

INDIANA ROOM

Mrs. Elizabeth Whitlock Will Be 99 on Wednesday

By NIKI LEE MAHONEY
Tribune Staff Writer

Mrs. Elizabeth Whitlock's winter home is bright, has a nice view, features such magazines as "Ingenué," "Sports Illustrated," and golfing magazines and comes furnished with friends.

She doesn't like it as well as her summer home, though, because it does not offer as many opportunities for exercising.

Mrs. Whitlock will celebrate her 99th birthday Wednesday at her winter home, Wallace Nursing Center, 120 Margaret Ave. She is looking forward to returning to her summer home in New Goshen when the weather gets warmer.

"It's hard to do anything when it's cold," she explains, "so I've been coming here for two winters." She has a "companion" in New Goshen, a woman in her 60's named Opal Funkhouser, but otherwise Mrs. Whitlock lives alone.

Born Elizabeth Strole on March 10, 1872, Mrs. Whitlock was reared on a farm. She recalls that she enjoyed eating the food they raised and playing with the foals on the farm.

"You folks won't live as long and as well as my generation because of all the artificial foods. You can eat something now that's called chicken, and it doesn't have a bit of chicken in it, just artificial flavoring."

She also attributes her age to taking good care of her health. "If anybody wants to smoke and drink, that's all right with me, but I don't." She adds that she is in almost perfect health. "There really isn't anything wrong with me."

Her eyesight isn't as good as it used to be, and by the time she goes to bed at night she's usually tired. But once she gets up in the morning (6:30 a.m.) she never lies down again.

Quite a few of the people in the nursing center are bed ridden and require constant care, one of the attendants commented "but not Mrs. Whitlock. She's a favorite patient with us."

In 1892 she married the late Edward W. Whitlock, who was a cement contractor in Terre Haute, and they lived at 1203 N. 9th St., from 1892 to 1925.

After living there for 31 years the Whitlocks retired and moved to Miami. He died in

Miami in 1945 and she remained there until 1955, returning then to Terre Haute and New Goshen. She also lived periodically with her son, Eugene, in Chicago.

Other than the son, Mrs. Whitlock's surviving relative is a niece. And Eugene will be coming from Chicago to help celebrate her birthday.

She also has many friends who send her gifts and food. She recently received a big red apple which she said was very pretty but not too good to eat. "Apples nowadays just aren't as good as they used to be," she explained. Another food spoiled by insecticides and man

In her 99 years, Mrs. Whitlock has lived through many historic happenings. For instance, in 1904 she saw the Wright brothers try to fly their plane, but they didn't get air changed since then," she commented. "Things have really

She also saw Lindbergh fly "I've seen the beginnings of gas and electricity and all that," Mrs. Whitlock said.

Quoting a bit of philosophy she has learned in her year of experience with people, Mrs. Whitlock advised, "Treat people nice and you'll never lose anything. You'll get all the good back in return."

And she seems bound and determined to get as much exercise as possible, celebrate some birthday anniversaries in three figured numbers and continue to lead her rich and happy life.

T. H. Biography Trib-STAR 3/7/71



CELEBRATING HER 99TH BIRTHDAY — Mrs. Elizabeth Whitlock reads a birthday card in her room at the Wallace Nursing Center, where she has lived for two winters. On Wednesday the articulate, clear-headed, spry woman will celebrate her 99th birthday anniversary. Martin Photo.

SEE WED-54

WHITLOCK, MRS. ELIZABETH

T. H. Biography

PASSELL FILE

Vigo County Public Library

LOCAL HISTORY

Mrs. Elizabeth Whitlock Will Mark 100th Birthday

Community Affairs
Mrs. Elizabeth Whitlock will be boasting of just that on March 10, her 100th birthday.

and most winters in the small Indiana town, walking through the hills, fields and woods and enjoying the clean Hoosier air.

Only in the last three years has she been forced to spend the winter months in the nursing home.

Mrs. Whitlock now spends her winters in Wallace Nursing Center, 120 Margaret Ave. and her summers at her home in New Goshen, Ind.

In her one hundred years Mrs. Whitlock has seen some amazing changes take place in the world. She has seen America move from an agrarian society to an urban and modern society and in 1904 she saw the Wright Brothers attempt to fly, she deflates some myths when she says simply, "but they didn't get airborne then," which some school children just may not believe. She also had the opportunity to see Charles Lindburgh present a flying exhibition.

She was born on a farm near New Goshen on March 10, 1872. It was a farm, too, not just a mechanized place to grow corn or wheat. When it was harvest with a combine or cornpicker.

"I've seen the beginnings of gas and electricity and all that," she says matter-of-factly. Mrs. Elizabeth Whitlock is a living history book.

Mrs. Whitlock has said in the past that "I enjoyed eating the food we raised and playing with the foals on the farm. You folks won't live as long as my generation because of all the artificial foods. You can eat something now that's called chicken and it doesn't have a bit of chicken in it, just artificial flavoring."

Mrs. Whitlock has one son, Eugene, of Chicago. She has two grandchildren Rev. James Whitlock, Rockford, Ill. and Mrs. Mary Jean de Forrest, Rochester, N.Y.

Mrs. Whitlock has also attributed her age to taking good care of her health, "If anybody wants to smoke and drink, that's all right with me, but I don't.

She also has four great-grandchildren. Paul Eugene Whitlock, Linda Renée Whitlock, Donna de Forrest and Timothy R. de Forrest.

Abstaining from those pleasures must do something, Nurse Eleanor Buell of Wallace Nursing Center says, "Mrs. Whitlock just gets around here fine, she practically runs down the halls."

Mrs. Whitlock will celebrate her birthday at a party at the nursing center. The other residents of the center, the nurses, staff, and her son Eugene, will all be there to congratulate the centurian.

In 1892 she married the late Edward W. Whitlock, a cement contractor in Terre Haute, and they resided at 1203 N. 9th St. until 1925 at which time they retired and moved to Miami, Fla.

But, what Mrs. Whitlock is really looking forward to is not birthday, but spring, and a return to New Goshen.

Mr. Whitlock died in 1946, but Mrs. Whitlock did not return to Hoosierland until 1955, when she purchased a house in New Goshen, from wince she originally came.

Industry researchers estimate that 84 per cent of all Americans over the age of 13 drink soft drinks.

Since that time Mrs. Whitlock has spent every summer

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 Program "CITIZEN OF THE DAY" Time _____
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 Other Instructions _____

Community Affairs File

TODAY WE SALUTE .. MRS. ELIZABETH WHITLOCK .. WHO IS OBSERVING HER 100th BIRTHDAY TODAY, MARCH 10th ! SHE WAS BORN ON A FARM NEAR NEW GOSBEN AND ATTENDED SCHOOL IN THAT AREA. MRS. WHITLOCK HAS ONE SON, EUGENE, AND 2 GRANDCHILDREN, AND 4 GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN. SHE NOW SPENDS HER WINTERS IN THE WALLACE NURSING CENTER, BUT HOPES TO RETURN TO HER HOME IN NEW GOSBEN DURING THE SUMMER. THERE WILL BE A PARTY AT THE NURSING HOME TODAY TO HELP HER CELEBRATE HER 100th BIRTHDAY "I DON'T FEEL LIKE I'M 100 YEARS OLD, JUST YOUNG AT HEART", SAID MRS. WHITLOCK.

RECOGNIZING MRS. ELIZABETH WHITLOCK .. TODAY IS HER 100th BIRTHDAY ... WAAC PROUDLY SALUTES AND WISHES HER A "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" ... WAAC'S CITIZEN OF THE DAY.

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WHITLOCK, ELIZABETH

Elizabeth E. Whitlock

Community Affairs File
Mrs. Elizabeth E. Whitlock X
Dies Here at 100 Years Old

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Dec 13, 1972

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Biography
Mrs. Elizabeth E. Whitlock, 100-year-old resident, died at 4:25 a.m. Wednesday at the Wallace Nursing Center. Mrs. Whitlock, born Elizabeth Strole on March 10, 1872, in New Goshen, Ind., married the late Edward W. Whitlock, also of New Goshen in 1892. They built their home in that year, at 1203 N. 9th St. in Terre Haute, at a time when Barnum and Bailey Circus was showing on property across the street from their house. In her younger days she was an active member of the Central Christian Church and also active in masonic affairs.



MRS. ELIZABETH E. WHITLOCK

After the retirement of her husband in 1925 from the cement contracting business, they moved to Miami, Fla. and resided there for 30 years until his death in 1946. Mrs. Whitlock returned to the area and spent her summers with friends in the New Goshen area.

Rochester, N.Y.; and four great-grandchildren.

She received over 100 greeting cards including congratulations from the White House on her 100th birthday and attributed her long life to moderate living and a relatively long life span in her family.

Funeral arrangements are pending at the DeBaun Funeral Home.

Mrs. Whitlock is survived by a son, Eugene S., Chicago; two grandchildren, Rev. James D. Whitlock, Rockford, Ill. and Mrs. Mary Jean deForest,

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