



Mrs. Mamie Horne Coleman

Mamie Horne (Mrs. J. O.) Coleman was born in Monroe County on October 19, 1890. She attended 10 years of school in Monroe County and completed high school and her first year of college at Gordon Institute in Barnesville, Georgia, in 1907.

Her teaching career began in a one-room school house in 1907 in the Brent community of Monroe County. Over the next 17 years she taught a variety of grades and subjects in several schools and served as a principal, while also working on her college degree. In addition to Gordon, she attended Tift, Wesleyan and Mercer. In 1921 she joined the faculty of the 12th Congressional District's agricultural and mechanical school in Cochran, now Middle Georgia College, where she taught math and teacher training classes.

She moved to Perry with her family in 1925 and began a long career at Perry High School. In addition to teaching math, Mrs. Coleman coached debate, worked with the literary team, and directed the senior play until she retired in 1958. Even after retirement, she continued to teach by tutoring or filling in as a long-term substitute at Perry High.

Mrs. Coleman devoted more than 50 years of her life to education. She was an example to many and taught her students as much about life as she did about math. Her only daughter, Carolyn Coleman Smith; her two granddaughters, Lynn S. Campbell and Susan C. Smith; and her great-granddaughter, Shannon Smith Nicolosi, also became teachers.