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RIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE
Henry W. Riggin
(Legitimate Signature of name) (OVER)

**Henry Wilbern Riggin
(1875-1954)**

Photos courtesy of William Shaffer.

(L to R) Thomas Albert, Henry and Lawrence Wesley with Clementine Wells.

Henry Wilbern Riggin was born on May 17, 1875 to John Wesley Riggin and Clementine Wells.

John had children from a previous marriage with Mary Ramsey: Josephine (1861-1892), Harrison (1862-1922) and Alice Mary (1865-1941). Mary had passed away shortly after Alice was born.

John remarried to Clementine Wells on February 20, 1870. They had four other children: Orlando Marion (1871-1952), Lawrence Wesley (1872-1938), Thomas Albert (1877-1952) and Ida (1879-1909).

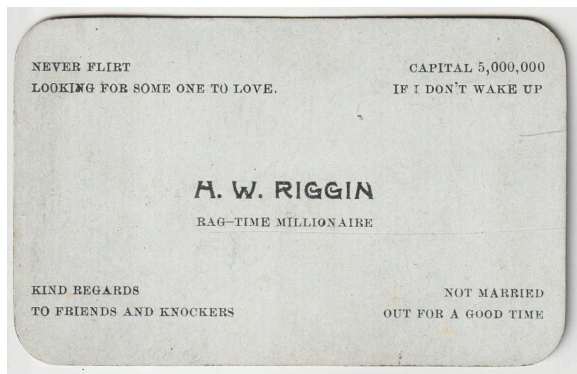
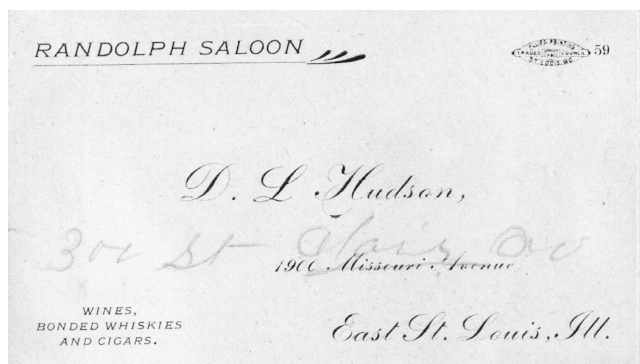
June 3, 1880, John was supporting the family as a farmer in Pin Oak Township. His eldest son Harrison worked as a farm laborer.

John passed away around 1881. Henry was around the age of six.

His mother, Clementine, remarried in 1897 to William Collins. He had two children with Ida May McMakin (1859-1888), sons John Henry Collins (1884-1978) and Julius Franklin Collins (1888-1918).

In 1900, at the age of 24, Henry was living at 18 South Main Street in East St. Louis. He was employed as a salesman. Otto Davis and his family allowed him to room at their property along with his siblings Ida and Albert.

The 1905 Directory has 'W H Riggin' at 701 St. Louis Avenue, working in a saloon.



Two business cards were kept with Henry's belongings. One, a business card from Randolph Saloon for D.L. Hudson. The address was listed as 1900 Missouri Avenue, East St. Louis. Someone had crossed it out and added 300 St. Clair Avenue.

A year later, the 1906 Directory, has an address listed for him as 303A Missouri, East St. Louis, working as a salesman.

August 3, 1909, sister Ida died in Troy. She is buried in Troy City Cemetery, row 12. She was 29 years old.

April 28, 1910, Henry was 35 years old, living at a 'roomer' at 415A St. Louis Avenue in East St. Louis and working as a traveling salesman. The lot is now empty but was across the street from the Majestic Theater.

Henry would often visit his mother in Collinsville. In June 1916, he accompanied her to see family in Chicago (likely his brother Orlando).

On September 30, 1918, step-brother Julius Collins was killed in action during WWI at the age of 30. He was buried in Troy City Cemetery. Henry was 43 at the time, working as a blacksmith for No. 3 Lumaghi Coal Mine in Collinsville.

Henry's draft card described him as tall, slender with gray eyes and dark hair.

Two years later, he was employed as a coal miner while residing in Collinsville with his brother Thomas Albert, his wife Phosa, child Alberta and mother Clementine. Albert worked as a vegetable retailer.

Half brother Harrison died on January 8, 1922 in Wood River. His daughter Sadie Riggin was taken in by Clementine & William Collins. Sadie's mother, Nancy Amanda Bullock had passed away in 1900.

April 10, 1930, Henry was living in Troy with his mother. He was employed as a wholesale dealer of fruits and vegetables with his brother Lawrence.

Clementine passed away on April 1, 1932 at the age of 85. She is buried in Troy City Cemetery, row 12.

Brother Lawrence passed on March 12, 1938 at the age of 65. He had married Mary Kubat but they had no children.

Henry moved to Salinas, California around 1940. Upon arrival, he found employment as a laborer.

April 12, 1941, half sister Alice Mary died in Staunton. Five months later, Henry moved back home to stay with relatives in Collinsville. He seemed to make several trips over the next few years between Illinois and California.

August 24, 1949, the Edwardsville Intelligencer reported on the 34th Annual Riggin Family Reunion. Henry was noted as attending from California. The party was hosted at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bilzer in Collinsville.



Images courtesy of user 'sdagutis' on Ancestry.com.

At the age of 75, he was living in Castroville, California. Never married with no children.

April 27, 1952, his brother Orlando passed away in Cook County, Illinois at the age of 80.

The family reunion was held on August 21, 1952 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ova Hudgens in Collinsville. Henry and Albert were both in attendance. Albert died a few days later on September 3, in Jefferson Barracks.

Henry died on January 21, 1954, in Monterey, California, at the age of 78, and was buried in Salinas, California.

Riggin Reunion Held
The thirty-fourth annual reunion of the Riggin families was held recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bitzer in Collinsville. After serving of the dinner at noon the afternoon was spent in social chat.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Riggin and Mr. and Mrs. Tilden Manley, Troy; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Riggin and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thompson Greenville; Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Riggin Belleville; Henry Riggin, Salinas, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Riggin and son, Ned, St. Louis; Cecil Bond and grandson, Bob Martin Bley Bond of Benton.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Bangert and children, Edwardsville; Mr. and Mrs. William Hoover, Mrs. Bernice Brown and daughters East St. Louis; Mrs. Mary Riggin, Miss Ora Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Riggin, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bitzer and children, Mr. and Mrs. Ova Hudgens, and Mr. and Mrs. McCoy, Collinsville.

Funeral Rites Conducted for Henry W. Riggin

Funeral services were held from Struve and Laporte's this morning for Henry Wilburn Riggin, 78, who passed away at a local hospital Thursday following an illness.

The Rev. S. T. Welch of the Prunedale Baptist church officiated at the services and at the interment which followed at the Garden of Memories. Pallbearers were Raymond Williamson, Walter Thibault, H. B. Smith, Harry Smith, Harvey Conklin and R. F. Williamson.