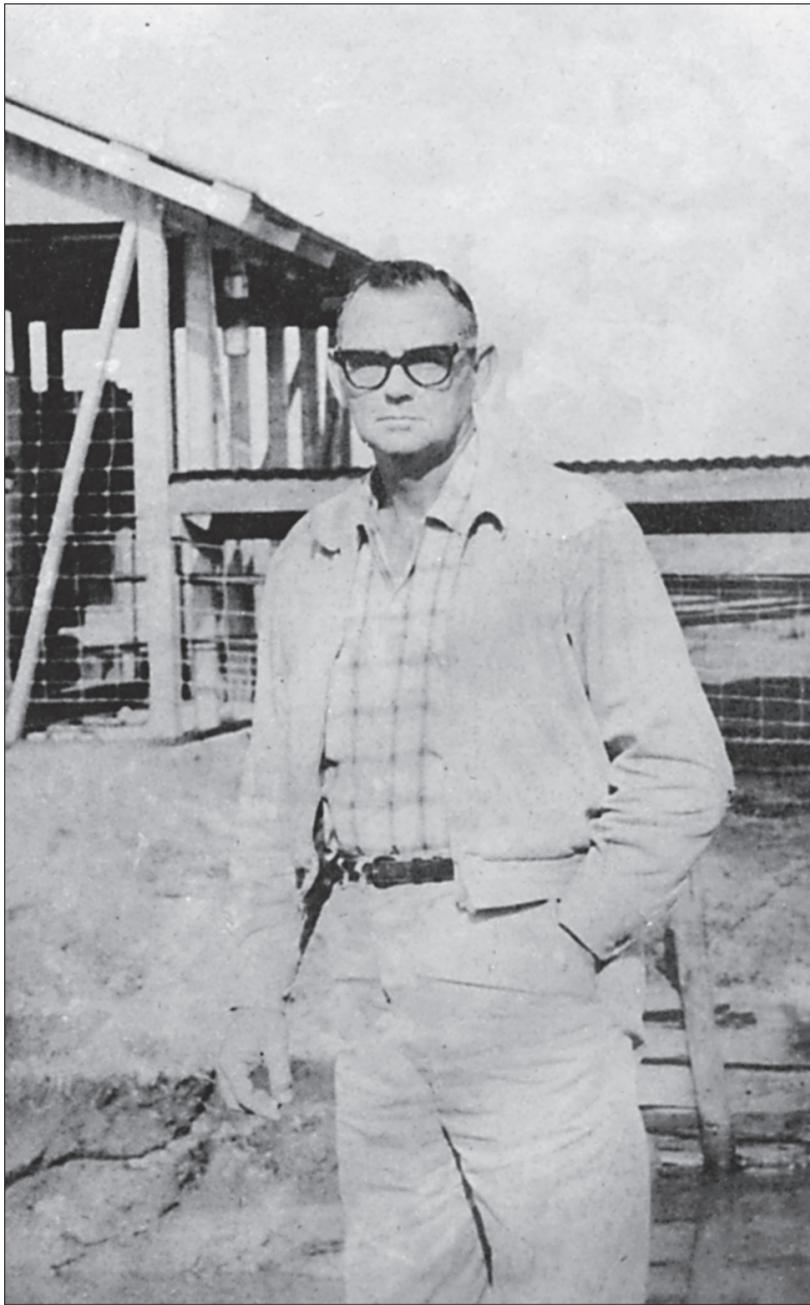


HISTORY & FOLKLORE



From Dayton Times-Herald, Thursday, March 22, 1962 –

Crawford Carriere, Dayton rice farmer, is one of two directors of Production Credit Association from this area, the other being W.D. Partlow of Liberty. He and Mrs. Carriere, the former Jewel Mae Conner, have two children, Joe and Donna, whose grandparents are Mr. Offord Carriere of Liberty and Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Conner of Dayton.



From Liberty Gazette, Thursday, April 15, 1971 –

Cotton candy is the most impressive and the least satisfying of all the confections one finds around carnivals. Eugene Goolsby, USN, tries a bite in front of Dayton Shopping Center Saturday. He is stationed at Norfolk, Virginia, and formerly lived in Dayton. With him is his sister Wanda, right, and Helen Warr.



From Illustrated Press of Liberty County, Thursday, March 28, 1963 – Brown & Root crews begin work in North Heights on Liberty's huge paving program. – W.R. Johnson photo

Informally Speaking –

The Key to Your Importance Is Showing

by Homer Smith (1995)

When I was growing up, there were two sure ways one had of evaluating people of importance.

One indicator was by the number of pens and pencils an individual had in his pockets; another was how many keys he had in his possession. These were really the most prominent facets of evaluation of someone's station in life that we "kids" looked up to.

Of course, the person with all these pens and pencils may not have been able to read or write and maybe half of them did not work, but the power was in the number and variety protruding from a shirt pocket or overalls.

This just did something to the "eyes of the beholder."

The same could be said about keys. Looking back, I'm sure that the mass of keys of all sizes either on a "tie together" carried in a pants pocket or on a chain from the belt was sometimes almost collectors' items. It had long

been forgotten where they went or of what use they were to anyone.

Nevertheless, these keys were a badge of authority to us. Usually if you went into a retail business and needed the owner or manager, the initial identity had to be pens, pencils and keys. Some of these key chains could have weighed a quarter of a pound or more.

One day on a rainy, cold Sunday afternoon, I decided to clean out my top cabinet drawer where, hidden among the antiquated treasures, were three or four dozen keys of all sizes and colors.

The first one I picked up was tagged "front door." Not knowing which front door this referred to or even to which building, it became the first to find its way to the trash.

The next was a small key that I recognized unlocked a large lock on a gate to the deer lease. Better keep that one.

For a moment or two, I

thought back to that camp fire, the card games and bull sessions that go along with the old friends and companions on the deer lease.

Then believe it or not, the next key was stamped with the numbers 302, indicating a dorm room where I had spent two happy years of my bachelor life. I could have given a long time for reminiscing over that key, but moved along instead.

Down near the bottom of this pile of keys was the one to the first car I ever owned. How I loved that car. Wish it were mine again as it would probably be worth a fortune.

Guess there are enough keys and treasures of memories in that small box to unlock many buried thoughts of good times. I might just start carrying them all around on a leather strap. They might not show much importance to anyone else, but what remarkable memories they would bring to me.

Liberty Gazette
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