

Hubbell Reed McBride is the son of Washington & Mary Ann McBride, born 21 May 1892 Mansfield, Richland co Ohio died 31 December 1960.

I'm not sure but I believe he is named after James Randolph Hubbell (ME# 3766) who was a congressman from Ohio. Born 1824, died 1890 in Richland County. He was from Delaware County and is buried there. Delaware is one county NE of Richland County. (from Hilbert Hubble). He is not a Hubbell



HR McBride (1892-1960)

One of those artists, whose whimsical paintings consistently made the cover of several best-selling national magazines, was a local boy who launched his career in New York, and then walked away from his publishing success to spend his life in Richland County, Ohio.

His given name was Hubbell but he signed his work HR McBride, and went by his middle name Reed.

Reed McBride had a talent that could have kept him in New York and ranked him among the top illustrators of his time, but he chose instead to use his genius here to raise the quality of our environment and put smiles into the lives of everyone who encountered his playful images.

A Kid Sketching Farm Animals

He was a boy at the turn of the century in 1900, and he grew up on a farm east of Mansfield on a country lane that is today called McBride Road. He had 12 brothers and sisters so the workload was spread out enough to give him free time to sit with a pencil and paper making sketches. Even from the very earliest works, his drawings captured expressive faces of the critters he knew with a characteristic humor and personality. When he graduated from Mansfield High School in the Class of 1912, the Manhigan contained his first published illustrations...all of them cartoon farm animals.

He found a job in Cleveland making illustrations for a newspaper syndicate, but when they let him go after a year he had gained enough confidence to try the big market in New York.

Reed lucked out right away, befriending the founder of Editor and Publisher magazine who connected him all through the industry. For the next 25 years he distinguished himself as cover artist for Liberty & Collier's Weekly Magazine, and story illustrator for several top Hearst publications like Cosmopolitan and Good Housekeeping, as well as the Saturday Evening Post. His work is easily recognizable for its warm humor, and for animals with memorable personality. McBride's work sometimes appears in print signed with a simple HR.



In 1943 Reed's health took a tumble, and so he and his wife made a break from the city to spend some time with family, but as soon as he got back to Richland County he knew he was home for good. In an interview in 1945 he said, "When I was a kid I could hardly wait to get away from the farm and into the big cities. Since I've returned to Mansfield I've found the happiness I was searching for during the years I spent in New York."

With a wealth of experience in graphic arts, Reed was a gift to the community in the 40s and 50s, painting a wide canvas of all sorts: from sacred scenes in the First Congregational Church in Lexington, to background drops for the Mansfield Players and Children's Theater.