

## I Remember Old Tuscaloosa

By Fred Maxwell

The era 1905-12 saw a big change in family transportation. This was the period that transition from horse and buggy travel to the automobile was being experienced by local families and commercial travelers.

Most families had used horse and buggy means of local travel for a long time. Many families became attached to their horses and I am leaving it to these individuals to recount the interesting stories of their favorites.

I would like to tell of two pair of horses that were much in the public eye and were widely admired in Tuscaloosa.

"Peaches and Cream" were the names of two lovely Palominas—light cream color with long white mane and tails. Their place of residence was a livery stable located at what is now the site of Perry's Pride (corner University Blvd. and 22nd Ave.). Their harness was resplendent with bright metal

and patent leather trimmings. The most popular "rig" or vehicle to which they were hitched was a landau—a four-wheel vehicle with top divided so it could be used open or closed.

Although sometimes used at weddings, formal parties and dances, the prime use of this horse and carriage was to transport and provide a sideline seat at football and baseball games at the University of Alabama for the beautiful young ladies who were sponsors and maids for the game. They were escorted by the team manager and assistant manager since the team captain and his assistant were both players.

The landau had two seats facing each other. The coachman was resplendent with top hat, long coat and other trappings and he had a high front driver's seat on his rig.

"Samson and Dewey" were the names of the other pair of horses.