

10-years of Rural Mail (1897-1907) in Montgomery County

Source: Crawfordsville Daily Journal 8-1-1907

The rural free delivery service in this county is 9 years old. On August 1, 1897, Frank Clements of route one and WP Daggett of route two started to deliver the mail to rural patrons south and east of this city. These routes are practically the same as they were at the start, number one especially. Number two has been changed considerable. "The first month I was out on my route," said Mr. Clements, "I carried 1,8—pieces of mail matter. Last month I carried 6.500 pieces, almost four times as many. I have patrons who take four or five daily papers, besides the magazines and letters they get. The rural patrons read much and are well posted on all the current news of the day. Montgomery county has practically a complete rural service now. There are 35 routes which start in the county and as the average length of each route, is over 20 miles it will be seen that the rural mail carriers in this county cover over 700 miles each day. There are 10 routs out of Crawfordsville. The carriers in the order of the routes are: Frank Clements; WP Daggett; Stanley Jones; John Skidmore; James Hamilton; Robert Larsh; Samuel Linn; Ollie Watson; Albert Yount and Frank VanCleave.