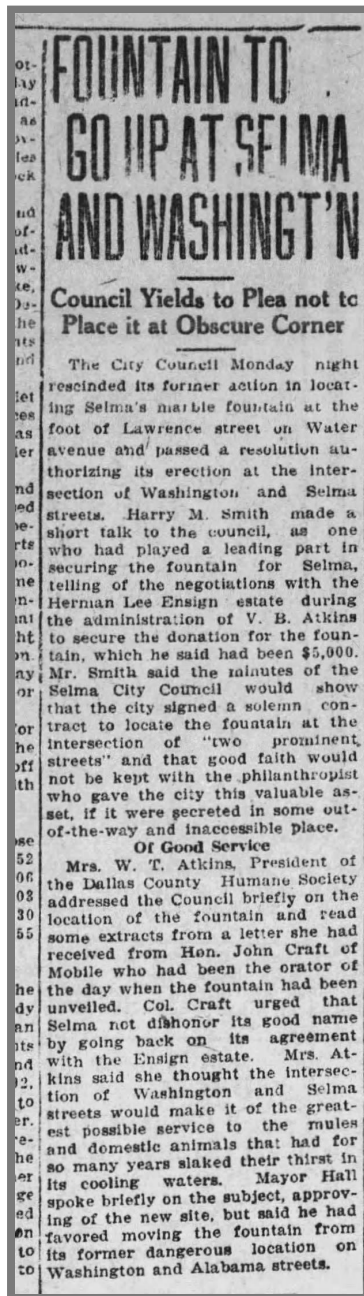
Selma rethinks fountain - 1923-05-13

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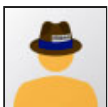
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Wed, Nov 13, 2019



Selma moving fountain 1924-19-09

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Wed, Nov 13, 2019

OBJECTION TO NEW LOCATION OF FOUNTAIN

Householder Says Wagons Would be Nuisance

Objection to placing the Ensign fountain, dismantled some months ago, at Selma and Washington streets has been voiced by Mrs. E. C. Purvience, whose residence occupies one of the corners adjacent to the proposed new site of the fountain. The matter has not been brought formally before the City Councilmen have been advised privately that Mrs. Purvience objects to having the fountain placed adjacent to her property because of the congestion of country wagons which it is said, would prove unpleasant.

Great Need.

The question of securing a site for the fountain, where it would serve the greatest need, which, it is conceded exists in the heart of the city, where dray horses have no watering place, was settled by City Council at its last meeting, when it was voted to place the fountain in use just one block north of its original site. This location has the advantage of being in the business district, and easily accessible to the horses and mules which are always to be found about Washington street. The matter of locating the fountain was not referred to a committee, and any objections which may arise must be aired before Council, or take the form of a legal injunction against the proposed step.

City Buy Lot.

Interest is keen in securing a site for the fountain, where it may fulfil the purposes for which it was placed here. The suggestion made by a member of City Council, that a lot be purchased by the city, and the fountain placed thereon, somewhere near the edge of the city, cannot be acted upon under the rules governing its acceptance here some years ago by the City fathers, who agreed to place the fountain at the intersection of two prominent streets.

Selma, Al objections to new location 1924-09-21

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Wed, Nov 13, 2019

Ensign Fountain

The old issue of the handsome drinking fountain removed from the center of Alabama and Washington streets is still to be settled, but Mr. Porter stated that if some satisfactory place can be secured for this fountain he will be glad to authorize its placing. At present the fountain, the gift of the Ensign estate to Selma, and costing several thousand dollars, is reduced to a mass of junk. The longer it remains unused the greater the expense of resetting it, as pieces of marble will become chipped and fountain is one of the handsomest that could be bought and has drinking space for horses and for smaller animals.

Selma, AL 1925

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Sun, Nov 10, 2019