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The son of Walter Wilson and Eleanor (Holt) Stone, Alfred Holt Stone was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 16 October 1870. He received his LL.B. (1891) and an LL.D. (1916) from the University of Mississippi, and another LL.D. from Southwestern at Memphis (1928). On 25 June 1896 he married Mary Bailey Ireys. Stone's interests were various, a cotton planter and a lawyer from 1893 to 1932, in 1921 he organised the Staple Cotton Cooperative Association. Intil his death he served as Mr vice-president of this organization and edited its journal, the Staple Cotton Review.

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